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Revenue collection Kibria dissatisfied over failure to achieve target

Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria has directed the revenue officials to make all-out efforts to achieve the revenue target, reports UNB.

He was addressing the senior officials of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) at a meeting on revenue collection at its auditorium in the city yesterday.

The Finance Minister expressed his dissatisfaction over the failure of the revenue officials to achieve the target in revenue collection in last several months and directed them to gear up their collection efforts.

Administering a note of warning against the officials concerned for their failure to achieve the target in revenue collection, Kibria asked all to work with sincerity and efficiency.

Emphasising the necessity to gear up supervision in revenue collection, Kibria said if necessary steps would be taken to enact new laws or review the existing ones for expediting

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Strengthening of police force: Proposal awaits approval

By Mizan Ali

The Home Ministry proposal for strengthening police force, including creation of six new thanas in the Dhaka Metropolitan area, is waiting approval of the National Implementation Committee for Administrative Reforms and Reorganisation (NICAR), according to official sources.

The proposal made on June 2 was earlier approved by the Prime Minister and sent to the NICAR about a week ago.

Besides, a proposal for setting up of two police outposts, one each at Khulna University and Rajshahi University, is also being sent to the NICAR, the sources added.

The six proposed thanas in the capital are: Banasri thana

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AL city unit's protest rally tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

Dhaka city unit of Awami League will hold a rally in the city tomorrow to protest, what it said countryside terrorism and anarchy perpetuated by BNP.

A party press release said, the protest rally is also meant to raise the demand for the arrest of the terrorists. The rally will be held at 3:30 pm on Wednesday in front of the Jatiya Press Club.

Meanwhile, a joint meeting of the AL front organisations will be held at 10 am today at Bangladesh Press Club and an extended meeting of the city unit of AL at the same venue of 6 pm today.

Last date for HSC admission now Sept 4

By Staff Correspondent

The last date for admission to Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) classes has been extended to September 4 from August 28 earlier, according to official sources.

The decision was taken at a meeting of a committee of education boards recently.

However, admission to HSC classes will continue till September 15 with fine.

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Simanta Express attacked: 15 hurt

Dacoits kill Ansar, snatch 8 rifles, rob passengers

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Aug 25: A platoon commander of Ansars was shot dead, 15 others including Railway Police, Ansars and passengers were injured, eight fire arms were snatched and cash and valuables were looted in a train dacoity near here last night.

According to police, the dacoity was committed in the Sayeedpur-bound 'Simanta Express' near Barabazar station.

The dacoits took away eight firearms including one SMG and 190 bullets from the on-duty Railway Police and Ansars. They also robbed several lakh taka in cash and valuables from the passengers.

The killed Ansar commander was identified as Azizul Islam, 40, of 4th Battalion of

Ansar. He hailed from Nilphamari.

The injured includes GRP personnel Jagannath, Abul Kalam, Rezaul Karim, Babul, and Anisur Rahman, Ansar Naik Akkel Ali, Railway electrician Awal, passengers Narayan Chandra Karmakar, Abdul Majid, Ibrahim Hossain, and Matiar Rahman.

All of them were admitted to the General Hospital here.

The condition of Abul Kalam, Rezaul Karim and Anisur Rahman was critical, hospital sources said.

Two of the injured were later admitted to the Khulna Hospital this morning in critical condition, a report received here said.

According to police sources

and passengers, armed dacoits numbering about 30, fifteen of them wearing 'borikha', boarded the Simanta Express from Jessore station at 2 am. When the train crossed Jessore cantonment station, the dacoits suddenly sprang up and snatched seven rifles and one SMG along with the bullets from the Ansars and Railway Police. They fired indiscriminately and shot Azizul Islam dead. Then they robbed all the passengers in two carriages.

When the train crossed Barabazar station, they stopped it by pulling the chain, got down and fled away.

According to latest information, police from the surrounding thanas gheraoed the entire

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Old Benedictines' substitute custodian Damudaran makes a desperate attempt to keep an onrushing Abahani's Uzbek forward Anatoly during the first round return-leg match of the Asian Cup Winners' Cup at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday. Abahani won 3-0. (Story on Page 10)

AL plans to unite forces to face opposition move

By Reaz Ahmed

The ruling Awami League has planned to further increase its organisational strength by uniting the 'pro-liberation and progressive' forces in the wake of a simultaneous movement planned by opposition parties.

AL sources said that the party was actively preparing to face the probable move by the Opposition from a 'nationalist platform'.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, AL General Secretary Zillur Rahman said there was nothing to wonder if some opposition parties united under the banner of a 'nationalist front'. Referring to the BNP, he said, 'breakaway faction of Jatiya Party, Jamaat-e-Islami and some other right-leaning parties, he said, 'They always maintain some sort of entente

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BNP-led opposition holds rally today: Tougher programme likely

By Nazmul Ashraf

Six opposition parties led by BNP are holding a 'tougher' anti-government agitation programmes.

The parties are likely to announce their programmes from separate public rallies in the city today.

According to sources in the parties, the programme may include 'gherao' of the Jatiya Sangsad to protest government's 'anti-people' decisions, especially the price hike of petroleum products.

The Sangsad goes into its sixth session on Saturday.

The parties also plan to submit separate memoranda to the Speaker, complaining against what they say the government's tendency to take major policy decisions by pass-

ing the Sangsad. They would also seek Speaker's intervention in such cases.

A joint meeting of five of the six parties held at the BNP office yesterday also discussed some other identical programmes. High on their agenda were holding protest rallies in front of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) headquarters and organising country-wide demonstrations before the 'gherao' of parliament.

The five parties represented at the meeting are: BNP, Jatiya Party (Z-M), Janga, Democratic League and Patriotic National Party (PNP). Jamaat-e-Islami leaders were consulted over phone.

The meeting also discussed a

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43 seats reserved for students at JS visitors' gallery

Forty-three seats have been reserved at the visitors' gallery of Jatiya Sangsad for students of different educational institutions to enable them to witness the parliament session, reports UNB.

According to a press release of Jatiya Sangsad Secretariat, the interested students will have to apply for the seats to the Deputy Secretary (Administration-2) through the heads of their respective educational institutions before a week of the particular day on which they want to witness the session.

It also said an educational institution is entitled to get maximum 20 passes to be collected from the Service Department for their students. The students will be no less than 12 years of age.

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Dean elections in 6 DU faculties tomorrow

By DU Correspondent

Dean elections in six faculties out of seven of Dhaka University will be held tomorrow.

Three panels — the pro Awami League Blue, pro-BNP White, and Left-leaning Pink panel — are contesting the polls. Prof Moniruddin Ahmed of Blue Panel has been declared elected uncontested the Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy. He was the only contender for the post.

Blue Panel candidates for the six other faculties are — Prof Kazi Shahidullah of the Department of History (Arts Faculty), Prof Abu Hasem of Accounting (Business Studies Faculty), Prof Syed Giussuddin of

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JRC meet begins Friday Draft accord on Teesta sharing to be finalised

LALMONIRHAT, Aug 25: Water Resources secretaries of India and Bangladesh will hold talks Friday-Saturday on a permanent formula for sharing the waters of the common river Teesta, reports UNB.

The meeting will finalise the draft of an agreement to be formally signed in the 33rd Joint River Commission (JRC) meeting scheduled for November in New Delhi, officials here said.

Indian Secretary of Water Resources Ministry Mata Prasad will lead his team while Water Resources Secretary Dr ATM Shamsul Huda will head the home side. The two-day meeting at the Doan rest house, 'Abasor', in Hatibandha thana.

A nine-member Indian delegation will arrive in the capital

on Thursday and fly the following day to Saidpur airport. From there, the Indian team is expected to go by road to the meeting venue, JRC member Khalilur Rahman informed.

The upcoming talks is a follow-up to the 32nd meeting of JRC held in Dhaka on July 19-20 that suggested a Secretary-level committee to identify the problems of sharing waters of the Teesta, one of the 53 common rivers.

A preparatory meeting of the officials was held on August 3 at the No-Man's land of Chengabandha and another cross border meeting of the JRC Standing Committee held on August 10-13.

There are two barrages over

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Fresh tension at DU

By DU Correspondent

Tension has mounted in different Chhatra League dominated halls of Dhaka University following a change in the leadership of the organisation on the campus as per a decision of the 'high command' of the BCL, sources said.

Shamim Ahmed, a central leader of the BCL, who had 'dominated' most of the 'BCL occupied' halls was ousted from the leadership yesterday.

The leadership has been restructured with Babul Talukder, Aminul Islam Ratan and Tomi. All the three were close aides of Shamim. Babul recently got enrolled again as a student of the university after a long break. Ratan and Tomi are not students, the sources on the campus said.

The change in the leadership

Imposition of congestion surcharge BSC may charter 2 container vessels in Ctg-S'pore route

From Nurul Alam

CHITTAGONG, Aug 25: Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC) is likely to charter two feeder vessels to facilitate transportation of container cargo in the Chittagong-Singapore route.

The move is being taken following the imposition of congestion surcharge on container cargo at Chittagong Port by the Chittagong Feeder Trade Committee, a Singapore-based group of feeder vessel operators.

According to a highly-placed source, the authorities in a meeting held last week on the issue of congestion surcharge, agreed to allow BSC to charter two container vessels to be used in the feeder service.

The high-level meeting was organised after leading trade bodies urged the government to take alternative measures to handle container cargo in the Chittagong-Singapore route.

The source informed that the government is soon likely to issue an official order to BSC for

Salman Shah's death

CID to interrogate OC of Cantt Thana, four others

The Criminal Investigation Department, investigating film star Salman Shah's death case, is scheduled to interrogate some policemen today, official sources said, reports UNB.

The five police personnel of Cantonment thana include officer-in-charge Shahabuddin and SI Badrul, who was investigation officer of the case of Rezvi's trespass upon Salman's parental house.

Criminal Investigation Department (CID) officials said after their interrogation, it would be clear who were responsible for forcing Rezvi to make a confessional statement that Salman didn't commit suicide, he was killed.

Rezvi was arrested from Neela Chowdhury's house on July 20 and made a confessional statement to the court on July 22 that he was an accomplice in killing Salman.

But, on CID remand August 10-11, Rezvi retracted from his

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Cases filed against MK Anwar, Aman & 19 others

BNP leaders M K Anwar, Amanullah Aman and Jatiyaatabadi Chhatra Dal leaders Atabadi and Sohail have been sued for their alleged involvement in violent activities in Ramna thana area during Sunday's hartal, reports UNB.

Four separate cases were filed against 17 other BNP leaders and activists, including a junior defence counsel in Bangabandhu murder case Advocate Habibur Rahman Mandal.

Of the cases, two were filed by SI Akhtarusalam for violent activities in front of the Jatiya Press Club while one by SI Reza for violence near Shishu Park.

Awami Ainjibi Parishad filed a separate case for fanning their commemorative meeting on Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the Press Club auditorium.

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Habib's condition unchanged

By Staff Correspondent

The condition of photo-journalist Habibur Rahman remained unchanged yesterday. Till writing this report last night he was in an unconscious state at the DMCH and was being treated at the intensive care unit, according to hospital sources.

Habibur Rahman, a photo-journalist of the government-owned Dainik Bangla, was seriously injured when he was hit in his head by a tear gas shell lobbed by the police in front of the Jatiya Press Club during hartal hours Sunday morning.

Bangabandhu murder: Hearing resumes today

By Staff Correspondent

The proceedings of Bangabandhu murder case will resume today in the Court of District and Sessions Judge, Dhaka.

When the proceedings resume today, the lawyers for the accused in custody will cross-examine the eighth prosecution witness, Maj (ret'd) Shahadat Hossain, following which, Lt Col MA Hamid will make his deposition.

Lt Col MA Hamid was the Station Commander of Dhaka when Bangabandhu and his family members were killed on August 15, 1975.

Meanwhile, it is learnt that Advocate Habibur Rahman Mandal, one of the lawyers of an accused in custody, who is also the organising secretary of the BNP city unit, was arrested early hours yesterday.

Ramna police said that Mandal is among the accused in two specific cases lodged with the thana for ransacking public property and vandalism.

Withdrawal of Rly HQs: Hunger strike in Rajshahi today

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Aug 25: The Rajshahi Shantha Sangrakshan Committee (Committee to protect the interests of Rajshahi) called a dawn-to-dusk token mass hunger strike tomorrow to protest the withdrawal of Head Office of Bangladesh Railway Western Zone from Rajshahi.

They will also gherao the Rajshahi Railway Station for the whole day on the occasion.

Rajshahi Shantha Sangrakshan Committee organised a protest rally at Shabab Bazar this afternoon to announce the programme.

Presided over by Haroon-ur-Rahid, the rally was addressed,

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A colourful procession was brought out in the city yesterday on the occasion of Janmastomi. — Star photo

Janmastomi celebrated

The Hindu Community yesterday celebrated Janmastomi, the birthday of Lord Sree Krishna, across the country with religious fervour and enthusiasm, reports UNB.

The holy Janmashtomi was marked by Pujas, Geetajogga, Bhog, Aarti and discussion at different parts of the city.

On the occasion, City Mayor Mohammad Hanif inaugurated a colourful procession which was brought out from the Dhakeswari Temple at 3 pm.

The processionists paraded different city streets through Palassy, Shaheed Minar, High Court, GPO, Gullistan and Nawabpur. It terminated at Bahadur Shah Park.

President Shahabuddin Ahmed exchanged greetings with the members of the Hindu

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CFTC may review decision at today's meet

The Singapore-based Chittagong Feeder Trade Committee in an emergency meeting today is expected to reappraise the congestion surcharge imposed by it on the Chittagong port, reports UNB.

An official announcement said following a high-level decision of the government, Sabar Hossain Chowdhury MP had discussed the issue with CFTC in Singapore on Friday and Saturday.

The situation arising out of the congestion surcharge had earlier been discussed in a meeting at the Prime Minister's office.

The meeting, convened by Prime Minister's political Ad-

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