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# Immigration procedures for wage earners simplified

Bangladeshis with foreign employment on single entry visas can now go abroad without help of any recruiting agencies or middlemen, reports

They won't also have to pay any service charge if they themselves are able to get all the formalities done, said an official announcement yesterday.

ment has taken a number of decisions simplifying the immi-gration procedures for the wageearners to spare them from 'harassment and cheating.'

As per the decisions, an overseas recruit can complete the formalities himself through the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET) at Kakrail in the city.

tion, travel agency or individual without recruiting licence can help anyone seeking employment abroad," said the announcement

Because, in that case, the authorities have to face various complexity in taking legal actions against the frauds.

From Page 1

"Are all the drug addicts,

muggers and pickpockets belong

to the BNP? Is today's hartal

called for them? If BNP fights

for the criminals, then how can

we succeed in freeing the society

from drug addiction and other

criminal activities?" asked

Hasina, also President of

leader to give up "dirty" poli-

her party observed while in the

opposition, the AL chief

claimed those were for restora-

tion of people's rights to vote

The Leader of the House in

Reacting to a recent com-

Parliament also requested the

opposition leader to raise her

voice on the floor of the House

ment by the BNP chief who

called the Hasina's government

an "uncivilised" one, the PM

said: "It pains me to see her

rumble after being ousted from

power for vote-theft. I wonder

how the leader of a party calls

another party uncivilised and

on whatever issues she liked.

She advised the opposition

Trying to justify the hartals

Awami League.

and food

vindictive?

claiming him as its activist.

tificate (NOC) on submission of valid visa and other necessary documents to the Registrar of Emigrants in person.

The overseas appointees can, of course, take help of bonafide recruiting agents approved by the government.

In that case, every worker has to enter an agreement with the concerned agency stipulat-ing the declared wages, terms and conditions of service, the expected service charge for its assistance and also its responsibilities in this regard in the

The assigned recruiting agency, after verifying the visa and appointment letter of the worker, will issue certificate and apply for immigration clearance with other necessary papers.

A recruiting agency can take a maximum of Tk 3,500 as service charge for visas attested by the concerned embassies and of Tk 5,000 for unattested visas for those countries, including Saudi Arabia, for which the agency does not have to appoint any staff, or make any initiative or investment for collecting visa but only to ensure the

For other countries which issue visa or entry pass for workers, a recruiting agency can take maximum service charge of Tk 2,500 for a visa attested by the mission concerned

visa or entry permit. In all cases, the agency has to pay source income tax as fixed by the government on the service charges.

and Tk 4,000 for unendorsed

From now on, the workers appointed through the recruiting agencies will have to deposit Tk 200 instead of Tk 100 with the Wage Earners Welfare Fund. The charge for single immi-

gration-clearance letter at-

tested by the embassy has been

refixed at Tk 400 against the present rate of Tk 300. If any applicant seeks clearance letter in person at the Registrar of Emigrants, he has to pay Tk 1000 for visa attested by embassy and Tk 1,500 for unat-

Welfare Fund. In case of single NOC for an unattested visa, the contribution to the Wage Earners Welfare Fund has been raised to Tk 1000 from present Tk 900.

tested one to the Wage Earners

BNP Chairperson Begum confidence in the government by making the hartal across the country a success, reports UNB.

In a statement yesterday she said the people have manifested their anger against the government for the killing and implicating opposition leaders and workers in false cases.

arresting the opponents and letting loose terrorists for killing", she said. Begum Zia said the govern-

ment has exposed its fascist character by taking the path of killing, arrest and repression. She was critical of police atrocities' during the hartal.

The former prime minister said police and Awami terrorists jointly launched attack on the procession of BNP brought out in favour of hartal that left more than 50 people injured, including Sadek Hossain Khoka MP and Amanullah Aman MP.

She condemned the arrest of opposition leaders including NDA chairman Nurul Haq Mazumder, BNP leader Anwar Zahid and JAGPA leader Shafiul Alam Pradhan and killing Jubo Dal leader Azam

Khan in Chittagong.
The BNP chief demanded immediate release of all opposition leaders and workers.

president and general secretary of ruling party's student wing Bangladesh Chhatra League, reports UNB.

The new committee was announced after the council session of the organisation yesterday, BCL outgoing general secretary Ishak Ali Khan Panna told the news agency.

# Dist admin

the requisition from the DC's office and the process of releasing these magistrates would begin in a day or two." In the first phase, around 10

officials would be released from the DCC to return to the district administration, the official

# Sonali Bank

Sonali Finance Company and all its six branches in Britain will act as its subsidiaries. However, the BOE has im-

posed a number of conditions on SB about the functions of the new company. The

dividuals. It can only do business with the government or corporate

bodies. Sonali has two offices in London including the head office. The rest are in Lutton, Manchester, Birmingham and

The bank's operation in the UK faced closure following mismanagement of is opera-tions. It has 59 million pound sterling in deposits and 3.3 million pound sterling in advances. About 80 per cent of the advances amounting to 2.7 mil-

lion pound sterling is classified. According to sources, only one company -- Bengal Liners -account for half the default amount of the bank which comes to about Tk 11 crore.



The battle ground near Nawab Yusuf Market in the city yesterday.

-Star photo

At Pachuria near Rajbari, a

local train was detained from

8:50 am to 10:00 am by the

Narayanganj

licemen were injured when a

passenger bus came under bomb

attack at Dapa Idrakpur under

of 25-30 youngmen attacked a

Dhaka-bound minibus on the

Dhaka-Narayanganj road at

around 11:30 am. Eight were

from the spot. One Giasuddin

was admitted to the Narayan-

ganj Hospital in a critical con-

duty around the spot. Havilder

Hasibuddin, 45, and constable

Adbur Razzak were injured in

In other parts:

Chittagong, Kushtia, Gopalganj,

Netrokona , Khulna, Barisal

districts reported that the har-

tal passed off by and large

shops, schools, government and

non-government offices re-

mained closed during the hartal

hours. Pro and anti-hartal pro-

cessions were brought out in the

tivists left 50 people including

seven policemen injured at

Clashes between rival ac-

Nine of the injured including

BNP labour leader Alam (40)

and AL activist Rabiul sus-

tained bullet injuries. Their

condition were stated to be crit-

Police version

From Page

of law and order in the capital

with bombs and brickbats, in-

juring four constables, it added.

ously injured when the pick-

eters hurled bombs in a

minibus on its way from Gulis-

tan to Mirpur, the press release

tary of Jubo League, Tongi Unit,

Abul Basher, president of

Unit and Nurunnabi Shaon, Or-

Awami League, Ramna Thana

ganising secretary of Jubo League Dhaka City (South) were

also injured by the pro-hartal

Others who also received in-

juries due to bomb attacks by

the pro-hartal activists were

Monwora at Maghbazar, Bagha

Sikder at Royshaheb Bazar

Aftabuddin at Nawabpur Road,

auto-rickshaw passenger Aktar

Hossain, marketing manager of

BJMC Abdul Mannan at Tika-

toli, Jasim at Sidiq Bazar and

Basu at Royshaheb Bazar, the

release said, also damaged a

number of vehicles and rick-

shaws in different parts of the

city. The Dhaka Metropolitan

Police arrested 149 persons on

charges of damaging vehicles

FBCCI body

FBCCI so that it can work for

the welfare of the business

From Page 1

He called upon the govern-

ment to expedite privatisation

of SOEs, reform laws that hin-

der business and industrial

growth, ensure capital for small

and medium enterprises and

remove bureaucratic bottle-

Outgoing president Yussuf Abdullah Harun hoped the pri-

vate sector will maintain its

growth smoothly under the

guidelines of the new leader-

Salman F Rahman also spoke

Power supply

From Page 1

ensure an effective manage-

ment to face any unavoidable circumstances of load shedding

that might be caused due to

the consumers will consider

with sympathy any loadshed-

ding due to additional power

up a one-megawatt gas turbine

power generator at the Banga-

bandhu Stadium for ensuring

uninterrupted power supply in

The minister also hoped that

He also recommended to set

on the occasion.

technical faults.

supply to the stadium.

Former FBCCI president

and bomb blasts, it added.

The unruly pickets, the press

activities, it added.

press release added.

community.

necks.

Kazi Sabu, publicity secre-

One Saleha Begum was seri-

main roads of the towns.

Sirajganj, reported UNB.

Business organisations,

Our Correspondents from

cracker explosions.

peacefully.

Police arrested three persons

They also attacked police on

Fatullah thana.

dition.

Ten people including two po-

Witnesses said that a group

# Hartal: Two killed, 200 hurt

From Page 1

Police however escorted some double-decker buses on the Gulistan-Mirpur route.

Government offices in the city were half-empty. Most financial institutions did not carry out any transaction during the hartal hours. There was no business on

During hartal hours, sale of tickets for the forthcoming Wills Cup cricket remained sus-

Dhaka Stock Exchange but, in

Chittagong, the bourse oper-

pended The hartal was called by the BNP-led Seven Party Alliance mainly to protest the alleged killing of two persons during Sunday's hartal in the capital. BNP claimed one of the victims named Akkas Ali was its ac-

Nayabazar, Tanti Bazar Siddik Bazar, Nawabpur Road and North South Road in the old city besides Bijoynagar, Sheorapara, Moghbazar were the main trouble spots in the

Anti-hartal activists backed by police clashed with pro-hartal pickets in all these areas throughout the hartal hours. The clashes saw cracker explosions, brickbatting and ransacking of vehicles

Police used batons and teargas shells to bring the situation under control.

In the Old City, trouble continued even after hartal hours and police fired rubber bullets and used hot water canons. Bagha Siddik dies of

# bomb injury

Bagha Siddik, an autorickshaw driver, was hit by a homemade bomb in his chest when pro-hartal processionists came under attack from anti-hartal group at Nagendra Basak Lane under Sutrapur thana at about 7:00 am. He was identified as son of Mannan Siddik.

He was rushed to the DMCH. where he died at about 3:00 pm. Seven others injured in the incident were given first aid. 15-year-old boy suffers

## brain haemorrhage following police assault

A 15-year-old unidentified boy suffered head injuries due to police assault (see picture on front page) in Nayabazar area in the city, where clashes between pro- and anti-hartal activists continued even after hartal hours.

Witnesses said the boy had marks of injuries in his head and face. Police kicked and trampled him during a sudden swoop on a crowd in the area. they said.

The teenage boy who was fighting for life at DMCH died after midnight.

Police instantly denied their involvement in the assault of the boy and claimed that he fell from roof and received the injuries. The men in uniform then asked the local people to take the boy to the DMCH.

The local people feared that police might try to pass the blame on to them and turned down the police plea. The boy, in an unconscious state, lay on the street for some time as the policemen continued to insist that the local people take the boy to the DMCH.

Later, the boy was picked up in a police van and taken to the DMCH. Havilder Lata of Rajarbagh Police Lines handed the boy over to the DMCH, hospital sources said.

Police van set afire Pro-hartal activists set fire to a police van at Tatibazar in

the city at around 1:30 pm. The pickets first damaged the windows of the van and then set it ablaze, witnesses said. AL youth leader hit by

shotgun pellets at Tongi A Juba League leader was hit by pellets of shotgun in his head at Tongi at about 10:30 am during hartal-related violence, police said. Kazi Sabu, Publicity Secretary of Tongi Juba League, was admitted to the DMCH. He was later shifted to a private

clinic. The man with the gun An anti-hartal motorcade passing through Gabtali at about 1.00 pm yesterday was followed by Daily Star correspondents. The motorcade had about 30 motorbikes and three old minibuses of Mirpur-Gulistan route with one Pajero jeep in the middle, escorted by a police van.

Each of the motorbikes had two riders. Other vehicles were following them all along till the motorcade stopped in front of the residence of Kamal Majumder, a ruling party MP from the Mirpur constituency.

At the entrance of the house, some people were seen unloading magazines from an assault rifle, which appeared to be an AK 47. The man with the gun was

inside the Pajero. Some revolvers were also taken out from the same vehicle. Passengers of the minibuses carrying hockey sticks and

bamboo sticks were seen entering the residence of Majumder. Some of them, approached by these correspondents, said that the motorcade moved through the main roads of the city during the hartal hours.

### 25 in a minibus hurt

At least 25 people were injured when a Gulistan-bound minibus came under attack by some pro-hartal activists at Sheorapara on Rokeya Sharani at around 9 am in Mirpur. The attackers used hockey sticks and bamboo sticks. Of them, a woman identified

as Saleha, 40, was rushed to the DMCH while driver of the bus Jafar Ahmed was sent to a city clinic with injuries in his head. In a separate incident, prohartal activists attacked another Gulistan-bound minibus at Senpara at around 10:30 am. Critically injured driver of the bus was admitted to a city

### clinic. Police injured at Bijoynagar

A police constable suffered bomb injuries in his face at Bijoynagar at about 10:30 am during a chase-and-counter-chase between pro- and anti-hartal activists allegedly backed by police.

The constable was admitted to DMCH. The pro-hartal activists chased by police used home-made bombs during the incident. Later at about noon, two per-

sons were hit by bomb splinters at the same spot during a similar incident. Police lobbed teargas shells to disperse the crowd. At this spot, clashes between the two sides continued throughout the hartal hours.

### Pickets damage rail tracks

Movement of trains in some parts of the country was dis-

rupted, railway officials said. Pro-hartal activists removed two fish plates from rail track between Nurundi and Nandina stations near Jamalpur town, halting rail traffic for two and a half hours on Mymensingh-Bahadurabad route.

Railway staff detected it at about 7:30 am. Repairs were done quickly and rail communication restored at around 10:00 am.

The hartal supporters also detained two mail trains at Maizgaon station near Sylhet for about 20 minutes.

At Bonarpara junction station, inter-city train Karotoa was detained from 6:00 am for about four hours. At Chuadanga near Jessore.

mob took over the platform from 6:00 am till about 10:00 am. Police intervened to remove the pro-hartal activists.

### Tania rape case From Page 1

bar alias Mora of violating the The order of a division

bench of the High Court came upon a petition by advocate Seema Zahur on behalf of the Jatiya Mahila Ainjibi Samity. It was stated in the petition that although the incident took

place in an area under the control of police and the informant alleged that a police personnel committed the offence, the police being in charge of the investigation submitted report only against an 'outsider' for which the trial of the case on the basis of this report is 'malafide and abuse of the process of the court'.

· It was further started in the petition that the conduct of the prosecution in holding trial of the case shows that the case is not being tried in accordance with law and will ultimately leave out the real offender.

### Fresh BNP programme From Page 1 condemned police raids at the chaired by Abdus Salam Taluk-

Mannan Bhuiyan said that

the new programmes aimed at registering the Opposition's protest against repression by the government, obstruction to observance of hartal, imposition of fresh taxes, and killings by police during hartals and to press the demand for release of all political detainees.

He, however, said, "We had enough reasons to go for immediate programmes, but just for the sake of the cricke tournament, we refrained from doing

The BNP secretary general claimed that a pedestrian, Bagha Sikdar alias Siddiqi, fa-tally injured when crushed under a police vehicle at Nawabpur in the city during hartal hours, died later.

Besides, he alleged, a Juba Dal worker, Kashem, was stabbed by Awami League activists while returning from a pre-hartal torch procession Wednesday night at Panchlaish in Chittagong. He succumbed to his injuries yesterday.

Mannan Bhuiyan demanded immediate release of Seven-Party leaders including Anwar Zahid, Shafiul Alam Prodhan and Nurul Haq Majumdar and

## Mymensingh Polytech Instt closed sine die

MYMENSINGH, Oct 22: Mymensingh Polytechnic Institute was today declared closed sine die amidst massive campus violence in which two teachers were injured, reports APB.

Witnesses said the two teachers sustained injuries when a group of students attacked the institute this morning and assaulted them.

Authorities had earlier suspended the process of admission leading to today's campus violence.

A group of unruly students also laid a siege to the campus for the whole day today, virtually confining teachers and their families in the residences.

The trouble started as the results of the admission test for 308 seats in the first year class of five departments were published Tuesday.

### SA team From Page 1

worthy and Makhaya Ntini. The team is accompanied by Goolam Rajah (Manager), Bob Woolmer (Coach) and Craig Smith (Physio). Meanwhile former renow-

ned Test cricketer and famous cricket commentator Tony Greig also arrived in the city last night. He will give the running commentary of the matches.

residences of Mirza Abbas, Salahuddin Ahmed, Abul Bashar and Nasiruddin Pintu.

City BNP Convenor Sadek Hossain Khoka alleged that police picked up pro-hartal pick-ets from different areas and police vans loaded with opposition activists were seen rushing from old part of the city. At least two women activists, Sufia and Razia, were bullet-hit in the Old City.

BNP leaders Abdullah Al-Noman, Haris Chowdhury, Mirza Abbas and Amanullah Aman, MP, were also present at the press briefing.

While the briefing in progress, Begum Zia arrived at the party office amidst slogans and applauds from several hundred party workers. She did not attend the briefing. This was her first visit to the party office after her re-election as BNP chairperson. Leaders and workers of the party and its front organisations received her with bouquets.

# ADP review

r'rom Page 1 sons to rebuild the damaged roads and other infrastructure.

Already, the revenue collection of the government has fallen far short of the target. According to the sources, revenue shortfall in the first three months of the fiscal year was to the tune of Tk 500 crore. The lingering deluge that damp-

ened economic activities in the

country resulted in a slump in imports and led to the revenue drop. According to analysts, one of the reasons for devaluation of the taka is to automatically make up the shortfall in the revenue collection. The government, amid much grumbling from different quarters, has also slapped higher

taxes on a number of products including telecom facilities, savings deposits and savings certificates. According to sources, these new measures have come in line

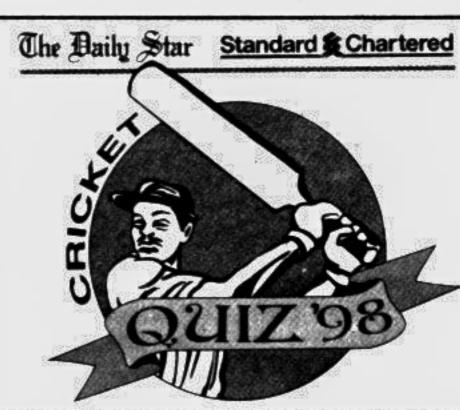
with IMF conditionalities for granting Bangladesh US\$ 130 million in addition to US\$ 200 million loans from the World Bank. The finance minister when asked about the conditionalities soon after his negotiations with the IMF had said he would speak about the conditionalities later. Before he did, the measures

showed it all. The Bretton Woods Institu-

tions had long been pursuing the government for a cut in interest rates on savings instru-The government now needs

the extra money through different measures to avoid any strain on the fiscal balances, experts say. But they also say some of the measures would fuel inflation, an argument the finance minister refuses to ac-

On the occasion of the Wills International Cup cricket to be held at Dhaka from Oct 24-Nov 1, 1998



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# ANNOUNCEMENT

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To this effect, the govern-

"No institution, organisa-

Any person having employment in any foreign country will be issued no objection cer-

Hasina blasts BNP ers and attempts to make others responsible for the killing of a ridiculed the BNP for instantly JCD leader in Khulna in an in-

> tra-party feud. Lambasting Khaleda Zia for "predicting a famine" due to the recent devastating flood in the country, the prime minister commented that she (Khaleda) was shocked that no famine was there.

In her 45-minute speech, the prime minister also spoke of her government's steps in different sectors with a view to preparing the nation for the challenges of the new century. She also called upon the BCL members to help root out terrorism from campuses, remove -illiteracy and carry on the postflood rehabilitation and recon-

struction programmes. Chaired by the out-going BCL president Enamul Huq Shamim, the opening session of the conference was also addressed by other leaders of the

in Jessore activist was beaten to death by

some unidentified assailants at village Mahidia in Kotwali thana on Wednesday night, re-Police said, Farid Biswas, union leader of Jubo Dal, came

organisation. Jubo Dal activist beaten to death

# JESSORE, Oct 22: A Jubo Dal

under attack at 11 pm while he was returning home from his uncle's house at the same vil-

# ports UNB.

### "Who do you call vindictive? How do you behave? Ask your conscience," the PM said blaming the opposition leader for obstructing each and every step of her government out of vendetta. Hasina blamed BNP for continued attacks on the AL work-

করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হইলঃ

ক্রমিক নং বিভাগের নাম

# ঢাকা বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ কর্তৃপক্ষ DHAKA ELECTRIC SUPPLY AUTHORITY

ডেসার জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি সমানিত বিদ্যুৎ গ্ৰাহকবৃদকে জানানো যাইতেছে যে, "উইলস ইন্টারন্যাশনাল কাপ" ক্রিকেট টুর্ণামেন্ট চলাকালীন সময়ে বঙ্গবন্ধু জাতীয় ষ্টেডিয়ামসহ ঢাকা মেট্রোপলিটন এলাকায় নিরবচ্ছিন বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহ এবং সঠিক ভোন্টেজ বজায় রাখার লক্ষ্যে ডেসা এলাকায় কিছু কিছু অংশে সাময়িকভাবে লোড–শেডিং করিতে হইতে পারে। উক্ত লোড–শেডিং বিভিন এলাকায় নির্ধারিত সময় ভিত্তিক হইবে এবং সাধারণতঃ সন্ধ্যাকালীন পিক-আওয়ার অর্থাৎ "বিকাল ৫-০০ টা হইতে ১১-০০ টা পর্যন্ত" সময়ের মধ্যে হইতে পারে। সাধারণভাবে কোন এলাকায় পর্যায়ক্রমে এলাকাভিত্তিক কম-

বেশী ১ ঘন্টা লোড-শেডিং বলবৎ থাকিবে। তবে অপ্রত্যাশিত কারণে লোড-শেডিং-এর সময় কাল ও পরিমাণে তারতম্য ঘটিতে পারে। লোড-শেডিং সংক্রান্ত অথবা অন্য কোন বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহ সম্পর্কিত তথ্যাদি জানার জন্য নিম্নলিখিত বিভাগীয় নিয়ন্ত্রণ কক্ষের সহিত যোগাযোগ

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# Khaleda criticises 'police atrocities' during hartal

"Hartal is a democratic right of the people, but the government tried to denied the right by

# Bahadur Bepary,

Ajoy Kar new BCL President, Secy Bahadur Bepary and Ajoy Kar Khokon have been elected

From Page i out," the establishment official "However, we have received

From Page 1 istered under British law as

new entity will not be able to take deposits from individual customers and give loans to in-

Bradford.

# Khaleda Zia has congratulated the people for expressing no-