

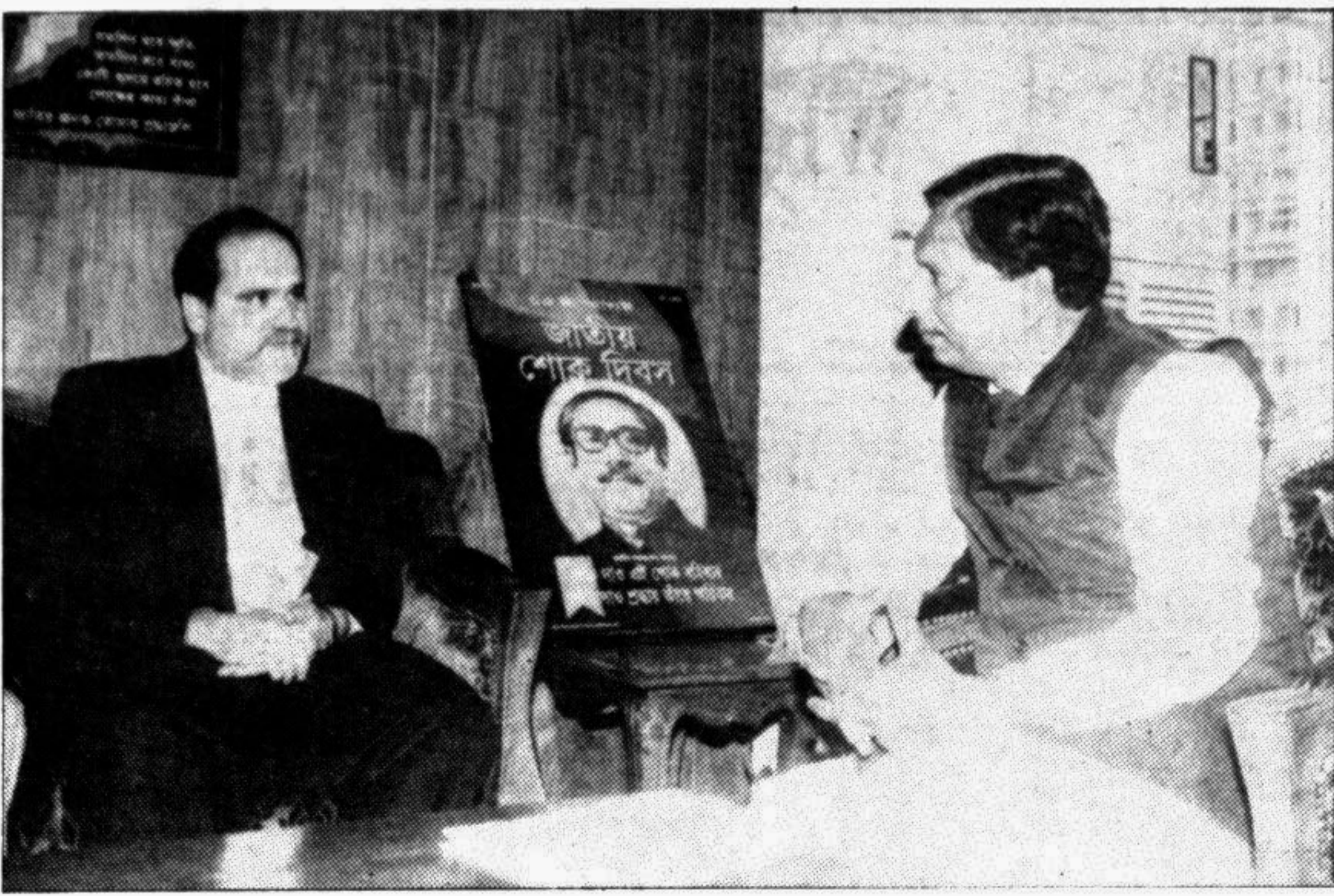
### AIBD director calls on Sayeed

Director of Asia Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) Javad Mottaghi called on State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed at his office yesterday, reports BSS.

During the meeting, the AIBD chief apprised Prof Sayeed of the ministerial-level meeting of the member countries of AIBD to be held in Brunei in next July and the high-level meeting of the broadcasting media in Indonesia February next.

Since Bangladesh is playing a very important role in the policy-making affairs of AIBD, so the country's participation in the upcoming meetings will be very significant, Mottaghi said.

Bangladesh got additional membership of AIBD in 1974 and became full-member in 1997. Subsequently, Bangladesh was elected a member of AIBD executive committee.



Javad Mottaghi, Director of Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development, called on Minister of State for Information Prof Abu Sayeed at his office yesterday. — PID photo

### Reception on Nat'l Day of Spain

By Staff Correspondent

Honorary Consul of Spain Mohammad Jalal Uddin hosted a reception in the city last night on the occasion of National Day of Spain.

Ministers, diplomats, politicians, members of the parliament, high officials and elites attended the reception.

### Khaleda receives more donations

Opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia has received more donations from different organisations and individuals in aid of the flood victims, reports APB.

Eminent social worker and politician of Sylhet Ahaj Tammamul Ali Chowdhury met with the BNP chairperson at her 29 Minto Road office Sunday and handed over a cheque of Tk one lakh and cash Tk 1005 as a personal contribution. BNP leader M Saifur Rahman MP was present at that time.

New York unit of Zia Mancha led by its leaders Abdus Salam, Rezaul Karim Majumder handed over a cheque for Tk 46,090 to Begum Zia for BNP's central relief fund.

Ward no 16 of Cantonment thana BNP also donated Tk 60,000 to BNP's relief fund. Commissioner Qayom Khan and AFM Khaleque handed over the cheque to Begum Zia.

## Red Crescent to expand medicare facilities for flood victims

Red Crescent with international assistance plans to expand medicare facilities in the flood-ravaged districts to combat diarrhoea which took a toll of 18 lives in last 24 hours, reports APB.

The latest deaths till yesterday evening raised the toll to 770 since diarrhoea broke out in the country's flood-hit areas, according to official figures.

Diarrhoea control room of the Health Department said so far 571,863 people had been affected by the water-borne disease, with some 7,637 falling ill in the 24-hour period.

An official of the control room told APB that the situation "is not alarming now and the disease would not turn into epidemic".

The epidemic form is measured when the Case Fatality Rate (CFR) is 1 per cent, the health official said, but the CFR was 0.14 per cent on October 11 and 0.23 per cent on October 12.

To cope with the situation, she said, a total of 4,732 medical teams are working in the diarrhoea-affected areas besides the NGOs.

Meanwhile, Red Crescent is expanding the post-flood relief programme with 40 more medical teams which will start operating this week.

By then, a total of 100 Red Crescent mobile medical teams will be working in the 33 districts worst hit by post-flood diseases, said a press release today (Monday).

The need of medicine and medical care is still enormous in the post-flood period and reports from our medical teams indicate that diarrhoea and other diseases are still spreading," said the Red Crescent release.

### PSI team calls on Mannan

A delegation of Public Service International (PSI) called on Minister for Labour and Employment M A Mannan at his office yesterday, reports BSS.

They exchanged views on matters of bilateral interest.

The delegation included general secretary of PSI Hans Angeltberts, Asia Pacific Regional Secretary Albert H Ponniah, regional representative Jay L Bhan and education coordinator V Laksmi.



M A Samad, Chairman & Managing Director, BGIC, signing an agreement with the Consultant for construction of BGIC's multi-storied building project. On behalf of the Consultant Chowdhury A Moyeen, Director, Development Design Consultants Ltd and Mizanor Rahman Khan, Managing Director, Prasthapan Ltd signed the agreement. Salim Bhuiyan, Saleh Ahmed, Abdus Sattar, F M A B Siddique, and Kalim Sharafi, directors, BGIC and Mosleh Uddin Ahmad, Additional Managing Director & company secretary seen behind.

### FBCCI polls Democratic panel alleges conspiracy

Democratic Panel, contesting for 15 member posts from Chamber Group in the October 15 FBCCI polls, has alleged that certain quarter is conspiring to destroy the democratic process of the supreme body of the country's business community, reports UNB.

They have also created confusion by announcing themselves as elected under the consensus panel. It's a deep-rooted conspiracy," said Democratic Panel convenor Momtaz Uddin, who is also vying for a member post.

Addressing a press conference at Jatya Press Club yesterday, he said: We have no personal rivalry with the candidates of 'consensus panel', but we totally oppose the way they have announced themselves as elected on a consensus basis.

He also alleged that 'unfair' process had been taken in announcing some candidates as elected after FBCCI president failed to reach a consensus. It's a farce that some people have announced themselves as elected," Momtaz said.

The Boga chamber leader also outlined the election pledges of his panel and said they are contesting for upholding the democratic values of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI).

He urged all concerned to refrain from hatching conspiracy designed to destroy the democratic process of the FBCCI. "Investment, especially from abroad, will seriously be hampered if democratic process is destroyed," he warned.

Replying to a query, he said Democratic Panel has no Vice President candidate. This year the VP and 15 members will be elected from chamber group while 15 other members and the president from the association group.

Following is the full list of candidates of Democratic Panel for 15 member posts: Momtaz Uddin, Faizul Hoque Khan, Alhaj Aizal Hossain, M Ramizuddin, Fakir, Mohammad Ali Sarkar, M Golam Mostafa, M Rezaul Malik, Nurul Hoque Chowdhury, Dewan Sulthan Ahmed, Nitya Gopal Deb Nath, M Delwar Hossain, Alhaj Din Ali, M Anisur Rahman, Abul Kashem Ahmed and former MP Alhaj Abul Hossain.

## Norway's assistance to continue

Norway would continue to provide all-out assistance to Bangladesh and assured that the quantum of aid would not alter much despite global trend of economic recession, reports BSS.

Tanja Storm, deputy secretary general of Norwegian ministry of foreign affairs who is leading a five-member delegation, during a meeting with foreign ministry officials in the city said the Oslo's annual aid size to Bangladesh will be more or less the same in future, foreign office sources said. Norway annually gives grant of 150 million Norwegian kroner, roughly 25 million US dollars to Bangladesh.

Bangladesh is the fourth largest recipient of Norwegian assistance.

The whole gamut of bilateral relations came up for discussion during the meeting which lasted for more than two hours. Political, regional and multi-lateral issues also came up for discussion.

The leader of the Norwegian delegation assured that Bangladesh would continue to be one of the most priority countries in Oslo's list of recipients of assistance. The visitors hinted at broadening their relations with Bangladesh.

During the talks Bangladesh sought Norwegian technical assistance in hydrocarbon exploration and training of law enforcement personnel. They agreed to assist in both the cases.

Norway, with whom Bangladesh has favourable balance of payment, agreed to expand trade relations and offered to assist in holding Bangladesh exhibition in Norway. The country has made investment in telecom and cement sectors and agreed to invest more in future.

The delegation which arrived here Saturday, is scheduled to visit a non-formal education project aided by Norway at Dhamrai today. They will hold a meeting with UNDP tomorrow.

Inspection of goods in the neighbourhood of Tk 13,480 and in case of cement Tk 8,960, they said. Carrying these goods from Nowapara by barge involves additional costs.

Railway sources told APB that transportation of goods by train from Darshana to Ibrahimabad would cost altogether Tk 19,425 per wagon.

The Railway authorities would arrange despatch of goods to different destinations across the country, including Dhaka, from Ibrahimabad.

Godowns will be constructed at Ibrahimabad to facilitate the entire operation.

The Director (Traffic) of Bangladesh Railway said that importers had already begun to show interest in the new rail traffic plans and that freight trains had been kept ready for this.

## Donations for flood victims continue

Donations in cash and kind from friendly countries, private organisations and Bangladeshi expatriates abroad continue to pour for the flood victims, reports BSS.

Bangladeshis living in Switzerland, Germany, Dubai and Oman have sent cash, and relief goods including blankets, clothes, biscuits, medicines and edible oil.

Ahala Medical Group of Abu Dhabi has donated fifty boxes of medicines and Solidaros, a Spanish NGO, has sent 12 kg of medicines, while Tan Ching Khoo, a Singapore national, donated 22 cartons of baby food.

Khulna city Mahila Awami League yesterday gave Tk 50 thousand to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

Prof Hosne Ara Runu, president, and Mutfunnessa Lutfi, general secretary, handed over the money to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office yesterday.

UNB adds: Bangladesh expatriates living in Germany have donated Tk 1.5 lakh to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

NETZ, a German NGO, has donated Tk 21,66,600 for relief and rehabilitation projects.

Meanwhile, a series of cultural functions is being arranged in German cities, including Cologne, Hamburg and Bonn, to raise funds for the flood victims.

Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF), an organ of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, has donated US dollar 150,000 to Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BRCS) for assisting the flood victims.

Ambassador Nasser Abdullah Hamdan Al Za'abi, Chairman of the Jeddah-based Permanent Council of ISF, handed over the cheque to the BRCS Chairman Maj Gen Abdus Salam on Sunday, said a press release yesterday.

Dhaka Medical College Teachers' Association and Community Development Services (CDS), provided medical services to flood victims at Sreenagar, Munshiganj on Saturday, says a press release.

Prof Abdul Kader Khan, president of the Association, and Dr Nilufer Karim, general secretary of CDS, supervised the activity.

### CCC employee killed in road accident

CHITTAGONG, Oct 12: Bimal Adhikari, an employee of the Chittagong City Corporation, was killed and his co-passenger injured critically when a speeding truck hit their rickshaw in front of Chittagong Shopping Complex here this afternoon, reports BSS.

The victim Adhikari who sustained head injury was rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead. The other passenger Sabur is undergoing treatment at the hospital, the sources said.

Chittagong City Mayor A B M Mahiuddin Chowdhury expressed his deep sorrow at the tragic death of Adhikari, the employee of Power Development Department of the corporation.



Electra International opened a sales centre-cum-showroom at the Khulna City's KDA Avenue (Gobor Chaka) recently for marketing Samsung electronics products. A milad mahfil was arranged on the occasion.

### BWDB officer retired on charge of corruption

An officer of Bangladesh Water Development Board has been retired on charges of corruption, official sources said, reports BSS.

Abdul Malek Khan, Sub-Divisional Engineer, Design Circle, south eastern zone of the Board, has been put under forced retirement recently when charges of corruption against him was proved.

The official laundered money by forging signature of three persons while he was posted at the Directorate of Training and Staff Development, sources added.



Students of Marie Curie School arranged a "Fund Raising Day" on the school premises in Dhanmondi on Saturday in aid of the flood victims. Clay pots, gift cards, jute products, masks and paper birds were on display for sale. The teachers also donated their one day's salary for the flood victims.

### Two killed in Kushtia

KUSHTIA, Oct 12: Two people were killed in separate incidents in the district on Sunday and Saturday, reports UNB.

Police said an armed gang abducted Eskander Mia alias Kanu, 35, of village Kuripole in the thana from his house and shot him dead in a field on Sunday night.

Police recovered his body Monday morning and sent it to Kushtia General Hospital for autopsy.

The victim was believed to be a member of an outlawed party.

In the other incident, armed terrorists kidnapped Mozam Ali, 30, son of Tayab Ali of village Swastipur in Sadar thana, and stabbed him to death near Railway Colony on Saturday.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Kushtia General Hospital for autopsy. With this, three people were killed in the district in last five days.

### 2 teenage girls commit suicide in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Oct 12: Two teenage girls allegedly committed suicide and an elderly woman died in snakebite in the divisional town on Saturday, reports APB.

Police said Parveen, 13, committed suicide at a house near GPO by hanging herself with a rope round the neck, while Reena Khatun, 14, of Sahapur killed herself by swallowing poison.

Sabijan, 60, of village Araimuri in Bagmara thana died of snakebite.

Three UD cases were filed with the concerned police stations.

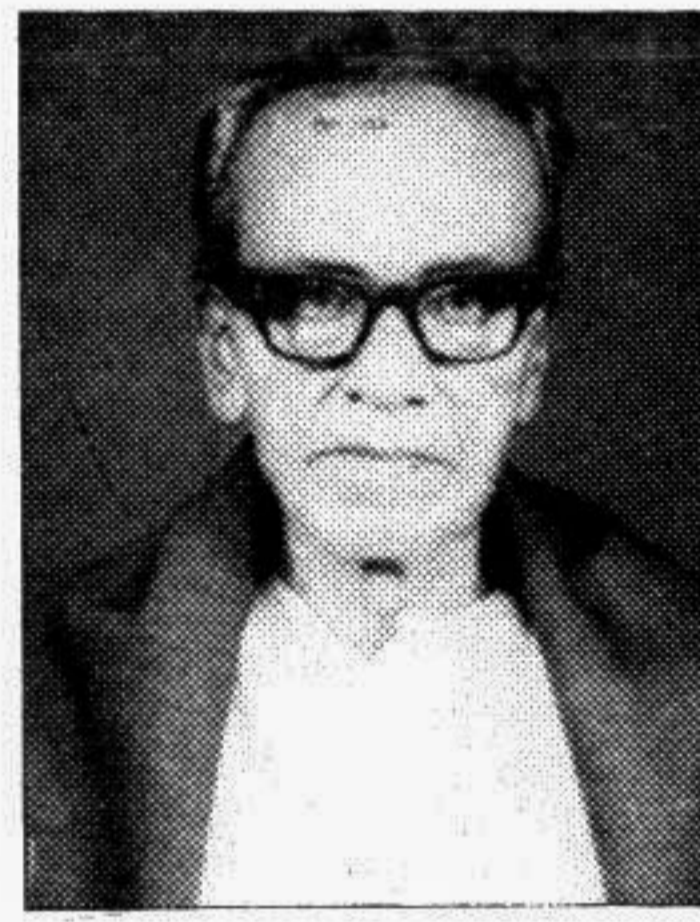
### 2 minor boys drown in Gazipur

GAZIPUR, Oct 12: Two minor boys drowned in a pond at Sabujbagh village in Sreepur thana today, reports UNB.

Villagers said the boys — Murad, 5 and Sumon, 4 — drowned in the pond while they were playing there.

In another incident, one Jobed Ali, 40, allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself from a tree at Kewa village in the thana following a family feud.

Police recovered the body and sent it to hospital morgue for autopsy. A UD case was filed.



Mukundalal Sarkar's death anniversary today

The 19th death anniversary of Mukundalal Sarkar, a prominent leader of the anti-British Movement, will be observed today, says a press release.

Sarkar was born in 1909 at Dharmarayer Bari village in Gopalganj district.

During his long political career, Sarkar helped to create a strong resistance against the British imperialist forces and actively participated in the movement against zamindari system.

Later as a member of Awami League, Sarkar participated in the democratic movements, particularly in the mass upsurge of 1969, and was arrested during the War of Liberation in 1971.

Special prayers will be held at 5 pm today at 170 Free School Street residence of his son Manindra Nath Sarkar.

### Passing out parade held

RAJSHAHI, Oct 12: The passing out parade of cadet sub-inspector of police was held at Sardah Police Parade Ground here today, reports BSS.

Inspector General of Police (IGP) A Y B I Siddiqui attended the function as chief guest and took the salute of the parade.

A total of 171 cadet sub-inspector of police participated in the march past. Mollah Munir Hossain was awarded President medal as the best cadet sub-inspector of police on the occasion.

Inspector General of Police asked the police personnel to discharge their duties honestly and sincerely with the objective to uphold the image of police force in the society.

He recalled the glorious role played by police force during the Liberation War of Bangladesh at the call of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and advised them to work for the total welfare of the people.

### Mannan's call to prepare for mass movement

BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan has called upon the party leaders, workers and supporters to prepare for a mass movement to save the nation from the clutches of the 'corrupt government', reports UNB.

There is no alternative to mass movement to oust the corrupt government which has failed to mitigate the sufferings of the flood affected people, Bhuiyan told a joint meeting of BNP and its front organisations yesterday.

The meeting at the BNP central office was attended by joint secretary general convenor and joint convenor of the city BNP and presidents and general secretaries of front organisations.

Bhuiyan said falling in all spheres, the government has resorted to political persecution and annihilate the opposition.

The government must stop persecution, Mannan said and asked the party activists and leaders to prepare for the movement.

### Cleanliness drive in city

Post and Telecommunications and Housing Minister Mohammad Nasim and State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Bir Bikram yesterday jointly launched a cleanliness drive in Borobagh and Manipuripara area in Mirpur in the city, reports BSS.

The cleanliness drive is organised by ward committee of ward number 13 of Awami League.

Addressing a spontaneous gathering on the occasion, Mohammad Nasim said cleanliness is a part of religion. He said every citizen of the capital should keep their houseyard and adjoining areas clean to ensure decent and healthy environment.

Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya said a clean environment can ensure healthy life he urged all to extend possible support to the scavenging service of Dhaka Municipal Corporation.

Local Awami League leaders Abdul Hoq, Shamsuddin Mollah, Kamal Mastur and Abul Hossain were present on the occasion.

### Obituary

Md Abdur Rouf, former deputy managing director of Biman Bangladesh Airlines, died of cancer Friday in the city. He was 68, says a press release.

Abdur Rouf joined the PIA in 1955 and served under different capacities in Biman till his retirement in 1987.

He left behind his wife and two daughters.

CHITTAGONG, Oct 12: Mohammad Mamunur-Rashid, an HSC student, died of cancer at a city clinic last night. He was 18, reports BSS.

Mamun was the son of Prof Harun-ur-Rashid of the department of finance, Chittagong University, a CU press release said.

His namaz-e-janaza was held at the central mosque of the university today.

A large number of teachers, students, officers and staff including Vice-Chancellor of the University Prof Abdul Mannan attended.

Meanwhile, Prof Abdul Mannan and Dr Abu Yusuf Alam, Vice-Chancellor and pro-Vice Chancellor respectively, expressed profound sorrow at Mamun-ur-Rashid's death.

## HERE and THERE

### Bangladesh Railway

The Safety Week of Bangladesh Railway (BR) began in the city yesterday as elsewhere across the country, reports BSS.

BR officials said six task forces in the western zone and four task forces in eastern zone will continuously monitor "safety and schedules" as well as passengers' needs.

All passengers have been requested to report any travel hazard or any specific need to the officials of the task force during the week.

The task forces will also evaluate the state of safety of movements of the trains and sustainability of the repaired tracks which were damaged during the recent floods.

General Manager of the western zone M Farhad Reza inaugurated the safety week programmes at Rajshahi Railway Station while additional general manager of the eastern zone Aftabuddin Ahmed launched the week's activities at Chittagong railway station.

### BCS-Batch 15

Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS-Batch 15) officers forum reviewed different activities of

### BGMEA concerned at rise of godown charges

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has expressed concern over the rise of godown charges in cargo terminal by Biman authorities, reports UNB.

BGMEA president Mostafa Golam Quddus in a statement yesterday said the unilateral decision of the authorities to raise godown charges by 80 per cent is unfortunate and it will affect the import of fabrics and garment accessories.

He said the authorities' decision came at a time when the industry is passing through a critical time following the country's devastating flood.



A wooden bridge at Manikdi village in Demra thana was badly damaged by flood waters recently. Now boats have become the sole mode of transport for the villagers as the bridge was their only link to Demra. — Star photo