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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 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 and 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. Liaquat Ali, Director-General of the Department of Fisheries will collect the prize.

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3 electrocuted
COX'S BAZAR, Nov 8: Three fishermen, including a Myanmar citizen, were electrocuted at Khurushkul union in Sadar thana today, police said, reports 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 Rabul Alam and Secretary General Mohammad Bashirullah said that the emergency services will not come under the purview of the strike. The demands include re-fixing 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 and raising of the retirement age from 60 to 65 years.

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PHILIPS



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. — Star photo

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 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, analysed and commented on for days, had made.

He rose at dawn on the Wednesday after her death to write it.

"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 said.

"It took one and a half hours to write. It just flowed. It was something that came from my heart. I had no agenda."

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 jams."

Spencer, who said Diana's blood was on the media's hands when it emerged paparazzi photographers had been chasing him through the Paris road tunnel where she died, remarked in the rare interview that he read no newspapers since she was buried.

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PM listens to problems of 30 people

A cross section of people, including women, yesterday met Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to tell their woes and sufferings, reports UNB.

A large number of people from the capital and other parts of the country gathered in and outside the Awami League central office at Bangabandhu avenue to apprise the Prime Minister of their problems.

For nearly 90 minutes in the afternoon, Hasina listened to various problems of at least 30 people who came to the Awami League office on the second day of the weekly holiday.

A middle-aged woman, Nazma Alam, came with an appeal to the Prime Minister for assistance to set up an employment generation centre for the poor women.

Nazma Alam informed that 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 all possible help.

A young lady, Syeda Masuda 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 Trust.

Mohammad Bashir Ahmed, 35, came to the Prime Minister seeking help for the treatment of his troubled amputated leg. He alleged that his right leg from the knee was cut off by the BNP terrorists on April 2, 1995.

Bangladeshi

Beach Post, a newspaper published from Florida, the authorities 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 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 same year.

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

In a bizarre twist of events, 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 motel. Two weeks later, Kazi was arrested while trying to cross the border into Canada.

Last week, the jury in San Jose deliberated less than an hour before finding Kazi guilty of attempted murder.

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

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 Matiuir Rahman Nizami the meeting was attended by Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar and Shamsul Islam of BNP, M Qamruzzaman, Sheikh Anwar Ali and A T M Azharul Islam of Jamaat, Kazi Zafar Akhtar, Shahid Rahman Sarwar and Wahidur Rahman of JP, Shaful Alam Proddhan 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 content of the project.

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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JSD-called hartal observed at Kushtia

From Our Correspondent
KUSHTIA, Nov 8: A dawn-to-dusk hartal was observed here today.

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 AFP.

Launch sinks

From Page 1
passengers, most of them traders, developed cracks at the bottom of the launch at about 2 am.

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 Rustom 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 personalities.

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 year.

Barricade

From Page 1
investment of state-owned enterprises.

The programme was announced 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 partially 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.



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

Awami League general secretary 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 UNB.

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.'

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.

ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি
পানির অপচয় বন্ধ করুন।। ম্যানহোলের ঢাকনা চুরি রোধ করুন

ঢাকা ওয়াসার সম্মানিত গ্রাহকবৃন্দের জ্ঞাতার্থে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, পানি ও পয়ঃ অতিক্রমের বিল পরিশোধে ব্যর্থ গ্রাহকদের সংযোগ তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে বিচ্ছিন্নকরণের জন্য কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক পরিচালিত বিশেষ অভিযান ১লা নভেম্বর '৯৭ইং তারিখ হতে শুরু করা হয়েছে।

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

বকেয়া অনাদায়ের কারণে সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন এবং পিডিআর এ্যাক্টের অধীনে ম্যাজিস্ট্রেটের কোর্টে মামলা এড়ানোর নিমিত্তে অবিলম্বে বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ পানি ও পয়ঃ অতিক্রম পরিশোধ করার জন্য গ্রাহকবৃন্দকে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। বিল না পেয়ে থাকলে রাজ্য অফিসমুহুরে রাজস্ব কর্মকর্তার সহিত যোগাযোগ করতে পরামর্শ দেয়া যাচ্ছে।

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

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আপনার সেবায় নিয়োজিত
ঢাকা ওয়াসা

Editor : Mahfuz Anam

Published by the Editor from City Publishing House Ltd, 90 Kairali, Dhaka-1000 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52 Motijheel 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