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## 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 activist.

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 situation.

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.

Enraged by the attack, Tutul rushed to the Vice Chancellor's 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 Proctor.

He was later shifted to 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 this year.

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.

## Distribution of textbooks begins

The distribution of textbooks free of cost among primary students for the 1997 academic session has begun, an official announcement said yesterday reports UNB.

To prevent wastage, old books also will be distributed among the students besides the new ones in the current session as of previous years, it said.

Educational institutions which are not eligible for getting textbooks free can buy these from the National Curriculum and Textbook Board and district level dealers and agents recognised by the Board.

"For Distribution Free of Cost" is printed on the books which are being distributed free while retail price is printed on those books which will be sold from the Board and through its agents and dealers.

## Garment units loot

SAVAR, Nov 13: Police in a massive hunt arrested 17 activists of the BNP and Jatiya Party early today on charges of loot and arson, reports UNB.

Police said the accused were involved in looting and damaging two garment factories of Kamal Ahmed Majumder MP at Savar on Sunday.

They were also charged with burning the saw mills of a Chhatra League Dhaka district unit leader at Savar the same day.

According to police, 16 of those arrested are Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal men, including ex-VP of Savar College Helal Uddin, its AGS Ariful Islam Arif and cultural secretary Lutfur Rahman.

The other accused, Mosleum Uddin Osman, is of Jatiya Party's youth wing.

All the arrested were sent to Dhaka Central Jail.

## Rome Declaration

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 objective 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 United Nations 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 country spend each year on slimming products to counter the effects of overeating."

AFF 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 target reasonable and achievable. Diouf, who is from Senegal,

## 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 Rathkolla Kalipuja mandop Monday night.

The suspension order was given by Additional DIG of Dhaka Range Syed Sarajul 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.

## 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 protesters got into the venue, at the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) headquarters in Rome.

Police at the summit, focus of Italy's biggest single peace-time security operation, appeared 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 organisation. 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 experiment with nature and could harm health.

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Awami League arranged a milad mahfil at Ganobhaban yesterday evening expressing gratitude to the Almighty for passage of the Indemnity (Repeal) Bill in Parliament on Tuesday. —PID photo

## BNP: Clear statement

From Page 1

tion of opposition activists and biased role by the Speaker and the BT, the BNP leader commented. We find 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 meeting.

The Prime Minister's 52-member 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 there.

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 Mbeki and Thai Deputy Prime Minister Kasem S Kasensri.

Besides, she will meet with senior officials of international agencies and organisations.

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.

## Textile workers' agitation Nov 16-19

A federation of textile workers, 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 yarn 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 president 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 Summit.

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 *mojizat* at mosques next Friday. It also requested the people of other faiths to seek divine blessings at their places of worship.

## 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 under 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)."

## Policemen hurt

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

Shamsuddin and the unidentified man were undergoing 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.

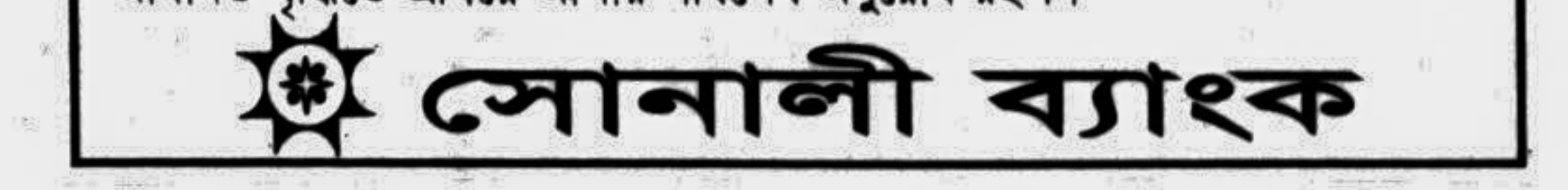
The injured police men were undergoing treatment at Rajarbagh Police Hospital, police sources added.

## আমানতের উপর সুদ হার বৃদ্ধি

সঞ্চয়ের প্রতি জনসাধারণের আহ্বাহ 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 নিম্নরূপ :

আমানতের প্রকৃতি	পূর্বের সুদহার (বার্ষিক)	নতুন সুদহার (বার্ষিক)
সঞ্চয়ী আমানত	৬.৭৫%	৭.৫০%
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৩ মাসের উর্কে কিন্তু ৬ মাসের নিচে	৭.৫০%	৮.০০%
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১ বছরের উর্কে কিন্তু ২ বছরের নিচে	৮.০০%	৮.৫০%
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৩ বছর এবং তার উর্কে কিন্তু সর্বোচ্চ ৫ বছর	৮.৭৫%	৯.৫০%

সন্মানিত গ্রাহক, পৃষ্ঠপোষক এবং শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের নতুন সুদ হারে সঞ্চয় ও আমানত বৃদ্ধিতে এগিয়ে আসার সবিশেষ অনুরোধ রইল।



## 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 yesterday, he met the leaders on Tuesday while leading a 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 nations.

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 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 world.

## 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 month.

Earlier today the Bangladesh 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.

## Imelda

From Page 1

anti-graft court voted unanimously to dismiss "for lack of merit" her motion for reconsideration, the court said in its ruling.

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 conviction.

The 67-year-old widow of late President Ferdinand Marcos was convicted by the anti-graft court of violating the anti-corruption law for unlawfully leasing state property in 1982 to a medical foundation she headed under terms which the court said were grossly unfair 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.

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DFP-25397-9/11 G-1514

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Printed & Published by A. S. Mahmud, Managing Director, on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, from City Publishing House Ltd, 90, Kakrail, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Email: dstar@bangla.net