Peace rally in CHT

'Don't be misguided by

rumour about treaty'

Reiterating the government's

desire to sign the peace treaty

on November 16, Agriculture

Minister Begum Matia Chowd-

hury said, "we are going to end the CHT crisis politically, pro-

cess of which was started by the

previous government. We are

also determined to sort it out

within the framework of the

ernment, in the name of solving

the crisis, went for negotiation

with India and held talks with

Narasimha Rao as they were

not sincere to bring an end to

sense of the real problem after

holding talks with the PCJSS

and at the sixth round of talks

in Dhaka, we have succeeded to

pursue them to prepare a draft

Rabbi, Dipankar Talukdar and

Kalpa Ranjan Chakma, Chair-

man of the three hill district lo-

cal government councils and

Raja Debashish Roy also spoke

Chuan new

Thai PM

Leekpai, leader of the main op-

position Democrat Party, was

today named Thailand's new

prime minister by the country's

monarch, the speaker of the

lower house of parliament said.

Chuan's appointment was

approved by King Bhumibol

Adulyadej and was to be pre-

sented to the veteran politician

by a senior parliamentary offi-

cial at the party's headquarters

The new premier had said he

had a solid majority of seats in

the 393-seat elected lower

Dacoity at Rly

bungalow

By Staff Correspondent

lakh in gold ornaments and

cash from the bungalow of the

Joint-Director General

(Finance) of Bangladesh Rail-

way on Outer Circular Road in

seven armed men entered the

bungalow of the Railway offi-

cial after cutting the iron grill

a locker from the inmates at

gun point and took gold orna

ments worth about Tk one lakh

and Tk 13,500 in cash. The gang

left the house after about a 45-

till last night in connection

with the incident. A case was

lodged with Motijheel thana in

However, none was arrested

Police said a gang of about

The dacoits took the keys of

the city early yesterday.

of a window at about 4 am.

Dacoits robbed about Tk 1.13

BANGKOK, Nov 9: Chuan

Parliament members Fazle

She said. "We have made

She said "The previous gov-

Constitution.

the crisis.

agreement."

on the occasion.

reports Reuter.

RANGAMATI, Nov 9: Speak-

ers at a peace rally here today

urged all concerned not to be

misguided by any rumour being spread by the vested quarters

against the CHT peace treaty.

tween the government and Par-

battya Chattagram Jana Sang-

hati Samity (PCJSS), they said

adding that the restoration of

peace in the insurgency-bat-

tered CHT region now lies in the

signing of peace treaty.

Organised by Rangamati

Nagorik Committee, the rally

was chaired by Gautam Dewan,

former chairman of Rangamati

Hill District Local Government

Council. Tens of thousands of

people, both tribals and non-

Telecommunication Minister

Mohammad Nasim said that

peace is the pre-condition of de-

velopment and development of CHT, a region full of natural re-

sources, is not possible without

Ershad seeks

meeting with

Hasına

Addressing the rally,

tribals, attended the rally.

restoration of peace.

The treaty is expected to be signed on November 16 be-

reports BSS.



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PW-37 tells court

Thakur changed radio announcement

Ahmed, reports UNB. M Reazul Hug, the 37th prosecution witness in the Banga-

to make some changes in the text of the announcement," the witness said during his crossexamination by a defence coun-

An engineer of Bangladesh Betar, the witness said Taheruddin Thakur wrote the text of the announcement and it was recorded and broadcast in presence of Khandaker Mush-

wrote the speech of Khandaker

Mushtaque Ahmed on August 15, 1975, also wrote the text of oath of allegiance to the new government by the chiefs of armed forces.

police and BDR read the oath of allegiance from the text written by Taheruddin Thakur on August 15 morning," he told the

what was in the speech of Mushtaque, but said Mushtaque began his address saying "Assalamu-Alaikum."

The witness, questioned by advocate Sharfuddin Mukul, the counsel for Taheruddin Thakur, said he (Thakur) gave the order to transmit the recorded speech of Mushtaque.

He said Hamd and Naat were played, before the second announcement and after that Nazrul songs were played in the radio on August 15 morning.

Sharfuddin Mukul, counsel for the former State Minister for Information, will continue cross-examining the PW-37 when the court resumes today at 9:30 am.

ceedings of the parliament. "If

warring groups in the battle-

field can talk peace, flying

white flag, why can't we, being

the citizen of one country? In

democracy, there is no alterna-

tive to dialogue and discussion

was being informed about the

Sec 144: AL, BNP

hold meeting at

separate places

From Staff Correspondent

thorities clamped Section 144

at Mirersharai thana head

quarters today as both the rul-

ing party and opposition BNP

announced public meetings on

the same day at the same venue,

imposed there from dawn to

dusk fearing an out break of vi-

olence as tension mounted

since yesterday centreing to-

was deployed at Mirersharai

headquarters. Police said both

the local units of Awami League

and BNP later organised their

meetings at two separate places

Verdict in Mona

murder case

on Nov 19

By Court Correspondent

The Second Additional Dis-

trict and Sessions Judge, Dhaka

has set November 19 to deliver

the verdict in the Fazlur Rah-

Hearing of the case con-

Mona, a businessman, was

killed by robbers in central

businessmen. The main prob-

lem, at the moment seemed to

be lack of familiarisation with

the advantages the new transit

route would offer, due to lack of

contact between businessmen of

Lok Bahadur Shrestha said,

"There are tremendous benefits

both for Bangladesh and Nepal

in using the new land transit

transportation of goods

through Calcutta Port requires

covering a longer stretch of In-

dian highway by Nepalese road

transport operators. If the

transit route through

Bangladesh connecting Mongla

Port is used, the distance would

be around the same (around

1150 kilometres both from Cal-

cutta and Mongla) but 50 per

cent of the surface route would

be on Nepalese soil, through its

Nepal has invited

Bangladeshi businessmen to

visit the country and see the

prospects for both bilateral and

cials said they are thinking of

sending a delegation to Calcutta

shortly to examine the harbour

facilities, and warehousing ar-

the port user charges there.

rangements and know details of

Commerce Ministry offi-

'east-west highway'.

multilateral trade.

Observers pointed out that

Talking to The Daily Star

man Mona murder case.

cluded yesterday.

Dhaka in July, 1992.

the two countries.

away from the restricted areas.

A large contingent of police

They said Section 144 was

official sources said.

day's meetings.

CHITTAGONG, Nov 9: Au-

He said that Prime Minister

for resolving problems".

day to day development.

BNP places new list makers participate in the pro-

between us". Nasim said that after getting

the "fresh list" he had talks with the Opposition Chief Whip in Jatiya Sangsad Khandakar Delwar Hossain over telephone last night. Delwar could not be contacted for his comment.

steps unilaterally and they have been told this". Delwar further said that

once the government comes up with some steps, "we can hold dialogue and go for a package deal". He, however, did not elaborate.

fron. If they (BNP) come one step forward, we will go three steps forward".

4 oil cos

mittee's directives, the negotiation committee would invite US companies Hondo and Triton for negotiations on Wednesday

pany Tullow yesterday submitted a draft production sharing contract (PSC) to the Chairman of Petrobangla for block 9.

this noon. "The chiefs of three forces,

pur-Jessore highway. He said he can't recollect

two hospitals. The persons killed were identified as Abdul Kader, 60,

ported to be critical, hospital sources said.

DU BCL activist held with arms

The arrested was identified

student of Islamic History.

Mohsin Hall and recovered arms from him.

reform project discussed

funded by the World Bank, aims at comprehensive and total reform in the judicial sector of the country.

World Bank is expected to provide Tk 200 crore for the project after evaluating the final assessment report of the project, said an official hand-

evaluated the progress achieved so far in respect of need assessment for the six areas of the project.

Truck drivers

From Page 1

Police, however, said some truck drivers put up the barricade parking some trucks on the road after a traffic sergeant had an altercation with a truck

Tejgaon police rushed to the

scene and restored normal movement of the vehicles at about 10:15 pm. However, none was arrested

till filing of this report last night.

Bus service

From Page 1 wants this to be part of a wider

road transport treaty, the Telegraph newspaper reported to-Wary of political opposition

at home which has accused it of a sellout to India on the Ganges water sharing treaty, the Awami League government is said to be reluctant to do this as it would give Indian vehicles the right to travel through the country. However, the two countries

are to renew for the second time on Monday an agreement on using their extensive network of inland waterways for crossborder trade.

Representatives of the ministries in both countries dealing with water transport are holding talks which are expected to culminate in the initialling of a fresh protocol.

The Indian side stressed the need for stepping up trade between the two countries by ensuring freight traffic throughout the year instead of at certain times of the year. The two teams also discussed ways of improving night navigational facilities on some stretches of the river.

A team of officials, led by Bangladesh Minister of Shipping is here on a four-day visit to replace the present agreement which runs out this year. The first two-year agreement was signed in 1993. The present agreement allows ships of India's Central Inland Water Transport Corporation and its Bangladeshi counterpart to use

six river routes.

Indian ships carry pig iron, steel, marble, textiles, rubber, chemicals and pharmaceuticals; while Bangladeshi vessels transport their country's exports to India - jute, fertilisers and chemicals.

The waterways also offer the shortest route to some of India's fortheastern border states and are used for transporting goods to these places.

From Our Correspondent FARIDPUR, Nov 9: Two persons were killed and 50 others injured in a road accident here

hospital sources, the accident occurred when a Alfadangabound passenger bus from Dhaka collided head-on with a local bus at Kanaipur on Farid-Of the injured one succumbed

Hospital while the other died in Faridpur General Hospital. The injured were admitted to the

and the driver of the local bus Parimal Chakravarty, 35. Of the 10 seriously injured the condition of seven is re-

By DU Correspondent

Detective Branch of police arrested an activist of Bangladesh Chhatra League along with a sawn-off rifle and ten bullets from the Dhaka University campus at mid night

as Abdul Khaleq alias Sohag, a Acting on a tip-off, police intercepted Sohag at the gate of

Judicial sector

A meeting of the advisers and consultants of the 'Judicial and Legal Capacity Building Project" was held at the Old High Court Bhaban in the city yesterday, reports UNB. The project, undertaken by

the Law Ministry and to be

The meeting reviewed and

including Qurankhwani, milad mahfil; placing of wreaths at the grave of Noor Hossain and at Noor Hossain Square and discussion meetings. On the occasion, President

Court.

Shahabuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia issued separate messages yesterday. In his message the President

called upon all to work with mutual trust and sincere cooperation to institutionalise democracy in the country. "By giving democracy an in-

stitutional shape, the aim and aspiration of common man could be fulfilled," he said, adding "the people of Bangladesh have faith in democratic norms and values."

The Prime Minister, in her message, said her government is working relentlessly to ensure economic emancipation of the people and to eradicate poverty. She hoped that the engle by upholding the dream of Shaheed Noor Hossain.

In observance of the day Awami League will hold a discussion meeting today at 3 pm at Ramna Batamul in the city. Prime Minister and AL chief Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to chair the meeting.

clude placing of wreath at Noor Hossain's grave at Jurain and at Noor Hossain Square, offering fateha and monajat.

To mark the day, main opposition, BNP will also hold a discussion meeting at 4 pm today at the party's city unit office. Its leaders and workers will place wreaths at the grave of Noor Hossain and at Zero

Khaleda on CHT issue

From Page 1 at stake with this government in power.

government for, what she said, denouncing the spirit of November 7 marked by Sepoy-People's Revolution and Solidarity Day when soldiers and people at large upheld the national independence by foiling conspiracies against

Mosharraf Hossain said that the Mujib government during the 1972-75 period propagated a fantastic story of emergence of another piece of Bangladesh in the Bay of Bengal. And now, he said, Prime

Minister Sheikh Hasina's government is publicising a fabricated tale of discovery of new gas fields during her tenure. Begum Zia said extraction from the gas field in Bhola is

the achievement of the former BNP government and "it's Awami League which called a hartal on the inaugural day of extraction from that field," she said. She said AL also called for

hartals during the foundation

stone laying ceremony of Ja-

muna bridge as well as investment conference during her government. "They also closed the Chittagong Port."

alleged that the then opposition AL called for hartals on 173 days without justified domestic reasons only to destroy the economy for serving the purpose of another country. She blasted the present head

of the government for spreading falsehood that there was no development during the BNP gov-Begum Zia listed the development works during her rule,

including Barisal Airport, Divisional Headquarters, digital telephone, dairy farms, TV centre at Patuakhali, communication network of Barisal with adjacent districts, cancer institute and allotment of Tk 105 crore for primary schools under LGED and Tk 300 crore for coastal barrage. She said the farmers are not

getting fair prices of their agricultural produce like jute as the government opened the border with India. "Textiles, tannery, shrimps

India which is exporting these items as her commodities." Begum Zia said the country lost its due share of Ganges waters despite signing of a treaty disposed following the regular with India by AL regime. The question-hour session.

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Let's make things better. PHILIPS

Dhaka University scheduled for November 10 and 11 have been postponed due to unavoidable reasons, reports UNB.

Fresh date for these examinations will be announced later, said a DU press release.

DU exams

postponed

All the examinations under

Employees of Trust newspapers stage hunger strike

By Staff Correspondent Journalists and employees of The Dainik Bangla, Bichitra, Ananda Bichitra and the Bangladesh Times staged a mass-hunger strike from 10 am to 8 pm yesterday at the Jatiya Press Club premises. They staged the hunger

strike protesting non-payment of six-months' arrear salary and benefits as per rules and what they termed conspiracy to deprive them of their dues in the name of disinvestment, according to a press release of the Central Coordination Commit tee of Journalists, Press Work ers and Employees

President of the Supreme Court Bar Association Barrister Nazmul Huda, MP. Coordinator of the SKOP Dr Wajidul Islam President of the Jatiya Press Club Reazuddin Ahmed, Convenor of South Asia Youth Solidarity Nirmal Rojario, Nirmal Sen, a senior journalist and some others addressed the hunger-striking journalists and employees and expressed their solidarity with them. They will also stage another

token hunger-strike from 10 pm to 5 pm today, the release added.

Al-Mamun made Addl IGP By Staff Correspondent

The Commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police A K Al-Mamun has been promoted to the post of Additional Inspector General of Police, said a DMP press release last night. A K Al-Mamun will, how

ever, hold the charge of DMP Commissioner until further order, the release said.

Science faculty students observe strike at DU By DU Correspondent

Students of the departments of Chemistry, Bio-Chemistry, Micro-Chemistry and Applied Chemistry of Dhaka University vesterday observed a day-long strike at the Curzon Hall, Mokarram Hossain Bhaban and the Science Annex building of the university demanding revision of Section 13(1) of the

Drug (Control) Ordinance 1982. No class was held in any department of the Science Faculty. They will observe strike today also. The students are demanding

revision of the law, calling it discriminatory.

SEC bill

From Page 1 Finance Minister Shah AMS

Kibria tabled the SEC bill titled Securities and Exchange Commission (second amend ment) Act. 1997, with the objective of enabling the Commission to perform its responsibilities 'smoothly and quickly'. Explaining the reason for

raising the number of permanent members, the bill said it was not being possible for the SEC to properly carry out its responsibilities of supervising and monitoring the capital market for protecting the interests of the investors and maintaining discipline in the market with its existing manpower "Therefore, manpower in the Commission needs to be enhanced in accordance with the requirement." The bill also proposed to

amend a portion of the law which relates to the holding of a quorum. "The quorum will comprise of the number of members, to be determined by the government", it suggested. Advocate Rahmat Ali,

Chairman of the JS Special Committee, submitted the committee's report on the three bills — the Speaker and Deputy Speaker (Remuneration and Privileges) (Amendment) Act 1997, the Bangladesh (Whips) (Amendment) Act, 1997 and the Administrative Tribunals (Amendment) Act 1997. The bills were earlier sent to the committee for scrutiny. The report proposed for ap-

pointment of an APS and an additional peon at the office of the Speaker and an additional peon at the Chief Whip's office. On the Administrative Tribunals (Amendment) Act, the

tention. Earlier, State Minister for Information Abu Sayeed placed in the House the annual report of the Bangladesh Press Council for 1996. Besides, one out of three call attention notices was

report approved the bill's con-

The Speaker adjourned the House at 7:30 pm until 4 pm today.

US envoy optimistic

Power transfer process shows democratic spirit'

US ambassador John C Holzman yesterday expressed his firm optimism about the future prospects of Bangladesh, reports BSS.

and Culture" in the auditorium of the Academy for Planning and Development in the city. Co-sponsored by the United States Information Service (USIS) and the Bangladesh Association for American Studies

power evolved in Bangladesh is praiseworthy and upholds democratic spirit, he said. The country has a vibrant and growing civil society where NGOs are also playing an important role, he noted.

doing well in the field of economy, is also addressing the problem of population and

about the United States, the organisers said. This year's twoday conference is the 7th in a

rupted in the city," one leader The agitation programmes

a three-hour negotiation between the workers' leaders and two ministers — state minister for labour and state minister for jute — had failed in the evening. The demands of the striking workers include implementa-

tion of the Wage Commission recommendation of 1991 in the private sector jute and textile mills, formation of Fifth Wage Commission and giving financial benefits to the jute and textile workers in the light of already announced fifth national pay scale and stoppage of indiscriminate privatisation of public sector jute and textile units and so on. According to Shah Alam, a

joint convener of the action committee of the workers, the first accord signed on June 21 said that the 'demands of the jute and textile workers were rightful', while the government had promised that disinvestment of the jute and textile mills would be done 'only after the government and the workers concerned reach a consensus on the issue.

The second accord which was signed on August 26 said that 'the government has neither any plan to close down the mills nor any immediate plan to disinvest the jute and textile mills', Shah Alam said. "Like its predecessors, the government of Sheikh Hasina has failed to live up to its commitment."

State Minister for Labour Abdul Mannan could not be contacted last night.

Arsenic From Page 1

appearing in public" her mother said. "She goes to school covering herself to make sure no one sees the skin lesions she has developed during the past six years. She has virtually isolated herself." the mother said. Thana Nirbahi Officer of Shahrasti Md Zafar Siddiq while talking to this corre-

spondent said, "People are asking all sorts of questions but we have no reply as we have no knowledge of the problem. The villagers want to know what is the solution if they can not use tubewell water and what happens when anybody develops arsenic poisoning. The TNO said, "People know about the disease. They are

afraid of it. But they don't know what to do. This is what actually worries us. After the DPHE survey, the

local administration took steps to warn the people about the effects of arsenic contamination of groundwater. Consequently, most of the people are giving up the habit of using tubewell wa-The Unicef and the DPHE.

through use of 'field test kits' have helped the villagers identify sources of safe tubewell water. But the real problem is the communication gap. People are in confusion what to do. Even officials in Thana Health Complexes are unable to give proper advice. Ruhul Amin who is also af-

fected by the disease said. "We have stopped using water from our tubewell and are using water from another tubewell nearby. But what is to be done next? I have heard that there is no care for the disease, is it

tion which is unlike in Amer-

ica. Both defeat and victory are

accepted in equal grace in the United States, he added.

from some of the participants.

Holzman said that American

Peace Corps was expected to ar-

rive in Bangladesh at the end of

the next year. About 20 peace

corps volunteers are expected to

come and their work would fo-

cus on teaching at teachers col-

Bangladeshi

engineer killed

in Kuwait

From Staff Correspondent

deshi engineer was killed in a

road accident in Kuwait yes-

Shahriar Ahmed Chowdhury,

an electrical engineer, serving

in a German company, died in a

road accident when he was on

way to his workplace. He was

sons, one daughter, relatives

and well-wishers to mourn his

He left behind his wife, two

Late Shahriar hailed from

The body of the deceased will

village Birgaon of Sunamganj

be brought to Sylhet soon, fam-

SYLHET, Nov 9: A Bangla-

According to family sources,

leges, he added.

terday morning.

death.

sadar thana.

ily sources said.

Later, in reply to queries

While dwelling on the political scene in Bangladesh, Holzman said he noticed pains among those defeated in elec-

"I am truly optimistic about the future of Bangladesh," Holzman said while inaugurating a conference on "US Society

(BAAS), the inaugural function was also addressed by Prof A K Azad Chowdhury, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University. The American ambassador

said his optimism is based on the success Bangladesh scored in a number of sectors like democracy, health and development. The process of transfer of

The ambassador said Bangladesh, which is gradually

health in a better way. The conference, an annual feature of BAAS, is intended to promote a deeper understanding in Bangladesh of American society and culture and to enhance academic instruction

48-hr strike Hartal in Sylhet From Page 1 vehicles is not likely to be distoday

From Staff Correspondent were announced yesterday after SYLHET, Nov 9: The Sylhet district unit of Jatiyatabadi Juba Dal has called a 8-hour hartal in the district tomorrow to press the demand for immediate release of central leader or Jativatabadi Shechchhasevak

> man Ratan. The district unit of Juba Dal, Sramik Dal and JCD brought out processions and held rallies in the town today to drum up support for the hartal programme.

Dal Ilyas Ali and Quamruzza-

Manzoor murder

From Page 1

and Sessions Judge Mia Mohammad Sharif Hossain ordered next hearing of the case on November 23.

Hearing in another case against former President Ershad for using public money to decorate the Jatiya Party office was also deferred till November

Advocate Yusuf Hossain Humayan appeared for the accused who was present in the court.

Vagrants

From Page 1 tre vesterday complained that they did not get enough food while no magistrate visited the centre for several months. A magistrate is supposed to visit the centre at regular intervals to see the condition of inmates and determine who should be released or kept for rehabilitation, according to an official of

the Directorate. The angry inmates also complained to police and officials of the Directorate that they did not want to stay in the centre for indefinite period.

A large contingent of police force including women police and riot police was sent there to bring the situation under con-

Later in the afternoon, female inmates of the centre. numbering about 150, were sent to another such centre at Pubail in Gazipur. Police said a case was lodged

with Mirpur thana in connec-

tion with the incident. Potato

From Page 1 year with Tk 100 per bag to clear the old stock in the cold storages, the situation would

have its bearing on the national economy He suggested that the banks should arrange 'easy terms like five instalments and interest free block account' for the cold storage owners unable to pay back their working capital and project loans and make provi-

next season to keep the businesses going. He also urged the government not to permit more cold storages in the country.

Mozammel Huq. General

sions for working capital in the

Secretary of the association also answered queries newsmen. The association urged the

people and the government to promote potato as on alternative to rice and wheat. The government should also introduce potato in Food for Works Programme and supply potatobased food in state-run institutions

The text of radio announcement of August 15 putsch was changed by Taheruddin Thakur and broadcast by Major Dalim over Bangladesh Betar in presence of Khandaker Mushtaque

bandhu murder case, told the court vesterday that Thakur told Mushtaque to change the language of the announcement. "I heard Taheruddin Thakur telling Khandaker Mushtaque

The announcement, which he heard first and also the second time, was verbal, he said contradicting a suggestion by the defence lawyer for Thakur.

Reazul said Thakur, who

From Page 1 dialogue between the two parties, Mohammad Nasim said, "Let's examine the cases first We always keep in touch with them (BNP) and welcome any sort of discussion or dialogue

Earlier in the evening, Delwar told this correspondent at his Sangsad Bhaban office that the government "must create" a congenial atmosphere for dialogue first and for that matter "they (AL) should take some

Talking to this correspondent at his Sangsad Bhaban office last night, Prime Minister's Parliament Affairs Advisor Suranjit Sengupta said, "Responsibility for creating congenial atmosphere should be shared by both the party in power and the party in Opposi-

Sengupta claimed that frantic efforts were on from the government side so the BNP law-

From Page 1

and Thursday. Enron will have discussions on blocks 6 and 11 today South Asia of US will hold discussion on Sunday Meanwhile, Irish oil com-

Tk 66 crore project From Page 1 tion and widening of vital stretches of the road from Banglabandh to Panchagarh. These roads are now used only occasionally and for light traffic. Renovation of those are

important to open up the vital

arterial link between the entry

point of Nepal's transit cargo

and southern Bangladesh. From the growing interest of the two governments and private businessmen, it was amply clear that both Nepal and Bangladesh are waking up to be changed perspective of expanding bilateral trade and utilising the transit links so that a new era of economic cooperation

can be ushered in, the official pointed out. The Nepal-Bangladesh transit route is yet to be put to use due to absence of logistic facilities including absence of good

roads. A inter-ministerial meeting was held at the Commerce Ministry recently and Nepalese Ambassador in Dhaka Lok Bahadur Srestha was also invited to attend it. From Bangladesh side, representatives of Foreign Home, Commerce, Ports and Shipping and Communications ministries were present.

At the meeting the Nepalese

envoy pointed out the difficul-

ties being faced by his country's

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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2 killed, 50 hurt as buses collide in Faridpur

According to witnesses and

at Faridpur Medical College

By Staff Correspondent H M Ershad, Jatiya Party Chairman and former President has sought a meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina according to party sources. Ershad's request was made

meeting is yet to be fixed, the sources said. MP seeks protection

immediately after his return

from abroad. Schedule for the

from Speaker Shahjahan Khan, an Awami League MP from Madaripur, yesterday sought protection from the Speaker as well as from the Home Minister from what he alleged 'illegal and uncalled for police harassment', reports BSS.

Rising on a point of order

Khan named the SP of

Madaripur saying that the dis-

trict police officer has searched his residence at his home town. He also searched his car on false allegation while he was coming to Dhaka by road. Khan also alleged that he was deliberately made an accused in a case and finally he

had to take bail from the High

resentative of the people, my

life is under threat due to over-

doings by the SP of Madaripur,

the ruling party MP said and

demanded necessary actions

and investigation into the af-

From Page 1

drawn up various programmes,

"Though I am an elected rep-

Noor Hossain Day

minute operation.

tire nation would come forward to achieve those goals. Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia in her message said the people of Bangladesh who have launched a movement against "imperialist, subservient and autocratic forces" must win in their strug-

Its other programmes in-

"We, the democratic-nationalist forces, are bearing the flag of independence while this government is handicapped with conspiracy to sell out the country," she said adding the people will have to choose which side they would like to belong to. She lambasted the present

Bangladesh's statehood. Former energy minister and BNP leader Dr Khandaker

The former Prime Minister

ernment.

and garments are now going to

country now faces acute water scarcity due to the "Farakka problem," she added.