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The World on Time



Labour supporters in John Major masks demonstrating outside Downing Street in London yesterday. — AFP/UNB photo

Bangabandhu murder

From Page 1

plication, the opportunity for which, however, they could not utilise, he added.

The court rejected the petition, saying it was not maintainable.

Azra Ali, the counsel of the accused Farook, submitted a petition before the judge seeking adjournment on the grounds that one writ petition had already been filed before the High Court Division, which was also fixed for hearing the same day.

The lawyer also informed that another petition under Article 110 of the Constitution has been filed before the High Court Division but that petition has been sent to the Chief Justice for constitution of the court for its hearing.

The prosecution alleged that it was a delaying tactic pursued by the defence.

Tanneries

From Page 1

He said different tannery associations have also agreed to the plan.

Tanneries use over 30 types of chemicals for processing leather and hundreds of tonnes of these harmful waste materials flow into the river Buriganga. A vast area of land and water stretching over 20 km in all directions, has already been polluted, the DOE official said.

The most dangerous of all these chemicals used is chromium. It permeates into fish, plants and vegetables and may cause brain damage.

It has taken us years to make the tannery owners realise that a treatment plant can retain most of the chemicals and help recycle those," the DOE official said. Chromium is a costly chemical and is imported. If recycled, it could be used several times, the DOE official said.

The trial of the Bangabandhu murder case formally commenced at the court of District and Sessions Judge, Dhaka on April 8, with indictment of 20 people accused in the killing of the founder President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family in the early morning of August 15, 1975.

The case in this connection was lodged with the Dhammandha Thana in October last by Mahtul Islam, resident PS of the then President.

Of those facing the trial five in jail custody were produced before the court during yesterday's proceedings. They were: Lt Col (dismissed) Syed Farookur Rahman, Lt Col (relieved) Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan, Taheruddin Thakur, former minister of state for information; Lt Col Mohiuddin Ahmed, Acting Director, BNCC, Dhaka; Capt Hon Abdul Wahab Joarder.

Zobaida Rashid, wife of Lt Col (dismissed) A Rashid Khan, also an accused in the case was earlier granted bail by the Supreme Court.

The absconding 14 accused of the case, however, were facing the trial in absentia.

3 RU officials

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The university authorities have announced appointments in three important posts removing the 'pro-Jamaat-Shibir' officials.

Prof Yunus of Economic Department has been appointed Registrar, Prof M Nurullah Treasurer and Associate Prof Faruquzzaman Administrator, Press and Public Relations.

Three pro-Jamaat provosts have also been replaced by Prof Abdur Razzaq in the Habibur Rahman Hall, AKM Abdul Mazid in SM Hall and Prof Khairul Anam in the Mother Box Hall.

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The Daily Star

21 projects involving Tk 1411cr approved

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) yesterday approved 21 development projects involving Tk 1410.77 crore, including Tk 431.25 crore in project aid, reports UNB.

The approval was given at a meeting held at the National Economic Council Bhaban at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

The projects are social empowerment in poverty alleviation through participation at grassroots level project, rural bittaher programme, rural development project 12 (2nd phase), strengthening of project formulation and implementation through participation of local people in poverty alleviation, formulation of participatory programme and creation of working capacity for poverty alleviation at local level and Dutch aided expeditious implementation project, final phase, group-2 and char development and settlement project.

The projects also include construction of 64 km double line of railway on Dhaka-Chittagong main line from Tongi to Bhabar Bazar, construction of

Langalbandh Bridge on Dhaka-Daudkandi road, installation of high speed computer to introduce numerical weather prediction techniques, 78 radio links for thanas and other places.

Extension and further development of Osmani Airport at Sylhet, further development of TB and leprosy control services, strengthening of maternity and child health services project (4th phase), comprehensive public health nutrition programme, English language teaching improvement project, introduction of double shift and Extension in selected high schools (government and private).

Communication programme to achieve the target of children and women development in Bangladesh, completion of incomplete work of Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna divisional stadiums, youth training and self-employment project, special development and production programme and construction of refuelling hydrant line at Dhaka International Airport. There are also nine revised projects in the approved 21 projects.

Hartal programme

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dents said.

Local people said some armed people attacked the Balaka Express train at the Mashkhali Rail Station in the morning. A good number of BNP workers and supporters were going to the meeting venue in the train. Passengers of the train were indiscriminately beaten up and most of them were forced to get down. People going to the meeting venue were also harassed and obstructed at some other places, witnesses said adding that most of the attacks took place at the Bhashmukha crossing. However, police dispersed the attackers before Begum Zia reached the spot, they said.

BNP leaders alleged that the attacks were made by armed AL workers under the guidance of party M Altaf Hossain Golandaz while some local people claimed that the attackers also included activists of a faction of the local BNP and those of its front organisations.

Addressing the meeting, Begum Zia accused the ruling party of attempting to foil her public meeting "because it did not come to power with people's mandate". Had the people been with them, they could have organised a counter meeting to

Talks with Ctg port users in city today

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Apr 29: Negotiations between the authorities and the Port Users Forum are going to resolve the issue of use of private equipment at the Chittagong Port, official sources said.

Officials of the Ministry of Ports and Shipping are scheduled to hold another round of meeting with the Port Users Forum tomorrow in Dhaka, they said.

Deputy Minister for Ports and Shipping also held a meeting with the CBA leaders of port workers on Sunday to resolve the issue.

The Port Users Forum, in an earlier letter to the shipping ministry had urged it to give a decision on the issue by tomorrow.

DSE index

From Page 1

Ali Zamal, Mizan Bhuiyan, Zahid Hossain and Mosharraf Hossain were among those who spoke at the rally.

They said the investors had lost confidence in the stock exchange leadership and as such the DSE Council should be dissolved immediately.

The DSE All Share Price Index rose by 36.14 points reaching 936.57 points yesterday from 899.38 points the previous day.

Out of a total of 121 traded issues, the prices of 102 companies' shares rose while 16 issues suffered losses and 3 remained unchanged.

More than 2.12 lakh shares and debentures, valued at Tk 3.81 crore, changed hands during the day.

Accidents

From Page 1

Medical College Hospital.

Police said the mishap occurred when a Bhabar-bound bus collided with the Dhaka-bound microbus from Ghorashal at Bhulta at about 2 pm.

The injured, identified as Rokeya Sultan, 12, another daughter of Fatema, and bus passengers Raju Ahmed, 14, and Helaluddin, 13, were rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

A traffic mishap near Domrakanda bridge, six km off Faridpur town left three people dead and 20 others injured, nine seriously.

Police said the mishap occurred when a Faridpur-bound bus from Salta ran off the road and fell into a ditch at about 12:30 pm.

The dead were identified as Khondaker Farooq Hossain, 27, Hayat Rafiq Kallol and bus helper Biswajit Pintu, 22.

Pintu died on the spot, Farooq succumbed to his injuries on way to hospital and Rafiq died at the Faridpur Medical College Hospital (FMCH).

Five of the seriously injured were rushed to the FMCH while the rest four to the Faridpur General Hospital.

Recently, the spirit of cooperation and a sense of interdependence have increased instead of decreasing," he observed.

In this context, Dhungana said efforts for harnessing the Eastern Himalayan rivers for the betterment of the people of the region must continue in a nonpartisan way with support from any government in power in any of these countries.

In this respect he referred to the Mahakali and Ganges agreements signed between India and Nepal and India and Bangladesh and said these two accords had led the situation towards a positive turn which could be used for exploration of areas for further cooperation among the countries of this region.

Daman Nath Dhungana of IIDS said that a conducive atmosphere was now prevailing both in terms of bilateral relations among the participating countries and an environment for possible cooperation at the regional level.

"Despite the fact that there has been some degree of political instability in our countries,

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