

For Documents Door to Door delivery
To 237 Destinations in INDIA

BLUE DART EXPRESS LIMITED

PLEASE CONTACT: BANGLADESH AIR EXPRESS INT'L LTD.
Head Office: 9565114, Fax: 9565112, Gulshan: 887771, Chittagong: (031) 712127, Khulna: (041) 725008



Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia addressing the BNP standing committee meeting at her Minto Road official residence in the city yesterday. — Star photo

Cut in pension money

From Page 1
names, extra Tk 400 for the drivers of officials in addition to overtime allowances, raising the annual book allowance of teachers from Tk 1200 to Tk 2000 and payment of daily allowances at a rate higher than that fixed by the government.

Through the second letter was issued in October, the decision is being implemented in case of teachers, officers and employees who retired on June 30, 1996, officials of accounts section of the university said.

Meanwhile, the university authorities repeatedly denied that they violated government rules regarding the payments.

The authorities also explained their position in this regard at a series of meetings were also held with the CAG and the Ministries of Education and Finance.

Vice Chancellor Prof A K Azad Chowdhury, talking to The Daily Star, said that the payments were made as per rules. The issue would be placed at a joint meeting of the education minister, finance minister, CAG and the university authorities shortly. He, however, could not confirm the date of

the meeting.

The VC said "the DU Syndicate, according to the Dhaka University Order, 1973, is the highest body to take decisions about the payments to teachers, officials and employees."

The decisions of the Syndicate relating to payments were in accordance with the laws of the country, he felt.

The VC said that he, on behalf of the university, sought opinion of the Attorney General (AG) on the issue and the AG, after examining provisions of the DUO, 1973, expressed his views in favour of the university.

"We have conveyed the views of the AG to the office of the CAG and to the Ministries of Education and Finance," added. On the other hand, the October 8 letter of the CAG noted "Almost the total amount of the budget of the university comes from the government revenue fund, but the rules of the government are being violated here." This state of affairs could not be allowed to continue for an indefinite period, it added.

The letter mentioned that according to the Service (Reorganisations and Conditions) Act, which came into effect on July 1, 1973 all powers regarding salaries and allowances of all government organisations, public bodies and other nationalised organisations have been vested in the government. As per Section (3) of the Act, any rule contrary to this Act will be void.

15 huts gutted in city

By Staff Correspondent
At least 15 makeshift huts, including dwelling houses were gutted in a fire at Kharpur under Demra in the city early yesterday.

Fire Brigade sources said the fire, originated reportedly from an electric short circuit, spread to four cloth stores, two godowns of waste yarn and dwelling houses at about 2 am.

However, no casualty was reported in the fire till last night. Fire fighters from Demra station rushed to the spot and took about an hour to extinguish the fire.

Titu

From Page 1
cently as the middlemen failed to send them to Dubai for unknown reasons. Their stories could not be gathered immediately. Among others smuggled from the area, Manna also eight, is in Dubai for the last 16 months. Her mother, Nazma said she had so far received Taka 3,725 from Shonai Bibi who did not disclose what Manna was doing abroad.

Moyezuddin is yet another victim who was also brought back home from Mumbai. His mother, Kutubanu said Shonai Bibi took her son four months ago to send him to Dubai, promising her to pay Taka 2,000 a month. "Four days back, my son was returned to me saying he could not be sent", Kutubanu told The Daily Star yesterday.

Street beggar Chandra Banu does not know anything about his 10-year-old son Monir Hossain who was taken a year ago to be sent to Dubai. "I was given only Tk 500 at the time my son was taken but not a single penny afterwards, Banu lamented. "Your son is well", was the only response from Bibi," she said.

Police arrested Shonai Bibi on September 11 after rickshawpuller Shahar Ali sued her for trafficking his nine-year-old son, Sohel. Shonai Bibi, who is now in Narayanganj jail, admitted to police that she sent Sohel to Dubai with the help of her close relatives, living in the UAE. Police also arrested three of Bibi's associates.

She also charged BNP with acting against sovereignty of the country during its regime by holding a meeting in foreign soil. Awami League did not hold any such meeting in India, she added.

Kalpa Ranjan Chakma said though the agreement has not yet been finalised confusion and rumours are being spread to mislead the people.

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., 62 Motiheel 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

CU reopens amid tense situation

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 18: No class was held at Chittagong University though it was reopened today amid a tense situation and tight security after a closure for over one and a half months, campus sources said.

When contacted Pro Vice-Chancellor Dr Abu Yusuf Alam told The Daily Star that classes were not held today as presence of students was very poor.

Teachers were, however, present as usual, he added.

Police said fish plates of the railway track was removed at Fatehabad point to block the university-bound shuttle train.

The shuttle train later reached the university without students after repairing the fish plates, police said.

The activists of All Party Students Unity (APSU) continued their siege for the third consecutive day today at the entry point of Road No. 1 of the university to press their demands that include exemplary punishment to the killers of Bakul and allotment of seats on the basis of merit and faculty.

Meanwhile, some activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir went on rampage on Hathazari road near the university, damaging a police van and a few vehicles at 1-30 pm today in protest against yesterday's arrest of their leader Nasirullah, police said.

The agitating activists also opened fire on a patrol van carrying armed police, but none was injured, police said. Police chased them away.

Over 300 policemen, mostly in riot gear, were deployed on the university campus to ensure security.

The residential halls of CU were reopened on October 16.

The mill authorities in a public notice today have instructed all the workers, excepting those sacked earlier, to join their duties in accordance with their respective shifts.

A group of armed terrorists allegedly led by the local leader of the Awami League-backed Jatiya Samik League, Kowsar Ahmed Polash ransacked three units of the Prime group in industries, including two units in the textile wing. Police later arrested Polash and sent him to jail while others accused are still absconding.

The city unit president Mahbubuzzaman Bhulu and the central committee member Rafiquddin led the two factions.

The clash erupted following exchange of hot words between Mahbubuzzaman Bhulu and Rafiquddin over handling committee's fund, party sources said.

Supporters of both groups were locked in chase and counter chase. They also used rods, hockies and sharp weapons. Police took the situation under control.

Later, at least 15 BCL activists from Salam Barkat Hall, firing shots, attacked Kamaluddin Hall to gain its control. BCL activists at Kamaluddin Hall locked the hall gate and took position on the roof top. They also fired several rounds.

Border confce
From Page 1

An 8-member BSF side was led by its Director General AK Tendon while DG of BDR Major General Mohammad Azizur Rahman led the host team in the conference.

Besides, representatives from Home, Foreign, Bangladesh Land Record and Survey and Joint River Commission also attended the conference at the BDR headquarters.

Two high officials of the national flag carrier told The Daily Star yesterday that despite tight international flight schedules, Biman would make frantic efforts so that some special flights could be arranged from October 21. "If those flights are possible, those will be in addition to Biman's five regular Jeddah-Dhaka and Riyadh-Dhaka flights every week", said one official.

Out of four DC-10s and two Airbus in Biman's fleet operating in international routes, one DC-10 would rejoin the fleet by October 31 after Delta Check in Italy, another DC-10 would be grounded into service by tonight after completion of 'FA Check' while an Airbus entered operation last night after engineers from France fixed the problems in fuel tank, he said.

Most of them are overstay, either they went with 'Umrah-visa' or lost validity of stay for job-hopping, said Mannan, adding that "if we could afford return of 28,000 people from United Arab Emirates last year, we have to be the pain of current situation also."

While both the ministry and the embassy feel the urgency of arranging special flights by

responsibilities. "In such a position," he suggested, "the persons who are still honoured by

the people should speak to create a social awareness."

Managing Director of the City Bank Limited Mohammad Taheruddin noted that all the bank loan defaulters are wilful ones and pointed his finger to the changes in circumstances that often force an entrepreneur to default.

He said the tariff wall, which was once high, came down to 25 per cent. He informed that the edible oil industry — half of its 70 units have already closed down — is now struggling to survive.

They are facing stiff competition from products of India and Malaysia. Similar is the case for bakeries and crockeries, he said. "What we had done in the name of liberalisation and globalisation affected us adversely," he said.

Manzurul Islam, Chairman of the Islam Group, frankly admitted that his company is one of the 137 big loan defaulters and said he was ashamed of that and trying sincerely to repay the overdue loan.

He suggested that there should be cut-off point for every borrower. The repayment capacity of a borrower must be assessed before giving him loan, he said.

Chaired by SODAC President Kazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmed, the discussion meeting was also addressed by Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury, SODAC Secretary General MA Mannan, Joint Secretaries-General Nilufar Banu and Niaz Ahmed.

"I have no different opinion about the need for adequate laws. But what is the use of law if there is no application of that... who will be the cat?"

Khaled said the civil society is not performing its assigned

The new Philishave
For a closer shave

Backed by Guarantee

Let's make things better

PHILIPS

Transcom Electronics Limited
Official licensee of Philips Electronics NV.
for lighting products, radio and TV sets
Dhaka: 815306-9, 819625-9, 889993
Ctg: 716353, 723578, Khulna: 720304, Bogra: 6215

Congestion eases at 3 river ghats

By Staff Correspondent

Traffic congestion at the Aricha, Daulatdia and Natak-hola ferry ghats eased considerably yesterday after additional ferries were deployed and two new ghats were opened.

According to BIWTC Aricha ghat office, traffic congestion at the ghats eased as ferries were able to make more trips to clear the waiting vehicles. Moreover, two additional ghats, one at Aricha and the other at Daulatdia, were opened to traffic from Wednesday and Thursday.

There was about a 4-km long queue of vehicles at the Aricha ghat day before yesterday but the congestion eased considerably after additional ferries were put into services," said one of the official at the BIWTC control room.

"The traffic movement is now quite normal. Though a number of vehicles are still waiting to be ferried. Till 6 pm yesterday 520 vehicles were waiting," the official added.

Movement of ferries slowed down recently, particularly at the Aricha-Daulatdia route, due to the emergence of innumerable hidden shoals. A one way channel on the route has been created to facilitate safe navigation, BIWTC sources said.

Nari Samaj demands trial of policemen involved in criminal activities

By Staff Correspondent

Sammitlo Nari Samaj yesterday demanded trial of the policemen involved in criminal activities, including oppression on women in the criminal courts.

In a press release, the Nari Samaj said that the administration was only closing or suspending the policemen involved in women repression without filing any specific cases against them.

No stern action has so far been taken against any policeman involved in the criminal activities, the Nari Samaj said.

The Nari Samaj also alleged that the officer-in-charge of Galachipa thana under Patuakhali district was trying to prove the incident of August 24 false. On that day, the OC, Nafazuddin Ahmed harassed a couple in board day light, the leader of the organisation said quoting press reports.

They demanded proper investigation into the incident.

PM: Child abuse

From Page 1
would be able to step over all barriers in establishing human rights. "I'm ready to sacrifice my life for the people."

The Prime Minister said her government wants to ensure food and shelter, education and healthcare for every children, a sound future for the future generation.

"But it is not possible for me to do this big task alone, said the Prime Minister calling upon the affluent sections of society to share responsibility of the neglected children for a better future."

Prof Razia Matin Chowdhury MP, who was the teacher of Sheikh Russel, said Russel became a symbol of protest against killing and injustice.

A little boy, Arifuzzaman Khan Sajeeb, said: try the killers of child Russel so that such heinous crime cannot recur on this soil. He also demanded halt to child torture and repression.

Scientist and writer Dr Abdullah Al Muti Sharfuddin, child organiser Rokunuzzaman Khan Dadabhai, and Russel Parishad leaders Mahmudus Samyir Chowdhury and KM Shahidullah also spoke on the occasion. Russel Jatiya Shishu Kishore Parishad founder chairman Rokibur Rahman presided over the function.

Later, the Prime Minister distributed prizes among the children who won a competition organised by the Parishad. The tiny tots took part in painting, recitation, song, dance and essay writing competition.

3-nation summit

From Page 1
Indian Prime Minister IK Gujral will leave Dhaka the same evening. However Pakistan Premier Nawaz Sharif will stay back for a visit to Bangladesh for three more days, departing Dhaka on November 26.

About the objectives of the 'Business Summit', Azad listed five broad aims. These are:

Close interaction between private sectors and government of the three countries for mutual understanding on how to involve the private sector for development.

Identification of specific issues for undertaking private sector initiative and regulatory changes in others to provide tangible inputs for future negotiations at the inter-government level.

Co-ordination among the three countries in liberalising laws relating to foreign investment, import and export.

Identification of 'regional best practices' as followed by EU and NAFTA.

Sending a clear signal to the international community on the resolve of the three countries to match investment opportunities and incentives offered to foreign investors by other developing countries.

Responding to questions Samad Azad said that the summit would naturally provide an opportunity to the three leaders to discuss problems both bilateral and common in nature.

Asked if the summit would lead to the formation of a South Asian triangle, he brushed aside the proposition saying, "It is essentially a goodwill get-together."

The Foreign Minister however emphasised that the summit of the three leaders "is a reflection of the SAARC spirit and will strengthen SAARC further."

Azad said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will write individual leaders of other non-participating SAARC countries informing them about the summit so that there is "no misunderstanding."

The summit should be a harbinger of a new spirit of co-operation," he observed. Asked if Pakistan and India would make progress on the Kashmir problem, Azad replied,

"It is a 'Business Summit.' It is not a Kashmir Summit."

When asked to explain Bangladesh's stand on the Kashmir issue, Azad said, "Bangladesh's position is that the Kashmir issue should be resolved between the two countries through negotiations."

The Foreign Minister said that although it would be a Business Summit, the three prime ministers meeting on a common ground would reflect an 'attitude for change and a need for change' in the political climate in South Asia.

Operation of the BG-011 flight (Dhaka-Delhi-Brussels-New York) ignoring the NOTAM message was a serious negligence on the part of a section of Biman staff, officials concerned said.

The NOTAM message was given by the Indian authorities in view of an exercise by Indian Air Force in an airfield there, they said.

The BG-011 flight had to return Dhaka after about three hours' flight towards Delhi.

Later, the flight was delayed by about four hours, causing inconvenience to its passengers in Delhi, Brussels and New York.

Meanwhile, Biman sources said they were yet to identify the persons responsible for the alleged negligence. A Junior Operation Officer was suspended following the October 14 incident.

AL may contact
From Page 1

113 MPs from BNP in the standing committees with a number of those headed by them.

BNP wants proportionate share for the party both as members and chairmen of the committees.

Nasim told this correspondent, "As there is no such provision in the JS Rules of Procedure, proportionate share as chairmen of committees cannot be given to BNP."

শ্রদ্ধাঞ্জলি

আজ ১৯শে অক্টোবর ১৯৯৭, নাতানা লিমিটেড ও আফতাব অটোমোবাইলস্ লিমিটেড-এর প্রতিষ্ঠাতা, পরম শ্রদ্ধেয় মরহুম আলহাজ্জ জহরুল ইসলাম সাহেবের দ্বিতীয় মৃত্যু বার্ষিকী।

জীবিত অবস্থায় তিনি ছিলেন আমাদের আদর্শ, পথ প্রদর্শক এবং সকল কর্ম প্রেরণার উৎস। আজ তাঁর বিদেহী আত্মার প্রতি জানাই গভীর শ্রদ্ধা এবং পরম করণাময়ের কাছে কামনা করছি তাঁর আত্মার মাগফেরাত।

মরহমের স্মৃতির প্রতি শ্রদ্ধা নিবেদনের জন্য আজ নাতানা লিমিটেড ও আফতাব অটোমোবাইলস্ লিমিটেড এর সকল অফিস বন্ধ থাকবে।

সকিউল ইসলাম (কামাল) চেয়ারম্যান
নাতানা লিমিটেড
আফতাব অটোমোবাইলস্ লিমিটেড

বাংলাদেশ শৈক্ষিক প্রস্তুতকারক ও রণনী কার্য সমিতি(বিজিএমইএ)
বিত্তিএমসি ভবন, ৭-৯, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫

জিএসপি সমস্যার সফল সমাধানে সাধারণ সভা

জিএসপি সফল সমস্যার সাফল্যজনক পরিসমাপ্তির প্রেক্ষিতে আগামী ২০শে অক্টোবর, সোমবার সন্ধ্যা ৬:৩০ ঘটিকায় সোনারগাঁও হোটেলের বরকমে এক সভা অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। বাংলাদেশ সরকারের মাননীয় শিল্প ও বানিজ্য মন্ত্রী জনাব তোকারেল আহমেদ এম. পি. উক্ত সভায় প্রধান অতিথি হিসাবে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য সদয় সম্মতি জ্ঞাপন করেছেন।

এই সভায় এবং সভা শেষে নৈশভোজে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য বিজিএমইএ'র সকল সম্মানিত সদস্য বৃন্দকে আমন্ত্রণ জানানো হচ্ছে।

ধন্যবাদান্তে,

সচিব