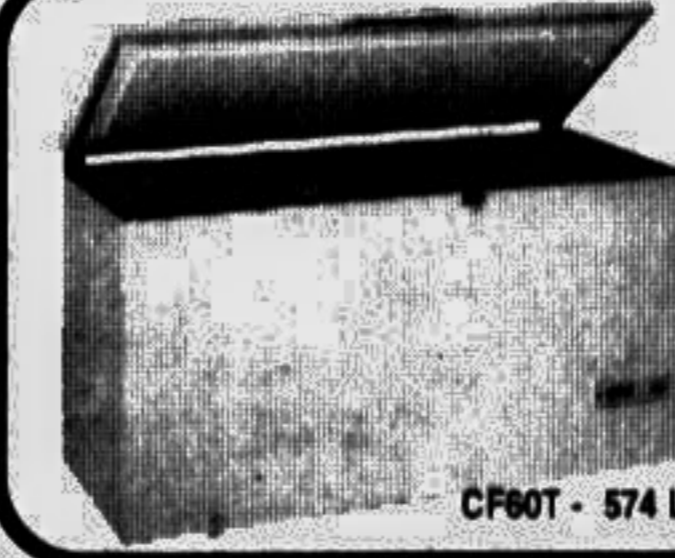




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Govt plans to build flood shelters in each thana

The government is planning to construct at least one flood shelter in each thana for flood-hit people.  
Finance Minister Shah A M S Kibria has been given the responsibility to assess the requirement of land and number of flood centres to be needed in the country, top official sources told BSS yesterday. Concerned ministers including home, agriculture, land and disaster management and relief will coordinate with the finance minister in this regard.  
Donors' assistance will be sought to construct the flood centres after the assessment by the finance ministry, the officials said.  
The plans to construct the flood centres like the existing cyclone shelters were also discussed at a cabinet meeting yesterday with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

**Floor crossing EC empowered to decide about JS membership, court told**

Barrister Moudud Ahmed yesterday told a division bench of the High Court that the Election Commission empowered the EC to decide about JS membership, court told.  
Moudud was concluding his argument in the hearing of writ challenging the Speaker's failure to refer the dispute relating to BNP MPs Dr Alauddin and Hasibur Rahman Shawpan to the Election Commission.  
The counsel referred to several precedents and contended that the decision about retention of membership upon floor crossing could not be taken by the Speaker. The power of taking such action was entrusted with the Election Commission.  
Moudud strongly argued that the Constitution has empowered the Election Commission to decide whether the membership of Parliament is seized due to floor crossing under Article 70.

The Speaker has been constitutionally provided to refer the dispute arising out of floor crossing to the Election Commission under Article 66(4), added the counsel.  
He submitted that the failure of the Speaker to refer the dispute to the Election Commission was mala fide. The court is empowered to direct the Speaker to refer the dispute relating to the membership of Dr Alauddin and Hasibur Rahman Swapan to the Election Commission for deciding their fate, he said.  
The hearing will resume tomorrow when Attorney General Mahmudul Islam will place his arguments.

**Corruption case against Sadek Hossain**

By Staff Correspondent  
The Anti-Corruption Bureau filed a case yesterday with Motijheel thana against eight people including former State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka on charge of embezzlement of Tk 3.2 lakh.  
In the case, the Bureau alleged that Sadek Hossain along with former secretary of National Sports Council Fazlur Rahman Khan and six other people misappropriated the money during the 1995-96 fiscal year. Motijheel police said last night.

According to the FIR, the amount was embezzled showing forged allocations against 14 clubs and organizations.

**BCL activists stage sit-in at DU**

By DU Correspondent  
The activists of ruling Awami League-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) staged a sit-in demonstration in front of the DUCSU building yesterday noon demanding immediate formation of a full-fledged committee for its Dhaka University unit.

Talking to The Daily Star the BCL activists said they will stage another sit-in demonstration at Aparajito Bangla at 11:00 am today. They submitted a memorandum to the President and General Secretary of the central committee yesterday with the same demand.  
The BCL failed to announce a full-fledged committee for DU unit despite promising to do so earlier.



Flood waters overflowing Dhaka-Chittagong highway at Jingla in Sonargaon yesterday and (Right) trucks loaded with various goods stranded on the highway due to its inundation.



— Star photo

**Suu Kyi ends roadside standoff, returns home**

YANGON, Aug 24: Her health failing, Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi ended an appeal from her political party and returned home today afternoon ending a 13-day roadside standoff with the military government over her right to travel outside Yangon, reports AP.  
Leaders of Suu Kyi's political party, the National League for Democracy, urged her earlier in the day to end the protest because of concerns over her health which had been deteriorating in recent days.  
Suu Kyi's doctors said she was suffering from kidney problems, low blood pressure, dizziness and urinary tract problems when they were allowed to examine her Friday.  
Government officials said Monday that Suu Kyi returned to Yangon of her own free will with two personal physicians accompanying her in her van.

**Six policemen dismissed in Jessore**

JESSORE, Aug 24: Six policemen, including an assistant sub-inspector (ASI), were discharged from their services yesterday for their alleged involvement in a murder case, reports UNB.  
The action was taken by the Police Super of Jessore on completion of departmental enquiry.  
Police sources said Kalam Gazi, 80, of village Shahapurin Keshabpur thana of the district was beaten to death allegedly by the six policemen.

**BAPEX**

From Page 1  
two more wells in that area to expand data-base and increase gas supplies from that gas structure at a cost of Tk 60 crore. But till May, the government hardly paid any attention to the proposal but agreed to approve a smaller project to drill one development well.  
The Prime Minister's directive gives a new signal to BAPEX which had never been given any attention despite the fact that it's a successful and cost-effective organisation," said a source.  
Since BAPEX was separated from Petrobangla in 1989, it has only been given funds to drill three exploration wells although the government had adopted a policy to provide funds regularly to drill one well a year. Of these three, BAPEX struck gas in Shahabpur (now being given to US company Unocal) and in Salda

pur.  
She distributed *lungt saree*, rice and cash among nearly 3,000 flood victims.  
Addressing the people, Khaleda Zia said this is not a people's government and called for joining the post-flood movement to bring it down.  
She alleged that the government is spending crores of taka in observance of various days instead of distributing relief materials among the distressed. "They are now busy in making fortune," she said.  
The BNP chief said the movement was suspended due to flood. The pre-flood movement of BNP against terrorism and price-hike got encouraging response.  
"The situation prevailing in the country is very grim..." Khaleda said.  
She said people marooned in the flood will have to be rescued and interest-free loan and agriculture inputs will have to be distributed among the farmers. Financial help will also have to be given to rebuild houses destroyed by flood.  
She also demanded distribution of medicine free for treatment, especially for children affected by water-borne diseases.  
In the afternoon Begum Zia addressed rallies at Dhulshury, Ibrahimpur and Ishwar Chandra High School.

Chief Whip of the Opposition in parliament Khanaker Dewwar Hossain, Harun-or-Rashid Khan, Farid, Hasan, Shamsuddin Ahmed, Sirajul Islam Selim and Shirin Sultana accompanied the party chief.

**JU classes**

From Page 1  
rape incidents on the campus recently.  
Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO) and General Students' Alliance brought out separate processions on the campus and gheraoed the Vice-Chancellor's office to press home their demands for punishment of those responsible for the attack on JU teacher Rehnuma Ahmed and the rape incidents.  
The teacher, who was assaulted by the BCL leaders on Sunday, alleged at a press conference yesterday that she had received death threats from the BCL activists. "I demand justice and prompt action against the terrorists," Rehnuma Ahmed said.  
Meanwhile, JU Teachers' Association (JUTA) at a meeting threatened to launch an agitation programme if the authorities fail to take action within 72 hours against the 'terrorists' responsible for assaulting the teacher.  
The JUTA also expressed solidarity with the students' protesting against the rapes on the campus.  
Meanwhile, the JU Syndicate, at an emergency meeting, condemned the attack on the teacher and expressed concern at the recent incidents at the university.

**Sanjay murder**

From Page 1  
Shibir workers at Chittagong railway station on Thursday.  
He succumbed to his injuries at the CMCH on Saturday.  
Meanwhile, Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikya, Chhatra Union and Sampradikaota, Birodhi Chhatra Oikya today held separate rallies on the campus and submitted memorandums to the DC and the Chittagong City Corporation Mayor demanding punishment to the killers of Sanjay.  
Authorities said classes of the university will resume tomorrow after suspension for three days.

**Khaleda**

From Page 1  
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**DND dam threatened**

From Page 1  
WDB head office said that the executive engineer concerned had gone to Simrail to visit the Pump House site there. He, however, confirmed that there was no danger till that time.  
While visiting the Dhaka-Demra part of the embankment, which is also used for traffic movement, this correspondent saw that height of the dam varied at different points and flood water was almost at its level at places.  
The road that links the Dhaka-Demra road with Matuail waste disposal area, went under one to two feet water. But till last night, garbage carrying trucks of Dhaka City Corporation plied on the submerged road, taking risk.  
BSS quoting an ISPR press release adds: Two contingents of Bangladesh Army have been deployed to repair leaks in the Dhaka flood protection embankment at Jahanabad and Golartek, about two kilometers from Gabtoli (Mirpur).  
The army personnel sealed a number of leaks by dumping sand-bags in cooperation with the local people.  
Two platoons of army engineers were also deployed near Sonargaon on Dhaka-Chittagong highway to ensure traffic movement.  
The overall flood situation may worsen further due to 'abnormal tidal effect' in the estuary due to new moon, warned the Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) yesterday.  
The tidal effect may aggravate situation in Chandpur, Dhaka and central districts.  
Meanwhile, the flood situation in 14 districts deteriorated further yesterday.  
More areas along the Padma and central districts, including Dhaka, have been inundated while major rivers in 20 points continued to flow above their red marks.  
Relief Ministry control

**Flood: Cabinet decision**

From Page 1  
concerned to update the estimate of damages caused by the flood and give separate lists of requirements to Finance Minister S A M S Kibria. He has been given the responsibility of making the international appeal.  
"Our first priority is food. Then comes medicine, cash, construction materials for renovation of houses and repair above reconstruction of roads and railway tracks, seeds and so on," Kibria told this correspondent last night.  
"Over a dinner in the city Sunday, I had already appealed for relief materials from the donors. I am going to meet them again Wednesday morning to communicate the extent of damages caused by the flood and the items we really need to cope with it," the minister said. "I shall have an updated list of damages from the secretaries of different ministries tomorrow (Tuesday)."  
According to cabinet sources, the government would seek assistance in the form of both grants and aids.

**Khulna clash**

From Page 1  
ent clinics at Khalishpur and Daulatpur.  
According to police, the clash began just after dusk between supporters of Akram group and Siraj group as a sequel to the election of the People's Jute Mills Workers' Union held on August 10.  
KM Siraj was reportedly declared elected general secretary of the union after recounting of votes. But in the first counting Akram Hossain was declared elected to the post.  
This enraged Akram's supporters who attacked the supporters of Siraj group.  
Both sides used firearms and exploded crackers during the clash, police said.  
Police were also attacked when they intervened to quell the situation.  
Witnesses said several cars and roadside shops were looted and ransacked after police forces were withdrawn at around 8:30 pm.  
The clash was continuing till the time of writing this report tonight.

**Streamline judicial system, scrap black laws: SNS**

By Staff Correspondent  
Sammilita Nari Samaj (SNS) has urged the government to 'streamline the judicial system', instead of formulating special laws, to effectively contain repression on women.  
Addressing a rally at TSC island on the Dhaka University campus yesterday, the SNS leaders said that various cases relating to repression on women were yet to have proper trial despite assurance from the Prime Minister in this regard.  
Calling upon all the political parties and socio-cultural organisations to unitedly stand against 'all kinds of repression by the police and the government,' the Samaj leaders demanded steps to ensure punishment of the oppressors, instead of merely formulating laws for stern action against the culprits.  
Referring to Section 54 of the CrPC, they urged the government to scrap 'all black laws' and demanded 'revision of existing laws' in the light of accepted international laws.  
The SNS organised the rally in observance of the Nari Nirjatan Protirodh Dibas, commemorating the brutal rape and killing of teenage girl Yesmin by some police personnel in Dinajpur on August 24, 1995.  
Prior to the rally, SNS brought out a procession from Shahbagh which went up to the Jatiya Press Club and ended at the TSC.  
The rally was conducted by Dr Naila Khan while Natasha Ahmed read out a declaration containing the SNS demands.  
In the declaration, SNS ex-

**Streamline judicial system, scrap black laws: SNS**

pressed concern and condemned various incidents including Zaheda killing in Satkhira, rape several women by NGO officials in Panchagarh, violation of some students at Jahangirnagar University, signing of HANA with the US and 'stagnation' of the case relating to the missing of Kalpana Chakma.  
The rally was addressed by Samaj leaders Farida Akhter, Hazera Sultana, Shamsunnahar Jyotsna, agriculturist Firoza Begum and garments worker Ankhil Moni.  
Among others, Shaheen Anam, Seema Das Shimu, Shahinor Begum and Bahni Shikha were present on the occasion.  
Murder case filed  
Husband poisons wife, child to death in Khulna

**One gunned down by brother in Ctg**

CHITTAGONG, Aug 24: Mohammad Rafiq was gunned down allegedly by his brother at village Chikdai of Rajgan thana here this afternoon, reports BSS.  
According to district police, Mohammad Fakruddin, the younger brother of the victim, at one stage of altercation shot Rafiq 32, killing him on the spot.  
The body of the dead was sent for autopsy, police said, adding that the killing was a sequel to family feud.  
A case was registered with Rajgan thana in this connection, the sources added.

**HANA**

From Page 1  
prove the responses. These include: US donations of humanitarian equipment, exchanges of experts on humanitarian assistance, training of Bangladeshi officials in the US, Bangladesh-US joint military exercises on humanitarian relief and disaster relief training simulation.  
The experts pointed out that humanitarian assistance projects of this nature are currently underway in Thailand, Laos, and Mongolia.  
They appreciated the government's assistance during their visit.  
The foreign minister thanked the United States for its intention to help enhance Bangladesh's capacity to face natural calamities and also to offer humanitarian assistance during such times.  
Samad Azad was talking to journalists at his office after the briefing of the US team.  
State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, Foreign Secretary Mustafizur Rahman and US Ambassador in Bangladesh John C Holzman were present during the briefing.

**Showcase**

From Page 1  
Meanwhile, a CID official said last night that they have already completed the handwriting tests of Havldar Nuruz-zaman, an accused in the Rubel murder case, and Mukuli Begum, a local Awami League leader of Sidheswar area and also neighbour of Rubel's family.  
Besides, the CID is also likely to examine the handwriting of AC Akram and SI Hayatul Islam soon.

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**ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Daily Star  
Young Entrepreneurs and Professionals Forum  
Conference on  
Opportunities in the IT Sector  
CAREER PROSPECTS FOR  
THE YOUNG

In cooperation with: The British Council  
The Daily Star Young Entrepreneurs and Professionals Forum cordially invites you to attend the above IT conference scheduled on Monday, August 31, 1998 at the British Council Auditorium from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm. Country's leading IT experts in the hardware, software and training areas will speak on the problems and prospects of the IT sector with special emphasis on the opportunities for young entrepreneurs and professionals in various fields. If you are interested to attend the conference, please complete your registration (which is free but mandatory) by sending us your (1) Name, (2) Designation, (3) Organization, (4) Area of Interest: Software/hardware/training, etc., and (5) Age at the following fax numbers: 863035, 886061 and 9350017. The last date of registration is August 29, 1998.