


PACKAGES, DOCUMENTS & FREIGHT WORLDWIDE




FedEx  
Federal Express

For more information call-Dhaka, Tel: 9565114, 9883927, 9130647, 894213, DEPZ 9339931 Chittagong, Tel: (031) 712127, CEPZ (031) 740108 Khulna, Tel: (041) 725008, N'Ganj, Tel: 9714336

The World on Time

Backed by Guarantee


Let's make things better




PHILIPS

Transcom Electronics Limited  
Official Importer of Philips Products in Bangladesh  
Dhaka: 815307-10, 819625-9 Ctg: 716353, 723578  
Khulna: 728094, Bogra: 4215

Ideal gift for any occasion.



Toaster Oven



Conventional Kettle

# Hartal: One killed, 60 hurt

Police trying to enter Sheikh Mujib Hall of Dhaka University yesterday, chasing pro-hartal JCD activists. — Star photo

From Page 1

Some motor vehicles were seen plying in some areas in the morning. Their number increased later. Rickshaws piled in large numbers at almost all parts of the city.

Attendance in the offices was thin. Biman flights, trains, and launches operated as per schedule.

Pickets damaged at least 10 vehicles at Maghbazar, Topkhana Road, Shahbagh and DU campus and pelted stones at an inter-city train near the FDC.

The residence of a local Awami League leader at Amtala near Mahakhali, was attacked at about 10:20 am, witnesses said. Talking to The Daily Star, the AL leader, Salahuddin, claimed that BNP activists attacked his residence and beat up his wife and other family members. Police was present on the spot during the incident but none was arrested, he alleged.

Gulshan police confirmed the attack on Salahuddin's residence but said they were not present on the spot during the incident.

Earlier, Nazimuddin Alam and Lutfor Rahman Khan Azad, two BNP MPs brought out a procession at Mahakhali area at about 8:00 am in support of the hartal. The procession moved between Banani footbridge and Mahakhali crossing on the Airport Road.

After the procession, when BNP activists were holding a rally at Mahakhali, police dispersed them from the area. The police used tear gas to disperse the procession, backed by police, came from the Mahakhali crossing and chased them away, witnesses said. The anti-hartal AL procession was led by Rahmatullah, MP, who also visited Salahuddin's residence later.

## 'BNP statement about BDR firing in Ctg untrue'

The government contradicted the BNP secretary general's press statement that BDR opened fire in Chittagong on Saturday, reports UNB.

"This statement is untrue, fabricated and an evil effort to mislead the people," a PID handout said yesterday.

"While on duty in Chittagong yesterday, BDR did never open fire. Such untrue statement creates confusion in the public minds and adverse reaction about the law enforcers," it said.

The handout said such untrue statement from the secretary general or leading personalities of a main opposition party is unfortunate.

The government hoped that all concerned would demonstrate their responsibilities and refrain from such untrue and provocative statement.

## Income tax

From Page 1

The agitating employees also gheraoed the residence of one official and locked up his office, NBR sources said.

They are also trying to use political influence to get the transfer order of the two employees cancelled.

According to sources concerned, the NBR authorities conducted an inquiry into specific charges against the two employees. Some 14 officials testified to the inquiry committee that they were corrupt.

Based on the inquiry report, the NBR had transferred the employees after consultation with the finance ministry.

"These people are working in a gang and have turned the income tax office into a den of corruption," said a high NBR official. "Unless the government exerts power from the highest authority, the situation would hit hard the revenue collection efforts."

According to sources, the transferred employees today met with the Chairman of NBR and he assured them of a fresh investigation into the charges.

## Ctg rally

From Page 1

Khaleda Zia should make apology to the people of Chittagong for her 'misdeeds'. Otherwise, the people of Chittagong will never welcome her in this port city, he said.

The rally was followed by a procession which paraded through important city roads.

Earlier, namaz-e-janaza of the three activists, who were killed yesterday, was held at Lalighi Maidan after the Zohr prayers. A large number of leaders and workers of Awami League and its various front organisations including city Mayor Mahiuddin Chowdhury took part in it.

# 'Press can help develop political culture'

By DU Correspondent

Speakers at a seminar yesterday observed that the press could play a key role in development of political culture through proper treatment of news and presentation of views.

The seminar on 'Freedom and Responsibility of Newspapers' organized by the Dhaka University Journalists Association (DUJA) was held at the TSC auditorium of the university.

A strong democracy is largely dependent on a 'truly politically literate middle class' and the press may be helpful by informing and positively influencing the people, the key-note speaker said.

DU Vice Chancellor Prof A K Azad Choudhury addressed the seminar as the chief guest.

Dr Ahaduzzaman Mohammad Ali, a teacher of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism of DU, presented the key-note paper in the seminar.

Chaired by Tarun Sarker, president of DUJA, the seminar was also addressed by Bhorer Kagoj Editor Matir Rahman, The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam, Gazi Shamsur Rahman, Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique, associate professor, Department of Journalism DU, and Rezanur Rahman, staff reporter of Daily Ittefaq. DUJA general secretary Nasiruddin Kochi conducted the seminar.

With the establishment of democracy in the country, the readers of the newspapers feel that there should be more information about the society, politics, economy, and culture, Dr Ahaduzzaman said. But the newspapers of the country are yet to fulfill their desire.

Talking about objectivity, he said that the facts were being distorted deliberately in some newspapers of the country. He proposed to set up a media monitoring centre to check distortion of facts in newspaper's reports.

The Bhorer Kagoj editor said that every sphere of the society was now divided over political ideology and the newspapers were also not free from the influence of politics. This is due to the fact that at the initial stage most of the newspapers in the country had a direct link with politics, he said.

But the newspaper owners of the country have begun to understand the need to be neutral in publishing news items, which is a good sign, he added.

Refuting the statement that the newspapers could play the role of teachers, Matir Rahman said, "the leaders know everything, we do not need to teach the Prime Minister and the opposition leader the consequences of hartal and violence."

The leaders of both the ruling and opposition parties ignore the people of the country once they are voted to power, he said.

Expressing his optimism, the VC said that the newspapers had a duty to report the positive incidents with more emphasis.

He said that negative news were being prominently focused in the newspapers which should be stopped.

# UP polls begin today

From Page 1

coordination committees have been formed in each thana, comprising respected citizens of the localities.

Political parties operating in the localities have their representatives in the coordination committees headed by Thana Nirbahi Officers, the chief executive of the thana level administration. The Deputy Commissioners will work as Chief Coordinator of polls in the districts.

Some 3,87,155 persons including 1,803 Returning Officers, 39,728 Presiding Officers, 1,15,208 Assistant Presiding Officers and 2,30,416 polling officers will discharge their responsibilities in the polls. The EC has, meanwhile, provided training to these persons.

Around 10 observer groups in the country, including FEMA (Fair Election Monitoring Alliance), Manabdhikar Bastabayan Sangstha and Odhikar will monitor the polls.

The EC has made arrangements for deployment of BDR, Police, Ansar and Village Defense Party (VDP) to ensure law and order in and outside the polling stations during the election hours.

According to EC sources, one platoon of BDR personnel will stay at every thana headquarters during the polls, while another platoon will do mobile duties. Besides, a team comprising seven armed police constables and nine Ansar members with lathis will be posted at each of the 13,630 'trouble-prone' polling centres, while a team consisting of six armed constables and nine Ansars will be deployed at each of the 16,115 'less risky' centres.

Besides, the EC has instructed officials concerned not to allow anyone, other than those eligible, to enter the polling centres.

# Housewife gets life term for murder

By Court Correspondent

A court today sentenced a young housewife to life imprisonment for killing the nephew of her husband.

Mia Mohammed Sharif Hossain, the 1st Additional District and Sessions Judge, Dhaka, sentenced Asma Begum (22), to life imprisonment under Section 302 and 3 years under Section 201 of the Penal Code.

Court records show that one Sohrab Ali of Garu Gram (Vakura) lodged a case with Dhamrai thana on April 4, 1993, alleging that Asma, wife of Mosharraf Hossain, strangled her husband's nephew Sohel, aged about 7, on the same day.

Nine witnesses were examined on behalf of the prosecution. Asma Begum was accused of killing Sohel as a sequel to earlier quarrel with Sohel's mother. The sentence will be concurrently counted.

The judge observed that Asma deserves to be sentenced to death, but considering her age her punishment was reduced. Advocate MA Rashid appeared for the defendant.

City Circular Service of BRTC was launched yesterday. — PID photo

# Sharif to fight 'conspiracy'

From Page 1

ing a mutiny on the Supreme Court bench further deepening the crisis.

Shah also warned his mutinous Supreme Court justices to fall in line behind him and cancelled a Supreme Court hearing called for tomorrow by the rebellious Justice Saeeduzzaman Siddiqui.

Siddiqui has asked 15 of the 17 Supreme Court judges to meet tomorrow to decide whether Shah should remain Chief Justice despite the fact that he was promoted out of term, ahead of more senior judges.

Shah said Sharif engineered the split in the judiciary to prevent his contempt of court hearing to go ahead.

"Attempts have been made to create a rift among the judges so that they should be divided," Shah said. "To prevent me and other judges from deciding these cases, steps have been taken to divert the attention of the people and question the validity of my appointment as chief justice."

In his televised speech Sharif said Shah had overstepped his authority by suspending legislation passed by Parliament. He referred to three separate laws the chief justice suspended — a law to form anti-terrorist courts, an amendment to the contempt law to give a right of appeal and another amendment outlawing party members to vote against the party.

"Why did they not stop this controversy after I appointed the judges?" Sharif asked.

"Whenever Parliament has tried to pass legislation, to safeguard the constitution it has been obstructed by the chief justice," he said.

"The President refused to sign a law passed by the two houses of parliament whereas he signed 300 ordinances during the previous government" of former premier Benazir Bhutto, he said.

# Dr Wazed Miah takes over as BAEC Chairman

Renowned nuclear physicist Dr MA Wazed Miah has taken over the charge of the Chairman of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC), reports UNB.

The outgoing Chairman MA Quyum, who went on LPR, handed over the charge to Dr Wazed on Thursday (November 27), said a BAEC press release yesterday.

Dr Wazed will discharge the responsibility of Chairman in addition to his duty as member (Physical Science) of BAEC, a post he has been serving since June 7, 1993.

Dr Wazed is the husband of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

# CHT talks

From Page 1

Hopes for an 'agreed minutes' preceding the agreement were brightened on Thursday when PCJSS chief JB Larma said the draft was 'being finalised and an accord was in the offing soon'.

Yesterday's talks, were the longest so far. Mottuiddin Khan Alamgir, State Minister for Civil Aviation, joined the talks at 7 pm.

Chief Whip of Jatiya Sangsad Abul Hasnat Abdullah, who heads the NCCHT was being assisted by Kalparanjhan Chakma, MP and Ataur Rahman Khan Kaiser, member of the NCCHT. JB Larma was aided by Rupayan Dewan and Gautam Chakma.

Mottuiddin Khan Alamgir is widely believed to be the author of the draft agreement that NCCHT offered to the PCJSS. Both the sides reported progress in their negotiations in the current round, the seventh in the current series since talks began with the reconstituted National Committee in October last year.

Details of last night's marathon talks were not available immediately as none bothered to brief newsmen who kept waiting outside the guest house amid drizzles.

It was expected that an 'agreed minutes' would be finalised at this meeting. After finalising the 'agreed minutes', the PCJSS delegation will fly back to their temporary hideout at Dudukchhara for final consultation with their colleagues.

# Help hold free, fair UP polls: CEC

Chief Election Commissioner Mohammad Abu Hena has called upon the officials and employees engaged in the polls process to discharge their duties neutrally during the UP elections beginning today, reports UNB.

In an address to the nation over radio and TV yesterday evening on the eve of the nationwide UP elections, he said the EC would be compelled to take stern legal actions against those who will fail to discharge their duties impartially.

"The responsibility of holding a free, fair, neutral and peaceful election has been vested on all of us. We have to ensure that the voters are able to cast their votes without fear and disturbance," the CEC said.

He urged the officials of the republic to perform their election duty ignoring all sorts of intimidation, temptation and influence, and take lawful and neutral decisions to show the highest standard of service towards the people.

Termining the acts of terrorists and fear in the minds of people as the main obstacle to holding a peaceful and free election, he said the EC has attached topmost priority to the improvement of law and order situation.

Abu Hena said the law enforcing agencies have already been directed to arrest identified terrorists and holders of unauthorised arms and steps have also been taken to strengthen the arms recovery drive.

"We have to apply our full strength to resist a handful of terrorists and their patrons. We should not remain their hostage in this important juncture of establishing representative governance at the grassroots level."

He termed the new provision of electing three women members in each Union Parishad as a 'milestone' in our social evolution with regards to female participation in the democratic process at the local government level.

He hoped that the candidates will exercise tolerance and restraints, behave with responsibility, show utmost respect to laws of the land and accept the election results with a sportsman-like attitude.

# 12 killed in Indian riot

MADRAS, Nov 30: Communal clashes triggered by the killing of a policeman left 12 people dead and 13 others injured today in a southern city, police said, reports AP.

Police shot and killed three persons while dispersing mobs that hurled rocks at each other and looted shops in Coimbatore city, said police chief P Rajendran. The others were killed in the daylong clashes in the city, he said.

Trouble broke out after two men belonging to a radical Muslim group allegedly killed a policeman last night when he hauled them up for a traffic violation, police said.

Radical Hindu groups retaliated in various parts of Coimbatore, 450 kilometers (270 miles) southwest of Madras, capital of Tamil Nadu state. The area is 2,500 kilometers (1,500 miles) south of New Delhi.

# Pre-polls violence

From Page 1

lage.

Upon an appeal by the member candidate of Duani village, Moti Mia, to keep the centre in its previous venue, the authorities were supposed to visit the centre today.

But before the officials came, Moti Mia and the other member candidate, Jagul Mia, arrived at the madrasah centre along with their supporters. They exchanged hot words and at one stage a clash erupted between them.

Moti Mia fled the spot with his supporters. But the supporters of Jagul Mia went after them and killed one Shahajuddin, 45, with a spear. Ten others including a woman were injured in the clash. They were sent to the Narsingdi Sadar Hospital for treatment.

# Sirajganj

UNB from Sirajganj adds: Some 45 people, including a woman, were injured in pre-poll clashes at two unions in Kaziapur thana of the district yesterday.

Police said 30 people were injured when supporters of two candidates clashed at Kalikapur in Gandhail union at 7 am.

Of the injured, Noorjahan, 30, Jahangir, 22, Habibur, 35, Chan Mia, 22 and Salam, 20, were admitted to the Kaziapur Thana Health Complex in a critical condition.

Another clash at Kunkunia village of Majbari union at about 7:30 am left 15 people injured.

Conditions of Mostafa, 20, Golam Hossain, 22 and Jahangir, 20 were stated to be critical.

# PARJATAN IN SUNDARBANS

Enjoy your holiday or leisure with Parjatan in Sundarbans. Be a guest of Parjatan to discover the unique natural beauty of Sundarbans, gather a thrilling experience walking along the Tiger's Trail.

**Special Attractions :**

- \* Cruising in the narrow solitary creek by boat
- \* Cruising in moonlit night
- \* Enjoy the fishermen's traditional way of catching fish by Otter
- \* Opportunity to watch spotted deer, crocodile, monkey and different types of bird
- \* Many more rare experiences

**Date of Tour :**

4-6th December '97 (3-days 2-nights)

**Tour Price :**

- \* Dhaka-Jessore-Dhaka by air, Jessore-Mongla - Jessore by microbus and accommodation onboard to Sundarbans with other services Tk. 7000/- per person
- \* Dhaka-Mongla-Dhaka by road and other services Tk. 5500/- per person
- \* Mongla-Sunderbans-Mongla and other services Tk. 4500/- per person
- \* For minors the reduced airfare will be deducted from tour price

**Other services :**

Twin bedded cabin accommodation onboard for 2-nights and Sundarbans tour, all meals, forest tax, armed guard, guide etc.

We are operating tours to Sundarbans with smaller group to ensure personalised service and to ensure pollution free environment of Sundarbans.

Please contact for early booking  
Tours Division, Head Office 327842, 817855-9  
233 Airport Road, Tejgaon Dhaka-1215

**BP< BANGLADESH PARJATAN CORPORATION**

**Editor : Mahfuz Anam**

Published by the Editor from City Publishing House Ltd, 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52 Motiheel C/A, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091, Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Internet edition address: <http://www.dailystarnews.com> and Email address: [dstar@bangla.net](mailto:dstar@bangla.net)