



Pakistan Women's Association (PWA) has donated Tk 50,000 for the welfare of Assistance for Blind Children (ABC) sponsored visually impaired children. Farah Elahi, Farhat Saeed and Samia Batt handed over the donation on behalf of PWA to Raushan Ahmed, President, ABC, at its head office in the city Oct 30. Munira Khan, immediate Past President, ZBM Bakht, General Secretary, Husniara Huq, Member, Zakia Doha, Life Member and Shafiqul Islam, Executive Officer, ABC were present on the occasion.

Rally in support of proposed CHT peace agreement on Nov 9

Rangamati Nagarik Parishad will organise a grand rally in the district town on November 9 in support of the proposed peace agreement seeking a political solution to the Chittagong Hill Tracts crisis, reports BSS. Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim and Food and Agriculture Minister Begum Matia Chowdhury will attend the rally as chief guest and special guest respectively. Chittagong City Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury, Kalpanjan Chakma MP, Ataur Rahman Khan Kaiser, Mosharraf Hussain MP, Advocate Fazle Rabbi MP, Dipankar Talukder MP and Bir Bahadur MP — all members of the National Committee for Chittagong Hill Tracts — which is negotiating with the tribal leaders for establishing a durable peace in the three hill districts will also speak on the occasion. The rally will be presided over by Gautam Dewan, a senior tribal leader and convenor of the Rangamati Nagarik Samity.

Malek meets Jyoti Basu

Dr S A Malek, Political Advisor to the Prime Minister, paid a courtesy call on Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister of West Bengal, at his Writers' Building office in Calcutta Tuesday, reports BSS. During the meeting, they exchanged views on bilateral relations between Bangladesh and India. Dr Malek, who is on a private visit to Calcutta, expressed his thanks to the chief minister for his positive role in trying to improve the bilateral relations including the signing of the Ganges Water Sharing Treaty between the two countries. Dr Malek informed the chief minister that adequate supply of water during coming lean period is essential to Bangladesh. He added that the winter crops, which has a major share in the food production of Bangladesh, depends on adequate supply of water below Farakka point. In this regard, he sought the cooperation of the chief minister in ensuring adequate supply of water during dry season. The chief minister assured to do the needful. During the meeting, Dr Ashim Das Gupta, West Bengal Minister for Planning and Finance, was also present. Later, Dr Malek also met Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, West Bengal Minister for Home, Information and Cultural Affairs. During the meeting, they agreed that there is a scope for further exchange of scholars, cultural personalities and artists.

Mosharraf granted anticipatory bail

A High Court Division Bench yesterday granted ad-interim anticipatory bail to former state minister for irrigation, flood control and water resources, Mosharraf Hossain Shahjahan, in an anti-corruption case, reports BSS. The bench comprised Justice Mohammad Mozammel Huq and Justice Mohammad Awlad Ali. The same bench also granted ad-interim anticipatory bail to Golam Nabi Alamgir, Chairman, Bhola Municipality, and 109 others in five separate criminal cases. Barister Nazmul Huda moved the bail petitions for the petitioners. He was assisted by Advocates Fakhrul Islam, Mohammad Fariduddin, Golam Mohammad Chowdhury Alal, Shamsul Alam and Iqbal Hossain.

5 get life-term for raping girl

CHITTAGONG, Nov 6 — The judge of a Special tribunal on anti-repression on Women and Children in a verdict Tuesday sentenced five persons to life-term imprisonment on charges of gang raping a teenage girl, court sources said, reports BSS. The case history is in brief that five person Ohidul Alam, Manju, Haroon, Jhantu and Jashim called out Nasima Akhter aged 14 from her house and took her to nearby em-bankment where she was repeatedly raped by the miscreants on December 7, last year. On hearing the news her father filed a case with port police in this connection. The learned judge Sayed Anayetullah received statements of twelve persons and found the miscreants guilty. The judge awarded the life term imprisonment to them which affects from today.

FBCCI expresses concern over hartal

Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry at an emergency meeting Tuesday expressed concern over the hartal enforced by several political parties on the first day of the Aid Consortium Meeting in Dhaka, reports UNB. "This hartal has irreparably damaged the friendly image of Bangladesh," the FBCCI meeting observed. It said the hartal was enforced at a time when over 100 Chief Executives of multinational companies from all over the world have come to Dhaka to attend the three-day International Investors Forum.

Zillur at memorial discussion Killers of four national leaders to be tried soon

LORD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman yesterday said the killers of the four national leaders in Dhaka Central Jail will be tried soon and an investigation into the incident is underway, reports BSS. "The killers of father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman were also involved in the jail killing and they tried to retard the spirit of the Liberation War from Bangladesh," he said. The minister was addressing a memorial discussion on jail killing of Nov 3 organised by "Chotushka", Jatiya Char Neta Smriti Parishad in the auditorium of the National Press Club in the afternoon. Syeda Zohra Tajuddin, wife of late leader Tajuddin, Khairuzaman, son of late A H M Kamruzzaman, Syed Ashraful Islam MP, son of late Syed Nazimul Islam and poet Shamsur Rahman were among others who spoke on the occasion. "Bangabandhu was killed for freeing the people of this land from the Pakistani yoke. The killers had tried to reestablish a new Pakistan by annihilating all pro-Bangladesh leaders who were capable to foil any conspiracy against the country", Zillur Rahman said. He said the four national leaders had dedicated their lives for the welfare and development of Bangladesh. "BNP destroyed the fundamental principles and characters of the constitution of the country but it is persistently claiming that it was upholding the constitution," he said. Rahman said, "Begum Khaleda Zia, chief of BNP, has rejected the proposed peace agreement with the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samaghata Samity at a time when it is impossible to say 'no' to peace in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. So, it has been well established that she (Khaleda) wants instability in the region. Poet Shamsur Rahman said, "the jail-killing was part of a conspiracy to deprive the nation of the prudent and wise leaders who believed the true spirit of the Liberation War." He said the killers never tolerated the birth of Bangladesh and they were so bent upon that they killed four innocent leaders in captivity in Dhaka Central Jail. Meanwhile State Minister for Information Professor Abu Sayeed said in the city yesterday that a beneficiary class has emerged in the country at the backing of the then illegal rulers after the assassination of Bangabandhu and four national leaders in 1975, reports BSS. "The beneficiaries got a huge quantity of bank money to spend it for ensuring state power for the illegal governments," he pointed out while speaking at a discussion and a milad mahfil yesterday evening. Bangabandhu Parishad, Shilpa Bank Bhaban unit, organised the discussion on Jail Killing Day at Shilpa Bank Bhaban Conference Room. He presided over by M Obaidullah. Bangabandhu Parishad Shilpa Bank unit, the function was also addressed, among others, by Ali Zaker, a cultural personality, Mahmudul Karim, Managing Director, Shilpa Bank, Gausul Azam, General Manager of the bank, Syed Nazrul Islam, General Secretary, Bank Unit Bangabandhu Parishad, and Syed Anwar Hossain, member of the parishad. The minister said the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman is going on and the trial of the killers of the four national leaders will start soon. He said the killing of these meritorious leaders was part of a blueprint of the anti-Liberation forces and their patrons to make the country a part of Pakistan again. But the plotters could not implement their evil design fearing wrath and strong resistance from the independence-loving people of the country, Prof Sayeed added.

US congressmen not happy over opposition parties: Ershad

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad said the US politicians are not happy with the role of opposition parties, particularly the main opposition in Bangladesh, reports UNB. "I met with a large number of US senators and Congressmen, who expressed their unhappiness over the negative role of the opposition," Ershad told the journalists at the airport on his return from abroad yesterday. Commenting on Tuesday's hartal called by BNP and some other right wing parties, he said: "I don't believe in hartal. Hartal is the politics of a colonial country. Hartal is against national interest. Whose property I will damage by observing hartal?" He said that by observing hartal on the opening day of the two-day Aid Group Meeting, they (BNP) wanted to show that the government has no support among the people and tried to give a wrong picture to the donors. Blasting BNP for its "hartal politics," the former president said there can be a hartal in this country without people's support. "People have given them (AL) mandate for five years, then why this movement. They should be allowed to stay in power for five years and it is the people who will take the decision. BNP does not represent the whole country." About the emerging alliance between BNP and some other parties, Ershad said such alliances were formed in the past. There is no value of such alliance, he added. Replying to a question on BNP's allegation that they are not being allowed to hold meetings and processions on streets, the JP Chief said the government had selected some meeting venues. "Why then they are trying to hold meetings on streets and create traffic jam?" Asked if he went to the USA to collect money, a smiling Ershad said, "You don't need to go abroad to draw money from a foreign account. You can get the money by just pressing a computer button. I went there to meet my friends." When asked as to when his Secretary General Anwar Hossain Manju will resign from the government, Ershad said, "Leave it to me. Party workers can demand many things and they have the right to demand, but party will take the decision." Commenting on the Prime Minister's recent statement on taking legal action against the corrupt people, Ershad said, "Law should take its own course. Probably their (BNP) programme is to save their corrupt people." He told a questioner that JP is very much in the opposition. "It is a smaller opposition, not the main one." Earlier, hundreds of leaders and workers of Jatiya Party went to the airport to receive the party chairman, who returned to Dhaka 26 days, after touring three European countries and the USA. JP leaders including Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, Anwar Hossain Manju, Nazimul Rahman Manju and party MPs were present at the airport. Just before arrival of the party chief a clash between activists of Jatiya Jubo Sanghati and Chhatra Samaj outside the VIP lounge left at least 15 people injured. Chhatra Samaj President Humayun Kabir Chowdhury and a few others were admitted to city clinics with stab injuries, JP sources said. They said the clash occurred over occupying the place in front of the gate of the VIP lounge to greet Ershad. The feuding groups brandished firearms and other lethal weapons, witnesses said.

'56 pc believe political parties use terrorists for their own interest'

By Staff Correspondent About 56 per cent of city residents believe that political parties use terrorists for their own interest, according to an opinion poll results, conducted by the Centre for Sustainable Development (CSD). On the other hand, 44 per cent of the respondents argued that terrorists take shelter of political parties for survival. The poll on law and order, conducted from October 30 through November 1, sought opinion from 840 persons residing in different areas of the city. Of the respondents, 65 per cent are male and 35 per cent female. The margin of error of the results is 4, says a press release. Professor Anun Nishat of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology and Dr A K Enamul Haque of the North South University supervised the poll. About 48 per cent of respondents feel that the increasing incidents of terrorism in the city is a matter of their personal concern.

HC stays order on recounting of votes in 10 centres of Satkhira-2

A High Court division bench yesterday stayed the order passed by divisional election tribunal, Khulna, on recounting the votes in 10 polling stations of the parliamentary constituency No 106 Satkhira-2 for two months, reports BSS. The bench comprised Justice Mohammad Abdul Karim and Justice Mohammad Ali Asgar Khan. Following a writ petition filed by Kazi Shamsur Rahman an MP of Jamaat-Islami the court also issued rule upon Syeda Razia Faiz returning officer and deputy commissioner, Satkhira and district election officer, Satkhira and eight others to show cause within eight weeks as to why the order on October 15, 1997 passed by the divisional election tribunal, Khulna, should not be declared to have been made without lawful authority and is of no legal effect. Jamiat MP Kazi Shamsur Rahman was elected by a margin of 309 votes defeating Jatiya Party candidates Sayed Razia Faiz in parliamentary election held on June 12, 1996. Sayeda Razia Faiz challenged the election results and prayed for recounting of votes in the ten polling stations of Satkhira-2 constituency before the election tribunal, Satkhira. Subsequently the case was transferred to the divisional election tribunal, Khulna. On October 15, 1997 upon hearing the advocates of both the sides the tribunal passed an order for recounting of votes of the 10 polling stations in constituency Satkhira-2. Against the order of the divisional election tribunal, Khulna, Kazi Shamsur Rahman filed a civil revision case before the High Court division and obtained the rule and stay. Barrister Abdur Razzaq, advocate Shaikh Ansar Ali and advocate S M Emdadul Huq appeared for the petitioner Kazi Shamsur Rahman. Deputy Attorney General Khademul Islam Chowdhury appeared for the state. 'BKSAL style govt won't be able to stay in power' BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday said this "subservient" government wants to suppress the people's democratic movement by unleashing terrorist acts, reports UNB. "No government in the past could remain in power by perpetrating repressive measures against opposition and this 'BKSAL-style' government will also not be able to stay in power if it does not refrain from its undemocratic activities," he said. Bhuiyan was talking to Krishak Dal central leader Takdir Hossain Mohammad Jashim when he called on him yesterday after his release from jail. Jashim apprised the BNP secretary general about the miserable condition in the prison and alleged that the jail authorities were torturing the political prisoners. BNP leaders Haris Chowdhury, Sadek Hossain Khoka MP, Shamsuzzaman Dudu MP, Fazil Haq Milon, Aminul Haq, Abdul Wajed Mia and Ali Azam were present on the occasion. Charge d' Affaires of Iraq reiterates call for lifting ban The Charge d' Affaires of the Iraqi Embassy in Dhaka yesterday reiterated his government's call for lifting the UN sanction against his country to remove sufferings of their people, reports UNB. The United Nations imposed a total embargo against Iraq in August, 1990, following its military aggression in Kuwait. Briefing newsmen on the present situation in Iraq at the embassy, Iraqi envoy Adday-O-Al Sakab said that a large number of people including children died there in last seven years due to food and medicine crisis. He attributed the crisis to the UN sanction.



Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury and Chief Representative of Korea International Cooperation Agency in Bangladesh Kwang Young Kim signing an agreement regarding the establishment of a Korean Language centre at the university at a simple foundation held at vice-chancellor's office yesterday. Provice-chancellor Prof Shahiduddin Ahmed also seen in the picture.

Korean language centre at DU soon

A Korean language centre will soon be established at the Institute of Modern Languages (IML) of Dhaka University with a view to forging effective economic and cultural cooperation between Dhaka and Seoul, reports BSS. An agreement to this effect was signed yesterday, between the Dhaka University and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). Prof AK Azad Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor, University of Dhaka and Kwang Young Kim, Chief Representative of KOICA in Bangladesh signed the agreement for the respective sides at a simple ceremony held at the Vice-Chancellor's office. According to this agreement, a 30-seat Korean Language Laboratory will be established and operated at the IML and regular Korean Language Course will be opened with a view to giving an opportunity to the Dhaka University students and Bangladeshi youths to learn Korean language. Duration of this project will be one year.

Dacoity at city house

By Staff Correspondent Dacoits robbed gold ornaments, cash and valuables worth about Tk 6.68 lakh from a house at Mollartek under city's Uttara thana early yesterday. Police sent a gang of about seven armed men entered into the house of Strazur Rahman at about 3 am. Brandishing firearms they tied up inmates of the house. The armedmen took away gold ornaments, Taka 2,28,900 in cash and valuables including three wristwatches. Dacoits left the house at about 4:30 am. However, it could not be known immediately how the gang got inside the house. None was arrested till last night in connection with the incident. A case was lodged with Uttara thana in this regard.

Chehlum

Chehlum of Sharfuddin Ahmed, one of the pioneers of the country's advertising industry and the founder-chairman of the Orimex (Bangladesh) Limited will be held tomorrow after Magrib prayers at 'Kulshum' at Shantinagar 11th floor of 40/41, Siddeshwari Circular Road in the city, says a press release.

OCAB team meets PM today

Members of the Overseas Correspondent Association of Bangladesh (OCAB) will meet Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today, reports UNB. She will address a press briefing of the OCAB at Hotel Sonargaon at 4 pm, says a press release.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Director (R&H) Road Research Laboratory, Mirpur, Dhaka R&H Tender Invitation Notice 1. Tender Notice No : RR Lab/No-2 RT Division, year: 1997-98. 2. Name of work : Construction of boundary wall of the newly-built single unit residential building at the compound of Road Research Laboratory, Mirpur, Dhaka. Year: 1997-98. 3. Estimated cost : Taka 1,23,900/- 4. Earnest money : Taka 2,479/- 5. Approved time : 30 (thirty) days from the date of issuing work order. 6. Eligibility of contractor : Roads & Highways Directorate enlisted 'A' to 'E' general class contractors. 7. Offices where tender document will be available from : Executive Engineer (R&H), Procurement & Storage (Civil) Division, Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka and office of the undersigned. 8. Offices where tender will be received at : Director (R&H), Road Research Laboratory, Mirpur, Dhaka. Office of the undersigned, Superintendent Engineer (R&H), Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka. 9. Last date of selling tender : 16-11-97. 10. Last date of receiving tender : Up to 12-00 Noon of 17-11-97. 11. Date & time when tender will be opened : At 12-15 PM of 18-11-97. Executive Engineer (R&H) Research & Testing Division Road Research Laboratory, Mirpur Dhaka DFP-24425-29/10 G-2656

HERE and THERE

Nat'l Assoc of UNESCO Clubs

Speakers at a discussion in the city yesterday expressed the hope that UNESCO would continue its laudable role in promoting world peace, reports BSS. Organised by the National Association of UNESCO Clubs in Bangladesh to commemorate the 52th founding anniversary of UNESCO, the meeting was presided over by Mahbuddin Chowdhury, Secretary General of the organisation. It was addressed by Md Elyus, Prof Masuda Rashid Chowdhury, Md. Sharif, MG Kibria Mukul and Javed Chowdhury. The speakers recalled the role that UNESCO had been playing since its inception to create a happier and richer world and said the body had succeeded to a great extent in eliminating the threats to peace by promoting the messages of peace.

UNAB

In observance of the founding anniversary of UNESCO: The United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) organised a seminar yesterday evening at Hotel Furbanil, Dhaka, says a press release. Eminent scientist of international repute UNESCO Kalingo Prize Winner Dr Abdullah Al-Muti Sharfuddin was the key-note speaker. The seminar was addressed by senior journalist and poet Santosh Gupta, Dr Syed Mohammad Shahed, Prof Abdus Selim and Advocate Syed Ahmad Hossain, secretary-general, United Nations Association of Bangladesh and a member of the Executive Board of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA).

The UNAB seminar in observance of founding anniversary of UNESCO was presided over by eminent historian and senior educationist Prof Salahuddin Ahmed, Chairman-UNAB. At the outset of the function, the meeting condoled the death of illustrious writer and journalist Ranesh Dasgupta who recently died in Calcutta. Late illustrious writer and journalist Ranesh Dasgupta left Bangladesh just after the brutal killing of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1975. The meeting observed two minutes silence as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

Muktijoddha Command

By DU Correspondent An eleven-member central command of the Dhaka University unit of Muktijoddha Command was formed with Mohammad Aminul Haq as commander, says a press release. The other office-bearers of the command are : Deputy commander — Gopal Chandra Das, assistant convener (organisation) — Shariful Islam, assistant commander (press and publication) — Mohammad Habibur Rahman, assistant commander (finance) — ABM Habibur Rahman, assistant commander (social welfare) — Guljar Rahman Mia, assistant commander (sports and culture) — Mizanur Rahman, assistant commander (office and library) — Keshop Chandra Pal, and executive members — Prof Sanzida Khatun, Sikdar Abul Bashar and Nuru Mia.

SASAT, Bangladesh

An ad-hoc committee of South Asian Society on Atherosclerosis and Thrombosis (SASAT), Bangladesh was formed recently, says a press release. The office bearers of the committee are : Dr Samir Kanti Saha — convener, Dr Zafar A Latif — joint convener, Dr Saima Khan — organising secretary, Dr Col Quazi Shafiqul Islam, Dr Omar Akramur Rab, Dr Rezaul Farid Khan and Dr Sardar A Nayeem — members. The objective of SASAT is to reduce coronary artery disease and membership is open for any Bangladeshi national interested in atherosclerosis and thrombosis. SASAT Bangladesh secretariat is at Japan Bangladesh Friendship Hospital, House # 27, Road # 114, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212. Tele : 887575, 888855.

SPARRSO

There was no major flood in Bangladesh this year and rainfall in the month of June was 25 per cent less than normal due to the effect of El Nino, space scientist Dr A M Chowdhury told a seminar in the city. He said el nino is a phenomenon of warming the sea near the Peru coast of the eastern Pacific Ocean which affects the atmospheric circulation in the tropics resulting in changes of rainfall. Dr Chowdhury said the current el nino that started in the Pacific Ocean in March reached Bangladesh in June. He said in general there is a reduction of rainfall in all the regions of Bangladesh in all the seasons during el nino years and this time also reduced rainfall would affect crop production. He was speaking at a seminar on 'el nino and its effect on Bangladesh' organised by the Officers Welfare Association of Space Research and Remote Sensing Organisation (SPARRSO) in its auditorium at Agargaon. Scientists of SPARRSO and Meteorology Department attended the seminar.

'Respiratory medicine unit in all medical college hospitals soon'

Health Minister Salahuddin Yusuf has said respiratory medicine unit would be set up in all medical college hospitals of the country to facilitate the treatment of chest patients, reports UNB. The Health Minister made the disclosure while inaugurating a three-day workshop on Asthma at the BCPS auditorium at Mohakhali in the city yesterday. He said necessary instructions have already been given to set up respiratory medicine units at Dhaka Medical College Hospital and PG Hospital as the country's lone Chest Diseases Hospital is unable to cater the need of the 12 crore people. State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Prof Mohammad Amanullah, Prof Shafiqul Islam, Prof Rashid-e-Mahbub, Prof Nobi Alam Khan and Prof Nurul Anwar also spoke on the occasion.

Goodwill mission leaves for Beijing

A six-member goodwill mission left city yesterday for Beijing to visit various important places of historical interest in China, reports UNB. The team, led by Workers Party General Secretary Rashed Khan Menon, included JSD General Secretary Hasanul Haque Inu, General Secretary of Samyabadi Dal Dilip Barua and journalists Abul Khan, Amanullah Kabir and Munirul Haque.