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Kumari Puja being performed at Ramkrishna Mission in the city yesterday on the 3rd day of Durga Puja festival.

FFYP reviewed

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ments and suggestions from a number of development experts.

Yesterday meeting was attended by Prof Wahiduddin Mahmud, Planning Commission Member Dr M Lutfar Rahman, Planning Commission Adviser Dr AH Shahadat Ullah, economists Dr AI Aminul Islam and Ataur Rahman Kaiser, BIDS Director General Abu Ahmed Abdullah, Dhaka University Economics Department Chairman Prof ATM Zahirul Haq, teachers of Economics Department at the Chittagong University, Prof Mahfuzul Haq and Prof Moinul Islam, East West University Vice-Chancellor Dr Mohammad Farashuddin, Prof Sanat Kumar Saha of Economics Department of Rajshahi University, Prof Abdul Hayes of Economics Department of Jahangirnagar University and Research Fellows of BIDS Dr Rushdien Islam Rahman and Dr Debapriyo Bhatlacharya.

Dario Fo

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and the press blamed on anarchists. The play centers around a figure called Il Matto (The Madman), who possesses the kind of lunacy that lays bare the lies of officialdom.

His independence and clear-sightedness have led him to take great risks, whose consequences he has been made to feel," the academy said. Bjorn Linnell, a Swedish literacy critic and former publisher said that Fo was a playwright of the people. Fo married actress Franca Rame in 1954, with whom he founded a drama company five years later. Fo has long been a major figure in drama, but his winning the prestigious prize could be considered a surprise choice; his work generally has not been included on critics lists of potential winners.

DCC team

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"We demolished 11 structures of which four belonged to BNP and seven to Awami League and its front organisations," said an official of the Estate Department which was coordinating the whole operation. DCC officials yesterday rejected over the demolition of an illegal concrete structure beside the western wall of Nagar Bahan. The occupiers built it more than a year ago on a roadside government land, put up a signboard which read 'Shaheed Belal Smriti Samity' and ran a fax, telephone and manpower business. None was able to explain how and when Belal became a shaheed martyr, DCC officials said.

Khaleida

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their arrest at Gabtali during the eight-hour barricade on October 5. The leaders who called on Begum Zia include Sirajul Hossain, DM Nazrul Islam, Monir Hossain, Abdul Rahim, Zahiruddin, Milon and Saber Hossain. Meanwhile, leading businessman and Faridganj thana Awami League leader Abdul Motaleb Bhuiyan along with some leaders and workers called on the BNP Chairperson and formally joined BNP. Welcoming the freshers, Begum Zia said reaction is now brewing among the conscious and patriotic people within the ruling party seeing the present activities of the government and overall situation of the country.

HSC examinees

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that the committee is likely to recommend in favour of publishing the results of the 6,230 HSC examinees who appeared in the examination changing their colleges without legal transfer certificates. The board withheld the results for the alleged irregularity.

GSP rules of origin

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bolster the knit garment export to EU countries which warrants more new garment industries, backward-linking industries and more employment. The EC conceded the Bangladesh appeal after many rounds of negotiation, persuasions and correspondences with the leaders of the Commission and the officials of the EU countries since January. Commerce minister Tofael went to Brussels twice in last 10 months. His last visit in September saw meetings with two EC vice-presidents - Sir Leon Brittan and Manuel Marin Gonzalez - and Commissioner Mario Monti. The last round of talks between the minister and EC officials prepared the ground for hammering out a decision in favour of Bangladesh. In the meetings, all the three top executives highly appreciated the courage, sincerity and transparency of the government in tackling the irregular GSPs issued during the past regime. They had assured the minister that Bangladesh would get derogation in the following meeting of the EU countries scheduled for October 8-9 in the

51 MPs condemn torture on BNP leaders in custody

Fifty-one BNP lawmakers in a joint statement yesterday condemned the torture in police custody on BNP leaders and workers, including Nazibul Bashar Maizbhandari, Ilias Ali and Kamruzzaman Ratan, reports UNB.

Drawing attention of both the local and international human rights organisations about the repression of the government, they demanded punishment of those who 'tortured Maizbhandari, Ilias Ali and Kamruzzaman Ratan after arrest.'

Govt considering

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The committee with additional law secretary Khandaker Mohammad Abu Bakr as its convenor has been asked to submit its report within a month.

The committee will study the existing system of appointment of public prosecutors by the government and suggest measures for regularisation of their jobs, said a committee member. At present a public prosecutor is appointed by the law ministry under the Legal Remembrance Manual on the recommendation of the district judge and that of the district magistrate concerned. One Public Prosecutor is appointed for each district while assistant public prosecutors are appointed according to the requirement of the government. The post of Additional Public Prosecutor was created for some particular districts about four years back.

Ilias, Ratan

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Public Prosecutor Mohammad Altaf Hossain opposed the bail petitions, saying that they were accused in a number of murder cases. The arrests of the three, their movements and whereabouts from one custody to another evoked protests by BNP supporters on Wednesday, who damaged a number of vehicles in front of the party central office in the city in the evening.

Kibria

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The minister suggested the officials to be careful so that common people are not harassed during the collection of revenue and become more sincere in their efforts to achieve the target of revenue collection. The meeting expressed the opinion that the present situation of revenue collection is satisfactory.

Indus Valley

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they will be given it." But it would be outside the Metropolitan area. Besides, the new agreement will have to be different from the earlier agreement as it was found to have been faulty. The agreement the Indus finalised recently had provision for compensation if cancelled. However, the Indus is yet to claim any compensation. However, a spokesman of the Indus Valley, when contacted last night, claimed that they had not been informed about the 'cancellation' of the contract. What the company was informed was that the government has suspended the project and a final decision would be taken after the investigation committee comes up with its report, he said.

L'OREAL PARIS STUDIO LINE advertisement with product images and Transcom Distribution Co. Ltd. info.

D-8 Executive Director due Oct 13

Ayhan Kamel, Executive Director of D-8 (Developing-8) will arrive in Dhaka on October 13 on a three-day visit to Bangladesh, reports BSS. Kamel will hold formal talks with Bangladesh officials on the functioning of the new body headquartered in Istanbul. Besides holding talks with the State Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Foreign Secretary, Kamel is scheduled to call on the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, sources in the Foreign Ministry said. D-8 comprising Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey was launched in June this year. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina attended the launching of D-8.

Bangla Bazar Patrika editor resigns

Bangla Bazar Patrika editor Motiur Rahman Chowdhury resigned last night in protest against the sacking of seven journalists and employees of the newspaper without consulting him, reports UNB. "I tendered my resignation as the editorial institution was dishonoured," said Chowdhury when reached by telephone. Journalists and employees of the Bengali daily also went on a wildcat strike protesting the termination of their seven colleagues yesterday.

Seminars

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their respective countries' security perspective. The team is moving to South Korea tomorrow for two-day visit to the demilitarised zone (DMZ). The two-week symposium which began in Washington DC on September 29 ends in Seoul on October 12. The 15 participants countries are: Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, The Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and the United States.

Hasina accuses BNP

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government was working hard to remove poverty from the country and had taken special programmes for poverty alleviation. The government has introduced pension scheme for the aged mobilised special fund for employment generation. Also, she said, the government has taken housing programmes for the homeless people, named 'Arayari', and allocated Tk 360 crore for building 'Adrasba Gram' (ideal village) across the country.

To reach the administration to the people, we have taken steps to set elected representatives at gram and union levels through Gram and Union council elections, she said, adding a four-tier local government will be set up in this regard. Hasina said every step of this nearly one-and-half-year-old government is for the welfare of the people. The government has taken steps to denationalise the state-owned mills and factories and decided to give priority to the workers if they want to run those, she told the gathering. We have taken steps to create job opportunities and for attracting foreign investment in the country, she said. The Prime Minister calling upon all to cooperate with government in its development activities. Earlier, the Prime Minister visited a pilot project on poverty alleviation. The only target of the present government is to uplift the living condition of the people by ensuring a massive economic development, particularly in the rural area, she said. Villagers of sadar thana in the district have been organised under the project - South Asia Poverty Alleviation Programme - that put emphasis on institutional development through grassroots. And about half of those village organisations (VOs) are women's organisations. Prime Minister Hasina visited the project area to see for herself the progress and prospect of the model project sponsored by UNDP with the help of the governments of South Asia.

Sramik League

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trial units and other business establishments in Narayanganj and Fatullah areas were affected due to the barricade. Police arrested Polish on Wednesday on charge of ransacking three industrial units of the Prime Group at Nandlalpur in Aliganj under Fatullah thana. The Sramik League workers, who staged a sit-in in front of the district court withdrew the barricade after local MP AKM Shamim Osman of AL assured them that he would talk to higher authorities for release of Polish. Polish is now detained in the local jail, adjacent to the court. A source in the district administration however told The Daily Star tonight that a move is underway to place Polish under one month's detention. Polish is accused in 13 cases including murder, extortion and ransacking of Prime Group industrial units. Local Sramik League leaders however claimed that trouble at Prime Group units began as the owners did not allow trade union there. But the owners denied it saying that trade union was restricted by a court order following cases filed by rival labour groups. The owners alleged that the mills were attacked as they refused to pay tolls to Polish and his followers.

Samad Azad

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terpart Nawaz Sharif on October 14. The three prime ministers are expected to hold a meeting in Dhaka on November 23. But the date for the Dhaka summit is yet to be officially announced. The tripartite summit is likely to work out a mechanism to bolster economic cooperation and trade among the three countries of the sub-continent. It will be followed by a grand conference of leading businessmen and industrialists from the three SAARC countries. Observers believe that the summit may help ease tension in the region caused predominantly by the Kashmir issue over which India and Pakistan have fought two wars. During his stay in India, Azad will visit the mazar of Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti at Ajmir Sharif, the handout said.

Explosives recovered from Bogra BNP office

BOGRA, Oct 9: Police recovered some explosives, including petrol bombs from the district BNP office today, reports UNB. Police locked the BNP office and kept it under control after Anwar Hossain was shot dead at the office on Monday. A police squad, led by Additional Police Super of Bogra Shahadat Hossain, searched the BNP office at noon in presence of magistrate Nomijur Rahman and made the seizure list. Advocate Mahbubur Rahman and Rezaul Karim Badsha, district BNP president and general secretary respectively, were present. Police recovered a live petrol bomb, five bottles for preparing petrol bomb, 70 cocktail pots and some ingredients for making cocktail by breaking a lock of a small room of the BNP office.

Tk 922 cr flood control plan for Ctg city

CHITTAGONG, Oct 9: Chittagong Development Authority (CDA) in collaboration with the UNDP will implement a master plan on storm drainage and flood control in the city with an estimated cost of Tk 922 crore over the next 22 years, reports BSS. This was decided at a meeting of Chittagong City Development Coordination Committee held at city corporation auditorium with Mayor ABM Mahiuddin Chowdhury in the chair.

Thapa wins vote of confidence

KATHMANDU, Oct 9: Nepal's newly appointed Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa won a vote of confidence in parliament today, two days after being sworn-in as the country's fourth prime minister in three years, reports AP.

Int'l confce

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tive's level. The response is encouraging. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to officiate at a formal opening ceremony on November 5 evening, the concluding day of the Aid Group meeting. World Bank officials here said most Aid Club participants, including the Bank Vice-President who chairs the meeting, will stay on to attend the so-called Investors Forum. The seminar will present Bangladesh with its opportunities for foreign investors. Finance Minister SAMS Kibria, with a key-note speech, will lead government's efforts to portray an investor-friendly image of the country. The World Bank, which co-ordinates the annual Aid Group meeting, has promised support to the investors' conference. Its Dhaka office will make presentations at the seminar, Bank officials said. The World Bank officials here want the government to try to attract investors from south and south-east Asia. This is the region which offers potential investors for Bangladesh, a Bank official said. A national organising committee and three sub-committees are working for the seminar. The Bangladesh Chamber of Industries (BCI) is helping at the local level.

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BANGLADESH GARMENT MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION AND EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION BTMC BHABAN, 7-9 KAWRAN BAZAR, DHAKA. Notice of the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting. 09 October 1997 To: All members of BGMEA. Notice is hereby given, in supersession of the earlier notice dated 1st October, 1997 for holding an EGM on 23rd October, 1997, that an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the BGMEA will be held at Sonargoon Hotel (Ball Room), Dhaka on 31st October, 1997 at 10:00 am to consider, and if thought fit to pass, the following resolutions proposed as special resolutions for amendment of the Articles of Association of BGMEA. 1. RESOLVED THAT Article 13. ii) of the Articles of Association of BGMEA be and is hereby amended to read as follows in substitution of the existing provision: " 13. ii) The election of the Executive Committee shall henceforth from the date of passing the Special Resolution on 31st October, 1997 be held after every two years in the Annual General Meeting. An Executive Committee so elected shall hold office for a term of two years commencing from the date of the Annual General Meeting in which it is so elected. The Executive Committee shall hold office until its successor so elected in such an Annual General Meeting enters the office" 2. RESOLVED THAT Articles 13. ii) of the Articles of Association of BGMEA be and is hereby amended to read as follows in substitution of the existing provision: " 13. ii) The Executive Committee, which is in office as on the date of passing of the Special Resolution on 31st October 1997, shall hold office till the election of the next Executive Committee in the Annual General Meeting to be held in 1999. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT a member of the existing Executive Committee who has been in office for three consecutive years or a member of the existing Executive Committee who was so elected in 1995 and/or 1996 shall be disqualified from seeking election to the Executive Committee in the election to be held in 1999." 3. RESOLVED THAT article 13.iii), iv), v) and vi) of the Article of Association of BGMEA be and are hereby amended by deleting sub-paragraphs iii) iv), v) and vi) of Article 13 of the Articles of Association. 4. RESOLVED THAT Article 10. (iv)b of the Articles of Association of BGMEA be and is hereby amended to read as follows in substitution of the existing provision: "b. Vice-President: 4(four), namely, First Vice-President Second Vice-President Vice-President and Vice President (Finance)" 5. RESOLVED THAT Article 10.(iv)c of the Articles of Association of BGMEA be and is hereby amended by deleting sub-clause c of sub-paragraph (iv) of Article 10 of the Article of Association. By order of the Executive Committee, Col M M Jahangir (Retd) Secretary