

BLUE DART EXPRESS LIMITED

PLEASE CONTACT:

BANGLADESH AIR EXPRESS INT'L
For more information call Head Office: 9565114, Gulshan 607657
887771, Chittagong: (031) 712127, Khulna (041) 725084ON BOARD COURIER
EACH DAY EVERY DAY
TO INDIA

Palestinian President Yasser Arafat welcomes Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin on his arrival at the Islamic complex sports club in Gaza City on Tuesday. Yassin arrived in Gaza on Monday from Jordan after being released from an Israeli prison last week.

— AFP/UNB photo

Cross-border clashes

One Indian killed, 5 hurt in Pak firing

JAMMU, Oct 8: Indian and Pakistani soldiers opened fire across a disputed border in Kashmir today, killing a 14-year-old boy and injuring five civilians, reports AP.

Pakistani soldiers fired in the morning without any provocation, said an official of the Indian Border Security Force. Indian troops retaliated, he said. The firing was continuing intermittently in the evening, he said on condition of anonymity. Cross-border clashes in Kashmir are frequent.

Pakistan did not immediately react to today's incident.

Indian and Pakistani soldiers have been exchanging fire across the border in Kashmir, a territory divided between the two nations.

Last week's clash left 39 people dead in one of the worst peacetime outbreaks of fighting in years in Kashmir.

Today's firing occurred

BNP supporters attack Khulna SP's office

Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Oct 8: The office of the Police Super came under attack by a group of BNP supporters here today.

Witnesses and police said, window panes of the office were damaged.

The incident took place as two top leaders of city and district BNP were allegedly insulted by the SP. They met him at his office for submitting a memorandum demanding 'withdrawal' of the OCs of Dumuria and Rupsha thanas for sheltering armed terrorists.

The BNP leaders, in a press statement later, also demanded 'removal' of the SP.

When contacted, the SP denied that he had insulted the BNP leaders.

CHOGM

From Page 1

mainly focus on good governance and human rights as well as investment and trade development.

Apart from the CHOGM, Hasina is likely to exchange views on bilateral matters as well as regional and international issues of common concern with President Nelson Mandela of South Africa, President Chandrika Kumaratunga of Sri Lanka, Indian Prime Minister IK Gujral, Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Bin Mohamad.

She is likely to have bilateral meeting with British Prime Minister Tony Blair and the heads of government of Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Political parties

From Page 1

party leaders Mubinul Haider Chowdhury, Abdurrahman Sarker and Sudhangshu Chakravarty.

Finance Minister SAMS Kibria, Commerce and Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed and Food Minister Begum Motia Chowdhury were present. Besides Awami League presidents Amir Hossain Amu and Abdul Jalil also attended the discussion session.

Editor : Mahfuz Anam

Printed by the Editor from City Publishing House Ltd., 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000 and published by him on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091, Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Internet edition address: http://www.dailystarnews.com and Email address: dstar@bangla.net

BNP activists damage vehicles in city

By Staff Correspondent

BNP activists yesterday evening damaged vehicles in front of their party office protesting the mysterious disappearance of party leaders Elias Ali, Kamruzzaman Ratan and Syed Arif Rafikul Islam from a city police station.

When contacted, officials of Tejgaon Police Station, which arrested the three leaders and lodged two separate cases against them, said for investigation purposes they were moved to various areas of the city.

Regarding the protest by BNP supporters, Ramma police claimed vehicles were damaged in front of the party office at Naya Paltan for about 15 minutes starting from 9:00 pm. Police also said that one of the victims lodged a verbal complaint with Ramma thana, but none was arrested.

Meanwhile, Abdul Mannan Bhuyian, secretary general of BNP, in a statement yesterday expressed his concern over the attitude of police and their misbehaviour with the detained leaders of his party. Bhuyian also alleged that the three detained BNP activists were blindfolded and taken to unknown destination by police.

The three BNP leaders were earlier arrested on Sunday allegedly with firearms from near Mahakali area in the city when the party enforced its half-day barricade programme across the country.

Two separate cases were also lodged against them at the Tejgaon thana and they were placed on a three-day remand on Monday by the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court.

The case history in brief is that one of the victims, Golap, took lease of some land in the village and cultivated paddy. When the paddy was ready to be harvested, the said 9 convicted persons tried to cut the paddy forcibly. When the deceased victims opposed, they were hacked to death.

A case was registered with the Alamganda thana for the 9 persons. Police submitted chargesheet against them after investigation.

The judgement was announced after examination of 18 witnesses.

Mongla Port

From Page 1

Police said at least twelve ships were looted and the barrel of security guards was totally damaged. Police said that tension flared up when eight dock workers were confined in the administrative building by security guards. At one stage of the clash police lobbed tear gas shells to bring the situation under control. Twelve of the injured persons were admitted to Khulna Medical College Hospital with bomb and bullet injuries.

The situation worsened today when Mongla Port Users' Co-ordination Committee (MUPCC) declared the dock workers' strike illegal and threatened to stop cargo handling operations from this evening.

This added fuel to the fury as dock workers became more agitated. President of the MUPCC Syed Mostahid Ali also said that they were 'prepared to face the worst'.

Four die after drinking liquor

JESSORE, Oct 8: Four people, including a UP member died after drinking liquor in the town today, according to witnesses and physicians, reports UNB.

They said some people took 'poisonous' wine from a homeopathic medicine shop at a bus stand on the outskirts of the town sometime on Tuesday night and then fell sick.

Gas price

From Page 1

affected by liquidity crisis.

As per the Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs), the government will purchase 75 billion cubic feet of gas from Cairn and Occidental during 1998-99 at a cost of Tk 300 crore. About 260 billion cubic feet of gas is now consumed in the country.

The Committee formed in July '95 with the then Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister had placed its report in April last but it was somewhat shelved under political consideration that gas price hike would affect popularity of the government.

As per the recommendation of the high powered committee, the gas pricing would be increased in four phases in the next four years. The price of gas will be refixed at Tk 64.77 per unit (per 1000 cubic feet) next year at Tk 86.09 in 1999, Tk 88.15 in 2000 and at Tk 89.76 in 2001.

Gas price increase will have far-reaching effect on the prices of electricity and fertiliser. The price of electricity has already been increased by over 17 per cent and that of fertiliser by around 25 per cent in last one year.

Power plants and fertiliser factories account for nearly 80 per cent of natural gas consumed in the country. Commercial, domestic and industrial consumers consume the remaining 20 per cent.

The body of Bangabandhu,

The Daily Star

Create mass awareness to face natural calamities: President

President Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday called for taking effective steps to involve people from all walks of life in the government initiatives of imparting training to combat natural disaster, reports UNB.

He said loss of life and damage to property in the natural calamity could be averted by taking adequate precautionary measures alongside creating public awareness and increasing the mental strength of the people.

The President was inaugurating a function of International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction Day 1997 at the Osman Auditorium. The theme of the day is 'Water Too Much... Too Little... Leading Cause of Natural Disaster.'

President Shahabuddin said it would be very effective if the people, including government officials and employees, imams of mosques, and teachers and students of school and colleges, are given training on the techniques of combatting natural disaster.

Navy Chief Rear Admiral Mohammad Nurul Islam, Air Chief Vice Marshal Jamaliuddin Ahmed and members of the Dhaka-based UN Disaster Management Team were present.

Iron bridge on Khowai likely to be opened for traffic on Oct 20

SHAYESTAGANJ, Habiganj, Oct 8: The alternate iron bridge on river Khowai on Dhaka-Sylhet highway is expected to be opened for vehicular traffic on October 20, reports UNB.

An official announcement said today that if favourable weather exists, the bridge will be opened after completion of bearing setting, deck fitting and approach construction work.

The construction work on the 420-feet bridge at a cost of Tk 70 lakh had been disrupted by frequent flood.

Piling work was delayed on September 4 when the artificial shoal created on the river was submerged by flood water.

Within 23 days, the newly constructed wooden bridge was washed away. On September 30, another flood disrupted the construction work. Besides, the works had to be postponed everyday for more than an hour because of intermittent rain.

Meanwhile, construction of all four piers of the bridge has already been completed. There spans were also completed and another is expected to be set within the next four days.

To cope with the suffering of the people, two floating bridges, one of them constructed by the Army, were opened for vehicular movement on July 25. Another bridge for the use of the pedestrians was floated later.

Moreover, Habiganj-Nabiganj-Sherpur road have been kept open for all kind of vehicles as an alternate route.

Sirajganj JCD alleges armed attacks on its workers' houses

SIRAJGANJ, Oct 8: Fifteen leaders and workers of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal were injured in armed attacks allegedly by Chhatra League activists at Belkuchi in the district today, reports UNB.

BNP leaders alleged a group of 'hired terrorists' of BCL once again attacked JCD workers' residences at Mukundogati, Chala, Sennagar, Jiduri and adjoining areas of Belkuchi Degree College this morning and beat partymen. Two gunshots were arrested.

Thirty special teams of the DB police in plainclothes are patrolling the Puja mandaps and it will continue till the immersion of deities on October 11.

6 get life-term for killing UP chairman

SIRAJGANJ, Oct 8: A court here today convicted six people and sentenced them to life term in jail for killing a UP chairman in 1988, reports UNB.

Court sources said Additional and Sessions Judge Abdul Mazid handed down the judgment and fined four of the accused Tk 5,000 each the rest two, who were absconding, Tk 10,000 each, in default, to suffer another one year RI.

The convicts are Serazul Alok, Rathin, Bahadur, Gourachandra and Omulla. Of them, Gourachandra and Omulla have been absconding.

The case history in brief: The accused shot and slaughtered Abdul Jalil, 45, chairman of Ramkrishnapur union parishad, at Anukha hat in Ulupara thana on October 28, 1988.

Bangabandhu murder

From Page 1

Khaleque, now a farmer, said the truck dropped few of them on Road-32 and they were asked to do their duty there and not to allow anyone to pass by that road.

While on duty there, we heard sound of heavy firing from the eastern side of the road and also of three to four shelling," he said.

As firing stopped and light appeared in the eastern sky, the witness said, he along with his guard commander and other soldiers walked further east and saw a group of 20 to 25 soldiers standing in front of a house. Most of the soldiers were in black uniform of Lancer, he added.

He said driver Aziz was with him and could not recollect the name of his guard commander.

"I came to know that it was the house of Bangabandhu," Khaleque said adding at that time some soldiers asked him to salute Major Noor.

He said he saluted Major Noor, saw blood stains on his forehead and found the soldiers had killed Bangabandhu and his family members.

He said Major Noor then ordered them to go to their duty.

In the evening, he said, they were brought back to the barracks at cantonment, where he also heard that Major Noor.

Major Mohiuddin of Lancer, Captain Bazlul Huda and Lancer soldiers had killed Bangabandhu and his other family members.

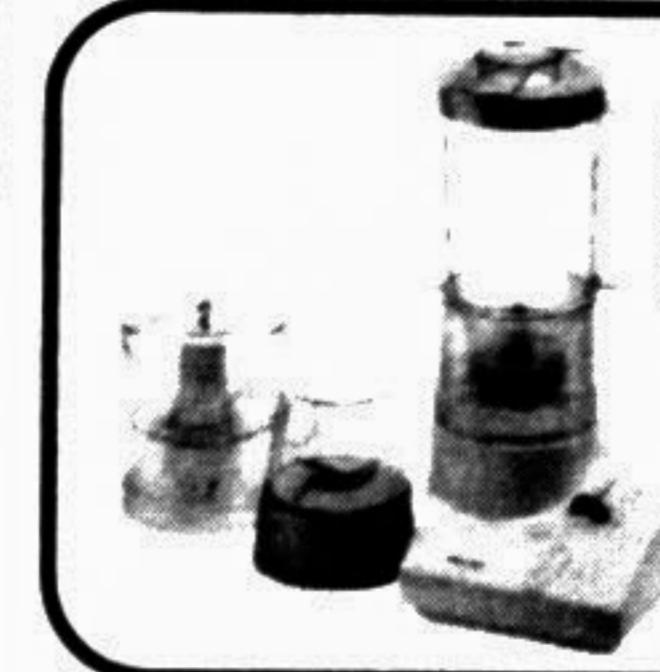
Khaleque said he also heard of the involvement of Major Farooq, Major Shariyar, Major Rashid Chowdhury, Major Aziz Pasha, Major Rashid and Major Dalim in the killing incident.

He also heard that Khandaker Mustaque Ahmed became the new President of the country.

After the August 15 killing, the witness said, CO Major Rashid spent most of the time at Bangabandhu.

The defence counsels put objection about the hearsay portion of the statement.

The body of Bangabandhu,



Blender with mill and chopper

Backed by
Guarantees
Transcom Electronics Limited
Official licensee of Philips Electronics N.V.
for lighting products, radio and TV sets

Dhaka: 815306-819625-9, 889993
Ctg.: 716353, 723578, Khulna: 720304, Bogra: 6215

Let's make
things better
PHILIPS

Supporters go on rampage

Sramik League Fatullah unit leader Polash arrested

NARAYANGANJ, Oct 8: Outraged workers halted traffic and damaged vehicles on the Dhaka-Narayanganj road following the arrest of a ruling party-supported union leader tonight, reports UNB.

Police said Kawser Ahmed

Polash, president of Fatullah unit of Sramik League, was arrested from Dharmaganj area in Fatullah thana on the evening on charges of a killing and attacks on an industry. He was sent to jail.

On hearing the arrest news,

his supporters went on rampage

damaging at least 10 cars block-

ing traffic.

The unruly protesters put up

about a four-kilometers barri-

cade from Pagla to Panchaboti,

disrupting movement of vehi-

cles on the Dhaka-Narayanganj

and Dhaka-Munshiganj roads.

Road communications could