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Heavy traffic jam in city

The city witnessed a heavy traffic congestion that caused untold suffering to the dwellers, reports UNB.

The traffic jam virtually paralysed the central Dhaka twice - at noon and in the evening.

All roads in Malibagh, Mouchak, Shantinagar, Kakkrali, Maghbazar, Paltan, Motijheel, Tikatuli, Bangla Motor, SAARC Fountain, New Market, Elephant Road and other areas were jammed with vehicles. The jam continued for about two hours.

A senior traffic officials attributed the jam to various reason, including Eid shopping spree and the weekend holiday.

The congestion took a serious turn when some roads were blocked by police to facilitate the movement of VIPs attending the three-nation business summit held at Hotel Sonargaon.

Police said the Dhaka city is already overcrowded with vehicles while the strength of the traffic police is too inadequate to control the situation.

One shot dead in Jhenidah

JHENIDAH, Jan 15: One person was shot dead in the district on Wednesday, reports UNB.

Police and family sources said a group of armed miscreants, allegedly members of outlawed party, raided the house of Saidul Islam Liton, 25, a dead writer, at Bhagabannagar village in sadar thana at 9:30 pm.

The attackers shot him dead on the spot and left the place.

DTUA will always welcome presence of govt official at any programme

By DU Correspondent

The Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DTUA) will always welcome the presence of any state and government official at any programme for education, research, housing and development projects for the teachers of the university.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the DTUA executive committee held Tuesday with its president Prof AFM Yusuf Haider in the chair, says a press release.

The meeting discussed the 'indecent comment' made by the leaders of BNP-backed Jatiyatobadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) after newspapers reported that the Prime Minister would visit the university on the occasion of inaugurating a 14-storey residential building for the teachers of the university.

The meeting also decided to convene a general meeting for working out a plan regarding pay-scale, marginal benefits and other interests of the teachers of the university if the general members of DTUA agree, the release said.

Indo-Pak talks

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nior officials. They also had nearly 20 minutes of one-to-one meeting.

The Pakistan Premier was assisted at the bilateral talks by Foreign Minister Gauhar Ayub Khan and State Minister for Foreign Affairs Siddiqi Kanju. The Indian premier was assisted by State Minister for Commerce B Ramaiya.

Yesterday's exclusive meeting between Gujral and Sharif was the fourth between the two prime ministers. Earlier they met at Male, New York and Edinburgh.

The foreign secretaries of the two countries, as a follow-up of the Gujral-Sharif talks, also met briefly immediately afterwards.

They briefed newsmen separately about the Gujral-Sharif meeting and also about their talks.

Both the foreign secretaries said that the talks concentrated on reviving the dialogue between India and Pakistan, which has been stalled for several months.

Indian Foreign Secretary K Raghunath said that the two sides decided to continue the Secretary-level talks. A date for the talks would be fixed shortly, he said.

Pakistan Foreign Secretary Shamsad Ahmed said, "Today also I discussed with my Indian counterpart and discussed ways of operationalising a dialogue."

He added, "Of course there is no disagreement about this dialogue. It is only a matter of procedure. We did exchange views but given the complexities of the issues, one has to be patient."

Pakistan and India decided to hold Secretary-level dialogue when the two sides met in March last year. Kashmir issue is one of the main items on the agenda of Indo-Pakistan dialogue.

About the bilateral talks between Pakistan and India, sources said that issues like visa facilities, trade liberalisation and creation of more opportunities for boosting business were discussed.

The two sides expressed their strong desire to bridge the gap between SAFTA and SAARC.



Leader of the Opposition in Jatiya Sangsad Begum Khaleda Zia called on Indian Prime Minister IK Gujral at his hotel suite in the city yesterday.

—Star photo

Sharif praises Dhaka's success in achieving higher growth rate

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina met with Pakistan Prime Minister Mian Mohammad Nawaz Sharif at his hotel suite in the city yesterday afternoon and discussed matters of mutual interest, reports UNB.

Nawaz Sharif thanked Sheikh Hasina for hosting the first ever three nation business summit and said whatever decisions will be taken in the summit should be implemented.

He said the exchange of ideas and cooperation between the private sectors of the three countries will bring about sustainable improvement in their economies.

Nawaz Sharif praised Hasina for her leadership and the success of Bangladesh in achieving higher growth rate.

Sheikh Hasina said the business summit will help a lot

Ershad calls on Gujral

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad made a courtesy call on visiting Indian Prime Minister IK Gujral at his hotel suite yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters relating to mutual interests, said a party press release.

The Indian Premier was learnt to have expressed keen interest about the present political situation of Bangladesh, particularly the role of Jatiya Party.

JP Presidium member and its Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Major Gen (retd) Kazi Golam Dastagir was present.

Extradition

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stated that the Bangladesh government would look into the matter.

Asked whether the questions of buying natural gas from Bangladesh and transit facility to India came up during the talks, he said all these matters, including development of infrastructure, transport and communications, were discussed.

We want improvement of economic conditions of the two countries ... the talks focussed on the economic cooperation, trade and investment in a good atmosphere for mutual benefit," the Indian Foreign Secretary said.

That your people, including yourself are trying so hard to achieve," the memorandum said.

Continued silence over the genocide of unarmed people and rape of women of Bangladesh would make a mockery of the principles of democracy and human rights.

The memorandum said, "Your people, including yourself are trying so hard to achieve," the memorandum said.

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