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immediate disbursement of farm loans

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked officials to disburse farm loans immediately and ensure that the genuine and affected farmers

Hasina was chairing a high Prime Minister's Secretariat.

disbursing fresh agricultural were badly affected by the devastating flood.

The prime minister also directed officials to closely monithat all the affected farmers. including vegetable and betel

See Page 12 Col 7

Tenders to be floated soon to procure 2 lakh MT of foodgrains

for procuring two lakh metric tons of foodgrains.

This is in addition to 4. shipment, and 14,000 tons reached the port, a Food Min-

meet the post-flood emergency.

The decision to float tenders was taken at a meeting of the special committee on food held at the Finance Ministry yester-

Chaired by Anisuzzaman, adviser to the Prime Minister, the meeting was attended by Finance Minister S A M S Kibria, Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed, Food Minister Begum Matia Chowdhury and State Minister for Relief Talukder Abdul Khaleque and

food situation in the country. It decided to gear up measures to See Page 12 Col 7

rice at Tk 10

Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday asked the government to immediately start OMS (open market sale) of rice at subsidised price of Tk 10 per kg. reports UNB.

She said the people, devastated by flood, cannot buy rice which is being sold up to Tk 20 per kg. Price of other essentials has also went beyond the pur-

will stream to cities in search of food if government failed to ensure food and work for them immediately," Begum Zia

flood-affected people at Matoail Madrasha bazar. She also visited the worst affected areas and distributed saree, lungi, rice. potato, pulses, salt and ORS at Mridha Bari, Della Paity, Paity School, Manda, Manikdi Bridge and Sheikher Jaiga Bridge under Demra thana.

government of its 'failure' to mitigate the suffering of the flood-victims. She said relief activities of the government has been confined to the staterun electronic media.

Inside Today

Fighting Terrorism the

Clinton Way

by Brig (Rtd) M Abdul Hafiz Page 4

Focus

Structural measures or survival strategies? Page 5

Global financial crisis 'won't affect euro launch'

EU urges Japan to push ahead with banking sector reforms

> Share prices fall Pages 6, 7, 8

DHAKA MONDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 1998

PM orders

get the loans, reports UNB.

level meeting on disbursement of agricultural loan at the The government has already

allocated Tk 3,270 crore for loans among the farmers who

tor the loan disbursement so leaf planters get the credits. If necessary, activate the

Tenders will be floated soon

lakh tons now in the process of istry official told UNB yester-

The government has planned to import a total of 10 lakh metric tons on cash to

high officials.

The meeting reviewed the

morning, witnesses said.

Fareea Lara, 26 and Syed

Rafigul Islam. 24, of Parabat

Fareea Lara

CHITTAGONG, Sept 27: A rift

in the local BNP came to surface

as 120 leaders out of a 158-

member committee of Chit-

tagong city unit of BNP brought

allegations including corrup-

tion against two top city unit

In a press statement today,

they alleged that incumbent

city unit president Mir Mo-

hammad Nasiruddin and gen-

eral secretary Dastagir Chowd-

hury had sold out possession of

some rooms of the party office

turned down such allegations

saying the statement might

have been issued by vested

Banking on his "good educa-

When contacted, Mir Nasir

leaders, reports APB.

to some businessmen.

Start OMS of per kg: Khaleda

Leader of the Opposition in

chasing power of the people.

"The poverty-stricken people warned.

She was addressing the Jatrabari crossing, Matoail

BNP chairperson accused the See Page 12 Col 8

Article

Column: Perspectives

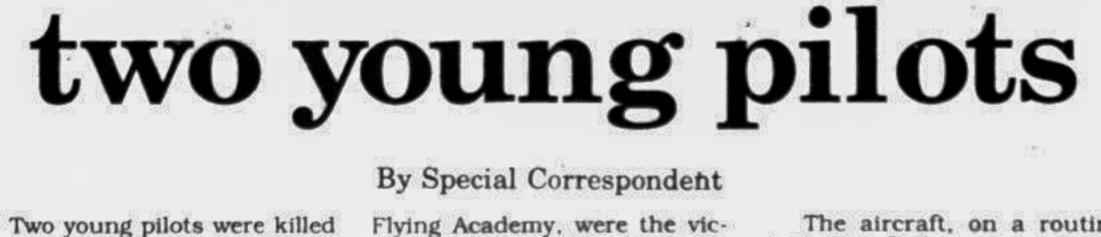
tion, experience and knowledge of economics", an Oxford-edu-Coping with floods cated businessman is challenging a high profile and hyperactive contender in a two-way bat-

tle for the presidency of the national chamber. "Under tremendous pressure to withdraw" from the race, M A Rouf Chowdhury of Vegetable Business Oil Refiners' and Vanaspati

Manufacturers' Association is determined to see the end of it. "I thought there will be no pressure after September 23 (the last date for withdrawal of nomination). But it's mounting.

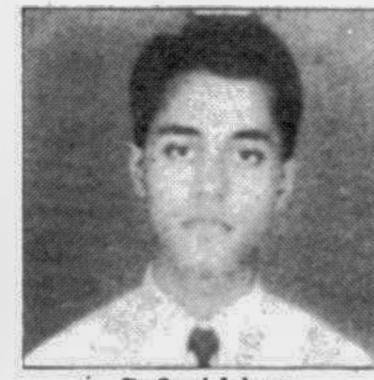
The pressure is coming from all sides," he said Saturday. "I was virtually in hiding on the last day of withdrawal of nomination.

His rival, Abdul Awal Mintoo denies that he has been behind any attempt to put pres-



in a crash near Postagola in the tims of the tragedy. They were city after apparently losing training themselves to qualify control of their Cessna-150 as instructors. The control tower at Tejtraining aircraft in gusty winds and heavy rains yesterday

gaon received the "May Day" distress call from Lara at 10-23 a.m. and there had been no further contact, officials said.



Rafiqul Islam

quarters "who are interested in

using the office building for

The dissident leaders includ-

ing three vice presidents and

four joint secretaries have

urged party workers to be united

"to foil the conspiracy against

the party being hatched by the

were using party banner for

See Page 12 Col 3

The Daily Star interviews Rouf Chowdhury

It is a test of quality,

not popularity

By Toufique Imrose Khalidi

Rouf Chowdhury

Vowing to "clean up the

sure on Chowdhury. "Why

should I? I am not worried."

place". Chowdhury is appealing

to the 730-strong electoral col-

lege to "vote for the man who

says Mintoo.

They alleged that the two

anti-social activities.

two top men.

lent activities

120 Ctg city BNP leaders allege

Mir Nasir, Dastagir using

party for personel gains

training flight, was coming from Barisal. It was scheduled to land at 10-25 a.m., they said. There was unusually high winds and heavy rains in the

The aircraft, on a routine

area," said K M Mohsin, a Postagola resident. The plane. caught in the whirlwind, was seen coming down apparently to avoid it, he said.

But the small plane went in a spin and headed straight down. landing between the two flourmills in a narrow passage. Probably, it was aiming at a field adjacent to one of the mills. Mohsin said.

A ball of fire charred their bodies beyond recognition as the young pilots tried desper-'ately to come out of cockpit when the aircraft fell in the narrow passage, hitting a tinshed of a flourmill, witnesses See Page 12 Col 1

8 districts

their personal gains and engaged in corruption and fraudu-The immaturity and inefficiency of the Nasir-Dastagir duo has tarnished the party image and disappointed all its

can do the job"

ness order.

essential.

government.

See Page 12 Col 7

Water receding fast from rest

Flood water has totally receded from 44 districts and is expected to fall back from the remaining eight in a couple of days, officials said yesterday, reports UNB.

Relief Control room said the flood situation is improving fast in the eight districts which are likely to be free of flooding soon. The districts are: Dhaka Narayangani, Madaripur, Gopalganj. Brahmanbaria Chandpur, Noakhali and Laxmipur.

Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) said all the rivers in the country's four basins fell and were flowing below their danger marks in 46

The job, as he defines in an

interview with The Daily Star

is to lead the Federation of

Bangladesh Chambers of Com-

merce and Industry (FBCCI) in

the light of the new global busi-

swe are stepping into the 21 century. We have to look

for imaginative leadership. A

good education, experience and

knowledge of economics is very

coming more complex than ever

before as the world is changing

fast. So, "understanding of the

problems is important," he

says, "then (comes) articulation

and presentation of the prob-

lems and negotiations with the

jor FBCCI role "in the formula-

See Page 12 Col 1

Chowdhury envisions a ma-

At home, problems are be-

Low remains stationary

Bay remained stationary yesterday, but the rains it influenced lowered the temperature by about one degree Celsius from Saturday's 36.2 degrees

The day temperature may drop further by one to three de-grees today, the Meteorological Department said last night as a good shower started cooling off the day's sultry weather.

Earlier in the day, most parts of the city had showers which however failed to smother the hot and humid weather

programme

The Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) will start cleaning the leftovers of the prolonged flood through a food-for-work

The DCC will soon submit a proposal to the ministry concerned requesting an allocation of 3,028.77 tonnes of foodgrains for this. The corporation has identified 728 spots in the city where the scheme would be implemented, under 10 zonal en-

the massive deposits of sludge and solid waste.

DCC sources said during the two-month long flooding, people of the submerged areas did not have any option other than dumping all sort of rubbish in the water.

See Page 12 Col 6

Rape charge: Only 5 appear before JU Syndicate

By JU Correspondent

Two BCL leaders accused of rape and three charged with abetting them appeared before the Syndicate of Jahangirnagar University yesterday to defend

The poll gave Schroeder's

Social Democratic Party 41 per

cent compared with 36 per cent

for Kohl's conservative Chris-

television gave the SPD 41 per

cent and the Christian Demo-

A separate exit poll for ZDF

The environmental Greens,

tian Democratic Alliance.

crats 35 per cent.

Five of the seven accused of rape and three of the six charged with abatement failed to appear before the Syndicate. Two alleged rapists who appeared yesterday are Nabiul

three abettors who appeared are Ferdous, Rafiq and Sohag. The 13 accused were served with showcause notices on Friday. Eleven of them fled the campus when a BCL faction led by Kakor, a chargesheeted accused in a murder case, 'captured' the five JU residential halls for male students on Sat-

Haq Rani and Anisur Rahman,

and hospitalised. The seven accused of rape are BCL leaders Jasimuddin Manik, Miradul Islam, Hasibur Rahman Barkat, Mohammad

urday. Two others were injured

Atiqur Rahman Naim and Anisur Rahman. The six accused of abatement are BCL leaders Titu, Ferdous, Rafiq, Ruhul, Sohag and Kajol.

Ali Dalas, Nabiul Haq Rani,

Meanwhile, the General Students' Unity (GSU) in a memorandum submitted to Vice Chancellor Prof Alauddin Ahmed yesterday demanded expulsion of the 'rapists' from the university for life and cancellation of their university cer-

tificates. GSU threatened of tougher agitation programmes "if the authorities were soft to the

rapists." No untoward incident took place on the campus since the 'capture' of halls by "Kakor group" and subsequent deployment of police at the JU.

More students were leaving the campus as the JU authorities announced a seven day Puja vacation from Saturday. See Page 12 Col 4

Sharif siphoned off millions of dollars

LONDON, Sept 27: Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has amassed a personal fortune siphoning off millions of dollars from his country's coffers. according to a Pakistani police report passed to The Observer newspaper, reports AFP.

The Pakistani Federal Investigation Agency report, revealed to the paper by the FIA's suspended second in command Rehman Malik, was delivered to the country's President Rafique Tarar last week, the paper said today. The Observer said the 200-

page report was initiated while Sharif was out of power but effectively stifled after he and his Islamic Democratic Alliance

Police report to Pak president

party returned to lead the country in February 1997.

It said the investigation revealed how Sharif's assets included four flats in London's exclusive Mayfair, worth more than three million pounds (five US million dollars)

More than 70 million dollars was also said to have been traced to accounts and companies controlled by the family. The inquiry was said to have

focused on Sharif's Ittefaq See Page 12 Col 3

to avert clash From Our Correspondent KHAGRACHHARI, Sept 27: Section 144 was imposed on Dighinala thana today for an

indefinite period to avert further clash after the death of a tribal student in a clash between two rival group of soccer fans yesterday at Dighinala Sadar. In the clash, Nikhil Chakma, 17, a student of class

ten of Baradham High School. died of bullet wounds and 50 others were injured.

given treatment at the Dighi

Tk 4.37 lakh snatched

ees of a business firm riding on a private car at city's Uttara area vesterday. The incident took place when Sattar and Tofazzal, both

employees of Bahar Ali's business firm in Tongi, were coming from Tongi to deposit the cash in Al Arafah Islami Bank at about 11:30 am yesterday, po-



Wreckage of Cessna-150 training aircraft that crashed near Postagola in the city yesterday morning. Cessna crash kills

-Star photo

By Special Correspondent

The low over the west central Celsius.

See Page 12 Col 6 DCC to 'clean up' city thru' FFW

By Staff Correspondent

scheme, DCC sources said.

gineers, DCC sources said. Meanwhile, DCC Mayor Mohammad Hanif yesterday gave a go-ahead to start the food-forwork scheme immediately with the four tonnes of undistributed wheat and rice, initially kept for the city relief

shelters. The decision to start a scheme was taken recently at the DCC-level in view of the massive leftovers presently littering many city areas. The existing DCC resources have proved too inadequate to clean

As the water receded, the de-

Durga Puja begins

Durga Puja, the biggest religious festival of the country's Hindu community, began yesterday, reports BSS. The Puja organisers, accord-

a simple manner to save the money for the flood-hit people. The day's programme began with the observance of Shasthi. The festival will end with the immersion of the image of deity Durga on Thursday, on the day of Dashami. The Saptami, Saptami, Astami and Nabami will fall on Monday, Tuesday

and Wednesday respectively.

The Mahanagar Sarbojonin Puja Committee will organise a colourful procession in the city before immersion of the deity. The procession is scheduled to start from the Dhakeswari Temple at 4 pm on Thursday. The Bangladesh Puja Ud-

money for the flood victims. A leader of the Mahangar Puja Committee said that only 70 Puja mandaps have been erected in the Dhaka Metropolis this year.

Meanwhile, the Hindu community of Rajshahi city yester-See Page 12 Col 5



community, began yesterday with the celebration of -Star photo Shasthi.

His challenger, Gerhard Helmut Kohl Mukuli Begum's bail prayer rejected By Court Correspondent

The bail prayer of 'tikuli Begum, one of the accused in the Rubel Murder Case, was refused by the Additional Sessions

Arguing for the petitioner, Advocate Abdul Malek pointed out that there is nothing in the charge sheet which proves that Mukuli Begum was involved in

the killing of Rubel.

The charge sheet says that she wrote a letter to AC Akram Hussain to arrest Rubel as she felt 'disturbed' by him, Abdul Malek noted. "It is not an offence to seek the help of police if anybody feels disturbed by any

person. Additional Public Prosecutor M Kamrul Hossain and Court Inspector Shah Alam op-

Judge Mia Mohammed Sharif Hossain rejected the bail prayer.

chopped to death in Ctg From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Sept 27: A businessman was chopped to death allegedly by a group of terrorists at Bansbaria under Sitakundu thana today as he refused to pay toll money, police

to a nearby hill by the extortionists at around 2 pm and hacked with sharp weapons. The extortionists fled away when local people rushed there hearing screams of the victim.

he died. A case was filed with Sitakundu thana in this connection, but none was arrested so far, police said.

Dighinala ten. : Sec 144 imposed

Among them, 33 have been

at Uttara By Staff Correspondent

See Page 12 Col 8



AASHIN 13, 1405 BS

vears.

strength.

with the CDU.

the Balkans.

JAMADIUS SAANI 6, 1419 HIJRI

a likely coalition partner for the SPD, won 6.5 per cent of the

vote, according to both exit

polls, tied with the Liberal Free

Democrats (FDP), Kohl's junior

coalition partner for the last 16

Party of Democratic Socialism

(PDS) won 5.0 per cent of the

vote, enough to bring them back

into parliament in full

would mean that Kohl's 16-long

reign has come to an end. But it

appears to be too early to tell if

Schroeder will lead a left-lean-

ing coalition with the Greens or

Europe's common currency.

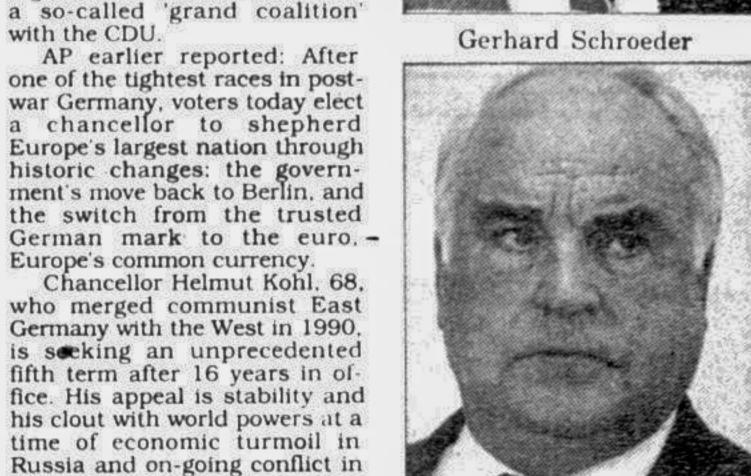
See Page 12 Col 8

The results, if confirmed,

The Reform Communist

Generator & Boiler

Kohl concedes defeat



Judge, Dhaka yesterday.

posed the bail prayer saying that it was an important case. Examining the criminal miscellaneous bail petition,

Businessman

Obaidur Rahman, 30, owner of a tea stall was forcibly taken

He was taken to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where

See Page 12 Col 3

Muggers snatched Tk 4.37 lakh in cash from two employ-