'Proposed sub-regional

grouping detrimental

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BNP leaders

meet Hasina

ans led by Deputy Leader of the

Opposition in the Jatiya

Sangsad Pro AQM Badruddoza

Chowdhury paid a courtesy call

on Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina at the PM's chamber in

Sangsad Bhaban after

attending the Business

Advisory Committee meeting

vesterday afternoon, reports

position was accompanied by

Saifur Rahman MP, Chief Whip

of the Opposition Khandoker

Delwar Hossain MP and M K

Kerb marketmen

force suspension

of CSE trading

From Staff Correspondent

tating kerb market traders to-

day locked the Chittagong

Stock Exchange (CSE) building

confining its officials and au-

thorised representatives for

about two hours from 12:30 pm

and forced suspension of floor

market traders angered by the

staged a sit-in in front of stock

exchange building from the

morning and at 12:30 pm they

entered the floor to force sus-

pension of trading that began

At one stage, the demonstra-

During the agitation the

However, the gate of the CSE

traders also chanted slogans

against "market manipulators"

was unlocked after 2 pm when

the agitators were assured of

holding a meeting with their

leaders to sort out the problem.

Raqibul Huda

From Page 1

a public meeting in 1988, police

tagong issued the warrant of ar-

rest Sunday last against Huda

in connection with the killing

at Laldighi Maidan on January

24, 1988. Huda was the commis-

sioner of Chittagong metropoli-

tan police at that time. The

killing took place when police

and BDR opened fire to disperse

an Awami League meeting ad-

dressed by party chief Sheikh

The warrant of arrest for

A police team from the

Ragibul Huda reached Gulshan

thana picked him up from his

Gulshan residence at around

3:00 pm. He was sent to

Chittagong late last night under

police escort provided by the

Range Reserve Force, police

Judicial council

From Page 1

Commission.

sources said.

Chairman of the Public Service

Although there is no provi-

sion for Judicial Council in the

Constitution such councils for

making recommendations on

appointment of Supreme Court

Judges exist in a number of

countries including some in the

sub-continent, the sources said.

Law Secretary Aminullah was

formed on September 7. It fi-

nalised its report on Sunday

after holding nine meetings, the

New coal mine

From Page 1

from the earth surface.

nouncement pointed out.

an area of 99,194 hectares.

announcement added.

uated at the depth of 495 feet

This type of high quality bi-

tuminous coal is available only

in South Africa, India.

Bangladesh, Australia, Brazil

and Argentina, the official an-

certain the extent of the field

and its reserve are going on over

coal seams, the experts are op-

timistic about a large reserve in

the new-found coalmine, the

Considering the thickness of

Geological activities to as-

The Committee, headed by

thana vesterday morning.

Hasina.

The CMM's Court of Chit-

tors locked the gate of CSE

building and pelted brick-bats

at the office, the officials said.

sharp fall in share prices.

CSE officials said the kerb

CHITTAGONG, Jan 14: Agi-

Anwar MP.

trading.

from 10:30 am.

witnesses said.

CSE sources said.

The Deputy Leader of the Op-

Senior BNP parliamentari-



BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia presiding over a meeting of the party's Parliamentary Party at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday. Star photo

BNP: AL will respect tom the Parliament session

tomorrow". Deputy Leader of the Opposition Prof AQM Badruddoza Choudhury told newsmen after the meeting at

I hope the government will go by the accord and make the JS effective", he added. Earlier in the morning, BNP

signed a four point agreement with ruling Awami League after a three-hour dialogue, brokered by Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury

Soon after the BNPPP meet was over, the party joined the meeting of the JS Business Advisory Committee.

BNP had been abstaining from attending the Parliament session since November 10 to press its 10 point demand including neutral role of the Speaker, impartial coverage of the proceedings of the House by BTV and release of the party leaders and workers.

BNP chief and Leader of the Opposition in Jatiya Sangsad Begum Khaleda Zia presided over the BNPPP meet that began at 4 pm at the conference room of the Opposition in JS Bhavan, It continued till 7:15 pm) with a 90-minute break for

Briefing newsmen after the meeting. Chief Whip of the Opposition Khandakar Delwar Hossain said. We thank the Speaker and the ruling party for initiating the dialogue and accepting our demands ... Of late, they've realised that the JS can't be made effective without the participation of the Opposition. We now hope they will respect the accord and allow the Opposition play its due role.

We're always for effective functioning of Parliament. We made our best efforts to that direction. But it is the government which turned the Parliament ineffective," he said. "The Speaker has assured of his 'positive neutrality. The government has assured us of equal TV

coverage and investigation into the acts of repression on the BNP activists.

"We'll soon submit to the government a list of our workers facing repression". Khan dakar Delwar told a questioner. "Even political activists, who fought against Ershad's autocratic rule, are also being harassed due to the ruling party's entente with Ershad," he added.

The BNPPP meet also discussed the political, economic. law and order situation in the country and the 'acts of repression" on the party workers. Delwar said.

The meeting demanded withdrawal of the "conspiratorial cases" against Begum Zia and other party leaders and

The meeting also protested the "conspiracy" to jeopardise the sovereignty of the country through the proposed sub-regional grouping and giving transit to India and signing of an "uneven" water-treaty with that country, politicisation of the administration and government's failure in maintaining law and order and check the price hike of essentials, he said.

15 RU teachers assaulted

From RU Correspondent RAJSHAHI, Jan 14: At least 15 teachers were assaulted by some students on the university campus today.

A group of unruly students under the banner of Shadharan Chhatra Parishad (SCP) assaulted the teachers in front of Shahidullah Kalabhaban at about 11 am when they were visiting the departments to observe the prevailing situation on the campus. The SCP activists chased the teachers and stones eye witnesses pelted

JS: 4 ordinances

Rahman.

The meeting decided that the parliamentary sittings will start at 11 am and continue till 3:30 pm everyday with a break for the Zohr prayers.

Four ordinances promulgated by the President since the prorogation of the last session are likely to be placed before the House for approval today.

The government is scheduled to place the recently signed international treaty between the governments of Bangladesh and India on the sharing of Ganges water in the current session.

The Sangsad Rules of Procedure would also be amended during this session to give effect to an agreement reached between the Treasury and Opposition benches that the parliamentary standing committees on different ministries will be

Toll money From Page 1

The BCL armed cadre will now get 60 per cent of the 2 per cent toll on the Tk 2.21 crore construction work, the sources

The JCD cadre agreed to take the remaining 40 per cent of the collected extortion money, they added.

The university authorities earlier invited a tender through the national dailies for the construction of the third and fourth floors of the hall. On Monday last, tension gripped the campus with the possibility of an armed clash between the two rival groups over collection of the extortion money.

Leaders of the two armed cadres reached the understanding in a secret meeting at the campus Monday night, the sources said

Meanwhile, the DU authorities in a press release yesterday refuted the news report of tension over the opening of the tender. It said that four tender boxes were kept at four different places, therefore, it was not possible for any terrorist groups to bar bidders from submitting their proposals. Six schedules were submitted till Monday, it added.

The tender boxes were opened yesterday at the office of the Registrar in front of the concerned officials, the DU authorities said

headed by non-minister MPs Thirty-five standing bodies on ministries are likely to be constituted during the session following the amendment of the JS Rules of Procedure.

Besides, the Special Parliamentary Committee to scrutinise proposed bills would submit reports on six bills that were sent to the committee during the previous sessions. Chairman of the parliamentary body, Rahmat Ali, MP, told this correspondent last night.

The committee has already scrutinised four of the six bills that were sent to the Special Parliamentary Committee. The four bills include Judiciary Administration Training Institute (Amendment) Bill, 1996; Securities and Exchange (Amendment) Bill, 1996; Securities and Exchange Commission Bill, 1996 and the Bankruptcy Act (Amendment) Bill, 1996.

The two other bills relating to bank companies and commerce would be taken up by the committee for scrutiny very soon, he said.

Meanwhile, the BNP is expected to assert discussions various issues including the recent government decision on the formation of a sub-regional grouping with some member states of the SAARC, the Bangladesh-India treaty on sharing of Ganges water, law and order of the country and overall economic situation of the country, party sources said.

Replying to query, an influential member of the BNP parliamentary wing told this correspondent yesterday that they would accuse the government for pursuading a "pro-Indian" foreign policy.

Faruque Alamgir

From Page 1

formation as OSD Sources in the BTV said Alamgir received the letter making him OSD just when he reached his office at 2 pm after attending a meeting with the State Minister for Information yesterday.

They said the DG of Television and DDG Alamgir held a meeting with the minister and discussed various issues concerning television. The meeting ended at about 1:30 pm.

to SAARC spirit' Speakers at a discussion in the city yesterday said the planned sub-regional grouping comprising four South Asian states is detrimental to the

SAARC spirit, reports UNB.

They also termed the Indo-Bangla water sharing treaty a hoax and said it has deprived Bangladesh of its legitimate share of the Ganges water and given full authority to India to control the flow of the international river.

Former BNP Ministers Tariqul Islam and L K Siddiki. former Vice-Chancellor Prof Maniruzzaman Mian. Prof Abul Kalam and Prof Aftabuddin Ahmed of Dhaka University and President of Jatiya Press Club Reazuddin Ahmed

took part in the discussion. Janamat, a study group, organised the discussion meeting at the Press Club with its President Prof Nurul Alam in the

chair On December 12, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart H D Deve Gowda signed the Indo-Bangla treaty on distribution of the Ganges water in New Delhi.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad formally moved a proposal for a sub-regional cooperation at a meeting of the SAARC Council of Ministers in the Indian capital last month.

Ershad

From Page 1

ence of Ershad might cause inconvenience for the court as has been seen during his visit to Sylhet. Ershad has now become like a film actor drawing crowd which would affect functioning of the court. Hossain said. He, however, said his client was ea ger to come to the court.

Judge Abdul Majid said whether it creates problem or not is a headache of the government and not the defence. He said the accused could have come vesterday and see the situation. If the situation was otherwise, the government would take necessary measure, the judge said

APP Faruque Omar wanted to know why the accused was not brought to the court yesterday. He said the ground they are mentioning are not acceptable and demanded that his bail should be cancelled.

Public Prosecutor (PP) Altaf Hossain said 540a is not applicable in this case for the accused did not come to the court. Besides, he said this is applicable only when circumstances arises. The PP also pointed out that no explanation for Ershad's absence from the court vesterday was made. After hearing both sides, the

udge ordered that Ershad must appear in the next date of the hearing on February 18. Former minister Mostala Jamal Haider and former

works secretary M A Rouf coaccused in this case were pre-

From Page 1

change or to indemnify acts of

He said. 'the basic structure

of the Constitution provides for

supremacy of the constitution.

rule of law, constitutional pro-

tection of the right to life and

independent judiciary to protect

those rights, but the 1975 ordi-

nance being repugnant to these

basic features of the Constitu-

tion never acquired the charac-

He observed that the ordi-

nance is also repugnant to Arti-

cles 27(equality before law), 31

(protection of law) and 32 (right

to life and personal liberty) of

Mustag Ahmed he said. 'The so-

called president, who promul-

gated the so-called ordinance,

could not be regarded as a pres-

ident under the Constitution

and as such he could not invoke

Constitution only indemnifies

the acts connected with the lib-

eration struggle and in relation

to acts necessary to maintain

order in a particular area and

by making a limited exception

for these two types of situations

it prohibits all other types of

authorise to make something

which is a crime, a non-crimi-

nal act and thus to retrospec-

tively declare that a murder is

The Constitution does not

He said that Article 46 of the

Referring to Khandaker

ter of a law.

Article 93.

indemnities.

the Constitution.

assassination, he argued.

The government defends the proposal for a sub-regional cooperation, saying that it is al-lowed under the SAARC charter approved at the first summit of the association in Dhaka in

The seventh article of the charter says that "Standing Committee may set up Action Committees comprising member states concerned with the implementation of project in volving more than two, but not all Member States."

"This treaty was unwanted. so we have rejected it." Tariqul Islam said of the water sharing agreement.

BCL activists snatch arrested worker from police in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Jan 14. Unruly activists of the Chhatra League blocked the Dhaka-Chit tagong highway, swooped on police and snatched their arrested colleague today, reports UNB.

Mirersharai thana Pol ce Sub-Inspector Kartik Chandra Dev and three constables were injured and their pick-up van was damaged in the attack, police said.

They said a group of activists of Chhatra League, the ruling party's students wing, swooped on the police squad when BCL activist Shahadat Hossain Titu was being sent to district court by a pick-up van at about 2 pm. Mirersharai police arrested

Titu with 200 feet of teak timber from the thana headquarters at about 4 am while allegedly blackmarketing the timber. Police said Titu was injured seriously as a speeding truck hit

him after he jumped from the Hearing about the incident

angry BCL men rushed the scene and took away Titu. The Chhatra League activists also put a barricade on the

highway disrupting traffic movement for two hours. They also damaged two trucks, police

Share investor robbed in city By Staff Correspondent

A share investor at the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) was mugged of cash and share certificates worth about Tk 1.87 lakh from Dilkusha Commercial area in the city yesterday afternoon, police said.

Anwar Hossain, 25, was intercepted by three unidentified persons when he was going to an wage earners' branch of Sonali Bank in Dilkusha after selling some shares at the DSE in Motijheel at about 2 pm.

The gang snatched away the hand bag from Anwar in which he kept Tk 92,000 in cash and some share certificates worth

not a murder or that a murderer

is out of reach of the law is re-

the right to life by providing

that anyone committing mur-

der will be brought to justice by

the judiciary, but the 1975

Ordinance in effect deprives the

judiciary of the right to dis-

charge its constitutional re-

sponsibility in respect of par-

ticular crimes by certain crim-

said. "Para 3A/18 of the Fourth

Schedule does not transform

the ordinance into a part of the

Constitution and Clause 7 of

Para 3A expressly provides that

any law protected by Clause

3A(1) may be repealed or

amended by a competent au-

Hug and Senior Advocate M

Nurullah observed that the or-

dinance was an ordinary law

which could be repealed by a

simple majority in Parlia-

also said that the ordinance

was a 'black law' and ultra-vires

to the constitution which was

also against human rights and

against the very spirit of our

Constitution and also cannot

get any constitutional protec-

He said. "The ordinance was

contrary to rule of law .

Barrister Rafique-ul Huq

Both Barrister Rafique-ul

Dr Kamal Hossain finally

inals", he said.

thority."

ment.

"Our Constitution protects

pugnant to the law, he argued.

Indemnity Ordinance

Electronic Toaster



Let's make things better

PHILIPS



Priyanka married, separated!

NEW DELHI, Jan 14: An Indian politician has tried to stop the marriage of the daughter of assassinated premier Rajiv Gandhi. claiming she was his wife. reports AFP

Privanka Gandhi, 26, was ordered by a court on Monday to reply tomorrow to a petition by V R Krishna Gowd who said he had married Gandhi in 1991 but separated later following differences.

Priyanka Gandhi, who lives with her Italian-born mother Sonia, is to marry businessman Robert Wadhera on February 5.

Gowd, a law graduate from southern India who said he was a frequent visitor to the Gandhi family home as an activist of the Congress(I) Party, urged the court to stop the marriage. He said Gandhi was his wife.

Arrested Naga youths remanded By Staff Correspondent

Two Naga youths arrested from the city's Moghbazar area

Monday morning were placed on a two-day remand yesterday. Police suspected that the young men from Nagaland in India entered into Bangladesh illegally crossing the border in Sylhet to sell firearms in Dhaka. Ramna police said that they recovered two pistols from the arrested persons identified

as Sang Yu Jamir, 20, and Sony,

The arrested persons were produced before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) court yesterday morning. The court granted two days' remand for further interroga-

Police said that the pistols which were recovered from the possession of the arrested persons were foreign made. The two crossed the border a couple of days ago and came to Dhaka from Sylhet by inter-city bus Monday.

A police officer said that they were facing some difficulties in the interrogation process as the Naga youths could not speak or understand much En-

Cabinet

From Page 1

SAMS Kibria, state ministers, MPs and senior government officials were present on the occasion.

With the induction of six new faces into the cabinet, the number of ministers rose to 16. state ministers to 14 and deputy ministers to two.

Earlier, the cabinet comprised 14 ministers and 12 state ministers. Environment and Forest

Ministry, and Planning Ministry, earlier looked after by the Prime Minister, were reallocated to Sajeda Chowdhury and Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir respectively. Now the Prime Minister is

holding three ministries — Defence, Civil Aviation and Establishment. She is also in charge of the Armed Forces Division, Cabinet Division and Special Affairs Division.

6 killed, 9 injured in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

Six persons were killed and nine injured in road accidents in Gaibandha, Netrakona and Dhaka vesterday.

Our Gaibandha Correspondent reports: Three persons, including a girl died and six others sustained serious injuries in a road accident at Bhagabanpur under Gobindaganj Thana on the Rangpur-Bogra highway.

The accident happened when a Nilphamari-bound night coach collided with a truck.

The girls was identified as Afroza Begum, 12. The two other deceased could not be identified.

The critically injured per-sons are Jaharun 35, Arjina 10, of Pabna, Jahangir Alam, 25, of Panchagarh, Noorjahan Begum 30. of Nilphamari, Khokan Pirganj, and Najibullah, 27, of Domer. They were taken to the Rangpur Medical College Hospital. A case was filed with Gobindagani Thana.

According to BSS, two persons were killed and three others injured when a Netrakonabound truck coming from the capital rammed a roadside house apparently by mistake due to fog in the early hours of Tuesday at Chhalisha Bazar. about five km from Netrakona.

According to police, the driver of the potato laden truck mistook the house as part of the road in a thick foggy weather. On receiving the information. JS session: No

pass issued for photo-journalists By Staff Correspondent The Press Information De-

partment (PID) has issued no pass for the photo-journalists of any newspaper for covering the Jatiya Sangsad session beginning today. Only four photographers, two from the PID and one each

Minister and the Speaker have been allowed to cover the Parliament session this time. The general secretary of the Photojournalists' Association. AKM Mohsin, yesterday strongly criticised the authorities for depriving the photo-

journalists of covering the ses-

from the offices of the Prime

"It is really surprising that only twenty-four hours after the reported Prime Minister's directive asking the government officials to fully cooperate the journalists perform their professional duties

police rushed to the spot and sent the injured to the Netrakona Sadar Hospital.

One of the victims was identified as a resident of the house. Kartick Sheel, 35, was sleeping in the house when the accident took place. The other victim was traveling in the truck.

The driver of the killer truck fled the scene. Police seized the truck. A case has been filed.

UNB adds: A security guard of a garments factory was killed as a speeding truck hit his bicycle at Mirpur in the city early vesterday.

The victim was identified as Tanvir Hasan, 22, as security guard of Omega Fashion, at 29, Mirpur Road.

Hospital sources said a truck knocked Tanvir down in front of a primary school at Mirpur section while he was returning to the factory in a bicycle after taking Sehri.

His body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

40 shops gutted in front of CEPZ

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Jan 14: At least 40 shops were gutted when a fire broke out in front of the Chittagong Export Processing Zone in early morning today.

fire brigade sources said. Fire brigade estimated the loss of property at around Taka 30 lakhs. The origin of fire is yet to be ascertained. The fire broke out at 5 am and fire brigade personnel brought it under control at around 6:10

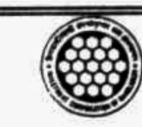
CBA leaders

From Page 1

the use of private equipment in cargo handling at Chittagong Port was taken by the past government while M K Anwar was the minister for port and ship-

The decision was taken against the backdrop of demand from port users to meet the shortage of equipment at Chit tagong Port, causing delay in cargo handling, the sources

Chittagong Port initially procured four straddle carriers for handling container cargo and later imported another four straddle carriers besides bringing another one from Mongla Port to meet the growing need.



Investment Corporation of Bangladesh **Investors Department** Shilpa Bank Building (15th Floor)

This is for information of the respectable investors of ICB Head Office and Branch Offices that Apex Foods Ltd. has decided to issue Right Share on 1:1 basis at a price of Taka 1200/- per share (Face Value Tk. 100/-+ premium Tk. 1100/-) to the shareholders of the Company whose name appeared in the Company's share register on 29 November, 1996. The last date for application for Right Share is 25 January, 1997.

Investors interested to buy Right Shares of Apex Foods Ltd. through their accounts are requested to contact ICB offices and submit their written purchase instruction along with required deposits (if any) by 23 January, 1997.

Assistant General Manager Investors Department

AL-BNP accord ward to see that all the parties From Page 1 participate in Parliament ses-

the agreement says, chief whips of the ruling party and the Opposition will keep constant contact with each other regarding functioning of the Jatiya Sangsad and they will also apprise the Speaker of the developments in that regard.

Mohammed Nasim said that yesterday's dialogue was held in a cordial atmosphere and that the Speaker reiterated his commitment to maintain a "positive neutrality" in running the affairs of the House, abiding by the Constitution as well as the JS Rules of Procedure. The Speaker also sought full cooperation from both the parties, said Nasim.

Nasim termed the agreement an 'agreement of cooperation among friends.

When approached for comment, Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury said, "I am very glad today that the dialogue has been successful and positive decisions have been taken. Now, I am looking forsions as well as other parliamentary activities. "A crisis is over. Today's out-

come is a milestone in giving the country's parliamentary democracy an institutional shape." he said. Prime Minister's Parliamentary Affairs Advisor

Suranjit Sengupta, Mohammed Nasim, Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah, Md Rahmat Ali, MP, and Whip Mizanur Rahman Manu represented ruling party in the talks while BNP was represented by Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the House Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury, Saifur Rahman, MP, BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Opposition Chief Whip Khandaker Delwar Hossain and MK Anwar, MP.

Mentionably, 113 lawmak ers belonging to the largest opposition party of the country. BNP, abstained from attending the JS session since November 10 after submitting a 10-point demand to the Speaker.



বিআইডব্লিউটিএ ভবন (৫ম, ৬ষ্ঠ ও ৭ম), ১৪১-১৪৩, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০

প্রথম বিএসআরএস মিউচ্যুয়াল ফান্ড এর সার্টিফিকেট বরাদ্দপত্র/রিফাড ওয়ারেন্ট শেষবারের মত

প্রথম বিএসআরএস মিউচ্যুয়াল ফাভ এর সার্টিফিকেট বরাদ্দপত্র/রিফাভ ওয়ারেন্ট যে সকল সম্মানিত আবেদনকারিগণ নির্ধারিত দিনে সংগ্রহ করতে সমর্থ হন নি তীদের অসুবিধার কথা বিবেচনা করে পুনরায় ১৬-০১-৯৭ইং তারিখ রোজ বৃহস্পতিবার সকাল ৯টা থেকে বিকাল ৪টা পর্যন্ত শরীফ ম্যানশন নীচ তলা।, ৫৬-৫৭, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা (আমিন কোর্ট এর বিপরীতে), ঢাকা থেকে সার্টিফিকেট বরাদ্দপত্র/রিফান্ড ওয়ারেন্ট বিতরণ

মোঃ মোণাররফ হোসেন

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হাতে হাতে বিতরণ

করা হবে। এ দিনে ডেলিভারী নিতে ব্যর্থ হলে পরবর্তীতে তাঁদের নিজস্ব ঝুঁকিতে রেজিষ্টার্ড ডাক্যোগে পাঠানো হবে।

সহকারী মহাবাবস্থাপক

Editor: Mahfuz Anam