What's on today

Film show: Liberation War Museum will hold the screening of "Seen, Heard and Respected: The Street Children of CSKS", the 1999 Worldfest-Houston International Film and Video Festival Silver Award winner. Venue: Museum premises. Time: 7:00 pm.

Weather

Moderate rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers with temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and at many places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions with moderately heavy falls at places over Khulna, Barisal

and Chittagong divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Day temperature may fall by 1 to 2 degree Celsius over the country during the period, according to Met Office. The country's highest temperature yesterday at 31.6 degree Celsius was recorded at Chittagong and the lowest 23.1 degree

Celsius at Satkhira.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5.30 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.58 am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns vesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning _	Evening
Dhaka	31.1	24.3	87	87
Chittagong	31.6	25.0	82	97
Rajshahi	30.5	26.4	95	91
Khulna	29.0	24.2	91	93
Barisal	29.5	23.5	91	96
Sylhet	29.0	23.5	88	87
Cox's Bazar	_ Æ	24.8	69	100

HERE and THERE

Workers Party

By Staff Correspondent A three-day session of the Workers Party Central Committee ended Friday night after adopting a number of resolutions on different national issues and the latest developments in Pakistan and India.

Held at the Topkhana office of the party with its President Amal Sen, the meeting observed that the country was plunged in deep crisis with its politics, economy, law and order, communal harmony, natural environment and border situation becoming worse each day.

It blamed the ruling Awami League for arrangements it made to hand over the oil-gas fields and the ports to the foreign multi-national companies. ignoring the national interests.

The meeting also held the ruling party responsible for widespread violence. "The fundamentalists groups are no more confined to attacks on the minorities, they have started attack on mosques in the Pakistani-style."

It also accused the ruling party of not being able to tolerate the opposition parties and denying them their rights. jeopardising the atmosphere for healthy politics.

The Workers Party also criticised the BNP for allying with the extremist, reactionary and fundamentalist parties in its course of anti-government agitation. "People are frustrated by

the immoral politics of Awami League and BNP who are locked

for Bakery Industry" organised jointly by JOBS programme of USAID and BIEF programme of CIDA was held at BASC Dhanmondi Training Centre yesterday, says a press release.

The main objective of the workshop was to increase the awareness about health and hygiene among bakery producers. Representatives from 17 bakeries participated in the workshop.

The workshop was facili-tated by Dr Khairul Islam, Dr Md Mustafizur Rahman and Dr Iqbal Aminul Kabir, Prof Dr M A Malek, of INFS Dhaka University and Dr. S Faruque of Director Institute of Public Health (IPH), were present as panel discussant.

Major issues addressed in the workshop were 'Dynamics of Food born Disease Transmission', 'Legal Obligation for Bakery Producers' and 'Making Safe Bakery Products'

At the end of the training workshop, Mustafisur Rahman, Manager SME Development Unit and Sylvia Islam Development Adviser of CIDA distributed certificate among the participants. SME manager of JOBS also announced awards to be given to bakeries who will maintain hygienic procedures.

Three muggers held in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Oct 17: Police arrested three muggers after chasing them from Dampara WAPDA crossing in the port city, where they tried to mug rickshaw passenger today. reports UNB.

They were identified as Mohammad Zahed, Azizur Rahman and taxi driver Mohammad Reshat Ali.

Alerted by the mobile inspector through a walkietalkie, police rushed to the spot and arrested the mugger after chasing the taxi in which they were fleeing.

Clash leaves 40 hurt in Jamalpur

JAMALPUR, Oct 17: A fierce clash between two feuding groups left 40 people wounded, 20 critically, at Bhuriar Bhita village in Sarishabari thana today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the rioting began when some 20 armed terrorists, allegedly led by Lal Mahmud, swooped on the home of his rival Abdul Aziz in a sequel to land dispute.

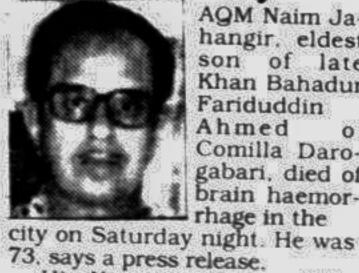
Seven of the injured were rushed to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital and 13 admitted to Sadar Hospital. Their condition was stated to be critical. Others were admitted to the local thana health complex.

Tensions were mounting in the area. Police were deployed at the troubled village.

Corrigendum

The art exhibition held at Oxford International School was participated by students from Play Group to Std I and not "KG to Std I," said a school press release yesterday correcting their earlier release to Daily Star which was published yes-

Obituary



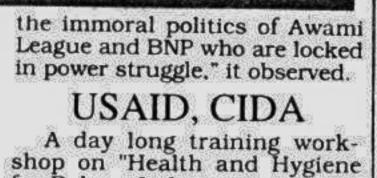
hangir, eldest son of late Khan Bahadur Fariduddin Ahmed of Comilla Darogabari, died of brain haemorrhage in the

AQM Naim Ja-

His Namaj-e-Janaza will be held today at the Baitul Mokarram National Mosque after Johr prayers.

He left behind his wife, one son, a daughter and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

His qulkhwani will be held on Thursday after Magrib prayers at House B-185. Lane-21. New DOHS. Mohakhali residence in the city.



USTC fails to break deadlock

From CU Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Oct 17: The University of Science and Technology in Chittagong (USTC) failed to take steps to resolve the deadlock situation of

the university. Today a syndicate meeting of the university ended without any fruitful outcome.

The academic activities of the university have been totally disrupted from Wednesday last after the resignation of 70 teachers out of 77 of the Medicine faculty. The teachers of the faculty

resigned from their posts protesting against the illegal sacking of Dr Imam Uddin, associate professor of the Orthopaedic Department and president of USTC Teachers' Association by the president of the university National Professor Dr Nurul Islam on September 21 without any notice.

Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) also lent their support to the agitating teachers of

Envoy to Botswana presents credentials

Akramul Qader, the High Commissioner of Bangladesh to South Africa, who is also concurrently accredited to Botswana, presented his credentials to Festus Gontebanye Mogae, President of the Republic of Botswana recently, reports BSS.

During his brief speech the High Commissioner conveyed to President Mogae the warm personal greetings and best wishes of President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Besides, highlighting the shared perceptions of Bangladesh and Botswana on many international issues of common concern, the high commissioner also underlined the importance of closer bilateral relations between the two friendly countries for the economic benefit of the two peo-

President Festus Gontebanye Mogae reciprocated the same sentiment and conveyed his best wishes to President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. He expressed his happiness that both Bangladesh and Botswana were enjoying a friendly and cooperative relations. The president wished that the existing relations would be strengthened

President Mogae was very appreciative of the activities of the Bangladeshi expatriates in Botswana. He particularly highlighted the commendable work done by the Bangladeshi architects in designing the Parliament Building in Botswana.

further in future.

Qader during the informal discussion extended an invitation to President Mogae to visit Bangladesh at a convenient



competition organised by Katha Lalitkala Academy at the premises of Badda Allatunnesa school and college yesterday in celebration of the birth centenary of Kazi Nazrul Islam. - PID photo

Defamation charge framed against Naziur Rahman

A Metropolitan Magistrate's Court yesterday framed a defamation charge against JP leader Naziur Rahman Manju,

reports BSS. The defamation case was filed with the CMM court on June 19 last year by Iffath Obayed, wife of Industrialist

Obayedul Haque Babul. Magistrate Serajul Haider framed this charge after hear-ing both sides of the case in presence of Manju and the complainant.

BNP, front bodies joint meet today

A joint meeting of city BNP and its front organisations will be held at the central office of Jatiyatabadi Muktijhodda Dal at 7 pm tomorrow, reports UNB. BNP city convenor Sadek

Hossain Khoka has requested joint convenors, presidents and general secretaries of thana and ward committees and front organisations and party ward commissioners to attend the meeting in time.

JS body reviews progress of city's housing projects

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Housing and Works Ministry meeting yesterday reviewed the progress of different housing projects in Mirpur and Mohammadpur, reports UNB.

Chaired by Akhtaruzzaman the meeting discussed about the sites for housing plot development for low and middle in come groups in Mohammadpur 'F' Block and Mirpur Section 9 of the Dhaka City Development Project. The government has earlier decided to construct 15,000 flats instead of allotting plots.

The meeting welcomed the government decision to form the national housing authority. It discussed various development projects including housing, commercial and industrial plots of the Chittagong Development Authority.

The sub-committee headed by Mustafizur Rahman has been asked to submit a report on the availability of government land in Mirpur. Civil Aviation and Works

Minister Mosharraf Hossain Mohammad Selim, Mustafizur Rahman, Rehana Aktar and Abdul Mannan Talukdar attended the meeting.

Tk 4 lakh stolen from bank premises in Bagerhat!

BAGERHAT, Oct 17: Taka 4 lakh belonging to Bagerhat General Post Office was stolen from a Sonali Bank branch in the town today, reports UNB.

Police said Head Postman Sultan Ali Mollah cashed a bill for the amount from the bank at Rail road but was swindled from in front of the DD desk.

"I just bent down to collect some ten and twenty-taka notes that had fallen on the floor when the bag containing the money disappeared," Mollah stated in a case filed with po-



Don Gaylor, President of Crop Protection Asia-Pacific Region of Novartis is flanked by BARC Executive Chairman Dr Z Karim, DG of BRRI Dr A Hamid and DG of DAE Enamul Hoque with Novartis distributors of BRRI at the seed launching ceremony of Dhan-29 at Ambari, Dinajpur on Friday.

Zillur in Beijing confce

Cooperatives for women may help eliminate poverty

Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman has underscored the need for organising women's cooperatives in Bangladesh to empower them, and eliminate poverty by 2005,

reports BSS. He said organisation of women's cooperatives is a must for the elimination of hardcore werty. Through skill enhancing training and micro-credit facilities, cooperatives will no doubt help them emerge as en-

trepreneurs, he added. Zillur Rahman was speaking at the concluding session of the 6-day 5th Asia-Pacific Cooperatives Ministers' Conference in Beijing on Saturday.

Presenting the action plan for Bangladesh, he laid emphasis on organising small and marginal farmers through cooperatives to produce and market their products in the global markets.

"Bangladesh is an agrarian country where 86 per cent of its total 120 million people are directly and indirectly engaged in agriculture who are mostly poor," he added.

Referring to the progress of cooperatives Bangladesh, he said it is being examined in the light of present day realities. "A national workshop in association with ICA-ROAP, would be organised to finalise the law with necessary amendments," he said. Cooperatives ministers from

26 countries across the globe including representatives from different international development agencies participated in the conference which began here on October 11. Apart from the participating nations, representatives from

ILO. FAO. AACCU, AARRO. AWCF, CCA, DID, CICOPA also attended the conference. Later, a joint declaration was adopted by participating countries

BCL rival factions clash in Feni: 11 hurt

FENI, Oct 17: At least 11 activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) were injured and 15 shops ransacked in a fierce clash between two of its rival factions at Kalirhat in Fulgazi thana Saturday night, reports

Police and witnesses said the clash ensued following the assault on Zehad Chowdhury of Ekram group by the supporters of Bashir group at 8 pm. The Ekram group reportedly burnt down the house of Bashir.

Witnesses said over one hundred armed men took control of Kalirhat Bazaar and searched for their opponents in vehicles and nearby houses. A house was burned down

and two shops looted during the

one-hour clash that began at 9 Police were deployed in the area to avert further clashes as a tense situation was prevailing

Govt believes in peace: Sayeed

State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed said in the city yesterday that the present government believed in peace, not confrontation, reports BSS.

firm belief in free flow of information, Prof Sayeed assured of considering the North Korean proposal for enhancing cooperation in the field of information and news.

ing with North Korean Ambassador Ri Jang II who called on him yesterday.

bassador appreciated the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for implementing the development programmes to fight hunger and poverty, facing calamities, relief and rehabilitation and signing of the peace agreement on Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Prime Minister for receiving the UNESCO peace prize.



Reiterating the government's The State Minister was talk-

During the meeting, the am-He also congratulated the

A procession was brought out in the city yesterday demanding the release of Al Markajul Islam's chairman Mufti Shahidul Islam. - Star photo

Pahari Chhatra Parishad blasts Dighinala attack

By Staff Correspondent

organised a rally on the Dhaka

University campus yesterday protesting Saturday's attack on the hill people at Dighinala thana in Khargachhari district

by the army personnel and the

TSC crossing, the Parishad leaders condemned the attack

in which a school student Dipen

Jyoti Chakma was killed. They

demanded immediate arrest of

also demanded withdrawal of

the army from the Chittagong

demned the "medieval-style"

attack by some members of the

army. The party feared that

continued presence of the army in the CHT might result in the

recurrence of the Dighinala in-

Fritz Stern

wins Book Fair

Peace Prize

Stern, a US historian whose

family fled the country during

the Nazi regime and has written

about the history of Germany's

Jews, was awarded the presti-

gious Peace Prize at the Frank-

furt International Book Fair on

St. Paul's church, Stern called

on Germans to not forget their

past, but said the world should

not blame children for their

"Germans are rightly ad-

monished not to forget, but such

voices do not place guilt at the

door of today's generation," he

ity, reinforced by a knowledge

of the mistakes and crimes of

Peace Prize, Martin Walser, ig-

nited a wide debate in Germany

by saying in his acceptance

speech that references to the

Auschwitz death camp were be-

ing used to pummel Germans

with guilt about the past. His

comments were strongly criti-

cized by Ignatz Bubis, the head

"They demand responsibil-

Last year's winner of the

In his acceptance speech at

Sunday, reports AP.

parents' mistakes.

FRANKFURT, Oct 17: Fritz

Earlier, the Parishad

Addressing the rally at the

Bangalee 'intruders'.

Hill Tracts.

three persons.

Pahari Chhatra Parishad

wealth at a special meeting tomorrow, Foreign Secretary Robin Cook said today, reports

In response to Tuesday's coup in which the military overthrew the democratically elected government, Pakistan has already been barred from attending the meeting of Commonwealth heads of state in south Africa next month. The suspension from the

the people responsible for the murder and their trial. They group, one of many moves by the international community to isolate Pakistan, would be aimed at restoring democracy in Pakistan 'at the earliest pos-sible date,' Cook told the British brought out a procession from Broadcasting Corp.
Commonwealth Secretarythe campus to the Jatiya Press Club and back. United People's Democratic Front in a statement also con-

General Chief Emeka Anyaoku later told the BBC that the decision to suspend Pakistan from the 54-nation organisation encompassing Britain and its former colonies, will depend on how quickly military leaders are prepared to restore Pakistan's democracy.

"What the Commonwealth UNB adds from Rangamati: will be doing tomorrow will be PCJSS, Hill Students Federato assess how far the new leadtion and Hill Women's Federaers in Pakistan are determined tion in a joint rally yesterday to return Pakistan speedily to protested the incident at Babudemocracy," he said. "The suschhara that led to the death of pension of Pakistan will depend on ... what plans the new Speakers at the rally held at military authorities will be

Banarupa in the town expressed pursuing. concern and said that such in-Cook told the BBC that, "the cidents might jeopardise the rules of the Commonwealth are peace process in the region. quite clear — they are set out in They demanded punishment for a set of principles - that memthose responsible for the clash bers of the Commonwealth must abide by democratic prin-US historian ciples and observe human

rights." "As the secretary-general of the Commonwealth said last week, a country that has a military coup suspends itself from membership of the Commonwealth and therefore I expect that decision to be endorsed on Monday," Cook said.

Solana to attack European

BRUSSELS, Oct 17: Spanish former NATO chief Javier Solana on Monday begins his new job of attempting in coordinate the European Union's fraught foreign and security

The European Union's need for a wise head in this key post was shown last week when opposition Serb leaders considered they had been insulted over the arrangements for a key meeting in Luxembourg.

were considered the most important, including Vuk Draskovic, head of the powerful Serbian Renewal Movement (SPO), and Zoran Djindjic of the Democratic Party (DS).

of Germany's Jewish community who died in August. Israel to build 22 housing units in Gaza Strip

JERUSALEM, Oct 17: The Israeli government has given the green light to the construction of 22 new housing units in the settlement of Neve Dekalim in the Gaza Strip, Israel radio announced today, reports AFP.

The decision came as Israel is preparing to dismantle 10 out of 42 rogue outposts illegally built by settlers in the West Bank over the past year. The Israeli Peace Now movement condemned settle-

ment activity in a statement Sunday as "harmful to peace efforts Education Minister Yossi Sarid, who heads the left-wing Meretz party said "settlement activity is no longer a priority

for Israel. According to Peace Now, Barak's government has invited tenders for 2,600 new housing units in the occupied territories since taking office just three months ago, compared to an average of around 3,000 a year under Netanyahu.

Barak has always said he would not establish new settlements, but would provide money for the expansion of existing ones to allow their "natural development."

The Palestinians have said

repeatedly that the settlement

activity could destroy the peace process. UK confirms LTTE have hi-tech

missiles

COLOMBO, Oct 17: Ballistic experts in Britain have confirmed Sri Lanka's Tiger guerrillas were in possession of hitech anti-tank guided missiles, a press report here said today, reports AFP. Military authorities sought

Britain's help to identify fragments of a missile which destroyed a Chinese-built armoured personnel carrier last month amid fears the rebels had acquired sophisticated weapons. The Sunday Times said the

British experts had identified

as an AT4 Fagot that could have

been manufactured in Bulgaria.

Iran, Romania or the Russian

Federation. A further report is expected on the country of origin of the weapon and other technical specifications, the Sunday limes said.

It was the first time the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) are known to have fired an anti-tank guided missile when the trackarmoured personnel carrier was blasted in the northern town of Paranthan.

Pakistan to be suspended from C'wealth today

LONDON, Oct 17: Pakistan will almost certainly be suspended from the Common-

Civil defence officials and the Red Cross said there were no immediate reports of casualties

capital and several other areas in the main island of Luzon when the tropical storm crossed

As of 10:00 am (8:00 am BST) Sunday, the tropical depression was located 175 km northwest of Manila, moving at 19 km per hour west towards the South China Sea, the government weather station said.

Border peace

From page 1

There is no indication of any change about his visit. Concerned people are working on the US President's visit."

On Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's trip to Australia he said she was paying the five-day official visit at the invitation of her Australian counterpart

The FM said there is significant potential to increase bilateral trade and investment with Australia. Since independence of Bangladesh. Australia has provided about 400 million US dollars in development aid.

defence role policies, reports AFP.

Thirty-two opposition figures were invited. Twenty-two showed up. The 10 who didn't

One explanation for the noshow was that they were miffed over being handed what some termed an EU "ultimatum" that they sign a statement up front promising, if they ever gain power in Belgrade, to immediately turn over indicted war criminals, including Yugoslav

President Slobodan Milosevic. Opposition in Afghanistan

retakes Hajaghar ISLAMABAD, Oct 17: Afghanistan's northern-based opposition recaptured a district in the northern Takhar province from the Taliban

fierce fighting, an opposition spokesman said, reports AP. Several Taliban soldiers were killed in the district of Hajaghar, 280 kilometres (168 miles) from the capital Kabul, when the opposition launched a major attack early Sunday, spokesman Mohammad Abeel told The Associated Press by

Islamic militia Sunday after

telephone from Takhar. The two sides traded heavy artillery fire for several hours before the Taliban fled, leaving at least six bodies on the battlefield. Four Taliban soldiers were taken prisoner. The opposition lost two fighters, he said. The Taliban, who captured Hajaghar two weeks ago, had no

immediate comment. The fighting is now raging near Gezelkocha district, 20 kilometres (12 miles) south of

Hajaghar. The Taliban have attacked Takhar province several times since the start of their summer offensive on July 28, but failed to make any inroads in this opposition stronghold.

Two small quakes rock Taiwan again

TAIPEI, Oct 17: Taiwan, devastated by a killer earthquake last month, was rocked by two smaller quakes late Saturday and early Sunday. No injuries or damage were reported from the latest quakes, reports AP. The first quake with a mag-

nitude of 4.9 struck late Saturday, centered 29 kilometers (17 kilometers) west of the eastern coastal city of Hualien. That was followed early Sunday morning by a magnitude 4.4 quake that struck in central Nantou county near the epicentre of the devastating

The second quake was an aftershock of last month's magnitude 7.6 quake, the Central Weather Bureau said.

September 21 quake.

Living along the earthquake-prone Pacific rim and crisscrossed by 51 fault lines, Taiwan is rocked by scores of earthquakes each year, most of them harmless.

Floods snarl traffic in

Manila MANILA, Oct 17: Floods spawned by a tropical depres-

sion continued to spawn huge traffic jams in and around Manila today, reports AFP. At least two major roads were rendered impassable by waist-deep waters while several

with knee-deep floods, prevent-ing passage of light vehicles. In Cavite province, outside Manila, waters in some villages reached chest height while traffic moved at a snail's pace through smaller floods in lowlying areas of the capital.

from the heavy rains brought on by a tropical depression that hit the country yesterday. Flash-floods swamped the

the island on Saturday.

John Howard.

BNP: Udichi

From page 1

Party Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said the government had already filed a 'false case' against Tariqui! Islam in the case regarding murder of butter of the Runner and is now to my ring to implicate him in the Udichi He said not a single person

in Jessore region believes that the BNP leader was involved in any of the incidents. Bhuiyan called upon all to intensify the one-point movement to oust this "autocratic

and subservient" Awami League government. BNP Standing Committee member Abdul Matin Chowdhury alleged that this government has become iso-lated from the people and is now trying to cling to power by filing false cases and arresting

leaders and activists of his

Moudud Ahmed said the government has resorted to repression on the Opposition to cover its incompetence and failures. Presided over by city BNP Convenor Sadek Hossain Khoka MP, the meeting was also addressed by, among others, Abdullah Al Noman, Mirza Abbas, Gayeshwar Chandra Roy, party MPs Amanullah Aman, Alamgir Kabir, Joynal Abedin Faruq and Nazimuddin Alam, central leaders

Salam, Kazi Abul Bashar, Chowdhury Alam and JCD President Habibun Nabi Khan

Nazimuddin Al Azad, Abdus

Later, a procession was brought out.

Tangail-8 From page 1 officer for the by-election. The parliamentary seat fell

vacant as Kader Siddiqui re-

signed from Jatiya Sangsad in

August. Both Kader Siddiqui and Shawkat Monem Shajahan, the main contenders for the seat. held public rallies and brought out processions in the constituency before filing their nominations.

Addressing public rally,

Kader Siddiqui told his audi-

ence at the Shakhipur thana premises that the up-coming by election was, in essence, a contest between him and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Shajahan, on the other hand, made an emotional appeal to his audience arguing

that he, unlike his political ri-

val Kader Siddiqui, hailed from

the Shakhipur-Basail constituency. "So, you should elect Although the Election Commission is yet to allocate symbols to the candidates, the supporters of Kader Siddiqui chanted slogans in favour of gamchha (thin cotton towel)

and those of Shajahan for boat. Other candidates from political parties are: Kazi Ashraf Ali and Anisuzzaman from Jatiya Party (Ershad), and ASM Rafiqul Islam Khan Alo from JP (Mizan-Manju), M Abu Sayeed (NAP-Bhasani). Alhaj Abul Kalam M Nurul Islam Netaji (National Palli Party), Shafiqul Alam (JSD) and Sohrab ALi (Zaker Party).

The independent candidates are: Moulvi M Morshed Ali Khan Panni, Shah Noor-e-Aziz, LA Khan Jahangir, AM Enayet Karim, Shahidur Rahman Khan, Badiur Rahman, Nazma Chowdhurany, Rebeka Rahman, Farid Ahmed, Abdul Gafur Bir Protik, Ibrahim Mian, Nurul Islam, Ataur Rahman, Fazlul Haq Sikder, Mohammad Al Muttalib, Hamidul Haq Bir Bikram, Sheikh Ali Asgar, Lokman Hossain, Abdul Aziz, Alhaj M Abu Bakar Siddiqui, Abdul Halim Sarkar Lil Mian, SM Amjad Hossain, Ansar Ali Mollah, Mohammad Enayet Karim and BM Khalilur Rahman Talukdar.

other avenues were still covered