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PM's directive

Prepare to face any eventuality

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina last night gave directives to the cabinet secretary and the chiefs of three services to take all preparations for rescue and relief operations in case of any eventuality owing to the cyclonic storm in the north Bay, reports BSS.

The Prime Minister also personally talked to the deputy commissioners of the coastal districts and heads of different departments related to rescue, relief and rehabilitation opera-

She also ordered evacuation of the residents from the 'danger areas'.

Emergency round-the-clock information centre has also been opened at the Prime Minister's office to be contacted over the phone numbers 815900 and 328359.

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister also made a fervent appeal See Page 12 Col 2

City AL plans to make Sept 30 meet a success

By Staff Correspondent An extended meeting of the city unit of Awami League last night discussed ways of making a success its planned public meeting at the Outer Stadium in the city on September 30 and evaluated the 'anti-hartal' activities of the party.

The meeting was held at the central office of the party with its city unit president and Mayor Mohammad Hanif in the chair, party sources said.

Prime Minister and AL chief Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to address the public meeting. The Outer Stadium is one of the seven venues in the city, newly designated by the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) for holding public meetings.

Leaders of all front organisations of AL and its 11 district units will meet tomorrow at the party central office to discuss ways to ensure a big gathering at the meeting, the sources said. At yesterday's meeting, party See Page 12 Col 4

Mayor begins dialogue on meeting venues By Staff Correspondent

City Mayor Mohammad Hanif begins meeting city unit leaders of various political parties today to decide venues for holding public rallies in the city, amidst pre-conditions put forward by the major opposition political parties.

The Mayor is scheduled to meet leaders of Awami League today and those of the Left Democratic Front and Gano Forum tomorrow.

The Mayor had invited presidents and secretaries of the city units of some 30 political parties for the meeting. But Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), Jamaat-e-Islami and Jatiya Party (Z-M) imposed preconditionalities for the discus-See Page 12 Col 6

-Inside Today-

Article Closed China **Opens its Doors**

Column: Beneath the Surface by Abdul Bayes

Need for a Code of Ethics for Hartal

by Mohammad Siddiquer Rahman Page 4

Star Literature

Some aspects of nationalism of the Bengalis; Sayeed Ahmad-A playwright with mission Pages 6, 7

Supplement

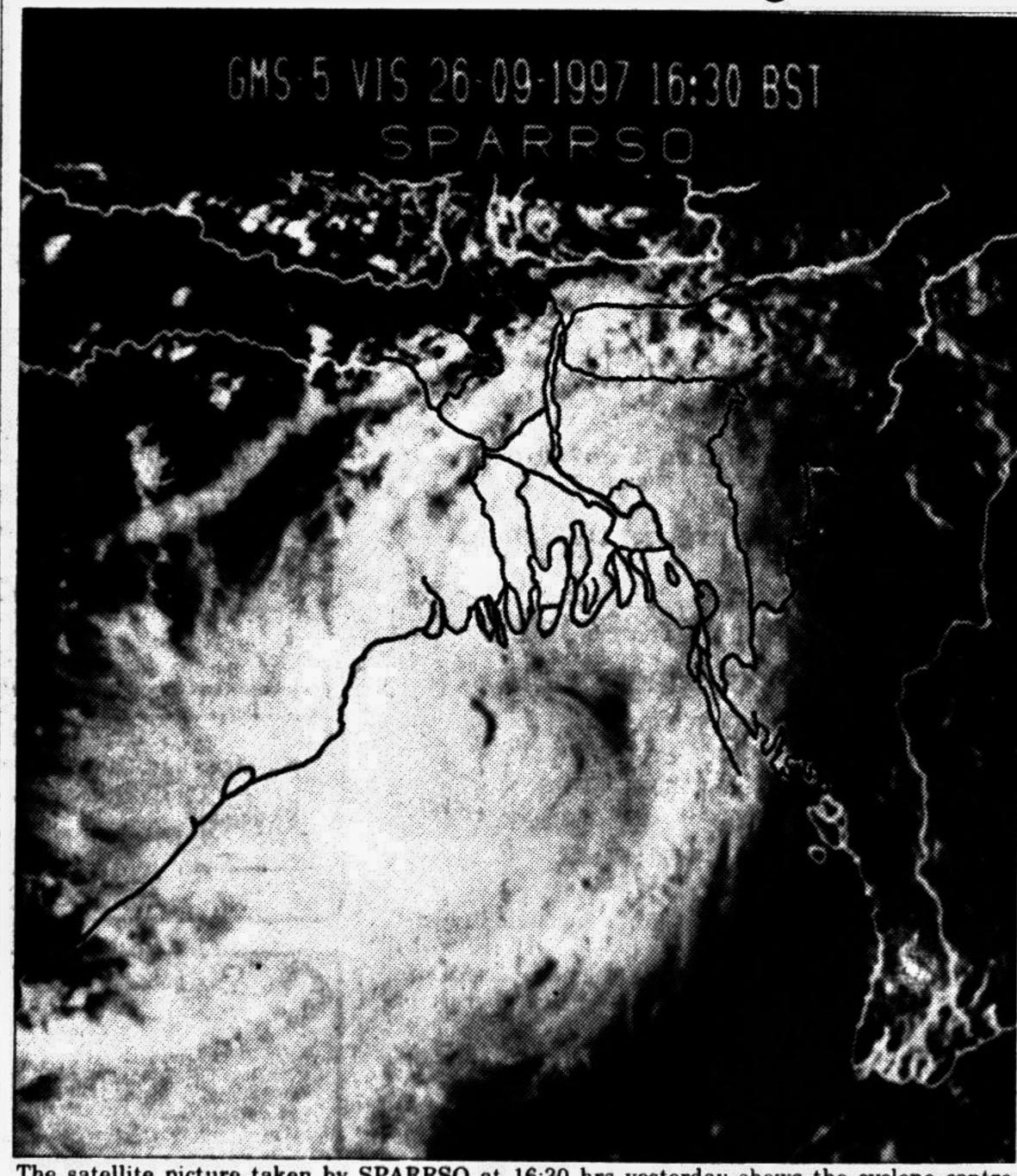
Today's issue of The Duily Star contains a one-page special supplement on the World Tourism Day '97 Page 9

Business

Hartal pushes share prices down Page 8

Cyclone may hit coastal areas early today

ASHWIN 12 1404 BS. DHAKA SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1997



The satellite picture taken by SPARRSO at 16:30 hrs yesterday shows the cyclone centre located at latitude 20.3° N & longitude 89.8° E, about 300 km off Khulna, 260 km from Chittagong and 170 km from Cox's Bazar. The maximum wind speed in the cyclone could be 150 km/hr. It was located at 22:30 hrs about 160 km from Chittagong and 100 km from Cox's

Fertiliser sale 'dull,' traders

surrendering dealership

By Govinda Shil

"This demand is over-esti-

He told The Daily Star, a to-

Agriculture Minister Matia

Traders say they are getting

mated," said Bangladesh Fer-

tiliser Association's executive

tal of 400 dealers have surren-

dered their dealership so far be-

cause "farmers are not buying

Chowdhury claims the number

of dealers who have surrendered

their dealership so far is less

nothing out of their security de-

posit with the Bangladesh

Chemical Industries Corpora-

tion (BCIC). A total of Tk 80

crore came from approximately

3,800 dealers to the corpora-

profit margin fell "drastically"

this year due to low sales and

urea when the prices of paddy

and jute are quite low?" asks

but do not endorse the dealers

cense does not indicate a pro-

fessional behavior." one offi-

cial said. "Every business has

its lean and peak seasons.

Sometime you will do good

business and sometime you

won't." Some 1,000 dealers have

taken new licenses, which re-

flects there is a business, the of-

BCIC officials back Baten,

"Withdrawal of trading li-

Besides, they say, their

Why will the farmers buy

The agriculture minister

agrees. She said 'seasonal birds'

are leaving the business because

there is no way of manipulating

Star that the government had

been able to check smuggling-

out of urea to bordering India

and Myanmar. "And we have

readjusted price of this soil nu-

trient. As a result, super profit

tion against the government.

which, he said, harasses dealers

unnecessarily. "Last year, 23

The BFA leader demands the

See Page 12 Col 1

Dacoits kill two,

loot shops at

Anwara

From Staff Correspondent

police personnel and a villager

were killed and three other per-

sons injured when a gang of da-

coits opened fire while fleeing

after loofing some shops at Sat-

tar Hat under Anwara thana

and a hotel employees Milon

Das (32) died on the spot when

the dacoits fired shot indis-

criminately when they were

chased by police and villagers

Police also fired on the dacoits.

snatched two rifles from police.

Police said the dacoits

- Star photo

Constable Abu Taher (40)

last night; police said.

CHITTAGONG, Sept 26: A

Baten raises another allega-

seekers are frustrated.

members were detained.

The minister told The Daily

prices now.

by as much as 30 per cent.

secretary Abdul Baten.

urea.

tham 100.

tion's coffers.

"behaviour".

ficial added.

low prices of urea.

Frustrated fertiliser traders

are for the first time surrender-

ing their dealerships, blaming

the government's "inconsistent"

policy, while the agriculture

minister calls them "seasonal

trol, low price for farm output

and huge supply of fertiliser are

seen as key factors for business

being unattractive, leading the

The dealers believe the gov-

ernment's projection for urea

demand is too high for this year

- 25 lakh tonnes - which has

made urea business "unattrac-

tive." According to market

sources, sales have gone down

HK Sixes

start today

Sport Reporter

ternational Cricket Sixes will

begin in Hong Kong this morn-

playing nations, Bangladesh

and hosts Hong Kong, will be

featured in the tourney which

will be held on round robin

tions are West Indies, India,

Pakistan, England, South

Africa, Sri Lanka and Aus-

team, led by Akram Khan, ear-

See Page 12 Col 1

The seven test playing na-

A seven-member Bangladesh

league basis.

tralia

The two-day Hong Kong In-

Nine countries -- seven Test

dealers to call it quits.

Too many dealers, price con-

Star Report

The authorities sounded a red alert along the south-eastern coastal areas of the country yesterday as a cyclonic storm packing winds up to 150 kmph. whipping storm surges rising to four metres was poised to strike Chittagong- Noakhali coast in the early hours of today."

Reports from the coastal districts said at mid night last night the tip of the storm began probing the areas, triggering heavy rains and high winds, in undating low-lying areas with at least three to four feet water.

Troops from the Army and the Navy sailors were ordered to neip evacuation of people from the coastal belt and off-shore islands as the storm roared across the North Bay.

Authorities also ordered the aircraft and vessels of the Air Force and the Navy out of Chittagong base and port as a precautionary measure. Troops were also put on alert to help post-cyclone rescue operations. Chittagong Port authorities

ordered ships from the jetty to outer anchorage and suspended all cargo handling at 2 pm. In Mongla port, the ships were also ordered to moor safely and cargo handling was closed at 8 am, The Daily Star Correspondents from Chittagong and Khulna reported.

Our Cox's Bazar Correspon-dent reported last night that all precautionary measures were taken by the district administration. It lost telecommunication contact with Kutubdia island at 7.30 pm. High winds accompanied by rains created fears among the people, who rushed to cyclone shelters and concrete structures as the red alert was soun**de**d.

Barring about 50 fishing boats, all the boats were back to safety, said Kabir Ahmed. President of Fishing Boats Owners Association.

Red lanterns and flags were hoisted atop roofs and trees. Red Crescent volunteers with megaphones and officials were warning of the impeding dan-

Picasso & others

go on display

from today

By Staff Correspondent

Pablo Picasso, Salvador

Dali, Marc Chagall and many

other European master painters

- all are in Dhaka now. The

original art works of world-

class artists will be put on dis-

play at a week-long painting

exhibition that begins in the

Others' would be held at

Shipangan, a contemporary art

gallery, with the assistance of

Galerie Daniel Besseiche' of

France, says a press release.

The exhibition is considered as

the biggest art extravaganza'

A total of 124 original art

works of 45 painters and sculp-

tors will be put on display. The

master artists include. Pablo

Picasso, Marc Chagall, Sal-

vador Dali, Gianni Bertini,

Pierre Courtois, Paul Gen, and

at Shipangan at Dhanmondi

the show will run through Octo-

ber 3 from 10 am to 8 pm every-

See Page 12 Col 3

Beginning at 4:30 pm today

ever held in Dhaka.

other maestro.

The show titled 'Picasso and

city today.

See Page 12 Col 6.

Indonesian plane crash kills 234

25m tons food output

target in 5th plan

Attack on Jubo Dal

confce: 50 injured

the melee.

the strategy

ministry said.

JAKARTA, Sept 26: An Indonesian airbus A-300 crashed as it approached an airport on the smog hit island of Sumatra today and burst into flames, killing all 234 people on board. officials said, reports AFP.

The domestic Garuda Airlines flight from Jakarta came down in trees as it approached the town of Medan in a hilly region shrouded in thick haze from forest fires that have spread smog over. southeast

An official from the state air line told a news briefing at the company headquarters here that flight Ga-152 from Jakarta to Medan had 222 passengers on board and a crew of 12 and none of them survived.

The cause of the accident was being investigated, the official

The dead included two Americans and six Japanese, Antara news agency said. An Indonesian television station reported that the plane

A target for raising the an-

nual food production to 25 mil-

lion tons has been set in the

proposed Fifth Five Year Plan

(FFYP), according to official

by 2001-2002, the terminal year

outlay of Tk 2142 crore.

from different quarters.

of the FFYP.

The target is to be achieved

The plan will involve a total

The draft of FFYP was re-

leased recently. The draft plan

is now being finalised incorpo-

rating suggestions and opinions

grains production includes 18

come farmers' deficiencies like

and illiteracy. In addition, to

increase the organic content of

soil, special thrust will be given

on removing micro-nutrient de-

ficiencies, use of balanced fer-

tiliser and Integrated Pest

JAMALPUR, Sept 26: A con-

ference of Melandaha thana

Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal was

foiled today in a terrorist attack

that left some 50 people injured,

ing district BNP convenor and

former deputy minister for

health Sirajul Haq and local

correspondent of the Dainik

Ingilab, were admitted to Ja-

correspondent Nurul Alam Sid-

diqui, who was stabbed repeat-

edly during the attack, was said

Jubo Dal general secretary

Goyeshwar Chandra Roy and

Poet Benazir

dead

By Staff Correspondent

old-age complications at his

Nandakumar Dutt Road resi-

sons, two daughters, eight

grandsons and grand daughters,

and a host of admirers to

held at Chawkbazar Shahi

Mosque after Zohr prayers to-

books to his credit and he was

editor of a monthly health

magazine for a few years.

His namaj-e-janaza will be

Benazir Ahmed has two

was 68, says a press release.

mourn his death.

dence in the city yesterday. He

Poet Benazir Ahmed died of

He left behind his wife, three

The condition of Inqilab

Former state minister and

malpur General Hospital.

Seven of the injured, includ-

reports UNB.

to be critical.

broad-based strategies to over-

low resource base, poor skill

The plan for raising food

"The aircraft fell in Buah Nabar, near Sembahe northeast of here and the aircraft is still in flames and cannot be approached, sergeant Sianturi said from a military post in Sibolangit, some 32 kilometres (20 miles) southwest of Medan on Sumatra island.

had exploded in mid-air.

He said the plane had hit trees and crashed some three kilometres (1.9 miles) from a main road.

A store-owner in the Sibolangit district, Henri Ginting, told AFP by telephone that the site of the crash Buah Nabar, was a small village in the hills. Ginting said that visibility

in the Sibolangit area was "quite bad because of the thick The airbus crashed at 2:30

pm (0730 GMT) while it was approaching Medan from Jakarta, Lieutenant Hando of Medan police told AFP by tele-

Management (IPM). Ensuring

better input supply and fair

price of agri-products is also

another major component of

more use of HYV (high yielding

variety) seeds, and better utili-

sation of fertiliser and irriga-

tion, sources in the agriculture

cultivation area is considered

as a strategy to reach the target.

Over the years, cultivation of

Boro during dry season resulted

in over-extraction of ground

water. Gradual replacement of

Boro cultivation by wheat will

be a way out because wheat cul-

tivation needs lesser irrigation.

The what cultivation area rose

from 1.26 lakh hectares in 1970

If a temperature-tolerant

to 7.8 lakh hectares in 1996-97.

wheat variety can be evolved.

See Page 12 Col 8

some other central leaders also

received minor wounds during

leaders at a press conference at

the press club here tonight

blamed ruling Awami League

and Jatiya Party for the attack.

addressed by Goyeshwar Chan-

dra Roy, Rezabuddowlah

Chowdhury, Wasimul Bari Ra-

The press conference was

Central Jubo Dal and JASAS

Prospect of doubling wheat

The plan is based mainly on

The Baily Star

to death in city

By Staff Correspondent

The dead were identified as

Imran, 22, and Dulal, 20. Both

Police found fatally injured Imran and Dulal lying on a road at Uttara Sector No. 1 at about 2 am.

on-duty doctors declared them dead. The bodies were sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

A murder case was lodged with Cantonment thana. However, none was arrested till last

Female students assault proctor, house tutors of Monnujan Hall

RAJSHAHI, Sept 26: Several

During the gherao the angry students assaulted Proctor Prof M Mukhlesur Rahman and three house tutors of Monnujan

Hall also ransacked the provost office last night for her (Dr See Page 12 Col 3

KSA deports 1800 Bangladeshi, Pak, Indian nationals

dian and Bangladeshi nationports AFP.

Al-Madina, with 732 Pakistanis and more than 1,000 Indians and Bangladeshis, arrived here from Jeddah late Thursday and was anchored outside the Arabian Sea port at Karachi.

ficials said. Sources here said the captain of the ship had told the authorities that several passengers were sick while an unconfirmed report said two depor-

jiv, Khaled Rakib, Khandakar Illias Mortaza and Shahida Ak-Police later arrested four people, including Melandaha thana Jatiya Party president Kismat Pasha, the district ad-

ministration sources said. See Page 12 Col 3 Promotion rules violated in

Titas Gas Star Report

The Titas Gas management has promoted two "unqualified

officials to the post of Deputy General Manager by "grossly violating" the rules while a number of "competent and senior officials" have been made "victims of injustice," according to findings of an investigation committee of the Energy Min-

The management had followed an "inconsistently outlined promotion criterion," to do it, the committee said in its report, according to official See Page 12 Col 4

on the Internet http://www.dailystarnews.com

2 youths beaten

Two young men were beaten to death at Uttara under Cantonment thana in the city early yesterday.

of them were the residents of Uttara. A group of people beat them up suspecting that they were snatchers.

They were immediately taken to a nearby clinic, but the

From RU Correspondent

hundred female students of Rajshahi University gheraoed the official residence of Vice Chancellor Prof Abdul Khaleque for about 4 hours this morning demanding removal of Monnujan Hall provost and proctor of the university.

The students of Monnujan

KARACHI, Sept 26: A ship carrying 1,800 Pakistani, In-

als deported by Saudi Arabia for illegally entering the oil rich Kingdom is awaiting per-mission to berth at the Karachi Port, officials said today, re-

It is still awaiting for a berth, a senior official said. Saudi authorities expelled them for allegedly by passing the Kingdom's rules and regulations of immigration, local of-

See Page 12 Col 5

Rape: policeman closed, but victim missing

From Our Correspondent RAJSHAHI, Sept 26: The police constable who allegedly raped a housewife at Nabadanga village was closed, but the victim has been missing since yesterday.

Constable Mujibar Rahman was handed over to the Rajpara thana after the villagers caught him red-handed and beat him up on Thursday night.

Police, however, today said the victim gave a statement that she was not raped, and she was sent to her village home. But her neighbours on the village said she did not reach home yet. Condemning the incident,

city BNP president and district general secretary, in a joint statement, demanded punishment to the offender.

Police were deployed at the spot where a group of DU students yesterday broke part of the

wall that separates the campus from Kataban market.

10 DU students hurt in clashes with Katabon shop owners By DU Correspondent

At least 10 people were in-jured in a clash between a group

of students of Dhaka University allegedly led by some Jatiy-atabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activists clashed with shop owners and employees at the adjacent Katabon market which belongs to the DU.

Witnesses said the students damaged some shops and vehicles during the hour-long clash at around noon. Some 10 shots were fired during the incident, mostly by shop owners.

Witnesses and sources in the halls said that the clash erupted when JCD leader Monir Hossain was assaulted by a shop owner at the Katabon market. Being informed, of this some students of Jasimuddin Hall rushed to the spot and they also See Page 12 Col 2

मनिवाद्मि वग्राश्किश मिवा

সম্মানিত গ্রাহকদের সুবিধার্থে আজ থেকে প্রতি শনিবার সকাল ৯টা হতে দুপুর ১২টা পর্যন্ত আমাদের শাখাগুলো খোলা থাকবে।

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