home in the evening after visit-

Both of them died on the

Meanwhile, at least 25 people were injured. 10 of them se-

riously, in a road accident near

Ganapaddi bazar in Nokla

thana on the Sherpur-Dhaka

the mishap occurred at 6:30 am

when a Mymensingh-bound

minibus and a truck from the

opposite direction made a head-

The seriously injured were identified as Sakhwat Hossain,

26. Abdul Manna, Bibha Chak-

rabarty, Karunakanta Mala-kar, Sheikh Harunur Rashid,

Mafijul Islam, Abdus Sattar,

Parveen Barma Rani and

the Mymensingh Medical Col-

lege Hospital, two to the Sher-

pur Sadar Hospital and one to Nokla Thana Health Complex.

The drivers of both the ve-

Another UNB report says:

An unidentified middle-aged

man was crushed under the

wheels of a Sherpur bound

minibus from Dhaka near the

Zila Parishad Dakbanglow at

6:45 am just after he got down

The driver fled the scene

BSS adds: One person was

killed and 20 others were in-

jured when a Comilla-bound

bus collided with a truck at

Gazipur of Daudkandi Thana

on the Dhaka-Chittagong

The victim, aged about 8.

Of the injured, five were ad-

Police seized both the truck

mitted to Gouripur hospital in a

critical condition and others

and bus. A case was filed with

were released after first aid.

highway, police sources said.

could not be identified.

from the minibus in Sherpur.

Of them, seven were sent to

on collision.

Magbul.

hicles escaped.

with his vehicle.

Police and witnesses said,

highway yesterday morning.

ing the local sugar mills.

BLUE DART

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina talking to a delegation of the Population Council which called on her at her Secretariat office yesterday. - PID photo

US company

From Page 1

Jalil Khan signed the PSC on

behalf of the government while

Okland Oil Company was repre-

sented by J Steven Wetwiska

and Rexwood Corporation by

Mineral Resources Muhammad

Noor Uddin Khan and US Am-

bassador in Dhaka David N

Merrill were present at the sign-

ing ceremony of the PSC in the

British Cairn Energy and

Dutch Holland Sea Search have

already struck a huge gas re-

serve in Sangu field of the off-

shore block 16, some 45 kilo-

metres off the port city of Chit-

conditions, the company would

carry on the exploration works

for next seven years and, in case

of any discovery, the contract

would be extended up to 25

start the seismic operation

immediately and the first well

is expected to be drilled soon

after the delineation of suitable

ration obligation, the joint ven-

ture shall reprocess 500 lines of

old seismic data and acquire

300 line kilometres of multi-

contingent programme of 100

line kms of multifold seismic

Tangail

From Page 1

his refusal to provide the office

dent Abdul Ali Siddiky said

that he went to the Collec-

torate's office to collect the du-

plicate copy of the search war-

rant order under which a raid

was carried out at his house on

demanded that, "we are usually

paid for such services," alleged

Abdul Ali Siddiky, to which his

this issue, I went to the office of

the Deputy Commissioner de-

manding justice, which was to-

tally ignored by the officer.

said Abdul Ali Siddiky adding

that he got further agitated by

the DC and left his room," he

Sattar Khan, when contacted

rrence of any such incident at

his office saying that he was

busy on that day in connection

demonstration during the day

Jt monitoring

From Page 1

the Ganges (Padma in Bangla-

desh) at the Hardinge Bridge

point registered a two-cm fall in

24 hours till 6 pm today,

reducing the quantum of water

point was 55,793 cusecs against

62,993 cusecs on the same day

Bangla treaty, Bangladesh is to

receive 57,673 cusecs of water

during the 10-day period be-

ginning January 10.

The flow of water at the

According to the Indo-

by 500 cusecs.

last year.

All the offices of the district

with the visit of two ministers.

over telephone, denied occu-

"At one point, I also slapped

Deputy Commissioner Abdus

the behaviour of the DC.

An employee of the office

"Following heated debate on

the night December 27 last.

reply was, "I never do that."

Talking to this correspon-

In addition to that, there is a

As per minimum explo-

Rexwood-Okland intends to

According to the terms and

Minister for Energy and

George N Keeney

tagong.

years.

structure.

fold seismic data.

data in the area.

copy of a document.

PM tells Population Council team

Help improve quality of people's life

man

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina stressed the need for improving the quality of life of the people ensuring their proper schooling and livelihood besides controlling population boom, reports UNB.

"We want to turn our manpower into assets," she said while talking to a delegation of the Board of Trustees of the Population Council at her secretariat chamber yesterday.

Sheikh Hasina said the job of the Population Council is not only to reduce population but also to improve quality of people's life.

Stressing expansion of education, the Prime Minister said : "Education is prerequisite to combatting some social men

She also suggested educating women and creating job opportunity for them, which she said, would give them a better position in family and provide

them with social security. The Prime Minister outlined the steps taken by her government for universal female education up to high school level She identified the lack of male involvement in the family planning programme as a major barrier and requested the Council to help her government

work on this issue. Leader of the 14-member delegation, Margaret Catley Carlson, President of the Population Council and member of the Board of Trustees, thanked the Prime Minister for her continuing support for the empow-

erment of women in Bangladesh. She also briefed Hasina about the research activities undertaken by the Council, including technical assistance provided to the Ministry of

Health and Family Welfare on recruitment of female as family planning fieldworkers. tion Council, a New York-based international organisation, also mentioned the coordina-

The President of the Population of government and NGO family planning and maternal/child health activities, and testing of alternative FP-MCH service-delivery models, particularly cluster visitation, and

PCJSS

From Page 1

peace in the CHT. The letter signed by PCJSS leader Rupayan Dewan was sent to the liaison committee convenor, Hangsa Dhaja Chakma, He urged the government to arrange a helicopter for the PCJSS delegation to fly to Dhaka from Dhudhupchhari in Panchhari thana of Khagrachhari district and to go back to Dhudhupchhari.

As per decision of the previous talks, eight security camps will be withdrawn temporarily and watching from five camps will remain suspended in the Dhudhupchhari area from Jan-

Meanwhile, a tense situation was prevailing in the hill districts following the killing of four tribal leaders - Subinov Chakma, Adi Shankar Khisa Bibhuti Ranjan Karbari and Kalijoy Chakma — in last two months.

Anniversary

From Page 1

morning while party leaders will offer fateha and place wreaths at the mazar of the late

leader at 10 am. administration excepting that A discussion meeting on of the Deputy Commissioner 'Shaheed Zia' will be held at 4 was put under lock and key by pm at 29, Minto Road, the offithe agitating employees who cial residence of Leader of the opposition in Parliament. also held rallies and carried out

Meanwhile, a meeting of the Dhaka City BNP was held yesterday with its convenor Sadeq

Hossain Khoka MP in the chair at the party central office.

The meeting decided to observe the 61st birth anniversary of Ziaur Rahman today and the Shaheed Asad Day tomorrow. It congratulated city presi-

dent and central vice president of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Nasir Uddin Pintu, on his release from jail on Thursday.

The meeting was addressed by Mirza Abbas, Salahuddin Ahmed, Ekhlas Uddin Mollah, Kazi Abul Bashar, Abdul Wadud Master, Mainuddin Mainu and Shamsul Huda.

Hasina likely to meet Clinton during US visit Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina is expected to have a meeting with US President Bill Clinton to discuss bilateral merging Satellite Clinics with matters during her forthcoming visit to Washington, reports The experience of ICDDR'B UNB. with MCH-FP extension project

Sheikh Hasina is scheduled at Mirersarai in Chittagong was to leave for Washington on also discussed. January 30, to attend the World The Prime Minister showed Microcredit Summit. The threekeen interest in replication of day summit will begin on the extension-project activities February 2 in the US capital. in other areas of the country,

Heads of state or government especially North Bengal. of 185 countries have been in-Discussing various aspects vited to the conference which of population planning with the will work out a programme to delegation, Sheikh Hasina refree some 600 million poorest ferred to 1973 model of healthpeople from the curse of poverty care complex created by Bangaby 2005. bandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rah-

Sheikh Hasina, as one of the co-chairpersons of the summit, will preside over the top one of 15 council sessions of the global

Queen Sophia of Spain and the wife of US President. Hillary Clinton, are also cochairpersons.

The Bangladesh leader will also seize the opportunity to hold bilateral parleys with heads of state or government of other friendly countries on the sidelines of the summit, official sources said vesterday.

Sheikh Hasina is expected to return on February 7.

Workers of Dhaka Match in Khulna laid off

From Staff Correspondent KHULNA, Jan 18: The workers of the Dhaka Match Industries Co Ltd here have been laid

off from 6 am today. The General Manager in his lay-off notice said the factory has been a losing concern for

the last one year. A total of 700 casual and regular workers have been laid off and all units of the factory will remain closed until further

CMM's Court

From Page 1 Col Shahriar Rashid Khan. Capt Wahab, and Lt Col Mohiuddin, besides Zobaida Rashid. wife of absconding accused Col Abdur Rashid and Taheruddin Thakur, who was state minister both under Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and

Khandaker Mushtaque Ahmed. The charge sheet also contained the names of four deceased persons. They are: Khandaker Mushtague Ahmed. Mahbub Alam Chashi, Captain Mostafa and Risalder Sarwar. Sources concerned said that since they are dead, their names

were not sent up for trial. The accused absconders who have been chargesheeted are: former military officers Col Abdur Rashid Khandaker, Lt Col Aziz Pasha, Maj Dalim, Maj Bazlul Huda, Maj Noor, Maj Mohiuddin, Maj Rashed Chowdhury, Maj Ahmed Sharful Hasan, Capt Kismet, Lt Nazmul Ansar, Capt Majed and Capt Moslemuddin besides Marfat Ali Shah and Abul

Hashem Mirdha. 3-yr plan

From Page 1 In another incident, one Zafrullah, 32. of Jahangir Store

in the plan. The new FFYP, work for which has already started. would give importance to the local government's role in formulation and implementation

of plans. Inclusion of the private sector in the planning structure has also been proposed as part of the government's policy to help stimulate the sector.

Meanwhile, all the ministries and divisions of the government has been asked to submit a progress report on the Fourth Five Year Plan. The General Economic Division (GED) has also undertaken an exercise to evaluate the effectiveness of different macro policies of the Fourth Plan.

The government has also started the process to formulate a national advisory panel to assist the GED of the Planning Ministry in formulating the FFYP. Sectoral task forces have also been formed which will be advised by 'eminent economists and personalities.

Seven killed, 100 hurt in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

Seven persons were killed and nearly one hundred others injured in road accidents in Dhaka, Natore, Sherpur, Pabna and Comilla districts yester-

A trader of poultry eggs died and two others sustained injuries when a speeding truck from Gazipur collided with a train at the Staff Road level crossing at Kurmitola in the city early yesterday.

Ahsanullah. 35, who was in

the truck died on the spot, police

The truck rammed the local train Bhairab at around 2:10 am as the gate to the level crossing was reportedly kept open. The driver and his helper were injured as the truck fell into a roadside ditch after being hit by he train.

A rescue team of the fire brigade rushed to the spot and recovered the body which was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) morgue for autopsy, said police adding a case has been filed with Kamalapur railway thana.

Our Natore correspondent says: three passengers were killed and 50 others injured when a coach bound for Chapainawabganj overturned near 'Banpara' Bazar under Baraigram thana yesterday.

Police and fire service sources said the coach, Insaf Special, fell into a ditch while giving side to a vehicle. One of the deceased was identified as Tushar, 20.

Fifteen of the injured have been hospitalised. The driver and his helper have fled. UNB adds: Father and son

met the tragic end of their lives

when a truck ran over them at Dashuria in Ishwardi yester-

Police said a Pabna-bound truck hit the bicyclist father, Abdur Razzak, 40, and his 13vear-old son. Wadud, from behind while they were returning

Try 17 ministers

demands Ershad

Party Chairman H M Ershad

here today demanded that the

government try 17 ministers of

the previous BNP government.

home town Thursday on a

three-day visit, the first after he

was freed on bail, was address

ing a press conference at the lo-

cal Circuit House before return

He said the BNP will never

The former president said he

return to power as there was no

democracy during its rule and

Begum Khaleda Zia had totally

will apprise the countrymen of

why BNP didn't take part in the

1986 general election held dur-

ing his regime. Awami League

is a partner of the Awami

League's "government of con-

sensus" observed that the pre-

sent government is more demo-

cratic than the past BNP gov-

He, however, told a ques-

Hailing the Indo-Bangla

tioner that this is too early to

evaluate Sheikh Hasina's gov-

Ganges water sharing treaty.

the deposed president said it

Ershad whose Jatiya Party

participated in that election.

failed to run the country.

Ershad, who came to his

reports UNB.

ing to the capital.

ernment.

ernment.

RANGPUR, Jan 18: Jatiya

of BNP govt,

Daudkandi thana. Regional meet of chiefs of US missions due in city Jan 25

By Staff Correspondent Robin Raphel, US Assistant Secretary of State, will arrive in Dhaka on January 23 on a six-day working visit, accord-

ing to official sources.
During her stay here, she will preside over a two-day regional meeting of the chiefs of US missions in five South Asian countries. The meeting will be held at the US Embassy on January 25 and 26, the

sources said A team of senior officials from the State Department will also come from Washington to participate in the meeting, described by a US official as "an annual periodic review of US policies relating to the region."

The US ambassadors to Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka will attend the meeting. Bhutan and the Maldives, which do not have ambassadorial level US representation will also come under the purview of the regional review meeting, an official said.

The regional meet of US ambassadors is a "routine procedure" and meeting venues are rotated among countries where there are "ambassadorial level presence," he pointed out.

On January 27 and 28, the US Assistant Secretary will have bilateral meetings with senior officials of the Bangladesh Foreign Ministry.

would help resolve other outstanding issues between the two countries. Khaleda at BNPPP meet

From Page 1

way for the party's return to the House to protest the government's 'anti-people' activities. the sources said

About the President's address made in the House, the meeting decided that the party lawmakers would point out that the achievement cited by him (President) were made during the BNP government.

Briefing waiting newsmen fier the meeting, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Prof Badruddoza Choudhury said the BNP lawmakers will attend today's parliament session after placing wreaths at Shaheed Zia's mazar at 12:30 pm.

In this regard, he regretted that the Speaker turned down his party's request to start today's session at 12:30 instead of 11 am to enable the party MPs participate in ceremony, marking the 61st anniversary of

birth of Ziaur Rahman. Prof Choudhury said that the Speaker had assured them that the bailey bridge connecting the Crescent Road with Zia's Mazar would be completed before Zia's birth anniversary celebrations. "It is regrettable that a temporary bridge has been set up for thousands of people who are expected to visit the mazar.'

Prof Choudhury said the party lawmakers at the BNPPP meeting gave their opinions on the tour-point agreement and its implementation. The meeting also discussed the party lawmakers' deliberation to be made in the House on the President's address and other issues in the current session.

The BNP leader alleged that the government had already violated the accord by arresting Juba Dal president and secretary of Lalmohon thana on Thursday only to harass them.

"We demand of the government immediately settlement of such acts of political harassment as per the agreement signed," the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, a signatory to the accord, said. Chief Whip of the Opposition

Khandakar Delwar Hossain another signatory, and explained at the meeting the events leading to signing of the agreement. A total of 75 MPs of the party were present, a source

Various issues including the Ganges water-sharing treaty, government's plan to form a sub-regional grouping and its alleged move to give transit to India, "repression and harassment " of BNP leaders and workers, deterioration of law and order, price hike of essentials came up for discussion at the meting, the sources said.

While coming out of the meeting. Begum Zia avoided answering a question about Ershad's recent statements about BNP leaders.

Party leader Nazmul Huda, accompanying her, said, "Ershad is not a factor." Badruddoza Choudhury, replying to a similar question, said, "Ershad is yet to be a matter of discus-

Tk 2.72 lakh From Page 1

at Shantinagar, was robbed off Tk 75,000 when he was passing the Curzon Hall area in a rickshaw at about 11 am. Four armed muggers in an

auto-rickshaw intercepted his rickshaw and snatched the money at gun point, police said. A case has been filed with Ramna thana. BSS adds: A group of armed

dacoits on Friday night looted

Tk 14,000 from a sweetmeat

shop of Moran Chand and Grand Sons at Naya Paltan. Motijheel police said, a group of ten dacoits entered the sweetmeat shop at about 8 pm and looted the money from the cash box at gun point. The dacoits beat up the manager, Subodh Kumar Ray, also snatched

A case was registered with Motifheel thana. Police arrested one Mohammad Rashid from Naya Paltan in connection with the robbery.

his wrist watch and fled within

a few minutes.

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Thakurgaon by-polls: 8 file nominations

Eight candidates submitted nomination papers yesterday. the last date of filing nomination, for contesting by-election to the Thakurgaon-1 seat of the Jatiya Sangsad. The candidates are Balram Guha Thakurata. Satyajit Kumar Kundu, Ramesh Chandra Sen, S M Azizul Haq. Krishak Mohammad Sadek ZHN Islam, Mohammad Abul Hossain Sarker and Mohammad Rafiqul Islam. Voting for the by-election in the constituency is scheduled for February 18, said an Election Commission release, reports

BNP, Jamaat boycott Thakurgaon by-election

Opposition BNP and Ja maat-e-Islami have decided not to contest the Thakurgaon byelection on the plea that voting would not be fair under the present Chief Election Commissioner and the party in power. reports UNB.

The BNP, which has been agitating for the resignation of CEC Muhammad Abu Hena for his 'partisan role' in past elections, decided to stay off the by-"We are agitating for resigna-

tion of the CEC, but Abu Hena has not yet resigned. So we cannot participate in the polls, said Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury. Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament.

When contacted last night, Jamaat Publicity Secretary Abdul Qader Mollah said his party's parliamentary board had earlier decided not to take part in by-elections under a party in

Rehana will receive Netaji Award given to Bangabandhu

CALCUTTA, Jan 18: Sheikh Rehana, the younger daughter of the founding father of Bangladesh, will receive the prestigious Netaji Award being given to her father, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, posthumously on Netaji's birthday on January 23, official sources said here today, reports PTI.

West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu will hand over the award to Sheikh Rehana in a

colourful programme. A number of programmes have been finalised by the Netaji Birth Centenary Celebration Committee for the day when processions from different parts of the metropolis will march in military style to the

tune of Azad Hind band. The International Netail Centenary Committee of Netaji Research Bureau today started a week-long programme

President

From Page 1

the country Problems of the textile sector, customs and duties also came up for discussion. They pointed out the impediments to establishment of new textile mills essential to face the forthcoming hard competition worldwide in the garment sec-

The members of the delegation expressed the view that consensus of political parties is essential for political stability in the country without which foreign investors will not come

President Shahabuddin gave them a patient hearing and said the country's business community should vent their unanimous opinion to the political leaders of the country for ensur-

ing a sound financial system. FBCCI vice-president Alhaj Kazi Md Shafiqul Islam, executive members. Secretary to President Muhammad Enamul Huq and Military Secretary to the President Major General Ruhul Alam Chowdhury were present during the meeting.

UP complex

From Page 1

ties to officials of different government departments under one roof. At the same time, the elected representatives will be able to supervise the activities of various offices at the union level and thus ensure effective coordination, the press release

Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Zillur Rahman and State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Syed Abul Hossain were among those present at the time of presentation of the models to the Prime Minis-

Lahore blast

From Page 1

Sectarian violence involving rival party militants has claimed scores of lives in Pakistan over the past few years while about a dozen bomb blasts, blamed on unidentified terrorists, have left more than 80 people dead in central Pakistan's Punjab province since April last year.



BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Jatiya Sangsad Begum Khaleda Zia inaugurating a function organised by JASSAS at Ramna Batamul on the occasion of 61st birth anniversary of late president Ziaur Rahman yesterday. Star photo

Move to erase Zia's name won't succeed: B Chy

By Staff Correspondent

Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Jatiya Sangsad, Prof A Q M Badruddoza Choudhury has blamed the Awami League government for "attempting to undermine Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman who, he said. showed the path to freedom fighters during the country's War of Liberation.

"While big leaders went into hideouts or volunteered arrest (during the war). Zia faced the situation courageously and showed way to the freedom fighters which none dared to do," Choudhury said at a children's art and speech competition at the Ramna Batamul in the city yesterday marking the 61st anniversary of birth of late President Ziaur Rahman.

founder of BNP. Ziaur Rahman's widow Begum Khaleda Zia, who is also chief of BNP and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, inaugurated the competition by releasing 61 pigeons and 61 bal-

BNP's cultural wing, Jatiyatabadi Samajik Sangskritik Sangstha (JASAS), organised the competition as part of the programme to celebrate Zia's birth anniversary today. JA-SAS chief Rezaboddowla presided over the function which was also addressed by BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, MP, former secretary general of the party Abdus Salam Talukdar, Jatiya Press Club president Reazuddin

Ahmed and film actor Rajiv. The government has cancelled the November 7 public holiday, broken the bridge at Zia's mazar and made changes in the names Zia International Airport and some auditoriums at different parts of the country dropping Zia's name. he said

"Those in power are fighting against a dead Zia i.e. the wind ... their hearts are like those of Kachki fish not even like those of Puti fish as I identified earlier," he said adding, no move to erase Zia's name from history will succeed."

2 SEC members likely to be

removed soon The two members of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), who have been in the centre of a controversy, are likely to be removed in a couple of days, official sources said

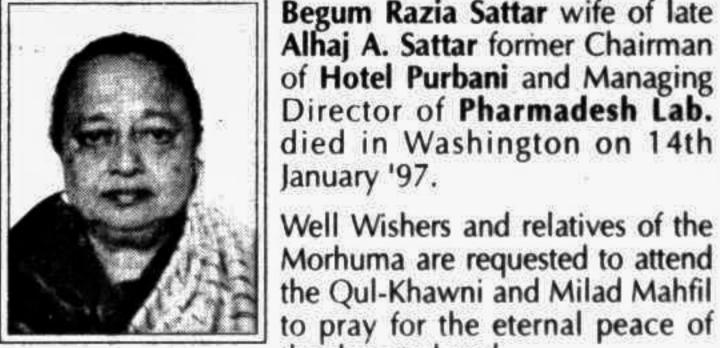
yesterday, reports UNB. Faizuddin Ahmed, Managing Director of the House Building Finance Corporation, and Emdadul Haque, a member of the National Board of Revenue, are expected to replace the two

SEC members. Contracts of SEC members Alamgir Kabir and Dr A K M Shahabub Alam will be terminated and directives to this effect will be issued soon by the Ministry of Finance, the

sources said. Proposals for appointment of two new members have already been approved by the prime minister, but the approval is yet to reach the banking division that looks after the

capital market issues. 'If we receive the file from the Prime Minister's Office tomorrow, we'll issue directives without delay," Shah Abdul Hannan, the Banking Secretary, told UNB. He, however, declined to disclose the names of the new members.

MORHUMA RAZIA SATTAR'S QUL-KHAWANI TODAY



Begum Razia Sattar wife of late Alhaj A. Sattar former Chairman of Hotel Purbani and Managing Director of Pharmadesh Lab. died in Washington on 14th January '97.

Morhuma are requested to attend the Qul-Khawni and Milad Mahfil to pray for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

Qul-Khawani of Morhuma Razia Sattar and a Milad Mahfil will be held at her House No-8, Road No-34, Gulshan, Dhaka, today 19th January (Sunday) after Asar prayer (4-30 P. M.).

Members of the Family

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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