

JUCE JAM PICKLE KETCHUP SHERBET

প্রাণ

SQUASH VINEGAR KEWRA-WATER ROSE-WATER

PRAN for Health

The Daily Star

MARBLE MARBLE MARBLE

WE HAVE HUGE READY STOCK OF ITALIAN CARRARA, PERLATO SICILIA, BOTTICINO, INDIAN KESSWARI GREEN, MALAYSIAN AND PAKISTANI MARBLE OF DIFFERENT TYPES.

NIRMAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.
199, TEJGAON I/A, DHAKA.
TEL: 605957, 607363 SHOW ROOM: 861965

VOL. VII NO. 295 REGD. NO. DA 781 AGRAHYAN 4 1404 BS. DHAKA TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1997 RAJAB 17 1418 HIJRI 12 PAGES : PRICE TAKA 6.00

BCL leader shot dead in Khulna

From Staff Correspondent KHULNA, Nov 17: A Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leader of BL College was gunned down this evening by a gang of assailants near the college campus at Daulatpur, about seven kilometres off the city.

Mamunur Rashid alias Ripon, 26, an MA final year student of Management, was shot in the head by the unidentified attackers from a close range.

Ripon was taking tea with some of his friends at a tea stall beside Bhoirab river at that time. He was the convenor of the BCL unit of BL College.

The motive behind the See Page 12 Col 8

JCD leader stabbed to death in Pabna

From Our Correspondent PABNA, Nov 17: A JCD leader was stabbed to death by a local gang at the Dilalpur area in the town yesterday.

Shamim Biswas, the general secretary of Pabna Polytechnic Institute Students' Union, died at the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital today.

According to police and family sources, Shamim Biswas, along with his associates went to enquire about an incident of theft in neighbouring Kafiluddinpara of Dilalpur where a local gang attacked them and stabbed Shamim at about 10 pm Sunday night.

Shamim was immediately shifted to the Pabna General Hospital where from he was transferred to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

JCD held Chhatra League responsible for the murder and held protest demonstrations in Pabna town.

Shibir enforces strike at CU

From CU Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Nov 17: A day-long strike was observed at the Chittagong University today at the call of Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) protesting the arrest of two of its leaders yesterday.

Meanwhile, the All-Party Student Alliance brought out a procession in the campus protesting yesterday's violence.

Police arrested Shibir leader AKM Khorshed, President of Suhrawardy Hall unit, and Mizanur Rahman, a Shibir activist of AF. Rahman Hall, yesterday in connection with the Bakul murder case.

Classes were not held and offices of the university re- See Page 12 Col 2

Farid takes over as DMP commissioner

Additional Inspector General of Police AFM Mahmud Al Farid yesterday took over as Commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), reports UNB.

Later in the afternoon, he attended a meeting at the DMP headquarters and exchanged views with senior police officials.

The Daily Star on the internet <http://www.dailystarnews.com>

Inside Today Article

Turco-Greek Summit: Will it Pave Way for Turkish Entry into EU?

Column: The Horizon This Week by Arshad-uz Zaman Page 4

Focus

The mentally retarded in Bangladesh: Human rights in question Page 5

Business

All laws, rules will be reformed to spur industrial growth: Fifth Plan DSE index posts modest gain Pages 6,7

International

Iraq may allow arms monitors to return Page 8

Accord likely next month

CHT talks Nov 26

By Special Correspondent

The next round of negotiations between the National Committee on Chittagong Hill Tracts (NCCHT) and the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) will take place in Dhaka on November 26 to "finalise preparations for an agreement" to end the decades-old insurgency in the hills.

Highly placed sources told The Daily Star last night that during the next meeting, there is a possibility of both the sides agreeing on the final draft, putting their initials. A ceremonial signing of the agreement will take place sometime next month. The PCJSS wants the agreement to be signed somewhere in the hills, preferably in Khagrachhari.

Our correspondent from Khagrachhari said that PCJSS leaders staying at Dudukhara gave their consent for holding talks on November 25. A formal letter would be sent to the NCCHT shortly. This was communicated to NCCHT by Hansadhaja Chakma.

The meeting was earlier scheduled to November 16. The PCJSS on Friday last requested rescheduling of the meeting on November 25, citing 'illness' of its chief Jyotindriyo Bodhipriyo Larma.

The NCCHT letter said that the government would be busy with the three-nation summit, to be followed by Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's two-day bilateral visit, ending on November 25.

The November 26 meeting will be the seventh in the cur- See Page 12 Col 2



With the winter approaching, sale of warm clothes including muffler has started in Fulbaria area of the city. —Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Economists' body to help step up industrial financing

By Inam Ahmed

The Economists' Advisers Committee (EAC) of the finance minister will suggest ways of increasing industrial financing in the country, needed to attain the projected economic growth.

The committee in a meeting with finance minister SAMS Kibria yesterday formed a subcommittee to look into the matter and also to pinpoint the problems of the country's manufacturing sector regarding its competitiveness, according to meeting sources.

The government had earlier decided to issue industrial bonds of Tk 2000 crore to channel fund to the manufacturing sector. But this plan was later aborted, taking into consideration the adverse effect of such a fund on the banking sector.

The issue here is why a product manufactured in Bangladesh costs higher than in India. The committee members may also visit the neighbouring countries to find out the reasons behind such cost differential.

The advisers' committee which is headed by Prof Rehman Sobhan and includes the country's top economists will also suggest what sort of additional incentives could be given to traditional exporters to boost foreign exchange earning. See Page 12 Col 1

Govt has created panic in rural areas over UP polls: Khaleda

BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday said her party will be forced to launch a movement to oust the government, if it fails to hold the ensuring Union Parishad elections in a free and fair manner, reports UNB.

She alleged that the government has created a panicky situation in the rural areas causing the UP elections by unleashing terrorism, threatening voters and candidates, and filing false cases.

"People are in doubt about a neutral, free and fair UP election," Begum Zia said talking to See Page 12 Col 1

Local Govt (Gram Parishad) Act '97 challenged

A writ petition was filed before the High Court Division yesterday challenging the constitutional validity of the election procedure of the Local Government (Gram Parishad) Act, 1997, reports UNB.

The writ, filed by Advocate Abdus Salam, was moved by Dr Kamal Hossain with Advocate A F Hasan Arif and Idrisur Rahman.

The writ bench comprising Justice AM Mahmudur Rahman and Justice Abu Sayeed Ahmed heard the writ and adjourned the case till today to hear the Attorney General for the government.

Dr Kamal, appearing for the writ petitioner, submitted that the election procedure embodied in the Gram Parishad Act of 1997 is highly unconstitutional and beyond the concept of democratic ethics.

He submitted to the court, quoting section 5(3) of the said Act, that "For the villages within every ward, the persons male and female residing there being voters of the said ward, will elect the members of the Gram Parishad under the supervision of the managing authority."

Dr Kamal further quoted Section 2 (UMA) for the meaning of the managing authority as the "concerned authorised person empowered by the government."

He submitted that this act is violative to Article 59 read with Article 9 of the Constitution as Article 9 directs that the state shall encourage local government institutions composed of representatives of the areas See Page 12 Col 1

Baghabari plant 3 out of 5 cos absent from bid opening ceremony

The technical bid opening for the 100 mw Baghabari Power Project was held here yesterday with three out of five shortlisted foreign power companies remaining absent.

In the last seven days till Sunday, two foreign power companies — Tractebel and Coastal — submitted withdrawal letters to the Power Cell of Energy Ministry. The third company — Marubeni — did not appear in the bid opening ceremony at the Power Cell yesterday. See Page 12 Col 4

2 Koreans smuggle 200 Bangladeshis to Japan

SEOUL, Nov 17: Prosecutors in the western port of Incheon said today they have arrested two South Koreans accused of smuggling some 200 Bangladeshis to Japan, reports AP.

Kim Gap-bae, 53, a shipping company employee, and Kim Sam-su, 53, a taxi driver, admitted they had smuggled the Bangladeshis to Japan between February last year and March this year, prosecutors said.

The Bangladeshis were staying in Korea illegally after a three-month visa-free period and each paid an average 5,000 dollars, to go to Japan, where wages are higher, prosecutors said.

The case was uncovered when prosecutors questioned a Bangladeshi man accused of overstaying his visa.

Muslim militants massacre 69 foreigners in Egypt

LUXOR (Egypt), Nov 17: "Seventy-eight people, including 69 foreigners were killed in the ruins of Luxor today when suspected Muslim militants launched their bloodiest attack in Egypt to date, security and medical sources said, reports Reuter.

The sources in Luxor put the death toll at 69 tourists, three policemen and six attackers.

An Interior Ministry statement issued in Cairo gave a preliminary toll of 60 dead, including 57 tourists, among them Swiss, German and Japanese nationals.

AFP adds: The six assailants and three policemen were among those killed, police said.

At least 17 tourists and eight Egyptians were wounded in the gunfire which occurred around 10:00 am (0800 GMT) at the entrance to Hatshepsut's temple in the Valley of the Queens in this southern Egyptian town, according to police.

Many of the injured were in serious condition.

A spokesman for the Isis travel agency in Luxor said the gunmen opened fire indiscriminately on tourists of various nationalities as they prepared to enter the temple, which is also known as Deir Al-Bahri.

The gunmen then shot and slightly wounded the driver of an Isis travel bus and hijacked the empty vehicle but were stopped by policemen some 150 meters away.

The assailants left the bus and fled on foot towards the desert and nearby mountains with policemen on their tail and army helicopters flying overhead.

All six terrorists were killed in a shootout with security forces' state television said quoting a senior police official.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack, the first in Luxor since Muslim fundamentalists launched an anti-government campaign in 1992 which has left more than 1,260 people dead including dozens of tourists.

3-nation Business Summit No political or bilateral agenda: FM

By Staff Correspondent

The Three-Nation Business Summit is expected to hasten the pace of economic development of the participating countries — Bangladesh, India and Pakistan — as well as this region, Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad has said.

"I am confident that the Summit will prove to be a milestone in the development of economic relations among the three countries in particular and in South Asia in general".

The foreign minister was addressing a press briefing at the conference room of the ministry yesterday.

Samad Azad said, it will essentially be a meeting of businessmen and they will discuss only matters concerning the problems and prospects of business.

"There is no political agenda. There will be no discussions on political issues or bilateral matters," he added.

In reply to a question as to how politics could be separated from business, the minister said, "In these countries, business and politics are isolated from one another."

He said the Summit would be a "one-day affair" to be held on November 23. Indian Prime Minister I K Gujral will arrive in the city for the Summit on November 22 in the afternoon while Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif will arrive on November 23 in the morning.

While Gujral will leave for home evening after the Summit, Nawaz Sharif will stay for another two days for a bilateral business. See Page 12 Col 4

Armed forces to be kept above controversy: PM

JESSORE, Nov 17: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today described the armed forces as a national institution and the symbol of national unity and sovereignty and said the forces should be kept above all controversies, reports UNB.

"The government is determined to keep the national armed forces above all controversy," she said addressing a ceremonial parade marking the presentation of National Standard to the Corps of Signals at the Signal Training Centre and School (STSC) ground at Jessore cantonment.

Hasina said armed forces should not be used to serve the interest of any individual or party, but the forces were used in the past by the power mongers to serve their partisan or individual interests.

On the occasion, the Prime Minister handed over the National Standard to the Signal Training Centre and School in recognition of its meritorious services to the nation.

To keep pace with time, the Signal Corps of our armed forces would have to be equipped with sophisticated communications system, the Prime Minister said.

She recalled that Col Jamil of the Signal Corps was brutally killed by the heinous circle when he came forward to save See Page 12 Col 3

ঢাকা আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য মেলা '৯৮ সচিবালয়

রঞ্গনি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরো

১২২-১২৪, মতিঝিল বা/এ

ঢাকা-১০০০

বিষয়: আগামী ৭ই ফেব্রুয়ারী হতে ৬ই মার্চ '৯৮ সময়কালে আয়োজিত ঢাকা আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য মেলা '৯৮ এ অংশগ্রহণের জন্য দেশী/বিদেশী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান।

বাণিজ্য মন্ত্রণালয় ও রঞ্গনি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরোর যৌথ উদ্যোগে ঢাকার শেরে বাংলা নগরস্থ প্রাচীন কমিশনের দক্ষিণ-পশ্চিম পার্শে আগামী ৭ই ফেব্রুয়ারী হতে ৬ই মার্চ ১৯৯৮ সময়কালে অনুষ্ঠিত ঢাকা আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য মেলা (ডিআইটিএফ) '৯৮ এ অংশগ্রহণে আর্থী দেশী/বিদেশী সরকারী ও বেসরকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে নির্ধারিত ফরমে আবেদনপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

১) রঞ্গনি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরোর অর্থ ও হিসাব শাখা হতে স্থানীয় অংশগ্রহণকারীদের ক্ষেত্রে টাঃ ৫০০.০০ (পাঁচশত টাকা অক্ষেরততোয়া) জমা প্রদানপূর্বক আবেদন ফরম সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। বিদেশী অংশগ্রহণকারীদের ক্ষেত্রে বিনামূল্যে আবেদন ফরম বিতরণ করা হবে। স্থানীয় অংশগ্রহণকারীদের ক্ষেত্রে আবেদনপত্রের সাথে নির্ধারিত ভাড়ার ৫% "ঢাকা আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য মেলা তহবিল" শিরোনামে ব্যাংক ডাফট/পে-অর্ডার-এর মাধ্যমে জামানত হিসেবে ব্যুরোর মেলা সচিবালয়ে জমা প্রদান করতে হবে। বিদেশী অংশগ্রহণকারীদের ক্ষেত্রে আবেদনপত্র জমা দেয়ার সময় জামানত হিসেবে মার্কিন ডলার ৩০০.০০ (মার্কিন ডলার তিনশত) জমা প্রদান করতে হবে। ৫০x৫০ আয়তন বিশিষ্ট প্যাভিলিয়ন, ২৫x২৫ আয়তন বিশিষ্ট মিনি-প্যাভিলিয়ন, ২০x১৫ আয়তন বিশিষ্ট টল ও ৩৫x২০ আয়তন বিশিষ্ট রেস্তোরাঁর ভাড়া নিম্নরূপঃ

স্থানীয় অংশগ্রহণকারীদের ক্ষেত্রে (টাকায়)		বিদেশী অংশগ্রহণকারীদের ক্ষেত্রে (মার্কিন ডলারে)	
ক. প্যাভিলিয়ন	টাঃ ১,৫০,০০০/-	ক. প্যাভিলিয়ন	মাঃ ডঃ ৩০০০.০০
খ. মিনি প্যাভিলিয়ন	টাঃ ৯০,০০০/-	খ. মিনি প্যাভিলিয়ন	মাঃ ডঃ ২০০০.০০
গ. টল	টাঃ ৬০,০০০/-	গ. টল	মাঃ ডঃ ১৩০০.০০
ঘ. রেস্তোরাঁ	টাঃ ১,০০,০০০/-		

৩) ব্যুরোর মেলা সচিবালয়ে আবেদনপত্র জমা দেয়ার সর্বশেষ তারিখ আগামী ১৫ই ডিসেম্বর ১৯৯৭।

৪) কিয়রিত তথ্যের জন্য রঞ্গনি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরোর সদর কার্যালয়ে অবস্থিত 'ডিআইটিএফ '৯৮ সচিবালয়ে যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে।

পরিচালক
ঢাকা আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য মেলা '৯৮ সচিবালয়
ফোনঃ ৯৫৬০৭৮৭
৯৫২২৪৫-৪৯
ফ্যাক্সঃ ৮৮০-২-৯৫৬০০০

DFP-25769-16/11
G-2808

CJ to review tapes of Sharif's remarks

Hearing adjourned till today

ISLAMABAD, Nov 17: Hundreds of policemen with shields and steel-tipped batons battled thousands of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's supporters outside the Supreme Court today where the prime minister faced the most serious challenge yet to his leadership, reports AP.

Sharif argued against a contempt charge brought against him for allegedly slandering the judiciary in comments he made several weeks ago at a press conference.

The Chief Justice adjourned the case until tomorrow when he will review video tapes of the offending press conference.

Before adjourning the hearing, Chief Justice Sajjad Ali Shah said he will decide how to proceed after reviewing the video tapes.

If found guilty of contempt, Sharif could be removed from office. It's not clear whether that means his government would be dismissed, but most analysts here expect an in-house change.

In Pakistan it is a crime to publicly criticize the judiciary. The contempt charge laid by the Supreme Court Bar Association, stems from comments the prime minister made to reporters accusing the chief justice of overstepping his authority and trying to undermine Parliament.

Outside the grand white marble courthouse, thousands of supporters chanted slogans vowing 'Sharif will win. God is with him.'

Several women supporters of See Page 12 Col 3



Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif is surrounded by supporters as he enters the Supreme Court building in Islamabad yesterday. —AP/UNB photo