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BNP senior vice-chairman Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury addressing a discussion meeting on 'National Revolution and Solidarity Day' at BIRDEM auditorium in the city yesterday, organised by the Doctors Association of Bangladesh.

# Earl Spenser denies any rift with royal family

JOHANNESBURG, Nov 8: Princess Diana's brother Earl Spencer has denied any rift with Britain's royal family and said his forceful speech at his sister's funeral had no agenda, flowing simply from his heart, reports Reuters.

"If there had been a rift among us I would never have been seen with Prince Charles twice during his visit to South Africa," Spencer told Johannesburg's Saturday Star in his first newspaper interview since Diana's fatal car crash on August 31.

Spencer chatted warmly with Diana's ex-husband, who visited South Africa this week, at two official functions in Cape Town where he now lives.

He appears not to have met his 13-year-old nephew Prince Harry, who came with his father for a part of the official tour, but told the Star he was sticking by the pledge he made at the funeral to help raise Diana's two sons as she would have wanted

The pledge I gave was on the family's behalf and we have honoured it and will continue to do so," the Earl said.

Charles Spencer shot into the limelight on September 6 when he took the pulpit at Diana's funeral in London's Westminster Abbey to pay her a moving tribute in which he also to meet any situation.

attacked the media who hounded her and, observers say, the royal family.

Spencer, 33, told the Star he was surprised at the huge impact his speech, dissected, analvsed and commented on for days, had made.

He rose at dawn on the Wednesday after her death to "I thought about who would

make the address at her funeral. It was a difficult thing, but I realised it had to be me," he "It took one and a half hours

to write. It just flowed. It was something that came from my heart. I had no agenda."

Spencer, who said Diana's blood was on the media's hands when it emerged paparazzi photographers had been chasing

# Polling centres

From Page 1

and Ansars will be deployed in 567 unions of ten districts under Khulna division from December 1.

Sources in the Election Commission said "tougher measures" will be taken for holding free and fair polls. Each of the 567 unions will have a "striking force" consisting of one platoon of BDR and APBN who will be kept standby

#### her through the Paris road tunnel where she died, remarked in the rare interview that he read no newspapers since she was buried.

He revealed that he has written a novel, but said he would never write a book about his sister, who was 36 when she died with the new love in her life, Dodi Al-Fayed.

Spencer, a father of four who was filed for divorce from his wife Victoria, has also agreed to do some work for South African charities that approached him after his funeral oration.

But he stresses he is not trying to make Diana's charity work live on through him. "I would never try in any way

to take on my sister's mantle. She brought a warmth and magic to everything she did. What I can bring is totally different," he told the Star.

He returns to Britain seven times a year to look after his family estate at Althorp in Central England, where Diana is buried. Her grave, on an island in a lake, is to be opened to public mourners for a brief period next year.

But the Earl said he loved South Africa and Cape Town. "It's ridiculously beautiful, a lot better than being in England where people wave fists at you and you get caught up in traffic

# Bangladesh gets Saouma Award

From Neeman A Sobhan

ROME, Nov 8: The Department of Fisheries in the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock in Bangladesh has won FAO's Saouma Award for institutional excellence.

The award, along with two others, the Boerma award for journalism, and the Sen award for outstanding field work, is presented during the biennial FAO conference, the organisation's governing body. This

#### Dainik Bangla, Times offices sealed, employees evicted

By Staff Correspondent

Riot police stopped journal-ists and employees of Dainik Bangla and the Bangladesh Times newspapers at the Purana Paltan crossing yesterday on their way to the offices of the newspapers in a procession, protesting their eviction from there in the early hours of the

A large contingent of riot police forced the journalists and employees of Dainik Bangla, Bichitra, Ananda Bichitra and the Bangladesh Times out of their offices at 3 am yesterday and sealed their offices. Their publications were closed by a Magistrate on October 31, citing resignation of their editors earlier on October

The publications are up for privatisation. But most of their employees and journalists did not resign as asked by the government. They termed the government order for "voluntary redundancy" illegal, without winding up the Times-Bangla Trust and paying their outstanding salaries for the past six months and benefits.

Led by a Deputy Secretary of the Information Ministry and a Magistrate, about 200 police men had entered the Dainik Bangla premises. They beat and hurled invectives at the journalists and employees before throwing them out, a press release of the Central Coordination Committee of BFUJ. Press Sramik Federation, Karmachari Federation and DUJ said yesterday.

Later the journalists and employees held a rally at the Jatiya Press Club premises strongly condemning the actions in the wee hours. It was addressed among others by Fazle Imam, Zahirul Huq, Mosharraf Hossain, Mojammel Huq, Kamruzzaman Khan, Mahtabuddin Khan and Ruhul Amin

Gazi. The journalists and employees of the two papers will stage a mass-hunger strike in front of the Press Club from 10 am to 8 pm today to protest he government actions, the press release

year's session is being held from 7-18 November.

All three awards are named after former FAO Director Generals. Addeke Hendrik Boerma from the Netherlands, Binay Ranjan Sen from India and Edouard Saouma from Lebanon. The Saouma award was established in 1993 to recognise institutions that have excelled in the implementation of technical cooperation projects. The award consists of a cash prize of 25,000 US dollars a medal and a scroll. The award was handed over at FAO headquarters on Friday. The Director General of the Department of Fisheries received the award on behalf of Bangladesh government.

Bangladesh's Department of Fisheries shared this year's award with the Iranian Agriculture Ministry's Infrastructure and Technical Directorate.

Bangladesh received the award for its implementation of a project that improved rural pond-fish culture extension services throughout the country. The Bangladesh project trained more than 1,500 fisheries officers and extensionists and more than 8,300 farmers

#### 3 electrocuted

Liaquat Ali, Director-General

of the Department of Fisheries

will collect the prize.

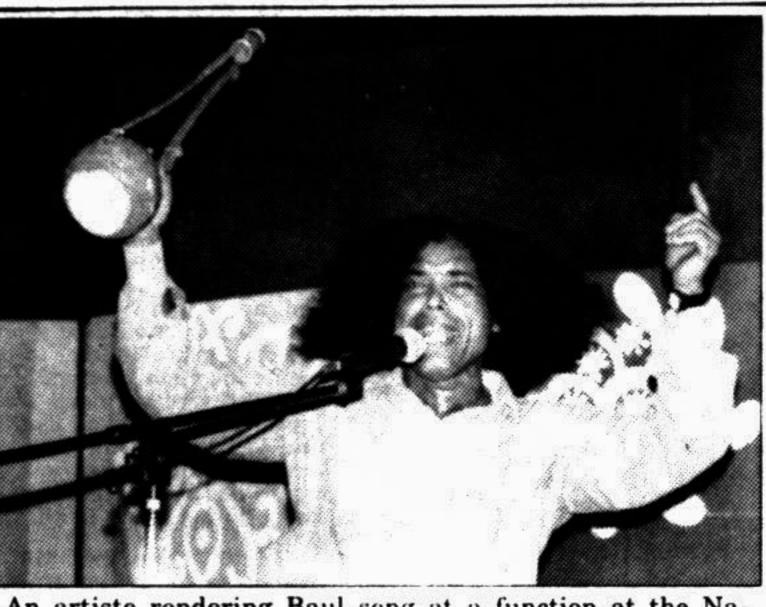
COX'S BAZAR, Nov 8: Three fishermen, including a Myanmar citizen, were electrocuted at Khurushkul union in Sadar therm today, police said, re-PORTS UNB.

## Varsity employees to go on 3-day strike today

By JU Correspondent Bangladesh Inter-University Employees' Federation (BIUEF) will observe a three-day strike in all the universities of the country from today to meet their 7-point charter of demands.

A BIUEF press release signed by its Chairman Rabiul Alam and Secretary General Mohammad Bashirullah said that the emergency services will not come under the purview of the The demands include refix-

ing of the pay scale in the ratio 1:5 between the lowest and the highest level, ensuring representation of the employees to the senate, syndicate, finance committee and other bodies of the university, stopping the 20 per cent cut from the pension money of the employees andraising of the retirement age from 60 to 65 years.



An artiste rendering Baul song at a function at the National Museum auditorium in the city yesterday, organised for the foreign artists who took part in the Biennial Asian Art Exhibition. — Star photo

Khaleda blamed for 'false'

campaign on CHT

## JSD-called hartal observed at Kushtia

From Our Correspondent KUSHTIA, Nov 8: A dawn-todusk hartal was observed here

The hartal was called by the JSD protesting the killing of its leader Abdul Wahab, 45, in Khoksa on Thursday last.

#### Body found

From Page 1

Friday. "At about six am today, his wife told me on telephone that he did not return home." Chowdhury said.

Fishermen from the Fisheries Department who were catching the remaining fish from Dhanmondi lake. presently under development. found the body. Dhanmondi police said

Mehedul's body bore a mark of injury in the leg. His black trousers were torn. They also recovered four used tickets for a 'youth fair' in the city from his pocket. His body has been sent to DMCH for autopsy. No case was filed till the writing of this report.

Four bodies including Mehedul's were recovered from Dhanmondi lake in the last six months.

## DMK

From Page 1 India (UNI) said today, reports

UNI said the charges were

reported in the India today weekly magazine's latest issue which will be released tomorrow. The report purportedly based on findings of an official commission has said Dravida Munnetra Kazagham (DMK) Party leaders met with Sri Lanka's Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) separatist

group.
"India today claims that the commission's report is replete with examples of DMK's proximity with leaders of the LTTE whose cadres are accused of murdering Gandhi," it said. Rajiv Gandhi was blown up

by a woman suicide bomber on May 21, 1991, while on the campaign trail in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu, the LTTE denied attacking Gandhi. The DMK Party is currently a key partner in India's multi-

party ruling coalition. The DMK helped the LTTE with weapons through 'connivance' when it was out of power in Tamil Nadu to fight Indian troops sent by Gandhi to the island nation in 1987, the

magazine alleged.

# Launch sinks

From Page 1

passengers, most of them traders, developed cracks at the bottom of the launch at about 2

When water started gushing in, the Sareng quickly anchored the launch near the char to save the passengers.

The launch started its journey from Dhaka at 6 pm Friday. A passenger, Abdul Mannan, told this correspondent that they escaped the accident due to quick decision of the Sareng.

Meanwhile, IWTA reserve vessels MV Hamza and MV Rustam have been sent to salvage the launch.

### Albright

From Page 1 gramme has not yet been firmed up said sources in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, she is likely to have official talks with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Finance Minister SAMS Kibria and Energy Minister Noor Uddin Khan besides a few other key person-

Albright's visit is expected to pave the way for the planned visit of President Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary to Bangladesh in February next

The US Secretary of State's visit is part of her planned visit to South Asia that would also take her to Pakistan and India. Albright would be the second US Secretary of State to visit

Bangladesh. Henry Kissinger had visited Bangladesh in 1974.

#### Parleys

From Page 1

President Ziaur Rahman with the street lying behind the Sangsad Bhaban, release of BNP activists arrested recently and withdrawal of the "false" cases against them, suspension of the mayoral order imposing ban on holding rallies on the roads, withdrawal of the government order renaming the ZIA (Zia International Airport) as Dhaka International Airport would create an environment for an "official dialogue."

According to sources in the ruling party, they have already been informed of the BNP preconditions for an "official dialogue." Telecommunication Minister Mohammad Nasim, who is the key negotiator on the government side, told The Daily Star late last night, "The BNP would send an updated list of the so-called false cases against its leaders and activists today." He refused to elaborate.

#### Barricade

From Page 1 investment of state-owned en-

terprises. The programme was an-nounced by Abul Bashar at a press conference yesterday on behalf of the Patkal Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parishad, Suta-Bastrakal Sramik Karmachari Federation and Bangladesh Bastra Shilpa Sramik League.

Abul Bashar accused the government of backing out from two accords reached with the workers in June and October and failing to hold discussions, as promised, on implementation of the 1991 Wages Commission Award and formation of Fifth Wages Commission and stopping disinvestment and other demands.

#### Shops gutted From Page 1

tion, fire service source said. Of the 45 shops, twelve were completely gutted and 33 par-

tially damaged. Meanwhile, State Minister for Labour and Manpower M A Mannan and City Mayor A B M Mohiuddin Chowdhury separately visited the fire affected market.

## Peace rally at Rangamati today

CHITTAGONG, Nov 8: A grand peace rally aimed at establishing permanent peace in Chittagong Hill Tracts will be held at Old Court Building premises at Rangamati tomorrow, reports BSS.

Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim, Agriculture Minister Begum Matia Chowdhury and city Mayor A B M Mohiuddin Chowdhury will address the rally to be held under the auspices of Rangamati Nagarik Committee.

All chairmen of local government council of the three hill districts, members of parliament and tribal leaders will also speak.

#### CHT refugees From Page 1

Chowdhury attended the meeting as special guest while it was presided over by Kalpa Ranjan Chakma, MP, Chairman of Task Force Committee. Over 40,000 tribal refugees

are still staying in the camps in South Tripura. A total of 5,000 refugees had returned home in two phases in 1994, and another 6,000 returned early this year, official

reports said. Over 50,000 tribals went across the border in 1986 in a spate of violence in the CHT.

#### country's independence at jeop-He also blamed both the gov-

Awami League general secre-tary and LGRD Minister Zillur Rahman has accused BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia of resorting to false campaign to mislead the people when the government is close to a solution of the Chittagong Hill Tracts problem, reports

In a statement yesterday, he said that while in power, BNP pursued a week-kneed foreign policy sacrificing Bangladesh's interest to India.

Zillur said people still remember that Begum Zia, during her visit to New Delhi as Prime Minister, forgot to raise the issue of sharing of the Ganges water, failed to solve the Hill Tracts problem and signed the push-in' accord with India to serve her 'dishonest political interest.

Besides, the trade gap between Bangladesh and India widened further and the domestic market was kept open for smugglers during the BNP rule, he alleged.

The Awami League leader criticised Begum Zia's speech on 7th November and said it was devoid of political norms and decency. He said Awami League,

which gave the lead in the liberation war, will make supreme sacrifice to safeguard the country's sovereignty. Zillur alleged that late Ziaur Rahman captured power through coup and killed hun-

dreds of brilliant army officers

and jawans, weakening the

armed forces and putting the

ernments of Ziaur Rahman and Begum Zia for destroying democracy through vote dacoity. The AL leader said the people would give befitting reply to false and misleading propa-

ganda of BNP.

## Quake shakes Tibet

HONG KONG, Nov 8: A severe earthquake struck a remote and sparsely populated area of Tibet today. There were no immediate reports of damage or injuries, says AP.

China's official Xinhua news agency quoted the state-owned Seismological Bureau as saying the 7.5 magnitude quake hit Manyi, Nagqu Prefecture, in north Tibet. The Hong Kong Observatory

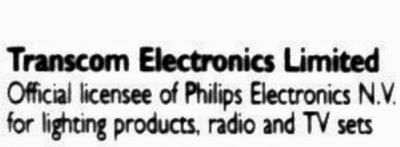
estimated the magnitude of the quake at 7.9, and placed the epicenter about 700 kilometers (430 miles) north-northwest of the Tibetan capital of Lhasa. The Observatory said the tremor was recorded at 6:08 pm

(1008 GMT).

age on land.

Communication with the sparsely populated and remote area is difficult, but Xinhua said there were no reports about damage and casualties. Quakes with magnitudes

# Blender with mill and chopper



Dhaka: 815306-9, 819625-9, 889993

Ctg.:716353, 723578, Khulna: 720304, Bogra: 6215



## From Page 1 Beach Post, a newspaper pub-

thorities might just do that. Kazi is being sought by the Florida police in an abduction case involving his daughter Catherine. The girl, mothered by Kazi's girl friend Francis Moya, disappeared from their common home in Florida in January 1994. At that time, she

same year.

to obtain a legal status in the US. According to police. Kazi promised to help the woman if she agreed to a sham marriage. To make the marriage more

convincing. Kazi later bought the woman 300,000 dollar worth of life insurance. On the policy statement. Kazi listed himself as the woman's legal Kazi met the woman a month

later at a motel in San Jose where he reportedly attacked her with a stun gun. For three hours he beat and choked her. However, the woman survived as she pretended to be dead and Kazi left her at the mo-

35, came to the Prime Minister the border into Canada. seeking help for the treatment Last week, the jury in San of his troubled amputated leg. He alleged that his right leg from the knee was cut off by the of attempted murder. BNP terrorists on April 2, 1995.

#### AL to observe Democracy Day' tomorrow

PM listens to

problems of

30 people

A cross section of people, in-cluding women, yesterday met Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

to tell their woes and sufferings,

from the capital and other parts

of the country gathered in and

outside the Awami League cen-

tral office at Bangabandhu av-

enue to apprise the Prime Min-

afternoon. Hasina listened to

various problems of at least 30

people who came to the Awami League office on the second day

A middle-aged woman

Nazma Alam, came with an ap-

peal to the Prime Minister for

assistance to set up an employ-

ment generation centre for the

she has organised a group of

working class women for self-

employment and sought help to

run the organisation. The

Prime Minister assured her of

Akhtar, daughter of martyred

freedom fighter Zafar Ali, came

from Boalmari of Faridpur

with an appeal for financial

help. She has been referred to

the Freedom Fighters Welfare

Mohammad Bashir Ahmed.

A young lady, Syeda Masuda

Nazma Alam informed that

For nearly 90 minutes in the

ister of their problems.

of the weekly holiday.

poor women

all possible help.

A large number of people

reports UNB.

By Staff Correspondent Awami League will hold a discussion meeting at Ramna Park in the city on November 10 marking the 'Democracy Day.

Prime Minister and AL chief

Sheikh Hasina will preside

over the meeting, says a party press release yesterday. On this day in 1987, a young man, Noor Hossain was killed in police firing during anti-au-

tocracy movement.

# Bangladeshi

lished from Florida, the au-

was only four. Kazi, who later broke off with Francis, was tried by Rivera Beach court in Florida for abduction, but the jury acquitted him in September the

Kazi later moved to California where he befriended a pregnant Jamaican woman seeking

In a bizarre twist of events.

tel. Two weeks later, Kazi was arrested while trying to cross

Jose deliberated less than an hour before finding Kazi guilty

#### Final report From Page 1 1997; and the Administrative

Tribunals (Amendment) Bill, The committee made a final report on these bills to be placed in the Jatiya Sangsad. Earlier.

Sangsad and sent to the special committee for scrutiny. The committee members — Forest and Environment Minister Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury. Law Minister Abdul Matin Khashru, Advocate Fazle Rabbi and Kazi Shamsur Rahman —

were present in the meeting.

these bills were placed in the

#### Pakistan dismisses early resumption of talks with India

ISLAMABAD, Nov 8: Pakistan today dismissed any possibility of an early resumption of peace talks with arch-rival India, saying it had seen no change of mind by New Delhi since dialogue stalled in September, reports Reuter.

## BNP, other parties

From Page 1

ally snatched away the right to do politics by imposing restrictions on meetings on the streets.

Held at Jamaat office, the meeting in a resolution called for a united resistance against 'conspiracy' by the government to hand over Chittagong Hill Tracts to others.

Presided over by Jamaat secretary general Maulana Matiur Rahman Nizami the meeting was attended by Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar and Shamsul Islam of BNP, M Qamruzzaman, Sheikh Ansar Ali and A T M Azharul Islam of Jamaat, Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Shah Shahid Sarwar and Wahidur Rahman of JP. Shafful Alam Prodhan and Sardar Shahjahan of Jagpa, A S M Solaiman, Nurul Huq Majumdar, Abdul Mobin, Abdul Latif Majumdar and Alhaj Waliullah of NDA and Saifuddin Ahmed Moni and Mustafizur Rahman of Democratic League.

#### Origin of arsenic From Page 1

content of the project," Kabir Four people died of arsenic-

related cancer and about 2.000 were reported to have been affected following use of tubewell water contaminated by arsenic in ground water in the country. Preliminary statistics, verified by Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE), Unicef and Dhaka Community Hospital, which is now working at field level to investigate 'patient identification,' showed alarming pictures. This prompted the World Bank to initiate programmes for immediate collection of information to support implementation of long-term plans already designed.

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# ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পানির অপচয় বন্ধ করুন ।। ম্যানহোলের ঢাকনা চুরি রোধ করুন

অভিকরের বিল পরিশোধে ব্যর্থ গ্রাহকদের সংযোগ তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে বিচ্যুতকরণের জন্য কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক পরিচালিত বিশেষ অভিযান ১লা নভেম্বর '৯৭ইং তারিখ হতে শুরু করা হয়েছে ৷

বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ বিল পরিশোধের সুবিধার্থে সমুদয় বকেয়া পরিশোধকারী গ্রাহকবৃন্দকে পানি ও পয়ঃ অভিকর সারচার্জ ব্যতীত পরিশোধের সময়সীমা ২৫-১১-৯৭ইং পর্যন্ত নির্ধারণ

বকেয়া অনাদায়ের কারণে সংযোগ বিচ্যুতি এবং পিডিআর এ্যাক্টের অধীনে ম্যাজিস্টেটের কোর্টে মামলা এড়ানোর নিমিত্তে অবিলম্বে বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ পানি ও পয়ঃ অভিকর পরিশোধ করার জন্য গ্রাহকবৃন্দকে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। বিল না পেয়ে থাকলে রাজস্ব

বিল সংক্রান্ত কোন অভিযোগ থাকলে ঢাকা ওয়াসার সংশ্লিষ্ট আঞ্চলিক অফিস বা প্রধান রাজস্ব কর্মকর্তা (ফোনঃ ৯১৩১৫৬৯) বা বাণিজ্যিক ব্যবস্থাপক (ফোন ঃ ৯১২০৫৫৭) অথবা উপ-ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক (অর্থ) (ফোনঃ ৮১৬৭৯৯) এর সাথে যোগাযোগ করতে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

জিডি-৩০৬

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ঢাকা ওয়াসার সম্মানিত গ্রাহকবৃন্দের জ্ঞাতার্থে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, পানি ও পয়ঃ

করা হল।

অঞ্চলসমূহের রাজস্ব কর্মকর্তার সহিত যোগাযোগ করতে পরামর্শ দেয়া যাচ্ছে।

ওয়াসা-জঃতঃ ৩৫৫/৯৭

আপনার সেবায় নিয়োজিত ঢাকা ওয়াসা

**Editor**: Mahfuz Anam

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