

WB to help implement Privatisation programme

The World Bank has assured the Privatisation Board of necessary cooperation and assistance for successful implementation of the disinvestment programme in Bangladesh, re-

ports UNB. The assurance came from Marilou Uy, chief of world Bank's Private Sector Development and Finance Division for South Asia Region, when she met with Board Chairman Kazi Zafarullah in the city yes-

terday. During the meeting, they discussed matters relating to the country's privatisation activities. They also discussed private sectors involvement in the jute industries of Bangladesh.

The difficulties in privatising jute mills under the Jute Sector Adjustment Credit (JSAC) programme in the past

3 alleged snatchers beaten to death in Chuadanga

CHUADANGA, Nov 18: Three alleged snatchers were beaten to death by villagers at the Nilmoniganj village under Chuadanga sadar thana today, police

The victims were identified on Abdul Hye (27), Hanif (25)

and Haul Sardar (26) Police said they allegedly snatched Tk 6,750 on gun point from a local BRAC employee, Golam Mostafa, while he was returning to his Chuadanga office after collecting loans from

loanees. The BRAC employee then informed the villagers about the incident. The villagers caught them and beat them to death.

The bodies were taken to Chuadanga Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy. Two pipe guns were recovered from the victims but the money was not

Mohammadullah hospitalised

Former President Mohammadullah was admitted to the National Institute of Cardiovascular disease here at 11.30 lastnight following cardiac problems, reports BSS.

Kazi Masud made envoy to Germany

The government has decided to appoint Kazi Anwarul Masud, at present ambassador of Bangladesh to Vietnam, as ambassador to Germany, said an official announcement yesterday, reports UNB.

Masud joined foreign services in 1966 and held various diplomatic assignments in Cairo, Yangon, Brussels and Jeddah.

Dhaka Zoo From Page 1

quently and teased those ani-

"This unfortunate boy did not know what a risk he was caking when he crossed the safety barrier," said a senior

Zoo official. Zakir, from the nearby Nababer Bagh slum under Mirpur thana, had come to the Zoo to collect dry leaves for cooking fuel, police said quoting local

people. After dragging the body inside, the tiger left it and did not touch it again. Zoo officials said the tiger was then confined

in a small cage. Hundreds of people gathered near the cage to have a look at the feline which was born in the Zoo five years ago.

Meanwhile, the Zoo authorities filed a general diary with Mirpur thana in this connection. Police sent Zakir's body to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Khaleda

From Page 1 making fortunes for themselves, rather than doing anything for the progress of the country, she said and alleged that they are smuggling out thousands of crores of taka to foreign countries.

The former Prime Minister cautioned that once they are out of power, members of "this corrupt regime" will be tried on

this soil. The Awami League government is making "advance announcement of victory in the

ensuing union parishad elections," she said. Begum Zia blamed the government for the deteriorating law and order situation as manifested in rising incidents of stealing, dacoity, snatching and terrorism across the country. It is not allowing the administra-

tion and the police to act impar-

tially, she said.

came up for discussion. The steps for privatising the jute

units were discussed in detail. Zafarullah highlighted the importance of public awareness programme with the World Bank team. The team agreed that the benefit of the privatisation should be known to the people, specially the stake

It was informed that teams consisting of Members of Parliament and labour leaders will visit soon some of the countries where privatisation programmes were successful.

Matters of the Bank's possible assistance to the Privatisation Board for its technical and institutional capacity building

were also discussed. The Board chairman expressed the government's firm commitment to the privatisation of the state-owned enterprises (SOEs).

Regional meet '4 neighbouring states should

jointly control

malaria vectors A three-day regional meet ing on control of malaria and kala-azar began at Rajendrapur yesterday, with the World Health Organisation (WHO) calling for closer cooperation

> Nepal and Bhutan to fight the diseases, reports BSS. "Any outbreak of malaria is likely to affect all residents on both sides of the border as vectors do not respect political boundaries", said Uton Muchtar Rafei, Regional Director of WHO South East Asia Region Office

among Bangladesh, India,

(SEARO) The SEARO Director said that prevention of these diseases through control of vectors such as mosquitoes and sand flies is much more cost-effective than treatment. But he said both prevention and treatment should be carried out simultaneously and neighbouring countries need to synchronise their-vector-control activities.

Dr Uton's speech was read out at the opening ceremony at the BRAC centre for development management by Dr Wit Hardjotanojo, the Bangladesh country representative of the

The meeting will review joint action plans agreed in 1995, and suggest ways to tackle specific problems in the border

Sharif

From Page 1

"The Leader of the House (Sharif) was ill-advised to move this bill in such a haste," she said. "This will lead to an irretrievable breakdown of consti-

tutional machinery." Government sources said the bill was required because there was no constitutional provision for an appeal against a contempt of court verdict on the

nation's statute books. The law was passed a few hours after US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright arrived to discuss Pakistan's dispute with India over Kashmir. the Afghan War and anti-terrorism measures with govern-

ment leaders. Sharif appeared before the Supreme Court on Monday to defend himself against charges that he had shown it contempt by terming some of its actions

Legal sources said that in theory. Sharif could be forced to step down if found guilty, but there was no precedent and the implications of the court's ac-

illegal

tion were unknown. While Sharif and Albright meet, the Supreme Court was due to study recordings of the news conference Sharif gave in which the disputed remarks

were made. The case was adjourned till today, but Sharif does not need to attend.

PW-41

rrom Page 1 He said all the COs and OC attended the conference held at the 46 Brigade HQ on August 17. 1975, except the 2 Field Ar-

Brigadier Shahjahan said former commandar of 46 Brigade Col Shafat Jamil was not involved in the August 15

incident. "After hearing him (Jamil) it appeared that he was not involved in the incident and none suspected him to have been involved, none asked him any-

thing about it in the conference. Major (retd) Ziauddin will make his deposition as the 42nd prosecution witness when the court resumes at 9:30 am to-

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Eden College teacher succumbs to burn injuries

A senior teacher of Eden University College, who received serious burn injuries. died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday, reports

Dr Farida Azad 50, chairman of Bangla Department of the college, was caught by fire while she was cooking at noon on Monday. Dr Farida was admitted to DMCH where she succumbed to her injuries yesterday morning.

Police said none was present at her residence during the tragic incident.

Female school teacher killed allegedly by husband

From Our Correspondent JHENIDAH, Nov 18: A school teacher was murdered allegedly by her husband last night at Arappur in the town.

Police said, Jasemin, 27, was the wife of Shahidul Islam Rana. Her sister Yasmin, 20, also lived with them. Last night, Shahidul called Jasemin outside the house and allegedly throttled her.

The body was later tied with a boat in the river Nabaganga Police recovered the body today Local people caught Shahidullah and handed him over to

Tk 38 lakh snatched: Bank manager in Barisal arrested

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Nov 18: Police vesterday arrested the manager of National Bank, Jhalakathi branch from Barisal Medical College Hospital in connection with the alleged snatching of Tk 38 lakh of the bank by some

muggers on November 9. The money was allegedly snatched at gun point from a place on Barisal-Jhalakathi road when the manager, Golam Mostafa Sikdar, was carrying it to Barisal in a hired microbus.

police said. Mostafa was produced before the court of first class magistrate, Jhalakathi. Police prayed for remand but the magistrate sent him to jail hajat due to his illness. Police, however, said Mostafa would be placed on re-

Mostafa and four others arrested in this connection made statements in the court, police

Daulatpur

From Page 1 But scheduled examinations were held at the BL College as those were exempted from the purview of the hartal, the principal of the college told this correspondent. The campus was under police guard during the

examinations. Meanwhile, the body of Mamunur Rashid was sent to his village home at Paik Kandi in Gopalganj district of her na-

maz-e-Janaja on the BL College Hundreds of people includ-ing students and leaders of all

political parties attended the janaja. Leaders of Awami League

(AL) and BCL blamed BNP for the killing but local BNP leaders denied the charge.

AL and BCL leaders have demanded immediate arrest of the killers but Daulatpur police said no case was filed yet in connection with the killing.

70 businessmen

From Page 1 businessmen.

President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Yusuf Abdullah Harun invited the chiefs of apex chamber bodies in Pakistan and India on the occasion of the

Business Summit. Talking to The Daily Star, FBCCI chief said between 250 and 300 businessmen from Bangladesh are expected to attend the inaugural session of the summit of ministers of the

three countries. During the two business sessions, the number of participants from the local chamber bodies may be around 100.

Hossain Kamal, DG of External Publicity in the foreign ministry, said some 35 Indian and Pakistani journalists have intimated their desire to come to Dhaka to cover the event. Of them, 25 are from India and 10 from Pakistan.

50 hurt

From Page 1 the college campus. Both the groups fired gunshots and exploded crackers. .The injured were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hos-

Later, police raided the district Jamaat office and arrested four leaders of the party and its student front, Chhatra Shibir. The college authorities have suspended classes for two days

following today's incident.

Delhi confce suggests full implementation of water treaty

The Baily Star.

NEW DELHI, Nov 18: Water experts, academics and politicians from Bangladesh, India and Nepal began a two-day conference here today to find ways for optimum use of water resources for economic betterment of the people of the region,

reports UNB. They suggested full implementation of the Ganges water sharing treaty signed by Bangladesh and India last year and Indo-Nepal Mahakali

treaty. The participants also attached importance to the augmentation of the flow of the Ganges water and cooperation in the water management, flood control and flood forecasting through exchange of data.

The Fifth Conference on Harnessing the Eastern Himalayan Rivers and GBM Regional Cooperation, sponsored jointly by the Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad, Centre for Policy Research (CPR) of India and Institute of Integrated Development Studies (IIDS) of Nepal is designed mainly to focus on the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna (GBM) basins.

More than 50 participants

from the three countries are

taking part in the conference

that began at Hotel Samrat in the Indian capital this morn Former Indian Defence Minister KC Panth, former secre tary Ramaswamy Iyer and VG

Verghese of CPR, Dr Quazi

Kholiguzzaman Ahmed of BUP and former Speaker of Nepalese Parliament Daman Nath Dhungana spoke at the opening

Bangladesh High Commissioner to India CM Shafi Shami

was present. KC Panth observed that the present political atmosphere in the region is conducive to resolving problems and promoting regional cooperation. He suggested quick implementation of water-based projects especially those for irrigation and energy for the benefit of the

The former minister felt that the planned sub-regional cooperation within the SAARC could also contribute to economic development of the region.

Dr Kholiquzzaman said confidence-building process can be strengthened if agreements reached among India, Bangladesh and Nepal are properly implemented.

Bangladesh delegation includes Sultan Mohammad Mansur Ahmed MP of Awami League, Barrister Ziaur Rahman MP of BNP, JSD general secretary Hasanul Huq Inu. former DU Vice-Chancellor Maniruzzaman Mia, Dr Ainun Nishat of BUET, Dr Sajjadur Rashid of Dhaka University JRC member Khalilur Rahman and Director Tawhidul Anwar Khan and BFUJ President Igbal Sobhan Chowdhury.

UNB adds: Ruling Awami

League and main opposition

BNP have agreed to extend full

support and allout co-operation

for hosting the proposed World

Dalmiya made separate cour-

tesy calls on Prime Minister

Sheikh Hasina and BNP secre-

tary general. Abdul Mannan

supremo that Bangladesh is

keen to host the proposed

knock-out basis World Cup

giving total support for the de-

velopment and flourishment of

cricket, a very popular game in

Mannan Bhuiyan said his party

and he himself were very happy

to know that the World Cup

Cricket might be held in

ment, he recalled, has made a

lot of contributions for the de-

velopment of cricket in Bang-

The previous BNP govern-

She said the government was

BNP secretary general Abdul

Sheikh Hasina told the ICC

The assurance came when

Cup Cricket.

Cricket.

the country.

Bangladesh.

Bhuiyan yesterday.

Dalmiya: WC cricket

ganise a World Cup tournament on knock-out basis involving the nine Test-playing countries in October next year in a bid to raise fund for the overall development of the game.

"At this moment we have four possible contenders to host the gala event", said Dalmiya but added that apart from other bidders - the Disneyworld of the US, Canada and Sharjah -Bangladesh offered an infrastructure which is "reasonably well and absolutely as re-

quired. Dalmiya, a leading busi nessman and an influentia cricket organiser from West Bengal, however only opted to visit Bangladesh among the countries seeking to host an

event of such magnitude. *For the last 90 years cricketing activities were mostly restricted to only nine Test-playing nations. But in today's world, if cricket is to survive in competition with other sports. It is necessary to initiate the globalisation of the game," said the former president of the Board of Cricket Control of India (BCCI).

The world cricket's ruling body has masterminded the idea of a knock-out championship in a region where the game has a promising future. The eighth and the ninth ranked countries will play in a pre-quarterfinal match while the top seven will have a direct entry to the quarterfinals.

There will be a total eight matches. In the welcome speech, BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury said," I think we have been able to assure the ICC president of our total commitment in making this tournament a success if the governing

Dhaka re-elected FAO council member Bangladesh has been reelected council member of Food

board gives us a chance".

and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) for the years 1998-2000. reports UNB. The election was held during

the 29th conference of the FAO at its headquarters in Rome on November 7-18.

China, Japan, South Korea, Thailand and Indonesia also have become the FAO council members, said a PID handout in the city yesterday.

Edn policy

From Page 1

tuted a committee and it has submitted its report within

seven months." The PM thanked the Chairman and members of the committee for preparing the report and asked them to send copies of the report to President Shahabuddin Ahmed and Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda

The committee chairman said the education policy has been formulated taking into consideration the opinion of the people reflected in the newspapers and of different professional groups, including teachers, students and editors of five divisional headquarters. The recommendations of the

sion, based on the demands of the people of Bangladesh, were also considered with due importance, Prof Shamsul Haque He said that the interim education policy of 1979 and recommendations of Prof

Mofizuddin Education Policy of

1988 were also reviewed in for-

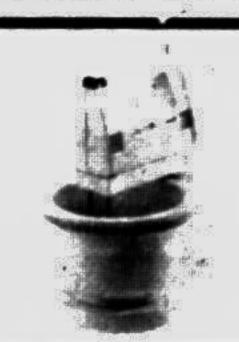
mulating the new education

Dr Qudrat-e-Khuda Commis-

policy. Haque further informed that a committee will be formed to review the report of the education policy to be sent to the Cabinet for its approval and later it will be submitted before the

parliament.

Hand Mixer



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High priority to

ISLAMABAD, Nov 18: US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright today expressed concern over nuclear proliferation in South Asia, saying Washington attached "high priority" to

Albright fold a news confer-

This is one reason for the current confrontation between the United States and Iraq, she said, following meetings with President Farooq Ahmed Leghari, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and Foreign Minister Gohar Ayub Khan.

Albright arrives

NEW DELHI, Nov 18 : US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright arrived in New Delhi

tary of State to visit South Asia in 14 years, made no remarks on arrival.

By Staff Correspondent The government has decided to cover the deliberations of the

3-nation Business Summit by

the state-controlled media. The only opportunity for the press corps to cover the daylong event on the spot will be limited to the press conference which is likely to be addressed

Officials of the Press Information Department said that a list of selected journalists are being prepared for covering the press conference.

Replying to queries an official concerned of the govern ment said that neither the inaugural session to be addressed by the three prime ministers nor the two business sessions is

open to the media.

Tk 75 lakh gold, electronic goods seized at ZIA

By Staff Correspondent

Customs officials at the Zia International Airport (ZIA) recovered gold and electronic goods worth about Tk 75 lakh from three passengers Monday

The seized goods included 27 gold bars, weighting 10 tolas each, 448 grams of gold chains, 30 walkie-talkie sets and 37 mobile phone sets, customs sources said last night.

Customs officials seized the goods as three passeingers of two Bangladesh Biman tlights from Singapore and Hong Kong tried to smuggle in those goods without paying duties.

Airport sources said a cus-

Stevedores From Page 1

fice today President of BMSA Tarek Kamal told The Daily Star that

the chairman of Chittagong port was informed about the decision this afternoon. "We have been compelled to take such action programme as

the dock workers' go-slow programme has affected the loading and unloading of cargo in the ships," he said. The dock workers started the go-slow programme from No-

vember 10 when the stevedores stopped the payment of tips to Convenor of Port Users Forum (PUF) Kamal Uddin Ahmed said following the go-slow programme, there had been a corn-

gestion of cargo vessels at Chittagong port. He said that loading and unloading of cargo in the ships had slowed down by 70 per cent.

Besides, foreign cargo ships have to incur demurrage ranging from 3000 US dollars to 7,000 dollars per day for overstay due to go-slow programme, Kamal Uddin said.

Extortionists

From Page 1

autopsy. A case was lodged with Tejgaon thana but none was arrested in connection with the

toms team, on suspicion. searched the body of Md Selim at about 10 pm Monday and found gold bars hidden inside his shoes and belt. Customs officials recovered 27 gold bars worth about Tk 20 lakh from

Besides, customs officials recovered 30 walkie-talkie sets and 448 grams of gold chains from Munir Hossain, another passenger of the flight. Munir allegedly tried to pass the walkie-talkie sets hiding those inside some computer parts. The recovered goods were valued

Later, the customs officials recovered 37 mobile phone sets from Khan Shahadat, a passenger of BG-077 flight which arrived Dhaka from Hong Kong at about 2 am yesterday. The seized telephone sets are worth

Three departmental cases have been filed in connection

Tk 4203 cr revenue collected till Oct

ture although the collection is now lagging behind the target, reports UNB

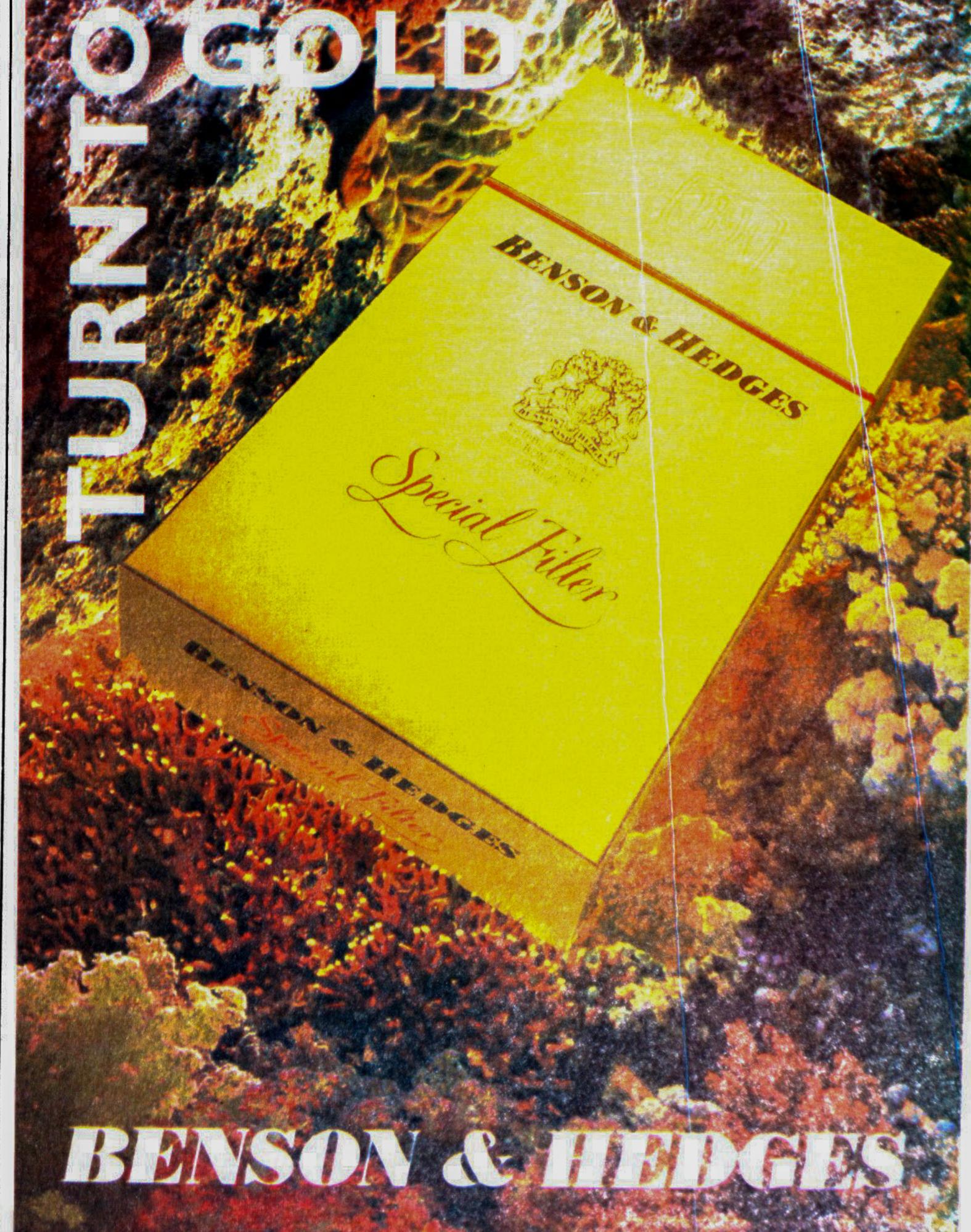
formed Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria at a meeting yesterday that the target could be achieved as the collection drive has been strengthened. Presided over by the finance

toms. VAT and income tax commissioners was held at the Ministry of Finance. The meeting was informed that the National Board of Rev-

4,202.88 crore as direct and indirect taxes till October of this fiscal.

corresponding period of the last fiscal. Of the total, Tk 3,677.28

525.60 crore direct tax.



N-proliferation in South Asia, says Albright

the issue, reports AFP.

ence she had stressed to Pakistan leaders the 'importance' the United States attached to limiting the spread of nuclear weapons technology and would also make it "quite clear" in In-

in Delhi

today on a visit shortened by the lraq standoff, reports Albright, the first US Secre-

Business Summit: Press kept off

by the Bangladesh foreign minister alone.

shed Fakir of Tongibari in Faridpur district. The body was sent to the hospital morgue for

murder till filing of this report

last night.

Selim who arrived by BG-087 flight from Singapore.

at Tk 45 lakh, customs sources

about Tk 10 lakh

with the seizures.

Officials are optimistic about achieving the target of revenue collection in near fu-

The revenue officials in-

minister, the meeting of cus-

true has collected a total of Tk

The collection was Tk 419.88 crore higher than that of the

erene was indirect tax and Tk