

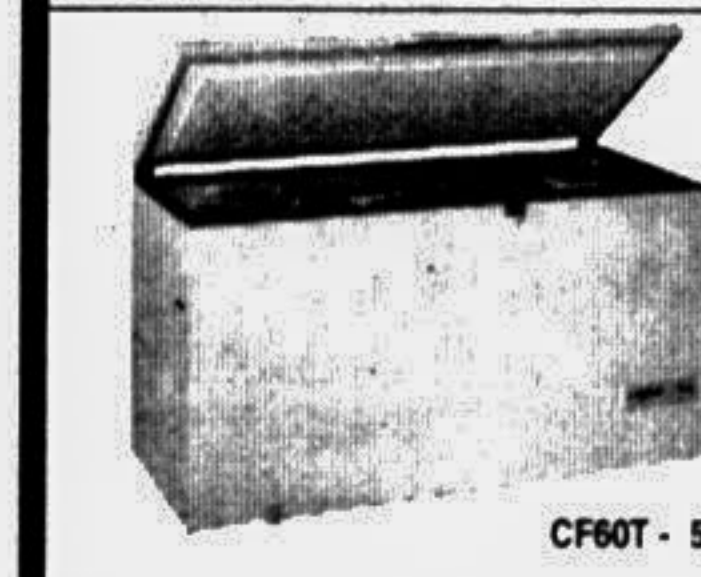
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Int'l seminar concludes Setting up of regional peacekeeping academy in Dhaka recommended

The International seminar on South Asian Peace-Keeping Experience that ended yesterday recommended setting up of a Regional Peacekeeping Academy in Dhaka, reports UNB.

The recommendation was in response to the Suggestion Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina made when she inaugurated the seminar on February 9.

Gunshot near Ershad's office

Panic gripped the city's posh Baridhara area as unidentified gunmen fired several shots near the Jatiya Party Chairman's office last night, reports UNB.

BNP's letter

From page 1 votes against the party he was nominated for his election. BNP expelled Hasibur Rahman Swapan more than three hours before the BNP lawmaker took oath as a deputy minister in the government of national consensus on Monday evening.

Ship detained

From page 1 owner of the ship without unloading the consignment there brought it to the outer anchorage of Chittagong Port after visiting some other ports, port sources said.

OC sued

From page 1 and ordered the jail doctor to give him medical treatment for early recovery.

Chetia

From page 1 Chetia was scheduled to be produced in the court of CMM, Dhaka on February 3, was not brought there as he was suffering from blood dysentery.

SALE AND REPURCHASE PRICES OF ICB UNIT CERTIFICATES RFXED EFFECTIVE FROM : 15-02-98 SALE PRICE : TK 127/- PER UNIT REPURCHASE PRICE : TK 122/- PER UNIT

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Members of Manglu Sangskritik Goshthi rendering songs at the Central Shaheed Minar in the city yesterday as part of the Amar Ekushey programme. - Star photo

Three private member's resolutions disposed of Only 60 psychiatrists for 12 lakh patients

By Staff Correspondent The Jatiya Sangsad yesterday disposed of three private member's resolutions.

Prof Sobhan is the secretary of the organising committee of the "First International Conference on Psychiatry '98" that begins in the city on February 15.

Maid falls from roof, dies

By Staff Correspondent A young housemaid died soon after she fell from the rooftop of a three-storey building at Tekuni para in the city yesterday morning.

Export trophies

From page 1 "warriors of development" Sheikh Hasina said "We all have to increase the purchasing capacity of the general people for burgeoning of the industries."

Advani's desire

From page 1 "reunification". He demanded that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should lodge a protest to the Indian government against such utterances by Hindu nationalists leader LK Advani.

US trade show opens

From page 1 business to be done over three days of the exhibition. The United States is Bangladesh's most important trading partner at present as it provides the major market for Bangladesh's export, Cookson said.

Adoption of 7 int'l conventions

From page 1 for taking responsibility of carrying international cargo, he added. Asked whether it be difficult for the ESCAP member countries to mobilise necessary funds for constructing a highway international standard, Dr Rahmatullah said, "There has been very little difficulties in mobilisation of funds for the Asian Highway in any of the ESCAP member countries."

The concept to have a motorable land route across Asia was first conceived in 1959 by Economic Commission for Asia and Far East (ECAFE), an organisation of 15 member countries.

THANK YOU MESSAGE

We wish to convey our heartfelt gratitude to all our friends, well-wishers and relatives who stood by us at this hour of our immense grief. We received messages of condolence from different parts of the world, as well as from Bangladesh. As we are still going through a state of shock, it is not possible for us to thank each and everybody individually, though we wish we could. Thank you once again.

Imam Bukhari may urge Muslims to 'vote out BJP'

NEW DELHI, Feb 12: The Imam of Jama Masjid, Syed Ahmed Bukhari, is likely to issue a statement tomorrow urging the Muslims to vote for 'any candidate who can defeat the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The Asian Age' reported today, says BSS.

Shantibahini members

From page 1 had left the camp, followed by 58 others in the evening on the same day. They had left the transit camp in Khagrachhari on their own arrangement, encashing their cheques for Tk 50,000 each.

Separatists

From page 1 200 kg, 60 mm mortar Soviet block-12, pistol-120 and wireless set-5.

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They were given the money as per the December 2 agreement between the government-appointed national committee on CHT and the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) to end the decades-old insurgency.

The next batches of the Shantibahini are scheduled to surrender their arms on February 16, 22 and 28.

Some 500 more are expected to lay down their guns at Baghaichhari in Rangamati district on February 16.

In all, 1933 Shantibahini cadres are scheduled to surrender arms.

Meanwhile, dissident PCJSS sources said one of their leaders in Rangamati, Sachib Chakma and two other activists of the Pahari Chhatra Parishad led by Diptyshankar Chakma, arrested on Wednesday were charged in two separate cases.

They were charged in a case relating to rioting in Naniar-char, leading to death of several people on November 17, 1993.

Another case dates back to June 12, 1996, related to assaulting a tribal leader from Rangamati, Gautam Dewan. The latest case relates to the killing of Aswini Chakma last month in Kutubchhari, who was an activist of the BNP.

Reiterating the party's demand, he urged the government to scrap the "illegal" accord and bring peace to the Chittagong Hill Tracts with national consensus by consulting all political parties.

The BNP leader said his party is not against the peace process, but was opposed to the accord as the government signed the agreement with a person like Shantu Larma who is not a people's representative and his organisation is a "terrorist" one.

He accused the government of confining the Bangalee residents of the hill districts on the day of "farical" arms surrender and forcing them to hoist white flags instead of the black flags they had hoisted spontaneously after the "black" accord on CHT was signed.

The press conference was also attended by BNP leader Brig (ret'd) Hannan Shah, Major (ret'd) Hafizuddin Ahmed MP, Salahuddin Ahmed MP and Shahjahan Siraj.

NCBs

From page 1 operation in the secondary market," the company announced in a statement yesterday.

Meanwhile, a senior Janata Bank official told The Daily Star yesterday that the bank is likely to invest some money in the stock market through financial institutions like BSB, BSSS and ICB.

The bank's board approved a proposal to invest Tk one crore in the secondary market and it is likely to start injecting the fund in the market by next week, he said.

"We will invest in blue-chip companies with good fundamentals and good profit track records," he said.

Private commercial banks like Dhaka Bank and Prime Bank are already in the scene. Market sources said they expect trading on both the Dhaka and Chittagong bourses to improve with the participation of the NCBs.

Arsenic

From page 1 tion problem. The Minister said little more than 2,000 patients with arsenic poisoning have been identified in the country. "But the number was sure to rise," he said.

The government has set up an inter-ministerial committee to look into the matter. Present at the concluding session of the conference as a special guest, Deputy Minister for Shipping Sabar Hossain Chowdhury said that with the arsenic pollution problem, another dimension to human rights has come out. "What is the good of political freedom when you cannot ensure safe water to the people?" asked the deputy minister.

Sabar Hossain Chowdhury said, "We would have to come up with our own remedies to tackle the problem taking into consideration our limitations."

HC judgement

From page 1 Bangla and English, the proviso of Article 153(3) of the Constitution says, "Provided that in the event of conflict between the Bengali and the English text, the Bengali text shall prevail."

Earlier late Justice AR Amirul Islam Chowdhury delivered a judgement in Bangla, but it could not attract much attention as there was no new legal decision.

Soon after pronouncement of the judgement in this month of the historic Language Movement, lawyers and the litigants, present in the Supreme Court promises highly appreciated it.

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On behalf of the bereaved family of Late M Akhtar Ali, former Secretary to the Government. Rawshan Akhtar, Arif Iftikhar Ali, Asif Zulfikar Ali, Riffat Naaz, Sadia Iftikhar and Afshaan C-117