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RB to publish withheld results of 6,230 HSC examinees

From MA Ali
RAJSHAHI, Oct 14: The 11-member committee of Rajshahi Education Board at a meeting today decided to publish the withheld results of 6,230 HSC examinees, official sources said.

When contacted over telephone, acting Chairman of the Board Shamsul Alam said that the withheld results of several thousand HSC examinees would be published within a couple of days.

Alam added that the decision has been taken as the examinees committed minor irregularity like changing colleges without transfer certificates.

Meanwhile, tight security was maintained in and around the Board today when some students started agitation in front of the Board building and observed a 4-hour sit-in since 11 am.

3-nation summit Invitation letter handed over to Nawaz Sharif

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad has handed over the invitation letter from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to her Pakistani counterpart Nawaz Sharif to attend the planned three-nation summit scheduled to be held in Dhaka in November, reports UNB.

Azad, as a special envoy of Prime Minister in New Delhi on Monday, according to a message received.

Income tax return submission date extended

The last date for submitting income tax return has been extended to October 31 from October 15.

National Board of Revenue (NBR) Chairman Shah Abdul Hanman told BSS that time had been extended as the number of new filers had increased with the inclusion of the car owners and certain groups of house owners who have to give income tax return.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We take great pleasure in announcing that Mr A Z M Obaidullah Khan will write a weekly column 'Do I Dare' starting Friday next.

Mr Khan, a former Minister and Secretary and Ambassador to USA recently retired as Assistant Director General of FAO for Asia Pacific. He is an eminent poet and writer with numerous publications to his credit.

The Daily Star
on the internet
<http://www.dailystar.com>

Inside Today Article

Both the donor and the recipient need far-reaching reforms
Column: Crosscurrents by CAF Dowlah Page 4

Business

Three more special industrial zones await clearance: Land dispute delays Korean EPZ
Shares continue to shed prices on DSE Pages 6,7

Supplement

Today's issue of The Daily Star contains a 2-page supplement on 'Dining Out' Pages 8&9

58 killed in Tangail bus plunge

From Our Correspondent

TANGAIL, Oct 14: In the worst ever road accident in the country, at least 58 people were killed and 25 injured as an overloaded bus skidded off the road and sank in a deep ditch at Tangail in Kalihati on the Tangail-Mymensingh highway this afternoon.

Those killed included nine women and 10 children. The principal of Sinduria College, two teachers of Kalihati College - Selm, 35, and Biswanath Pramanik, 60 - and manager of Dikhalkandi branch of Janata Bank Abdur Razzak, 51, were also killed in the accident. The name of the principal of the college could not be known.

Of the injured, eight were admitted at Tangail General

Hospital and two in Kalihati Health Complex while ten others were released after first aid. Witnesses and police said that the driver and conductor of the bus were yet to be traced.

According to some survivors, the Tangail-bound fifty-two seater local bus from Mymensingh was carrying over 100 passengers, crammed inside and on its roof.

Some survivors as well as local people said that the bus slipped into the deep ditch while being overtaken by another vehicle at around 4:30 pm. Baghatia is about 12 kilometres north of Tangail town.

The DC and SP of Tangail visited the spot at around 6:30 and supervised the salvage operation. The ill-fated bus was

salvaged in the evening. Hundreds of people gathered there from far and near in search of their relatives. It was a heart-rending scene, relatives of victims wailing over bodies. Police and people from the administration joined the local people in the rescue operation.

Of the dead, 24 were identified. They are: Jamila, 30, Anwar, 18, Ananda Pal, 25, Biren Chandra Dey, 25, Rajab Ali, 37, Kabir, 5, Burju, 45, Moulaa Be-laet Hossain, 55, and Anwar Hossain, 25, all from Kalihati under Tangail district; Rupashi, 7 and Muslim, 55, of Ghatail; Amir Hossain, 45, and Idris 50 of Gazipur.

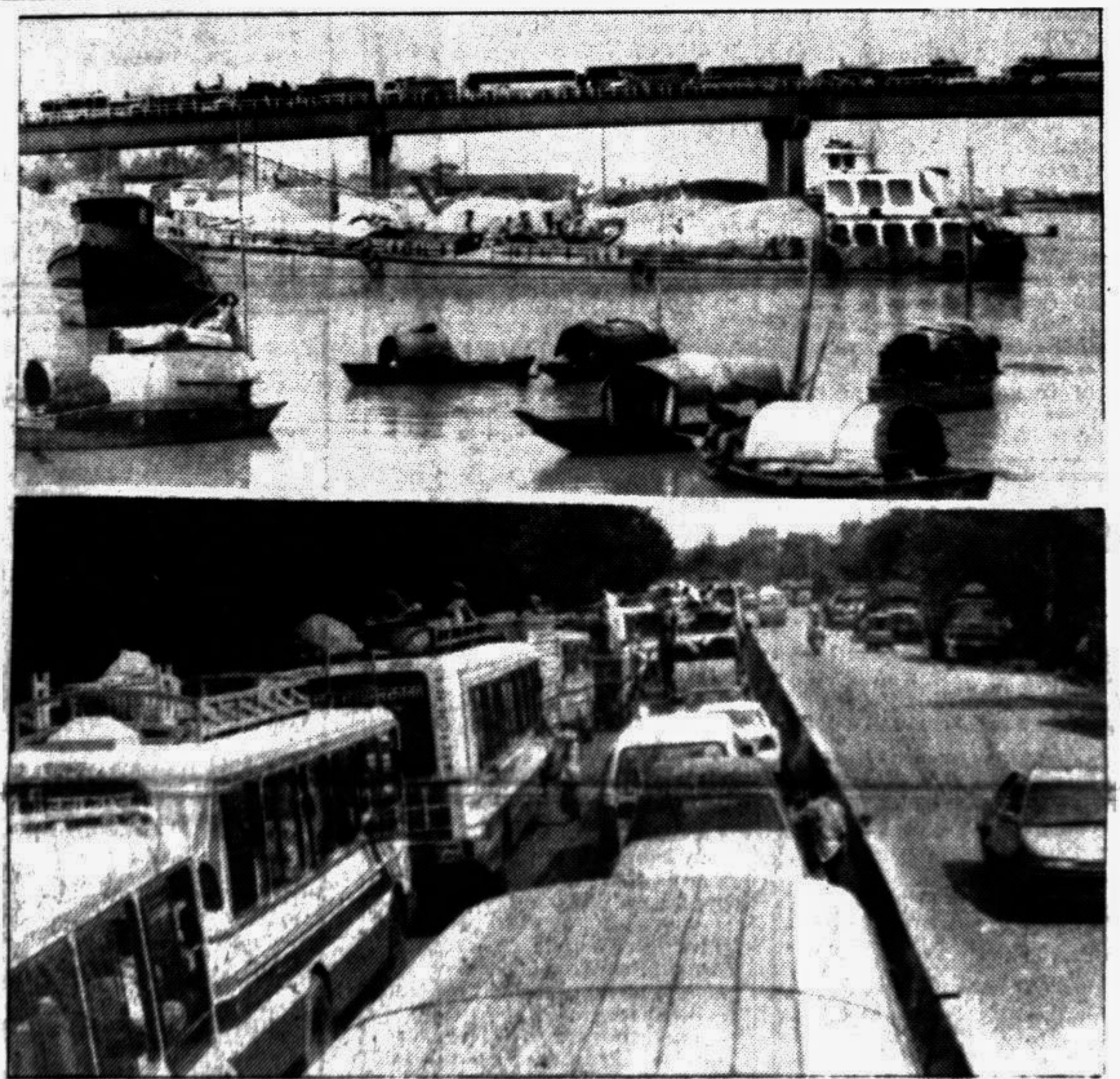
Nayek Subedar Manik Bhuiyan (Comilla), NK Amin Bhuiyan (Ghatail Cant), Civil

auditor Idris Ali Khan, Azizul Islam (Thana settlement officer Ghatail), Mother-in-law of Azizul Haque Lulu and Mother of Iqbal.

Those admitted to Tangail General Hospital are: Kanai Rajbongshi 40 (Kalihati), Jelemon, 32, (Fulbaria, Mymensingh); Badsha, 45, (Ghatail); Gobinda 37, (Basail); Md Mridul 20, (Kalihati); Dinsh Chandra Shrutradhar, 45, and an unidentified person aged about 50.

The three admitted to Kalihati Thana Health Complex are Nazrul Islam, 30, (Fulbaria); Rajab Ali, 75, (Ghatail) and Latifa 30, (Ghatail).

Meanwhile, four more people were killed in two road accidents.



NO WAY OUT: Traffic jam on Jatrabari crossing in the city upto Kanchpur bridge yesterday. The pictures, taken at 11:45 am, show vehicles on the bridge (Top) and on the Biswa Road (Bottom). Such traffic jam is almost a daily feature there. — Star photo

PW-23 tells court Tanks rolled out on orders from Major Farook

By Staff Correspondent

Majority of the officers of First Bengal Lancer who were known to be involved in the killing of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members did not return to the barracks following the incident on August 15, 1975, said Risalder Abdul Alim Mollah, 23rd prosecution witness in the Bangabandhu murder case.

"I heard these officers were staying at the Bangabhaban," the PW-23 said.

Risalder Mollah, in his deposition before the court of District and Sessions Judge, Dhaka yesterday said he was a Squadron Dafadar Major in one of the four squadrons of

First Bengal Lancer at the time and was among the Lancer troops who attended the night parade on August 14, 1975.

"I along with 10 or 12 other soldiers returned to barrack under instructions from Lt Kismet Hashim, when tanks rolled out of the cantonment after 4:00 am or 4:30 am on August 15, 1975 under instructions from Maj Farook. Acting Commanding Officer of First Bengal Lancer.

"I came to know from JCOs, NCOs and jawans that Maj Farook, Maj Rashid, Maj Dalim, Maj Bazdul Huda, Maj Noor, Maj Mohiuddin (Lancer), Maj Ahmed Sharful Hossain, Lt

Kismet Hashim, Lt Nazmul Hossain Ansar, Risalder Moselemuddin and Risalder Sarwar along with others had killed the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members on that day.

"Majority of these officers including Maj Farook, Maj Mohiuddin, Lt Kismet Hashim, Risalder Moslem were not seen in the Regiment after the incident. I heard they were staying at the Bangabhaban at that time.

"At about 2:00 pm on August 14, 1975, Risalder Shamsul Huq, a Senior JCO of the unit See Page 12 Col 6

PM's directive Take effective steps to check road accidents

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed deep shock at the loss of lives in a road accident on the Tangail-Mymensingh highway yesterday, reports UNB.

She prayed for the departed souls and conveyed sympathy to the members of the bereaved families.

The Prime Minister directed the officials concerned to identify the causes behind frequent road accidents and take effective steps to check such accidents.

Wolfensohn visits CEPZ, Chandpur

CHITTAGONG, Oct 14: World Bank President James D Wolfensohn visited the Chittagong Export Processing Zone today, reports BSS.

He was accorded a red carpet reception when he flew in Chittagong at 1 pm.

Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria accompanied the World Bank President.

Mayor ABM Mahiuddin Chowdhury and Mosharrif Hossain MP received the WB President and his wife Elaine Ruth Wolfensohn at the Chittagong Airport.

At the CEPZ, Chief Executive of Bangladesh Export Processing Zone Authority Moazzem See Page 12 Col 2

Public admin training policy to be introduced

The government has decided to introduce a National Public Administration Training Policy with a view to improving the skill and efficiency of the government officials, reports UNB.

The decision was taken at the 5th meeting of the National Training Council (NTC) held at the PM's office yesterday with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

The NTC meeting, held after long 13 years, was told that the draft of the training policy was prepared in 1985, but it could not be finalised even after such a long period.

Meeting sources said the ministries concerned would submit their proposals about the policy by March, 1998 to introduce a modern and effective training policy.

About the training of government officials, the Prime See Page 12 Col 3

Negligence of duty blamed for accident on Khowai railway bridge

From Staff Correspondent
SYLHET, Oct 14: The probe body has submitted its report on the incident that took place in the Khowai railway bridge on September 4 last.

Three persons were knocked down and killed while many others injured as the Dhaka-bound Parabat Express hit them on the bridge. Another victim succumbed to his injuries at the Sylhet M A G Osmani Medical College Hospital later.

The ADC (General) of Habiganj M A Halim, who headed the body, handed over the report to the Deputy Commissioner yesterday. Negligence of the railway employees including the driver and some of the armymen deployed in the area had caused the tragic incident, the report indicated, said an official on condition of anonymity.

Plying of all types of vehicles and passersby through the pontoon bridge were suspended on September 4.

EC announces schedule Election to 4,330 UPs in December

By Staff Correspondent

Election to 4,330 Union Parishads (UPs) out of the 4,468 in the country will be held in phases in December, the Election Commission (EC) announced yesterday.

Election to the remaining 138 UPs will be held later.

The EC also announced the schedule for the December elections. The elections will begin on December 1 and continue till December 31. Polling will not be held on Fridays National Immunity Day on December 7, the Victory Day December 16 - and the Christmas Day - December 25.

The date for submission of nomination papers is November 3, scrutiny of the papers will be held on November 4 and the date for withdrawal of those is November 12.

The EC has already requested the Home Ministry to take steps for arrest of the identified criminals, maintaining 'utmost caution' and to launch a countryside drive for recovery of illegal arms immediately.

The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) yesterday held a day-long meeting with all divisional commissioners, deputy commissioners, SPs, police commissioners, district election officers, deputy election commissioners, the Home Secretary, the acting Inspector General of Police, Deputy Director General of Bangladesh Rifles, Deputy Director General of Ansars and representatives of the LGRD Ministry at the NEC building near the EC Secretariat.

The terms of many of the See Page 12 Col 7

PCJSS congress okays draft peace accord

By Shehab Ahmed with Nurul Alam from Chittagong

The Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) has ended its special congress yesterday, ratifying the draft of an agreement aimed at ending the decades old insurgency in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT).

According to reports reaching Chittagong late last night from across the border, the congress approved the draft accord prepared in Dhaka last month during the sixth round of talks between the PCJSS, led by Jyotirindriyo Bodhipriyo Lama, and the National Committee on CHT led by Abul Hasanat Abdullah, MP.

The weeklong PCJSS congress, held at a secret location in Agartala, the capital of India's Tripura state, began on Wednesday. Attended by the high command of the PCJSS and the commanders of its military wing, the Shantibahini, the congress weighed the pros and cons of the draft, whose contents are yet to be disclosed.

It was not possible to know last night precisely how the PCJSS approved the draft agreement, whether there had been any amendments proposed by them.

Lama told reporters in Dhaka before leaving for his temporary headquarters at Dudukchhara in Khagrachhari on September 17 that he would table the draft before his comrades. After ratification it would be finalised for signing at the seventh round of talks with NCCHT, he said.

But no date has been fixed for the seventh meeting which would be the 26th in the series of on and off negotiations since peace talks began. Though details of the draft accord were not disclosed by either side, some details remains to be ironed out at the last meeting between the PCJSS and the NCCHT.

These concern the prickly issues of land management and details of powers of a proposed Regional Council for the three hill district which constitutes See Page 12 Col 8

'Conspiracy to hand over CHT'

Khelada threatens to sue govt on 'treason charges'

By Staff Correspondent

Opposition Leader Begum Khelada Zia has threatened to sue the government on 'treason charges' unless it abandons the 'conspiracy to handover the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) to India.'

Claiming that the Awami League government was planning to sign an accord for withdrawal of army from the CHT and enabling the 'separatists to rule the area,' the former prime minister said, "No independent country can go for such an agreement."

"The army must remain in the CHT to protect national integrity... As patriots, we can't accept such a treaty... If necessary, we'll sue the government on treason charges..." the BNP Chairperson said. She was ad-

ressing an installation ceremony of CBA leaders of T&T Board at the T & T Bhaban premises in the city last night.

"In the process, the entire Chittagong region will be handed over to India."

She also called upon "patriotic" citizens to "undo the government's evil design against the national integrity."

The BNP chief also blamed the AL government for "failing to run the administration, deceiving the government employees in the name of implementing a new pay scales, politicising the administration, oppressing the Opposition, doing large-scale corruption, destroying the economy and betraying the people of all See Page 12 Col 3

Dist judges to hear certain category of revision cases

By Nurul Kabir

The government has decided to empower the district judges to hear certain category of revision cases, which was earlier a jurisdiction of the High Court judges.

The decision was taken at a cabinet meeting on Monday with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

According to Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Abdul Matin Khasru, the decision would help quick disposal of 25 thousand cases now pending with the High Court Division of the Supreme Court.

The government would, however, require to have certain provisions of a law concerned amended, to legally implement the cabinet decision, Law Ministry sources said that the ministry was likely to move a bill in the coming session of See Page 12 Col 3

Body formed to negotiate with 21 foreign oil companies

By Sharier Khan

The government yesterday formed an eight-member committee to begin negotiations with 21 foreign and local companies on oil and gas exploration in 12 blocks, according to sources.

The negotiations will begin on October 21 and conclude on December 10. Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) are expected to be signed with qualifying companies by December 15.

The committee is headed by a joint secretary. Members of this committee include the Chairman of Petrobangla, who enjoys the status of an Additional Secretary, Petrobangla directors of Mines and Minerals Division, Planning Division and Finance Division, two Petrobangla officials at the ranks of Deputy General Manager and the Director General of Geological Survey of See Page 12 Col 1

Road accident an attempt to kill Khaleda: BNP

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan dubbed Monday's road accident met by the jeep of Begum Zia on the Bogra-Nagarbari Highway as a 'killing attempt,' reports UNB.

In a statement yesterday, Bhuiyan said the accident was "a heinous attempt designed to kill Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia in a pre-planned way."

He expressed deep concern and protested the accident. He demanded immediate arrest and punishment to those responsible for the accident.

A speeding truck coming from opposite direction was about to have a head-on collision with Begum Zia's Bogra-bound jeep at Kashinathpur in Pabna on Monday.

See Page 12 Col 1

Corruption: Six Mongla Port officials chargesheeted

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Oct 14: The district Anti-Corruption Bureau of Bagerhat has submitted chargesheet against six officials of the Mongla Port Authority for misappropriating fuel worth Tk 19 lakh.

The DAB earlier filed a case in this connection with Mongla (thana) accusing the Deputy Chief of Finance Abdus Salam, Deputy Accounts Officers Khurshid Hussain and Sardar Mahamud, Pilot Md. Monin, LDA-cum-Typists Helaluddin and Ali Hossain.

It may be mentioned here that the accused were placed under suspension soon after the case was recorded. But, DAB alleged, three of the FIR-named accused Salam, Khurshid and Mahmud were reinstated and later promoted to higher rank.

Border confce begins today

A border co-ordination conference between Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and Border Security Forces (BSF) of India begins at the Headquarters of Bangladesh Rifles today, reports UNB.

An eight-member BSF team, headed by BSF Chief A K Tandon, has already arrived in the city to attend the meeting.

The Director General of BDR Major General Mohammad Azizur Rahman, Bir Uttam, will lead the Bangladesh side at the conference.

Different issues relating to border will be discussed at the conference, said an official handout.



A procession in the city yesterday on the eve of the World White Cane Safety Day today. —Star photo