



# The Daily Star

**MARBLE MARBLE MARBLE**  
WE HAVE HUGE READY STOCK OF  
ITALIAN CARRARA, PERLATO SICILIA,  
BOTTICINO, INDIAN KESSWARI GREEN,  
MALAYSIAN AND PAKISTANI MARBLE  
OF DIFFERENT TYPES.  
**NIRMAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.**  
199, TEJGAON 1/A, DHAKA.  
TEL: 605957, 607363 SHOW ROOM: 861985

VOL. VI NO. 288 REGD. NO. DA 781 KARTIK 25 1403 BS. DHAKA SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1996 JAMADI-US-SANI 26 1417 HIJRI 12 PAGES REGULAR PLUS MAGAZINE: PRICE TAKA 9.00

## Inside Today

### Article

#### The Sikhs Abroad

Column: Between The Lines by Kuldip Nayar Page 4

### Focus

Taxation of banking companies in Bangladesh: A critical review, and Stock Market development—Indonesian resemblance Page 5

### International

Ousted Pak PM accuses Islamists of plotting her downfall

UN envoy heads for central Africa on peace mission Page 8

### Business

Jute spinning industry facing decline in export market

Bear-hit week: DSE index posts 429-point rise Pages 6, 7

## NEWS BRIEFS

### President takes oath as chief scout today

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed will be sworn in as chief scout of Bangladesh today at 10:00 am at Bangabhaban. Manzoor ul Karim, chief National Commissioner of Bangladesh Scouts will conduct the oath, reports BSS.

### Hasina greets Hashimoto

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has greeted Ryuturo Hashimoto on his assumption of office as the Prime Minister of Japan. In a message to Hashimoto, she said: "Your reelection is a manifestation of the respect and the confidence of the people in your leadership and their trust in the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)," reports UNB.

### BNP leader slaughtered

JESSORE, Nov 8: The body of a local BNP leader was found at a paddy field in Samojpur village in the Sadar thana on Thursday. Family sources said two people called out BNP's Haibatpur Union vice president and freedom fighter Akmol Hossain alias Chokmal, 50, out of his Mathurapur residence on Wednesday night. Witnesses said he was stabbed and slaughtered. Police recovered the body from a nearby village, reports UNB.

### Japan-Bangla trade body meets today

The 8th meeting of the Bangladesh-Japan Joint Trade and Economic Cooperation Committee will be held in Dhaka today. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the meeting at Sonargaon Hotel at 9:30 am. Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria and Commerce and Industry Minister Tofael Ahmed will be the special guests. The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) will organise the meeting to be attended by ministers, officials, businessmen, industrialists, diplomats and a 34-member Japanese delegation, reports UNB.

### 480 bottles of spirit recovered

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Nov 8: Barisal Detective Branch (BD) police recovered 480 bottles of rectified spirit from Barisal port road area this morning. Acting on a tip-off, police seized the contraband spirit and arrested one Mosaddeque Mahafuz Gazi.

### Phensidyl recovered

From Staff Correspondent SYLHET, Nov 8: Beanibazar police recovered 200 bottles of Indian phensidyl and 40 bottles of vitamin syrup from the bank of the river Sonai this afternoon.

## Over 1000 bodies recovered: Hundreds missing: Lakh homeless

# Andhra cyclone death toll may reach 2000

HYDERABAD, Nov 8: As the death toll rose beyond 1,000, air force planes and helicopters scrambled today to drop food and medicine to half a million people stranded by flood waters, after a cyclone lashed India's southeastern coast, reports AP.

The toll from Wednesday night's storm could still rise, Chandrababu Naidu, chief executive of Andhra Pradesh state, estimated Thursday it could reach 2,000.

Among hundreds of people missing were dozens of fishermen working in the dangerous waters of the Bay of Bengal.

By today, more than 1,000 bodies had been recovered, said officials of the state civil administration and police on condition of anonymity.

The cyclone that hammered the area for five hours with

winds approaching 100 mph flooded rice fields and villages, ripped power poles from the ground and washed out roads and railway lines.

More than 10,000 homes were destroyed. Some 200 tent camps were set up for 100,000 people, and more were still coming.

Tons of threshed rice were scattered, and banana and sugarcane plantations were turned into swamps. The decaying corpses of livestock raised fears of water contamination and cholera.

"The most beautiful and fertile rice-growing region district of east Godavari has turned into a burial ground," said Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu.

The storm halted all train traffic, stranding thousands of

passengers. Telephone lines were torn down, and information from some storm-hit areas was unavailable.

It was the second major storm in three weeks, coming before the battered region had time to recover from widespread storms and flooding that killed 350 people.

Chief Secretary MS Rajaji, the state's senior bureaucrat, said at least 300 villages were under water and many communities were inundated by 12-foot-high waves.

A passenger ferry sank with 42 people on board in the Godavari River. There were no survivors.

Worst hit was the coastal city of Kakinada, 300 miles east of Hyderabad, where the storm dumped 8.8 inches of rain.



A truck wallows in stormwater from a devastating cyclone on the National Highway near Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh in India yesterday. —AFP/UNB photo

## PM asks youths to wage war against poverty

TUNGIPARA, Nov 8: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today called upon the youth to launch a new war against hunger and poverty keeping themselves above all narrow differences so that the nation could boldly face the challenges of the 21st century, reports BSS.

Termining the youth forces said as freedom fighters for the new generation, the Prime Minister said they have to dedicate themselves for achieving nation's socio-economic emancipation attuned to the same spirit which inspired their predecessors to launch the country's War of Liberation.

Your predecessors achieved country's political independence and now is your turn to achieve socio-economic freedom," the Prime Minister said while inaugurating a youth development workshop here.

The workshop on "Flourishing of Latent Spirit for Self-development" was jointly

organised by the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the Hunger Project, an NGO.

Minister of State for Youth and Sports Obaidul Kader, Secretary of Youth Ministry ASM Shahjahan, Country Director of the Hunger Project Dr Badrul Alam, chief news editor of BTV Rafiqul Islam Sarker, Deputy Commissioner of Gopalganj AJM Salahuddin Ahmed and Director General of Youth Directorate Mohammad Fazlul Huq spoke on the occasion. Lt Col (Retd) Faruque Khan MP, Sheikh Helaluddin MP and Prof Khaleda Khanam MP were also present.

Held at the G T Government High School ground the workshop was participated by 1000 youths, both male and female, from different villages of Tungipara thana. Apart from enlightening the participants regarding various job oriented economic activities special

See Page 12 Col 7

## Degree exams begin today

The Degree (Pass) Examinations of 1996 under the National University begin throughout the country today, reports UNB.

A total of 212,733 students of the 1994-95 session from 682 affiliated degree colleges are appearing in the examinations under BA, BSc, BCom, BSS, B Music and Certificate Course.

There are 153,351 male and 59,382 female examinees. Of them, 165,381 are regular, 43,409 private and 3,448 certificate course examinees.

The groupwise break-up of examinees are: BA-128,357; BSS-44,656; BCom-24,765; BSc-11,471; B Music-36; and Certificate Course-3,448.

There are 477 examinations centres, including seven sub-centres, across the country. This is the 4th degree exam under the National University and the second under its combined syllabus. The examinations will continue till 12th of 8

## Clinton likely to take Republicans in new cabinet

WASHINGTON, Nov 8: With gaping holes in his staff and Cabinet, President Clinton pledged to 'cast a wide net' for his second-term team, suggesting that he may land a Republican or two, reports AP.

Meanwhile, Secretary of State Warren Christopher announced his resignation Thursday, clearing the way for the appointment of a successor to the most prestigious post in the US administration.

Defense Secretary William Perry, Commerce Secretary Mickey Kantor, Transportation Secretary Federico Peña, Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary are also expected to announce their resignations.

Clinton was meeting with the Cabinet today, and could formalise some of the resignations at the news conference. The first new Cabinet members will not be announced before next week, aides said.

See Page 8

## Prepare for movement against govt: Khaleda

Leader of the Opposition and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia on Thursday called upon the people to prepare for a movement against what she called a subservient Awami League government, reports UNB.

"We have given enough time to this government... Now we have to wage a movement for protecting the country's independence and sovereignty and ensuring people's welfare," she said.

The BNP leader was addressing a huge public meeting in front of the party's central office here on the occasion of "National Revolution and Solidarity Day."

She said the people and the sepoys were united on 7th November of 1975 to save the country from a conspiracy against its sovereignty and they came out successful in their efforts.

That, a certain quarter is

now carrying out a propaganda about the historic 7th November to confuse the people," she said blasting the Awami League government for not observing the day officially.

Begum Zia said the President should have issued a message on this day like other days of national importance. "But he didn't give any message. So, we have to realise that a conspiracy has already been started and we have to remain alert about it."

She said the 7th November taught us to stand against all sorts of injustice and conspiracy. She accused the ruling party of making a blueprint to sell out the country's independence.

"(government) has been continuing repression on BNP men across the country. We'll not tolerate it any more, we have to give them a befitting reply," she said.

See Page 12 Col 4

## Water-sharing FM leaves for Delhi: Talks begin today

Foreign Minister Abdus Sattar Azad has expressed the hope that his talks in New Delhi with the Indian side on sharing waters of the Ganges and other issues will result in positive outcome.

"The talks will be important since water issue will figure prominently in the deliberations," he told BSS prior to his departure adding that the present government is sparing no efforts to secure water of the Ganges.

Azad is paying the three-day visit at the invitation of his Indian counterpart Inder Kumar Gujral. The talks will begin today.

The foreign minister left last night for New Delhi. His visit follows the visit of Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak to New Delhi recently for talks on the water issue with his Indian counterpart Janeshwar Mishra.

He is expected to call on Indian President Dr S D Sharma and Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda in addition to his talks with Gujral.

## Gilman's letter to PM Ensure benefit of open trial to Nasim, 14 others

By Staff Correspondent

The Chairman of US Congress Committee on International Relations has urged Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to make certain that former Army Chief Abu Saleh Md Nasim and 14 other senior army officers are given the benefit of a trial and that the process is open, free and fair.

In a letter to Sheikh Hasina, dated October 30, Benjamin A Gilman said "I urge you to make certain that these men are given the benefit of a trial and that the process be open, free and fair."

He said "It has come to my attention that the former Army Chief of Bangladesh, General

See Page 12 Col 6

## Nigerian plane with 141 aboard crashes

LAGOS, Nov 8: The wreck of a Boeing 727 airliner which went missing with 141 people on board has been located near Lagos, a Federal Aviation official told AFP tonight.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, made no mention of any survivors being found.

The plane went missing on Thursday at 5:05 pm (1605 GMT) on a one-hour flight from the southeastern city of Port Harcourt to Lagos.

See Page 12 Col 3

## Country's lone 'burn unit' lacks proper facilities

By Masud Arif and Ripon Baig

The Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) unit for treatment of patients with burn injuries, the only such unit in the country, lacks proper facilities.

Most of such patients are from low income groups while the treatment is expensive, which results in higher number of deaths, doctors at the DMCH said.

The unit has only eight beds for female and child patients while the male patients are treated in other wards of the hospital which are not actually planned or maintained for treatment of burn injuries, the sources added.

According to available statistics, some 2,186 such patients including 1,048 females were admitted to the DMCH in the last four years. Of them 310 died for lack of proper treatment and 821 left the hospital.

The unit does not have any equipment for primary investigation required to assess the internal condition of the patients.

Besides, it is expensive to conduct investigations like measuring the electrolytes which sometimes need testing three or four times a day. On an average, Tk 400 is charged for the test in private laboratories, some doctors pointed out.

The only consultant Plastic Surgeon Dr S L Sen and Assistant Professor of the unit Dr A J

M Salek, said that the primary complications of 'burn patients' could be combated if doctors at the grassroot level could be trained.

The air conditioning system at the unit, was out of order for around one year while the water heater tank, badly needed during the winter, was also inoperative for more than six months, DMCH sources said.

The AC is essential as body temperature increases due to the patients being wrapped by the bandage. On the other hand, warm water is needed for the bathing of patients during winter," a doctor concerned said.

The unit has only six doctors and no trained nurse for constant vigilance on patients who suffered above 15 degree burns, he pointed out.

Set up at the initiative of the DMCH authorities in mid-eighties, the unit was still to get approval from the ministry concerned. Doctors were demanding a full-fledged burn hospital in the country for the last 10 years, said a senior.

The Director of the DMCH had proposed to the ministry concerned in August to expand the unit, 100 beds providing for through vertical extension of the under-construction Operation Theatre Complex at the DMCH premises, some sources said.



## Azhar weds Bijlani Nov 16

NEW DELHI, Nov 8: Former Indian cricket captain Mohammod Azharuddin is to marry a former Miss India next week, a newspaper reported today, reports AFP.

Azharuddin left his wife after his affair with model-turned-actress Sangeeta Bijlani was made public during the World Cup earlier this year.

The Pioneer newspaper said the couple would marry on November 16 in Bombay. Azharuddin's former wife Naureen has accused the actress of stealing her husband and wrecking their eight-year marriage.

The 33-year-old cricketer was ditched as Indian captain

See Page 12 Col 6

## Law soon to bar corrupt Pak politicians from Feb polls

ISLAMABAD, Nov 8: Anti-corruption laws were being drafted amid a purge of political appointees in the civil and foreign service as the new administration tried to set a course for Pakistan following the dismissal of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, reports agencies.

Interim Prime Minister Meeraj Khalid was quoted Friday as saying that a new law will be introduced to investigate allegations of corruption against the ousted government. It is expected the new law would ban corrupt politicians from holding office for at least seven years.

The law will prevent participation of corrupt people in February elections and ensure recovery of outstanding bank loans from politicians and industrialists, officials said today.

The Bhutto government had prepared a list of 250 bank loan defaulters which included some opposition politicians. Similarly, Bhutto's chief political rival, top opposition leader Nawaz Sharif had submitted a list of 250 defaulters which included Bhutto party members.

The law is being drafted by President Farooq Leghari, the man who unceremoniously sacked Benazir Bhutto in the early morning hours of Tuesday charging her with corruption, state-sponsored killings and

economic mismanagement.

Leghari, again used his constitutional authority today to dismiss the southwestern Baluchistan provincial legislature. On Thursday he dismissed the southern Sindh Parliament.

No immediate reasons were given for the removal of either legislatures, but it is believed the president will dismiss all four

provincial assemblies - two of which, including Sindh, were controlled by Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party - wiping the slate for a new beginning in Pakistani politics.

Newspapers today said dozens of senior civil servants, appointed by Ms. Bhutto's government, have been removed from their office.

See Page 12 Col 3

## Armed gangs rule forest, no afforestation in 10 years

# Illegal logging rampant in CHT



Illegally felled trees at a place in CHT. —Star photo

By Morshed Ali Khan, back from Rangamati

Lack of law and order has forced the Department of Forestry to abandon nearly all afforestation programme in vast areas of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT), according to sources in the department at Rangamati.

Although logging of priced plantations such as Segun, Mahogany and Gumar has been continuing at an alarming pace in the CHT, the department has failed to maintain the cycle of afforestation for over ten years now.

Forest officials warned that the huge gap in maintaining the cycle would severely affect the forestry in the region. "Within ten years you will begin to have the consequences of this gap," said Anwar Farooq, Conservator of Forest at Rangamati.

There are places in the hills where we have no access at all. Armed gangs roam in these places and they decide when and how to log. Until there is a

See Page 12 Col 1

**Grand 22 BRANCHES**  
nauguration

**Prime Insurance Company Limited**  
A name for excellence

Motijheel Branch	Mahakhali Branch	Khulna Branch
Rajuk Avenue Branch	VIP Road Branch	Barisal Branch
Karim Chamber Branch	Mirpur Branch	Jessore Branch
Bangshal Branch	Bangabandhu Avenue Branch	Bogra Branch
Moulvibazar Branch	Narayanganj Branch	Rajshahi Branch
Kawran Bazar Branch	Agrabad Branch	Pabna Branch
Elephant Road Branch	Khatungonj Branch	Rangpur Branch
	Jubilee Road Branch	