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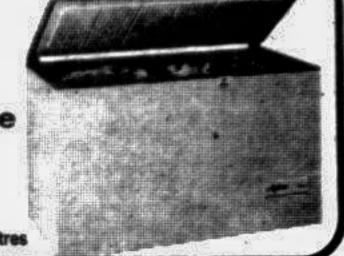




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Samad Azad calls on Annan

Continued UN aid for flood victims assured

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan has assured world body's continued assistance to Bangladesh's flood victims and its post-flood rehabilitation programme, reports BSS.
He assured this while For-

eign Minister Abdus Samad Azad called on him at the UN headquarters in New York on Tuesday, according to a message received in Dhaka yesterday.

Bangla Foreign Minister is participating in the 53rd session of the UN General Assem-

Kofi Annan expressed his sympathy to the flood affected people in Bangladesh and assured that the UN would continue to support all it could do and assist Bangladesh government in its efforts to help the flood victims as well as in postflood rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Annan praised Dhaka's active role in the United Nations and other international fora. "We consider Bangladesh Prime Minister as a friend of the United Nations," he said about Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in reference to her prominent role in the multilateral and in-

Flood waters

From Page 1 the danger mark at Narayanganj. The flood situation in the capital also eased with the decline in the water levels of the

adjoining rivers. But the water level of Turag at Mirpur and Tongi was stil above red mark. The river was flowing 26 cm above the danger level at Tongi and 23 cm above

at Mirpur. According to Flood Forecast ing and Warning Centre, the flood situation in the Meghna basin has become normal except at Bhairab Bazar where the Meghna was flowing 23 cm

above the danger level However, the flood situation in and around Bhairab Bazar

was also improving. The flood-related death toll rose to 918 with seven more deaths reported from various parts of the country today.

World Bank loan

From Page 1

highway network. It will also repair the Dhaka-Sylhet road and high priority feeder roads in the north-western and south-west-

ern parts of the country. In addition, the project will cover reconstruction of narrow bridges and maintenance of na-

tional and regional roads. To help support the Roads and Highways Department's ongoing organisational improvements, the project also provides long-term technical assistance to strengthen its capacity for improved road maintenance, provide training improve financial management systems, and implement action plans for road safety, axle load control and traffic manage-

ternational forums. Describing Bangladesh as a "model member" of the United Nations, which is active on different issues of interest to the developing countries. Annan said as a result of Bangladesh's leadership role on May occa-sions it has gained a very high profile at the United Nations

and on multilateral diplomacy. Annan also appreciated Bangladesh's prominent role as a major contributor of troops to the UN peacekeeping opera-

Khaleda

From Page 1

independence. "Government has spurned our demand for engaging the army tactfully to continue misappropriation of relief."

She added: "Government is hatching conspiracy to turn the country into a vassal state of India. It has withdrawn army from the Chittagong Hill Tracts and handed over the region to tribal terrorists."

Referring to Prime Minister's statement that she would not use the army in politics, the BNP Chief said helping distress people is not politics. Army is deployed to face natural calamity in all countries of the

Accusing the government of politicising the relief activities. Begum Zia said no sanction of relief materials was given to BNP MPs for distribution

among flood victims. Turning to law and order situation, the BNP chief accused the ruling party of letting lose its terrorists under police protection. Its activist Mukuli Begum was involved in the murder of Rubel, a university student, in police custody. Many things relating to the Rubel murder were suppressed, she alleged.

Health situation

From Page 1 Bangladesh authorities need outside assistance to combat disease and ensure the health of

their population. The WHO said that, in addition to diarrhoea, other problems such as acute respiratory infections, malaria and measles could increase, particularly in the overcrowded flood

The shortage of food is likely to worsen the health condition of the poorest who are already

undernourished, the statement the WHO has already released 150,000 US dollars from its country office, and another 50,000 dollars have been pro-

vided by the Regional Director for South East Asia. These have provided five emergency health kits, 15 million water purifying tablets.

25,000 IV fluid bags, five metric tonnes of bleaching powder etc. The statement comes in the wake of a UN appeal for 8.7 million dollar for emergency assistance to the Bangladesh health sector.

FBCCI leadership battle

From Page 1

making institutions when it comes to business and economy. The president sits on more than 30 government committees along with ministers and senior civil servants. The prime minister chairs many of these bodies.

A large number of candidates also gave in to the lobbyists, who acted with support from a group of known defaulting bank borrowers, business

sources said. Three of the five vice-presidential aspirants withdrew, leaving the largely-ceremonial second slot open to a direct fight between Kamal Uddin Ahmed of Chittagong Chamber and M A

Mumin of Sylhet Chamber. Mohammad Ali of Rajshahi Chamber, Abdus Shahid of Kishoreganj Chamber and Lutfur Rahman Khan of Madaripur

Chamber left the battlefield. Khan, promoter of the newly introduced taxi cab services in the city, was reportedly reluctant till the last moment, but agreed to "honour" the wishes

of some government leaders. The present FBCCI leadership is reportedly promoting the Chittagong chamber president, while Mumin, a former

Sylhet Chamber chief, has backing from an influential government minister. Meanwhile, the role of the

outgoing president has increasingly come under fire from those "forced" or "maneuvered" out of the election process.

As head of the Council of Chambers, a body represented by chiefs of 102 district chambers, Harun was mandated to conduct negotiations and pick up candidates at a meeting at-

tended by 40 of them. But the outcome of his exercise left a lot many of the hopefuls far from being satisfied.

"He has betrayed us," said one vice-presidential candidate who withdrew. "He has bluffed all others to promote his own henchman." Harun could not be reached for a reply.

A number of those retiring from the race including the vice-presidential candidate, who preferred anonymity, said it was all a dirty game in which

money and political connections mattered. The Daily Star gathered from various sources that huge pay-offs worked in some cases.

making the electioneering an expensive exercise "in a different form this year". This also meant that it was a

lost battle for those who sought to make the process free from "the influence of money" through massive changes in campaign rules and regula-

Meanwhile, the meeting convened by FBCCI executive member Mohammad Ali at 10:00 am yesterday was postponed for "unavoidable" rea-

In another development, a group of policemen took up positions at the FBCCI office at Motijheel after an anonymous caller claimed that trouble might erupt between feuding groups of candidates, police said. The men in uniform

stayed there till evening. Sources said there were exchanges of verbal abuses between angry leaders of two groups at the office in the morn-

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Pitiable condition of a city road after recession of flood water. The picture was taken from Star photo Maniknagar at Sabujbagh.

PM's directive to speed up unloading of foodgrains

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has asked the authorities concerned to speed up unloading of food-grains at the sea ports, reports UNB.

Her directive came at a high level meeting at Ganobhaban last night which reviewed the present food stock position and procurement and distribution of foodgrains.

"Food distribution is our top most priority at this moment the Prime Minister told the

meeting Food distribution

From Page 1 VGF or Food for Work pro-

A ship carrying an initial WFP consignment of 15,000 tons wheat has already been unloaded in Chittagong port. Two more ships carrying 52,500 tons wheat are expected early

October. Food Minister Begum Matia Chowdhury has announced that the FFW programme will begin from October 1 while the government, if necessary, is ready to provide food through VGF up

to May next. WFP statistics showed that 141,552 metric tons of wheat is needed to feed 4,423,500 most vulnerable people at 16 kg per family in the initial two months of September and Octo-

*Power failure

From Page 1 any loadshedding during this period if the two 200 MW units at Rauzan were in operation, he

Before the floods, loadshedding was 400 to 450 MW, the source said.

Major changes

From Page 1

embassy, is being posted as the New High Commissioner to Kenya while the incumbent Dr Afsarul Qader is being appointed as ambassador to Indonesia.

Anwarul Alam, minister in the Ottowa mission, is taking over as the new ambassador to Bahrain while the present en-

voy Brig (rtd) Giasuddin is being called back. Earlier it was decided that Tofail Karim Haider, envoy in Paris, would move to his new assignment in Tehran while Syed Muazzam Ali will replace

him in Paris. The government is yet undecided about the appointment of an ambassador to Japan after the retirement of incumbent Rashed Ahmed.

She said about Tk 1.58 crore

was disbursed among 2365 per-

sons in 33 villages in Savar

thana under BSCIC's Women

Entrepreneurs Development

are in bad condition due to the

prolonged flood. Many villages

including Nagorcanda, Chand-

pur, Beraid, Chakudia, Panch-

bangram and Hemayetpur in

Savar are still under water and

road links snapped" Yasmin

said. "We could not go there and

see the condition of our clients"

some sort of help, either waiver

of interest or suspension of in-

stallment collection for at least

three months" said Belayet

Hossain acting in-charge of

Chairman A H M Rezaul Karim

said they should get some sort

of moratorium. "But we can not

do anything unless the govern-

ment gives a decision in this re-

When contacted, BSCIC

BSCIC's Savar office.

"The poor borrowers need

"Most of the loan recipients

the BSCIC in Savar.

Programme.

she added.

Impeachment inquiry

Gingrich rejects immediate deal with Clinton

WASHINGTON, Sept 23: House Speaker Newt Gingrich rejected on Wednesday talk of an immediate deal with President Bill Clinton to avoid a possible impeachment inquiry despite polls showing most Americans don't want the president removed from office, re-

"For anybody to talk about doing anything before we finish the investigative process simply puts the cart before the horse," Gingrich told reporters following a meeting between Republican and Democratic House leaders. "I don't understand how people can rush to a solution before they finish the investigation.

At the White House, however

Caught red-handed!

By DU Correspondent

At last the 'culprit' was caught red-handed and given a good beating for what he had been allegedly doing for the last two weeks.

nights together.

came to the spot.

by the hall authorities. cal College Hospital to ascertain if he was mentally sound.

Ctg: 2 held

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Sept 23: Police in a raid into a house at Ghasiapara under Chandgao thana last night recovered an

persons in this connection. as Md Ismail and Kazal Mallik Police said.

Yasmin Samad a field officer of He is not clear about the gov-

ports AP.

press secretary Mike McCurry said the idea of a lesser punishment such as a congres-

pendent Counsel Kenneth Starr Wednesday to turn over all material on Clinton's potentially

Residents of Mohsin Hall of Dhaka University were on vigil Tuesday night near room - 525 to see for themselves who had been pasting human excreta on the doors of two rooms for

At about 2:30 am the stu dents saw that Zakaria-Al-Mahmud of room - 222 proceeded to room - 525 and coated the door with shit as he had allegedly done for the previous 14 nights. They gave him a good beating and eut his hair before the hall provost along with law enforcing agency personne

A final year student of the University, Mahmud, was served with a show cause notice

He was sent to Dhaka Medi

AK-47 rifle recovered in

AK-47 rifle and arrested two

The arrested were identified

ernment's declaration regard-

ing three month's moratorium

on classification of industrial

loans. "We do not know whether

it will be applicable for in case

dustrial borrowers need waiver

of interest or moratorium on

repayment of loans which the

government has offered in case

poration did not get any official

order about the government's

have also been given to lower

class and destitute people in ur-

He further said that the cor-

Such type of small loans

Rahela at East Rampura in

the city had borrowed Tk 7000

and bought a sewing machine

for making garments. She

earned Tk 150 to 200 daily ear-

lier. But her earnings stopped

since flood water inundated the

member family is now living

on the roof of her submerged

Rahela along with her five

of agriculture loans,

ban areas.

earlier announcement.

He feels that the small in-

of small loans," Rezaul said.

sional censure followed by a fine is a "bipartisan idea" that

better reflects public sentiment McCurry said Gingrich and his top lieutenants appear mainly interested in delaying the mat ter for partisan political advan-"It is some concern to the White House that people who are genuinely motivated, who

want to bring this matter to some resolution, seem to be drowned out by those who want this matter to drag on and on and on," McCurry said today. Asked about polls showing Americans seem to agree, Gingrich said: "I think people

would be frankly horrified if the Congress was simply a polling institution that enacted a grotesque version of justice based on the latest poll or the latest talk show House Democratic leader Dick Gephardt called on Inde-

impeachable, conduct that was held back in an earlier report for totally unexplained rea-Gephardt acted a day after Clinton's attorneys complained that Starr's report failed to in clude direct statements from Ms Lewinsky that no one asked her

promised her a job in exchange for her silence House leaders gathered in Gingrich's office as Republicans tried to snuff out new talk of a punishment for Clinton short

to he about the affair or

of impeachment, AIGs seek From Page 1

All the nine officers came from the army and when absorbed in the police force, were given seniority on the basis of their length of service in the

Chowdhury is now serving as the chairman of BIWTC while Huq is now the DG. Passport and Immigration. They are

on deputation When contacted last night. Chowdhury refused to talk and

Haq could not be reached over

telephone. Three of the nine officers were made OSD. They are: Ahmed Fazlul Kabir, Shahudul Huq, and M Salam.

The other officers who were superseded are DMP Commissioner Mahmud Al Farid, MA Khaleque Chairman Rajshahi Development Authority, AN Hussain chairman BRTA and Rafikul Islam who is now working in a Bangladesh mission

Of the nine officers, lien of five has already been suspended, the sources said.

2365 BSCIC borrowers hut beside the Rampura Televi-

sion Bhaban wall. "How shall I give the installment which will be due at the end of this month ?" Rahela asked, while talking to this correspondent standing on a makeshift bamboo bridge.

Rahela, Nurjahan and Monowara are among 1850 women who took loans from the BSCIC. The flood has destroyed their small projects. "Before the floods, the rate of recovery was above 90 per cent

but now most of the clients will not be able to pay their monthly installments because they are all in a distressed condition," said Dilara Kibria. Deputy General Manager (DGM) and in-charge of BSCIC's Women Entrepreneurs Development Programme. She said about Tk 16 crore

loans were disbursed among 80,000 small entrepreneurs in 32 districts, now affected by flood. "It will be very difficult to collect the money as many of our clients lost their businesses. Even their houses were washed away by the flood".

Defence counsel tells trial court

Process of investigation by IO

Investigation into Bangabandhu murder case started much before filing of the FIR and it continued during the trial period ignoring "all lawful manners," a defence lawyer said

Defence counsel Khan Saifur Rahman told the court that in-

In support of his claim, the counsel for Lt Col (dismissed) Syed Farooq Rahman, said the Investigation Officer (IO) of the case put forward his demand to DGFI on September 8, 1996 and PW-2 Rama came to Dhaka from Gopalganj to give his statement before the IO on October 4, 1996, two days after the

an FIR as it hit the very root of the case," Khan Saifur said on the 10th day of his argument. "Behind the FIR of this case there was an invisible FIR and carrying out investigation before the filing of the FIR is visi-

Undertrial prisoner

PANCHAGARH, Sept 23: An undertrial prisoner escaped from local judge court evading the eye of police today, reports

Court sources said Mohammad Mostafa, accused in a case under the Woman and Child Repression Act, was brought from the jail hajat today to the judge court along with five other coaccused in the case who were later released on bail.

filed a case with Kotwali thana under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act 1995 accusing Milton. In another incident, an eight-year-old girl of a flood af-

at North Jatrabari under Demra thana in the city Tuesday, police said yesterday. The alleged rapist, Jamal 14, and the victim were staying at the flood shelter at Sabuj

Biddiya Pith along with this At about 7 pm on Tuesday, Jamal dragged her inside a bath

When the girl screamed, others in the flood shelter rushed' there, rescued the girl and caught Jamal.

Demra police. He was produced before the CMM's court yesterday. The court sent him to Dhaka Central Jail, police said The victim's mother filed a

Tuesday night.

From Page 1 Dhaka city, it is found that the highest 13.6 per cent patients came from the flood affected areas in Gulshan thana, 7.8 per cent in Lalbagh thana and 6.8 per cent in Tejgaon thana and

of the country. From Page 1

throughout the city in the abroad adjacent to the district court building have been taken over by caterers in the same manner. Cooking is done on make spice paste. In the court area, the customers were found scene was witnessed at

along the river. The Dhaka City Corporation's Public Health Laboratory suring hygienic food in the city

those out. Meanwhile, the entire staff of the laboratory and the 'food inspectors' are attending office without having anything to do whatsoever. A DCC health official said equipment worth more than Tk 40 lakh were bought to for the laboratory. Sets of equipment, wrapped in jute sacks, now remain dumped in a

has prejudiced accused

Tahiduddin and Md Mohsinul

Huq on the August 15, 1975 in-

ment, where the court said

When the investigation of a

case had already started prior

to the lodging of ejahar, it can't

be treated as an ejahar, it can't

be treated as the First Informa-

tion Report (FIR) and it must be

this case and ejahar behind the

screen was not brought before

the case, thus it had hit to the

root of the case and frustrated

the case," he argued and added

that "this FIR can be considered

as a statement (161) under the

tigation by the IO has preju-

diced the accused because know-

ing the whereabouts of Maj Ba-

zlul Huda the warrant against

him fell invalid. So, it is now

the responsibility of the prose-

cution to present Maj Huda to

the court and allow him to ap-

EPZ workers clash

with transport

workers in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent

port Processing Zone workers

here clashed with transport

workers today after an EPZ em-

ployee was killed by a speeding

damaged some buses and other

vehicles protesting the road ac-

in retaliation attacked the

CEPZ office and damaged win-

dow panes by pelting stones.

Nurse suspended

for giving 'wrong'

injection to patient

From Staff Correspondent

nurse was suspended at Chit-

tagong Medical College Hospital

today for administering the

wrong injection into the body of

a patient who died later, hospi-

A teenager, Ahsanul Huq,

son of a hospital employee, was

admitted to the hospital yester-

tal sources said

CHITTAGONG, Sept 23: A

police and witnesses said.

cident, police said

Agitated workers of the EPZ

But some transport workers

CHITTAGONG Sept 23: Ex-

He said the process of inves-

CrPC

So, there is no ejahar in

kept out of consideration.

The lawyer cited a judge-

The lawyer said as the government decision of taking legal action was necessary, secret investigation was carried out before filing of the FIR is eviyesterday, reports UNB.

The First Information Redent. Police had earlier rejected to accept a complaint from

port (FIR) was lodged with the Dhanmondi thana on October

vestigation had started much before the FIR was lodged and it was carried out even during the trial period and all lawful manners were ignored during the investigation.

FIR was filed

The present FIR is not at all

escapes from court

I wo raped From Page 1

teenaged boy at a flood shelter

fected family was raped by a

room of the school and raped

Jamal was handed over to

case with Demra thana under the Woman and Children Repression Prevention Act 1995

Diarrhoea

27 per cent from various parts

Food served

sence of any government action in this regard. Both sides of the wooden planks placed over the filthy drain. Women use stone grinders on the muddy road to to be a little better off than those of other areas. The same Sadarghat and in other areas

- which is responsible for en-- has been inoperative for

more than a year. After the laboratory was shifted from the city's Luxmibazar to the Nagar Bhaban a year ago. DCC officials decided that it should be installed in another building, not in the Nagar Bhaban.

that several floors of the mon-

remained vacant and DCC offi-

Nagar Bhaban room.

point lawyer of his own choice because he is facing capital pun-The counsel argued that the

trial proceedings of the case fell frustrated by bringing an inservice army officer into this trial court without following

the Army Act. He said accused Lt Col (retd) Muhiuddin Ahmed (Artillery) was arrested on November 18 1996 when he was on LPR, that is before his retirement, and as per Army Act the commanding officer of the concerned army man is the authority to determine where his trial will be held or he will give a reference

to the government Referring to the conspiracy part of the case. Khan Saifur said there was no conspiracy and Khandaker Mushtaque proclaiming him as the President and promulgating Indemnity Ordinance took everything

on his shoulder. Terming the August 15 incident as a mutiny. Khan cited a judgement that said "successful revolution itself becomes a law creating fact because thereafter its own legality is judged not by reference to the annulled Constitution but by reference to its

Sujanagar made

pourasabha

The government yesterday declared Sujanagar thana under Pabna district as a new pourasabha, LGRD and Cooper-

atives Ministry press release said, reports BSS. Sujanagar will be the 173rd pourasabha of the country. PM

own success."

the army, and the people to save the Bhuapur-Tarakandi 30kilometer embankment She visited some damaged parts of the embankment where the army personnel are still posted. She talked to them and praised their effort to save the

From Page 1

where she was briefed about the

frantic effort to the members of

Gen Masudur Rahman was pre-The Prime Minister warned of punitive measures against any incident of misuse or misappropriation of relief materi-

people. Area Commander Maj

We will take stringent action if anyone is found involved in misappropriation of relief,

5TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY. The fifth death anniversary of late Begum Shakera Banu, wife of late Khan Bahadur Mujibur Rahman, will be observed today

(Thursday), the 24th September, 1998. All her relatives, friends and acquaintances are requested to pray for the eternal peace.



সময়ের সঙ্গে চলুন - সাপ্তাহিক ২০০০ পড়ন হকার কে বলে রাখুন দোর গোড়ায় পৌছে যাবে

वा वा वा वा माधादिक ৯৬/৯৭ নিউ ইস্কাটন, ঢাকা-১০০০ কোন : পিএবিএর : ১৩৫০১৫১-৩