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Bangladeshi shot dead by BSF in Pirganj

THAKURGAON, Oct 30: A Bangladeshi national was shot dead by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) on Singhor border in Pirganj thana Friday morning, reports UNB.

The killing took place a day after Directors-General of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and BSF signed an accord at the conference in Dhaka on Thursday for resolving border disputes.

The dead was identified as Bimon Chandra, 27, son of Rohoni Kanta Roy of village Singhor in Pirganj thana.

Local sources said BSF personnel crossed barbed wire fences on Burchuna border of India and fired two shots on Bimon who went to nearby Pachakanta beel to collect his ducks at about 6 pm. He died on the spot.

Several thousand people thronged Pirganj police station when Bimon's body was brought there this (Saturday) morning.

BDR sources here said they sent today a letter to their BSF counterparts strongly protesting the killing. BDR also proposed a flag meeting, but BSF did not reply till this evening," sources added.

The Indian border guards killed two other Bangladeshis civilians - Rashiduddin, 54, and Saidur Rahman, 27 - on September 16 on the border in the same thana.

PCJSS congress discusses withdrawal of army camps, settlers

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 30: Parbaty Chittagong Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) started a closed door congress at Khagrachhari today, reports received here said.

Over 200 PCJSS representatives from different parts of Chittagong Hill Tracts are attending the three-day congress. It began at the rest house of CHT Development Board at 10 am.

Shantu Larma, PCJSS chief and Chairman of CHT Regional Council, was present at the congress.

Quoting sources concerned, the reports said that on the first day, the congress mainly discussed three issues - delay in full implementation of the CHT peace accord, withdrawal of army camps and settlers from CHT.

PCJSS is likely to take some important organisational decisions at this congress, the sources added.

JCD, police clash near BNP office in city

By DU Correspondent

At least 20 motor vehicles were damaged and one was torched by Jatayatbadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activists who fought running battles with police in and around the BNP central office yesterday when the latter tried to keep them off the party headquarters.

A large posse of riot police backed by water cannons and riot car sealed off the entrance of the BNP headquarters at Naya Paltan since 3 p.m. in an attempt to thwart a scheduled procession of the JCD.

The clashes beginning at 4-30 p.m., continued for more than an hour, throwing the

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Prayer Timings

October 31

	Azhan	Jamaat
Fajr	5:00	5:30
Zohr	12:45	1:20
Asr	4:00	4:15
Maghrib	5:30	5:35
Esha	7:15	7:45

Source: Islamic Foundation

Ground breaking of KEPZ held Invest more in pvt sector: PM

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 30: The ground breaking ceremony of Korean Export Processing Zone (KEPZ) was held today with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina calling for more foreign and local investments in the private sector.

KEPZ is being set up over 2500 acres of "waste land" at Anwara on the left bank of the Karnaphuli river. It is expected to draw an investment of over one billion US dollars.

The KEPZ is scheduled to be operational by next year and fully implemented by 2009.

In the first phase 400 acres of land will be developed for industrial plots and a golf course

will be set up on 280 acres, officials said.

A full-fledged container park, a jetty for anchoring more than one ship, a science-park, research centre, five-star hotel, and modern shopping complex will be accommodated in the EPZ, apart from industrial units.

Speaking as the chief guest at today's ceremony, the Prime Minister said that the ground-breaking of KEPZ would be a milestone in the development of private sector in the country.

"Establishment of KEPZ will make a positive contribution to our economy. It will also facilitate transfer of technology,

upgradation of skills and improvement of management and encourage backward linkages."

"We are encouraged by the response from foreign investors to our investment package," said Hasina.

She pointed out that foreign direct investment in the country now stands at nearly 6.7 billion dollars with employment opportunities for 400,000 people.

In the industrial policy of 1999, the government decided to offer special incentives and facilities to 16 types of industries identified as thrust sector. These include agro-based industries.

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina unveils the plaque of the KEPZ in Chittagong yesterday. On her right are the visiting Korean Trade Minister Dr Han Duck-Soo and Mr Kihak Sung, Chairman of the Korean EPZ (BD) Corporation Ltd and Youngone Corporation, the sponsors of the EPZ.

Media Mode photo

Polls schedule for city corps Hartal instead of road march tomorrow

The BNP-led opposition has called for a dawn-to-dusk hartal across the country tomorrow to protest what it called the Election Commission's unilateral declaration of the polls schedule for three city corporations, reports UNB.

They demanded resignation of the government and parliamentary election before other elections.

The opposition came up with the hartal programme cancelling its scheduled Road March on Monday.

The decision for the hartal was taken at an emergency meeting of the liaison committee of the opposition alliance at 29 Minto Road yesterday morning.

The meeting was chaired by BNP secretary general Abdul

Mannan Bhuiyan.

Accusing the government of destroying democracy, parliament and election rules, the committee said no elections under the present government and the Election Commission (EC) could be fair and impartial as the incumbent Chief Election Commissioner has become 'subservient' to the government.

The liaison committee called for canceling the election schedule and warned that otherwise the government would be responsible for any eventualities.

The meeting was attended by M Shamsul Islam and Anwar Zahid of BNP, Matur Rahman Nizami, Mohammad Qamruzzaman and Abdul Qader Mollah of Jamaat-e-Islami, and May-

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Warm welcome awaits President Shahabuddin in Ankara

By Diplomatic Correspondent

President Justice Shahabuddin will be accorded a warm welcome when he arrives in Ankara later today on a three-day state visit to Turkey.

Deviating from protocol, Turkish President Suleyman Demirel will receive President Shahabuddin Ahmed at Ankara's Esenboga Airport.

The President was scheduled to leave Dhaka in the small hours of today. This would be his first overseas trip.

He is leading a nine-member delegation that includes Law and Justice Minister Abdul Matin Khasru and Foreign Secretary Shafi Sami. The entourage includes Secretary to

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Students block traffic on Dhaka-Bogra road for 2 hrs

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Oct 30: Traffic movement on Dhaka-Bogra Highway was disrupted for about two hours as several hundred students put up barricade at Sirajganj crossing this afternoon.

The students were protesting an alleged incident of harassment of a group of students from Sirajganj, who went to visit Bogra earlier today. The students were harassed by a group of extortionists at Bogra.

More than three hundred students of different schools and colleges of Sirajganj put up the barricade setting tires on fire at the crossing at about 4:15 pm.

Movement of thousands of

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With the last date 8 days away City polls talk brewing storm

By Nazmul Ashraf

The ruling Awami League seems determined to go ahead with the mayoral elections defying threats by the major opposition parties to "thwart" the process.

And chances are slim of a government-opposition negotiation as the ruling party did not look too keen on taking the issue to the table.

In a sudden revision to their earlier programmes yesterday, the opposition parties called a day-long hartal Monday to protest "Election Commission's unilateral declaration of the

polls schedule".

They are also considering calling hartal on November 7-8, coinciding with the last day of filing nomination papers. BNP and its three allies say "no elections can be free and fair under the present Election Commission and the government".

"It is undemocratic and unfortunate stance," said Zillur Rahman, AL general secretary and the LGRD minister, reacting to the opposition programme. "Law binds all to hold

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34 Shibir men held with arms at Comilla

From Our Correspondent
COMILLA, Oct 30: Police arrested 34 activists of the Islami Chhatra Shibir, including its district unit president and secretary from Victoria Coaching Centre in front of the Victoria University College today.

Police also recovered arms and ammunition from the centre.

The arrested are: Mohammad Ibrahim and Mohammad Mahfuzur Rahman, president and general secretary respectively of the district unit of Shibir, Sanaulah, general secretary of Victoria University College Students' Union and 31 other activists.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Kotwali thana police raided the Victoria Coaching Centre on Laksam Road at around 5 am and arrested the Shibir leaders.

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Ctg Shibir activist shot dead

From Our Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 30: A Shibir activist was shot dead by an armed gang in the city's Kegashgala area under Kotwali thana this afternoon.

The victim, identified as Safuddin alias Tutul, 23, came under attack while he was going to Bahaddarhat by a rickshaw at around 2-30 am. The gang intercepted Tutul's rickshaw and shot in his head. He died on the spot.

Protesting the killing, Shibir activists put up barricades on roads near Chittagong College, disrupting traffic for three hours. They also damaged vehicles at Chawkbazar, Muradpur and Bahaddarhat.

Uttara Jubo League leader shot dead

By Staff Correspondent

A Jubo League leader was shot dead by a gang of assailants near Friends Club in Uttara last night.

The dead was identified as Mashiur Rahman alias Shimul, 28, son of Mafizur Rahman, a resident of Uttara Sector-3, hospital sources said.

Quoting relatives of the dead, hospital sources said, Mashiur was a local Jubo League leader and owned a rent-a-car business.

The motive behind the murder could not be known immediately. With this, three city leaders of ruling Awami League and its front organisations were killed in the capital within a span of five days.

According to hospital sources the incident took place

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Blinded and seriously injured by kidnapers in Sutrapur area in the city yesterday, businessman Khokon is now fighting for life at the DMCH.

Kidnappers gouge out eyes of businessman

By Staff Correspondent

A gang of kidnapers gouged a businessman's eyes out with a knife and stabbed him in his abdomen with a broken bottle at Dhooiphola Math in the city yesterday.

Businessman Khokon, 25, was abducted from near his Gandaria residence at Gumthar in Gandaria.

The kidnapers also snatched away gold chains and cash money from Khokon, hospital sources said.

Relatives of the victim talking to The Daily Star alleged that the kidnapers were identified gangsters of the locality.

Police said they launched a manhunt to arrest the culprits. No case was lodged till filing of this report last night.

A gang of about seven picked up Khokon near his residence at about 11.30 am yesterday, witnesses said.

They took him to the Dhooiphola Math and later left him on a nearby road in a critical state. Local people rescued him hearing his screaming and rushed him to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), witnesses and hospital sources said.

AES demands assurance from govt in 'black and white'

By Sharier Khan

US power company AES may walk out of Bangladesh if it does not get a written re-assurance from the government by today that it would purchase power from its Haripur and Meghnaghat plants, sources said.

Government officials and AES executives have been holding a series of meetings for more than 10 days now over AES' suspension of work at Haripur project. But till yesterday, the meetings did not produce any concrete result.

Besides, last week's talks between the World Bank (WB) and government agencies over WB's risk guarantee to International Finance Corporation (IFC) against a loan for AES' Haripur project yielded no result, making the company's investment in Bangladesh somewhat uncertain.

However, a source quoting high officials of AES said that if the government gave it a "fresh commitment", it would re-start construction work at Haripur project from its own funds or from any financier it can arrange.

AES earlier signed two Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with the government providing for setting up of the

360 MW Haripur Power Plant and the 450 MW First Phase Meghnaghat Power Plant. It recently stopped construction work for the Haripur project as financing became uncertain.

The WB had agreed to provide the risk guarantee to IFC but imposed some conditions on Bangladesh, including the one that the country would not go for fresh power projects in the private sector.

But in late August, the government ignored WB conditions and decided to start negotiations with Japanese company Marubeni for the Second Phase Meghnaghat Power Plant on unsolicited terms.

This led the WB to change its decision regarding the risk guarantee. As a result, AES stopped all activities at Haripur in mid-October.

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BATEXPO '99 opens in city today Non-cooperation by some banks affecting garment export: Sinha

By Staff Correspondent

SONARGAON, Oct 30: BGMEA President Anisur Rahman Sinha yesterday said that about 150 export oriented garments factories, closed due to "political unrest and floods" earlier, could not be reopened yet due to alleged non-cooperation from some commercial banks.

He particularly mentioned state owned Sonali Bank and said, "A section of high officials of the bank is showing a negative attitude towards garments factories."

Export earnings through the Sonali Bank also fell by about 40 per cent so far this financial year compared to that of year due to non-cooperation with garments factories, he claimed.

The bank earned more than Tk 2100 crore in the last financial year. The earnings will not go beyond 1,000 crore in the current year.

He however said that another about 200 closed factories are expected to start business soon as state owned Janata Bank and Agrani Bank extended 'full co-operation following discussion with the gov-

ernment".

Sinha was addressing a press conference at Sonargaon Hotel on the eve of the three-day 10th annual Bangladesh Apparel and Textile Exposition - BATEXPO '99, beginning today. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the fair at

Sonargaon Hotel while Opposition leader Khaleda Zia will attend the concluding function on Tuesday, he said.

He said the country's export earnings from the garments sector increased by 15 to 20 per cent annually in the last few years. Despite a "depression" in the world apparel market now, earnings by the sector will continue to grow at least by 10 per cent annually till 2005, he claimed.

The garments sector is the country's largest foreign currency earner, having around 76 per cent share of the total. The sector earned more than 4 billion US dollars for the country in the last financial year, he said.

The BGMEA president said the country's economy is suffering a lot due to frequent hartals. He urged all the political parties to reach a consensus on national issues.

As many as 73 companies including fifteen foreign ones producing textile and garments accessories will display their

Alleged dacoit beaten to death

From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, Oct 30: One person was lynched and four others were seriously wounded when a mob beat them up after a bus driver brought his vehicle to a grinding halt at Chandura bazar at 10-15 pm near here, calling for help against robbers masquerading as passengers.

The dacoits had boarded the bus from Madhabpur, Habiganj. The incident took place about 30 miles east of Brahmanbaria.

The dead was identified as Abu, 25.

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Iqbal Ansari Khan passes away

By Staff Correspondent

Iqbal Ansari Khan, a leader and activist of the great Language Movement of 1952 and a freedom fighter, died of kidney failure at a Bangkok hospital yesterday afternoon. He was 66.

Popularly known as Henry, he was an active Rotarian and was elected governor of R.I District 3280 Bangladesh during 1987-88.

A senior advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, Iqbal Ansari Khan was involved in active student politics right from his college days. He was arrested and jailed in 1949 and 1952 for his part in the

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বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংকের
নতুন বিভাগীয় কার্যালয়
ফরিদপুর
এর
শ্রদ্ধ উদ্বোধন
৩১শে অক্টোবর, ১৯৯৯

বৃহত্তর ফরিদপুর অঞ্চলের জনসাধারণের দীর্ঘ দিনের প্রত্যাশাকে বাস্তবে রূপ দিতে বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংকের নতুন বিভাগীয় কার্যালয় খানা রোড, ফরিদপুর, গঠন করা হয়েছে।

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