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A member of a French rock music group (L) and a member of LRB, a local band, performing at the Dhanmondi Women's Complex in the city yesterday, organised by the Alliance Française. —Star photo

Dhaka-Delhi accord

From Page 1
 the Indian Railway has agreed to provide sleepers for this work.

The two sides discussed the possibilities of train services between Bangladesh and India, inter alia, connecting Ajmer and other holy places which may be mutually agreed upon.

"Both sides agreed that the matter would be further examined by Bangladesh Railway and Indian Railway," said the agreed minutes.

In view of the congestion caused by voluminous export traffic, the two sides agreed to restore Petropole (India)-Benapole (Bangladesh) broad gauge rail link to facilitate traffic by rail in addition to existing railway routes.

The Indian side suggested that restoration of the Jessore-Benapole rail link would also significantly reduce congestion of trade traffic in the area.

In this connection, as requested by Bangladesh Railway,

the Indian Railway has agreed to provide sleepers for this work.

Bangladesh has agreed to examine the request by India at the next inter-governmental meeting of railway officials of the two countries for facilitating rail traffic of empty passenger coaches and foodgrain, sugar, etc from Radhikapur to Mahishasan.

To facilitate trade between the two countries, the two sides agreed to operate the Haldibari-Chilahati, Ghojadanga-Burimari, Barsora-Cherragaon, New Jalpaiguri-Tetulia and Jalabazar-Betulia-Fultola land routes.

The two sides also agreed to examine possibilities of operating Agartala-Akhaura and Barsora-Sansar land routes.

The Bangladesh side agreed to utilise the balance of the 300 million rupee Indian credit on account of the signalling project (Mymensingh-Jamalpur section) and the Rajshahi Power Distribution Project for Rs 202 million.

Bangladesh had a supplementary requirement of Rs 70 million on account of the Rajshahi Power Distribution Project-II and the amount was essential to its completion, said the minutes.

Responding to a request by Bangladesh side for a fresh line of government credit for various priority projects, the Indian side stated that it would be willing to extend a fresh government credit once the existing credit line substantially utilised.

The two sides discussed issues relating to bilateral industrial cooperation like undertaking feasibility study for setting up private sector cement plant on the basis of supply of raw material from Meghalaya and other sources.

The Bangladesh side requested for Indian assistance of Rs 7.5 million to conduct a feasibility study for rehabilitation of Chittagong Steel Mills. The Indian side sought further information on the proposal for consideration.

Bangladesh also requested India to participate in the construction of Ganges Barrage Project.

Issues relating to bilateral cooperation in education and culture, science and technology, agriculture and telecommunications were also discussed at the meeting.

Forged share certificates recovered

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police recovered a huge number of forged share certificates from a house in the city's Sutrapur area on Wednesday, police sources said, reports BSS.

A team of CID police, acting on a tip off, raided a house at 14/1 Dhalkanagar and unearthed the forged share certificates manufacturing factory.

The team recovered 4,700 share certificate forms of Beximco Pharmaceuticals Limited, 4,000 share transferring revenue stamps, different rubber stamps of Beximco Company, emboss seal, computer colour monitor, cheque books of banks and two international passports from the roof-top of the house.

However, two accused persons Emdadul Haque and Kamruzzaman managed to escape from the house sensing the arrival of CID team, the sources added.

Police said the accused persons along with their accomplices had been manufacturing forged share certificates of different companies and trading it to the customers of the kerb market for several months.

A case was registered with Sutrapur police in this connection.

CHT talks

From Page 1
 three days before arrival of the PCJSS high command. The camps will be reactivated two days after their departure.

The first round of talks in Dhaka, for the first time with the PCJSS high command on January 25-27, was followed by two trips by the NCCHT to refugee camps in Tripura arranging for return of some 5,000 refugees to the CHT in batches beginning on March 28.

Sources close to the PCJSS told The Daily Star last night that the PCJSS leaders reportedly stuck to their grounds on key issues like expulsion of 450,000 settlers from the CHT. The settlers constitute nearly half of the CHT population, one million, split in 13 ethnic groups in the 14,200 sq km area, rich in minerals, gas, timber and hydro-power.

The other issues were land rights for the slash-and-burn farming tribespeople, formation of a regional assembly with wide powers for self-rule, and total withdrawal of military from the area.

The talks began on Wednesday coinciding with a hartal called by the BNP, JP and Jamaat-e-Islami and a group called Pahari Gano Parishad, who had pressed for their inclusion in the dialogue between the NCCHT and the PCJSS. They oppose expulsion of the settlers, withdrawal of the military and any accord on regional assembly as envisaged in the five-point charter placed by the PCJSS during the talks.

Two BNP MPs who were included in the NCCHT, did not attend the meeting, as on previous occasions. A JP MP, however, attended the meetings. But it was not clear whether he was there yesterday in the closed-door talks at the Meghna.

Six held with arms in city

By Staff Correspondent
 Six persons were arrested in the city yesterday. Police also recovered a foreign-made gun and two live bombs from them.

Amirul Islam, Shamal, Ruhul Amin, Jasim and Tuhin were challenged when they were travelling by rickshaws in South Pirebag under Mirpur thana.

Immediately, they got down from the rickshaws and started running. As the police chased them, they hurled bombs at the police. Abdul Majid, a constable, received injuries.

Partex

From Page 1
 In allegation of the killing a case was lodged with Savar Police Station against 20 persons including the Ansar Commander.

Senior Advocate Abdul Malik moved for the petitioners.

Samad Azad

From Page 1
 Bhutan, Nepal and Indian states having geographical continuity with Bangladesh.

The Foreign Minister replied in the affirmative when asked if he had discussed the transit issue with the Indian authorities.

"This is an issue of 25 years, particularly for last 21 years," said Azad.

"The 25-year treaty of peace and friendship with India has automatically ceased to exist," he told another questioner.

The treaty was signed in Dhaka on March 19 in 1972 by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Indira Gandhi.

"After the SAARC, this kind of bilateral treaty is unworkable," said the FM.

Mass contact

BNP leaders, MPs to take part in dist, thana level programmes

As part of the party's countrywide mass contact programme, BNP leaders will visit different districts and thana headquarters to take part in processions and meetings, reports UNB.

A number of district-wise teams, led by the party central leaders and MPs, have been constituted to coordinate the local level programmes.

The following leaders will lead the teams in different districts: Jamir Uddin Sircar (Panchagarh), Alamgir Kabir MP (Thakurgaon), Khurshid Jahan Huq MP (Dinajpur), Abu Yusuf Mohammad Khalilur Rahman MP (Nilphamari and Saidpur), Ashraf Hossain (Chapainawabganj and Naogaon), Abdul Ali MP (Joipurhat), Sheikh Razzak Ali (Rajshahi city and sadar), Prof Jahannara Begum (Rajbari), Chowdhury Tanvir Ahmed Siddiqui (Tangail), Prof Abdul Mannan (Gazipur).

The leaders also include Goyeshwar Chandra Roy (Madaripur), Abdul Hye MP (Narsingdi), Prof A M Badruddoza Chowdhury MP (Munshiganj and Narayanganj town), Abdul Matin Chowdhury (Narayanganj), Lutfar Rahman Khan Azad MP (Mymensingh south), Prof M A Mannan (Mymensingh north), Mirza Abbas (Netrakona), Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar (Jamalpur and Sherpur), Khanakar Delwar Hossain MP (Manikganj), Sadeq Hossain Khoka MP (Dhaka city), K M Obaidur Rahman MP (Gopalganj and Shariatpur), Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf (Faridpur) and Barrister Nazmul Huda MP (Dhaka district).

DU teacher robbed on campus

By DU Correspondent
 Armed youths snatched two gold bangles and a necklace from a teacher of Dhaka University and her sister while they were travelling by rickshaw in the university area yesterday.

Dr Azizunnahar and her sister were going towards the Arts Faculty building from their Fuller Road residence. They were stopped by the youths in front of their house at about 8 am and robbed of their ornaments, witnesses said.

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DU student gunned down

From Page 1
 mitted to the Orthopaedic Hospital in a critical condition with bullet wounds in his chest. The other injured were admitted to different city clinics, campus sources said.

A case accusing 22 persons has been filed with Ramna thana in this connection.

Following the incident, police conducted raids in Jasimuddin and Bangabandhu halls of the university at around 8 am. None was, however, arrested and no arms were recovered.

Two contradictory versions were heard on the campus regarding the killing. Some said that Arif attempted to fire to resist the assailants while others alleged that the latter fired on Arif as he was making delay in handing over his firearms.

Some students, however, claimed that Arif had previous enmity with one of the attackers as he played an important role in 'ousting' their rivals from the hall about three months ago.

Police was in and around the hall during the attack but took no initiative to resist or hold the attackers.

They went into action only when additional force reached the spot at around 8 am.

Sources in the halls said that the assailants, reportedly activists of JCD residing in

DU forms probe body

The Dhaka University Authority yesterday constituted a five-member committee to probe the death of a student at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall in JCD in fighting, reports BSS.

Headed by Barrister Moinul Hossain, the other members of the committee are: Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) president Prof Mostafa Chowdhury, Prof and dean of the Arts Faculty Dr Aminul Islam, Prof Mostafa Chowdhury and Proctor of the University Dr A K M Nurunnabi (member-secretary).

The committee will investigate the incident and submit a report to the Vice-Chancellor Prof A K Azad Chowdhury, the press release added.

6 projects involving Tk 324.46 cr okayed

The Executive Committee of National Economic Council (ECNEC) yesterday approved six projects, including setting up of an Export Processing Zone (EPZ) at Gazipur and construction of a planetarium, reports UNB.

The ECNEC, at a meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair, gave approvals to the projects with an involvement of Tk 324.46 crore, including Tk 46.62 crore in project aid.

The projects are: Establishment of 11 technical training centres in 11 old districts and one women technical training centre in Dhaka at a cost of Tk 89.77 crore, Gazipur EPZ first phase costing Tk 66.60 crore, youth training and self-employment project costing Tk 65.20 crore and Bangabandhu Planetarium costing Tk 52 crore, including Tk 38.79 crore project aid.

Maintenance dredging at Passur channel at a cost of Tk 40.14 crore and integrated development of Botanical Garden, Balda Garden and National Herbarium at a cost of Tk 10.75 crore, including Tk 7.83 crore, are the other projects.

The ECNEC was also apprised of the enquiry committee report of Ghorasal Urea Fertilizer Factory renovation project. It gave directives to the authorities concerned to publish a detailed white paper on irregularities related to the project.

The meeting further gave directives to the Bureau of Anti-Corruption to expedite its enquiry in this regard.

JS: Ganges treaty

From Page 1
 ted that the Water Resources Minister had extended the invitation over phone. "But I told him that it was time to realise our demands first. We could not agree with them when the government arrested thousands of our leaders and workers."

Abdur Razzak also vouched for the availability of water under the treaty. "I will leave politics if I fail to prove that water is there in the G-K Project area after implementation of the water treaty," he said.

The minister's challenge came after a BNP deputy, Moshir Rahman, claimed that there was no water in Horinakundu thana, which falls under G-K Project area.

Those who participated in the general discussion on the Ganges water-sharing treaty are Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak, Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim, Food and Agriculture Minister Begum Motia Chowdhury, Suranjit Sengupta of AL, Badruddoza Chowdhury, Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Khandaker Mosharrif Hussain, Kabir Ahmed, Maj (Retd) Hafizuddin Ahmed and Moshir Rahman of BNP, Fazle Rabbi and A T M Fazle Rabbi of JP and Delwar Hussain Saidee of Jamaat-e-Islami.

The BNP lawmakers criticised the treaty saying it was against the interest of the country. They said there was no guarantee clause in the treaty, no provision for arbitration, no involvement of Nepal, and it fetched lesser amount of water for the country than the amount received under the 1977 treaty.

Members of the Treasury

Leader of terrorist group held in city

By Staff Correspondent
 Police arrested a leader of a terrorist group from a slum in West Razabazar under Tejaon thana in the city yesterday afternoon.

Ayub, 35, is wanted in connection with some 12 cases filed with Tejaon thana. He is accused of being involved in murder, terrorism and extortion, according to police.

Hasina

From Page 1
 arrest (the people of the past government), but we have refrained from it," the Prime Minister told the House.

The Prime Minister refuted BNP allegation that the killing and arrest of their workers on political ground during the Awami League rule.

She said a 15-member BNP delegation led by Opposition Leader Benur Khaleda Zia met with the President on November 18 last year and submitted a list of 54 BNP men allegedly killed by the ruling party.

But on enquiry, Hasina told the House, it was found that 26 BNP workers had died and others were killed on different grounds including intra-party conflict of BNP. She said enquiry is on by the Home Ministry about the second list submitted by the BNP leadership.

She said the government took all measures to ease the misery of the people due to current loadshedding. "People are now suffering not for our fault. Past government could not produce a single megawatt of power and we are bearing the outcome of BNP's failure," she said.

The Prime Minister, however, assured that present power shortage would be overcome by next year with the operation of several power plants.

IS session

From Page 1
 sources said the session dealt with five private members bill and three resolutions.

The House also held discussion for 21 hours and 36 minutes on the vote of thanks to President Justice Shahabuddin for his address in parliament.

The Deputy Commissioner has asked the police to arrest Monwar Hossain, the Vice President of the Sherpur Government College students union.

DC, former SP of Dinajpur get anticipatory bail

By SC Correspondent
 A K M Jabbar Faruque and Abdul Motaleb, Deputy Commissioner and former Superintendent of Police respectively of Dinajpur, have been granted ad-interim anticipatory bail in the case of concealment of the dead body of Abdul Kader, shot dead during the agitation against rape and murder of Yasmin.

A Division Bench of the High Court comprising Justice A M Mahmudur Rahman and Justice Iftekhar Rasul yesterday granted them bail till the hearing of their substantive petition for anticipatory bail.

Senior Advocate Abdul Malik moved for the petitioners.

Dakhil examinees

From Page 1
 Police fired seven rounds of gas shots and lobbed tear gas shells to disperse the unruly students.

A K M Mohiuddin Subedar and Nazrul Constable have been admitted to the Sadar Hospital. The OC Nazrul Islam was released from hospital after first aids.

The Deputy Commissioner has asked the police to arrest Monwar Hossain, the Vice President of the Sherpur Government College students union.

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Bangladeshi shot dead by BSF

From Our Correspondent
 SATHIRA, Mar 13: The Bangladeshi national was shot dead by the Border Security Force (BSF) of India at a border village in sadar thana today.

The police later recovered the body and sent it to the Sathira Hospital for autopsy.

Villagers said BSF intruders shot Korban Ali, 22, son of Abdul Barek of Gangri, as he went to Bhamra village along with some farmers at about 7 am. He died on the spot.

BGMEA, BIA agree to delink fire insurance from flood coverage

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters' Association (BGMEA) and Bangladesh Insurance Association (BIA) have agreed that the fire insurance should be delinked from the compulsory cyclone and flood cover, reports UNB.

"There is little possibility for the garments factories to be affected by cyclone or flood as those are housed in high-rise buildings," said a joint press release of the two associations in the city yesterday.

The associations at a meeting Wednesday agreed that the matter should be referred to the Rating Committee and the Sadharan Bima Corporation, which was the sole reinsurer of insurance companies operating in the country.

They also agreed that the present system of garments exporters taking insurance cover from domestic insurers must be continued.

"Any decision to allow foreign buyers to insure with foreign insurers will be contrary to the interest of the country as a whole," the meeting observed.

Both the BGMEA and BIA were of the opinion that the garments industry, being an export-oriented one, should be altogether exempted from VAT net.

Kibria under fire in JS

From Page 1
 who took part in the discussion was also critical of the role of the government in this regard. Both the BNP and Jatiya Party demanded that a parliamentary probe committee be formed to find out the reasons behind the 'crash' in the capital market.

Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria, however, claimed that it was rather an incident of ups and downs of the share prices, which also happens in much stronger stock markets like New York, Bombay and Bangkok.

Admitting some manipulations in the market, the Finance Minister said that a high-powered committee had already been formed to identify the persons involved in the manipulations and he assured the House that the government would punish those responsible involved.

The Finance Minister also claimed that the situation had now reached a normal state as the government had taken effective steps to bring about correction in the capital market.

However, the BNP legislators termed the recent 'ups and downs' in the share market to be the 'scandal of the century', and alleged that the debacle took place as the finance minister collaborated with some ruling party 'cronies' who manipulated the market.

Former Finance Minister Saifur Rahman, also told the House that the recent stock market debacle had already affected the country's investment climate, which would, in turn discourage foreign portfolio and industrial investments.

Analyzing the reasons behind the share market debacle, the former finance minister said that it was the government's failure to utilise the regulatory laws and enforcement of accountability of the persons concerned that contributed to the share market crash.

Saifur Rahman, who was among a dozen MPs who took part in the lively debate that lasted over two hours till 10 pm, said the steps taken by the government were just only "collusive actions."

The Securities and Exchange Commission should have intervened in the market much earlier and the concerned parties, including the government, the central bank and the business community, should have looked into the matter to hammer out a solution, he said.

Saifur alleged that thousands of investors were slaughtered in the stock market and said the government should think how it could rectify the situation. He called for constituting a parliamentary committee to enquire into the stock market affairs.

He said he was not convinced that the enquiry committee formed by the government would properly carry out its duty. Saifur said he can find out the culprits within three days if he is given the task.

Industries and Commerce Minister Tofael Ahmed said the money invested by the foreigners in the share market was repatriated through legal channel as according to law, they can take away their profit, dividend and capital.

Responding to the Opposition allegations, Kibria said the opposition was attacking the government for political gain only. He said the investors were warned about the possible risks in investing in the capital market.

Shahidul Islam, Harunur Rashid Monno, Sadek Hossain Khoka, M K Anwar and Mohammad Fazul Azim of BNP, Ali Ashraf of Awami League and N K Alam Chowdhury of Jatiya Party also took part in the debate.

BAIRA polls held

By Staff Correspondent
 Sammlita Samonnoi Front (SSF) yesterday swept the elections of the Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (BAIRA), bagging six out of nine posts of executive member.

Three posts went to Samonnoi Oikya Parishad (SOP), the only other panel that contested the polls held in the city.

According to unofficial results, the newly-elected members are: Minhaj Uddin Ahmed, Md Noor Ali, J H Gazi, M A H Selim, Md Faruq and Kazi Md Mofizur Rahman (SSF), and Dr H B M Iqbal, MP, Kahm Mostafa, MP, and Md Shahjalal Mejmunder (SOP).

Yasmin murder

From Page 1
 pealed for exemplary punishment of the accused so that none could dare commit such a heinous crime in future.

In his five-hour long forceful arguments, Amirul Islam, as special PP engaged by the law minister to help conduct the case, said, there is sufficient evidence on record to prove that the three main accused murdered Yasmin in cold blood after raping her.

The three main accused out of nine are facing trial in the special court under the Women and Children Repression Control Act.

They are — former Dinajpur Kotwali thana ASI Moinul Haque, former Kotwali thana constable Abdus Sattar and former police line driver Amrita Lal Barman.

The court will sit again on Saturday

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