EXPRESS LIMITED

PLEASE CONTACT:







BNP leader Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury addressing a seminar at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday, organised to mark the 21st death anniversary of Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan -Star photo Bhasani.

Then Major Faroog and Ma-

jor Rashid discussed with Col

Taher Col Taher had also ex-

changed hot words with them as

he asked why they had killed

Bangabandhu. Angry Taher

given the responsibility of tak-

Ziauddin said he along with

them went to Bangabandhu's

house after 11 am and found

Major Bazlul Huda and Major

garage the witness said he saw

bullet-riddled body of Col Jamil

ground floor of the house, he

said, he saw three bullet-riddled

and blood-soaked bodies in-

cluding those of Sheikh Kamal

and Sheikh Naser. "We took

While going upstairs, "we

"It appeared to me that an

were startled and stopped seeing

the body of Bangabandhu on the

innocent child was sleeping.

There was no sign of pain on the

face of Bangabandhu although

many bullets of the assailants

pierced his chest. It seemed to

me that death could not defeat

nim," he said. Then they took

snaps of Bangabandhu's body.

He said there were soldiers of

lancer and artillery on the cor-

ridor of the first floor who

helped them find the other bod-

Ziauddin said, he saw the bul-

let-riddled bodies of Begum Mu-

jib. Sheikh Jamal, Sheikh Rus-

sel, Sultana Kamal and Rosy

Jamal. They took pictures of

posited the films to the DGFI

office and he then left for

accused Taheruddin Thakur, Lt

Col (dismissed) Syed Farooqur

Rahman and Lt Col (retd) Sultan

Shariyar Rashid Khan on the

Declare services

at Ctg Port

essential: BGMEA

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Garments Man-

ufacturers and Exports Associa-

tion (BGMEA) has demanded

that all activities in the Chit-

tagong port be declared 'essen-

In a statement yesterday.

BGMEA president Mostafa Go-

lam Quddus said the export ori-

ented readymade garments sec-

tor will face a 'disaster' and the

country's economy will suffer if

normalcy is not restored in the

ments for export have stock-

piled in the port due to the fresh

deadlock. Container carriers

from Singapore can not arrive

at the port from the outer an-

chorage. As a result, commer-

cial banks can not make any

payment to their parties and

negotiate Letters of Credit, he

Bangladesh's quota year is

"If necessary, existing laws

should be amended to free the

port from such recurring dead-

going to end and any failure in

shipment will result in cancel-

lation of quota, Quddus said.

lock, he said.

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Imported fabrics and gar-

port immediately.

The witness said they de-

Later, the witness identified

the bodies.

Bangabhaban.

At Bangabandhu's bedroom,

stair case," said the witness.

snaps of those bodies."

In the telephone room on the

Near the corridor of the

Bangabandhu's residence.

witness said.

Noor there.

Bangabandhu murder station, he said.

From Page 1

Major Dalim. Major Noor and some other officers were hatching a conspiracy against the government

The witness said Brig Rouf. then DGFI chief, also told him that President Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was informed of the conspiracy

through a letter. He said Bangabandhu was scheduled to attend a programme in Dhaka University on August 15 morning and DGFI assigned him as the personal bodyguard of the President and also gave him the responsibility to deploy plainclothes sol-

diers on the campus. At about 12 noon on August 14, he said, some powerful explosions took place near the Public Library area and DGFI sent him to inspect the area. He along with a few soldiers went to the spot and recovered some evidences of the explosion, he

added. The witnesses said on August 14 afternoon he ordered his soldiers to take their positions in the earmarked places by 4:30 am on August 15.

On August 15 at about 5:30 or 5:45 am, the witness said, he left the DGFI officers' mess at Gulshan and on his way to the university he saw two tanks at Mohakhali - one on the road island and another in a dry ditch beside the road.

The witness said as he reached ovar the Shaldbagh crossing a coldie of DCPI rais

ing a hand hinted him to stop "As I stopped the jeep, the

soldier ran to me and said, "Sir, Sheikh Shaheb has been killed. To know the fact, he said, he

went to the nearby radio station. Inside the radio station, he said, he saw an agitated Major Dalim shouting at the top of his voice: "We have killed that son of a bitch with his whole family."

The witness said then he tried to contact his seniors at DGFI over phone and after some time Brig Rouf came to the office. He said he narrated to the DGFI chief what he had seen and requested him to go to the Army HQs.

The DG left for the Army HQ. he said, adding that after some time, he also went to the Army HQ and found Gen Shafiullah, Gen Ziaur Rahman, Brig Khaled Mosharraf and other senior officers there. He said he saw Mafor Dalim with a stengun standing behind Gen Shafiullah.

Major Dalim later took Gen Shafiullah to the 1st Bengal Regiment while Gen Ziaur Rahman, Brig Khaled Mosharraf and other senior officers followed them, he said, adding that he along with Brig Roul

also followed them. He said the Air and Naval chiefs also came to the 1st Bengal Regiment at the cantonment, where Dalim abused the

senior officers. Major Dalim then escorted Gen Shaffullah to the radio station and Gen Ziaur Rahman,

chiefs of Navy and Air Force followed them, he said. He said Brig Khaled Moshar-

raf directed him to take Rakkhi Bahini's director Hasan to the radio station.

He said while they were going to the radio station from the Rakkhi Bahini HQ, he found Rakkhi Bahini forces in battle

dress. At the radio station, he said, he saw Khandaker Mushtaque Ahmed, Taheruddin Thakur, Major Dalim, Major Rashid, Major Noor, Major Shahriyar, Major Mohiuddin (Lancer) and

Major Rashed Chowdhury. After some time Major Farooq came there and later Col Taher also came to the radio

and Email address: dstar@bangla.net

Albright cancels visit to Egypt

CAIRO, Nov 19: US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will not visit Egypt today as previously announced because of other engagements, Foreign Minister Amr Mussa said, re-

then left the radio station, the ports AFP. "She will not come because she has to fly to Geneva to at-He said then he went back to tend a four-party meeting on the DGFI office from the radio the Iraqi crisis," he told restation and Col Moshiuddowla porters after talks here with and Col Mahmudul Hasan were Egyptian President Hosni ing pictures of the bodies at Mubarak.

Egyptian officials said earlier today that Albright, who is cutting short a visit to India to fly to Geneva, would stop in Cairo for talks with Mubarak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Arafat denied, however, that he planned to visit Cairo for talks with Albright. "No I already met her in Bern," he told reporters in Gaza city.

The Palestinian leader and Albright discussed the deadlock in peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians in the Swiss city last week.

17 Biman staff

From Page 1 However, the departments concerned are yet to complete their formalities to take punitive actions against the 17 officers and employees even after one month of issuance of the

letter. When contacted, the Director of Customer Services yesterday said, "Disciplinary action against the accused staff of my department is in progress." The Director of the Marketing & Sales Department was not available for his comment in

this regard. The SB in its report had said that the 56 deportees confessed that they changed the photographs of some other people in the Pakistani passports with the help of a gang of brokers. The deportees also told the SB investigators that they were sent back from Pakistan as they forged the passports, Bi-

man sources said quoting the SB report. Influenced by the gang, seven of the accused 17 Biman staff had re-confirmed the tickets of those passengers carrying PC (photo change) passports while seven others working at the Zia International Airport (ZIA) helped those passengers by issuing boarding cards for the BG-019 flight on August 30, said the

SB report. Besides, the investigators traced three others including two junior ground officers of Biman who had direct links with the gang and had helped the 56 passengers fly to Karachi illegally. One of the ground officers had the responsibility of verifying the passports at the

boarding bridge. Big cos

From Page 1 transparency in the bidding

process. Sources said that India based US company Enron last week experienced bitterness with the Negotiation Committee as representatives of this company had to wait for the whole day to meet the commit-

The negotiation is now going on a slow pace as one of the members of the Negotiation Committee and the Energy Secretary are absent for the last one week.

Sources said the diplomatic circle is creating indirect pressure now by questioning transparency in the on-going bidding process for signing of production sharing contracts with different companies for 12

blocks. "Their pressure will mount if the bidding concludes in the manner it is now being held," a

source noted. The on-going negotiations are being held on "one block, one company/group" formula. The government is not following any open evaluation criterion for selection of the companies for negotiation.

B Chowdhury says

BNP politics not based on anti-Indian stand

Deputy Leader of the Opposi-tion Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury has urged all, irrespective of religion and cast, to join the ongoing movement to protect the country's independence and sovereignty, reports

He made the call when the leaders and activists of Jatiyatabadi Tapshili Cell met him at his residence here on Tuesday

night. "Country's independence. democracy and integrality are now at stake." B Chowdhury said urging all to participate in the current movement imbued with the spirit of the 1971 Liberation War.

"We all have to join the movement to ensure a safe future for the next generation," he

He assured the members of the Tapshili Cell of standing beside them in the struggle for protecting their religious rights as his party did in the past. "We are committed to maintain the glorious example of communal harmony in the country."

In his speech, BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said: BNP believes in welfare and our politics is to safeguard the country's sovereignty. We have friends outside the country, but no master.

Referring to propaganda against BNP that the party's politics is based on anti-Indian stand, he said, "It's a false cam-

Draft declaration

From Page 1 courage trade, business and investment in the region.

Indian Prime Minister IK Guiral is due to arrive here on Saturday afternoon to attend the summit. His entourage will include Indian Home Minister Indrajit Gupta and his wife, Minister of State for Commerce Ramaiah. Minister of State for External Affairs Kamala Sinha, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister MN Volua and Foreign Secretary K Roghunath.

Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who is due to arrive here on Sunday morning. the day of the summit, will be accompanied by his wife Begum Quisoom Nawaz Sharif.

His entourage will include Minister for Foreign Affairs Gohar Ayub Khan, Minister for Commerce Mohammad Ishaq Dar. Minister for Finance Sartaj Aziz and Chief Minister of Beluchistan Akhter Mengal. According to reports reach-

ing here from New Delhi and Islamabad, there is some uncertainty about the summit. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has been facing charges of contempt of court while IK Gujral's government is facing a crisis due to withdrawal of sup-

coalition government. Officials here, however, said that the programme of the summit is in order and there is no reverse indication from the two capitals.

From Page 1

teraction with the local busi-

ness community during the bi-

Hasina and his Pakistani coun-

terpart will hold official talks

on November 24. The entire

gamut of bilateral relations

will discuss expansion of bilat-

eral trade links and opening a

regular shipping service be-

tween Chittagong and Karachi.

They will also discuss the

stranded Pakistanis, popularly

known as Biharis, will also be

mooted. Bangladesh will insist

that the process of repatriation

of stranded Pakistanis be re-

Pakistanis had taken place

only once in the last 20 years

and it was in January, 1993.

This followed a joint an-

nouncement made by the then

Bangladesh premier Begum

Khaleda Zia and Newaz Sharif,

who was premier also at that

only 325 stranded Pakistanis

in 1993, an estimated 2,38,000

After the repatriation of

Repatriation of stranded

The issue of repatriation of

prospects of joint ventures.

The two prime ministers

will come up for discussions.

Prime Minister Sheikh

lateral visit.

sumed.

port of the Congress to his

paign against us. We are not anti or pro of any country. We are pro-Bangladesh.

He said people of this soil had never compromised with any one in the question of their motherland and expressed his firm determination to stand against those who will conspire

against the country. The BNP Secretary General said Awami League had given false assurance to the Hindu community to bag their votes, but it's true that the minorities in the country are being oppressed by the ruling party

members He said many Hindus had lost their land and a large number of temples were damaged during the regime of Awami

President assents to two bills

President Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday assented to two bills passed in the seventh session of the Parliament, re-

ports UNB. The Bills are: The Administrative Tribunals (Amendment) Bill, 1997 and Securities and Exchange Commission (second amendment) Bill, 1997, said an official handout.

Pre-polls violence in Sirajganji 23 injured

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 19: At least 23 people were injured in preelection violence at two unions in Kazipur thana of the district in the early hours of today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said a clash erupted at Kalikapur of Gandhaif union at 1 am when two processions of supporters of two rival candidates came face to face. Fifteen people injured during the clash.

Another clash at Maijbari union at around same time left eight people injured.

Tribal leaders want to send refugees in batches

NEW DELHI, Nov 19: Despite a Bangladesh request to Indian government to send back more than 44,000 tribal refugees from Tripura at "one-go," the tribal leaders want to send them in batches, a news agency reported today, say BSS.

The Bangladesh government has taken up the repatriation issue with the Indian government at the highest level and expressed its willingness to settle them in the Chittagong Hill districts immediately, United News of India (UNI) said today.

But the tribal leaders want to return in batches and have decided to send another group of 6,300 refugees to Bangladesh on November 21, the agency said quoting sources.

continue to live in some 60

According to the agreement

reached between Begum Zia and

Newaz Sharif in Islamabad dur-

ing the former's official visit to

Pakistan, 3000 people were to

be repatriated by December 31,

1992. But not a single person

could go after the first batch

cess that had begun after the in-

dependence of Bangladesh was

suspended in 1974. At that time,

some 4000 families were sent

The government and the

stranded people are hopeful

that the Pakistani premier,

who had initiated a process

istan premier Benazir Bhutto,

during an official visit to

Dhaka in October, 1988, refused

to talk to representatives of the

stranded people and termed

them 'Biharis, not Pakistanis

assets and liabilities are also

on the official agenda but it was

had prepared a policy approach

paper on the issue.

not known if the government

Discussions on sharing of

Incidentally, the then Pak-

back to Pakistan.

Biharis.

earlier, will resume it.

The initial repatriation pro-

camps in Bangladesh.

Sharif's bilateral visit

District magistrate of Dhubri, Lal Chand Shindhi is heading the three-member Indian team which includes police super of Dhubri Pronob Saikiya

Indo-Bangla

border confce

begins

day border conference between

Bangladesh and India began at

Kurigram circuit house today.

Bangladesh delegation is being

led by Deputy Commissioner of Kurigram Abu Waheed. The

other members are commander

of 16-Rifles Battalion Col Abul

Bashar, commander of 29-Rifle

Batallion Lt. Col Parimal

Bikash Chakma and police su-

per of Kurigram Noor Moham-

reports BSS.

The

RANGPUR, Nov 19: A two-

four-member

and settlement officer Bhogaban Bora. . The conference, discussed issues like disputes related to border demarcation, areas which experienced erosion and cross-border smuggling, an of-

ficial of the district administration said today. The official said, both the teams are expected to sign an agreement tomorrow with a view to bringing an end to the cross-border problems.

Bail prayer of Maj Khairuzzaman rejected A High Court division bench

yesterday rejected the bail prayer of Major (retd) M Khairuzzaman, an accused in the Jail Killing Case, reports BSS. The bench comprised Justice

Mohammad Mozammel Huq and Justice Mohammad Awlad Earlier the bail prayer of Major (retd) Khairuzzaman had

Metropolitan Magistrate. Dhaka and Sessions Judge, Dhaka. Hyderabad

been rejected by the Chief

From Page 1 was popular actor Mohan Babu, the movie's star

Singh said many of the injured lost limbs. The death toll was likely to rise, the police chief added.

Andhra Pradesh State police chief HJ Dora, citing witnesses. said the blast was caused by a car bomb parked at the site. Forensic experts were looking for pieces of the explosivespacked car, which was completely destroyed.

Singh said he believed the target was a politician, Paritala Ravi, who was producing the movie. Police at first said Ravi. a former leftist guerilla fighter whose political rivals may have been behind the attack, was seriously injured, but later said his nose was broken and his condition not life threatening.

Govt employees From Page 1

It will put pressure on the budget but the government, considering the disparity in salaries of different categories of employees and officials, decided to revise certain pay scales, one top official said.

Some categories of employees at the lower level to upto 40 per cent payhike. But in Class three category, certain sections of employees did not got any benefit from the new pay scales because of various complications. So the government decided to revise its earlier decision, the source said.

However, he made it clear that there would be no further revision.

The Secretariat employees will review the latest decision in a meeting of their leaders today, employee sources said. Leaders of employees work-

ing outside the Secretariat have convened a rally at the Central Shahid Minar on November 25 demanding fixation of minimum basic salary at Tk 2500 instead of Tk 1500 in the new pay scales.

\$11.35m WB credit for silk project

The World Bank yesterday announced the approval of a 11.35 million US dollar credit for a project to revitalise silk production in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

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The credit will be provided by the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank's soft loan window. said a Bank press release.

The silk development project will support government decisions to establish an autonomous and non-profit Bangladesh Silk Foundation to take over some of the commercial responsibilities formerly exercised by the Bangladesh Sericulture Board.

The project is the first phase of a long-term programme to transform Bangladesh's sericulture into a technically up-to-

ECNEC

From Page 1 meeting at the NEC Bhaban in

the city. Under the Tk 1,155.40 crore project for construction of railway on Bangabandhu Bridge, 99 kilometres of new rail line will be installed from Joydevpur to Sirajganj and the existing 345 kilometres of railroad between Sirajganj and Parbatipur will be converted

into mixed-gauge line.

The other projects include power distribution project in 18 towns (second phase), expansion and intensification of 12 Palli Biddyut Samities. Dhaka Aricha highway development and rehabilitation project (amendment), reconstruction of five bridges on Dhaka-Chittagong national highway, third pilot project for reducing traffic jam in Dhaka city under the crash programme, development and repair of different important roads in Dhaka city, water supply and sanitation project in two thana headquarters, including Gopalganj and Tungiapara municipality, earth work in rural infrastructure development under Food for Work programme, and preparation and distribution of voter ID

cards in Bangladesh (amended). Out of the 18 projects, seven will be funded from domestic resources

Under the crash programme for reducing traffic jam in Dhaka, 10 foot-overbridge in ten important places of the city and a new road linking Abdul Ghani Road through Osmani Uddvan will be constructed.

Ministers, Mayor of Dhaka city, Cabinet Secretary, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, concerned secretaries and senior officials attended the meeting.

date sector with a reputation for quality in world market. The newly created Silk Foundation, with representatives of small-scale silk producers, NGOs, private financial institutions, garment manufacturers and the government on

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project implementation. The resulting improvement in the quality and value of Bangladesh's silk production is expected to increase the incomes of small-scale silk producers, most of whom are poor rural women.

its board, will be in charge of

Delhi HC concerned

15 Bangladeshi children in Indian jail

NEW DELHI, Nov 19: The Delhi High Court today expressed serious concern over 15 Bangladeshi children, including a two-year baby, kept in jail after they were rescued by the local police while being sent to Dubai for camel races, reports

The court comprising the Chief Justice. A P Misra and Justice Dalveer Bhandari, asked Delhi government to find a suitable place for those children by tomorrow.

Sharif

From Page

The contempt charges follow statements about the Supreme Court and Chief Justice Sajjad Ali Shah following a verdict last month that suspended a constitutional article.

In one statement, Sharif was reported to have called the suspension illegal and unconstitutional

The suspended article was introduced by the government in June with the aim of curbing party defections in parliament. Several petitioners have launched a legal challenge claiming the article gives arbitrary powers to political party leaders to unseat a dissenting deputy. They said it was a threat

to free expression. The Chief Justice, who is heading a five-judge bench hearing the case, exempted the Prime Minister from attending further proceedings unless he

was summoned. Sharif's counsel said the case should be dropped after the Prime Minister came to the court to assure "highest" regards

for the judiciary. The court will resume the hearing tomorrow when Sharif's counsel S M Zafar is expected to answer the charges.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Dhaka Club Limited will be held on Saturday 22nd November, 1997 at 11.00 A.M. in the Club premises. The A.G.M. will be followed by election for the post of the President and Executive Committee for the year 1997 - 98.

All eligible Life & Permanent members of the club are requested to attend the A.G.M. and participate in the election.



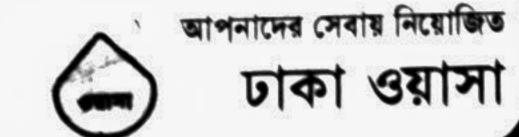
Dhaka Club Limited Dhaka Club Ramna, Dhaka

ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা ওয়াসার মাঠ পর্যায়ের কর্মচারীবৃন্দ পানি ও পয়ঃ সংযোগ প্রদানসহ বিভিন্ন কর্মকান্ডের মাধ্যমে সম্মানিত গ্রাহক ও নগরবাসিগণকে সেবা প্রদান করে থাকেন। বিশেষ করে ওয়াসার রাজস্বপরিদর্শকগণকে মিটার রিডিং ও বিল জারী ইত্যাদি কাজ সম্পাদনের জন্য সন্মানিত গ্রাহকগণের হোন্ডিংসমূহে যাতায়াত করতে হয় এবং সেজন্য প্রত্যেক রাজস্বপরিদর্শকসহ মাঠ পর্যায়ের কর্মচারিগণকে ঢাকা ওয়াসা হতে পরিচয়পত্র প্রদান করা হয়েছে।

ইদানীং লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, কিছু বহিরাগত কর্তৃক ওয়াসার কর্মচারীর পরিচয় প্রদান করে সমানিত গ্রাহকগণকে হয়রানি করা হচ্ছে।

কাজেই মিটার রিডিং গ্রহণসহ অন্য কোন কাজে হোন্ডিং পরিদর্শনেচ্ছুক ওয়াসা কর্মকর্তা ও কর্মচারীবৃন্দের পরিচয়পত্র নিজ শর্থে যাচাই করে নিতে সমানিত গ্রাহকগণকে সবিশেষ অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।



ঢাকা ওয়াসা

Fate of historic temples When approached LGED offi- the verandahs of our houses

has agreed to temporarily suspend the work until the dispute is resolved and to consider the by-pass option," the letter said.

But the minority community people of Dhamrai, who do not know what is the latest development in this regard in Dhaka, are worried over the is-

"Our temples were torched and partially destroyed by the Pakistani army during the War of Liberation," said Thakur Gopal Banik, a local businessman and social worker. "We rebuilt our places of worship and houses. But now a road that could easily be diverted to avoid such destructions is going to be

a severe blow to our way of life." Another businessman of the area said, "The government has promised to compensate for our property. But none can compensate for our history and tradition. We do not want money. We want to live undisturbed in the place of our forefathers".

He further said, "There are

enough government lands for

construction of the road with

less expenses, saving our land

and property. But dirty politics

has led to the present situation.

cials at Dhamrai said it was the result of "political engineering" in 1993, on which real engineers had no say "Despite objections from our side, it was decided by influential politicians that the road had to pass through the particular part of the village acquiring the required land", said one official. "The earthfiling work of the road has been completed and

make it mentalled", he said, adding that LGED had requested the DC (Land) two months ago to hand over the remaining land immediately. Local people said when a 150-metre long bridge was being

now, tender has been floated to

built over the Bangshi river. hardly 100 yards from the site, they had raised the question whether the connecting road would pass through their vil-"They replied in the affirmative but assured us that the

existing narrow road would not be expanded because of the important sites and structures on both sides. But a few months later, we heard another story," Gopal Banik said. The LGED then told us that

would have to be sacrificed, then in October, people from the office of the DC (Land) came to survey our houses," he added. Every house in the particular area has rich architectural

value. Many have their entrances carved with colourful marbles, a rare traditional architecture. Inside a two-storied house with a beautiful dome on top. the floors are made of rare white marbles. During the War

of Liberation, the Pakistani army and their collaborators destroyed the wall carvings. looting everything from inside. What hardly remained on the alls are meticulous hand-work of master craftsmen. On the opposite side of the house, across the 10 feet wide

ramics.

"There was a three and half maund "Bisnu statue dating back to the Gupta era, but it was looted during the War of Liberation," said the priest of the

existing road, a nearly 500year-old temple — Bashudev Mandir — still looked neat and clean with its cottage shaped structure made of brick and ce-