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\$100m ADB loan for pryd edn project

MANILA, May 23: The Asian Development Bank today approved USD 100 million loan to fund a primary education project in Bangladesh that is to benefit about 6 million students, reports AP.

The Manila-based bank said the loan will be used to fund a primary education development programme for the period 1997-2002.

The programme is intended to help build schools in remote areas where there are none, add classrooms in crowded schools, elevate the quality of teaching and provide more teaching aids such as textbooks.

The loans is payable in 40 years with a grace period of 10 years, and carries a service charge of one per cent annually.

The Department of International Development of the United Kingdom will help finance the project with a grant of dollar 17 million, the bank said in a statement.

No relief goods found in affected areas, Khaleda tells President

BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad Begum Khaleda Zia called on President Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban last night, reports UNB.

She briefed the President about the relief operation being conducted by her party workers in the cyclone-affected areas, Bangabhaban sources said.

The Leader of the Opposition complained that she did not find any relief goods in the affected areas she and her party leaders visited.

Begum Zia said the MPs and workers of her party of the affected areas are eager to cooperate with the government, but it is not involved in the relief activities.

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and party leaders Tariqul Islam and Abdullah Al Noman were present.

UNDP experts to assess damages caused by cyclone

By Staff Correspondent

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has invited six experts to assess the damages caused by Monday's cyclone and the long term needs of the affected people in Chittagong and other coastal areas, UNDP sources said.

Three of the experts already arrived in the city on Thursday and others are expected to arrive shortly. The team will visit the affected areas to make the assessment.

The death toll in the cyclone rose to 106 and the number of affected people was 26,98,583, according to official estimates released till yesterday.

CU classes resume today

CHITTAGONG, May 23: All classes in the offices of Chittagong University will resume tomorrow, Deputy Registrar (Information) Dr Shaiful Islam told BSS over telephone tonight.

The decision was taken at a joint meeting of different student organisations and a committee formed by the Syndicate of the university aimed at ending the deadlock, Dr Islam said.

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Fresh warning signal: Tidal surge forecast

Gusty wind with heavy rain sweeps Cox's Bazar

By Staff Correspondent

Gusty winds with heavy downpour swept Cox's Bazar yesterday, further damaging houses, only four days after the country's coastal belt was ravaged by a cyclone on Monday.

The Storm Warning Centre in the capital forecast yesterday afternoon that the coastal districts and offshore islands and shoals were likely to experience squally wind with a speed of 60 to 70 km per hour (kph) or more due to steep pressure gradient over the North Bay.

Our Staff Correspondent in Chittagong Nurul Alam reported that Met office had advised maritime ports of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Mongla to hoist Signal No 3 yesterday.

At 7 am yesterday, gusty wind swept Cox's Bazar region damaging again the houses, which the affected people were rebuilding.

Quoting district Met office sources, our Cox's Bazar Correspondent Abdul Monaem Khan reported that the wind blew at a speed of 64 kph and 40 mm of rainfall was recorded in the district town.

Besides, vast areas of the district experienced downpour all day long yesterday.

According to Met office forecast, low-lying areas of the coastal districts and off-shore islands and shoals may be inundated by wind-driven tidal surge of three to four feet.

Riverports of the coastal districts were also advised to hoist Riverine Warning Signal No 2. All fishing boats and trawlers in the North Bay have been asked to take shelter immediately.

In his despatch, our Cox's Bazar Correspondent further said that yesterday gusty wind and downpour multiplied the See Page 12 Col 6

Relief operation designed only for media coverage: Khaleda



BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a press conference at her Minto Road Official residence yesterday. — Star photo

Opposition Leader Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday alleged inadequate government steps for the cyclone-affected people but declined to say that the government had failed in tackling the post-cyclone situation.

"Efforts by the government to combat the post-cyclone situation is much less than the requirement.... Yet there is scope for the authorities to take proper steps," the BNP chairperson told a press conference on her return to the capital ending a three-day visit to the cyclone-affected coastal areas.

"I shall not say that the government has failed" she said when asked whether she thought the government had failed in tackling the situation.

Addressing the conference at her Minto Road official residence in the city yesterday evening, Begum Zia claimed that during her visit she found the affected people were suffering due to absence of relief operation and post-cyclone rehabilitation programmes by the government.

"Nowhere I noticed any government activity nor I met any See Page 12 Col 7

First accord for pvt sector power project

By Staff Correspondent

The first agreement for private sector power generation in the country was finalised yesterday between the Power Development Board (PDB) and Enron International and Associates, it was officially announced.

The final agreement is likely to be signed by next month, PDB sources said.

Under the agreement, Enron will build a 100 MW barge-mounted power plant on build-operate (BOO) basis at Haripur and supply power to the national grid within the next 10 months.

Enron and its associates — Wartsila Diesel and New England Power Company of the US and Fortune Ltd of Bangladesh — were found to be the most competent bidder in the tender floated by PDB in January last for three barge-mounted power plants.

Another agreement is expected to be finalised next week for a 100 MW plant in Khulna region, the sources said.

Enron and Associates will sell power to PDB at the rate of Tk 2.45 (US 5.59 cents) per kilowatt-hour (per unit).

This will be lower than the existing per unit cost of power generated by oil-based power plants in the public sector. In Khulna region, the per unit cost is as high as Tk 5.50.

Enron will use imported naphtha for power generation. It is expected that afterwards, natural gas would be used in the plant for power generation, further reducing the cost of production, the sources added.

The government went for barge-mounted power units considering that it required a shorter span of time to set up such plants and that it was an easy way to augment power supply.

By next month, the government is likely to initial an agreement with a foreign private power company for the setting up of a 300 to 450 MW plant at Meghnaghat and another for a 200 MW plant at Haripur.

Kashmiri boy murdered for celebrating Pak victory

SRINAGAR, May 23: A Kashmiri boy, who was allegedly arrested by Indian troops for celebrating Pakistan's cricket victory over India, was found dead today in a lake, residents of Srinagar said.

Locals told AFP the body of Abdul Hamid Sheikh was discovered near the picturesque Dal Lake in Srinagar, the summer capital of the troubled Indian state of Kashmir.

See Page 12 Col 3

Pak-Lanka first final today

MOHALI, (India) May 23: Pakistan captain Rameez Raja is worried his team may ease up in the Independence Cup final against Sri Lanka after their victory-to-savour over arch-rivals India, reports Reuters.

"That's what we don't want," Raja said today in Mohali, where Pakistan play the World See Page 12 Col 8

President urges political parties For God's sake, stop using students in power games



President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed addressing the first convocation ceremony of the Independent University of Bangladesh in the city yesterday. — PID photo

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday urged the political parties to stop using the students in power games and allow them to pursue knowledge in a congenial atmosphere, reports UNB.

Addressing the first convocation ceremony of Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB) at Osmany Memorial Hall in the morning, the President expressed great concern at the continued violence on the campuses.

"Pursuit of knowledge is possible only in a quiet and peaceful atmosphere free from any disturbance," he said.

President Shahabuddin said the main attraction to private universities was that until now their campuses have remained free from violence and terrorism.

"But what about public universities and other educational institutions in the country? Hardly any day passes without some disturbance in this or that university or college."

He said those disturbances often degenerate into armed See Page 12 Col 7

Govt begins VGF in Ctg, Cox's Bazar areas soon

By Staff Correspondent

The government will launch a two-month 'vulnerable group feeding' (VGF) programme soon for the cyclone affected people in 280 unions and wards of Chittagong and Cox's Bazar districts.

Press Secretary to Prime Minister Jawadul Karim said at a press briefing yesterday that a total of 1,57,000 people will be provided with VGF cards and each card holder will get 16 Kilograms of rice or wheat in a month. Five hundred cards will be distributed in each affected union or ward. Of the cards, 1,20,000 will be distributed in Chittagong and 37,000 in Cox's Bazar, he added. A total of 5024 metric tons of rice or 6,280 metric tons of wheat will be distributed under the Tk See Page 12 Col 1

Minister to 'quit' if death toll 'concealed'

By Staff Correspondent

State Minister for Planning Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir yesterday said he will resign if any party or individual can prove that the government is concealing the death toll from Monday's cyclone.

He was replying to questions at the regular press briefing by Prime Minister's press secretary Jawadul Karim at the Prime Minister's Office last night.

"What's the benefit of hiding the death figures and damages caused by the cyclone in this age of free flow of information?" he posed the question while replying to allegations that the government was concealing the actual death toll.

When another newsman enquired about allegation of "high-projection of damages" sent from districts in the hope of getting more relief, Alamgir said, "This may be true to some extent."

BSS adds: Mohiuddin also refuted the BNP allegations of insufficient relief distribution saying that all out steps had been taken by the government to provide necessary succour to See Page 12 Col 1

Cyclone causes Tk 70 lakh loss to CEPZ

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, May 23: Chittagong export processing zone (CEPZ) suffered a loss of about Tk 70 lakh due to Monday's cyclone, official sources said.

The storm caused damage to 49 factories and some of them had to suspend the production.

The CEPZ housing 71 factories came under the fury of cyclone for the second time since 1991.

Officials said the window panes of the factories were broken and tin-shed roofs were blown away by the cyclone. Some boundary walls also collapsed.

They claimed that the loss to CEPZ in Monday's cyclone was much less than that of 1991 disaster.

Two kilometers away from the Chittagong Port, CEPZ has so far attracted investments of over Tk 700 crore.

Transport strike in Sylhet called off

SYLHET, May 23: Transport owners and workers today called off their ongoing strike in the district from tomorrow, reports UNB.

The decision was taken following a fruitful discussion at Sylhet Circuit House today between Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury and leaders of transport owners and workers.

The strike began in the district on Wednesday to protest illegal-toll collection from vehicles on Sylhet-Tamabil road.

I left my husband willingly, says Sayeeda Shamsi

By Staff Correspondent

A physician's wife, who was allegedly kidnapped last month yesterday said that she left her husband as he tortured her since their marriage.

It was reported last month that Sayeeda Shamsi, wife of Dr Mijbaul Alam, was kidnapped from their house in Mohamadpur area. Dr Alam had filed a case with Mohamadpur thana accusing some people of kidnapping her.

However, 37-year-old Shamsi at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club claimed that she left her husband on her own and she was not kidnapped. She termed the case filed by her husband false.

Sigma Huda, secretary general of the Bangladesh Society for Enforcement of Human See Page 12 Col 7



Welcome, President Alberto Fujimori

Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori will be given a red carpet reception when he arrives in the capital today on a two-day visit to Bangladesh, reports BSS.

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will receive the Peruvian President at the airport.

This will be the first visit to Bangladesh by any head of state of the western hemisphere.

President Fujimori will call on President Shahabuddin at Bangabhaban today and hold official talks with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the International Conference Centre tomorrow.

During his visit, two accords on bilateral scientific cooperation and expansion of trade will be signed between the governments and chambers of the two countries.

The Peruvian President will place wreath at the National Mausoleum at Savar and join a tea party to be hosted by the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FEBCCI).

President Fujimori will visit Bangabandhu Memorial Museum at Dhanmondi, BRAC head office at Mahakhali, 'Aarong' shop at Lalmatia, and Grameen Bank project areas in Narayanganj.

President Fujimori is due to arrive here from Vietnam. He will fly to New Delhi after his visit to Bangladesh.

AFP adds: Fujimori left Lima late Thursday for an official visit to Bangladesh and India aimed at boosting economic ties, after being delayed by a bomb threat that proved to be See Page 12 Col 3

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
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No. CD/PB/DD-397/914 DATE: 20/05/97

Sub: International Tender Notice For Sale Of Enterprises

Sealed International Tenders on the prescribed forms are hereby invited from local and foreign buyers for sale of the following enterprises owned by the Government on as is where is basis. Intending buyers will have to submit separate prescribed tender forms and other required papers duly filled in and supported by necessary documents for each enterprise.

Name of the Enterprises to be Sold

1. Bangladesh Textile Mills, Dhamgor, Land-15.65 Acre, Spindle-19,640, Loom-210 Narayanganj	Land-33.04 Acre, Spindles-19,800, Loom-395.
2. Chittaranjan Cotton Mills Godnail, Narayanganj	Land-22.71 Acre, Spindles-16,864, Loom-310.
3. Laxminarayan Cotton Mills Godnail, Narayanganj	Land- 23.10 Acre (Including 0.20 acre Motijheel C/A), Loom- 357, Capacity-6,775 M.Ton. P.A.
4. Nishat Jute Mills, Tongi, Gazipur	Land-19.82 acre, Loom-70, Capacity-2350 M.Ton P.A.
5. M.M. Jute Mills, Banshabaria, Chittagong	Land-51.46 acre, Loom-333, Capacity-9,849 M. Ton. P.A.
6. Gul Ahmed Jute Mills Kumira, Chittagong	Land-22.59 Acre, Loom-250, Capacity-6,974 M.Ton.
7. Daulatpur Jute Mill Khalishpur, Khulna	Land-9.51 Acre, Capacity-450 lac pcs P.A.
8. Kohinoor Battery, Tongi	Off Loading of 62.5% Shares
9. Lira Industrial Enterprise, Tongi	
10. Bangladesh Steel Industries, Tejgaon, Dhaka	
11. Fish Export Company, Khulna	
12. Bangladesh Can Making & Tin Printing Plant, Chittagong	
13. Bangladesh Blade Factory, Tongi	

(2) Set of prescribed forms, tender conditions and other related papers can be procured from the Secretary on all working days from 27.05.97 to 29.06.97 during office hours on cash payment of Tk. 5,000/- (Taka Five Thousand only) or US\$ 125 (one Hundred Twenty Five) only which is non-refundable.

(3) Interested foreigners, Bangladeshi citizens living abroad, overseas commercial firms etc., willing to procure the tender forms may contact Bangladesh High Commissions/Embassies in London, Washington, Brussels, Kuala Lumpur, Riyadh, Abu Dhabi, Islamabad, New Delhi, Tokyo, Singapore and Seoul on or before 29.06.97.

(4) Relevant data relating to the enterprises are available with the Privatization Board (Tel: 9563763-5 Fax: 880-2-9563766) and can be seen by the intending buyers during all working days from 27.05.97 to 29.06.97. These documents will also be available in the above mentioned High Commissions/Embassies.

(5) The tender box will be closed at 11-00 a.m. on 30.06.97 and opened at 11-30 a.m. on the same date.

(6) Tenders found incomplete or otherwise faulty shall stand cancelled. No explanation, appeal, to review or reconsider such a cancellation shall be entertained.

(7) The Privatization Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

D-630 Secretary