# BLUE DART

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# Silver Jubilee of Victory Day



Sequence of a dance programme presented by Benuka Lalitakala artistes at the Shilpakala Academy auditorium yesterday marking the Silver Jubilee of Independence. Star photo



A Sammilita Sangskritik Jote function at the Central Shaheed Minar yesterday on the Star photo occasion of Silver Jubilee of Independence.

From Page 1 the BCIC. The discussion was participated by Abdus Samad, Ruhul Amin, Yusuf Hossain Alauddin Ahmed, Rafigul Mannan. Mohammad Shahi-

dullah Pathan and Azharul Haq, Mohammad Rezaul Karim presided

Muktijoddher Chetana Monch organised a reminiscence meeting on the 11th day of its fortnight long victory programmes at the Doel Chattar near Curzon hall. Presided over by Dr Nilima Ibrahim, the meeting was addressed among others by Sajeda Chowdhury MP, Mamunur

Rashid and Sayedur Rahman. Leaders of Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (BSD) demanded trial of the war criminals at a discussion meeting held at Raverbazer.

Presided over by BSD leader Rahima Khatun, the meeting was addressed by among others Abdullah Sarkar, Golam Mahmood, Bazlur Rashid Firoz, and Ashraf Uddin Khan

The "Bijoy Utsab" of Sammi lito Sanskritik Jote in six stages around the university area and at the Central Shaheed Minar attracted a large number of people yesterday.

At the central Shaheed Minar, a session of group songs was held. In the Munir Chowdhury Monch at the Doel Chattar, dramas were staged by various groups, films on liberation war were screened from the Zahir Raihan Monch, Baul songs were sung in the Jainul Abedin Monch and poems were recited in the Jahanara Imam

A book fair which began on December 10 continued vesterday. A cottage industry fair was also held in front of the Bangla

A session of Nazrul songs or ganised by Bangla Academy was

held in the academy premises. The Bangladesh Workers Party organised a meeting at Mirpur as part of its week-long victory day programme. Presided over by Kamrul Ahsan. the meeting was addressed by Rashed Khan Menon, Nurul Hasan, Abdul Auwal, Moha

The Nazrul Academy will organise a week-long Loko Utsab from today at the Nazrul Monch in celebration of the Silver Jubilee of Independence.

From Staff Correspondent

fishermen are feared drowned

after a fishing trawler sank in

the Bay of Bengal vesterday af-

Patharghata today said the

trawler sank as a huge crack

developed at the bottom of the

trawler. There were 9 fishermen

on board. Two of them were res-

cued by another fishing

Mongla Port

workers

continue strike

From Staff Correspondent

workers now on strike for an

greater action programme if

their demands were not met

the port worsening as the strik

ing workers have started vio-

lent demonstrations with sup-

port from eighteen other trade

Col Faruk Rahman's

detention declared

illegal

By SC Correspondent

declared the detention of Col

(rtd) Faruk Rahman illegal and

comprising Justice Md Mozammel Haque and Justice

Md Abdul Matin by their

judgement on the writ petition

filed by Mahmuda Rahman,

mother of Col (rtd) Faruk, made

the rule absolute, as specific

cases have already been started

for Col (rtd) Faruk Rahman.

Barrister Qurban Ali moved

against the detenu.

without lawful authority.

The High Court yesterday

The division bench of the HC

indefinite period.

KHULNA. Dec 12: The port

They would announce a

Meanwhile, the situation at

trawler.

BARISAL, Dec 12: Seven

Some fishermen on return to

mmad Nasir and Abul Kalam.

#### 7 fishermen **BNP:** Govt sold out feared drowned

tion was 60:40 and in favour of

Bangladesh. He said there was a clear guarantee clause for Bangladesh in the 1977 accord, but this time India, not Bangladesh, had

guarantee clause. "Although it is a 30-year agreement, it has practically become a two-year accord with

been provided with the

the provision of review every two years," he observed. Bhuiyan also apprehended

that Bangladesh might not get much water under the negotiation between the two parties if the flow of water decreased below 50,000 cusec.

He resented that the government did not discuss the Ganges water-sharing issue, an issue of national interest, with the opposition political parties.

#### NGO to collect

From Page vices in the future," Rashid told this correspondent. With good work, "eventually our organisation would be able to attract foreign donors to help it," he

Meanwhile, networks of door-to-door garbage collection service have grown in different areas of the city at private initiatives, without permission from the authorities. DCC officials said that they would encourage any such move.

But residents of the areas complained that despite their paying conservancy tax to the DCC for cleaning up their areas. they are further paying the pri-vate collectors for the job.

"The DCC is liable to legal action for failing to do a job for which it is taking money," said Mozammel Haq, a resident of Kalabagan area.

Sources concerned said that in 1994-1995, DCC's revenue earning from conservancy tax stood at about Tk 9.63 crore and expenses went up to about Tk 20.57 crore in the sector.

Replying to a question, he said the ruling party had not given any formal proposal to BNP for discussion on the issue. They did not discuss it with us in or outside the parliament."

"Bangladesh as whole has been trapped by India, not partially by West Bengal," he told another questioner.

The BNP Secretary General also apprehended that polluted water might roll down into Bangladesh during the lean pe-

"This is our instant reaction . We have not gone through the agreement. So we will express our detailed reaction tomorrow after studying the agreement," he said.

BNP leader Khndaker Delwar Hossain, Sadeq Hossain Khoka and Redwan Ahmed were present.

Earlier, city BNP brought out a procession protesting the new agreement. Jubo Dal leader Mirza Abbas led the procession from party's central office.

### House guard found dead

By Staff Correspondent

A guard at the house of an airforce official in the city's New DOHS residential area at Mohakhali was found dead early yesterday.

Police said, the family members of the official took their guard Sanaullah, 35, to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where doctors declared him dead.

According to sources, Kamal, the cook of the house informed the family members at around 3:45 pm that Sanaullah was lying on the floor of his room. They called a doctor who advised them to take Sanaullah to the DMCH immediately.

Cantonment police filed an unnatural death case. The body was sent to the DMCH morgue for autopsy.

Brussels contce apprehends

# FAP may have adverse effect if implemented

A three-day conference on flood action programme in Bangladesh held in Brussels. has apprehended unfavourable consequences on food security and environment if the proposed Flood Action Programme (FAP) is implemented, reports

The conference on "Food Security and the Flood Action Programme in Bangladesh" concluded on Saturday in the conference room of European Parliament in Brussels.

Different sessions of the conference were presided over Europian Parliament Member and its Green Group leader Wilfreed Telcasper, its International Affairs Adviser Sabiney Maer and general sec-retary of Bangladesh Gano Sanghati Kendra Johan Van Rixtel.

After elaborate discussion, the conference adopted a sevenpoint resolution suggesting a complete review of the FAP on the basis of a national debate to elicit public opinion. The demands and aspirations of the poor people must be reflected in the water management pro-gramme, one of the resolution

The participants agreed that if the FAP projects are implemented in Bangladesh, it would have adverse effect on agrobased economy of the country. its fish-wealth, environment and social structure and the prevailing food insecurity would become more intense.

The Structured Flood Control and Green Revolution Projects of the FAP might deprive the commonmen of their right on local wealth like fish and water-bodies, it said.

The Bangladesh Gano Sanghati Kendra, Green Group of Europian Parliament and IAO Network of Berlin jointly organised the international conference.

Luka Oriani of Europian Commission, Kits Pitman of the World Bank. Jef Wood and Patricia Almada Villela of UNDP Review Mission, president of Bangladesh Khetmajur Union Bimal Biswas, general secretary of Bangladesh Krishak Federation Badrul Alam. Swapon Adnan of Samabesh Institute and Selimul Haq of Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies took part in the discussion

#### killed, 5 hurt in clash over land in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Dec 12: One person was killed and five others were injured in a clash over the possession of land at Sarafvata village under Rangunia thana this morning.

Police said Md Ali was seriously injured during the clash with his rival groups. Ali was sent to the Chittagong medical college hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

Four persons were arrested in connection with the inci-

#### SC goes on winter vacation Sunday

By SC Correspondent Both the divisions of the

Supreme Court of Bangladesh goes on winter vacation from December 15. During the vacation only

Justice A M Mahmudur Rahman would sit in a vacation bench for disposal of urgent matters on December 17-19 and 22 - 24.

The court will reopen on January 2, 1997.

## Mir Shawkat sued

COX'S BAZAR, Dec 12: BNP leader Lt Gen (retd) Mir Shawkat Ali was sued here today for his remarks on the politicians who had crossed to India during the liberation war of 1971

A local Awami League leader filed the case with a first class magistrate's court, saying Shawkat's statement that "Politicians went to Calcutta to perform hajj" had hurt the religious sentiment of the Muslim community.

The holy hajj is one of the five pillars of Islam, said Mah bubul Haque Mukul in his petition filed with the court of magistrate Mohammad Masum Khan.

He quoted from a Dhaka daily which ran a story on Shawkat's remarks made at a meeting in observance of silver jubilee of independence in Dhaka on Wednesday. The story captioned "Zia and other sector commanders, not the politicians, led the liberation war."

## President attends SC Bar luncheon

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed attended a luncheon hosted by the Supreme Court Bar Association at the Supreme Court premises vesterday, reports BSS.

Former President Justice Ahsanuddin Chowdhury. Chi€f Justice of Bangladesh ATM Afzal. State Minister for Law Justice and Parliament Affairs Abdul Matin Khasru, State Minister for Public Works Afsar Uddin Ahmed, judges of the appellate division and High Court Division of the Supreme Court, Attorney General Barrister KS Nabi, retired judges and members of the Bar attended the luncheon.

On arrival, President Shahabuddin Ahmed was received by President of the Bar Barrister Shoukat Ali Khan secretary of the Bar Nazrul Islam Chowdhury and members of the Bar Association.

President Shahabuddin exchanged pleasantries with members of the Bar

#### Two murdered

From Page 1 Salahuddin and one of his accomplices Mizanur Rahman. police said.

The body has been sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) morgue for autopsy A case has been filed with Motitheel thana.

In another incident. Monir Hossain. 26. a chicken trader. was strangled allegedly by his wife in their house at Kazirbagh in Dhalpur under Demra thana yesterday morning, police said. Monir's mother Razia Begum

in the FIR alleged that her son was murdered by his wife and her relatives, police said. Demra police arrested Mo-

nir's wife, Saleha Begum, and sent the body to the DMCH morgue for autopsy.

## Jute godowns

gulfed the area at about 6:00 pm. Four groups of firefighters from Sherpur. Muktagachha, Sharishabari and the local unit put out the flame after three

Hundreds of people rushed to the spot and helped the fire brigade personnel in extinguishing the fire. Sixteen people received burn injuries in the incident. Local administration de-

ployed police to guard the spot.

#### Agreement welcomed two neighbouring countries

From Page 1

In a statement he also congratulated Bangladesh government for taking the initiative for reaching the accord. The JP leader, however,

urged the countries concerned to ensure a permanent watersharing arrangement involving other member countries of SAARC.

#### Jamaat-e-Islami

Jamaat-e-Islami Secretary General Motiur Rahman Nizami told The Daily Star last night that his party was not in a position to give any instant reaction to the water accord.

"We will study the text of the treaty first and also read the reports in newspapers. Only then, you will get our reaction", he

#### **Workers Party** Workers Party termed the

signing of water treaty a big success of the democratic and non-communal forces both in India and Bangladesh. The Politbureau of Workers

Party, in a statement, said that the then Awami League government had done a 'historic mistake' by agreeing to India's commissioning of the Farakka Barrage on April 18, 1975. without any treaty and with the treaty signed now that 'mistake' is corrected. The party called for placing

and taking up plans for proper utilisation of water. Communist Party

the treaty in the Jatiya Sangsad

Welcoming the treaty,

Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) termed it a right step in right direction. CPB President Shahidullah Chowdhury and General

Secretary Mujahidul Islam

Selim expressed the hope that

would now resolve all other problems between them in the spirit of friendship as in the case of water-sharing.

#### National Awami party National Awami Party

(NAP) congratulated the government of India and the Bangladesh for reaching a longterm water sharing treaty. In this connection, it also congratulated the government of the Indian state of West Bengal. In a joint statement, NAP

President Prof Mozaffar Ahmed and General Secretary Advocate Md Nurul Alam said the treaty is a victory of democratic and non-communal forces in the sub-continent and expressed the hope that other problems between the two countries would also be solved.

#### **JAGPA** Jativa Ganotantrik party

WAGPA) President Shafful Alam Pradhan in a speech at a gathering in the city yesterday said that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had signed a '30year bondage of slavery'.

#### Bangabandhu Prakoushali Parishad Office bearers of Banga

bandhu Prakoushali Parishad a forum of engineers, in a joint statement yesterday congratulated Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for signing a 'successful water treaty. The other organisations

which welcomed the treaty included Garments Sramik Kendra Nari Mukti Andolon. Bangladesh Juba Unnayan Parishad, Dakhin Bangla Juba Kallyan Samity, Tofazzal Hossain Manik Mia Parishad and Mehendiganj Unnayan Parishad.

# LOREAL



## PLENTTUDE

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# 30-yr historic water treaty

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the signing ceremony On Indian side, External Affairs Minister I K Gujral, Water Resources Minister Janeswar Misra and West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu were pre-

Both the houses of Indian parliament welcomed the treaty and applauded when the signing was disclosed. Deve Gowda informed the

Lok Shabha while I K Gujral disclosed it before the members of the Lok Sabha. Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also paid a cour tesy call on Chief Minister of

the Indian state of West Bengal Jyoti Basu at the local Banga Bhaban after the treaty was signed. Talking to The Daily Star at the Vigyan Bhaban, Indian External Affairs Secretary

Salman Haider said that a six-

member joint committee, three

from each country, would be formed and if would meet shortly Asked if the provision for review would at any time jeopardise the agreed flow of water charted out in the treaty. Salman said that there was no scope to change the minimum

stipulated flow incorporated in the treaty. Responding to another question from this correspondent if the flow of Ganges water could decrease in the coming years due to new barrages in the upper reaches, he replied, "at this moment there is no new proposal for fresh human en-

croachment. The accord came following nearly live months of intensive negotiations, parleys and consultations that kept political leaders, diplomats, bureaucrats and water experts conferring in New Delhi. Dhaka and Calcutta.

Later in the afternoon Sheikh Hasina and Deve Gowda addressed a joint press conference at the Vigyan Bhaban and expressed the hope that a new chapter of Indo-Bangla cooper ation would now begin.

their determination that the acrimony of the past would be overcome and efforts would now be directed towards expanding bilateral ties between

The leaders also expressed

the two countries. The Awami League govern

Hasina's return From Page 1

a tight security. She waved at the cheering crowd with a smile, that reflected the crowning glory she achieved with the historic ac-

Photo-journalists had the toughest time, running to maintain pace with her advancing motorcade, to record the Premier waving at the crowd.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad and Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak were literally lifted off their feet by jubilant young Awami League supporters.

They then walked up to the Airport Road with the crowd. People from different parts of the city carrying banners

welcomed the Premier, chanting slogans. A huge traffic jam was created on the Airport Road while

the crowd gathered. After the airport ceremonies. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina went to the Bangabandhu Museum at Dhanmondi to place wreaths at the mural of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

#### Highlights From Page 1

both the governments. Following submission of the reports the two governments will meet at appropriate levels to decide upon such further actions as may be needed.

 The sharing arrangement under this treaty shall be reviewed by the two governments at five years' interval or earlier, as required by either party. It would be open to either

party to seek the first review after two years to assess the impact and working of the sharing arrangement as contained in this treaty.

ment headed by Hasina from its first week in office expressed its a satisfactory desire to water sharing agreement before the onset of the coming dry season beginning on January 1.

The 13 party United Front coalition government of Deve Gowda that came to power eight months ago also responded equally and boldly for settling this issue with its lower riparian neighbour.

The Ganges water sharing treaty which ended a longstanding dispute between Bangladesh and India is seen here by political analysts as the beginning of a new chapter of promoting friendship, goodwill and cooperation between the two neighbours.

The formula for sharing of the Ganges water has been worked out for 10-day periods from January 1 to May 31 after taking into account the average of total flow over a 40-year pe-

The agreement is based on a

three-point formula worked out by the two countries under which Bangladesh will either get a minimum 35,000 cusecs of water or 50 per cent of the water if its availability is 70,000 cusees or less. In the event of flow of Farakka falling below 50,000 cusecs in any ten-day period, the two governments will enter into immediate consultations to make adjustments on an emergency basis in accordance with the principles of equity fair play and no harm to either party.

The treaty envisaged forma tion of a committee consisting of representatives nominated by the two governments in equal number

up suitable teams at Farakka and Hardinge Bridge to observe and record at Farakka the daily flows below Farakka Barrage in the feeder canal and at the navigation lock, as well as at the Hardinge Bridge The sharing arrangement

under this treaty will be re-

viewed by the two governments

at five years' interval or earlier,

as required by either party and

needed adjustments, based on

party can seek the first review

principles of equity, fairness, and no harm to either party made thereto, if necessary. Under the treaty, either

after two years to assess the impact and working of the sharing arrangements.

The historic treaty is done in Bangla, Hindi and English languages and in the event of any conflict between the texts, the English text shall prevail.

course of relations in the years to come.

She expressed the hope that

We should leave behind the chapter of suspicion and mistrust which certain forces nurtured for narrow political gains, she said

She appreciated the contri-Minister to resolving the water sharing problem and thanked the Indian External Affairs Minister for his efforts for furthering the cause of the two

tackle the problem. BSS adds: Deve Gowda, in his address described the treaty

The joint committee will set near future. clause in the treaty was an acknowledgment of the funda-

> of an international river. Replying to a question whether she had any discussion on the Indo-Bangladesh Friendship Treaty with the Indian government the Prime

Indian parliament

ing after the review stage, he said. Bangladesh would continue to receive 90 per cent of its share in accordance with the ensure availability of sufficient

new formula. In the Upper House, Rajya Sabha, External Affairs Minister I K Gujral apprised the members of the details of the treaty. Leader of the Opposition Atal Bihari Vajpayee described Prime Minister Deve Gowda's statement as "very important" and said he would react only after going through the treaty. He expressed the hope that the treaty would protect the inter-

and Bangladesh. "Any step that improves relations with Bangladesh must be welcomed," Atal Behari Vajpayee, leader of the opposition Hindu nationalist Bha rativa Janata Party (BJP), said of the 30-year-accord in

ests of the people of both India

Parliament. "It (the treaty) will create a milestone in the history of our bilateral relations." Priva Ranjan Das Munshi of the Congress party told Parliament. But he added that the government must take steps to safeguard the interests of the

nation. Das Munshi is a lawmaker from West Bengal, the eastern Indian state whose Calcutta

port needs Ganges water. This is an accord we should heartily welcome," said So ninath Chatterjee, leader of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), which heads the West Bengal state government. CPI-M was a key party involved in negotiating the treaty.

CPI-M leader in the Lok Sabha. Somnath Chatterjee hailed the treaty and congratulated the two prime ministers.

Sheikh Hasina, reading out from a prepared text, said. This is a moment of high emotion. The signing of the treaty is an event that will change the

"It will open a new era of cooperation" between the two countries, she said.

the treaty would contribute to the establishment of a lasting peace and prosperity in the South Asian region.

bution of the West Bengal Chief

Referring to the Indian premier. Hasina said, "It is you who have taken the bold decision and showed the vision to

as a 'tribute to the special quality of Indo-Bangladesh relations' and said India was confident that following the solution of the Ganges water sharing problem other bilateral issues that have been under discussions will also be resolved to the mutual satisfaction in the Hasina said the guarantee

mental right of the lower riparian to a fair share of the waters .

Minister replied in the negative. She said many points of that Friendship Treaty were covered in the SAARC Charter.

Sheikh Hasina and Deve

Welcoming the treaty. Congress member Priya Ranjan Das Munshi hoped that it would

Forward Bloc member Chitta Basu and Muslim League member G M Banatwala also hailed the treaty. Prime Minister Deve Gowda said this treaty comes on the eve of the 25th anniversary of

flow of water from upstream.

water for the Calcutta port and

which was a momentous landmark in the history of this con-He said this was the first visit of Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to India since she assumed office in June last. The visit came as the culmination of a series of exchanges initiated shortly af-

the liberation of Bangladesh

ter the new government in Bangladesh took office. Deve Gowda appreciated the "very constructive role" played by West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu in bringing about an improved atmosphere which facilitated the signing of the

Deve Gowda said the signing of the treaty was a fitting tribute to the special quality of relations. He said "With the removal of what has been a constant irritant in the bilateral ties, we can look forward to an entirely new phase of coopera-

He said the Indian government had taken initiatives to promote economic cooperation with Bangladesh, and added that India had proposed to extend commercial credits of rupees 100 crore to enhance trade relations between the two countries

## বিজিএমইএ নির্বাচন ৯৭ বিজিএমইএ ফোরাম

পোশাক শিল্প মালিকদের প্রতি আবেদন

আগামী ২৫ ফেব্রুয়ারী ৯৭ বিজিএমইএ নির্বাচন ৯৭ অনুষ্ঠিত হতে যাচেছ পোশাক শিল্প মালিক ভাই বোনদের অবগতির জন্য জানাচিছ যে আগামী ২৬ ডিসেম্বর ৯৬ এর মধ্যে তথুমাত্র বার্ষিক চাঁদা জমা দিয়ে আসন নির্বাচনে ভোটার হওয়া যাবে। সময় মত চাঁদা পরিশোধ করে ভোটার হওয়ার জন্য সবিনয় অনুরোধ করছি।

বিজিএমইএ ফোরাম

## **Editor: Mahfuz Anam**

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