

Shibir-BCL gunfight at CU: 1 killed

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Sept 3: A student of Chittagong University was killed and seven others received bullet wounds during a gunfight between the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League and Islami Chhatra Shibir this afternoon, police and campus sources said.

The dead, identified as Aminul Huq Bakul, was a student of first year honours of the Mathematics Department in Chittagong University.

Our CU Correspondent quoting campus sources said, the clash erupted when the Shibir activists attacked BCL workers at university railway station at around 6 pm.

Both the groups traded gunfire at least Bakul, a BCL activist dead. BCL called an indefinite strike at CU from tomorrow protesting the killing of its activist.

The injured were admitted to Chittagong Medical College.

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Maj Gen Mostafiz made PSO

By Staff Correspondent

Major General Mostafizur Rahman, who was serving as the Director General of NSI, has been appointed Principal Staff Officer (PSO) of the Armed Forces Division, according to well-placed sources.

Mostafizur Rahman was on Leave Preparatory to Retirement (LPR) when he was called back to active service, was given an extension and posted as DG of NSI in January, the sources added.

Meanwhile, the Chief of Army Staff Lt. General Mabubur Rahman is due to retire on December 24, it was further learnt.

General Mabubur Rahman is being considered for appointment as the country's ambassador to China. The Beijing position is falling vacant this month as the present Bangladesh envoy to China, Mustafizur Rahman, is taking over as the new Foreign Secretary on September 17 following the retirement of incumbent Farooq Sobhan.

US Open

Fernandez-Zevereva in women's doubles semis

From Tawfiq Aziz Khan

NEW YORK, Sept 3: Today is the Chase Day at the US Open 1997. Chase Manhattan Bank has sponsored the women's events at this championships. The first match of the ladies quarterfinals as just started at the Arthur Ashe Stadium at the time of filing this report towering Lindsay Davenport, the number 6 seed, was leading Jana Novotna, number 3 seed by one set 6-2 in the first set. The winner of this match will

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President urges ruling and opposition parties Shun obstinacy, work with accommodating spirit

By Staff Correspondent

President Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday said neither the ruling party nor the Opposition has learnt any lesson from the past.

Those who are in the government now were in the Opposition earlier and those who were in the government earlier are in the Opposition now. But none learnt anything from the past, the President said.

The President said, parliamentary form of government needs "accommodating spirit" and "give and take policy" between the ruling party and the Opposition. Understanding, cooperation and consensus on the major national issues is a must, he said.

With utter dismay, the President said, "Today, if one party goes to the north, the other,

in the discussion.

Shahabuddin Ahmed noted that after earning independence through an armed struggle, the country had been under military rule and autocratic regimes for most of the last 25 years.

"Though democracy was reinstated in 1991, its roots still remain fragile".

The President said, parliamentary form of government needs "accommodating spirit" and "give and take policy" between the ruling party and the Opposition. Understanding, cooperation and consensus on the major national issues is a must, he said.

In principle, the Treasury Bench has agreed to meet this demand. So, actually there is no conflict between the two, but there exists obstinacy and narrow outlook", the President said.

He explained, each standing

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President Shahabuddin Ahmed speaking at a discussion meeting on the occasion of 99th birth anniversary of late Abul Mansur Ahmed at the National Museum auditorium yesterday.

— Star photo

Speakers at discussion on Abul Mansur Ahmed

A life devoted to the downtrodden

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a discussion meeting said yesterday that as a journalist, lawyer, litterateur and politician, Abul Mansur Ahmed's works reflected his thoughts for the welfare of the downtrodden in the country.

They also said steps should be taken to reintroduce Abul Mansur Ahmed and his works to the new generation.

The discussion was held on the occasion of 99th birth anniversary of eminent journalist, lawyer, litterateur and

politician Abul Mansur Ahmed at the auditorium of the National Museum in the city. It was organised by 'Abul Mansur Ahmed Smriti Sangsads'.

President Shahabuddin Ahmed in his speech as the chief guest said late Abul Mansur Ahmed is one of the most eminent products of the sub-continent.

"Despite being born in an extremely conservative society, he possessed liberal thoughts

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Prof Kayes takes over as IU VC

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, Sept 3: Deadlock at the Islamic University ended as the newly appointed Vice-Chancellor, Prof Kayes Uddin, took over charge today.

Classes in the university will resume tomorrow, sources said.

The Chancellor of the University appointed Prof Kayes Uddin Vice-Chancellor on Tuesday. Kayes Uddin was Professor in the Department of Chemistry in the Rajshahi University.

Prof Kayes Uddin replaces Dr Md Enamul Huq. Students of the university, led by Chhatra League and Chhatra Shibir, had long been demanding removal of Dr Enamul Huq for his al-

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Economy on sound & healthy track, asserts Kibria

Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria yesterday said the economy is on a "sound and healthy track" and appealed to everybody not to make any "unfounded and exaggerated" remark with "ulterior motive" to destabilise it.

In an interview with UNB at his Secretariat office, he rejected his predecessor's claim that the economy was heading for a breakdown and said the comment is "a part of BNP's or-

chestrated campaign" to undermine the government.

"All the internationally recognised indicators demonstrate beyond any doubt that the country's economy is on a sound and healthy track, and the prospects are bright," said a confident Kibria.

Former Finance Minister Saifur Rahman recently warned that the economy might collapse within two months due to the government's wrong per-

He referred to the "so-called"

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\$110m ADB loan for Jamuna Bridge rail link project

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide 110 million US dollars to implement the Jamuna Bridge railway link project, reports UNB.

An agreement to this effect was signed in Manila yesterday, according to a Bangladesh Railway press release in the city.

A three-member Bangladesh delegation, led by Director General of Bangladesh Railway, arrived in Manila on September 1 to discuss the loan agreement.

Apart from ADB assistance, France will provide Tk 34.40 crore, Spain Tk 49.2 crore, Canada (UDC) Tk 30.10 crore and OPEC Tk 64.50 crore for implementation of the Tk 1,155.41 crore project, the release added.

Meanwhile, Communications Minister Anwar Hossain yesterday informed the parliament that an agreement was signed with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to finance the railway provision in the Jamuna multi-purpose bridge.

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MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE

We the members of Partex family express our deep shock and sorrow at the premature death of DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES.

May Almighty Allah rest her soul in eternal peace and give the members of the bereaved family and the people of United Kingdom the patience and fortitude to bear this irreparable loss.

PARTEX GROUP

Adora Limited

PM leaves for Indonesia, Philippines this morning

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina leaves Dhaka this morning on a week-long visit to Indonesia and the Philippines.

The visit is taking place at the invitation of President Soeharto of Indonesia and President Fidel Ramos of the Philippines.

Her 32-member entourage will include State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, Principal Secretary to the PM, Dr SA Samad, Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan and Press Secretary to the Prime Minister, Jawadul Karim.

Bangladesh will sign three agreements with Indonesia and three with the Philippines during the visit.

The three agreements will be initialled on avoidance of double taxation, protection of investment and introduction of air services, officials in Dhaka said yesterday.

During the trip, Dhaka will

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Substantial progress made on forming JS bodies

By Nazmul Ashraf

Both the ruling Awami League and the major opposition BNP continued their bids for higher number of members in parliamentary committees yesterday.

BNP still refrained from attending parliament session as efforts were on even after Tuesday's negotiations at the Speaker's office to bring the party back to the House.

The Speaker-mediated dialogue between the two parties made "substantial progress" as the Treasury bench negotiators accepted BNP's formula for one-third representation in the standing committees on ministries, offering three members in each of the 35 10-member committees, sources in the parties said.

According to the formula, the total number of BNP representatives in the committees would be 105 while the party had a total of 113 lawmakers, said an AL negotiator.

Against BNP's demand for

120 members, the ruling party later increased the number to 110. But the offer was still unacceptable to the BNP since it (offer) does not ensure all the 113 party MPs a place in at least one committee.

Opposition Chief Whip Khandaker Delwar Hossain had talks with Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasir and JS Chief Whip Abdul Hasnat earlier yesterday.

Talking to The Daily Star, Delwar Hossain insisted on his party's proportionate representation in the parliamentary committees and mentioned the required number of party representatives as 120.

They must agree in principle to give us proportionate representation, according to the formula.

According to the formula, the total number of BNP representatives in the committees would be 105 while the party had a total of 113 lawmakers, said an AL negotiator.

During the trip, Dhaka will

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Plane crash in Cambodia: 63 killed

PHNOM PENH, Sept 3: A Vietnam Airlines plane crashed in a ball of flames today as it approached Phnom Penh's international airport in heavy rain. Police said 66 people were on board. Only three survivors were seen, reports AP.

The Soviet-built Tupolev 134, arriving from Ho Chi Minh City, went down in a rice field about a kilometer (half-mile) south of the runway in a downpour of seasonal rain. It clipped palm trees, broke apart and exploded on impact, witnesses said.

The cause of the crash was unknown. The wreckage was still burning more than one hour after the crash. Access for fire trucks and rescue workers was difficult on the only way to the crash site, a narrow, flooded dirt road. A plume of smoke rose over the airport.

South Korean Ambassador Park Kyung Tai said 18 passengers from South Korea were on board. Taiwanese state radio,

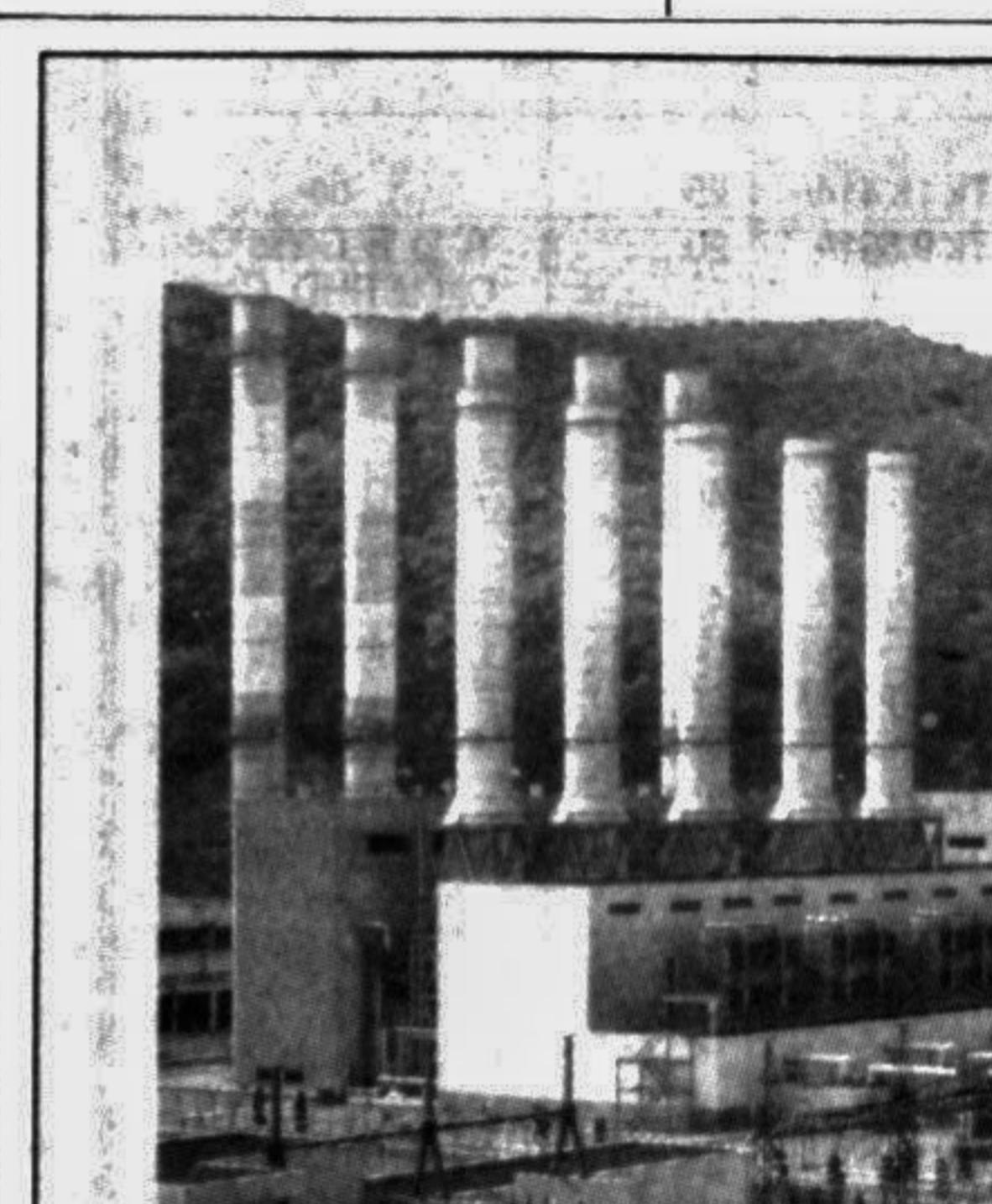


Britain to hold inquest into Diana's death

LONDON, Sept 3: Britain will hold an inquest into the death of Princess Diana, a spokesman for the West London Coroner's office said Wednesday, reports AP.

No date has been set for the beginning of the inquest, which must wait for completion of the French investigation into her death, spokesman Harry Brown

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AES CORPORATION

THE GLOBAL POWER COMPANY

AES is pleased to be announced the lowest bidder on the Haripur and Meghnaghat power project bids recently conducted by the Power Cell and the Bangladesh Power Development Board. AES looks forward to being awarded the opportunity to develop these important projects for Bangladesh.

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AES is a public limited company listed on the New York Stock Exchange. For the first half of 1997, AES' revenues were \$522 million, up by 51%; net income for the same period was \$82 million, a 44% increase compared to the first half of 1996. AES' earnings have risen every year since 1987.

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