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Petrobangla forms

body to finalise

'Delay promotions until a rational policy is framed'

By Staff Correspondent The Bangladesh Civil Service Co-ordination Committee yesterday demanded that a "rational" policy be made to regulate the promotion of the government officials on the basis of talents and abilities.

The BCSCC, a body representing 28 out of the country's 29 cadre service associations. made the demand while airing its grievances against their colleagues from the administration cadre to the parliamentary standing committee on the ministry of establishment.

However, BCSCS, protesting the alleged monopoly of the administration cadres for long. also demanded that all promotion orders be suspended until a reasonable policy is formulated in this regard.

Chowdhury Khalequazzamn led the BCSCS delegation that included Alauddin Chowdhury, Abul Hashem, Mohammad Kafiluddin and Sultan Ahmed Chowdhury.

The BCSCS leaders told the parliamentary body that the administration cadres had been reigning over the rest of the cadres although different cadres were created on the basis of different specialised services of the state. See Page 12 Col 1

Fellow CSP tries to defend four secretaries at BASA meet

By Special Correspondent The Executive Committee of Bangladesh Administrative Services Association (BASA) has decided to hold its bi-ennial general meeting on December

11-12. BASA sources said the meet ing is expected to take up the issues of its yet-to-be-answered letters to four secretaries to the government and appointments of some retired civil servants on contract.

The four senior officials principal secretary to the prime minister, finance secretary, establishment secretary and energy secretary -- came under fire from BASA's junior members. See Page 12 Col 2

Notice

Twenty-six years ago on November 4, we adopted and enacted our sacred Constitu tion, an outcome of our Liberation War. The Daily Star devotes a page (5) today to commemorate the Day.

Inside Today—

Article

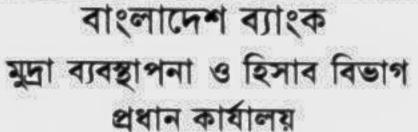
Blaming the Messenger for the Message

Column: Connecting the Dots by Dr A R Chowdhury Page 4

Supplement

Today's issue of The Daily Star contains a 3page supplement on the 'National Day of Italy' on

Pages 9, 10 & 11



বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সোনালী ব্যাংকের নিম্নে বর্ণিত ২৬ (ছাব্বিশ)টি শাখাকে সরকারের সকল প্রকার জমা গ্রহণের অনুমতি দিয়েছে। এতদানুসারে, সোনালী ব্যাংকের উক্ত ২৬ (ছাব্বিশ)টি শাখা আগামী ১৫-১১-৯৮ইং তারিখ হতে জনসাধারণ কর্তৃক প্রদন্ত সকল প্রকার সরকারী জমা গ্রহণ করবে।

সোনালী ব্যাংকের শাখাগুলির নামঃ

- ১। চকবাজার শাখা
- ৩। বগুড়া ক্যান্টনমেন্ট শাখা ১। কাচারী বাজার শাখা (রংপুর প্রধান শাখার অতিরিক্ত)
- ৩। রূপসা মার্কেট শাখা
- ১। কেসিদে রোড শাখা
 - १। कानीवाडी भाषा
 - ৭। পাঁচলাইশ শাখা

 - ১। দরগা গেইট শাখা
 - ৯। মেডিক্যাল কলেজ শাখা
- উল্লেখ্য, উক্ত তারিখ হতে এতদ অঞ্চলের বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের শাখাসমূহে
- সরকারী জমা গ্রহণ কার্যক্রম বন্ধ হয়ে যাবে

জসওপ্রঃ বিঃ ৪৮/৯৮-১৪২০ তারিখঃ ৩/১১ জিডি-৮৭৮

মুঃ আবদুল মতীন মহাব্যবস্থাপক एकानः ५००४५१०

RAJAB 13, 1419 HIJRI

Occidental starts

Monday began drilling an Sylhet where it reportedly struck one of the major gas reserves earlier this year.

Sources said yesterday that Occidental's work programme for Bibiana appraisal well and a three-dimensional seismic survey under Block 12 was

DOE's clearance from August.

The DOE however cleared

cost of about 15000 US dollars

DOE gives clearance

work at Bibiana

daily since Petrobangla okayed

its work programme on October

"Usually, when Petrobangla approves a workplan, the DOE

clears environmental

documents specially when it has a previous clearance", said

"This time, Petrobangla

approved the Bibiana appraisal

well work programmes after a thorough and well-conducted

negotiation. But Occidental

remained idle at the

exploration site for the last 15

days due to lack of the DOE

Bibiana gas reserve earlier this

year. It made tests of gas sand in

six different sub-soil layers and

all of the tests turned out to be

still in an 'image crisis' in

Bangladesh because of its poor

operation in Magurchhara,

assessed that Bibiana might

have a gas reserve of four to five

trillion cubic feet of gas, one of

the biggest reserves in

rapes at Jahangirnagar Univer-

sity. They are also demanding

increased allocation of VGF

cards, agri inputs and other as-

sistance for the flood victims.

a gathering at the Paltan

Maidan at 4 pm today and bring

out a procession from there.

Other parties in the combine

including Jamaat-e-Islami and

Jatiya Party (Z-M) have also

joint meeting of the party units

in Dhaka and its adjoining dis-

tricts at 10 this morning. The

meeting, to be held at the Minto

Road official residence of the

Opposition leader, is expected to

discuss preparations for today's

UNB adds: BNP Chairperson

Meanwhile, BNP has called a

planned similar programmes.

In the capital, BNP will hold

See Page 12 Col 7

The US company, which is

positive, the sources said.

Occidental struck the

a Petrobangla source.

clearance."

By Sharier Khan

After half a month of delay, US company Occidental on appraisal well at Bibiana of

approved by Petrobangla in the middle of the last month.

But the Directorate of Environment was delaying environmental clearance of the scheme on different pretexts. Sources said, Occidental had submitted application for clearance as per 'clearance documents' approved by the Directorate for Bibiana exploration well. The US company had been seeking

Occidental's operation on Monday allowing the US company to start work at

Occidental had to incur a

contracts By Staff Correspondent Petrobangla has formed a Production Sharing Contract (PSC) Negotiation Committee headed by its Director of Plan-ning to talk on agreement terms with foreign companies which have been awarded different

blocks. Sources said the committee headed by Col (retd) Waliullah would now invite the winners in Second Round Block Bidding for oil and gas exploration in the country and finalise contracts with them.

This committee's task is dif ferent from that of the Second Round Block Bidding Committee which is still negotiating with foreign companies seeking blocks.

The bidding committee headed by an additional secretary of Energy Ministry negotiated with different companies for five blocks. These companies were declare bid winners three months ago. The companies that won the

bids are Enron (blocks 3 and 6), Shell-Cairn (Block 5), Triton-Unocal (Block 7) and Pangaea (Block 8)

The bidding committee is now expected to invite Irish company Tullow Oil and US joint venture Chevron-Texaco to finalise a "partnership" for

See Page 12 Col 1

Prothom Alo sees light today

By Staff Correspondent A new national Bengali daily Prothom Alo is hitting the stands today. The paper is edited by Matiur

Rahman and published by Mahfuz Anam, also editor and publisher of The Daily Star. The newspaper is committed

to upholding democratic values and rule of law, according to promoters of the newspaper. It would be non-partisan in character and reflect the hopes and aspirations of the people, they "Prothom Alo" is a sister

publication of The Daily Star. President Justice Sha-See Page 12 Col 8

team due tomorrow

Veteran fast bowler lan Bishop will lead the 13-member second string side to play three one-day matches and a threeday match against Bangladesh. Among the three one-dayers,

two matches will be held in Dhaka and the other in Raishahi. The limited-over matches in Dhaka on November 7 and 10 at the Banga-See Page 12 Col 3

Injured Sylhet Jubo League leader dies

Star photo

A Jubo League leader, injured in a gunfight at Dirai thana headquarters on Sunday. died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday, reports

Nantu Ray, 28, received bullet injuries in a clash between the factions of local Jubo League at 10 am Sunday, police

At least 30 people were injured during the clash in which both the groups fired gunshots and exploded crackers.

Of the injured, Ray was shifted to the DMCH from Osmany Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries vesterday.

Mukuli's bail prayer: Govt asked to show cause

By SC Correspondent The High Court yesterday directed the government to show cause within seven days as to why Roksana Begum alias Mukul Begum alias Mukuli should not be granted bail in the Rubel murder case.

A Division Bench of the HC comprising Justice Mohammad Golam Rabbani and Justice Md Jainul Abedeen passed the or-

Earlier, the Sessions Court Dhaka rejected her bail prayer on September 27. See Page 12 Col 2

BNP, allies resume street protests today

By Staff Correspondent

BNP and its allies return to the streets today after a 12-day break owing to the Wills Cup cricket that ended in the city

The Seven Party Alliance is due to organise public gatherings and processions across the country on the day.

The agitation is designed to protest the government's "failure and corruption" in post-flood management, imposition of fresh surcharges, arrests of opposition leaders including KM Obaidur Rahman and Alamgir Kabir, repression on opposition workers, alleged

Police keep watch on 50 people

Police have been keeping a close watch on at least 50 people, including opposition leaders, ahead of the verdict in the Bangabandhu Murder Case on November 8 and opposition programme on November 7, reports UNB.

A senior police official, troublemakers on such occa-

"There are always some

however, said the security measures were routine affairs of keeping track on the possible

troublemakers who tend to create problems taking advantage of such occasions," he said. See Page 12 Col 5

Begum Khaleda vesterday asked 'the nationalist and religious forces' to take to the street for protecting the nation from the clutches of the 'autocratic' ruler. "It has now become 'farf' for

programme.

all the patriot and religious minded people to raise voice against the oppressive government, protect the sanctity of mothers and sisters and safeguard the country's sovereignty," Begum Zia said.

She was addressing a gathering in front of her official residence on the occasion of joining BNP of two Jatiya Party leaders and a UP member belonging to See Page 12 Col 6

Windies 'A'

By Sports Reporter The West Indies 'A' cricket team will arrive in the capital

tomorrow on a ten-day tour.

Credit goes to commonman: Yunus

Facing the worst flooding

Prime Minister and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina addressing a public meeting at Paltan Maidan in the city

Hasina tells Jail Killing Day rally

Two vote thieves are

plotting together

By Staff Correspondent

along with his family members

taque Ahmed, an Awami League

leader who became president af-

ter the 1975 killing, a

"hypocrite, traitor and rene-

now united and are speaking in

unison in similar language,"

she said naming Khaleda Zia,

Leader of the Opposition in

Dry chilli, turmeric,

dat slightly dearer

By Staff Correspondent

and masoor dal shot up in the

wet market vesterday.

per kg recently.

Prices of dry chilli, turmeric

The price of onion remained

Retailers at different city

static at the retail market while

it declined slightly at the

wholesale market after sharp

markets said onion was being

sold at the city's Shyambazar

and Kawranbazar wholesale

markets at a high of Tk 47.50

per kg. It had shot up to Tk 50

clining prices in the wholesale

famine-like situation would

prevail after the floods. But the

people stood up to the disaster

and faced the situation with lot

of courage and knowledge,

speaking as a special speaker at

a seminar on "The 1998 Flood

and the Bangladesh Economy"

organised by the Bangladesh

Economic Association at the

Planning Academy Auditorium

in the city yesterday. Finance

Minister SAMS Kibria was a

the floods, the affected people

did not wait for anyone to come

and help them. With the devel-

opment of infrastructure over

Prof Yunus said that after

special guest.

The Grameen Bank chief was

See Page 12 Col 8

Not influenced by other de-

rises in its prices a week back.

"The two vote thieves are

Hasina called the late Mush-

By Staff Coprrespondent

yesterday marking the Jail Killing Day.

Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina has bracketed BNP chief

Khaleda Zia with HM Ershad of

Jatiya Party for "conspiring to

grab power depriving the people

Killing Case is on and the ver-

dict in the Bangabandhu Mur-

der Case is set to come, they're

once again conspiring to grab

power and snatch people's right

to vote," she said and accused

Khaleda Zia, her predecessor,

and Ershad, the former Presi-

the situation and threatening

agitation against trial of the

killers," the premier told a big

public meeting at Paltan

Maidan in the city yesterday af-

ternoon marking the Jail

place and we seek divine bless-

ings so that the killers are not

This day in 1975, four asso-

ciates of Bangabandhu Sheikh

Mujibur Rahman -- Syed Nazrul

Islam, Tajuddin Ahmed,

Mansur Ali and AHM Quamruz-

zaman -- were killed in the

Dhaka Central Jail as a sequel

to the military coup on August

15 when the Bangabandhu

"Trial will definitely take

"They're out to destabilise

dent, of patronising the killers.

"As the trial in the Jail

of their franchise"

Killing Day.

spared," she said.

Prof Muhammad Yunus of Grameen Bank has said the main initiative to face the aftermath of the worst floods in the country this year came from the commonman.

There were fears that thousands from the rural areas would rush to the city, hundreds would die of diseases and a

the years, people have learnt how to cope with disaster. জনসাধারণের অবগতির নিমিত্তে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ He cited several reasons for the resilience of the people and সরকার জনস্বার্থে ঢাকা শহর ব্যতীত অন্যান্য বিভাগীয়/জেলা শহরে অবস্থিত said the scenario in rural Bangladesh has changed over

- ১। রাজশাহী কর্পোরেট শাখা ৩। রাজশাহী রেলওয়ে কমপ্লেক্স শাখা ১। বগুড়া কর্পোরেট শাখা
- ১। খুলনা কর্পোরেট শাখা
 - ৩। পাহাড়তলী মেইন রোড শাখা
- ৬। চকবাজার শাখা ৮। কোরবানীগঞ্জ শাখা

২। স্টেশন রোড শাখা

২। টিটিডিসিসি এন্ড বি শাখা

৪। মতিহার শাখা

২। শেরপুর রোড শাখা

৪। গোহাইল রোড শাখা

৪। মংলা পোর্ট শাখা

২। সদরঘাট শাখা

২। কেডিএ নিউমার্কেট শাখা

৪। আগ্রাবাদ কর্পোরেট শাখা

২। রাজশাহী কোর্ট বিন্ডিং শাখা

the years. Now many people receive foreign remittances from their relatives working abroad. new business opportunities such as poultry, animal husbandry and nursery, better

transportation, mechanised

CHITTAGONG, Nov 3: Uncer-

tainty looms large over setting

up of the country's first world

trade centre in the port city un-

der a private sector initiative

more than three years after its

foundation stone was formally

Commerce and Industry

(CCC&I) took the initiative to

setup the centre in Agrabad

Commercial Area, aimed at

drawing foreign investment

and promoting international

Sources said due to lack of

The Chittagong Chamber of

laid, sources said.

boats, women's participation and micro credit facilities -- all have contributed to betterment of lot of the people.

Jatiya Sangsad, and Ershad

whose party has a minister in

two major opposition parties

which she said were founded

through conspiracies, captured

power illegally and are still

pursuing politics of "killing,

and JP were undemocratic and

none of the two parties believes

in democracy or in the rule of

law," she said, blasting the late

president Ziaur Rahman, BNP's

founder, for killing thousands

of armymen to secure his stay

governments of Khaleda Zia

and Ershad "for stealing votes"

Hasina said and alerted the

people against "fresh plots by

blamed BNP for "attempting to

foil" the just-held Wills Cup In-

ternational Cricket Tourna-

ment in Dhaka and said "their

prime minister also spoke of

her government's steps to face

the post-flood situation, price

hike of essentials and the op-

See Page 12 Col 7

In her 20-minute speech, the

conspiracy" did not work.

The prime minister also

People had overthrown the

"The very births of both BNP

Hasina went on blasting the

the present government.

coup and conspiracies"

in state power.

the two".

Kibria said that the government had acted in time to face the flood and its aftermath. "When in August we felt that we would need foreign assistance to face the worst disaster in the country, we sought assistance in a planned way.

This time the government initially estimated food crop loss considering that in1988 and then revised it in accordance with the present situation. "The priority is to give food to people," he said.

The finance minister said that the government was now carrying out extensive rehabilitation programmes throughout the country, including farm credit, vulnerable group feed-

Hossain Zillur Rahman od PPRC presented his paper entitled " Early Warning on the Flood Aftermath: A Rapid Survev on Post-Flood in-Migration to Dhaka. Citing the survey by the PPRC he said that migra-See Page 12 Col 3

Tribute to the man from Manikganj

By Staff Correspondent Amartya Sen had been recognised as one of the leading economists of the world since 1970s but it was not till 1998 that Sen actually won the Nobel Prize for Economics.

Sen was not deemed worthy of a Nobel Prize for the last two decades by the reputedly conservative Stockholm School of Economics which makes the selection for the Economics prize on behalf of the Swedish Academy which chose, instead to honour some lesser

economists during this period. The statements came from Prof Rehman Sobhan, Executive Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue, at a special session "In honour of Professor Amartya Sen" at a seminar entitled The 1998 Flood and the Bangladesh Economy organised by the Bangladesh Economic Association at the Planning Academy Auditorium yester-

See Page 12 Col 3

Setting up of WTC at Ctg now seems uncertain

From Nurul Alam

funds and shortage of land such a giant project forced the chamber to delay its implementa-Chamber sources said the

piece of land allotted by the former government at Agrabad was insufficient to accommodate the trade centre as per plan and design prepared by a foreign consultant. Because of this, the present government allotted another piece of land adjacent to the existing one. But CCC&I could not take possession of that land as the

Railway which owned it started

crore for it, the sources said. Meanwhile, talking to this correspondent, President of

bargains, claiming Tk three

CCC&I Kamal Uddin Ahmed said "We are looking for foreign sponsors for a joint venture with the chamber to set up the trade centre. Two foreign companies, responding to our calls, have already started feasibility He also expected 'patronisation' from the government to

build the trade centre with a

and other required facilities.

সত্যবাদী ৪০ পৃষ্ঠা, অনেক রং, বড়ো সেরা লেখকদের আকৰ্ষণীয় লেখা দাম : ৬ টাকা সম্পাদক মতিউর রহমান ও তাঁর সহযোগী একদল পরীক্ষিত সংবাদকর্মীর वयस्थाला একুশ শতকের দৈনিক ১০০, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, সিএ ভবন, কাওৱান বাজার, ঢাকা- ১২ ১৫, ফোন : ৮ ১০০৭৮-৮ ১ five star hotel, display centre