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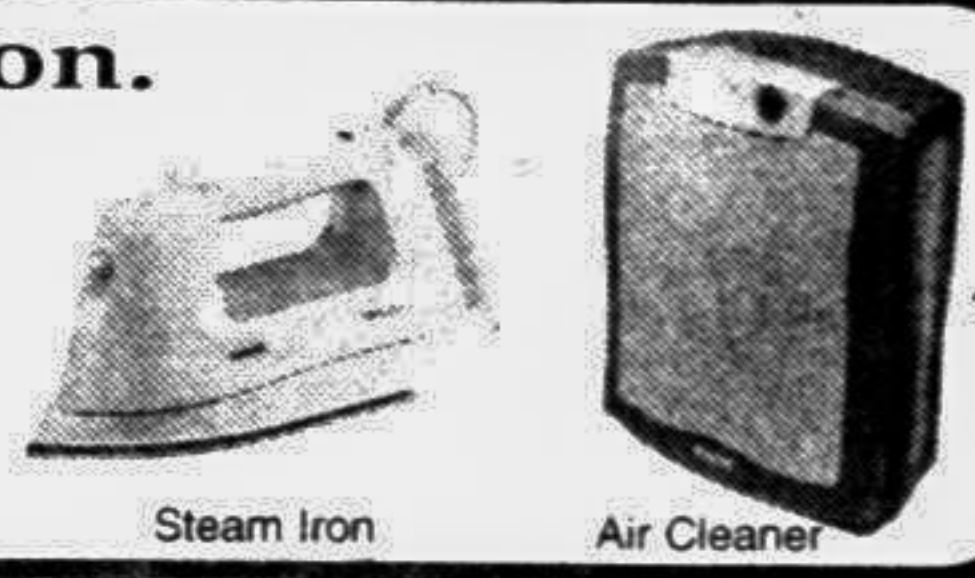
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Khulna Shipyard was formally handed over to Bangladesh Navy yesterday. Photo shows Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handing over documents of the Shipyard to its Managing Director Commodore KM Ahmed. — PID photo

### Police hunt for Shikdar's associate Jalil Gazi

**By Staff Correspondent**

JHALAKATI, Oct 3: Amid a flurry of speculation that associates of Khulna's top terrorist Ershad Shikdar have taken shelter in different areas of the district after his arrest, police have launched a massive hunt for them, reports UNB.

Police arrested one of his associates Khalilur Rahman of Binayakati in Sadar thana from Palbari in the town on Thursday. They are also looking for Jalil Gazi of Nanguli village in Nalchhiti thana.

Gazi, a former police constable, was said to have been seen in the town recently. While he was working in Khulna, Gazi had made a good relation with Ershad Shikdar and later he was transferred to Rangamati.

Instead of joining his new office in Rangamati, Gazi reportedly quit his job and joined Shikdar's cadre.

### Tortured maid rescued by HR activists

**By Staff Correspondent**

An employer beat a 30-year-old maid in the city, trimmed her hair and filed a case accusing her of stealing gold ornaments, police and human rights activists said.

The battered maid, Khadiza Begum, daughter of Fazal Miah of Gaibandha district, was rescued by police from in front of her employer's residence at West Nakhlaipara at about 11:30 am, Tejgaon police said.

Police took Khadiza into their custody and filed a non-bailable case against her allegedly at the instance of the employer - Reaz - and his actress wife Nasima.

But human rights activists later managed to take her into their custody. They also helped the victim file a case against her employer with the same police station.

Alena Khan, a human rights activist told The Daily Star that Tejgaon police had rescued her from in front of one Reaz's house on the basis of their information. Khadiza was mercilessly beaten by Reaz and his wife, Alena alleged.

Police first refused to take any case on behalf of the victim, she alleged. Police later registered a case against Khadiza's employer when human rights lawyers pleaded on her behalf.

Khadiza, when produced before the CMM's court was handed over to safe custody of human rights activists. Reaz, accused of assaulting the maid, was released on bail.

### BNP condemns 'killing' at Sherpur

**By Staff Correspondent**

BNP secretary general at a post-hartal briefing yesterday condemned the killing of a party activist at Sherpur, demanding immediate arrest and trial of the killers of Bidyut Talukdar and adequate compensation to his family.

He said an unspecified number of leaders and activists were arrested and many were injured across the country.

Hailing the countrymen for observing the hartal 'spontaneously', he said the people had once again expressed their no-confidence in the AL government and asked it to quit immediately in favour of a caretaker administration.

He said the government had made all-out efforts to foil the hartal. "They tried to force owners of shops and markets to conduct normal business and make movement of vehicles look normal. But none responded to the evil design of the home minister," he said, thanking the businessmen and transport owners and workers for rejecting the government call.

He said though there was no emergency or section 144 imposed, police and BDR men restricted movement of BNP leaders and activists, even barring them from entering their party office.

### BNP calls hartal in Sherpur today

**By Staff Correspondent**

SHERPUR, Oct 3: BNP has called a dawn-to-dusk hartal in the district tomorrow to protest the killing of a leader of its front organisation, Bidyut Talukdar, during today's hartal reports UNB.

Bidyut, a local leader of Jatavabadi Sachhsabak Dal, died reportedly in police firing during a clash between policemen and pro-hartal activists.

### Anti-aggression Day on Oct 11

BNP vice chairman and liaison committee leader M Shamsul Islam MP announced that the opposition parties would organise *gayebana* *janaza* and mourning processions across the country today after the Asr prayers.

Speaking for the four-party alliance at the briefing, he also announced that "Anti-aggression Day" would be observed on October 11. He said opposition activists throughout the country will carry black flags in processions and rallies to protest "Indian atrocities, attack, loot, killings and occupation of land along the borders".

### JU students

**From page 1**

Gonatantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO) has called a strike in all universities on October 13 demanding immediate re-opening of JU and withdrawal of enhanced admission fees.

Meanwhile, JU authorities have decided to take punitive action against the students who were allegedly involved in terrorist activities on the campus in the name of movement, a Syndicate member told this correspondent.

The students responsible for locking classrooms and offices and obstructing teachers from taking classes and examinations will be served with show-cause notices, to be followed by punitive actions, he said.

### Soccer final today

**From page 1**

Games at Islamabad, Bangladesh lost to hosts Pakistan 0-1 while in the Madras final India beat Bangladesh 1-0.

The situation seems different this time with Bangladesh coach Samir Sakir and his boys, despite making a poor start here, look pretty confident after eliminating pre-tournament favourites India in the semis.

"I'm confident that my team is going to win the gold this time," said Bangladesh coach Samir Sakir while talking to reporters yesterday morning at his hotel lobby.

"We will adopt the same strategy that we did against India. And, if my boys can produce the same game they did against India, we have a good chance of achieving a gold tomorrow," he said.

The Bangladesh coach added that he would not make any change from the first eleven that he fielded against India.

"Their first job is to keep the defence intact and then go for the counter-attacks," he said.

"Why should I make any change in the team when they played better?" asked Samir while answering to a question whether he was going to put in regulars Masud Rana and Rajani, who missed the semi-final for receiving two yellow cards in the group matches.

He said Faisal played a good game yesterday against India and there was no reason to drop him.

"I have a little problem with Anwar, who has upset his stomach. I will ask him before the match whether he can play or not. If he says he can't, only then will I think of a change in the eleven," said the former Iraq World Cup upper, who categorically ruled out the possibility of Masud Rana and Rajani playing in the first eleven.

"I don't believe in making changes in a winning combination," added Samir.

About Alfaz, who has been a flop so far, Samir said he does not have any choice, since Alfaz and Mizanur Rahman were still the best strikers in the country.

Shahajuddin, the super-sub, who scored the match-winner against India with the best goal of the tournament, might come into action in the second session.

About his opponents in the final, Samir said that Nepal

### Probable Bangladesh line-up for tomorrow's final against Nepal

**Biplab, Hasan Al-Mamun, Nazrul Islam, Jewel Rana, Faisal, Matur Rahman, Iqbal Hossain, Monwar Hossain, Anwar Hossain, Alfaz Ahmed and Mizanur Rahman.**

### Ctg port

**From page 1**

port was found 'improved' and CFTC's local representative said.

On the other hand, CPA also took some counter measures, cancelling the additional facilities including cut-off time for 72 hours provided to feeder vessels, in protest against imposition of surcharge.

Director (traffic) of Chittagong port Mohsin Sarkar told this correspondent that average turn-around period of container vessels at the port has come down to 3.8 days now from 12 to 14 days a year before.

"There is no congestion at Chittagong port now," Mohsin claimed. "CFTC's threat of surcharge imposition already subsided with the improvement of situation."

Sources said that earlier, huge amount of money was siphoned off in the name of congestion surcharge on container cargo at the port. Ultimately, people had to bear the load of surcharge as traders 'over-priced' their imported goods to make up the extra-costs.

Chittagong port handled about 15 million metric tons of cargo last fiscal year.

### PM to visit Shikdar's stronghold

**From Staff Correspondent**

KHULNA, Oct 3: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to visit Khulna again sometime this month to address a public meeting at the Skid Ghat, the stronghold of Ershad Shikdar.

The DC (HQ) of KMP, Abdullah Azad Chowdhury, told this correspondent this afternoon that the Prime Minister will visit the Skid Ghat where joint forces of Police, BDR and APBN launched several drives to demolish all unauthorised structures including the ice factory illegally built on Railway land by Ershad Shikdar and his armed cadres.

Expressing her satisfaction at the actions being taken by KMP against Shikdar and his armed cadres arrested so far, the Prime Minister said that her government was determined to curb terrorism at any cost irrespective of party affiliations. Chowdhury said.

### 7 hurt in bomb explosions at Lalbagh

**By Staff Correspondent**

At least seven people were injured when some unidentified miscreants exploded bombs in Kilar Mor area under Lalbagh police station yesterday morning, witnesses said.

Three of the injured, identified as Abudus Sattar, 60, Amzaduddin, 18, and Kamal Hossain, 16, were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

When contacted, the duty officer at Lalbagh police station said it was not a 'hartal-related incident'.

The incident was a sequel to previous enmity over possession of a shop in Lalbagh area," the duty officer told The Daily Star.

He said the gang exploded bombs when local people came to resist them.

Local people caught two members of the gang and handed them over to Lalbagh police. They were identified as Ariel and Jumnon.

A case was lodged with Lalbagh police in this connection.



Anti-hartal procession was brought out in the city yesterday. — Star photo

### Humayun Zahir murder: Hearing of case adjourned

**By Court Correspondent**

The Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka yesterday adjourned the hearing of arguments in the Humayun Zahir murder case till October 17.

Humayun Zahir, a leading businessman and chairman of the United Commercial Bank Limited (UCBL), was murdered by a group of miscreants on the premises of his Dhanmondi residence on April 8, 1993.

Father-in-law of Humayun Zahir filed a case with Dhanmondi police on the same day accusing seven persons, including Akhteruzzaman Chowdhury Babu. Police submitted charge sheet against the seven persons after investigation.

Akhteruzzaman Babu, a chargesheeted accused in the case, yesterday appeared before the court while the rest did not.

### Ctg hartal

**From page 1**

Chittagong was as usual, railway sources said.

Partial cargo handling took place inside Chittagong port jetties but delivery of goods was disrupted as trucks were off the roads, Port sources said.

Production was hampered at mills and factories at Nasirabad, Kalughat, Sitakundu and Patenga industrial belts due to thin attendance of workers, sources said.

BNP held rallies and processions at Kadir Dewri, Port connecting, EPZ crossing and other places of the city.

Anti-hartal rallies were organised by activists of BCL and Jubo League at New Market crossing, Agrabad, WASA crossing and Cheraghi Pahar crossing during hartal hours.

### Govt sitting on recommendations to improve medical edn

**By Naimul Haq**

The government is sitting on the recommendations submitted to it in March 1998 to improve the quality of medical education in the country.

The recommendations were made in a report prepared by a team of local and foreign experts after reviewing the present education system in three leading government medical colleges in Dhaka, Rangpur and Chittagong.

The recommendations include development of skill of new doctors and teachers and addressing the problem of resource shortage urgently. Skill development is a pre-requisite to improvement of the quality of medical education, it said.

The recommendations also said, staff of the medical colleges should be encouraged to invite views of students and interns on curriculum, syllabus and intern programmes to make those more effective.

Use of performance indicators on a regular basis to keep the teaching staff informed of the effectiveness of teaching should be taken as a high priority, it said.

There is big communication gap in the colleges. This requires speedy resolution if the colleges are to take advantage of the quality assurance scheme for the benefit of the teaching staff and students, the recommendations said.

A Quality Assurance Body (QAB) was formed under a government order in January 1998 to improve the quality of medical education in government and private medical colleges.

Former director general of health services Prof A K M Nurul Anwar who was also the chairman of QAB had promised to 'get things done as quickly as possible'. But no step has been taken yet for implementation of the recommendations.

"It is very unfortunate that despite recognizing the urgent need for improvement in the quality of medical education, there is no effort from the government to address the problems," said a senior teacher of Dhaka Medical College seeking anonymity.

Present Director General of Health Services, Prof A B M Ahsan Ullah, who is also Chairman of QAB, was contacted for his comment.

Asked what action QAB has taken, Prof Ahsan Ullah said, "No action has been taken so far. But we are concerned and trying to resolve the problems as quickly as possible." The QAB is supposed to play a leading role in raising the standard of medical education in the country.

### Bangladeshis fall prey to forged permits

**By Staff Correspondent**

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 3: Thousands of foreign workers including a large number of Bangladeshis are believed to have been cheated in the process of getting their work permits renewed without medical test, BSS said quoting 'The Sun'.

The report published today said the work permits so renewed are mostly "either smuggled or fake." The permits are provided by syndicates of agents who portray themselves as licensed agents and hand out business cards as "manpower consultants," it said.

The paper quoted Bangladesh Workers Welfare Centre's Golam Ahad as saying up to 80 per cent of Bangladeshi illegals — estimated at around 46 thousand — may have fallen for the rip-off.

The manpower agents, the report said, are usually engaged by a sub-contractor or a small company who wants the per-

### Shop owners protest reported remarks, Khoka denies

**By Staff Correspondent**

Bangladesh Shop Owners Association yesterday protested the reported remarks by city BNP Convenor Sadek Hossen Khoka about shop owners.

A Bengali daily in a report yesterday quoted Khoka as saying at a gathering in the city on Saturday that those who would keep their shops open during hartal would be listed and identified as collaborators of the government.

The Association in a statement last night said the reported remarks by a former minister and a member of parliament is regrettable.

When contacted, Khoka denied that he made any adverse comment against businessmen. "I told the gathering we have no contact with businessmen. We will have no other alternative but to take measure against those who will be used as shield of the Awami League government," Khoka said.

"We do not consider those as businessmen who are used as shield of the government," he added.

Khoka said he congratulated owners of business houses and shops for not responding to the government's call and keeping their establishments closed during the hartal.

### 2 outsiders held from DU hall

**By DU Correspondent**

Police on Saturday night raided Zahurul Haq Hall of Dhaka University and arrested two outsiders from the hall canteen.

The arrested were identified as Abdullah Al Mamun and Rezaul Karim.

Campus sources said, police raided the hall at about 8:30 pm to nab some identified outsiders who were staying at the hall.

Police searched some rooms but failed to recover any arms or ammunition.

When contacted, Ramna thana police told The Daily Star that the two outsiders were arrested on charge of illegal staying at the hall.

### Indian polls violence

**From page 1**

ambushed a security convoy at the village of Tongsin Lamkhai in the tiny state of Manipur.

The militants attacked a security convoy with automatic weapons near a village market and in the ensuing encounter 10 civilians were also killed. Police Inspector-General R Baral said in a telephone call from the state capital, Imphal, about 45 kilometers north of the shooting site.

Gunmen believed to be from the United Liberation Front of Asom killed five policemen inside a polling station in Bhanupur in Assam just as the polls opened at 7 am local time, police said.

Gill, the election commissioner, said an additional five people had died in Assam, but he did not give details.

In neighboring Tripura, guerrillas from the outlawed All Tripura Tiger Force gunned down four paramilitary soldiers and three civilians in Dhalai and lost one of their men, half-an-hour after voting began, police said.

A leader of the party that governs Bihar state was shot to death at a voting station in the high profile constituency of Madhepura, where politicians accused each other of capturing polling centers and stamping ballots. Police arrested a state legislator and three other members of a rival party in connection with the shooting.

In other regions, police were authorised to shoot on sight anyone attempting to disrupt voting by fraud or violence. In Andhra Pradesh state, members of the banned leftist People's War Group shot dead the village president at his home on Sunday.

One polling officer was found dead and his colleague

### Saudi chopper crash kills 12

DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia, Oct 3: Eleven Saudis and a Briton were killed as a helicopter crashed in the east of Saudi Arabia on Saturday, the state oil company Saudi Aramco announced today, reports AFP.

### Cricket match

**From page 1**

holding the three-day match, which will be followed by a two-match Biman Millennium Cup one-day series on October 8 and 9.

Although the city experienced a brief shower yesterday, groundsmen are working round the clock to ready the wicket, expected to be slow and turning, for the match.

Two local umpires SB Chowdhury and Md. Asgar will conduct the match, their first 'first class' assignment.

The first session will continue till 12 noon. The second session will start at 12.40 pm after the lunch break. The tea break will be at 2.40 pm while the third and final session will commence at 3pm.

Probable first team:  
**Bangladesh:** Aminul Islam (captain), Khaled Mahmud, Shahriar Hossain, Mehrez Hossain, Javed Omar, Naimur Rahman, Khaled Mahmud, Khaled Masood wicketkeeper, Enamul Haque, Monjurul Islam, Safiuddin Ahmed and Ahmed Kamal.

**West Indies:** Brain Lara (captain), Sherwin Campbell, Adrian Griffith, Wavell Hinds, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Ricardo Powell, Ridley Jacobs (wicketkeeper), Mervyn Dillon, Pedro Collins, Reon King and Nehemiah Perry.

### Abbas Ali Khan dead

Maulana Abbas Ali Khan, senior Nayebe-Ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh, died of liver cirrhosis in the city yesterday. He was 85, reports UNB.

He was admitted to Inbe Sina Hospital in the city in pre-coma state on September 29. He breathed his last at 1:15 pm yesterday.

Namaj-e-janaza for Maulana Abbas will be held at Paltan Maidan at 2 pm today. He will be buried at his family graveyard in Joypurhat.

Born in Joypurhat town in 1914, he was provincial Education Minister of then East Pakistan and Member of the National Assembly of Pakistan in 1962.

He was also secretary to the Prime Minister of undivided Bengal, Shere-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Haq, a party press release said.

Former President Abdur Rahman Biswas expressed his deep shock at the death of Maulana Abbas Ali Khan.

In a condolence message, Biswas recalled the long political career of Abbas and his devotion to establish Islamic society.

He prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul and expressed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia also condoled the death of Maulana Abbas.

In a condolence message she prayed for the salvation of the departed soul. She also recalled his contribution in establishing democracy in the country and expressed sympathy to the bereaved family members.

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Published by the Editor from City Publishing House Ltd., 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No. 11, Road No. 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 866772-4, Commercial: 866771, Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Internet edition address: <http://www.dailystarnews.com> and Email address: [dstar@bangla.net](mailto:dstar@bangla.net)