

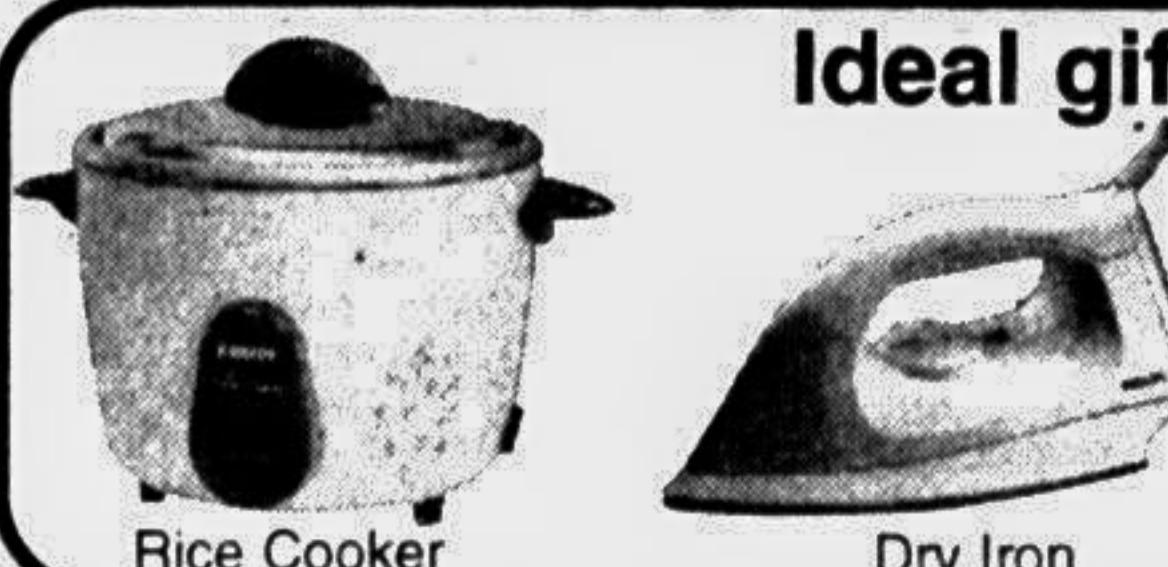
We do our Piece so you can have your peace



The World On Time

Bengal Express Co. Ltd.
Licensee of Federal Express CorporationFor more information call-Dhaka, Tel: 9565114,
988327, 913047, 894213, 808803 DEP 9338931
Chittagong, Tel: (031) 712127, CEPZ (031) 740108
Khulna, Tel: (041) 725008, NGari, Tel: 9714336

Ideal gift for any occasion.

Transcom Electronics Limited
Official licensee of Philips Electronics N.V. for lighting products, radio and TV sets
Dhaka: 815307-10, 819625-9 Ctg: 716353, 723578
Khulna: 720304, Bogra: 6215Backed by
GuaranteesLet's make things better
PHILIPS**BMA urges PM
Change plan for bringing
foreign docs**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said the government had taken the decision to open the health sector for foreign private investment, reports UNB.

She expressed the hope that this would provide local doctors with opportunities to gather experience and also help create jobs for them.

The Prime Minister was exchanging views with the leaders of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) at her office yesterday.

Mentioning the various steps taken for rapid development of the health sector, Hasina said the main target of the government is to reach the best possible services to the least privileged persons.

She said, 'We've taken steps to appoint more doctors and nurses. We've increased facilities in the hospitals, including the nutrition facilities.'

In a written statement, the BMA leaders urged the Prime Minister to implement the decision of creating 3,010 posts in the health sector and also change the plan for bringing foreign physicians in the private health sector of the country.

BMA leaders Dr Rashid-e-Mahbub, Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Prof Gazi Shahidul Alam, Dr Sharifuddin Ahmed and Prof Noorjanah Bhuiyan also spoke on the occasion.

5 killed

From page 1

near Tejgaon level crossing.

Local people also alleged that a group of people was running at least 20 illegal liquor shops in different slums in Tejgaon area for a long time. They had some regular clients, mostly truck drivers and helpers from the nearby intercity truck stand. Other clients were Railway workers, van drivers, rickshawpullers and small traders.

Meanwhile, following the reported deaths, agitated local people damaged at least 10 shops including three illegal liquor shops, around the slum.

Railway police first recovered the body of Ismail which was lying beside the rail track near Tejgaon level crossing at about 2 pm on Monday. Police quoting local people, said Ismail used to work in an illegal liquor shop in Tejgaon area.

Sources at the Department of Narcotics Control said they were investigating the Tejgaon incident.

In May, 1996, eight people died and more than 30 fell sick after taking adulterated liquor in the city's Rampura-Badda area. The liquor was sold from a homeopathic medicine shop near Rampura bridge.

Edn ministry

From page 1

the Task Force report. The strike began on January 4.

Due to the strike, registration of the HSC private candidates of the year 1998 from 30 private colleges under Dhaka Education Board could not be completed yet. Registration of the regular HSC examinees will also be hampered as these are scheduled to begin from today, according to sources in the Dhaka Board.

According to our earlier announcement, HSC examination was scheduled to begin from May 29.

The registration of the SSC examinees is more or less complete, the sources said. The examinations are scheduled from April 16.

Delivery of mark sheets, certificates and attestation forms for those applying for higher studies abroad is also being affected by the strike, said witnesses. Scores of people flock to the board office every day for those.

Ctg traders

From page 1

area in two separate incidents within a span of one hour in the evening, witnesses and police said.

On December 26 three youths who were known as activists of BCL were gunned down in the evening at Chandgaon in the city by some unidentified gunmen.

But none of the killers were arrested despite widespread repercussion and a storm of protests from different quarters.

Many other incidents of crime remained unreported as the victims hardly dare to lodge complaints with the police fearing retaliation, sources said.

However, talking to The Daily Star, Commissioner of Chittagong Metropolitan Police Asraful Huda said that measures were being taken for some drastic actions to curb crimes.

He said a decision has been taken to deploy more patrol police around all city markets and other important places in addition to movement of vigilante teams, apprehending further increase of crime before the Eid festival.

All govts till '96 patronised killers of Bangabandhu: PW-44

All the governments till 1996 patronised the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib while General Ziaur Rahman made no attempt to bring the chain of command when he became the Chief of Army Staff after the August 15 putsch, reports UNB.

The allegation came from Col (retired) Shafiq Jamil, a witness in the Bangabandhu Murder Case and a key leader of the November 3 army coup in a bid to restore the chain of command, while completing his deposition yesterday.

"General Zia didn't take any punitive action against the killers while General Ershad rehabilitated them for the second time even by providing their arrear salaries," said the 44th prosecution witness.

Jamil, who was commander of 46 Brigade in Dhaka Cantonment during the August 15 carnage that killed the country's founding President Sheikh Mujib, began his lengthy deposition at the District and Sessions Court on Monday.

He said Zia emerged as the holder of supreme power through the so-called sepoys revolution on November 7, 1975, and rehabilitated the people who were involved in the killings of August 15 and November 3 by providing them with jobs in foreign missions.

The November 3 coup was inevitable as Ziaur Rahman, after becoming the Chief of Staff, did not try to restore the army's chain of command which was broken on August 15," the witness said adding that the rebels also tried later to overthrow the Zia government.

He said Major Rashid and Major Farooq, who did not get

jobs in foreign missions after the 'killers' group had gone to Bangkok on the night of November 3, returned to the country and attempted mutiny in the army.

Major Farooq attempted mutiny in Savar and Bogra cantonments while Major Rashid tried to re-capture the charge of the CO of 2 Field Artillery. But Zia did not take any action against the duo even this time," said Col Jamil.

Without elaborating the many abortive coups and counter-coups during the Zia regime, he said the people involved in the killings of August 15 went for another abortive putsch to topple the government in later part of 1980.

"All involved were dismissed this time and began to lead expatriate life abroad. Ershad rehabilitated them for the second time after he forcibly captured the state power," said Jamil who was given retirement for arresting Zia on November 3, 1975.

Resuming his Monday's incomplete deposition, the PW-44 said Bangladesh Army was running on 'ad hoc basis concept' until November 7, 1975. Later, Zia introduced the concept he preferred (army organisation on brigade basis), but his predecessor Shaifullah had opposed it earlier, he said.

A meeting of senior officers of the inter-service forces was held on August 18 that discussed bringing back the chain of command in army. Col Jamil said recalling the incidents of 22 years back, Chiefs of BDR and police also attended the meeting.

"I protested when Major Rashid and Major Farooq came

to a meeting of senior army officers the following day at the order of President Khandaker Mushtaque. I also told the meeting to bring them back under the chain of command," he told the court.

He said he told Major Rashid and Major Farooq "you people are mutinous, deserters and killers, you will be brought back to chain of command and tried for your crimes." Rashid and Farooq were speechless and looked sad, he added.

Recalling the reshuffle in the army on August 24 when Shaifullah was given retirement and Zia made his successor, Jamil said the new chief did not attempt to restore chain of command that led to a coup on November 3.

"We went for a coup on November 3 under the leadership of CGS Brig Khaled Mosharraf to bring back the lancer tanks and August 15 killers under the chain of command," he said claiming that all the units in Dhaka Cantonment except Bengal Lancer were with them.

After completing the deposition in the court of Dhaka District and Sessions Judge Kazi Golam Rasul, the PW-44 identified Lt Col (dismissed) Syed Farooq Rahman, Lt Col (retired) Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan and Lt Col (LPR) Muhimuddin on the dock.

During cross-examination by the defence lawyers, the former brigade commander refused to accept the August 15 killings as a successful coup. "This was not a successful coup, rather simply a murder."

The court will resume the proceedings at 9:30 am on January 12.

**Khaleda warns of
tougher movement
after Eid**

BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday said that the government has failed to ensure security of public life and property, reports UNB.

"A vigorous movement will be launched after Eid if the government does not change its behaviour," Begum Zia said while addressing an iftar party at the Sayesha Khan Centre at Lalbagh, in the city.

Begum Zia criticised the government for, what she said, being involved in the conspiracy to destroy the country's economy and for making plans to sell out the country's gas resources to foreign countries through pipelines.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

Criticising some provisions of the accord, the Leader of the Opposition said the accord has endangered the country's independence and created confusion in public minds.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

"With the signing of the peace agreement on the CHT, one-tenth of the country's territory is going to be delinked from the mainland," she said.

Muggers stab 3, snatch Tk 2.20 lakh in city

By Staff Correspondent

Muggers stabbed three persons and snatched about Tk 2.20 lakh from them in two incidents in the city yesterday.

In the first incident, two officials of Agrani Trading Company were robbed of Tk 20,000 in the Motijheel area in the morning, according to police.

The snatchers also stabbed the officials — Tapan Babu and Bhasman Chandra. A driver of a pushcart, Abdur Razzak, was also injured as the snatchers exploded cocktails while leaving the scene.

Later, Matin was admitted to Metropolitan Hospital at Motijheel in a critical condition.

One of the owners of the press is a journalist and leader of Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, Shahriar Kabir. Kazi Mukul, executive convenor of Nirmul Committee, is the managing director of the press.

The incident happened when the officials came to deposit money in the Motijheel branch of the Pubali Bank by a microbus. The snatchers, who were also in another microbus, attacked them in front of the bank at around 10:20 am.

The injured officials were admitted to the Orthopaedic Hospital.

In the other incident, Abdul Matin, accountant of Dana

Block-9

From page 1

Dhaka Trade Fair from Feb 22

Dhaka International Trade Fair '98 will be held from February 22 to March 21 at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city instead of February 7 to March 6, a press release of Export Promotion Bureau said yesterday.

The constables later told newsmen that Suman was brought to the hospital for treatment of his head injury. They said Suman fell from a staircase in the Narsingdi Prison in the morning.

The Narsingdi Prison Superintendent could not be contacted for his comment.

Meanwhile, a BBC report

said last night that ULFA had called a general strike (bandh) in Assam on Friday demanding release of Golap Barua. They have already started a campaign for the release by organising rallies and demonstration in Assam.

The BBC report quoting chief of ULFA's armed wing Parash Barua said, they would not go for any offensive action. Parash said they would only write to Bangladesh government seeking release of their leader.

No request yet from India to hand over ULFA leader: FM

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad yesterday said that Bangladesh has not received any formal request from India to hand over Anup Jetia alias Golap Barua, General Secretary, United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), reports BSS.

Golap Barua along with his two accomplices were arrested from a house in Mohammadpur area on December 21.

In reply to a question, Azad said his law will take its own course.

Azad said that Indian High Commissioner came to the Foreign Ministry on Monday and met officials. He gave no details.

To another question, Azad said he has no knowledge about the call made by ULFA chief Parash Barua to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina not to hand over Anup Jetia to India. A foreign radio broadcast such a report on Monday.

By Staff Correspondent

The CID is yet to take up the case filed with Mohammadpur Thana on Monday against Anup Jetia alias Golap Barua, the said general secretary of United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) and his two accomplices.

Golap Barua, Laxmi Pradip and Babul Sharma were arrested by Special Branch police from a flat at Adabar on December 21.