

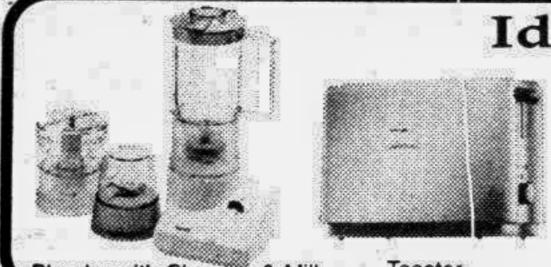
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Clandestine Shibir activities at DU Rokeya Hall

By DU Correspondent

A section of female students of Rokeya Hall of the Dhaka University detected 'underground activities' of alleged Islami Chhatri Sangstha (ICS), the female students wing Jamat-e-Islami in the early hours of yesterday.

While carrying out their 'search' of some rooms at the hall, some of the students were allegedly assaulted by ICS activists. As a result, Soma, Bonni, Anu, Putul and Munni were injured

The ICS activists led by M.Phil. student Rana allegedly attacked them while they were searching the room no. 112 at Faviunnesa hall.

Later, the general students of the hall, numbering about 200, brought out a procession at the hall premises at about 1 p.m. demanding expulsion of the alleged ICS activists and exemplary punishment to the attackers, sources added.

However, Fatema Begum, assistant proctor of the university, appeared at the scene and assured the agitated students that she would look into the matter, sources added.

Searching ten rooms of the hall, the students also recovered a huge number of 'objectionable' papers and documents regarding activities of ICS, Chhatra Shibir and Jamat across the country. Photographs, some 40 books including those authored by Golam Ajam, Abbas Ali Khan and Matiur Rahman Nizami, money receipt, journals and magazines including 'Madina' and 'Adarsha Nari', some diaries of the ICS leaders which included organisational plans and invitation cards from ICS units of Chittagong and Rajshahi university were also retrieved. A letter which declared Barisal as 'city of shibir' was also recov-

According to the papers, the students also identified some top leaders of ICS including Rahima Akhter of Philosophy Department (Room no. 20 at extension building). Ashrafia Khatun Lipi of Social Welfare (Room no. 4 at Honours building) and Queen of room no. room no. 34 at honours building, a statement issued by the hall students said.

Hall sources told The Daily Star that, some of the students of the hall kept eyes on some Hall.

KHULNA, Sept 25: Police

could not demolish an unau-

thorised shopping complex of

infamous terror Ershad Shik-

dar today as they didn't get

permission from Khulna De-

velopment Authority (KDA), re-

ers, police waited for about four

hours from 8 am in front of

Mahanagar Complex, formerly

known as Sadmani Complex, in

Thousands held

in Karachi as

police foil

anti-govt rally

istani police today rounded up

several thousand political work-

ers and supporters and ar-

rested top opposition leaders to

thwart an anti-government rally

in Karachi, the opposition said,

erected barricades by parking

trucks, water tankers and

other vehicles to block marchers

w'ho had selected the city's

us ually calm seaside district for

Sch on Chowk district in the

fash ionable Clifton area were

block ed hours before the rally

which was scheduled in the af-

Poli ce pickets were set up at

about 11 dozen places detained

groups of marchers who

arrived from different sides

shouting "Snatch power like

used batton charges against

activists of the city's influential

Muttahida Qaumi lyovement

(MQM) at some places, wit-

dozen federail and provincial

lawmakers and scores of oppo-

sition workers who had assem-

bled at the residence of Aftab

Shabaan Mira ni, former de-

fence minister and a top leader

of the Pakistan 1 ec ple's Party of

and leaders inclu ding Mirani, a

senior PPP officia 1 Nisar Khoro.

and senators R aza Rabbani

and Qaim Ali Sha li into trucks

and mini-buses, wi tnesses said.

and chanting "Go N 'awaz Sharif,

Go," the activists we lived victory

signs as they were transported

to the prison under 1 leavy police

escort. [Earlier sto1 y on page

Carrying portra its of Bhutto

Police bundle d the workers

ex-premier Bena zir Bhutto.

Police arrested about a

In some areas the police also

people diel in Iran," they said.

ternoo n, witnesses said.

All routes to the commercial

Police beseiged the venue and

KARACHI, Sept 25: Pak-

With bulldozers and labour-

ports UNB.

reports AFP.

the protest.

nesses said.

suspected ICS activists, following the recent anti-shibir drive at different dormitories of the university. They started the drive at about 10:00 p.m. on Friday and it continued till 1:30

Later, a 15-member delegation of the hall students yesterday called on Vice Chancellor Prof. AK Azad Chowdhury at his office at about 11:00 am, demanding expulsion of the ICS activists from the university. The VC assured them that he

would look into the matter. Meanwhile, the university authorities yesterday held an emergency meeting of the Provosts' Standing Committee following some recent incidents on the campus. As per the decision of the meeting, "all the students have a right to express their thoughts and opinions, but they must have to be open and not clandestine.

The meeting resolved that no activity opposed to the spirit of the country's Liberation War and its national sovereignty would be tolerated

The meeting also decided to take action against those who were involved in harassing the students. Anyone so harassed has been asked to contact the respective hall provost.

Talking to The Daily Star some of the students of the hall said, "Jamaat backed-ICS and Shibir activists are building an underground network in the university and we can not allow the fanatics to pursue anti-state and the anti-liberation activi-

Meanwhile, leaders of different student organisations at the Shamsunnahar Hall, joined by the hall authorities, yesterday held a meeting of Paribesh Sangrakkhan Committee, which decided to meet again on Tuesday.

Talking to The Daily Star. the provost of the hall, Prof. Sultana Shafi said, "we must take necessary steps in this connection and formally announce the final decision to the

Earlier, general students led by Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) also identified Shibir units in some of the residential halls including Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujfbur Rahman Hall, Mohsin Hall and Zahurul Hag

city's Power House Crossing to

the eviction drive there due to

non-availability of permission

from KDA that had earlier

served notices to owners to de-

Brig Monjurul Alam sent a let-

ter to police saying that he

would give his decision about

the bulldozing of Mahanagar

Complex after his return from

Ershad Shikdar and his

Dhaka. He was scheduled to go

business partner Sikandar Ali

run the complex having over 50

shops, forcibly occupying 12

acres of land owned by KDA and

demolishing the centre several

a magistrate were present dur-

cessfully cleaned the ghat num-

ber 4-5 area, where Ershad Sik-

dar illegally built slums and

business establishments on

ished about 600 slum houses,

180 illegal shops, godowns and business establishments, used

by Ershad and his associates in

Heroin haul

DNC yet to make

any headway

By Staff Correspondent

Control (DNC) could not yet

make any headway in its probe

into the biggest ever heroin

haul in the country from a city

this connection--lbrahim, Ale-

fzan and Rais-- were placed on

a five-day remand on Tuesday

the director general of DNC

said, "We are looking for clues

A high police official said,

DNC is trying to save the cul-

prits, as is usual for it." He

however, sought anonymity.

and would able to reach our goal

When contacted last night,

Three Pakistanis arrested in

The Department of Narcotics

Police have so far demol-

In last three days, police suc-

KDA served legal notices for

Sources said KDA chairman

molish the complex.

to Dhaka today.

on Thursday.

ing the drive.

the name of lease.

hotel on Monday.

for interrogation.

shortly."

But they failed to carry out

Police fail to demolish

illegal shopping mall

of Ershad Shikdar

demolish it.

Jahangirnagar University students yesterday formed a "human chain" to protest fee hike. - Star photo

Workers of 3 jute mills put up road barricade

From Our Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Sept 25: The road link between Chittagong and the rest of the country remained snapped due to a railroad barricade enforced by the agitated workers of three jute mills at Darobkunda under Sitakunda today.

Around 8000 workers of Anowara Jute Mills, Kashem Jute Mills and Mokbular Rahman Jute Mills put up barricade at different points on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway demanding their arrears.

The mills were laid off 4-5 months ago and the salaries of the workers remained held up. A tripartite meeting of the mill owners, workers and the officials concerned was held at the office of the minister for jute on Sept 14 to resolve the crisis. However, the decision to pay off the arrears of the workers by September 22 failed resulting in widespread agitation.

A meeting to resolve the cri sis was continuing till filing o this report tonight.

BNP office at

Muladi

ransacked

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Sept 25: At least

10 people were injured when

some unruly AL and BCL ac-

tivists attacked and ransacked

the BNP office and Sirajul Islam

Mantu Smriti Sangsad at Mu-

ladi at about 1 pm today, police

sain Mangu, BNP MP of Muladi.

the attack was led by Mithu of

BCL and Malek Rari of AL. The

incident followed an altercation

between Swapan, a supporter

of JCD and the BCL activists

there at about 10 am this

articles at the BNP office and

the Smriti Sangsad were set on

Almost all the furniture and

morning.

fire, Mangu added.

According to Mosarraf Hos-

killed in 2 road accidents COMILLA, Sept 25: Six peo-In another mishap on the

Industrialist, 5 others

ple, including an industrialist, were killed and 40 others injured in two accidents on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway today, reports UNB.

Police and hospital sources said renowned businessman Alhaj Abul Kashem Babul, Managing Director of New Tex Group, died instantly as his Pajero jeep skidded off the road in Chowddagram thana as the driver made an abortive bid to save a pedestrian.

The six-year-old passerby, Sujan, and driver Belayet Hosain, 40, of the Chittagongbound jeep also died in the accident at Syedpur village. "The jeep from Dhaka skid-

ded 30 feet off the highway at about 10:15 am," a witness said. Kashem's companions — Abu Taher and Abul Hossain - suffered injuries. Taher was sent to Dhaka while Abul admitted to Comilla Medical College Hospi-

highway, three women were killed and 40 others injured as two passenger buses collided at Parihol village in Burichang thana at about 10 am.

Police said two teenaged girls died on the spot when a Comilla-bound bus from Homna crashed into another on its way to Sacher, Chandina, from the district town.

The girls might be students of Nimsar College, locals assumed. Critically injured passenger

Tahmina Begum, 45, died at the Combined Military Hospital

son. Russell, Abul Hossain, a teacher of Syedpur High School, and Bilkis Parvin, a college girl, were admitted to the CMH

mitted to Comilla Medical College Hospital and Chandina Health Complex.

Zimbabwe beat Kenya

beat Kenya by three wickets in the first match of the four-nation LG Cup cricket tournament held here on Saturday, thanks largely to batsman Murray

only won the match for the Zimbabweans - who reached 200 in the last over -- but also the man-of-the-match for the former Western Australia player.

He came into the game when the visitors were in all sorts of trouble after opening batsmen. Grant Flower and Neil Johnson, had been sent back to the pavilion.

put Kenya in to bat, with the hosts setting a target of 199 for eight in their allotted 50 overs.

Opening Kenyan batsman Ravindu Shah maintained his form from the World Cup, hitting a 71 before being caught by Guy Whittall, who also took two wickets as Kenya's middle-or-

stage for two youngsters to make their debut in international cricket. Paceman David Mutendera, who replaced the injured Heath Streak, made his maiden appearance for Zimbabwe and conceded 20 runs

But for Kenya's Josphat Ababu, it was a day to remember, as in only his first international for Kenya and with his first ball, he took the prized scalp of Neil Johnson.

decamped with the ornaments.

in Natore NATORE, Sept 25: An em-

ployee of a jewellery shop in the town was murdered last night. reports UNB.

Ujjal Pramanik, 20, son of the late Suresh Pramanikean of Bhushangachha village in Sadar thana. Police picked up five people for interrogation in this connection. They are shopowner Bipad Chandra Shaha and his four employees - Biplob, Bikash, Mohadev and another Biplob.

at the shop for last one year was murdered by beating and pouring acid on his body, family sources said.

robbed from the shop at Hira Supermarket. "He might be the victim of in-

opened the shop with my duplicate key and informed the po-

lice after seeing the body." B'baria clash From page 12 Moulana Islam said, "All NGO

IOJ, demanded withdrawal of all the cases filed against Madrasha teachers and students.

The rally was organised by Jamia Yunusia Madrasha. Al-Hajj Soyed Md Ahmad Illius Na-

Violence, fraud mark fourth round of Indian polls

5 killed in Bihar, minister arrested

Trust of India said. Prasad said he had been "unnecessarily ha-

rassed (and) subjected to

humiliation on false charges."

BARHIAH, India, Sept 25: Five people were killed and a government minister was arrested today amid large-scale election fraud in Bihar. India's most lawless state, during the fourth round of voting for a federal parliament, reports AP.

India's news agencies esti-mated that half of the 80 million eligible voters had cast their ballots today in nine states, and violence was widespread. Two people were killed by suspected militants opposed to the polling, and their bodies

were displayed by police in Na-landa in Bihar. Another two people were gunned down in Barh and one died in a clash between political

groups in Siwan, both of India's national news agencies reported. Police arrested Bihar's junior minister for cooperatives,

Shyam Bihari Prasad, and charged him with instigating violence at a balloting station in the Motihari district, Press

the news agency reported.

In Nagaland, at least six bomb blasts were reported in polling stations but no one was

In the populous northern state of Uttar Pradesh, police swung bamboo canes and fired bullets in the air to disperse villagers in Muzzafarnagar dis-trict who hurled rocks at offi-

government car on fire, Press Trust of India news agency re-Police, however, feared violence mostly in Bihar, where every politician has a private

cials. Six people were injured and polling was halted at nine

stations. The mob also set a

army to scare away voters and intimidate polls officials. cials in Bihar's capital, Patna.

By afternoon, election offisaid 45-50 per cent of the state's 18 million voters eligible

to cast ballots today had done so. But many officials in polling stations that looked deserted to visiting journalists said more than 50 per cent of the voters had showed up early in the

Journalists travelling through the state saw few voters venturing out into the rain and wind to

vote. Several rivers burst their banks, flooding towns and vil-

Seventy-four constituencies spread over nine states were voting today, wrapping up bal-loting for 420 of the 543 elected seats in the Lok Sabha. Voting is also taking place in the states of Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Manipur and Maharashtra.

Polling for the remaining 123 constituencies will be completed Oct 3 and 4, and vote-counting will begin two days later. A new government is expected to assume office by the middle of next month.

uefied Natural Gas (LNG) has

been allowed in the PSC. "I can

not find any logic against gas

export through pipeline."
Prof Anu Mohammad of Ja-

hangirnagar University said,

"Selling gas is like selling seeds.

We will export our gas-based

tative Terry Budden said, "You

can't drill wells unless if you

Bangladesh as one of the

world's very prospective gas

basins saying that the newly

found Bibiana field might have

said Bangladesh has a proven

reserve of 10 TCF. He said with

the present rate of consump-

tion, the stock might continue

until another 30 years, but it

would be emptied by 2015 even

with a five per cent growth in

much gas will be required if we

can set up a gas network with

the northern part of the country

through the Bangabandhu

said under the Production

Sharing Contracts, Bangladesh

has no option but to allow the

export of gas unless

Petrobangla could buy it from

bapriya Bhattacharya, former

deputy prime minister of the

BNP government Jamaluddin

Ahmed, former Petrobangla

Chief Mohammad Abdullah,

former PDB chief Nuruddin

Kamal, Dr Abu Abdullah of

BIDS and ATM Shamsuddin of

Foreign Chambers, among oth-

ers, took part in the discussion.

CPD executive director De-

Former Energy Secretary

"You can not imagine how

demands.

Bridge", he said.

Abdul Aziz of Petrobangla

a deposit of some three TCF.

Oil giant Unocal's represen-

He, however, described

products, not the gas itself."

'don't have a market."

AL MP Shamsul Assess gas reserve Huq dead

A K M Shamsul Huq. a member of the parliament from Khishoreganj-1, died at a city clinic yesterday morning. He was 65, reports UNB.

The namaj-e-janaza of Shamsul Huq, who was also a veteran Awami League leader. will be held at South Plaza of Jatiya Sangsad at 12 noon today, said a Jatiya Sangsad press release. He will be buried at his fam-

ily graveyard at Tarakandi of Pakundia thana in Kishoreganj. Shamsul Huq was an elected member of the then Provincial Assembly (MPA) in 1970 and

Member of Parliament in 1986 and June 1996. Born in August 29, 1934 he started his political career through joining Chhatra League while studying at Anandomohon

College. Later, he joined Awami League and made a great contribution in the country's poli-Late Huq actively participated in the War of Liberation in 1971 and carried out the re-

sponsibility of political coordinator and recruitment in sector-3. He was also involved in the country's cooperative movement and discharged responsibility as chairman of Kishoreganj Dis-

trict Cooperative Society. President Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in separate messages condoled the death of Shamsul Hug.

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia also condoled the death of Shamsul

Jewellery shop looted in Jamalpur

JAMALPUR, Sept 25: Gold ornaments worth about Tk 50,000 were looted from a jewellery shop at Singhajani High School Road in the town today, reports UNB.

Police said Bachchu Mia a resident of the area allegedly stormed into Matri Shilpalaya at about 9 am, broke open the showcase by a Chinese axe and

Jewellery shop staff murdered

The dead was identified as

Ujjal, who had been working

It was found that only three 'tolas' of gold ornaments were

ternal conflict among the employees of the shop," police said. The owner said he came to the shop this morning as usual at 11.30am and found the shop under lock and key. "Later]

activities must stop by October 19 in the district." Otherwise, he warned, a dawn-to-dusk hartal would be observed. At the rally, Moulana Fazlul Huq Amin, secretary general of

balot presided.

would reduce energy consumption, he claimed. Export of Lig-

covered fields is to be seriously considered in the light of augmentation of the gas reserves due to new discoveries. Petrobangla must earn its own funds for the planned development and growth of this sector,'

But Prof M Nurul Islam of the Appropriate Technology Department of the same institution said it was not advisable to consider export of gas to a foreign country without assessing the marketable surplus of gas for at least 25 years. "If decisions are made with

the assumptions that more gas will be discovered in future, it can cause great financial loss to the country if the assumed quantity of gas is not discovered," he said. "Optimum production of gas and its best possible use for

economic development of the

country should be our national

strategy. Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) leader Hasanul Haq Inu quoting an international study said the fossil fuels like gas would remain the main source of energy in the world for at least another 50 years until al-

ternative sources like solar power came up. Inu, also an engineer, said Bangladesh could decide on the export of gas after discoveries of new fields but there should not be any pre-condition from the foreign investors for their exploration activities. Petrobangla officials should not be

companies, he said. FBCCI President Abdul Awal Mintoo strongly backed the idea of exporting gas saying, "Gas under the ground is no wealth to me.

allowed to join foreign oil

He also refuted an argument that gas consumption would shot up at a high rate for increased power generation and industrialisation. Technologi-

cal advancement and efficiency Ghorashal plant: 5th unit goes out of order

PALASH, Narsingdi, Sept 25: Power generation of the 5th unit of Ghorashal Thermal Power Plant will remain suspended until October 1 due to technical fault, plant sources

The sources told BSS that the power generation was suspended on September 23 for ten days following a leakage of boiler steam valve of the unit.

10 hurt in house collapse in Rajshahi RAJSHAHI, Sept 25: At least

10 people were injured in house collapse and over 500 mud houses damaged due to incessant rains in Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj during the last three days, reports UNB. Local Met Office said 200

mm rains were recorded during the period disrupting normal life of the people. Standing crops on some 2,000 hectares have been dam-

aged or submerged by rain wa-

ters, Agriculture officials here Office Space

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AT NEW ESKATON

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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would only add to the disparity. In a resolution, the meeting urged the parliamentary standing committee to reconsider its recommendation for upgradation of the 321 posts of BCS (Admn) and urged the gov-

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UTTARA

Airport Road, Uttara, Dhaka

ments to posts of deputy secretary and above. Instead, it said, the promotions should be based on open competition and

By Special Correspondent

merit, according to a press release of the co-ordination committee. The 26 cadres also demanded removal of disparities due to selection grade to 50 per cent of posts in Grade 6 of the BCS (Admn) cadres and other

disparities in the pay scales on

the basis of national pay scale

of 1977-78. It further demanded that the every pay scale should be declared as grade and the officials would be known on the basis of the grade and the warrant of precedence should be redrawn accordingly. It also demanded that the chiefs of functional directorates and or-

ganisations and highest posts of

321 posts without delay every cadre should be given the

> The meeting decided to hold a rally of the co-ordination committee of 26 cadres at the Dhaka centre of the Institution of Engineers at 5pm on September 29. It also lent support to the six-point demand of the Prokrichi-BCS Central Coordination Council and decided to participate actively in its programmes. The meeting, chaired by M.A.

Hashem, acting president of the

co-ordination committee, was

addressed among others by

highest pay scale.

Choudhury Khalequzzaman, secretary general of the committee, Nurul Huda, Alauddin Choudhury, ATM Solaiman, Mohamamd Alam, Dr AKM Mahbubul Huq and other leaders of the committee.

Tahmina's nine-year-old in critical condition. The other injured were ad

Anti-terrorism bill on hold as parliament session

KATHMANDU, Sept 25: A crucial anti-terrorism administrative reform bill has been put on hold as the Nepalese parliament ended its session

sources said, reports AFP. The sixteenth session of parliament, which lasted for nearly three months, had adopted only four bills pertaining to the public exchequer's budget for 1999/2000.

There were more than sixteen bills waiting to be tabled. including ones on women's rights to paternal property, pedophilia and women traffick-

ing, a parliament source said. The anti-terrorism bill was the focus of tough debate between the Nepali Congress Government, headed by Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai, and opposition par-

The main objective of the proposed Administrative Reform bill was to give more administrative powers to district authorities and police to

enable them to control underground Maoist insurgents. The insurgents launched the so called "Peoples War" in February 1996, with 140 people killed on both sides since then. Opposition leaders said the

government's proposed aim of

controlling the insurgents

would not work and would also

BCS co-ordination body renews demands

Cancel order to upgrade

thwart democratic progress.

NAIROBI, Sept 25: Zimbabwe

Goodwin, reports AFP. Goodwin's 76 not out not

Zimbabwe won the toss and

der collapsed. The match provided the

without taking a wicket.

times. The last one was served However, police demolished Ershad's Ice Mills in the aftercases against them The arrested three are: noon with the help of BDR and APBN. Officials of KMP, Khulna Ashraful Islam Pintu, Milon City Corporation, Railway and

by the court.

3 JCD activists arrested in Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent SIRAJGANJ, Sept 25: Police arrested two leaders and an activist of JCD last night from the town in connection with

alias Raju and Shankar Kumar. They were sent to jail after their bail petitions were rejected

BCS Co-ordination Commit-

tee (26 cadres) yesterday re-

newed its demand for immedi-

ate cancellation of a government

order for upgradation of 321

meeting of the central executive

council of the 26 cadres to re-

view the situation arising out of

the recommendation by a par-

liamentary committee to up-

grade the 321 posts, it said

that without upgrading the

scales of equivalent posts in

other cadres such a decision

ernment to repeal the quota-

based guidelines on appoint-

After an emergency extended

posts of BCS (Admn) cadre.

ends in Nepal Saturday without passing it.