

Hartal situation discussed in cabinet meet

By Staff Correspondent
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked her cabinet colleagues to be alert so that situation remains under control during Thursday's country-wide hartal, called by the Opposition BNP, cabinet sources said.
Chaired by the Prime Minister, the cabinet meeting found the situation during yesterday's hartal to be 'satisfactory' as there was no report of any major incidence of violence.
The cabinet members also observed that the Dhaka City Corporation Mayor should stick to his order regarding holding of rallies in the designated venues, cabinet sources said.

Resumption of Peace Corps operation okayed

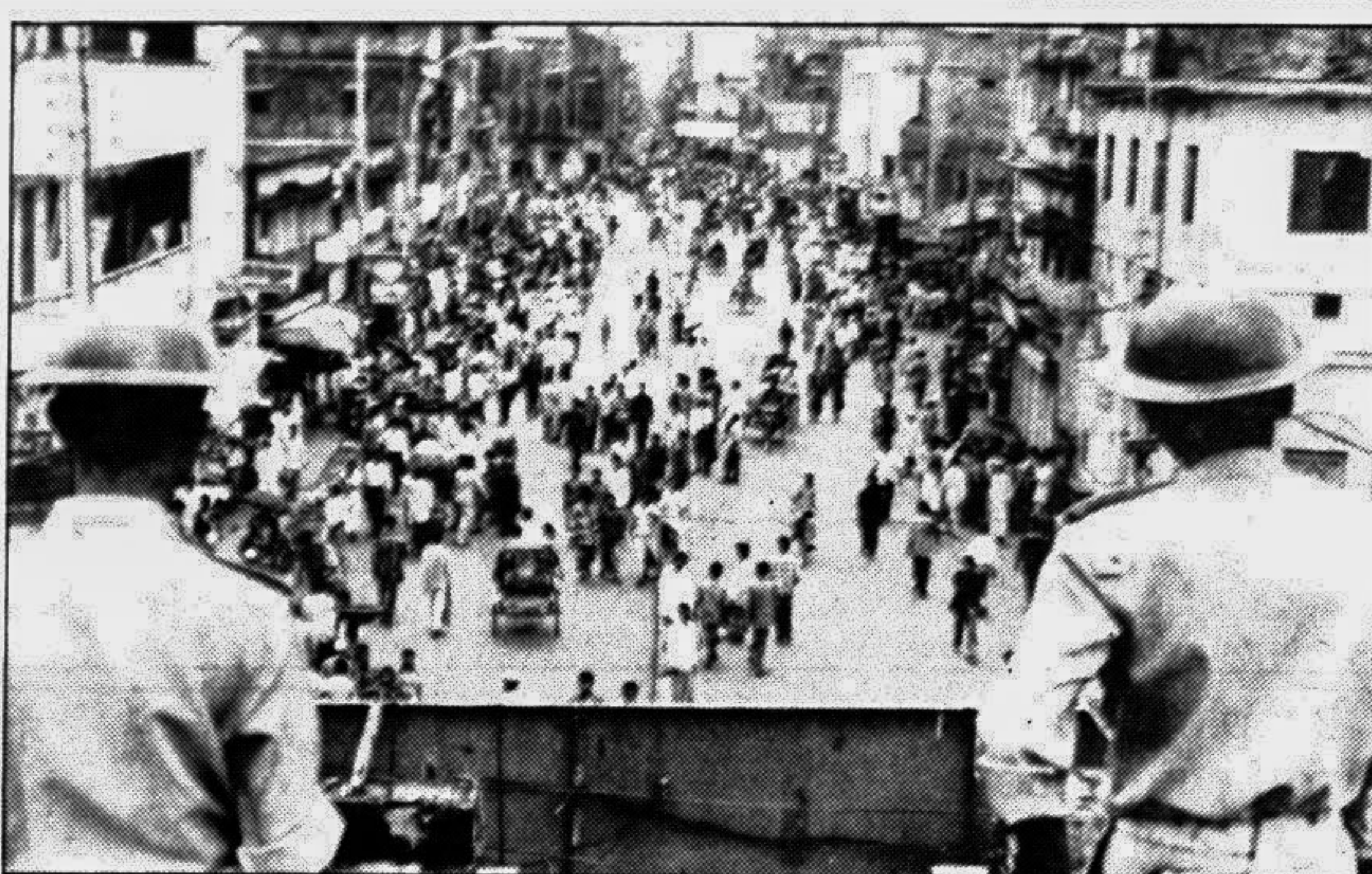
The Cabinet yesterday approved resumption of the operation of US Peace Corps in Bangladesh under a 1978 agreement between the two countries, reports UNB.
The approval was given in a Cabinet meeting held at the Bangladesh Secretariat with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.
Ministers and State Ministers attended the meeting. Cabinet Secretary, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister and Secretaries concerned were present.

Accord on bus link with India likely today

Bangladesh and India began official talks in the city yesterday on the introduction of direct bus services between Dhaka and Aizmeer Sharif via Calcutta, report agencies.
Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Surface Transport of India KR Bhatti is leading a 5-member delegation in the two-day talks.
Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Communications Karar Mahmudul Hasan is leading the 6-member Bangladesh delegation.
The two sides are examining the draft agreement on the matter prepared earlier to this effect.
A formal agreement is expected to be signed today, ministry sources said.
Initially the bus service will ply between Dhaka and Calcutta on the designated route (Dhaka-Daulatdia-Benapole).
See Page 8 Col 7

Inside Today
Article
The Crisis of Over-due Loans
Column: Window on Asia
by Shahed Latif
Page 4

Business
WTO wants nations to open up financial markets
Page 16
Supplement
Today's 16-page issue of The Daily Star contains a six-page special supplement on the National Day of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Pages 9-14



Nawabpur road area in the old part of the city during hartal hours yesterday. —Star photo

Sporadic clashes mark hartal: 30 hurt, 97 held

By Staff Correspondent

At least 30 people were injured, one with bullet, as pickets clashed with police and anti-hartal elements during a BNP-called dawn-to-dusk hartal in the city that paralysed life in the metropolis yesterday.
Police picked up 97 people including some leaders of two front organisations of BNP and a leader of JAGPA from different areas of the city.
A 28-year-old youth, Elahi Bux, was bullet hit in the chest during a shootout between supporters and opponents of hartal at Taltala, Khilgaon, at around 10:30 am, witnesses said. Bux was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital and later shifted to the Chest Diseases Hospital, our DMCH correspondent said.
Police however said Bux was injured in an explosion of cocktail hurled by BNP pickets.
BNP called the hartal protesting police action on party activists and ban on

street rallies. Jamaat-e-Islami, Jatiya Party (Z-M), JAGPA and Democratic League also lent support to the hartal.

Transport went off the main thoroughfares and shopping centres were kept under shutters.

The Inner Circular Road in front of the BNP central office at Naya Paltan turned into a battle field as police and pickets played cat and mouse throughout the day. Police teargassed the opposition activists whenever they tried to assemble and threw stones at the on-duty policemen. Riot police also fired teargas shells at the BNP office damaging its windows and clouding the area with smoke.

Firing teargas shells and charging batons by police to disperse grouped-up pickets and hurling home-made bombs, pelting stones at police and damaging vehicles by pro-hartal activists was the order of the day in Dhaka city.

The day began with heavy rainfall. As rainfall tapered off, rickshaws and a few auto-tempos and public sector BRTC buses with heavy police-escort came out on the streets.

Educational institutions in the city remained closed. At—
See Page 8 Col 2

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See Page 8 Col 1

People gave their verdict against misrule: Khaleda

BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia has congratulated the people of Dhaka city for successfully observing the day-long 'all-out' hartal yesterday, reports UNB.
The people of Dhaka city made the dawn-to-dusk hartal a complete success despite all odds. This hartal proved that the people of Bangladesh will not tolerate the present misrule and autocracy," she said in a post-hartal statement.
The BNP chairperson said the 14-month-old Awami League government has declared a war against the people in an evil design to snatch their democratic rights and revive the one-party BAKSAL rule.
This government has become totally isolated from the people as it has endangered the country's independence and sovereignty, destroyed econ—
See Page 8 Col 1

Mayor's call for fresh dialogue President inspects a DCC-designated meeting venue

Star Report

President Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday visited the Pioneer Football League ground yesterday to inspect the condition of the area, which is one of the seven places designated by the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) for holding rallies by political parties.
The President walked around the field to assess its suitability for holding public rallies. State Minister for Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Kader accompanied the President. His visit came in the wake of a confrontation be—
See Page 8 Col 4

tween the authorities and the main opposition party, BNP, since Thursday over the issue of holding rallies on the streets.
Earlier on Sunday, prior to the violent clash between police and BNP supporters in front of their central office on the issue BNP Chief and Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia lodged a complaint to the President in this regard at Bangabandhu.
The President made some suggestions to the state minister for improvement of the—
See Page 8 Col 4



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina offering munajat after unveiling the plaque of Bangabandhu Museum at Dhaka Cantonment yesterday. —PID photo

Bangabandhu Museum at Dhaka Cantt inaugurated

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said her government can never expect anything that might harm the army built by father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, reports UNB.
"Keeping intact the 'Bangabandhu Smriti Bhavan' inside the barracks indicates that the members of the Armed Forces could not be confused through evil propaganda in the last 21 years," she said while inaugurating the historic house as a museum, yesterday.
The building in Dhaka Cantonment where Sheikh Mujib—
See Page 8 Col 3

5 of an outlawed party beaten to death

CHUADANGA, Sept 22: Five activists of an outlawed party were beaten to death after they shot dead the leaseholder of a bazar in broad daylight today, reports UNB.
Police and witnesses said about a dozen members of Purbanga Communist Party shot Kamal Hasan, 40, at Nilmoniganj Bazar in Sadar Thana at 8 am as he refused to pay them toll.
Kamal, an inhabitant of nearby Sharishadanga village, died on the spot.
Instantaneously, the assailants fell into the wrath of local people who chased and caught five of the group at Ameerpur village, half a kilo—
See Page 8 Col 3

metre off the bazar.
The outraged villagers beat the five to death while others members of the group fled away.
The dead were identified as Rafiq alias Shipon, 33, and Basharat, 28, of Khaskorra village in Alamdanga Thana and Jewel, 30, Sabu, 35, and Bazlu, 30, from Coatchandpur of Jhenidah.
Being informed, sadar police rushed to the spot and recovered the bodies at 10 am. They also recovered one pistol, one country-made shutter gun and four cartridges.
The Deputy Commissioner and the Police Super visited the troubled area. Two cases were filed with police.

The Daily Star
on the Internet
http://www.dailystarnews.com

Press Note: Govt won't tolerate terrorist acts

The government has cautioned against making the people's life and property hostage by terrorist acts and said it will not further tolerate any such evil attempt, reports UNB.
A government Press Note, issued yesterday, mentioned that ignoring the Dhaka City Corporation's step to removing the traffic congestion, BNP on September 16 organised a meeting on an important and busy city road.
It said the law enforcing authorities instantly reminding the people's suffering urged the BNP leaders to abide by the law, but instead they provoked the party workers. The unruly—
See Page 8 Col 4

AL ready to face BNP programmes politically: Zillur

Awami League will, politically face all "conspiracies and terrorist acts" of BNP and ensure stability with people's support, a ruling party leader said yesterday.
"We have all preparations to politically face the destructive programmes of BNP," said Awami League general secretary and LGRD Minister Zillur Rahman.
Talking to UNB, Zillur said: BNP's boastful utterance of ousting the government is 'ludicrous'.
Responding to BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia's threat of ousting the government, he said Awami League would run the country till it enjoys confidence of the people who have elected them for a certain period.
"It is not the BNP but the people who have got that power to decide who will run the country," Zillur said.
In reply to a question, he said Awami League is pursuing a "very liberal policy" in dealing with its political opponents.
"But they misconstrued our political tolerance as our—
See Page 8 Col 1

Three killed in B'baria road accident

From Our Correspondent
BRAHMANBARIA, Sept 22: At least three persons were killed and seven others wounded in a road accident at Nandanpur on Dhaka-Brahmanbaria highway tonight.
The dead were identified as Haq Mia, 25, Shah Alam, 28 and an unidentified man aged about 35.
Witnesses said the accident occurred when a truck hit a tempo from behind at about 8:30 pm. The dead were the passengers of the tempo.
Of the injured, the condition of four were stated to be critical. They were admitted to Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital.
The driver of the truck fled away. None was arrested in this regard.

Cancellation of disputed GSP certificates No decision yet on sharing duties with EU importers

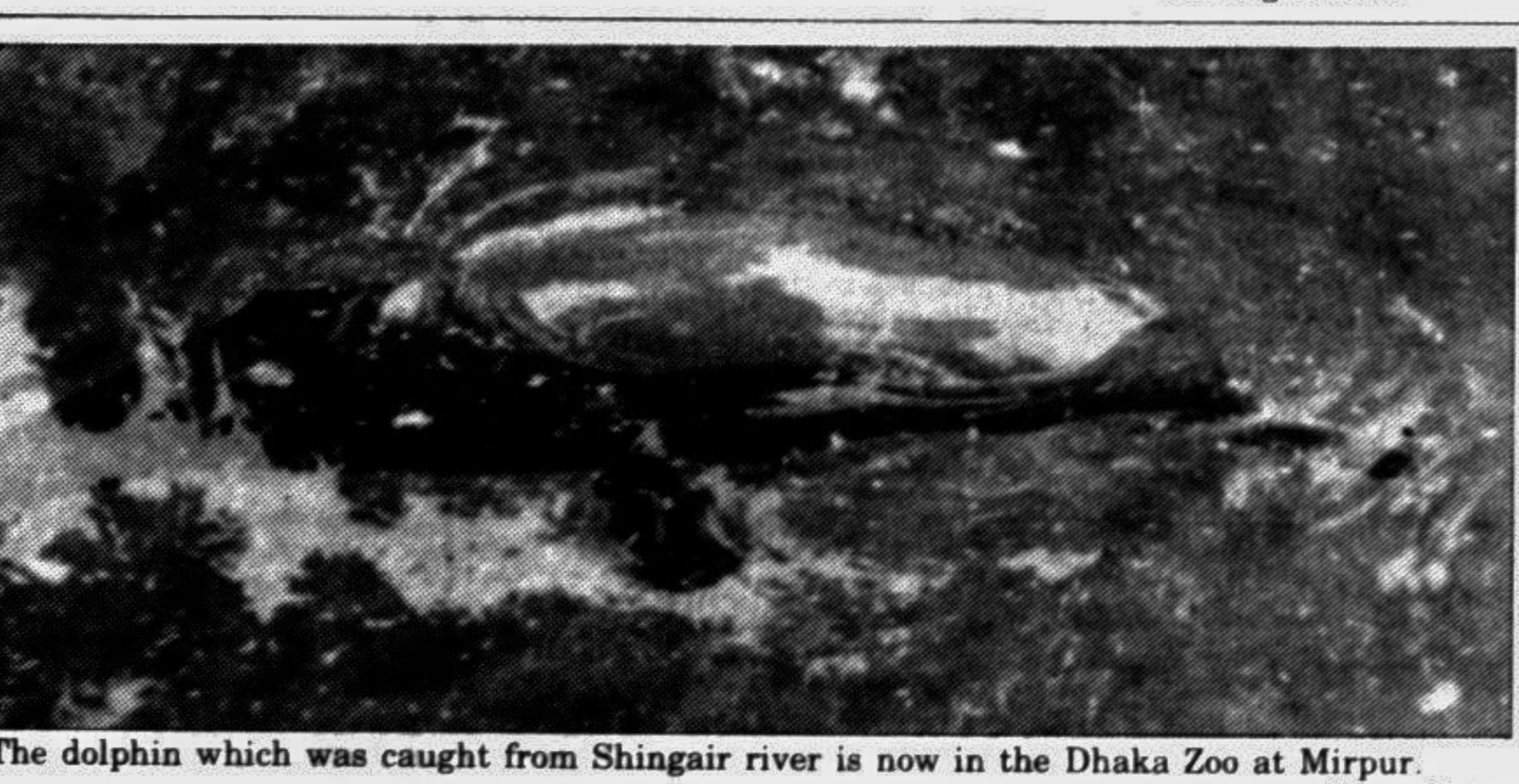
By Staff Correspondent

The government has not yet decided whether it will share any portion of the duties the European importers have to pay following cancellation of 13500 rules of origin certificates for availing GSP facility for knitwear.
"We have asked the importers to sit with the Bangladesh exporters to discuss how the EU member states want to realise the duties—
See Page 8 Col 2

evaded through false certificates," Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed said at a press briefing at his office yesterday. "But we will give interest free loans to exporters so that they can overcome any difficulties created by the cancellation."

The minister returned from Brussels yesterday after talks with EU officials on the GSP issue.

"We have also asked the EU to stagger realisation of duties accrued on cancelled GSPs from the buyers," Tofael said. "The best situation would be if the buyers are allowed to pay the duties in instalments. EU officials have assured us that this will be communicated to individual member states so that their customs authorities can take decision on the issue."
See Page 8 Col 6



The dolphin which was caught from Shingair river is now in the Dhaka Zoo at Mirpur. —Star photo

The captured dolphin may survive

By Staff Correspondent
The dolphin which was caught by fishermen in the Shingair river on September 11 is now getting its wounds healed in a concrete pond at the Dhaka Zoo at Mirpur.
Zoo officials said the 3.5 feet sweetwater Gangetic type brown dolphin may survive in the zoo because it has started eating and is quite playful despite sustaining bruises during the capture. Since Friday hundreds of visitors are flocking to the zoo to have a look at the coun—
See Page 8 Col 7

Draft CHT accord may be placed in JS before signing

The government and the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) are expected to sign an agreement in the last week of October, resolving the staggering hill tracts issue, reports UNB.
A highly placed source yesterday said the venue and date for initialising the accord would be announced in due course.
The signing ceremony will be preceded by a meeting of the National Committee on Chittagong Hill Tracts and the PCJSS, the political wing of "Shantibahini".
The National Committee and the PCJSS have completed the onerous task of preparing a draft agreement in the sixth round of peace talks held in Dhaka last week.
At the end of four-day talks,

PCJSS leader Jyotirindra Bodhipriya Lama alias Shantu Lama announced the drafting of the long-cherished agreement.
Lama led the PCJSS team to all the talks with the National Committee while Chief Whip and National Committee convenor Abul Hasanat Abdullah headed the official side.
The draft is being sent to the Ministry of Law and Justice and other authorities concerned for their perusal and approval, the source said.
The draft peace treaty is likely to be placed in parliament before its signing, sources also indicated.
Meanwhile, repatriation of the Chakma refugees from Indian State of Tripura to their—
See Page 8 Col 5

On Saturdays

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ANNOUNCEMENT

We have the pleasure to announce that by the grace of Almighty Allah we have been able to obtain a Term Loan from IFIC Bank Limited amounting to Tk. 12.00 Crore (Taka Twelve Crore) for import of machinery/equipments etc., for our Expansion Unit. We have already finalised selection of machinery & concluded contracts with world wide reputable machinery manufacturers /suppliers of the U.K., Japan, Czech Republic and China. We have also established L/Cs against the above contracts. Additional gas gen-sets have also been ordered to meet our additional requirement of power.

When the machinery of Expansion Unit will be installed /commissioned our installed spindle capacity will be raised to 24,000 Ring Spindles and 576 Rotors, and the production capacity of the Mill will be doubled from 10,000 Lbs. to 20,000 Lbs and above per day.

We take this opportunity to further inform our valued Shareholders that once the Expansion Unit goes into full production, the project will be economically viable and profitability substantially increased. We are also happy to mention that no additional equity has been asked for as it was raised during the initial issue.

We also express our heartfelt gratitude to the Govt. of Bangladesh, Islamic Development Bank, Jaddah, Bangladesh Shilpa Bank, IPDC, Sonali Bank and IFIC Bank Limited for the co-operation and financial assistance extended to this company.

A.M. AGHA YUSUF
Managing Director