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gratitude to the Almighty for passage of the Indemnity (Repeal) Bill in Parliament on -PID photo Tuesday.

BNP: Clear statement

From Page 1

tion of opposition activists and biased role by the Speaker and the BTV, the BNP leader com-We no atmosphere conducive to us to return to the House.

Meanwhile. Badruddoza yesterday replied to the letter he received earlier from the Speaker, expressing his "surprise" over its content.

"It's ridiculous to ask whether the Leader of the Opposition gave approval to the decisions taken at her party's parliamentary party meeting unanimously." Badruddoza said in his reply to the Speaker's letter

The Speaker wrote a letter to Badruddoza on Tuesday in response to BNP's 10-point demand.

Hasina leaves

From Page 1

Relief Minister Begum Matia Chowdhury who is already in the Italian capital to attend the pre-summit ministerial meet-

The Prime Minister's 52member entourage includes Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad and Sheikh Rehana. She is being accompanied by an 11 member business delegation including FBCCI President Yusuf Abdullah Harun.

A nine-member media team is also visiting Italy to cover the Prime Minister's function

During her stay in Rome. Hasina is expected to hold bilateral talks with world leaders including Prime Minister of the host country Romano Prodi. Indonesian President Soeharto. Indian Prime Minister Deve Gowda, South Korean Prime Minister Lee Soo-Sung, South African Vice President Thabo Mobeki and Thai Deputy Prime Minister Kasem S Kasensri.

Besides, she will meet with senior officials of international agencies and organisa-

The conference will adopt a declaration and a 61-point action plan renewing the commitment of the world leaders at the highest level to the eradication of hunger and malnutrition and attainment of food security for all.

Bangladesh and other countries attending the summit have already endorsed the declaration calling for global concerted action to ensure food security to all nations, particularly developing countries.

Badruddoza's letter also contained the allegations that BNP workers across the country were being repressed, rules were not followed in running the atfairs of the parliament and the state-controlled BTV was doing "one-side coverage" of parlia

In his letter, the BNP leader also requested the Speaker to "carefully go through his party's 10-point demand.

ment proceedings.

Asked if his party was going to respond to the offer for dialogue. Mannan Bhuiyan said. "If we are contacted again, we'll tell them that our demands are already there.

Meanwhile, BNP has called a joint meeting of its National Executive Committee, National Standing Committee, Advisory Council, members of parlia ment, chiefs of the party's front organisations and district units on November 16 at its Nava Paltan central office in the city, according to a press release issued last night.

The press release asked the district leaders to submit in the meet reports on "government repression" on party activists in their respective areas. BNP chief and Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad Begum Khaleda Zia will preside over the meet, the press release

Errata

In yesterday's issue, headlined "World Food Summit Begins Today", Dr M A Quadri was inadvertently mentioned as the husband of Sheikh Rehana. We regret the error.

Benazir

From Page 1 gradually became hostile and adversarial," after he was linked to a suspicious land deal Leghari, she said, accused her husband, Asif Ali Zardari, of leaking information about the alleged land deal to the press.

Benazir accused Leghari of showing "utter disregard for her ... he even began to ignore her role, powers and functions un der the constitution.

In her petition Benazir accused Leghari of flouting the constitution and of dismissing her government for personal reasons.

The President dismissed her government she said "without justification in fact or in law. and moved only by a consuming personal malice towards the petitioner (Benazir)."

Textile workers' agitation Nov 16-19

A federation of textile work ers, including a ruling party backed organisation has threatened movement to thwart government bid to privatise the public-sector textile mills, reports UNB

The bid is the continuation of previous BNP government's wrong policy," said the trade union leaders at a press conference at Jatiya Press Club yesterday evening where initial action programmes were announced.

The programmes include gate meetings at every textile and varn mills on November 16. processions after every shift on November 17 and 18 and stick procession in industrial belts on November 19.

AL: No response

From Page 1

AL presidium member Abdul Mannan, MP, meanwhile, would discharge the responsibilities of party president Sheikh Hasina, who left the city for Rome early hours today to attend the World Food Sum-

The meeting expressed gratitude to almighty Allah for scrapping of the Indemnity Ordinance. The meeting thanked the people and urged the Muslim citizens to offer special monajat at mosques next Friday. It also requested the people of other faiths to seek divine blessings at their places of wor-

Policemen hurt

From Page 1

injured, three were identified as Shamsuddin, 30, Babul, 28, and Liton, 25, while one remained unidentified, police sources

Shamsuddin and the unidentified man were undergo ing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital under police custody while the other two were arrested after first aid by the Lalbagh police, hospital sources said

The injured police men were undergoing treatment at Rajarbagh Police Hospital, police sources added.

A case has been lodged with the Lalbagh police station in this connection.

JCD calls indefinite strike at JU again

By JU Correspondent

The Jahangirnagar University unit of pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) yesterday called an indefinite strike on the campus again protesting attack on a JCD ac-

The incident and the fresh strike call created a tense situation on the campus and resident students were having their dormitories fearing outbreak of violence again.

The university authorities have decided to hold a meeting of the Disciplinary Committee today to take stock of the situa-

The fresh strike call came just two days after the JCD called off its earlier spell of indefinite strike that it had enforced on the campus from November 5, protesting "capture of some students halls by pro-Awami League Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL).

According to campus sources, Shawkat Ali Tutul, a 3rd year Anthropology student came under an attack and was injured in the head at the university cafeteria at 12:45 pm. JCD blamed BCL activists for the attack

Distribution of

textbooks begins

The distribution of text

books free of cost among pri-

mary students for the 1997 aca-

demic session has begun, an of

ficial announcement said yes-

To prevent wastage, old

books also will be distributed

among the students besides the

new ones in the current session

which are not eligible for get

ting textbooks free can buy

these from the National Curri

culum and Textbook Board and

district level dealers and agents

Cost" is printed on the books

which are being distributed free

while retail price is printed on

those textbooks which will be

sold from the Board and

through its agents and dealers

Garment units loot

17 arrested

in Savar

massive hunt arrested 17 ac-

tivists of the BNP and Jatiya

Party early today on charges of

involved in looting and damag-

ing two garment factories of

Kamal Ahmed Majumder MP at

burning the saw mills of a

Chhatra League Dhaka district

unit leader at Savar the same

those arrested are Jatiyatabadi

Chhatra Dal men, including ex-

VP of Savar College Helal

Uddin, its AGS Ariful Islam

Arif and cultural secretary

Uddin Osman, is of Jatiya

The other accused, Mosleum

All the arrested were sent to

According to police, 16 of

They were also charged with

Police said the accused were

loot and arson, reports UNB.

Savar on Sunday

Lutfar Rahman

Party's youth wing.

Dhaka Central Jail.

SAVAR, Nov 13: Police in a

"For Distribution Free of

recognised by the Board

Educational institutions

as of previous years, it said.

terday, reports UNB.

office and in his absence the injured JCD activist went on a rampage at the VC's office, his PA's office and the office of the Registrar, the sources said. He also allegedly used abusive words against the Pro-VC and told him to resign immediately. Before he was taken to JU Medical Centre, injured Tutul also damaged the car of the He was later shifted to

Enraged by the attack. Tutul

rushed to the Vice Chancellor's

Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) with cut injuries in the head

JCD blamed BCL for violating the Code of Conduct set by JU student bodies on April one

The JU unit of JCD had called off its earlier strike on November 11 after all student bodies including BCL reaffirmed their commitment to go by the 'Code of Conduct' at a meeting on November 10.

When contacted, Savar thana police told The Daily Star at 9 pm yesterday that no case was lodged with the thana in this connection.

UP elections from next Mar: Zillur

The Union Parishad (UP) elections throughout the country will begin from next March. LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman said reports UNB.

The minister said this when a high-powered delegation of UNDP, led by UNDP Resident Representative David Lock Wood, called on him at his office in the city yesterday.

The delegation also handed over a study report on Local Government in Bangladesh. compiled by the UNDP, said a PID handout

SI suspended

Tension was prevailing in the town following the death of Biplob Sarkar alias Debashis. allegedly beaten to death by police in the town's Rathkola Kalipuja mandop Monday night.

The suspension order was given by Additional DIG of Dhaka Range Syed Sirajul Islam during a meeting with local political leaders, elite and administration at Circuit House at 8:30 tonight

In the meeting, the DIG also announced that departmental action would be taken against the police constables involved with the incident. Sadar circle ASP Billal Hossain has been asked to investigate the case.

The DIG later met the relatives of the deceased and expressed his deep sympathies and assured them proper action against those responsible. During the hartal, all modes

of vehicles were off the roads, attendance in private and government offices was thin and educational institutions remained closed. A number of protest rallies

were held in the town in support of the hartal and students brought out processions demanding exemplary punishment of those responsible for the death of Biplob.

Rome Declaration

From Page 1

chairman of the Summit, told the gathering that it had adopted a historic document of crucial significance for the future of humanity.

With the spectre of Zaire looming large in the horizon. Boutros-Ghali in his speech made a special appeal to the international community to help bring the crisis under control. Referring to the general ob-

jective of the Summit itself as the persistence of the "scandal of hunger." Ghali alluded to the earlier address by the Pope, saying that "he recalls that the problem of hunger is not only an economic, social or political issue, but also an ethical and moral one.

As if to illustrate this angle. Diouf in his speech made a remark that eloquently pointed to the dichotomy between the rich, developed countries and the poor, needy ones who can be helped if there is a concerted effort to make a thoughtless world aware of its responsibilities to its fellow men.

He was referring to the reduction in the budget of the Organization of the United Nation's System entrusted to help the 800 million hungry of the world, "a budget that amounts to less than what nine developed countries spend on dog and cat food in six days and less than 5 per cent of what the inhabitants of one developed protesters got into the avenue, country spend each year on at the UN Food and Agriculture slimming products to counter Organisation (FAO) headquarthe effects of overeating."

AFP adds: A senior Summit official said an unspecified number of countries had submitted written "reservations and interpretative statements" regarding the documents. He did not elaborate.

"FAO, which is holding the Summit, says the world will need to produce 75 per cent more food in the next 30 years to feed three billion additional mouths as the population jumps from 5.7 billion to 8.7 billion by 2030.

A ministerial World Food Conference in 1974 pledged to wipe out hunger within 10 years. But nearly 14 per cent of the world's population is still without food. Diouf has called the new tar-

get reasonable and achievable.

Diouf, who is from Senegal,

urged leaders at the opening ceremony to make sure they lived up to the commitments they made in the documents, which are not legally binding.

These so commendable international decisions risk turning sour if, when taking stock in a few years time, we see that hopes have been dashed, unless measures are taken here and now to mould these decisions into national projects and programmes," he said. With all the roads leading to

the FAO building closed off and the premise itself crawling with security people and armed carabinieri. this summit promises to be a calm event. From Friday, the heads of

state and governments will start addressing the summit.

'The naked truth'

ROME, Nov 13: A group of demonstrators stripped naked today at a news conference with US Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman at the World Food Summit, reports Reuter.

The demonstrators, several of them women, appeared to be protesting against the sale of genetically modified US soybeans. One woman's body was painted with the slogan "the naked truth." They had a banner saying "ban the gene bean."

It was not clear how the ters in Rome. Police at the summit, focus

of Italy's biggest single peacetime security operation, ap-peared caught off guard. They later escorted the demonstrators from the news conference. An Italian protester, who identified herself as Olivia,

said: "we're not part of any or-

ganisation. We are protesting against the genetic engineering of soybeans. Protests by European environmentalists have gathered pace this week against the start of sales of the beans, which have been genetically changed to withstand treatment with roundup, a weedkiller. They say the beans, developed by US firm

Monsanto Co., are a risky ex-

periment with nature and could

harm health.

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Hijacked launch returns to Galachipa

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Nov 13. The hijacked launch "ML Baishakhi" was found abandoned at Patarchar under Galachipa thana of Patuakhali district at midnight last night

The launch returned to Galachipa in the early hours of

According to witnesses and police, most of the one hundred passengers on board were mercilessly beaten up by the dacoits during the looting. The armed dacoits looted goods worth more thana Tk ten lakh from the passengers.

The launch bound for Khepupara from Galachipa was hijacked at gunpoint by a gang of 15 dacoits yesterday evening.

Mid-air collision: Black boxes' recovered

CHARKHI DADRI (India) Nov 13: Searchers recovered the so-called "black boxes" that should reveal what caused the world's worst mid-air collision near New Delhi, killing some 350 people, officials said today, reports Reuter

The flight data and cockpit voice recorders were picked out of the horrendous debris of the two crash sites on the north Indian plain, 80 km west of New Delhi There were no survivors

among the 312 people aboard a Saudi Arabia Airlines Boeing 747 that had just taken off from New Delhi on Tuesday evening or among the 37 people on a Kazakh Ilyushin 11-76 freighter that was preparing to Local residents said they

were convinced the pilot of the jumbo averted an even worse disaster by steering his blazing aircraft away from their vil-Housewife Krishna Devi said

she was cooking dinner at her outdoor kitchen in Kheri Sanwal village and saw the flaming Saudi plane crash

Employees

From Page 1 Bangladesh missions in London. Washington DC. Brussels, Riyadh, Abu Dhabi, Islamabad, Tokyo, New Delhi and Singapore to procure tender schedules, he said.

The last date for submission of tenders is December 29 for Jessore Jute Industries, Nishat Jute Mills and M M Jute Mills and December 1 for Noakhali Textile Mills. Pylon Industries Ltd., Keriline Silk Mills Ltd. according to other officials. The Pylon Industries Ltd and Keriline Silk Mills were making profits, they said.

Meanwhile, the PB has opened the tenders for Royal Textile Mills. Engineering Industries Limited, Bangladesh Oil Mill, National Ice Factory, Dosha Extraction. I K Industries, Amin Agency, Firoj Ata, Dal Mill, Asrafia Oil Mill. Bangladesh Cold Storage.

"We are satisfied with the respondents and prices they have quoted," said a high official of the PB. The prospective buyers are likely to be called soon to complete the business deals. he

Water sharing

From Page 1

Indian officials say that if everything goes well — both the governments agreeing to sharing of water, monitoring team's access to watch water flow and a time-table — then the issue will be settled during the summit between the two prime ministers. "We had very fruitful discus-

sion," said Samad Azad who had talks with Gujral and later with Indian Water Resources Minister Janeswar Misra.

The ground for the New Delhi talks was laid by Bangladesh Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak during his visit recently. His team of experts did convince the Indians on the importance of water for Bangladesh.

Bangladesh wants a permanent solution, not a stop-gap agreement which run the risk of being in jeopardy with every new government's coming to power in New Delhi

WB: Credit From Page 1

cultural and non-project

schemes on July one, in fiscal 1996-97 was 1401.59 million dollars while it was 1588.81 million dollars on the same date in fiscal 95-96, 1662.38 million dollars in 94-95 and 1771.69 million in 93-94.

Total disbursement in agriculture, non-agricultural and non-project schemes in three months till September was 81.05 million dollars (or 5.78 per cent). The amount was 56.48 million dollars (3.55 per cent) in the corresponding period in fiscal 95-96, 79.42 million dollars (4.78 per cent) in fiscal 94-95, 49.91 million dollars (3.28 per cent) in fiscal 93-94 and 88.82 million dollars (5.01 per cent) in fiscal 92-93.

Expansion of trade with Egypt discussed

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury had a series of meetings with Egyptian leaders aiming to strengthen the bilateral economic and cultural relations reports UNB

According to a message received from Cairo vesterday, he met the leaders on Tuesday while leading 4-member delegation in the 3rd Middle East and North Africa Economic Conference (MENA) that began on Tuesday in the Egyptian capital

in a breakfast meeting. Chowdhury held talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister Amre Moussa on bilateral relations focusing mainly on deepening the overall ties and expansion of trade and economic cooperation between the two

The issue of activating the Bangladesh Egypt Joint Commission, formed in 1991, also came up for discussion.

At the meeting, he also met US Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Secretary General of Arab League Dr Ismat Abdel Meguid and foreign ministers of Thailand, Ireland, Poland and the vice foreign minister for economic affairs of Japan.

In the lunch, hosted by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, he talked to the President as well as Prime

Imelda From Page 1 anti-graft court voted unani-

mously to dismiss for lack of merit" her motion for reconsideration, the court said in its rul-Marcos, who is on bail while

her reconsideration was being heard, can still appeal to the supreme court, the country's highest judicial body, in an attempt to overturn her convic The 67-year old widow of

late President Ferdinand Marcos was convicted by the anti-graft court of violating the anti-corruption law for unlaw fully leasing state property in 1982 to a medical foundation she headed under terms which the court said were grossly un-

Minister Dr Kamal Ahmad Al Ganzouri on bilateral, political, economic and cultural issues.

Chowdhury also reviewed bilateral trade and prospects of increasing both volume and value of trade turnover in a meeting with the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Trade and Supply.

Participation in the forthcoming Dhaka International Trade Fair '97 by Egyptian firms and exchange of visits by the chambers of the two countries were also discussed.

The state minister also called on the deputy prime minister and ministers for agriculture, forest and land separately

Yesterday Chowdhury was one of the discussants in the conference attended by some 70 official delegations and 2000 businessmen from across the

Experts meet From Page 1

The two sides agreed that the joint committee of experts would hold another round of meetings in the very near future to prepare the ground for finalisation of a draft agreement on water sharing

The foreign ministers of both the countries felt that the forthcoming meeting of the prime ministers of Bangladesh and India in Rome during the World Food Summit would be very useful in the process of reaching an agreement on water sharing within the stipulated time. It was also felt that during the meeting the two prime ministers could finalise the dates for their exchange of visits. During the discussions both

the sides further envisaged that an agreement on water sharing could be signed during the heads of government level talks next Earlier today the Bang-

ladesh Foreign Minister also called on Lok Sabha Speaker P A Sangma and Home Minister Indrajit Gupta. Samad Azad had useful discussions with both the Indian leaders regarding ways and means of strengthening bilateral relations and expanding areas of cooperation.

fair to the government.

Dhaka International Trade Fair '97 Secretariat

Export Promotion Bureau

122-124, Motijheel Commercial Area Dhaka-1000

Sub: Invitation of Application from local and foreign participants for allocation of Pavillion/Stall in the Dhaka International Trade Fair '97 (DITF '97) (22nd February-21st March, 1997)

Export Promotion Bureau, Ministry of Commerce, Govt of the People's Republic of Bangladesh invites applications, in prescribed form, from intending local/foreign firms for allocation of Pavillion/Stall in "Dhaka International Trade Fair '97" scheduled to be Held during 22nd February-21st March, 1997. The venue of the fair is Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.

Prescribed application form may be collected from the Finance and Accounts Section of the Bureau. For local participating firms application forms may be collected on submission of Tk. 500.00 (Five hundred) only (Non-refundable) as application fee. In case of foreign participating company(s) it will be distributed free of cost.

Intending local participating company(s) will have to pay 5% of the rent along with the application as security money in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order. Foreign participating company (s) will have to submit their application forms along with Bank Draft/Pay Order of US\$ 300.00 (Three hundred) as

security money The last date for submitting application is 30th November, 1996.

For further details "DITF '97 Secretariat" located at the Head Office of the Export Promotion Bureau Dhaka may please be contacted.

A M Subid Ali

President **Bangladesh Chamber of Industries**

Convenor Participants and Product Selection Sub-Committee Dhaka International Trade Fair '97 Phone: 9564170, 9560787 PABX: 9552245-49

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আমানতের উপর সুদ হার বৃদ্ধি

সঞ্চয়ের প্রতি জনসাধারণের আগ্রহ বৃদ্ধি ও অধিক মুনাফার জন্যে সোনালী ব্যাংক সঞ্চয়ী ও স্থায়ী আমানতের সুদের হার বৃদ্ধি করেছে। ০১লা নভেম্বর '৯৬ থেকে নতুন সুদ হার কার্যকর করা হয়েছে। আমানতের প্রকৃতি অনুযায়ী সুদ হার নিম্মরূপ ঃ

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