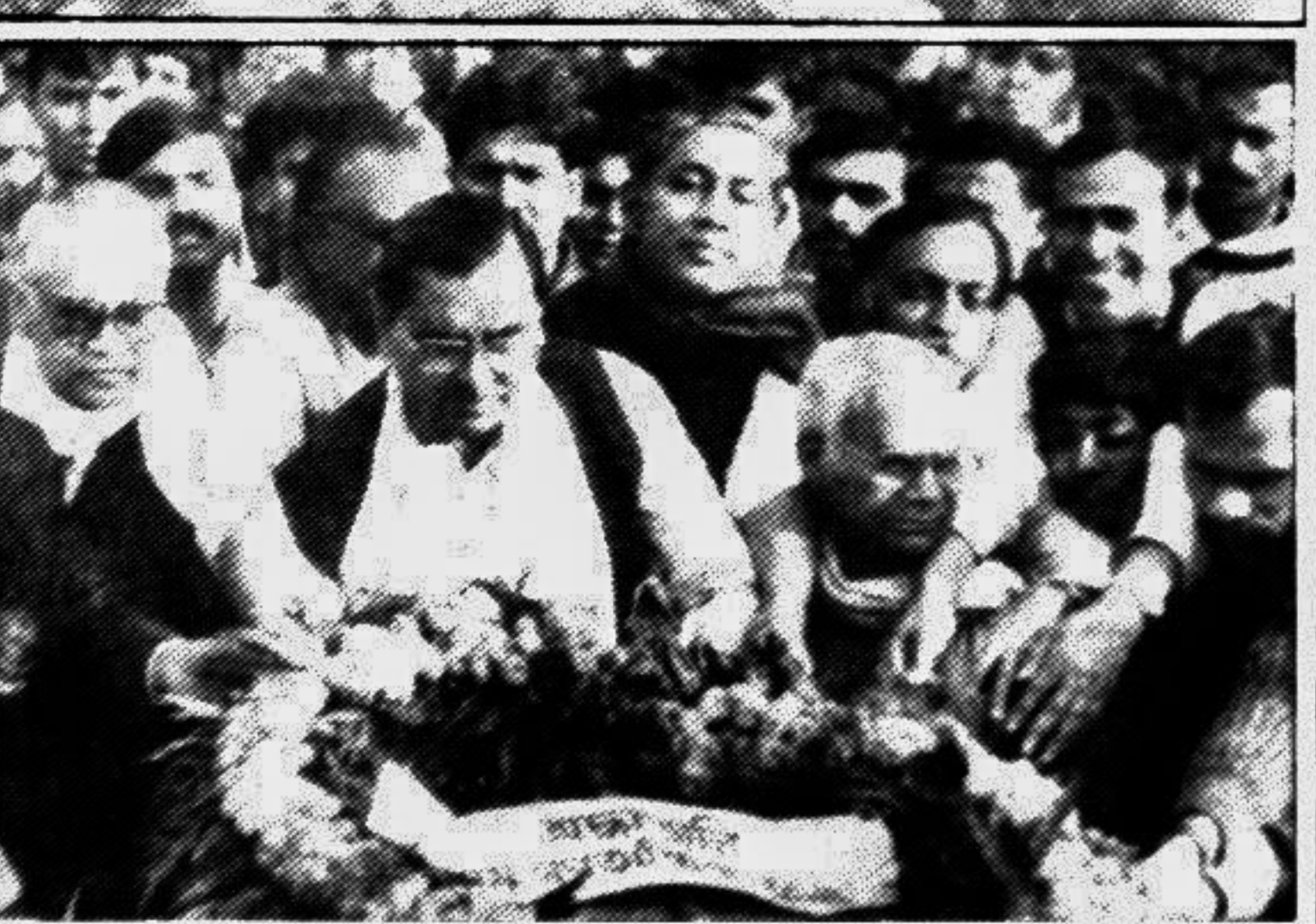


Homage to martyrs of Liberation War



Different socio-political and cultural organisations placed wreaths at the National Memorial at Savar to mark the Victory Day on Tuesday. From top: Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Dal, Awami League, Dhaka University, Muktiyoddha Sangsad, Projonmo '71, Gano Forum, Jatiya Party and Left Democratic Front. — Star photos



Victory Day rally of the Bangladesh Awami League in the city on Tuesday. — Star photo

Shab-e-Barat observed

Holy Shab-e-Barat, the night of fortune, was observed on Monday night with due solemnity and religious fervour across the country as elsewhere in the world, reports UNB.

Muslims everywhere passed the graceful night through nightlong prayers at mosques and homes seeking divine blessings for them as well as the nation.

President Shahabuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia issued separate messages on the eve of Shab-e-Barat.

To observe the holy Shab-e-Barat, different socio-cultural, political and religious organisations arranged milad mahfil, Qurankhwanis and discussions. Bangladesh Betar and Bangladesh Television aired special programmes while newspapers published special articles highlighting the significance of the holy occasion.

Despite the ban imposed by the Dhaka Metropolitan Police on exploding crackers during the holy night, blasts of crackers were heard from different parts of the city.

BCL activists humiliate House Tutors of A F Rahman Hall

By DU Correspondent

Some activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) allegedly humiliated House Tutors of Sir A F Rahman Hall of the Dhaka University on the Victory Day while distributing special diets among the students, witnesses said.

The BCL activists allegedly led by the BCL president and secretary at Sir A F Rahman Hall unit chanted slogans against a house tutor named Araf Billah calling him Raza-kar.

The agitated BCL activists threw packets of meals towards the teachers, witnesses said. Sources in the hall said that the BCL leaders at the hall got angry as this the hall authorities took the responsibility of distributing meals.

UN report on Bangladesh 5pc growth, wider trade deficit in '98 forecast

NEW YORK, Dec 17: Bangladesh economy is expected to register a 5 per cent growth in 1998. It, however, warns that trade deficit will widen and industrial growth is likely to slacken, UNB citing a new United Nations report said.

The report, 'The World Economy at the Beginning of 1998,' was released Tuesday at the United Nations.

An update of an annual UN survey on the world economy, the report forecasts that the world output, despite current market slowdown, will cruise at 3 per cent growth in 1998.

While many Asian economies suffered serious setbacks in 1997, the world trade continued to grow, registering a stunning 9.4 per cent growth during the year.

Though political developments in 1997 in certain countries of the region raised business uncertainties, the overall growth in the region is expected to return to 6 per cent in 1998, says the UN report.

As for Bangladesh, the report notes that though industrial growth was sluggish, strong growth in agricultural

output has supported GDP growth of over 5 per cent in 1997. This has also helped to keep food prices low and hold inflation below 4.5 per cent.

The report warns that inflation is expected to rise in 1998, owing to higher public-sector wages. It suggests that industrial growth is likely to pick up, abetted by increasing foreign investment in the energy and power sectors.

As for 1998, the report notes that agricultural growth in Bangladesh will slacken, particularly due to a reduction in the subsidies of input prices while food prices are low. Trade deficits are also expected to grow in 1998 as imports will grow faster than exports in the wake of increase industrial activity.

The report forecasts that a depreciation of the Bangladesh currency, by about 8 per cent, is likely as the authorities seek to boost export competitiveness. However, buoyant remittances from overseas workers will help contain the current account deficit. Overall, the report says, the economy is expected to grow at 5 per cent again in 1998.

Six killed in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

Six people were killed and 15 others injured in separate road accidents in Dhaka, Narayanganj and Faridpur yesterday and the day before.

Our DMC Correspondent reports: A teenage boy was killed when a speeding truck ran over him in Joykali Mondir area yesterday morning. The victim Aynal Haq, 16, was seriously injured and died on way to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

A pedestrian was crushed under the wheels of a minibus in front of the Mouchak Market in the city yesterday morning. The 25-year-old victim Ashraf died at the DMCH.

An unidentified young man was killed when a microbus hit

him at Rayerbagh in the city Tuesday night. He died on way to the DMCH.

A 36-year-old Kaum was killed when a bus ran over him while crossing the road at Polibondor, Narayanganj Tuesday night. He was rushed to the DMCH where the doctors declared him dead.

Our Faridpur Correspondent adds: Two persons were killed and 15 others injured, five of them seriously in a road accident at Maskandi under Madhukhali thana yesterday.

According to witnesses, the accident took place when two buses collided head on at noon at Maskandi on Faridpur-Jessore road.



Rtn Thackaray (centre), addressing a press conference on the eve of the District Conference of RI District 3280 at Sheraton Hotel yesterday evening. Also seen in the picture are (from left) Rtn K Waheedul Alam, Rtn A M Talukdar, Rtn Jamaluddin, District Governor, RI District 3280 Bangladesh and Rtn Deen Mohammad Khan. — Star photo

PM opens Rotary Dist 3280 confce today

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will open a two-day conference of Bangladesh Rotary District 3280 at the Dhaka Sheraton Hotel today, says a press release.

The Conference of Care and Share as it is known will put the focus on the worldwide standing of Rotary, its growth to the oldest and the largest service organisation of the world.

Rotary was born in 1905, 92 years ago.

The leader of the Rotary world is Glen W Kinross, the President of Rotary International.

In the two days of deliberation, emphasis will be put on Bangladesh Rotary for human, social and economic advancement of the underprivileged.

Results of ICMAB, Sept '97

The Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh has published the results of the ICMAB September, 1997 Examination held in September & October this year at Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna & Comilla centres, says a press release.

The names & roll numbers of the students who have completed different levels in the examination are given below:

Level - V (Five) Course Completed - 88 (Eighty):
Mr. Chandan Kanti Bhattacharya (10133), Mr. Md. Khorshed Alam (10133), Mr. Md. Helayet Hossain (10296), Mr. G.M. Omar Faruk Chowdhury (10429), Mr. A. K. M. Ali Johar (10447), Mr. Hasin Jassal (10615), Mr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed (10760), Mr. Khan Md. Abdul Wahab (11926).

Level - IV (Four) Completed Roll Nos. 10 (Ten): 10039, 10080, 10133, 10266, 10429, 10443, 10566, 10615, 10760, 11867.

Level - III (Three) Completed Roll Nos. 32 (Thirty two): 10092, 10129, 10150, 10175, 10207, 10215, 10233, 10321, 10415, 10454, 10460, 10516, 10529, 10536, 10569, 10629, 10639, 10650, 10652, 10766, 11235, 11160, 11259, 11679, 11707, 11724, 11751, 11779, 11872, 11876, 11928.

Level - II (Two) Completed Roll Nos. 28 (Twenty eight): 10029, 10058, 10072, 10085, 10145, 10215, 10487, 10583, 10619, 10683, 10718, 10815, 10822, 11026, 11066, 11075, 11109, 11138, 11151, 11169, 11168, 11186, 11237, 11660, 11681, 11718, 11736, 11779.

Level - I (One) Completed Roll Nos. 59 (Fifty nine): 10091, 10333, 10576, 10577, 10735, 10789, 10834, 10835, 10836, 10852, 10895, 10940, 10950, 10957, 11000, 11016, 11065, 11079, 11096, 11103, 11107, 11135, 11145, 11147, 11214, 11217, 11221, 11249, 11273, 11276, 11283, 11284, 11304, 11338, 11349, 11315, 11319, 11324, 11327, 11338, 11385, 11389, 11390, 11392, 11404, 11405, 11420, 11429, 11430, 11442, 11513, 11582, 11604, 11688, 11690, 11771, 11790, 11833, 11939.



Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) started Victory Day rally from Ramna Shatayu Angan on Tuesday. — Star photo

Confce on participatory water management begins today

By Staff Correspondent

A national conference on "Participatory Water Management in the Context of Revision of the Guidelines for People's Participation in Water Development Projects" will be held today (Thursday).

The day-long conference organised by the Ministry of Water will begin at 8:30 am at the auditorium of the BARC centre.

The objective of the conference is to reach a common understanding on the implications of the nature of water management in Bangladesh for new guidelines for participatory water management.

Senior-level officials from government ministries and agencies in the water sector, key donor officials, directors of NGOs, senior academics and policy advisors, opinion leaders and team leaders of water development projects will attend the conference.

G W Chowdhury dead

Former minister and Chairman of Political Science, Dhaka University Dr G W Chowdhury died of brain haemorrhage at Maryland George Washington hospital, USA on Saturday. He was 73, reports BSS.

He was buried in New Jersey, according to a message received in the city yesterday.

Prof Chowdhury authored a number of books on Islam and politics, especially on the Subcontinental and Chinese politics.

He was a minister of Pakistan before the independence of Bangladesh.

Prof Chowdhury is survived by his wife, two sons and a host of relations and well-wishers.

'Close city shops by 7 pm'

The government has urged the city shopowners to shut their shops by 7 pm everyday to help assuage the sufferings of the city dwellers caused by loadshedding, reports UNB.

According to an official handout issued in the city yesterday, the government order to close shops by 7 pm everyday, which came in the wake of persisting power shortage in the country, is still in force.

DU farewell reception

The freshers' reception and farewell programme of the Mass Communication and Journalism Department of Dhaka University was held at the TSC yesterday, reports UNB.

Presided over the chairman of the department Dr Sitara Parvin, the function was addressed, among others, by DU Vice-Chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury, Dean of the Arts Faculty Kazi Shahidullah, Editor of the Mukta Kantha KG Mostafa, Prof QAIM Nuruddin and Prof Sakawat Ali Khan.

The prize distribution ceremony of the annual cultural and sports programme of the department was also held.

Addressing the function the Vice-Chancellor urged the students to contribute in the march forward of the country by their objective writings and reporting.

The programme concluded through a cultural function.

110 under-trial prisoner released

The government has released some 110 under-trial prisoners held for minor offences special grounds on the eve of the Victory Day, reports UNB.

The government expressed the hope that the released persons will lead their lives as worthy citizens and contribute to the socio-economic development of the country, said a PID handout yesterday.

BCIC Tender Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিলায়নে জাতীয় অগতির প্রতীক

The Managing Director, Zia Fertiliser Company Limited, Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria invites sealed tender for procurement of Liquid NDT Chemicals against Tender No CM/WS/366/97. The tender should be dropped along with 1% earnest money within 07-01-98 up to 11.30 AM at Zia Fertiliser Co Ltd, Ashuganj, B'baria or at Purchase Division, BCIC (16th floor), 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka and will be opened simultaneously at both places just after closing the tender. Tender schedule containing all terms and conditions may be purchased on payment of Tk 400/- (Taka four hundred) only at Zia Fertiliser Co Ltd, Ashuganj, B'baria, BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (2nd floor), 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka and BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong. No tender document shall be sold on the date of opening.

BCIC 1099-10/12/97
DFP-28192-11/12/97
G-4017

General Manager (Commercial)
for Managing Director

Biman BANGLADESH AIRLINES

ZIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, KURMITOLA, DHAKA. PHONES: 894771-9, 894730-4, CABLE: AIRBANGLA, TEL: 64249 DABG BJ
Ref: DACPL/26/97-98/306 Dated: 09.12.97

Tender Notice No. 28/97-98

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by Biman Bangladesh Airlines on two envelope system (Technical & Price Offer) from interested manufacturers/distributors for the supply of the items mentioned below as per details/specifications mentioned in the schedule:

01. Mechanical Dial Plat Form Scale (Capacity — 02 Unit 500 KG).
02. Micro-Computer, Printer, Voltage — 01 Unit Each. Stabilizer.

Tender schedule mentioning full details/specification of items, terms and conditions will be available from the Accounts Officer, Cash Payment Unit of Finance Directorate, Biman Admin Building, ZIA, Dhaka on payment of Tk 100/- (One hundred) only per set (per group) non-refundable by applying own letterhead pad during any working day up to 04.01.98.

Sealed tenders should be dropped in the tender box kept in Local Purchase Section, Stores & Purchase Directorate, Admin Building, ZIA, Dhaka & Biman Press Building, Farmgate, Tejgaon, Dhaka latest by 1030 hours (BST) on 05.01.98 & will be opened on the same day at 1130 hours at the premises of Stores & Purchases Directorate, Admin Building, ZIA, Dhaka in presence of the tenderers (if any).

Biman Management reserves the right to increase or decrease the quantity of the items and can accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Dy. General Manager Purchase (Acting)
Stores & Purchases Directorate.

GD-429

বাংলাদেশ পেট্রোলিয়াম এক্সপ্লোরেশন কোম্পানী লিঃ Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration Company Ltd (A Subsidiary Company of Petrobangla)

No. 123.53.130

Dated: 14-12-97

Tender Notice

Sealed quotations are hereby invited from the bona-fide Suppliers/Manufacturers/Distributors on prescribed schedule for supply of (1) Tyre Tube & Battery (2) Computer.

Tender schedule containing terms and conditions will be available our Accounts & Finance Division, Ibrahim Mansion (3rd floor), 11, Purana Paltan, Dhaka during office hours from 18-12-97 at a cost of Tk. (1) 1000/- (2) 500/- per schedule respectively (Non-refundable). No tender schedule will be sold on opening date of the tender. Tender in separate sealed covered superscribing the case number and description of goods may be dropped in the tender box kept at Materials Control Division, HBFC Building (9th floor), 22, Purana Paltan, Dhaka at 12.00 Noon on (1) 29-12-97 & (2) 30-12-97 which will be opened on the same day at 12.10 PM in presence of tenderers (if any).

Management reserves the right to accept/reject any or all the tender and increase/decrease the quantity of the item without assigning any reason whatsoever.

GD-424

General Manager (MCD)