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CHT body meets to discuss RC today

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Aug 6: Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord Implementation Committee headed by chief whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah will hold a meeting tomorrow at Chittagong Circuit House...

Moves underway to award Block-10 to Unocal

By Sharier Khan

Moves are underway to award Block-10 to American company Unocal for oil and gas exploration, violating existing rules and regulations.

government put Block-10 out of the bidding without any explanation. In the bid results, nine companies were selected to finalise negotiations over blocks 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 and five companies were selected to settle partnership issues for blocks 9 and 11.

modifying its proposal for Block-10, Unocal showed that it would conduct more seismic surveys and drill more wells than Shell-Cairn, they added.



Noted singer Kalim Sharafi rendering songs at a function organised by Shilpakala Academy at its auditorium in the city yesterday to mark 22nd Srahan, the 57th death anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore.

Loadshedding grips country again

Loadshedding has again gripped the country due to suspension of production in two power plants, reports UNB. Yesterday's power generation was 1700 mw against 2100 mw on Wednesday.

Gen (ret) Salam joins BNP

Major General (ret) Mohammed Abdus Salam yesterday joined Bangladesh Nationalist Party expressing his allegiance to the leadership of BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia, reports UNB.

Sources hinted that formation of the interim regional council, the Apex body of CHT, is likely to be discussed prominently in the meeting seeking to break the stand-off between the government and PCJSS over nomination of seven non-tribal members.

India lifts import ban on 2000 items from SAARC countries

NEW DELHI, Aug 6: Tea, coffee, rubber, onion and cotton are among the 2000 items on which India has removed import restrictions for South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) members from August one, reports PTI.

Detained teenage boy 'succumbs to injuries'

By Staff Correspondent

A teenager boy detained in Dhaka Central Jail succumbed to injuries yesterday. Alamgir, 15, son of Abdus Sobhan of Balladanga in Thakurgaon, was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital Wednesday afternoon.

who was brought to the central jail on July 4, was taken to DMCH twice on Wednesday. He was shifted to DMCH as he was suffering from breathing problem at the jail hospital.

Computer withheld Jordan's joy for 3 days

From Staff Correspondent SYLHET, Aug 6: It all happened due to computer error.

Ameri Binte Rejak alias Jordan who jointly stood first among girls in the merit list of the SSC Science group in Comilla Board this year, got her result three days after the official announcement.

Thirty-nine boys and girls appeared in the SSC examinations this year from the Jalalabad Cantonment High School, Sylhet. Of them, results of only 15 were found in the official result sheet on the first day, school officials said.

Flood situation in five districts unchanged

The overall flood situation in the country is likely to improve 'slowly' though rivers of all the four basins marked further fall at most points, the Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre said yesterday, report agencies.

270. So far, 30 people died in Dhaka alone. The FFWC forecast that the flood situation in central parts of the country may remain unchanged while around the capital city it is likely to improve 'slowly'.

prove, but at the downstream it may remain unchanged. In Ganges basin, the situation as a whole is likely to improve, the FFWC added.

Relief Ministry control room said flood situation remained unchanged in Dhaka, Chandpur, Shariatpur and Munshiganj yesterday.

The government has decided to import five lakh metric tons of foodgrains although the current stock of 7.25 lakh MT in godowns across the country is satisfactory, reports UNB.

According to the FFWC, in Brahmaputra basin, the Jamuna recorded both rise and fall yesterday. It was flowing above the danger level at Aricha. The Buriganga was flowing above the red mark at Dhaka, the Shitalakha at Narayanganj, the Turag both at Mirpur and Tongi and the Kalia-ganga at Taraghat points.

Bangladesh eligible for US food aid

WASHINGTON, Aug 6: The US government announced 18 countries and regions eligible for food aid under a new initiative announced last month by President Bill Clinton, reports AP.

CID seeks five-day remand of Akram

By Staff Correspondent

The CID moved a petition in the CMM's Court yesterday for placing AC Akram Hossain on five days remand for interrogation in connection with the killing of Rubel in the custody of Detective Branch police on July 23.

Hayatul Islam Thakur, ASI Abdul Karim, Havilder Nuruzzaman, Constable Parvez — before court yesterday at the end of a two-day remand. CID did not move any fresh remand prayer to interrogate the four.

They came only to 'visit' Rubel's house

Star Report

Three men, claiming to be in 'overall supervision' of the Rubel murder case, visited the residence of Rubel's father at Shiddeswari lane in the city four days ago, his family said yesterday.

Relief: Homna MP rejects PM's claim

By Staff Correspondent

A senior BNP MP has challenged Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's claim that adequate relief materials have reached the flood affected people.

Flood-hit farmers won't have to repay loans for one year: PM

PABNA, Aug 6: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina here today announced that the flood-affected farmers will not have to repay the agricultural loans for one year, reports UNB.

Rift in Demra thana BNP

A serious rift has emerged in the Demra thana BNP following expulsion and counter-expulsion by rival groups, reports UNB.

Jewellery shop looted in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Aug 6: A jewelleryshop was looted by a group of gunmen at Barik building crossing in the city last night, police said.



Sammilita Nari Samaj staged a demonstration in front of DB office in the city yesterday protesting the murder of Rubel in police custody.

Police Commission Report

Political interference, corruption crippled police administration

By Mizan Ali

Political interference and corruption have made the police department ineffective for 'protecting people and public property'. These have 'seriously affected the morale of the police force and in its chain of command', revealed the Police Commission Report.

The 14-member commission formed in 1988 was the first of its kind after the independence of the country. The condition of police department has not improved, it deteriorated instead, said Justice Rahman, now a Member of the Law Commission.

Corruption is perhaps the most outstanding cause of police inefficiency as it either either incapacitates or at least detaches the police from law-enforcing activities and from upholding the truth and right against falsehood and wrong, the 'commission report' revealed.



Iqbal Sobhan made Editor of Observer

Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury has been appointed as the Editor of the Bangladesh Observer, says a press release. Earlier, he was the Executive Editor and Managing Editor of the Bangladesh Observer.

Inside Today

- Article: Let There Be Light Column: Do I Dare! by AZM Obaidullah Khan Page 4 Focus: Rangon tense as pro-democracy movement anniversary approaches Page 5 Business: CDA undertakes 5-year master plan to implement Tk 474cr projects Fund for long-term industrial financing awaits govt approval DSE index marks slight rise Pages 6, 7, 8

Concerted efforts needed to ensure good governance

The three-day international seminar ended yesterday with a unanimous recommendation for national consensus towards achieving the goal of good governance, reports BSS.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the seminar on Tuesdays at Sonargaon Hotel. On Tuesdays, development planners, economists, chamber leaders, NGO representatives and representatives of foreign missions and UN offices in Bangladesh were present on the occasion.

Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Yusuf Abdullah Haroon. Among others, Secretary of the Local Government Division Hasnat Abdul Hye, UNDP resident representative David Lockwood, Prof Zarina Rahman Khan of Dhaka University and Dr Peter Lyon of England summed up the deliberations of the seminar.

towards good governance. Describing the seminar as a well-conceived effort to fulfil the need of the hour, the FBCCI president suggested that mismanagement and corruption must be uprooted from all levels first to move the country towards goal of good governance.

and the political leadership to help the nation come out of the vicious circle which were creating impediments towards the efforts for good governance in the country.

According to an order issued by Khaleel Hamidul Huq, Director of the Observer Group of Publications, Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury has been appointed as Editor of the Bangladesh Observer. Prof K M A Munim who retired from the post of Editor was made Chief Editor of the paper.