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Let's make things better

PHILIPS

'Under-trial prisoners if proved innocent should be compensated'

An appropriate policy for the industries in prisons may greatly reduce crime inside the country's jails, removing the frustrations of the inmates. said a former Judge of the

Supreme Court. In an interview with UNB. Justice Habibur Rahman Khan said, if the prisoners are given a percentage of the sale proceeds from the goods they make, it can help their rehabilitation

when they are freed from jail. He said even a nominal earning can make a handsome total at the end of their jail terms. This would enable them to start a new life.

A steady source of income with their own labour will remove frustration of the inmates as well as improve the environment inside the jail, said

Investigation committee on Jessore Jail Revolt in 1996. Simultaneously, it could keep the ordinary prisoners away from criminal activities

persons, he said. Justice Khan said if the prisoners are trained well, they can be involved in the production of high quality materials apart from the common items.

and turn the hard-crore crimi-

nals into comparatively better

And, by exporting such high quality goods, the government could also earn considerable sum of foreign exchange, he

According to official sources, the country has 80 jails, including eight central jails, 29 district prisons and 27

All the jails suffer from Justice Khan, who headed the space shortage and there is also regular complaints about qual-ity of food as well as inadequate medicare and other physical facilities.

"To solve all these problems, the government will have to fix priority.... then solve one problem after another according to priority within a certain preplanned period," suggested Justice Khan.

The former High Court judge said, until the court finds an under-trial prisoner guilty, he is innocent. But he has to live in the darkness of jail year after year awaiting the court's ver-

He said the government should think of giving some sort of compensation to such under-trial prisoners who are proved innocent after spending a considerable time of their life

New beginning made in relations with Pakistan, says Vajpayee

NEW DELHI, Oct 1: Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee said today that a "new beginning" has been made in relations with arch-rival Pakistan, reports Reuter.

"I believe a new beginning has been made in our relations with Pakistan," Vajpayee said in a statement on his arrival from a trip to the United States and France. "I had productive and friendly talks with Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. Foreign secretary level talks will begin on October 15 in Islamabad and will be followed in Delhi."

"There is qualitative change in the situation now. Both are nuclear weapon states and they have an understanding of their responsibilities," Vajpayee told reporters,

India and Pakistan conducted a series of tit-for-that nuclear tests in May which prompted global outrage.

There is no other way but to talk," Vajpayee said.

Goods train derails Dhaka-Ctg train service disrupted for 12 hours

COMILLA, Oct 1: A goods train derailed at Laksham early today, causing a 12-hour disruption to rail communications in Dhaka-Chittagong and Chittagong-Sylhet routes, reports APB.

Local sources said eight wagons of the Chittagong-bound goods train from Mymensingh went off the track near Aliswar outer signal at Laksham at 3

Train communication resumed at 3 pm after two relief trains from Laksam and Akhaura had put the derailed wagons back on track.

US to cooperate

From Page

drawn to the postponement of President Clinton's visit to Bangladesh, the Foreign Minister expressed his optimism that the American leader would visit the country sometime in near future.

"I am sure President Clinton will visit Bangladesh the date for which will be fixed at a mutually convenient time," he

Iran withdraws large number of diplomats from Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Oct 1: Iran has suddenly withdrawn a large number of diplomats, other staff members and their families from Pakistan amid tension between Tehran and Islamabad over the latter's support for the Talibans in Afghanistan, media reports said today, says PTI.

Iran, however, said it had scaled down its mission in Pakistan because of certain problems, but insisted that there was no change in the state of relations.

More than 60 Iranians, which included nine senior level diplomats and the family members of the Iranian diplomats, left for United Arab Emirates yesterday from Karachi, largest circulated Urdu daily Jung, said.

Relations between Iran and Pakistan were strained following the killing of the nine Iranian diplomats by Talibans in Afghanistan recently.

Low over Bay

From Page 1 mm and Dhaka had a trace of

Earlier, the low caused a sultry weather which was

cooled by heavy rains. But the temperature soared again. In Dhaka it was 34 degree

Celsius, Chittagong 34.4 C, Rajshahi 31.7C, Khulna 34C Barisal 31.5C and Sylhet 34.2 C The day's highest temperature of 35.2 was recorded at Sitakundu and the minimum

22.6 at Mymensingh. Meteorological Office said if the low turns into a depression. it can brew a storm.

There are two periods of storms, originating in the Bay. One period is between April and May and another is between October and December. The Met officials said they are keeping an eye on the low, watching its

movement constantly. Light to moderate rain/thundershowers with temporary/gusty wind is likely to occur at a few places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and one or two places over Khulna and Sylhet divisions and moderately heavy fall at one or two places over Rajshahi and Barisal divisions today, the Met

office said. The day temperature would remain mainly unchanged, it

ঢাকা বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ কর্তৃপক্ষ

সাধারণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এই মর্মে মিরপুর এলাকার সম্মানিত বিদ্যুৎগ্রাহকদের জানানো যাচ্ছে

যে, ২৪-৯-৯৮ইং তারিখ হতে মিরপুর এলাকার বিদ্যুৎ সম্পর্কিত

পরিচালন, সংরক্ষণ ও বাণিজ্যিক পরিচালন সংক্রান্ত সকল কার্যক্রম

ঢাকা ইলেকট্রিক সাপ্লাই কোম্পানী লিঃ (ডেসকো) এর নিকট ডেসা

কর্তৃক হস্তান্তরিত হয়েছে। বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ কর্তৃপক্ষ (ডেসা) এর অধীন

পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, মিরপুর এবং বাণিজ্যিক পরিচালন বিভাগ,

মিরপুরে কর্মরত ডেসার সকল স্তরের কর্মকর্তা-শ্রমিক-কর্মচারীকে ২৫-

৯-৯৮ইং তারিখে মিরপুর এলাকা হতে প্রত্যাহার করা হয়েছে।

এমতাবস্থায় ২৫-৯-৯৮ইং তারিখ হতে মিরপুর এলাকার সম্মানিত

বিদ্যুৎ গ্রাহকদের সাথে বিদ্যুৎ সম্পর্কিত বিষয়ে ডেসার কোন সংশ্লিষ্টতা

নেই। ঢাকা বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ কর্তুপক্ষের কর্মকর্তা-শ্রমিক-কর্মচারীরা মিরপুর

এলাকায় বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহে বিঘু সৃষ্টি করছে এবং ডেসকোর কার্যক্রমে

বাধা প্রদান করছে - এই মর্মে কিছু সংখ্যক দৈনিক পত্রিকায় যে সংবাদ

প্রকাশিত হয়েছে তা সঠিক নহে। বিষয়টি মিরপুর এলাকার সম্মানিত

বিদ্যুৎগ্রাহকদের অবগতির জন্য প্রকাশ করা হলো এবং মিরপুর এলাকার

বিদ্যুৎ সংক্রান্ত সমস্যা সমাধানের জন্য ঢাকা ইলেকট্রিক সাপ্লাই কোম্পানী

লিঃ অর্থাৎ ডেসকোর সাথে যোগাযোগ করতে পুনরায় সম্মানিত বিদ্যুৎ

গ্রাহকদের অনুরোধ করা হলো।

बिडि-१४२

20 injured in Ctg clash

The clash followed explosion of a cracker near a mosque at Cement Crossing at 5.30 pm while the Hindu devotees carrying the image of Durga for immersion at Patenga, police and witnesses said. Some vehicles were damage

during the clash, police said.

UNB adds: A group of young-sters damaged the Durga puja mandap at Taltala, Rupsa, late

official who visited the spot immediately after the incident Police went into prompt ac-tion and arrested Palash Kumar Pal, one of the eight accused named in the FIR lodged by the Taltala Sarbojanin Puja Man-

Sunamganj suspended

Official sources said that, the pipeline under two feet ground burst due to unknown reasons.

A team of technicians and engineers from the Jalalabad Gas. Sylhet reached the spot and now trying to repair the leakage, the sources added.

The cause of the trouble could not be ascertained immediately. However, the Jalalabad Gas

supply may be resumed within a day or two.

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Oct 1: At least 20 persons, including six police personnel were injured during a clash between mob and some Hindu devotees in Cement Crossing area near the post this

The situation came under control with the intervention of police.

Wednesday night. "It was a sequel to internal

conflict", said a senior police

dap, in connection with the in-

cident. Gas supply to

From Staff Correspondent SYLHET. Oct 1: Gas supply to the Sunamganj district remained suspended after detection of a leakage on the gas pipeline at Mainpur on the Sylhet-Sunamganj section since early today.

officials expected that the gas

/-party demands

From Page 1 The opposition leaders felt that arrest of three leaders is a clear manifestation of political persecution.

The meeting was critical of the government for "failing to tackle the flood situation. mismanagement and politicising relief distribution and misappropriation of relief goods".

It held the ruling party terrorists responsible for incidents of rape on Jahangirnagar University and demanded punishment to the culprits identified by the University syndi-

Shamsul Islam and Anwar Zahid of BNP, Mohammed Kamaruzzaman and Abdul Kader Mollah of Jamaat-e-Islami, Mainuddin Bhuiyan and Shamim Al Mamun of JP (ZM) Shafiul Alam Prodhan and Anisur Rahman of JAGPA, Nurul Huq Majumder and Abdul Mobin of NDA, Sheikh Sawkat Hossain Nilu of PNP and Mirajul Islam Abbas of DL were present in the meeting.

The immersion of the image of the goddess Durga on Bijaya Dashami yesterday marked the end of a five-day festival of the Hindu community. Star photo

What Clinton had told Hillary

WASHINGTON, Oct 1: When the Monica Lewinsky scandal broke in January. President Bill Clinton told his wife he was counseling a troubled young woman, and she believed him, the Los Angeles Times said today, reports AFP

Quoting friends of the Clintons' and the testimony of a presidential assistant that will be made public later this week. the daily said all the sources agreed that Hillary Clinton really believed her husband's ver sion of his relationship with the former White House trainee.

"He lied to her," one of the unidentified friends said. "He told her a whopper and she be-

While it was assumed that Clinton had lied to the First Lady after he admitted on television last month that he had misled his wife, the initial explanation he gave her of "ministering to a troubled young person," only became known this week in a leaked account of a Grand Jury testimony, the daily

 Republican lawmakers said that presidential assistant Sidnev Blumenthal made the revelation when he recalled Hillary Clinton's account before Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's Grand Jury probing the Lewinsky affair.

Blumenthal's attorney and a spokeswoman for the First Lady both declined to comment on the reports of Blumenthal's testimony, the daily said.

NDMU

From Page

The NDMU was formed recently with Prof Rehman Sobhan as its convenor Other members of the organisation include Prof Mohammed Yunus, Managing Director. Grameen Bank, Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed, Prof Jamilur Chowdhury, Prof Wahiduddin Mahmud, former finance ministers AMA Muhith and M Saeduzzaman, Editor of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam, Editor of the Prothom Alo. Matiur Rahman, Khushi Kabir of Nijera Kori, Prof Ainun Nishat of BUET, Debopriya Bhattacharya of BIDS, Dr Binayak Sen of BIDS and FH Abed

Bijoya Dashami observed Durga Puja, the biggest reli

gious festival of the Hindu community in the country. ended yesterday with the observance of "Bijoya Dashami" and subsequent immersion of the images of deity Durga, reports

The immersion of the images was done by the Ramkr ishna Mission, but in other places it will take place today. Many considered Thursday as gurudin, and hence immersion is prohibited. The five-day festival began with the observance of Mahalaya on September 26. In the city, a large number of

devotes crowded the Puja man daps to have their last glimpses of the images of the Durga before immersion in the River Buriganga Before the immersion, a big

rally was held at Dhakeshwari Mandir and a procession was brought out in the city.

PM's directive

From Page 1 sons and destitute women of those areas while allotting the

Work on progress and development of the canals adjacent to the Sonargaon Hotel in the city was also discussed at the meeting.

She directed the officials to restore the canal behind the hotel up to the Balu River via Rampura. She called for utilising the raised lands on both sides of the canal. Sheikh Hasina asked the of-

ficials to properly maintain the lake from Rampura to Gulshan.

8 CB staff From Page 1

education board people, had is sued forged registration numbers in favour of 38 SSC candidates in 1993 and allowed them to sit for the examinations.

The board authorities had refrained from issuing numbersheets of the examinees. But, later, these were released somehow by giving "speed money" of Tk 75 thousand, the allegations The District Bureau of Anti-

Corruption had filed a case with Kotwali police in this connection of December 11, 1994. After the allegations were primarily found to be valid. permission from the Prime Minister's Secretariat was

sought for judicial action. Guns and goons glow

From Page 1 armed terrorists on receiving the report by the sources," he

The officer-in-charge of Siddhirganj thana, Saiful Islam, added the planned raid might take place in the next two or three days. He also admitted hearing the "sound of brushfire" during Monday's clashes

but could not confirm whether

it came from an AK-47 rifle or

any other gun.

A Jatiya Party-backed labour leader, Delwar Hossain, confided to The Daily Star that his supporters used homemade arms like "pipegun" during Monday's armed clashes. He claimed not to have had any sophisticated guns as possessed by his rivals in the ruling Swami League. "We had to use those for defence against our rivals".

his men. Rehan said: "Even my father didn't ever see any such rifle, not to speak of myself." He also requested not to write anything on the issue for "the sake of national interest."

A Daily Star investigation found that one AK-47 rifle was first brought in the AJM some seven or eight months ago by a pro-ruling party worker. It was bought from someone at Siddheswari in the capital at a cost of Tk 1,30,000. A labour leader's son first

tested the rifle some five

months back. It is now hidden

The investigation further reveals that the JP-backed workers possess Chinese rifles and used those on Monday. For the innocent workers, however, these guns do not make any sense.

"terrible" situation that has lengthened its shadow on the mills that employ some 26,000 workers. Innocent mill workers like Zahurul Islam and Shekor Ali Prodhan were found afraid of

commenting about the armed terrorists. Approached by The Daily Star. Zahurul simply said, "Please, don't ask us anything about them. We want to continue working and earn money to live with out fami-His fellow-worker. Shekor nodded his head in supment in June, 1996.

'Just to see if they are

According to Shaheda Obaid, wife of BNP standing committee member Obaidur Rahman, she and Dr. Sufia Begum, wife of Nurul Islam Manjur, went to the CID office to have ECG tests of their respective husbands at 4:45 pm.

outside the main gate of the CID office. The security guards even refused to open the gate," Sha-heda Obaid said adding that they had with them a portable

ASP Abdul Kahhar Akand, the investigating officer of the case. over a mobile telephone. cians of both the leaders feel it important to have cardiogram tests, we requested Mr. Akand to conduct the ECG. But he did not respond to the request."

The ladies also told him that the CID could do the test themselves with the help of the ma chine and the technician they had brought there. They told the CID official that what they needed was "just to see that two, both heart patients, are all

to SSP Abdul Hannan who is supervising the case, she said. When contacted over telephone. Akand also refused to conduct the ECG. He claimed that the accused had no physical problems at the time," said

However, a senior police officer told the Daily Star that it was the jurisdiction of the investigation officer of a case to

accused while on remand. doctor would hamper the invessuch proposals of the relatives. the police officer said.

But if the relatives have a court order asking the police to accept outside doctors, the police is legally obliged to do so

From Page 1 population control policies combined with effective envi-

Without international cooperation, the researchers predicted "disease prevalence will continue its rapid rise throughout the world and will diminish the quality of life for all humans.

for Disease Control, they concluded Each year air pollutants adversely affect the health of 4-5 billion people and the trend looks likely to worsen with the

of population growth. The snail borne disease schistosomiasis cause an estimated 1 million deaths annually and is expanding its range as human activities provide more suitable habitats in contaminated fresh water.

 Smoke from indoor cooking fires that burn wood and dung is estimated to kill 4 million children each year.

worldwide each year mostly among infants and young children in developing countries.

Judicial body

From Page 1

commission he said. "It was not our responsibility to ask the ministry about it. Rather it was the ministry which should have made arrangement for the sitting of the commission and in-

The other member of the commission was late Justice Syed Mohammad Hussain, he "The gazette notification on

formation of the commission was signed by Khandaker Mushtaque Ahmed," he said in reply to a question.

Jail killings

From Page 1 Official sources said the three politicians were interrogated thrice yesterday, the second day of their four-day re-

ministers in the cabinet of Bangabandhu. They later joined the government of Khandker Mushtaq Ahmed, in-stalled following the military putsch on August 15, 1975. The investigators would

the sources said. Investigation into the killing of four national leaders - Syed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmed, Capt. Mansur Ali and A H M Qamruzzaman - was revived by the present govern-

Schroeder starts talks towards coalition

BONN, Oct 1: Chancellorelect Gerhard Schroeder opened preliminary talks with Greens party leaders Thursday on forming a new German gov-

ernment, reports AP. Schroeder, a Social Democrat, has said he wants to move swiftly to set up a coalition after defeating Chancellor Helmut Kohl in elections Sunday and returning the left to power in Germany after 16 years. The talks, however, were ex-

pected to be difficult as the future coalition partners hammer out ideological differences on such central policy questions as defense, energy and transporta-"Getting clarity on the issues is more important than speed,"

said Rudolf Scharping. Schroeder's consultant on foreign affairs and possibly the next defense minister, as he headed into the talks. Greens' leaders did not comment as they headed into the meeting, held over lunch in

Formal coalition talks open Friday, but leaders of both parties wanted to discuss the agenda and timetable on Thursday, sources on both sides

the offices for Saarland state in

The mainstream Social Democrats and the small. sometimes radical Greens share

5 officers of Ctg Customs House suspended From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 1: Five customs officers have been put under suspension at the Chittagong Customs House on charge of alleged negligence in duty in checking the cases of tax evasion by some importers, customs sources said today. Three of them were sus-

pended two days ago and two others one month ago, the sources said. They were of the ranks of principal appraisor and appraisor. The steps were taken as a section of importers indulged in

tax evasion by making false

declaration in collusion with

some customs officers, the

a range of goals, such as fighting unemployment, cutting taxes and granting dual citizenship to long-time foreign resi-

But Greens positions on foreign and defense policy - disbanding NATO, limiting foreign missions of German soldiers and cutting troop strength promise tough negotiations. Party officials say the aim is to have a new government con-

firmed within three weeks so Schroeder can attend an Oct. 24-25 summit of European leaders in Austria. Social Democratic party chairman Oskar Lafontaine met earlier with outgoing Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkele

handover of one of the key min-

istries from the outgoing center-

right government.

Clinton to visit Japan, ROK in Nov

WASHINGTON, Oct 1: President Bill Clinton will visit Japan and South Korea in November instead of India and Pakistan, senior administration officials said on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

White House spokesman Mike McCurry officially confirmed that Clinton would not proceed with tentative plans to visit India and Pakistan because of their decision in May to conduct underground nuclear Officials said Tokyo and

ton's trip, which will be based around the Nov 17-18 meeting in Malaysia of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum. "We have important issues to discuss with both allies," one official said in explaining why

Seoul would be added to Clin-

the two countries were added to Clinton's itinerary. The officials acknowledged that the visits would help ease displeasure among officials in Japan and South Korea over the fact that Clinton made a nine-, day visit to China during the summer without stopping in

their countries. According to one official, Clinton hoped to be able to go to India and Pakistan "at some point in 1999."

Petrobangla-Cairn

From Page 1

ber of days traded.

sources said

logical," one source said. To find out three months' average price of HSFO in Singapore. Cairn took the total trading price of three months and averaged it with the total num-

Petrobangla, on the other hand, observed that the number of days HSFO traded in one month was different from another month. Therefore, it averaged the HSFO price on monthly basis first and then took three months' average to make the final calculation. "This way, the HSFO price goes a bit down," said the source.

Meanwhile. Petrobangla has turned down a work programme of Cairn for drilling an exploratory wells in offshore Gilachhari and another well in Sangu-2 on the ground that both the proposed drilling sites were situated in high risk zone. "It means that if Cairn does

not strike gas in these zones, the costs of these ventures would be recovered from the Sangu-1 field in such a situation. Petrobangla finds no rationale behind approving these work programmes as these are high risk ventures," said a source.

Disagreement between Cairn and Petrobangla also widened over Cairn's "frustrating" operations in Sonadia and Halda. sources in Petrobangla said.

In Sonadia, Cairn suspended drilling at a depth of around

3800 metres, exhausting the approved budget. The target of drilling was 4500 metres. But as there was no positive sign of hitting a gas reserve, Cairn stopped its operation there. Some 9 million dollars had al-

ready been spent here. In Halda, Cairn had to suspend its operations when it faced an unexpected sub-soil pressure zone. But Petrobangla thinks it had to stop the operation because Cairn was using an

inappropriate rig. Cairn's high officials are now in the city to resolve these issues with the government, Cairn sources said.

Food pilferage

From Page 1 Meanwhile, following press reports on food pilferage in the last few days, some officers from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) were asked to make "unannounced visits" to different unions for on-the-spot in-

spections. Sources say it is being emphasised that officials visit the places that are not easily accessible, perceived to be more vulnerable to pilferage.

The prime minister is also learnt to have taken note of the point and has asked officials to ensure proper monitoring and punitive action against those found guilty.

ঢাকা ওয়াসার জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সম্মানিত গ্রাহক সাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বিদ্যুৎ বিভ্রাটের কারণে মিরপুর এলাকায় ঢাকা ওয়াসার উল্লেখযোগ্য সংখ্যক গভীর নলকৃপ বন্ধ আছে। ফলে মিরপুর ও পল্লবী থানার অধীনে বেশ কিছু এলাকায় পানির সংকট দেখা দিয়েছে। মারাত্মক সংকট এলাকায় গাড়ির সাহায্যে ঢাকা ওয়াসার পানি সরবরাহের প্রচেষ্টা অব্যাহত রয়েছে। বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ ব্যবস্থা স্বাভাবিক হওয়ার সাথে সাথে উক্ত এলাকায় পানি সরবরাহ ব্যবস্থাও স্বাভাবিক হয়ে আসবে। সাময়িক এ অনাকাঙ্খিত পরিস্থিতির জন্য ঢাকা ওয়াসা সম্মানিত গ্রাহক সাধারণের কাছে আন্তরিকভাবে দুঃখ প্রকাশ করছে।



জিডি-৭৯৭

ওয়াসা-জঃতঃ ২৭৭/৯৮।

ঢাকা ওয়াসা

Hossain did not know what at a residence in Sumilpara, adan AK-47 rifle looks like but dejacent to the AJM. Moves are scribed one gun allegedly used also on to bring in more such

ঢাকা বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ কর্তৃপক্ষ

সময়মত বিদ্যুৎ বিল পরিশোধ করুন

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of the BRAC.

by a pro-AL worker. "I saw brush-firing with that gun." AL-backed CBA leader Rehanuddin Rehan admitted that both sides used firearms in Monday's clashes. Asked about AK-47 rifles allegedly used by

The panic-stricken 'general workers want to get rid of the

all right'

By Staff Correspondent The CID officials yesterday allegedly refused to carry out ECG tests on two BNP leaders arrested Tuesday in connection with jail killing in 1975.

We spent about two hours

ECG machine and a technician. Shaheda said she contacted

"Informing him that the physi-

Akand advised them to talk

Neither Hannan nor Akand could be reached yesterday despite repeated attempts.

Shaheda Obaid.

'If the 10 concerned feels that treatment by an outside tigation, he is free to refuse any

decide whether he would allow

any outside doctors to treat an

Life on earth

ronmental management programmes, the researchers concluded

data from a variety of sources. including the World Health Organisation and the US Centre

The researchers evaluated

number of automobiles growing three times faster than the rate

· Lack of sanitary conditions contributes to 4 million deaths

thing about the business of the form its members about it".

The three accused were state

cross-check the evidence gathered during two years of investigation and probe their political activities in the past years.