PACKAGES, DOCUMENTS & FREIGHT WORLDWIDE



Fed显然.

The World on Time

Ramkrishna Mission in the city.

The ECNEC yesterday ap-

proved eight projects with an

cluding project aid of Tk 700.76

meeting of the Executive Com-

Council held at NEC Bhaban

mittee of National Economic

with Prime Minister Sheikh

Dhaka Transport System De-

velopment (Tk 942.58 crore).

Gofargaon-Bormibazar Road

(Tk 29.50 crore), Sylhet-Joki-

ganj Road (Tk 81.32 crore).

Bridge Construction of the

River Darla in Kurigram Dis-

Construction on Karotoa River

on Siraigani-Shahadatpur

Road (Tk 17.77 crore), Road

Maintenance by Distressed

Women in Chittagong Hill

Tracts Area (15.26 crore), Power

Supply Outside Dhaka City

Area (Tk 237.03 crore) and

Upgradation of Six Textile In-

Rubel Murder Case

No decision yet

on appointing

special sessions

judge

The Law Ministry has not

yet taken any decision on ap-

pointing a special sessions

judge to expedite the trial of the

Home Ministry about the mat-

ter, but have not taken any de-

cision yet. A decision will be

taken shortly as per rule," a

high official of the Law Min-

istry told UNB over telephone

Sheikh Hasina asked the au-

thorities concerned to expedite

the trial of the case and accord-

ingly the Home Ministry has

requested the Law Ministry to

dent of Independent University,

was tortured to death in DB po-

Murder Case has already been

submitted to the court accusing

13 DB personnel and Mukul Be-

ing Mukul Begum, are now in

jail custody while five others

Hossain was given division in

Nine of the accused, includ-

The main accused AC Akram

gum, a neighbour of Rubel.

are absconding.

The charge sheet of the Rubel

Shamim Reza Rubel, a stu-

take necessary steps.

lice custody on July 23.

Earlier, Prime Minister

"We received a letter from the

Rubel Murder Case.

last night.

stitutes (Tk 50 crore).

The projects are: Greater

The approval was given at a

outlay of Tk 1406.45 crore in-

crore, reports UNB.

Hasina in the chair.

Tk 942.58 cr Dhaka Transport

System Project okayed

Toaster Oven

Conventional Kettle

Ideal gift for any occasion. Instalment facility available

only for purchases above Tk. 5,000 Transcom Electronics Limited

Official licensee of Philips Electronics N.V. for lighting products, radio and TV sets Dhaka: 815307-10, 819625-9 Ctg.: 716353, 723578

Khulna: 720304, Bogra: 6215



Charge sheet against partymen

DEPZ 9338931 Chittagong, Tel: (031) 712127, CEPZ (031) 740108

Khulna, Tel: (041) 725008, N'Ganj, Tel: 9714336

Ctg BNP calls hartal on Oct 15

From Staff Correspondent

and its student front Chhatra

League had unleashed violence

in the port city during the meet-

ing of BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia at the Outer Stadium here

on November 11 and during her visit to Chittagong Medical Hospital on November 27, last year. "We filed cases with the

court, accusing AL activists for

that violence but those cases

were stayed without any

AL had, however, denied the

'Taslima has every

right to stay

in Bangladesh'

protested what they called 'pub-

lic harassment and threat to

peace' by some quarters de-

manding arrest of Taslima

Taslima Nasrin has every right

to stay in Bangladesh as a citi-

zen and she is entitled to the

protection of the law from de-

liberate harassment of threats

The signatories to the state-

ment are: Justice K M Sobhan

Dr Anisuzzaman, Khusi Kabir,

Aroma Goon, Dr Zarina Rah-

man Khan, Dr Shahidul Islam

Dr Shahdeen Malik, Shireen

Sultana, Khurshid Erfan Ah-

med, Dr Naila Khan, Shamim

Akhtar, Rehnuma Akhtar and

that indicated Taslima had re-

turned to Bangladesh to look af-

ter her sick mother, they said

Taslima had already obtained

bail in a case filed in the Addi-

tional Chief Metropolitan Ma-

desh guarantees fundamental

freedom of speech and expre-

ssion, the signatories said,

adding "We take strong objec-

tion to the Taliban-like spee-

ches from a party which has

been accused of killing many

Prisoner dies

at DMCH

By Staff Correspondent

Dhaka Central Jail died while

he was being taken to Dhaka

Medical College Hospital

jailed for his involvement in a

dacoity incident in 1995. He

was a resident of Novabari un-

under treatment at the fail

hospital for the last few days as

he was suffering from heart dis-

eases. His condition became

Flood situation

critical Monday evening.

The dead, Tara Mia, was

Jail sources said Tara was

A convicted prisoner of

The Constitution of Bangla-

Mentioning the press reports

Dr Hameeda Hossain.

gistrate's Court in 1994.

intellectuals in 1971.

(DMCH) Monday.

der Savar thana.

In a statement they said

Nasrin, reports UNB.

of violence.

A group of citizens yesterday

progress", he said.

CHITTAGONG, Sept 29: Chittagong unit of BNP today announced a week-long action programme from October 8 here protesting the submission of charge sheet by CID police against 50 BNP leaders and workers including four MPs in connection with three major incidents of political violence

in the port city last year. The programme included demonstration, rally and pro-cession in Laldighi area of the city on October 8, demonstrations, rallies and processions in every thana here from October 9 to 13, torch procession on October 14 and a day-long hartal on October 15 in greater Chittagong.

The action programme was announced at a press conference at the local press club, addressed by BNP's Chittagong city committee president Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin.

Nasiruddin demanded immediate withdrawal of those "false and fabricated cases. Otherwise, tougher programmes would be announced to force withdrawal of the cases, he

Nasiruddin alleged that 83 political cases involving about 2.000 BNP activists and leaders were filed in Chittagong in a bid to harass them.

He also alleged that the government "violated the agreement reached with BNP before its joining parliament for withdrawal of all false political cases."

Referring to the three incidents of political violence Nasiruddin said, "We demanded judicial enquiry into those incidents at that time, but the government ignored that and filed false cases against us". The ruling Awami League

Three arrested

From Page 1 Aman.

The CID prayer for a sevenday remand of the arrested leaders was heard in the Court of Metropolitan Magistrate Amir Hussain.

The magistrate granted a four-day remand and rejected bail petitions moved on behalf of the three.

Khandaker Mahbubuddin Ahmed and Habibul Islam Bhuiya, lawyers for the arrested, prayed for their bail saying that the government brought charges against them for political victimisation.

The case in connection with the killing of four leaders -Tajuddin Ahmed, Syed Nazrul Islam, Mansur Ali and A H M Kamruzzaman — was lodged with Lalbagh thana by the then DIG (Prisons) Abdul Awal the day after the killing.

The case filed on November 4, 1975, under Section 302/34 of the Penal Code was taken up by the CID on September 10, 1996. Two of the five under-trial accused and 14 absconding accused in the Bangabandhu murder case are also accused in the jail killing case. CID officials

Col (dismissed) Farook and Col (retd) Shahriar had already given judicial statements relating to the jail killing case.

Maj (retd) Khairuzzaman was also arrested two years ago in connection with the case. He is now in jail custody.

Govt busy plundering relief goods:

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Sept 29: BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia today said thou-

ple having no source of income to buy foodgrains are compelled to eat unwholesome stuff and fall sick. She regretted that the government has failed to reach

"Government is busy in plundering relief and witch hunting of political opponents without minding the miseries of the people. The people are dy-ing from starvation," said Begum Zia while visiting the

She was addressing meetings

lished in the national press.

tect the district from flood.

Thousands of people are falling ill everyday by diarrhoeal diseases but there is no adequate supply of medicine by the government to combat the

BNP's protest march in city today

at 29 Minto Road yesterday evening, BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said his party will be forced to announce tough political programme if the government does not refrain from political harassment

Bhuiyan urged the government to engage in relief and rehabilitation work by shunning the path of harassment and repression.

Cessna crash

other details. Probe into the

From Page 1 lief said in Dhaka vesterday. At least 52 out of the total 64 districts of the country were under the grip of century's worst flood since early July this year

It is expected that normalcy would be returned in the districts of Dhaka, Narayangani Brahmanbaria, Noakhali and Laxmipur with in a couple of

them succour.

situation.

He said police arrested Obaid as part of the government's repression on its political opponent. Condemning the arrest he said, police misbehaved with Obaid and his family members

crash began on Monday.

leaving 918 people dead, the statement said

Shell-Cairn deal From Page 1

in 1996-97 following the Sangu field discovery. Besides Shell, Cairn has also taken US oil giant Brown and Roots as its partner in the Sangu field.

Brown and Roots has invested US\$ 200 million in the field in exchange for a 25 per cent interest

Shell will also carry US\$ 100 million of Cairn's exploration costs and another 100

million for development. The Times newspaper reported that Cairn's share prices surged seven per cent to 136.5 pence on the news of the deal that removes doubts over the

company's ability to fund its exploration programme. Completion of the deal will leave Cairn and Shell each with

37 per cent of the Sangu field, 35 per cent of Semutang and a half share in Block 15 and 16. Any further blocks awarded by Bangladesh will be held 50/50. The original alliance deal

hinged on a successful outcome to the Bangladeshi licensing round but a disappointing result for Cairn with the key block 10 withheld by the government had led to speculation that Shell might walk out from the deal," says the Times report. The Financial Times mean-

while termed Cairn's condition "troubled" and reported that Cairn had undergone problems at several of its Bangladeshi oil fields as well as suffering from the slump in oil prices. It also said that Cairn's share price recently hit a 30-month low and had underperformed the market by over 80 per cent in the

Meanwhile, the Joint Review Committee (JRC) has recently rejected Cairn's work programmes and budgets

Sources said that Cairn had proposed drilling of an exploratory well in offshore Gilachhari and another well in Sangu-2. But Petrobangla did not approve of these work pro-

grammes. Petrobangla sources also said that there were some major gaps in Cairn's first auditing conducted by a leading firm in Bangladesh. Questions about Cairn's auditing arose when Petrobangla came to know that some accountants of that firm. which did the first auditing of Cairn, were now employed by

the British company. Cairn had earlier pushed up Sangu field's approved budget of US\$ 178 million to US\$ 264 million. Sources in Petrobangla and Cairn said that the budget hike was caused mostly by Cairn's mismanagement, over-expenditure and lack of control over its' "big" partner Brown and Roots. The budget later came down to US\$ 247 million when Petrobangla

pointed out some irregularities. Petrobangla is likely to remain firm about rejecting Cairn's changed budget, sources said. But Cairn continues to justify the budget increase in order to and pursue its approval.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Published by the Editor from City Publishing House Ltd., 90 Kakrail Dhaka-1000 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No. 11, Road No. 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 866772-4, Commercial: 866771 Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Internet edition address: http://www.dailystarnews.com and Email address: dstar@bangla.net

Khaleda

sands of flood-hit people are be-ing affected by diarrhoea dis-eases everyday, reports UNB.

She said the distressed peo-

flood-hit areas of the district.

at Sankerbati Hebzul Madrassah, Bazar Rampur Hamidullah High School, BTI flood shelter. Baliadanga High School, Ali Nagar High School, Santirmore and Haripur.

Begum Zia said reports of relief misappropriation are pub-

She said helicopters of the President and Prime Minister could not land in Chapainawabganj as they did not find any ground here. Despite that the government did not send relief materials to the area. She demanded construction of an embankment to pro-

BNP will bring out a procession from its city office at Navabazar this afternoon to protest the arrest of BNP leaders K M Obaidur Rahman and Nurul Islam Manjur, reports Addressing a press briefing

during the arrest.

From Page 1

Why Ms Fareea Lara, one of

the pilots, sent the May Day call, a distress signal, without reporting any trouble earlier? Had there been fire in the aircraft she would have re-

ported it and tried to land the aircraft. But it simply landed straight down after a spin. Due to the impact, the engine was split and its rubber seal remained intact which would not have been there if it was burning in the sky, a source who visited the crash site said The probe body which sub-

mitted its preliminary report yesterday is carrying on its investigation.

But a controversy on the type of fuel used by the Parabat Flying Academy for its training flights has been raised following reports in certain newspa-It arose on a batch of 97 Oc-

tane or HOBC fuel, supplied by the Padma Oil Company. Its sample had been sent for testing at Padma's laboratory. But the Academy had not

been using the 'suspect' batch, Ms Nadera Alam, Managing Director of the Air Parabat which runs the academy said last night. She said, when Parabat engineers opened the last batch of

fuel from Padma, they found in one barrel some foreign compounds. This was reported to the Padma Oil and samples were sent to them for evaluation. Padma replaced the batch. She said that the aircraft was bought from the USA by

company, Mr Sheikh. The aircraft was converted to use Motor Gasoline or Octane, she added. A Padma official said that the last batch of fuel they supplied to the academy had been marked as 'suspect' by the academy. Normally in such

cases they do not use it as a cau-

former Chief Engineer of the

tionary measure. "I do not think they used it," the official said. He also dismissed reports that the company had been supplying adulterated oil. "If we have been doing it, there would have been many unfortunate accidents and we would not have been in

business", the official said.

The official said that the academy had permission from the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) to use Octane. Cessna aircraft are permitted by the US Federal Aviation Authority to use the fuel.

trict (Tk 32.98 crore.) Bridge opment Maintenance Project, the meeting was told that the project was taken up after the signing of the CHT peace accord and it will help provide em ployment to women and allevi-

easy for expedition.

ate poverty in the CHT region. Ministers, state ministers secretaries concerned and high officials attended the meeting.

Kumari Puja of the Hindu community was held yesterday. The photo was taken from

The Prime Minister directed

She asked the officials to de-

the authorities concerned to

give priority to various ongoing

and new projects relating to

sign all development projects

keeping in view the geophysical

and environmental situation of

tive to build national and re-

gional highways considering

proval procedure of the various

projects was relaxed and made

The meeting gave the direc-

In the meeting, normal ap-

About the CHT Road Devel-

post-flood rehabilitation.

the country.

the flood level

Rickshawpullers boycott UP chairman

From Our Correspondent PABNA, Sept 29: Rickshaw pullers of Haripur union under Chatmohar thana in the district have decided not to carry the chairman of Haripur Union Parishad in their threewheelers for allegedly not giving them relief during the flood.

They announced the decision at a rally, followed by a procession at the union. When contacted, Naziruddin Sarker, the UP chairman, said rickshawpullers could not be given relief as supply was too

700 killed in major offensive by LTTE

inadequate.

COLOMBO, Sept 29: More than 700 people have been killed in a major offensive by Tamil Tiger guerillas across a broad front in northern Sri Lanka, the military said today, reports AFP.

The authorities were also searching for a civilian aircraft carrying 54 people which went missing on a flight from the embattled northern Jaffna peninsula to the capital Colombo.

Stranded Pakistanis appeal for citizenship A faction of the SPGRC has appealed to the government to

-Star photo

grant Bangladesh citizenship to the stranded Pakistanis as they have been living here for last 52 years, reports UNB. The appeal came from an emergency meeting of the Stranded Pakistanis General

Repatriation Committee (Ejaz) held in the city yesterday, said a press release. SPGRC (E) President Ejaz Ahmed Siddiqui chaired the meeting which was addressed among others, by Adv Manzurul Alam, Adv Sardar Muhammad Yunus, Quari Mohammad Yu-

nus Khan, Khurshid Monwar Jahangir Alam and Salauddin. The speakers pressed the demand saying the stranded Pakistanis have been working for the development of the country as "sons of this soil.

They hoped that the government would consider their appeal for citizenship as birth right and look sympathetically into their longstanding prob-

tense By Staff Correspondent

AJM remains

NARAYANGANJ, Sept 29: The situation at the Adamjee Jute Mills (AJM) remained tense today with the armed workers of the rival groups taking positions at various strategic points and exploding numerous crackers in the area.

However, none was hurt in the cracker blasts. Police continued guarding the troubled AJM area but arrested none in connection with vesterday's bloody clashes which left one person dead and 150 others injured

Meanwhile, the rival workers' groups filed three separate cases accusing each other for yesterday's bloody clashes.

4 killed, 10 hurt in Chittagong road accident

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Sept 29: At least four persons were killed, and 10 others injured in a road accident early this morning at Dewanhat crossing.

Police said the accident occurred at around 6:30 am when a night coach from Dhaka rammed into some rickshaws and autorickshaws parked in front of shops at Dewanhat

Hosiery The Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation's newly set up Hosiery Industrial Estate at Fatullah also remained under water for about

ented knitwear factories in the estate which had started production few months back have been severely affected by the "We suffered a net loss of

about TK 25 lakh as large quan-

tity of raw materials were dam-

aged," said Omar Faruq, Gen-

eral Manager of Sabuj Knitwear and Dying Mills Limited at the BSCIC estate. The factory is yet to start production as the boiler machine and the power generator have become inoperative. "We

with a brush. He said nine winch machines have been washed with bleaching powder but those are still inoperative. The machines were under waist-deep water for several

Nearby, Royal Packaging In-

Daily Star that his mill suffered a loss of about Tk 5 lakh due to the floods. Lot of people took shelter on

BSCIC chairman A H M Reazul Karim and some high officials of the corporation visited the industrial estate on Saturday to see the extent of

Local officials of BSCIC said they are yet to assess the loss and damage caused to the factories in the estate by the

Bangabandhu Murder Case

Charges against Joardar not tenable: Defence Counsel

dar in 1976

The counsel for Hony Capt (retd) Abdul Wahab Joardar, an accused in the Bangabandhu Murder Case, argued in the court yesterday that murder and conspiracy charges against his client are not tenable as none of the witnesses told of his involvement, reports UNB. Advocate Abdur Rezzak

of stealing valuables from Bangabandhu's house against Joardar who has recorded of distinction as a man of honesty and integrity. "He (Joardar) returned Tk 1 lakh paid in excess to him by a bank and the action earned him a certificate of man of honesty." As the lawyer was arguing

Khan ridiculed the accusation

before the District and Sessions Judge's Court, the septuagenarian Joardar in the dock looked pale and broken. The battle hardened Joardar who fought in the Indo-Pak war in 1965 and Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971 is facing charges which may earn him a maximum punishment of death.

"The charge of stealing valuables against a man of his (Joardar) class is silly," contended the counsel. "He was falsely implicated in the case." He argued that Joardar came

to Dhaka on August 14, 1975 from Comilla on an official assignment of disbursing salary among the troops of his unit posted as house guards in Bangabandhu's residence. He stayed back in the city as the payment was not completed on that day.

Pointing to statements of certain witnesses, the counsel said their mentioning of Joardar were full of contradictions. He said the main charge

against Joardar was that he took away ammunition from the house guards at Bangabandhu's residence an hour before the killing incident. Prosecution witness Havildar Abdul Gani, a guard commander, told this at the fag end of cross-examination.

But FIR did not mention about this nor any other witness corroborated Gani's claim contended the counsel.

The counsel referred to PW-6 Sohrab who stated that guard commander Havildar Abdul Gani called them in position and took all ammunition from them before the change of guard group on August 15. Sohrab was all along with Gani and he did not see Joardar taking away ammunition from Gani.

He argued: None of the witnesses has seen Joardar carrying arms. So, Section 302 (murder) under CrPC is not applicable to him. None also said he was involved in the conspiracy. Therefore, the charge of 120 B (Conspiracy) cannot be brought against him. About the accusation that

Joardar was promoted as Lieu-JU authorities

From Page 1 Prof Abdul Bayes of Economics Department told this correspondent that there should have been a judicial inquiry into the rape incidents. "If the students, punished for different terms, were found involved in the incidents of rape, all of them should have been expelled

for life. Prof Abu Saeed Khan of Physics Department said the action was 'justified but not sufficient.' He said the action against two students for assaulting a teacher last month

was also inadequate. President of JU Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal Asad Ullah Asad said it was actually no action in terms of the gravity of the crimes the seven had commit-

"The rapists must be punished according to the law of the country because it is a serious criminal offence," he said. At a press conference on the campus, JCD leaders urged the JU authorities to file criminal

cases against the seven accused and that the Fact-Finding Committee report be made pub-President of JU Chhatra Union Saikat Shubhra Aich Manan said, "Disparity in the action against the seven BCL

leaders prove that it is politically motivated." A number of general students also expressed their dissatisfaction over the action

taken by the JU authorities. Meanwhile, the JU authorities formed a five-member committee to formulate a code of conduct for students. The committee headed by Syndicate member Prof Imamuddin will formulate the code of conduct in light of the recommendations

Committee report. The committee also includes Proctor Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, Syndicate member Naimul Islam, Syndicate member Motahar Hossain and Prof Tajul Islam.

made by the Fact Finding

DESA-DESCO feud From Page 1

tween DESA and DESCO employees by holding negotiations. DESA employees are now demanding regular jobs in DE-SCO with full pay but the DE-SCO authorities are not willing to take all DESA employees.

Chairman Altaf Hossain.

tenant by Major Farooq or by Maj Bazlul Huda, the counsel termed it 'false and fabricated'. Joardar was promoted as Sube-

Even if his badge was changed in Bangabandhu's house on August 15 morning. PW-7 Capt Bashar in his state-ment said he marked the change of badge at about 12 noon or 12:30 pm when he came to Bangabandhu's residence But he did not mention anything about that when Joardar went to his (Bashar) residence at about 10:30 in the morning on August 15. The counsel ridiculed Capt

heard about martial law from his servant in the early morning, he being the officer of the guard regiment waited for jeep and finally came to the President's residence at 12:30 pm. "What a conduct! exclaimed the counsel and said. "His (Bashar) conduct should have

been like that of Col Jamil who

rushed to the President's resi-

Bashar saying when he (Bashar)

dence and got killed." "I have full respect for Col Jamil for his sense of duty. But Bashar deserves condemnation for his suspicious role," he

Chamber leaders

From Page 1 ber of Commerce and Industry. the only other candidate for the post, FBCCI sources said

The consensus panel was announced at a meeting held at the FBCCI conference room last night with the federation president Yusuf Abdullah Harun in the chair. Former FBCCI presidents Salman F Rahman and Akram Hossain were also pre-"Keeping in view the greater

munity, and showing respect to senior leaders of the federation. I have decided to withdraw my candidature," Kamaluddin Ahmed said while addressing the meeting. The Chamber leaders initiated a move to reach a consen-

sus for the posts of vice-presi-

dent and 15 executive commit-

interest of the business com-

tee members considering the difficulties in undertaking election campaigning in the wake of the devastating floods. FBCCI president Yusuf Abdullah Harun was given the responsibility by the candidates

and Chamber presidents at a meeting held on Sunday last. Yousuf Harun thanked all the candidates and presidents of the Chambers for extending their cooperation in reaching a consensus regarding the post of vice president and 15 other ex-

ecutive committee members.

Following are the other

members of the executive committee: Rajjab Sharaif (Bangladesh Chamber of Industry), Jahangir Alam (Naogaon Chamber), A Rab Chowdhury (Dhaka Chamber), Shamsul Alam (Jessore Chamber), Ragib Ali (Moulvibazar Chamber), Farid Uddin Ahmed (Brahmanbaria Chamber) Afzal Khan (Comilla Chamber) Alhaj Sheikh Nurul Alam (Feni Chamber), Alhaj Shahjada Anwarul Quadir (Gaibandha Chamber), Abdus Shahid (Kishoreganj Chamber), Bijoy Kumar Kejriwal (Kushtia Chamber), A K M Shamsuddin (Mymensingh Chamber), Abdul Wahed (Nawabgani Chamber), M A Kafi Sarkar (Pabna Chamber) and A T M Waziullah (Patuakhali Chamber).

Unique initiative

From Page 1 that they do not feel helpless when they go home," he said. Shahin, Depali, Pinki and Selim said, besides getting lessons on alphabets and counting they also sing songs in the

ing school hours, they were given biscuits and fruits. "Two days ago, one barber came to cut our nails and trim

class. They also said that dur-

our hair," said Depali People of the locality fed the flood victims during the first few days after the shelter was opened. Later, Care Bangladesh started supplying food which is continuing," said Devdas Roy. another volunteer.

"The food provided by Care is managed by their own volunteers with our help," he said.

From Page 1 "Many of them are now in

Awami League. A book written by the present State Minister for Information also mentioned it. But none of them were being involved in the case of killings 23 years ago." The arrest of the three

politicians and not involving the Awami League leaders, it said, "proved the government is trying to tarnish the image of BNP as part of its conspiracy and realising vengeance. In a resolution, the BNP Standing Committee warned

the government to "stop fishing

in troubled water." People wil

not tolerate such machinations as manifested during the previous autocratic regime, it said. Presided over by Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury, the meeting was attended by Abdul

Mannan Bhuiyan, Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar, Khandakar Delwar Hossain, Dr A R "I think cooperation will be restored ultimately. But this Ghani, Abdul Matin Chowdnon-cooperation may continue hury and Dr Khandakar for few more days," said DESA Mosharraf Hossain, said a press release.

Hosiery units in N'ganj From Page 1 Zonaid, a machine operator, They said most of the factory much as Tk 43 crore. Elias said he has started reowners lost their working capiwas rubbing a winch machine

ceiving new orders and half of his machines were being used "It would take at least another month to start the business in full swing," Elias said

But sludge still remained on

some roads and lanes in Nava-

mati and Ukilpara area, affect-

ing business. During a visit to

the area this correspondent saw few customers walking through sludge and dirty water after recession of flood water. "Customers are reluctant to come to the area because of the sludge and stagnant dirty water in front of our factory", said Nasir Uddin of New Ekota Textile. "Instead of coming to Narayanganj, wholesale buyers

prefer big shops at Sadarghat

and Chakbazar in Dhaka now,"

Nasir said.

"The Narayanganj Pourashava was requested several times to clear the drains and sewerage lines in the area so that the dirty water and sludge can be cleared. But they are yet to take any initiative," he alleged. Nasir, Jahangir, Delwar and

many other owners of hosiery

units in the area said they need

soft loans from the government

or banks to start their busi-

tal during the flood and only soft loans can help them sustain. On an average, owners of small units suffered losses of between Tk 20,000 and 30,000 each due to the flood, they said. "We had set up the units without any loan but this time we need money," said Jahangir Hossain owner of Tonmoy

two months. Twenty-seven export-oriflood.

are trying to collect some spare parts to repair the machine."

weeks, he said. "It will take another two weeks to make those machines operative," he said. dustries started operation on Saturday. Managing Partner of the unit Shamsul Huda told The

the upper stories of the factory building. "Besides damage of raw materials and production loss, we also had to provide relief to the flood affected people including our own staff," Huda

damage caused by the flood.