

# BLUE DART

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina replying to questions in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

— PID photo

PM refutes allegations in JS

## Only one BNP MP found in cyclone-hit areas

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the government has taken steps to build more 2,000 cyclone shelters and dwelling houses for the homeless people in the cyclone-prone coastal districts, reports UNB.

She spelt out the government's plan, responding to a question from Awami League MP Jalaluddin Talukder during the Prime Minister's time in Parliament.

Hasina said tinsheds barracks have already been constructed to accommodate 70 families in St Martin's Island rendered homeless by the May 19 cyclone.

The Prime Minister said she would visit the island today to see the newly constructed barracks built by Navy with the help of local people.

Similar housing projects have been undertaken for the homeless people in Anwara, Banshkhali, Mosheshkhali, Kutubdia and other cyclone and flood-prone areas, she informed the House.

Referring to the pre-cyclone steps of the government, Hasina said she cancelled her trip to Spain and had personally supervised the rescue and relief

operation.

She said ministers, MPs, Awami League leaders, members of the Armed Forces, volunteers and the government machinery were engaged in advance to minimise the casualty.

The Prime Minister said so far the government has distributed cash and relief materials worth Tk 30,72,54,780 among the affected people.

She said although the government did not officially seek any foreign aid, many friendly countries and agencies voluntarily sent succour worth about Tk 51,13,04,754 for the cyclone victims.

Asked if the opposition MPs were involved in the relief work, the Prime minister told BNP MP Prof Shahidul Islam that none except Fazul Azim of Hatia was found when she visited the cyclone-affected Kutubdia, Mosheshkhali and Cox's Bazar.

Quoting Fazul Azim of BNP, Hasina said human casualty was less this time following the timely steps taken by the government.

She refuted the allegation of the opposition MP that relief operation was not conducted in many affected areas.

### Bangabandhu

From Page 1

produced in the court yesterday. They are: Lt Col (dismissed) Syed Farookur Rahman, Lt Col (relieved) Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan, former state minister for information Taheruddin Thakur, Lt Col Muhiuddin Ahmed, Acting Director, BNCC, Dhaka and Capt (Hon) Abdul Wahab Joarder.

Zobaida Rashid, wife of Lt Col (dismissed) A Rashid Khan-daker, another accused, was granted bail by the Supreme Court. She was represented by her lawyers yesterday.

The 15 other accused are being tried in absentia. They were represented by state defence.

The proceedings of the case yesterday began at about 11:45 am and continued for about an hour. Later the accused were allowed to meet their relatives present in the court room.

Zobaida Rashid's lawyer Mahbubur Rahman prayed for adjournment of the proceedings for 30 days, to which the prosecution disagreed.

The judge consulted both the defence and the prosecution sides and fixed the next date.

### Shop looted

From Page 1

to pay the bill. They hit Mosharraf Hossain, the owner of the shop, with a pistol, damaged glasses, furniture and looted Tk 5,000 from the cash box.

An agency report said, the youngsters demanded toll from the shop. They went wild as the shopkeeper tried to catch them.

A policeman on-duty in Katabon area said a police team had rushed to the spot. None was arrested in this connection till last night, he added.

### JS snippet

From Page 1

Jamaat MP Delwar Hossain Saidee for speaking against India on the floor of the House while hanging an Indian shawl by the neck after visiting that country.

At this, Akbar Hossain himself, wearing an Indian shawl in the same manner, sprang to his feet to get the floor.

As the Deputy Speaker asked him if his name was mentioned by the AL MP, Akbar was seen showing his shawl and nodding head in the affirmative.

Given the floor, Akbar said, "Nothing is written on my shawl ... but the Pakistani prime minister Newaz Sharif wears a black coat (pointing his fingers at the black Muhib coat worn by AL lawmakers)."

From Page 1

He sought cooperation from the student organisations in maintaining peaceful academic atmosphere on the campus.

Excepting Chhatra Shibir, all other student organisations attended the meeting.

### RU reopens

From Page 1

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## UN peacekeepers to get \$50,000 each for death, disability

NEW YORK, June 10: A United Nations committee in charge of administrative and budgetary matters has approved a resolution, setting up uniform and standardised compensation rates for death and disability for UN peacekeepers, reports UNB.

Under the new arrangement, each peace-keeper, irrespective of the country of origin, will receive a one-time lump sum award of \$50,000 US dollars for death during UN peacekeeping operation. The same amount of compensation will be paid to peacekeepers for losing both arms, legs or eyes.

The decision, approved by the UN Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) will go to the General Assembly which is expected to approve it later this month.

The Assembly is also expected to seek assurances from troop contributing countries that payments to beneficiaries should not be less than the amount specified in the UN resolution.

The question of compensation, which is presently determined by the UN through bilateral arrangements with troop contributing countries, has been hotly debated.

Many developing countries had in the past complained that the arrangements were discriminatory as rich nations were allowed to receive higher compensation for their peacekeepers.

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## BA launches new campaign to boost corporate image

By Staff Correspondent

British Airways yesterday launched a package of programmes directed to radically improve its corporate image. It also introduced a new logo.

The campaign is accompanied by a six billion pound starling investment over a three-year period to improve services, products, aircraft, facilities and training.

Worldwide festivities were held simultaneously in over 160 places in 63 countries, including Dhaka, yesterday evening.

British Airways used a half-hour state of the art video show beamed via satellite worldwide to launch the "new strategic direction and radical new identity." The programme began at 12:00 hours GMT (6 pm BST) and was produced from a central London studio. It showed live scenes of British Airways events around the globe. A cross-section of people were present at the Dhaka Sheraton Ball Room to witness the unfurling of the new corporate image.

The evening started with the 65-member British Airways staff in Dhaka singing in chorus 'All about sharing ... all about caring' composed by Leslie 'Lezz' Lewis of Colonial Cousins fame.

British Airways also launched a "Silver Lining" charity for the Ahsanah Mission to collect contributions for the destitute children. The Airlines has already donated four million pounds starling, collected from its passengers to UNICEF for the cause of children.

Peter Chandra, Regional Business Manager of Asia-Pacific, Alex Lastra, CSO Madrid Airport and Ms Ashraf Ali of British Airways, Dhaka addressed the gathering.

### JP to play effective role of opposition

The Jatiya Party decided to play an effective role of opposition during the budget session of Parliament, which began yesterday.

The decision was taken at the Parliamentary Party meeting of Jatiya Party.

Party Chairman H M Ershad presided over the meeting, held at the party office in Samsad Bhaban.

The party MPs reaffirmed full confidence in the leadership of Ershad, JP Whip Adel Fazle Rabbi told journalists after the meeting.

### 650 more ideal villages to be set up

The government will set up additional 650 ideal villages at a cost of Tk 260 crore to rehabilitate the landless and destitute under the second phase of Ideal Village Project, reports UNB.

Land Secretary Syed Margub Mursheed stated this at a meeting of the Future Trade (Bengal-Tiger) Limited, signed a MOU to set up their cement factory in Rajshahi or Sylhet.

Capt Imam Anwar Hossain, Managing Director of Bengal Tiger Cement Limited of Bangladesh, and S K Lato of the Narpuh Cements Limited of Meghalaya in India, signed the other MOU to set up their cement factory in Meghalaya of India.

The MOU signing ceremony was held at the DCCI auditorium.

### Electronic goods

From Page 1

can buy a 21-inch colour TV in China for as little as USD 150. But the same item is valued at USD 308 in our customs books," said an importer at the stadium market.

Other traders also complained about the tariff, which they said, was disproportionate.

They said, a one-and-a-half tonne air conditioner was available in China for USD 180, but its customs book value here was USD 480.

This also applied to all other electronic items like fridges, calculators, microwave ovens, CD players and cassette recorders, they said.

About to them, once the tariff was revised and properly classified, prices would fall further and the buyers would be benefited.

A section of the DSE members submitted a letter to the DSE Council asking for a requisition meeting for removal of Council member and former chairman Imtiaz Hossain.

From Page 1

one-stop centre for the foreign investors to register and complete other necessary formalities. The centre would help investors iron out all the details in one place with less bureaucratic wrangling.

## FICCI chief

From Page 1

'one-stop' centre for the foreign investors to register and complete other necessary formalities. The centre would help investors iron out all the details in one place with less bureaucratic wrangling.

The work of the Committee for National Education Policy Making formed by the Government is at the final stage. The committee has, in the meantime, held meetings at Dhaka as well as all Divisional headquarters and arranged for receiving opinions of all concerned including professionals' organisations & NGOs. Moreover, any interested person or organisation can send their valued opinions on National Education Policy. It is requested to send written opinions to the undermentioned address of the committee office by 15 June, 1997.

Prof M Shamsul Haque

Chairman

Committee for National Education

Policy Making

NAEM, Dhanmondi, Dhaka

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