

BLUE DART

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TO INDIA



PM: Opposition

From Page 1
including gas and power. Steps were also taken to improve law and order and make parliament accountable.

About terrorism, she said the government was able to scale down the incidence of terrorism, to a large extent, but it could not be stamped out due to non-cooperation of the opposition.

Referring to police action on BNP on the city streets, Hasina said holding meetings on the street was banned following demands from the press and the people and venues had been designated for holding public meetings.

Asked if her government would take legal steps against corrupt ministers of the previous BNP government, the Prime Minister said the Bureau of Anti-Corruption was investigating it and action would be taken on basis of its findings.

About the peace accord between the government and the Chakma tribal leaders, she did not specifically say when the agreement was going to be signed. "Discussion is on... the accord will be signed as soon as an understanding is reached."

About Begum Zia's allegation against peace accord, Hasina said Begum Zia does not want peace in the Hill Tracts. "Does she mean that the establishment of peace in the Hill Tracts would jeopardise the country's independence?"

About the issue of giving transit to India, she said agreement on land, water and air transit with India was signed in 1980 during the rule of President Ziaur Rahman.

Replying to a question about the ensuing three-nation business summit in Dhaka on November 23, she said it would help expand trade and economic cooperation among Bangladesh, India and Pakistan.

Nepal importing firearms from China

KATHMANDU, Nov 6: Nepal is importing undisclosed amounts of firearms from China to replace old weapons, an army source said today. In a move which could antagonise neighbouring India, reports AFP.

Indo-Pak talks

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malayan territory, now shared between them with a third in Pakistan and the rest in India. India's share of Kashmir is the only majority Muslim state in the predominantly Hindu country, and New Delhi accuses Islamabad of arming and funding a Muslim insurgency in Kashmir that has left 16,000 dead since 1990.

Pakistan says it provides only moral support to the militants.

Night coach passengers robbed

MANIKGANJ, Nov 6: A gang of dacoits looted money and valuables from the passengers of a night coach on the Dhaka-Aricha highway in Dhamrai thana in the early hours of today, police said, reports UNB.

Some 10 dacoits, who were traveling in the guise of passengers, attacked others at 12:30 am when the Jessore-bound coach reached Tulitua area of Dhamrai. The gang looted cash and valuables worth about Tk 1.5 lakh before fleeing away. The dacoits also beat up some passengers who tried to resist them.

Dhaka to host global fine art show in future: PM

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed her hope to host a global fine art exhibition following the success of the Asian Art Biennial, reports UNB.

"Inshallah, we'll arrange the global fine art exhibition in future," she said while inaugurating the 8th Asian Art Biennial at the Osmany Memorial Hall in the morning.

More than 500 art works by some 300 artists from Bangladesh and 34 foreign countries will be on display in three galleries of the city during the 25-day Asian art exhibition.

The Prime Minister said, "I firmly believe that today's exhibition will make our artist self-conscious. It will make a positive contribution to their intellectual pursuits."

Artists of the country have already attracted the attention of intellectuals both at home and abroad, and many of them already earned rare honours for the country, she added.

Artists have played a very

important role not only in creative arts but also in flourishing democratic culture in the country, Hasina said, assuring the artists of all cooperation from the government for unhindered practice of art and culture.

The Prime Minister said her government has already taken a number of steps for advancement of art and culture in the country. "We've annulled the performance control act."

She said the government has taken up a gigantic task of establishing a "Sonar Bangla Cultural Complex" in Dhaka for the enrichment of national conscience in cultural arena.

Thai PM resigns

BANGKOK, Nov 6: Embattled Thai Prime Minister Chavalit Yongchaiyudh said today he was resigning with effect from November 7 and his cabinet would be a caretaker one until a new government was formed, reports Reuters.

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BNP

From Page 1

litical workers, destroyed democracy, curbed press freedom, created famine and snatched people's fundamental rights.

The present AL government has also started the same practice. Repression on BNP has even surpassed those in the Pakistan period, not to speak of any regime in the independent country."

Chaired by JASAS chief Rezabuddin Chowdhury, the meeting was also addressed by among others, Wasimul Bari Razvi, Dr Towhidul Anwar, Khairul Kabir Khokon, Fazlul Haq Milon. A cultural function followed the meeting.

CHT: Land disputes

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place to other. Talking to The Daily Star during the last few days, officials in the three hill districts gave the impression that once peace is restored in CHT, people living in cluster villages, encircled by tight security rings, could be rehabilitated again on their original lands.

But, more important is that no land survey was conducted yet in the CHT. According to official sources, there will be a post of Land Commissioner in the proposed 'Regional Council' and immediately after signing of the peace treaty, a full-fledged land survey will be undertaken in the CHT as a first step to ease the existing complexities regarding land ownership.

ADC (Revenue) of Rangamati Mohammad Ishak told this correspondent that tribal and non-tribal people are now more aware of the necessity of registering lands they possessed. "In recent months, some 30,000 applications for land registrations were submitted," he added.

Officials said there should be better co-ordination among different offices handling issues relating to land settlement in the CHT. Lands under Bazaar

Bangabandhu

From Page 1

identified by any witness since the trial proceedings began at special court of the court at Nazimuddin Road on July 6.

Three other civilians were also charged in the case. Of them, former president Khandakar Mustaq Ahmed and ex-minister Mazbul Alam Chashee were not shown as accused because they died before the case proceedings began.

Beginning his deposition, Reazul Huq, who after being asked recorded the speeches, said he along with some other colleagues came to the radio station at Shahbagh by an official car to do his duty from 6 am to 2 pm on August 15, 1975.

They were intercepted by some army men in front of the radio station and later taken to control room after they gave their identity. The PW was accompanied by technical assistant Reazul Karim, technical operator Begum Kaisar Jahan and mechanic Nabin.

The witness said through a radio speaker at the control room at about 6:15 am they heard someone saying: "I am Major Dalim speaking. Sheikh Mujib has been killed. Army took over power. Curfew has been imposed."

He said then he received a phone call at the control room and the caller, identifying himself as Major Rashid, asked to speak the Dalim. "Dalim by phone told Rashid that steps were underway to send ammunition and shells," the witness added.

The court will resume at 9:30 am on Sunday.

Salary

From Page 1

Committee meeting held once a month.

"The city mayor may also exert his power even to assign the section to approve building plans in his territory," said another DCC source, adding, "This has, of course, to be sorted out with Rajuk first because at present it is responsible for approval of building plans in its 1,550-square kilometre area and then the Town Improvement Act has to be amended."

Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury chaired the session.

Fund' — mainly market places — are registered with the Local Government Councils. The Forest Department oversees land settlement in reserve forest areas and 'Mouzas' fall under the jurisdiction of district administrations.

A top official of Kagrachhari district administration told this correspondent that problems relating to land ownership was nothing unique with any one community. Both the tribal and non-tribal communities now equally feel the necessity for a better land management in the CHT, he said.

Ashkaoymoni Chakma, a member of the Task Force on Refugees, headed by Kalparanj Chakma, MP, also agreed that there were serious problems regarding ownership of land in the hills.

A former member of Kagrachhari Local Government Council, Chirojyoti Chakma expressed the feeling that so long settlers will not be rehabilitated on their own lands outside the cluster villages, land-related problems in the CHT will not be resolved.

Ramzan Ali, resident of a cluster village said, "We don't want free ration here. We will be happy if government rehabilitates us on our own lands provided to us by the then government back in late 70s."

Despite disputes over land ownership, the general sentiment prevailing among the 11 lakh people in the CHT suggests that they all want to lead a peaceful life in a spirit of 'peaceful co-existence'. Mentionably, less than 100 people now live in per square kilometre area in the CHT.

Kibria, Saifur

From Page 1

mentioning who it is. Efforts were on till last night to convince leader of the opposition and BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia to attend. She has once turned down the invitation saying she would have "engagements already planned" on the day, which the BNP will observe as Revolution and Solidarity Day.

An FTC source said Lynette Northey, its Business Development Director, who is leading the team of FTC managers, was still trying to meet her. Northey had earlier sought an appointment with Begum Zia on Wednesday. "This is not just a government event," she said, talking to The Daily Star Wednesday.

"We retain the editorial control, and we have the final say in managing and organising the event," Northey said, explaining the FTC way of doing business in such a situation.

Politics has dominated discussions time and again since the two-day annual Aid Group Meeting on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Even at the opening session yesterday, the World Bank Vice President, who chaired the Aid Club Meeting, made a critical reference to the political situation. "Political instability, coupled with illegal toll collection, has posed as the major impediment to greater inflow of foreign direct investment," Miekio Nishimizu said.

A top businessman Syed Manzur Elahi, giving the "Business View" at the opening session, also joined the bid to dispel doubts. "I'm confident Bangladesh is heading towards a long-term political stability," he said. "Slowly all politicians are realising that this (politics of harts) is suicidal."

Donors concerned

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its concern at the "unnecessary delay" of regarding both the projects.

An International Development Association (IDA) mission in its draft aid memoire Monday noted, "The delay in government approval of the Haripur second stage evaluation (presently two months after completion of evaluation) is a matter of some concern and it is hoped that the negotiation process with the lowest evaluated bidders of Haripur and Meghnaghat projects will commence within a few days."

For the Meghnaghat Project, AES was prequalified along with four other private companies including Marubeni Corp, ABB Power, Genting and Midland. On September 3, after PDB opened the power tariff offer of these companies, AES was officially declared the lowest bidder. AES's average tariff for 22 years was 2.79 cents per unit, while its nearest competitor Marubeni's offered 3.37 cents per unit. In other words, the difference between AES and Marubeni stood at around 80 million US dollars in terms of use of power during the said 22 years, sources noted.

AES's tariff proposal included a zero tariff rate in the initial period and growing rate over the years.

PDB authorities, however, started raising different technical questions about the financing schemes of the companies concerned. It even said that AES's zero tariff offer in the initial period was not acceptable.

Following this development, the adviser to the Project, K&M Engineering and Consulting Corp, US, in a letter on September 16 said that such queries by the PDB were not in any criterion and questioned whether PDB was interested in disqualifying the best offer for a worse one.

"If the lenders (including ADB) are willing to back one of the largest power development firms in the world (AES), why are these details of undue concern to PDB?" John Kuspa of K&M Engineering said, adding that there were plenty of time to ask for all the technical details before the financial offer was opened. Later, PDB sent a letter to the Energy Ministry seeking "suggestions" regarding the evaluation of Meghnaghat project. The letter indicated that while AES offer was not sound, Marubeni was fit.

"This [letter] is just an excuse to delay the project," one source said. "The ministry received the letter and is now checking various issues raised unnecessarily."

For Haripur project, AES beat Occidental-Union offer by a wider margin. Their average tariff offers for 22 years were 2.73 cents and 3.48 cents per unit respectively. The difference is worth about one billion dollars in 22 years.

In the face of severe power crisis, the Energy Ministry had officially taken a position to speed up bidding for and implementation of private power projects. But by now, both Meghnaghat and Haripur projects are at least five months behind schedule.

Interview with Pak PM

From Page 1

measures; drug and terrorism; tourism, trade and economic; Siachin glacier; Turbat dam and economic cooperation environment. Nawaz Sharif reportedly said at the Male meeting with Prime Minister Inder Gujral that it did not matter which group finished its task earlier. Whoever's recommendations were ready, they could be implemented straightaway. In other words, the journey towards normalcy can continue even when the core issue of Kashmir is under discussion.

Immaculately dressed in grey suit (Salwar Kameez) and sporting a brown jacket, the Pakistan Prime Minister talked to me at length in the library of his imposing official residence. He spoke mostly in English but used Urdu and Punjabi at times. He evaded no question. Nor did he fumble for an answer.

He said he was determined to have good relations with India and it did not matter how long it would take. He wanted to strengthen the hands of Prime Minister Inder Gujral whom, he described as "a sincere and honest person." Nawaz Sharif said that he also conveyed to the US Under Secretary of State, Thomas Pickering, that Inder Gujral was sincere in his efforts to have good relations with Pakistan. "I know his domestic compulsions and he knows mine," said Nawaz Sharif. "We should help each other in facing the situation." The Pakistan Prime Minister felt that it was the most opportune time to solve problems between Islamabad and New Delhi because "I am here and Gujral is there."

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"I won election on the plank of friendship with India. I must redeem the promise," Mushahid Hussain, Minister for Information, who was the only person present at the interview, intervened to say that former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto played an anti-India card and lost heavily.

Once again Nawaz Sharif offered no-war pact. "Modalities can be worked out. But I want to put an end to hostilities between the two countries." The Prime Minister's reiteration, however, runs counter to the Pakistan army chief's statement that Kashmir must be settled before a no-war pact is signed.

Nawaz Sharif said that he told Gujral at Male that he was willing to "go very far" to foster normal relations with India. Gujral's response, according to Sharif, was equally effusive and warm. "He really wants friendship," said Nawaz Sharif. To emphasise that the two hit off well, the Pakistan Prime Minister volunteered some information. "Gujral," he said, rang me up when there was firing on the border. I talked to my commanders and rang him back to set at rest his fears. The firing on both sides has stopped since."

Asked why he did not encourage people to people contact, the Pakistan Prime Minister said he was all for it. "Students from the two countries should also meet," interjected Mushahid Hussain. He said he had made the offer at Jawahar Nehru University when he was in Delhi two months ago. Nawaz Sharif welcomed the idea adding, "I want people from different professions to meet and pool ideas so as to help the two countries overcome the problems facing them." He said Pakistan had relaxed visa restrictions. "As many as 400 visas are being issued from New Delhi every day. We want to issue more," he said.

I pointed out that despite several efforts in the past there was no exchange of newspapers and books. He said it should take place immediately. He turned to Mushahid Hussain and asked him to prepare a note for the implementation of the suggestion. I reminded the prime minister that such orders had been given in the past without any result. "The bureaucrats are primarily to blame," I said. The Pakistan Prime Minister agreed with me. "Yes, bureaucrats on both sides have sabotaged good efforts."

When it came to Benazir Bhutto corrupt practices, Nawaz Sharif talked about it with a relish. "She has herself said she kept the money because it was not safe in Pakistan," Nawaz Sharif said. He inquired from me what procedure the Indian parliament adopted in such cases. "The power to disqualify a member rested with the election commission in Pakistan," he said. But he did not know what it would do in Benazir case. He wanted to know if India's election commission had any specific powers.

Talking about corruption of politicians he said there was no difference between India and Pakistan. All that came out in India was a familiar. "We have similar things happening here," he said. Mushahid Hussain joined to emphasise how there was no difference between the two countries in such matters.

"Why don't you think of land reforms," I asked him.

(Pakistan has landholdings running into thousands of acres). "I have thought about it," Nawaz Sharif said. "But it is still at the attention stage." He cited an anecdote to illustrate his observation. A person had an old heart disease. He did not let the family know. But when he fell ill, the family asked him why he had kept it a secret. He said it was not paining then. Nawaz Sharif said that the question of land reforms was now getting his attention because "it is beginning to give pain."

Nawaz Sharif is good at narrating anecdotes to underline his points. He told another to describe the just resolved confrontation between the government and the Chief Justice of Pakistan. A household went through a rough night because it had only one blanket to share. The following morning, a neighbour, who sensed trouble, asked them about the predicament. They said that the problem of the blanket had been resolved because it had been stolen away, said Nawaz Sharif. "I have no quarrel with anyone."

It was the problem of the blanket. Although the press was full of the point of no return the two sides had reached yet he was calm and confident when he talked to me.

Nawaz Sharif was optimistic about Pakistan's economy. I interviewed him a day after World Bank president James Wolfensson had met him in the wake of IMF's loan of \$ 1.55 billion to Pakistan. He exuded confidence, although the Pakistan rupee had been devalued by 11 per cent one week earlier. This was the second devaluation in less than a year.

"Our crops are immensely good this time," said Nawaz Sharif. Both cotton and sugarcane will have a surplus output. For agriculture we have allotted Rs. 3,500 crore against Rs. 500 crore last year. Now seeds and measures to protect the produce have been introduced vigorously."

One falls from roof of metal factory, dies

By Staff Correspondent

An employee of a metal factory, Shahabuddin (35), died falling from the roof of the factory at Mokimbazar under city's Kotwali thana yesterday.

He died on way to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, sources in the hospital said. When contacted Kotwali thana could not confirm the incident last night.

Trial train

From Page 1

tomorrow to and from Sylhet through the Magurchhara gas field area.

Meanwhile, Drilling of the Relief Well at Magurchhara gas field that began at the third location since October 6 has been going on in full swing and expected to be completed by the first week of December, said an official.

He said, with this capping of the month of the burnt out gas well will then arrange drilling of a fresh well at a nearby location.

Running of passenger trains may resume after completion of the sealing of the burnt out gas well, the sources added.



রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
জনসংযোগ বিভাগ
প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঢাকা।

রূপালী ব্যাংক লিঃ-এর ১৯৯৮ সালের ক্যালেন্ডারের জন্য ডিজাইন আহবান

জননীল শিল্পী/বিজ্ঞাপনী সংস্থার তরফ থেকে রূপালী ব্যাংক লিঃ-এর ১৯৯৮ সনের ক্যালেন্ডারের ডিট পাতায় ব্যবহারের উপযোগী লে-আউট গ্রান, কী-ড্রয়িং, কালার চার্টসহ বহুবর্ণ সফলিত পরিপূর্ণ ডিজাইন এবং ক্যালেন্ডারের সৌজন্য পাতার জন্য এক রংয়ে পৃথক ডিজাইন আহবান করা হচ্ছে। ডিজাইনের সাইজের সাথে সামঞ্জস্য রেখে ক্যালেন্ডারের সাইজ উল্লেখ করতে হবে। বাংলাদেশের নৈসর্গিক রূপ, আর্থ-সামাজিক প্রেক্ষাপট, কৃষ্টি ও ব্যাংকের কার্যক্রমে প্রতিফলিত করে ক্যালেন্ডার প্রকাশ করাই আমাদের লক্ষ্য। ক্যালেন্ডারের ৬ পাতায় প্রতিটিতে প্রকাশিতব্য পরিপূর্ণ ডিজাইনের জন্য (অর্থাৎ মনোমাসমহ ইংরেজী ও বাংলায় ব্যাংকের নাম ও তারিখ এবং ডিজাইনের কাপশন প্রদর্শন পূর্বক) সমালী/পারিতোষিক মূল্য বাবদ প্রদেয় অর্থের পরিমাণ টাঃ ১৬,০০০/= (ষোল হাজার টাকা মাত্র) টাকা এবং ক্যালেন্ডারের সৌজন্য পৃষ্ঠায় বিষয়বস্তুর প্রেক্ষিতকে অবলম্বন করে সুলিখিত ভূমিকা সহ এক রংয়ের ডিজাইনের সমালী মূল্য ৪,০০০/= (চার হাজার টাকা মাত্র) টাকা। এ বাবদ সর্বমোট প্রদেয় পারিতোষিকের পরিমাণ ১,০০,০০০/= (এক লক্ষ টাকা মাত্র)। সৌজন্য পাতাসহ সর্বমোট ৭টি ডিজাইনের মধ্যে যে কোন অথবা সকল ডিজাইন ব্যাংক কর্তৃপক্ষ গ্রহণ/বাতিল করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন। সে ক্ষেত্রে ডিজাইন দাখিলকৃত সংস্থা/শিল্পী ব্যাংকের যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত যে কোন ডিজাইন ব্যাংককে সরবরাহ করতে বাধ্য থাকবেন। উপরোক্ত ডিজাইন রূপালী ব্যাংক লিঃ, প্রধান কার্যালয়, ৩৪, দিলকুশা বাণিজ্যিক এলাকাহু রূপালী ভবনের ৭ম তলায় অবস্থিত জনসংযোগ বিভাগে আগামী ২৩-১১-৯৭ইং তারিখে বেলা এক ঘটিকার মধ্যে দাখিল করতে হবে।

এতদসম্পর্কে জ্ঞাতব্য অন্যান্য বিষয়াবলী জনসংযোগ বিভাগ থেকে অফিস চলাকালীন সময় জানা যাবে।

মারুফ হাসান
উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক
(জনসংযোগ)

ডেল্টা লাইফ ইনসিওরেন্স কোম্পানী লিঃ

উত্তরা ব্যাংক ভবন, ৯০-৯১ মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১০০০
পিএবিএল: ৯৫৫৫০০০-৫, ৯৫৫৬১১১-২

১। রিভার্সারী বোনাস
ক) সপাদিত (Paid-up) বীমা অকের উপর ৫% চক্রবিধি করে
খ) ১৯৯৫-৯৬ সালের এটি বছরের জন্য পূর্ণ বীমা অকের উপরে
সিমে হয়ে:

বীমার মেয়াদ	এটি হাজার বোনাসের হার
১৪ বছর পর্যন্ত	১০
১৫ থেকে ১৯ বছর	১২
২০ বছর বা তার উপরে	১৫

২। ছাড়াত/মেয়াদপূর্তি বোনাস
১৯৯৭ সাল বা তার পরবর্তী সালে (আগামী জানুয়ারী পর্যন্ত) চালু
অথবা দুই তৃতীয়াংশ মেয়াদ চালু থাকার পর সপাদিত পলিসির
মেয়াদপূর্তিতে অথবা দুই তৃতীয়াংশ মেয়াদ অতিক্রান্ত হবার পর মৃত্যুতে
এককালীন প্রতি হাজার টাকা বীমা অকের ১,০০০ টাকা।

বীমার মেয়াদ	সম্মত স্টেট বোনাস
১০ বছর	১ ৪২,০০০
১৫ বছর	১ ৬৬,০০০
২০ বছর	১ ১,০৬,৫০০

আগামী জানুয়ারী পর্যন্ত একই হারে অর্ধবর্ষিকালীন বোনাস দেয়া হবে।
বোনাস বীমার দাবী প্রদানকালে পরিশোধযোগ্য।

ডেল্টা লাইফ ইনসিওরেন্স কোম্পানী লিঃ
উত্তরা ব্যাংক ভবন, ৯০-৯১ মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১০০০
পিএবিএল: ৯৫৫৫০০০-৫, ৯৫৫৬১১১-২

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