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City Awami League brought out a procession yesterday protesting the Tuesday's incident in Chittagong. - Star photo

Resist conspirators, PM urges FFs

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the conspirators, who were out to destroy the spirit of the Liberation War, have become active again to create an abnormal situation in the country, reports UNB.

They are trying to push the country towards an unusual situation in a planned manner ... They have killed people and police in Chittagong without any reason," she said and called upon the freedom fighters to remain alert against any con-

spiracy. She also urged them to resist those who want to create hindrance to ongoing development process aimed at economic emancipation of the masses. Political stability is a must for economic development of the country, she added.

The Prime Minister was inaugurating a self-employment generating project, "Muktijod dha Sanirbhar Prokalpa," o the Muktijoddha Sangsad for

Political cases

tion", he said adding, "We'll actively consider withdrawing other kinds of cases."

Nasim, the Awami League stalwart negotiating with the BNP to break the political standoff, further said he also communicated the ruling party's willingness to form parliamentary standing commitless on Sunday. He hoped BNP would send their nominees for the committees as the Treasury Bench had already announced its readiness to accommodate all the 113 MPs of the party in

those committees. According to sources, the Home Ministry investigation did not find any case against 10 out of 19 BNP lawmakers who. the opposition party claimed,

Earlier, BNP had given to

Nasim a list of political cases

filed with 54 thanas across the

were victimised

country against its MPs and other partymen.

সৃষ্টির কাজে লিগু।

الالمالالانكافات

মহানবী হযরত মুহম্মদ (সাঃ) বলেছেনঃ "যে ব্যক্তি নিজ

মুখে মুসলমান হবার দাবী করে তাকে আমার জন্য

মুসলমানদের তালিকাভূক্ত কর" – বুখারী কিতাবুল জেহাদ

বিনীত আবেদন

(कामिय़ानी) विद्राधी आत्मानत्नत्र नात्म मार्छ

নেমেছে। আহমদীয়া মুসলিম জামাতের পক্ষ থেকে

আমরা স্পষ্ট ভাষায় একথা জানাতে চাই যে, আমরা

মুসলমান। আমরা সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ ও সর্বশেষ শরীয়ত

'ইসলাম'-এর অনুসারী। আমরা 'খাতামান্নবীঈন'

হ্যরত মুহাম্মদ (সাঃ)-এর উম্মত। চিহ্নিত মহলটি

ধর্মের দোহাই দিয়ে দেশে অরাজকতা ও বিশৃঙ্খলা

আমাদের বিনীত অনুরোধ, উগ্র মৌলবাদী চক্রের

সেক্রেটারী, প্রচার বিভাগ

বিষোদগার শ্রবণ করার পাশাপাশি আহমদীদের

ধর্মবিশ্বাস সরাসরি আহমদীদের কাছে জেনে

৪ বকশী বাজার রোড, ঢাকা-১২১১, ফোন ঃ ৫০৫২৭২

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একটি চিহ্নিত মহল দেশে পুনরায় আহমদীয়া

the distressed freedom fighters at the International Conference

Centre (ICC) Under the project, distressed freedom fighters will be provided with interest-free small credits for their self-employ-

At the initial stage, two freedom fighters from each thana of the country and two from each ward of the capital city have been brought under the project and given Tk 15,000 each as loans.

Sheikh Hasina handed over certificates of loans to some 101 freedom fighters at the inaugural function. All distressed freedom fighters will be brought under the project in phases, she

The Prime Minister said freedom fighters must get their due honour and added that the government is taking steps for their welfare.

She said steps have been taken to preserve the graves of the freedom fighters across the country and decision was taken to maintain a job quota for the children of the freedom fight-

Mentioning the importance of making a list of the genuine freedom fighters, Hasina said the post-1975 governments used the institution of freedom fighters for their personal interest. "We want the genuine freedom fighters to get their recognition and honour.

Armed gang ent sizes, three pagers, one mobile set and materials used in making firearms and explo-

sives from the possession of the arrested persons. Sub-inspector Rezaul Karim, who was bullet-hit in his head was rushed to Razarbagh Police Hospital. The other injured. gang member Reza Mia, was admitted to Dhaka Medical Col-

lege Hospital. Three cases were lodged with Demra thana in connection with the incident.

AL leaders From Page 1

visit to Barisal Addressing the rally, Mayor Mohammad Hanif called upon the ruling party workers to resist the violence unleashed by BNP and its anti-liberation lackeys.

He also announced gayebana janaza at the Baitul Mokarram National Mosque after Juma prayers today for those killed in Chittagong.

Refugee repatriation

Official team leaves for Tripura

KHAGRACHHARI, Nov 13: A five-member official delegation left here today for Indian state of Tripura to work out details of the fourth phase of repatriation of tribal people scheduled to begin on November 21, reports

The officials led by the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Khagrachhari hill district Mohammad Ismail will discuss ways to make the repatriation process smooth and will procure lists from their Indian

counterpart, officials said. Meanwhile, the hill district administration has taken all necessary measures to make the fourth phase of the repatriation

Strike at BUET

From Page 1

JCD and BCL brought out protest processions after this incident late Wednesday night. The Chhatra Dal later called a student strike. Leaders of both BCL and JCD then sat down together to resolve the situation. BCL asked JCD to withdraw the strike but JCD did not respond

positively. Then the BCL also

The main gate of BUET was

obstructed by both BCL and JCD

called a strike.

yesterday morning. No further violence was reported till the writing of this report. Fire From Page 1

fire fighting vehicles were en-

gaged to fight the blaze. Fire Brigade said. The fire broke out when a

tank lorry was being filled with diesel from the terminal, Fire Brigade officials said. The fire also damaged three trucks and a tank lorry An official of Padma Oil

committee would be formed to find out the cause of fire.

This was said in a survey re-

port by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) and the World Health Organisation (WHO). The report was released at a

Diabetes is on the rise glob-

ally and the number of diabet-

ics is likely to double in 15

press conference of the Diabetic Association of Bangladesh (DAB) on the occasion of World Diabetes Day yesterday.

The survey report identified rapid urbanisation and its effect on environment and change in ihtake of nutrition as the key reasons for increase in the number of diabetics in the

It also pointed out that in ev-

Iraq expels US arms inspectors

BAGHDAD, Nov 13: Iraq today ordered all American weapons inspectors in the country to leave immediately, raising fears of a possible US military strike in retaliation, reports AP.

The order was announced by the Iraqi News Agency after a meeting by the Revolutionary Command Council headed by President Saddam Hussein.

Khasru

From Page 1

the minister to accept it in public interest. "The objective of bringing the bill is to ensure the appointment of an ombudsman. Passage of the bill is not the goal," she said.

The House, however, rejected tabling of the bill.

On the private members' day yesterday, the House also rejected three other bills by Golam Mohammad Kader of JP. The bills concerned Criminal Offence (Appointment of Investigation Officer) Act, 1997, The Civil Courts (Amendment) Act. 1997 and The Financial Loan Court (Amendment) Act, 1997.

Mofazzal Hossain Kaikobad of JP withdrew his 'resolution' on setting up a technical school at Muradnagar in Comilla following assurance by Education Minister A S H K Sadek and that of Delwar Hossain Saidee of the Jamaat-e-Islami was rejected by voice vote. Three other resolutions by BNP lawmakers Gazi Mohammad Shahjahan, Sarwar Jamal Nizam and Md Mosharraf Hossain were not raised due to their absence from the House.

The session was adjourned

From Page 1

Bhuiyan said, noting that cases

have been lodged against M K Anwar and Salahuddin Quader

Chowdhury after the list was

there are some cases against the

BNP legislators that were

lodged during BNP rule,

Bhuiyan said: "During the

February 15 general elections,

AL and BNP leaders lodged

cases against each other in sev-

eral places. There were some po-

nature of the cases, the BNP

government did not make any

attempt to withdraw the cases

lodged even against the party

MPs. But after taking over of

power, the AL government

managed to get their people out

of the cases, while the charges

against the BNP leaders re-

the Opposition in Parliament

Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowd-

hury addressing the press con-

ference said the BNP is ready to

sit for dialogue with the ruling

party if it creates a congenial

congenial atmosphere." he said,

"We are eagerly waiting for a

UNB adds: Deputy Leader of

"Considering the political

Asked to clarify reports that

sent to the government.

lice cases too."

mained.

atmosphere.

at 9.12 till 4 pm on Sunday.

Number of diabetics may double in 15 years By Staff Correspondent

ery four natural deaths the fourth one involves diabetes related diseases

"To fight the disease we have to be more cautious. We must know what exactly causes the disease and identify them promptly," the report said.

DAB has taken up a number of schemes to address the problems, said Dr CM Delwar Rana, Deputy Director of BIRDEM Hospital.

He appealed to those associated with the media to help create public consciousness about the disease

"Global Awareness, Our Key to Better Life" was this year's

IDF slogan The others present at the press conference included. Dr Shafiuddin Mahtab, President, DAB, Dr A R Khan, Dr A K Azad Khan. Prof Hajera Mahtab and Ganendriya Chakma.

Maj Khairuzzaman granted divn in jail

The High Court has granted division to Major (retd) M Khairuzzaman, an under trial prisoner in Dhaka Central Jail. said a press release, reports

Former Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Major (retd) Khairuzzaman was arrested on August 13, 1996 under Special Powers Act for his alleged involvement in the jail killing on November 3, 1975.

Advocate Mahabubur Rahman moved the petition on behalf of the accused.

Bangabandhu

From Page 1 and quarter master JCO that the soldiers had taken arms

and ammunition from the armoury, he said. The witness said when he asked them whether tanks had gone out or not, they informed him that those were waiting outside for Major Farook who

was talking with CO of the Artillery Major Rashid behind the quarter guard. The witness said he went there and found an open jeep fitted with an LMG; then Major Farook asked him to look after

the regiment and keep the gate He said he asked Farook. "Sir, where are you going?" In reply, the acting commander of the 1st Bengal Lancer Major Farook said, "We are going to top-

ple the government. "Sir. was Shafiullah saheb informed of this?" he asked. "I don't find it necessary"

created by withdrawing the

false cases filed against the BNP

said the main opposition had

expected that the government

would take immediate positive

been playing a negative role, he

regretted and said, "We are now

faced with fear and intimida-

tion . . . we're being threatened

cally said he did not invite the

army or anybody else to stand

against the present regime as

He said Suranjit Sengupta

made the statement in the

House, either from ignorance or

intentionally, totally distort-

ing his (Chowdhury's) speech of

November 7. "I don't know if

Sengupta made his statement at

any prompting . . . only he

statements in parliament by

both the ruling party MPs are

totally untrue, fabricated and

motivated. He urged the gov-

ernment party leaders to re-

frain from making any such

Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury,

BNP MPs MK Anwar,

Prof Chowdhury said the

(Sengupta) can say this.

false statements.

Prof Chowdhury categori-

by the government leaders."

they did in 1971 and 1975.

Instead, the government has

The deputy opposition leader

MPs, leaders and workers.

steps in this regard.

was the reply from Farook ac-

cording to Syed Ahmed.

BNP: Dialogue

from Monday By Special Correspondent

College ground yesterday.

Partners' board

on population

meets in city

Ministers and officials from 10 developing countries including Bangladesh will attend a three-day meeting of the Board of Governors of Partners Initiative in Population and De-

city on Monday. President Shahabuddin Ahmed is expected to inaugurate the meeting, which will formalise membership of China in the group, according to official sources.

velopment, an inter-govern-

ment alliance, beginning in the

Bangladesh will be represented by Health Minister

Salahuddin Yusuf. This will be the third meeting of the Partners Board with the first one in Harare in 1995 and the second in Mexico City

Colombia, Egypt, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Thailand, Tunisia and Zimbabwe are currently on the governors board of Partners Initiative. Besides China, Pakistan and India are also seriously considering membership of the group,

Apart from Bangladesh,

the sources said. The Dhaka meeting will review progress made so far in the South-South cooperation and chart new strategies, Balla

Musa Silla, acting Executive Director of the Partners Initiative told newsmen yesterday. Tension prevails

in 3 DU halls By DU Correspondent A tense situation was pre-

vailing in three dormitories of Dhaka University dominated by the Chhatra League till last night following a clash between two rival factions of the party over gaining control of the halls on Wednesday. The two factions - one led by

Shamim Ahmed and the other jointly led by Babul Talukdar, Aminul Islam Ratan and Swakat Hossain Nannu, an outsider in the campus — locked in a clash on Wednesday morning which left at least 10 people injured. Additional police were de-

ployed in the dormitories to avert any further violence. Police were seen checking identity cards at the entrance of the Zahurul Hag Hall.

Foil conspiracy to lease out CHT: Khaleda KUSHTIA, Nov 13: BNP the present government has

Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia today called upon the people to foil the "conspiracy of the government to lease out the Chittagong Hill Tracts to India," reports UNB.

BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a public meeting at Kushtia University

"The people will not accept any unequal, unrealistic and unconstitutional agreement with the insurgents," she told a huge public meeting at the Kushtia Government University College ground this after-

The Leader of the Opposition reiterated her call for unity of all patriotic, nationalist and Islamic forces to protect the country's independence and sovereignty which, she said, "is now at stake" in the hands of the present government.

The government has planned to sell out the country's independence only to consolidate its power which it had grabbed through conspiracies at home and abroad, she alleged.

Begum Zia asked the huge crowd whether they want the flag of independence in the hands of BNP, or the shackle of bondage in the hands of Awami League. Raising their hands, the crowd replied in favour of inde-

pendence. Criticising the government for banning public meeting on the streets in capital Dhaka, she said. "They have done it to prevent the opposition from

demonstrating against the government's misrule."

The BNP Chairperson said

Thana gheraoed From Page 1 areas attacked the thana. They

also brought out a big procession with the body and met the local TNO and demanded immediate action against the persons responsible. To bring the situation under control, the TNO contacted the Deputy Commissioner and Police Super Jessore. The Police Super immedi-

ately reached the spot and suspended SI Hafizur Rahman and closed four other policemen Nuzmul Islam, Ansar Ali, Dramananda Sikari and Nasir Uddin.

The Deputy Commissioner called a magistrate from Jessore Collectorate for Surathal of the body and to sent it to Jessore General Hospital for au-

"Betrayed the government officials and employees" with regard to the implementation of the new national pay-scale, vio-About the cancellation of November 7 public holiday, she

Media Syndicate photo

lating its election pledge. said the government was trying to undermine the glory and significance of the day and to dis-

tort history The meeting was also addressed by Khaledur Rahman Tito, Shahjahan Siraj, Tarigul Islam, Habibur Rahman Habib. Mizanur Rahman Minu, Prof Shahidul Islam MP, Syed Mehdi Ahmed Rumi MP, Abdul Khaleg Chantu MP and Alam-

gir Kabir MP. Ahsanul Huq Mollah MP presided over the meeting. Int'l industrial fair opens at

Ctg today. From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Nov 13: An

international industrial fair, first of its kind in the country. will begin in the port city from tomorrow. Addressing a press conference here today. President of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCC&I) Jafrul Islam Chowdhury, MP,

said that the governments and private organisations from five foreign countries would participate in the industrial fair where 240 stalls and five pavilions will be opened.

From Page 1 Home Ministry would come up

with proof of the allegations made by his party colleagues in parliament. Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury, who was present at the

dias on that day in Chittagong, said: "The AL terrorists used the uniforms of metropolitan police while attacking our rally. According to reports received later, the problem began when some people sitting inside a police jeep threw a cracker on the crowed, and they were in police uniforms without names inscribed on it". Replying to a question, Chowdhury said that he was

preparing to lodge cases against some people' responsible for the incident soon.



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adding "So far, there was no Major (Rtd) Hafizuddin Ahmed. Company said an enquiry Amanullah Aman, Joynal Abeformal discussion." Prof Chowdhury said the atmosphere for dialogue can be

"The essence of the Business Summit is that it will let us take a look into what needs to be done regarding our infrastructure, like shipping and port facilities, banking sectors and other vital areas. We think the summit will send a signal not only within South Asia but also outside South Asia, having a lot of economic and political im-

Farooq Sobhan said that the geographical links that tie the three nations could be exploited fully for economic benefit if transportation links including transit facilities were opened up Former foreign secretary

Fakhruddin Ahmed observed that the 'Business Summit" would supplement the SAARC concept at "a higher altitude." "The summit will enable the three nations to fine-tune further areas of economic cooper-

ation and discard distrust and suspicion that exists", he said. Obaidullah Khan felt that the summit was a 'confidence building exercise. Khan said the summit would enable the concerned countries

to take a look at the infrastruc-

ture, transit and port facilities

in this part of the region. He observed that one should not perceive Bangladesh as "pro-India or pro-Pakistan but as pro-region". Mahbub Jamil expressed

doubts whether the summit would be able attain some tangible results.

He said efforts should be made to improve the existing business conditions and steps initiated for having an even playground for economic benefits of all the three countries. He was critical that in the

summit preparatory committee, except the BFCCI chairman, no other business representatives have been kept although it was meant to be a "Business Summit." Matiur Rahman welcomed

the holding of the summit and

said all the three countries should continue to hold regular dialogues. He suggested that Finance and Commerce ministers of the three nations should make an attempt to sit at least twice a year and "should try to work out

a formula for regular high-level policy meetings. Rahman pointed out that the Commerce Ministry should take immediate steps to invite participation of more businessmen in the summit preparatory committee.

could overtake the politicians in bringing a change of scenario in the subcontinent," the editor of Bhorer Kagoj said. Imtiaz Ahmed of Dhaka University felt that the Summit would give an opportunity for

introspection and to re-think

"In fact the private sector

He suggested setting up a cur-riculum board which could examine the curriculum which breed animosity and try to devise an objective curriculum. Imtiaz called for industrialisation in the bordering areas to check migration of people

visa procedures, and if possible to grant long term visas. Mahbubur Rahman was critical that the business community was not sufficiently informed about the details of the Business Summit.

and suggested simplifying the

He said it was a welcome thing to meet at a summit but expressed doubt whether something tangible would happen. MR Osmany suggested set-ting up institutions for studying

problems and prospects of business in the subcontinent. Welcoming the idea of the Summit, Osmany said that efforts should be made to build a congenial atmosphere of trust and confidence. Mahfuz Anam, in his concluding remarks, said that the

He commended the efforts at holding the Summit and termed it as "a praiseworthy initia-"With three leaders meeting in Dhaka, it is a good occasion

for demonstrating the spirit of

regional cooperation," he said.

summit provided an opportu-

nity, hitherto unknown in the

din Faruque and Nazimuddin Alam were present. Roundtable on business summit From Page 1 the history of the subcontinent.