

For Documents Door to Door delivery  
To 237 Destinations in INDIA

## BLUE DART EXPRESS LIMITED

PLEASE CONTACT: BANGLADESH AIR EXPRESS INT'L LTD.  
Head Office: 9565114, Fax: 9565112, Gulshan: 887771, Chittagong: (031) 712127, Khulna: (041) 725008

## Britain goes to polls

From Page 1  
cialist commitments and repositioned in the center.

Major, at a final campaign news conference at party headquarters, said the advantages of another Tory term, were "too good to give up" to Labour, — "a well-packaged, marketing scam."

Blair, party leader since 1994, has been ahead in polls for nearly three years.

A Gallup poll published today in the pro-Conservative Daily Telegraph put Labour on 51 per cent support, compared with 31 for the Conservatives and 13 for the Liberal Democratic Party. The error margin of the survey of 1,038 people was three points.

## West Indies score 249 for 9

Sports Reporter

West Indies piled up an imposing 249 for nine against India in the third one-day international at Armos Vale in St Vincent yesterday.

Put into bat, hosts Caribbeans lost their in-form batsman Shivnarine Chanderpaul early. But one-down Brian Lara and opener Stuart Williams, who made highest 75, buckled down to task to take the team out trouble.

In reply, India scored 32 for 1 in nine overs, losing their star skipper Sachin Tendulkar.

## DSE index

From Page 1  
ical Adviser to PM, Dr M A Malek, was attended by FBCCI President Yusuf Abdullah Han, former advisers to Justice Habibur Rahman's caretaker government Prof Wahiduddin Mahmud and Manzoor Elahi, Finance Secretary Dr Akbar Ali Khan, Dr Mashiur Rahman, SEC Chairman Dr Haroonur Rashid, President of East-West University, Dr Farashuddin, and Khawaja Golam Kuddus, former chairman of DSE.

But there was no decision at the meeting to dissolve the council of the DSE, Dr Haroonur Rashid, chairman of SEC told The Daily Star last night.

If tomorrow's vote mirrors the polls, Blair could win by the biggest landslide since Labour ousted Winston Churchill at the end of World War II in 1945.

Blair needs 330 seats for a bare majority in 659-member House of Commons — newly enlarged from 651.

If elected, Tony Blair will be the youngest Prime Minister of Britain of this century at the age of 43 and his Labour Party will make a comeback to power after 18 years.

Before Tony Blair, incumbent Prime Minister John Major, 54, was the youngest premier.

About 44 million eligible voters are expected to cast their votes from 7 am to 10 pm.

Some 3,717 candidates including 685 women are contesting the elections.

Prime Minister John Major's Conservative Party, Opposition Leader Tony Blair's Labour Party and Liberal Democratic Party of Paddy Ashdown are the main contestants.

## Muggers fire on police in city: Sergeant stabbed

By Staff Correspondent

A gang of muggers opened fire on police and stabbed a traffic sergeant on the road near Sonargaon Hotel in the city yesterday afternoon.

However, police arrested two of the muggers and recovered from them one gold chain and an automatic dagger, police said.

The injured sergeant Mostafizur Rahman was under treatment at the Police Hospital.

A gang of four muggers opened fire on police when fleeing after snatching a gold chain and money from two rickshaw passengers at about 1:15 pm. The two arrested were identified as Rofiqul Islam and Sumon, said police adding Sumon stabbed the police sergeant when he was caught.

Three cases have been filed with Tejgaon thana.

## Govt cancels

From Page 1

name of Kambar Ali, Chairman of Musica, in December last year, according to some sources in the ministry.

A handout issued by the ministry yesterday said that permission for the programme was cancelled.

Permission used to be given for various organisations to hold programmes with participation of foreign artists. In the name of giving donation to various charitable organisations some groups took advantage of the situation and without complying with agreements with invited foreign artists, realised their own objectives.

This created an adverse reaction among the public and tarnished the image of the government," the handout said.

"All such permissions given by the ministry is cancelled henceforth," it added.

The circumstances have forced us to stop the programme," the ministry said adding, "We are requesting all concerned to take refund of their tickets."

Musica organisers of the 'Hot Summer Nite' had earlier announced that a two-day concert would be held on April 29 and 30, participated by five Indian artists: Monisha Koirala, Bappi Lahiri, Salman Khan, Aswini Bhawe and Baba Sehgal.

## Raqibul Huda

From Page 1

15 last Mirza Raqibul Huda was suspended from his post.

On January 24, 1988, 24 people were killed and a large number of people were injured by indiscriminate police firing at a protest procession led by Sheikh Hasina and other leaders of the 15-party alliance at Chittagong.

At that relevant time Mirza Raqibul Huda was the Police Commissioner of Chittagong.

Advocate Shahidul Huda as the complainant filed a complaint case before the Court of the CMM, Chittagong under section 302/107/323/326/201/427/297/342 of the Penal Code against Mirza Raqibul Huda and others.

## Jamaat announces 2-month agitation programme

Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday announced a two-month agitation programme to press for a 17-point demand mainly related to Islam and India, reports UNB.

The government has proved to be a failure in all sectors including law and order, share market, power and good governance," Jamaat Secretary General Matlur Rahman Nizami said while announcing the programme at a press conference in the city.

This was Jamaat's first press conference after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina formed her government in June last year.

## Tk 5 lakh stolen

From Page 1

the bank where the cashier after an argument told them to handover all the cash instead of splitting 12 chalans, each of Tk 66,000.

When they opened their bags they found two missing, containing Tk 4,80,320.

The money belonged to a group of 15 people, who had bought apartments, and the chalans were for transfer fees.

Kamal Wares said he has reasons to believe that an organised gang is working in the Bangladesh Bank counter where there is no proper system of depositing cash chalans.

Later, they met the Governor of Bangladesh Bank and appraised him of the incident. They also lodged an FIR with the Motiheel thana after the OC declined to accept a general diary.

## Khaleda

From Page 1

in last election.

Begum Zia said after assuming power this government was implementing its pledges given to its masters one after another which caused destruction of the economy, education, foreign policy, agriculture, industry and other sectors of the country.

The Leader of the Opposition said a government that cannot protect the interest of the country and its people and signed "anti-state" and "anti-people" agreements with a particular country has no right to stay in power.

"Wrath of Allah might fall on those who betrayed the people and its motherland," she said, adding, "there are also symptoms of wrath of Allah falling on the country."

"They must quit power because Allah himself does not like the betrayer," said the BNP chief.

## Indemnity

From Page 1

The appeal was preferred by Mahmuda Rahman, mother of Col (Retd) Farooq Rahman, and Col (Retd) Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan on the basis of the certificate granted by the High Court after dismissing the writs.

A division bench, comprising Justice Mozammel Huq and Justice Abdul Matin, in dismissing the petitions on January 28 after 16 days of hearing observed that the Bill had been passed legally by the Parliament and was not unconstitutional.

The court appointed six noted constitutional experts — Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed, Dr Kamal Hossain, Barrister Amirul Islam, Barrister Rafiqul Huq, M Nurullah and Khandaker Mahbub Uddin — as amicus curie to help the court.

Excepting Khandaker Mahbub, all the five experts opined that the Indemnity (Repeal) Bill was passed legally by the Parliament.

The Indemnity Ordinance was promulgated by Khandaker Mostaque Ahmed barring the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The government of Ziaur Rahman incorporated the Ordinance in the Constitution in 1979.

Parliament on November 12 passed the Indemnity (Repeal) Bill '96 when the BNP was on boycott of the session.

## May Day

From Page 1

and Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia issued separate messages. Former President and Jatiya Party Chairman H M Ershad, MP, also issued a statement.

The day is a public holiday. Labour and Manpower Ministry will organise a discussion meeting and cultural function at Osmani Auditorium in the city at 9 am today. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to attend the function as chief guest.

She will also address a workers' rally at Tongi in Gazipur in the afternoon.

The Jatiya Party will hold a rally at Adamjee Jute Mills at 2 pm. Party Chairman H M Ershad will attend the function.

Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists and Dhaka Union of Journalists will jointly organise a discussion at VIP Lounge of Jatiya Press Club at 11 am.

Bangladesh Trade Union Sangha (BTUS) and its affiliated Nou-jan Sramik Federation, Hotel Sramik Union and Fulbaria City Super Market Employees Council will organise a joint rally at Gulistan square at 5 pm.

## GD: 2 officials

From Page 1

Jahangir Alam also informed police Tuesday that Enamul Kabir and his wife were involved in trafficking children.

Following the allegation, police went to the house Tuesday afternoon and found there four children aged between 10 and 12. Of the four, police took three identified as Dulal, Shahid and Imam as they did not want to stay in the house, police said. The other child, Yusuf stayed at the house as domestic help, police said.

One of the three children worked as domestic help for about two years and two others were picked up by the government official and his wife 11 days ago, police said.

Police interrogated the three but did not find any evidence which proved that the government official and his wife were involved in child trafficking, police said. The three children were sent to the safe custody at the Dhaka Central Jail yesterday morning, police added.

No case was lodged in this connection till last night. However, police were investigating the incident.

## BSRS

From Page 1

Bangladesh (ICB), paid only Tk one lakh for its membership of the DSE, Ahmed said.

The Securities and Exchange Commission tried to resolve the matter by advising DSE and the two applicants to settle the issue agreeing on a ceiling to the tune of Tk six to seven lakhs.

"It appears they would not like to welcome us in the bourse even though we have been trying to help the market, stabilise, buying Tk 34 lakh worth of shares in two occasions this month," he noted.

"We are buying another Tk 35 lakh worth of shares to bolster the market soon for which orders have been placed. But the purchases are being done through brokers who are getting the commissions for brokerage. Something we would not have to pay had we been accepted as a member six month ago when we applied," Ahmed said.

## Satinelle

Removes hair by the root



Transcom Electronics Limited

Official licensee of Philips Electronics N.V. for lighting products, radio and TV sets

Dhaka: 815306-9, 819625-9, 889993  
Ctg.: 716353, 723579, Khulna: 720304, Bogra: 6215

Let's make things better.

PHILIPS

## PM: Food production

From Page 1

377 thanas to test the soil to enable the farmers to know about the soil condition before tilling. She said her government wanted to extend deep tubewell facilities for irrigation purposes.

Referring to various steps taken by her government, she said that the *lakabi* loan had been exempted while the certificate cases were withdrawn. She said her government has plans to distribute *khas* land among landless people.

On health sector, the prime minister said we want to reach medicare facilities at the door steps of the people. She said, "If we can liberate the country through a bloody war why can't we attain autarky at all levels?"

Criticising the recent remarks of the Leader of the Opposition that she would not allow to implement any treaty, the prime minister said "When BNP was in power they could not solve the long outstanding

## ALCWC

From Page 1

Rahman, General Secretary of the party will present the report at the council session. The report will review political situation in the country, "success and failure" of the party and organisational matters, party sources said.

Councils of Awami League units in Dhaka and Kishoreganj districts will be held on May 3. With this, councils of 66 out of total 70 units of the party will be completed.

Councils of remaining four party units in Protopur, Cox's Bazar, Magura and Kushtia could not be held due to lack of preparations and organisational problems, the sources said.

A senior party leader said, district units have already started sending lists of councilors. The process is expected to be completed by May 2. The central committee of the party will nominate councilors on ad-hoc basis for party units whose councils could not be held, he said.

Ganges water sharing with India.

She said the opposition leader also did not try to solve the Chakma refugee problem with India. She said "How could she (Begum Zia) as prime minister could allow Bangladesh citizens stay in foreign soil."

She said the BNP leader wanted to keep the issue pending for her own political interest.

The prime minister said when the BNP remains in power it keeps quiet about India but when it remains in the opposition the party becomes India's ardent critic. She said the BNP government had sold out country's interest to India.

She said that the Ganges barrage would be constructed to utilise the water for irrigation purpose.

She said the opposition party was trying to create law and order situation in the country following their defeat in the general polls.

She said the people are the source of all power. "They put us in power and would turn us out of power if we can not deliver the goods," she maintained. She said the people would decide who will remain in power. "We will accept their verdict in good grace," she pointed out.

## Haripur plant

From Page 1

would go for joint venture with private investors in future," he added.

World Bank mission chief in Bangladesh Pierre Landell-Mills said that the country's power sector was in a mess due to inefficiency and unwillingness of the authorities concerned. After the government had decided to undertake reform measures in this sector, some improvement had been made, he added.

Power Cell chief S D Khan said that the Haripur power unit was conceived in 1995 and the government had received a number of unsolicited offers. Initially, 12 memoranda of understanding (MOUs) were signed by different companies and after review, five remained in the list of pre-qualified bidders.

# 555 DAY

## 5TH MAY 1997



# BANGLADESH JOINS THE WORLD IN CELEBRATING 555 DAY

## CELEBRATION AROUND THE WORLD