20,455

# What's on today . . .

Workshop: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and Asian Development Bank have jointly organised a workshop on 'Improvement of National Accounts Estimation'. State Minister for Planning Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir will inaugurate the workshop. Venue: Winter Garden of Hotel Sheraton. Time: 10:30

Seminar at BUET: A seminar on 'Allocation of Cyclone Shelter: A risk-Based Decision Model' will be held. Keynote Speaker: Dr Jahir Uddin Chowdhury, Professor, Institute of Flood Control and Drainage Research (IFCDR), BUET. Venue: Seminar room of Institute Building (IAT), BUET campus. Time: 3:15 pm.

Anannya Award: Anannya, a fortnightly magazine for women, will award Novelist Rabeya Khatun the 'Anannya Literary Award 1406. Eminent educationist Prof Dr Anisuzzaman will hand over the award as chief guest. Venue: Poet Begum Sufia Kamal auditorium of the National Museum. Time: 4 pm.



BLAST conference: Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) has organised a conference on 'Constitutional Practices' to commemorate the 27th anniversary of the Constitution adoption. Chief guest: Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affair Minister Abdul Matin Khasru. Venue: Osmani Memorial Hall. Time: 4:30 pm.

CESTI Seminar: Centre for Scientific and Technological Information (CESTI) has organised a seminar on 'Evolution of Public Management.' Keynote papers: Philip Malgras and Lionel Chaty, consultants in public sector, IDHR, France, Venue: Cafeteria, Alliance Française de Dhaka. 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi. Time: 3:30 pm.

## Weather

# Light rain forecast

Light rain or thundershowers is likely at a few places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Barisal divisions and at one or two places over Khulna, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. Met office said.

The highest temperature 33.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Barisal and Sitakunda and the lowest 22.5 degrees at Satkhira. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:18 pm and rises tomorrow

at 6.06 am. Maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded

in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
Max	Min		Evening
28.9	24.8	81	89
32.4	24.6	85	83
31.0	23.9		96
32.0	24.9		84
33.5	24.5		83
30.7	23.9	92	84
32.0	23.5	80	80
	Max 28.9 32.4 31.0 32.0 33.5 30.7	28.9 24.8 32.4 24.6 31.0 23.9 32.0 24.9 33.5 24.5 30.7 23.9	in Celsius percer Max Min Morning 28.9 24.8 81 32.4 24.6 85 31.0 23.9 75 32.0 24.9 85 33.5 24.5 80 30.7 23.9 92

# HERE and THERE

### **FEMA**

Fair Election Monitoring Alliance (FEMA) and Study and Research Group (SRG) of MSS jointly organised a discussion meeting on 'the process of election to Union Parishad and its function' yesterday at auditorium of Russian Cultural Centre, says a press release.

Dr Musleh Uddin Ahmed, an associate professor Department of Public Administration. Dhaka University and Burhanuddin Ahmed, former deputy secretary of EC and Consultant of FEMA presented keynote Among others Ataur Rah-

man vice-chairperson of FEMA, Feroz M Hassan, secretary general, Tarikul Ghani, executive director. Muhammad Jahangir and representatives of different organisations spoke and participated in the discus-

### **CCHRB**

The annual general meeting (AGM) of Coordinating Council of Human Rights in Bangladesh (CCHRB), a national apex body of about 250 human rights and held yesterday in WVA auditorium in the city. A 15 member executive

development organisations was

committee was elected, says a press release. The new consensus leader-

ship of CCHRB is as follows: President A H M Nouman, vicepresidents: Shandhya Roy-Gonoshasthaya Kendra, Selina Shelly-Oxfam, M R Mahbub-BMS, Md Saiful Islam Dildar-BHRC, Advocate A K M Abul Kashem-BLAO. treasurer: Md Enamul Haque-ASA.

### Police Women Welfare Assoc

Bangladesh Police Women Welfare Association at a meeting expressed deep shock at the death of Sergeant Ahad Parvez who was beaten to death by muggers in the city recently, reports UNB.

The meeting demanded of the government adequate security measures for the police on duty to check recurrence of such incidents.

It also demanded financial help for the Parvez's family.

vestigation into the murder

case. So far they have ques-

tioned the accused while in

their custody and seized

Mammi's personal diary which

revealed tales of her agonies

since she was married to Ripon

not prove that it was a case of

suicide," the Narayangani

thana OC told The Daily Star

dent. Mammi's brother BM

Tk two lakh, a colour TV, a re-

frigerator and furniture as

dowry. But her husband and

in-laws used to torture Mammi

But the husband denied the

allegations while talking to

some reporters at the court ha-

jat today. He claimed Mammi

was found hanging from the

also denied taking any dowry

from her family. Rather he ac-

cused Mammi of behaving

rudely with his family mem-

bers. "She used to undermine

the seniors and misbehave with

3 Indian navy

ships arrive

at Ctg Port

large number of city people in-

cluding journalists today visited

the three ships of Eastern Fleet

of the Indian Navy anchored at

Jetty No-2 of Chittagong Port

rived here yesterday on a four-

The Indian Navy ships ar-

The Ships INS Rana, a Rus-

sian made destroyer and two

indigenously built missile

corvettes INS Khukri and INS

Khanjar remained open to the

public from 2 pm to 5 pm to-

here, reports BSS.

day goodwill visit.

CHITTAGONG, Nov 2: A

Ripon, the principal accused.

for more dowry."

ceiling tan

Hossain alleged they gave Ripon

Talking to this correspon-

"Preliminary evidences do

more than seven months ago.

# Mummi murder case

today.

From page 12

Pregnant for six months. Mammi, 20, was killed allegedly by her husband in collusion with her in-laws at their Beparipara residence here in the early hours of October 30. The same day, Mammi's

brother Advocate BM Hossain filed a case with Narayanganj police accusing the six. The accused were detained in jail ha-Jat until they were produced before the court today. The complainant alleged

Mammi was tortured to death for dowry while the husband and in-laws claimed she hanged herself from a ceiling fan with a But police said they found

the victim lying on the floor with a scarf tied round her throat. The scarf, two parts stitched together, was not strong enough to bear the weight of Mammi's body, argued Zahirul Islam, OC of Narayangani thana.

Sources at the Narayanganj General Hospital said according to the autopsy report Mammi was strangled and there were marks of injury on the body. Meanwhile, police are yet to

them. I tried to correct her and sometimes beat her up." make any headway in the in-He also alleged that the doctors were bribed for the autopsy Japanese ODA

From page

Bridge, Meghna-Gumti Bridge, Model Rural Development Project for Daudkandi, Chandnighat Water Treatment Plant. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers Project in Shishu Hospital, OISCA Agriculture Training Center for Women. Rural Development Credit Programme (Grameen Bank), Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge and

NGO support for Nari Maitree. The government of Japan has introduced this new monitoring scheme this year with a view to enhancing the transparency of project implementation and also the participation of Japanese people in the ODA programme. Similar teams have sent to Philippines, Laos and Vietnam.

### National professor Dewan Muhammad Azraf dead

By Staff Correspondent The body of National Professor Dewan Muhammad Azraf was taken to Sylhet yesterday for burial at the mazar area of Hazrat Shah Jalal, following a namaz-e-janaza held at the Baitul Mukarram mosque in the capital earlier.

Dewan Muhammad Azraf. founder principal of Abuzar Gifari College and a noted philosopher died at the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases Monday night. A day after his 93rd birthday, on October 26, he was admitted to the hospital.

Dewan Azraf was the son of Dewan Muhammad Asaf, zemindar of Duhalia and grand son of poet Hasan Raza.

In his long career Dewan Azraf served at different educational institutions at different capacities till he founded the Abuzar Gifari College in the capital 1967. He also served as part time teacher of Dhaka University for 15 years from

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia has expressed profound shock at the death of eminent philosopher, thinker, educationist National Professor Dewan Mohammad Azraf.

Recalling the glorious contribution of the late education-Khaleda Zia said his works will inspire the future generation and will live forever among the people.

She prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and expressed sympathy to the mem bers of the bereaved family.

Meanwhile, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Chief Whip Khandaker Delwar Hossain and city BNP convenor Sadek Hossain Khoka in separate messages have condoled the death of Dewan Mohammad Azraf

They said the nation lost a dedicated and patriotic philosopher at the death of the late national professor. They also prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved tamily members.

Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury has expressed deep shock and grief at the death of National Professor Dewan Mohammad Azraf, a noted Islamic philosopher and educationist, reports UNB.

In a condolence message yes-terday, the Speaker paid glowing tribute to the memory of the deceased and called his demise an irreparable loss to the country's education and cultural

### Bibi Russell accorded reception

Poor weavers and street children, for whom Bibi Russell devotes her works, joined distinguished personalities in according a rousing reception to her for being honoured by UN-ESCO, reports BSS.

United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisations (UNESCO) in early October appointed Bibi Russell its special envoy, "Designer for Development" in recognition of her unfailing commitment to the welfare of the weavers of Bangladesh.

As Bibi, the first Bangalee to be appointed as UNESCO special envoy, entered the welldecorated auditorium of the National Museum, she was welcomed with traditional folk music and dance by street chil-

## Bypolls

From page 1

Kishoreganj-1 (Pakundia-Hossenpur) constituency of Jatiya Sangsad fell vacant due to the death of ruling party MP Shamshul Huq alias Golap Miah on September 25. On the other hand, the Elec-

tion Commission declared Rajshahi-5 (Bagha-Charghat) and Sirajganj-7 (Shahzadpur) seats vacant on October 11, as two BNP lawmakers — Mohammad Alauddin and Hasibur Rahman Swapan — joined the government of Sheikh Hasina defying the opposition party.

### Govts corrupt

From page 1

Corruption thereby "occurs upstream" distorting fundamental decisions about development priorities, policies and projects. The money is then

smuggled out of the country, "This corrupt money has a name and an account and it goes to offshore of island banks." Haq said. " International banking secrecy laws actually work to protect grand larceny."

Income disparities in the region are among the largest in the world, with the richest 20 per cent earning almost 40 per cent of the national income and poorest 20 per cent earning less than 10 per cent.

Only 1 per cent of South Asian pay income tax but governments collect 70 per cent of their income through indirect taxes in what the report calls a steal industry.'

Among the report's recommendations is for prosecutors to start "at the top" and convict and punish major tax evaders. dishonest judges and high-level bribe-takers from the party in power anti-corruption drives are not used as political tools.

It proposes independent corruption courts, disclosure by public officials of their assets. immunity to informers and open-bidding or other transparent procurement procedures.



Samajtantrik Sramik Front brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding implementation of the accord signed with SKOP. - Star photo

### Kazi Zafar

From page 1

public announcement with an ulterior motive just for earthfilling of his paternal land" the verdict said.

The charge sheet in the case was submitted against the three on October 1, 1994 after investigation. A total of eleven witnesses

including an Additional Secretary were cross-examined during the trial.

As per the verdict, delivered under Section 409/109 of CrPC and Section 5(2) of Anti-corruption Act, 1947, Kazi Zafar wil have to serve five more years simple imprisonment for default in paying the fine.

### Guidelines

From page 12

as textile mills and their all assets will be considered as the assets of the unit.

The quantity and price of shares will be fixed on the basis of the price determined for the mill identified for handover. The shares will be distributed among the members of the company of workers and employees who will take over the

The government will transfer 100 per cent shares of the mills to the new companies. No share will be transferred to any individual other than the employees and workers of the mills without prior permission from the government until long-term bank loans against the mills are repaid.

As per the terms, the government reserves the authority of cancelling the handover agreement or retake ownership of the mills in case of violation of any conditions of the agreement and existing laws. "If required, the mill-recipi-

Compromise

From page 1

General Abdul Mannan

The government of Awams

League, taking over in 1996.

stopped observing the day as it

used to be till 1995. In 1996, it

was a Thursday and the AL gov-

ernment continued the practice

of observing a public holiday on

day coincided with weekends. It

was a Friday and a Saturday re-

been celebrating November 7 as

the 'National Revolution and

Solidarity Day' marking its

founder late General Ziaur

Rahman's virtual ascent to

The state recognition to the

November 7 "spirit" dates back

to 1976 when General Zia made

the day a public holiday, calling

it 'Sepoy-People Revolution

formed his BNP to head a civil-

ian government, renamed the

occasion as 'National Revo-

lution and Solidarity Day'

Since then, the November 7

public holiday had been main-

tained by all the successive gov-

Awami League strongly opposed

the idea of calling November 7 a

"revolution day". The govern-

ment of Sheikh Hasina instead

identified it as "freedom fight-

and BNP got locked in a fierce

debate in the parliament on the

BNP said the November 7

(1975) events 'protected the

country's sovereignty and inde-

pendence' while AL said hun-

dreds of army officers and sol-

diers were killed on the day at

spared of a holiday-or-no-holi-

day decision in two consecutive

years (1997 and 1998), police

foiled BNP's November 7 public

meeting in the capital in 1998.

prompting the party to go for a

two-day hartal on November 9-

10. This year, however, the de-

cision to go for a two-day hartal

has come before any such inci-

immediately precede the two-

day shutdown, which will result

no-work days would be five in

the first eight days of the cur-

rent month. The two-day plan

was announced at the end of

Monday's day-long hartal.

in a four-day work storage

With the Novem

down planned, the

The two-day weekend will

Der of

dent.

As the AL government was

the dictates of General Zia.

On November 6, 1996, AL

ers-soldiers killing day".

"significance" of the day.

Back in power in 1996, the

General Zia, who later

Until last year, BNP had

Both in 1997 and 1998, the

the day.

spectively.

power in 1975.

Day'.

ernments.

Bhuiyan said on Monday.

ent company can issue new shares and sell it to the workers and employees of the mill concerned or float those on the capital market to raise fund. says an official announcement.

From page 1

revived the case to try the

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police has submitted a charge sheet in the case after about two years of investigation, primarily accusing 23 people.

Of the accused, former President Khandokar Mushtaque Ahmed and former Secretary Mahabubul Alam Chashi had already died and the remaining 21 people were Large-sheeted in connection with the killing of the four na-

tional leaders. Nineteen of the 21 accused have also been accused in the Bangabandhu Murder case. The lower court gave the 15 of the accused the capital punishment in Bangabandhu murder case in a verdict on November 8 last year and the case is now pending in the High Court for appeal hearing.

Of those 21 chargesheeted in the Jail Killing Case eight are at Dhaka Central Jail and the rest 13 - all former military personnel — are now absconding.

The 21 chargesheeted accused now under trial are: KM Obaidur Rahman, Nurul Islam Mansur, Taheruddin Thakur, Lt Col. (dismissed) Khandaker Abdur Rashid, Maj (retd) Bazlur Rashid, Maj (retd) Bazlul Huda, Lt Col (retd) Noor Chowdhury, Lt Col. (relived) Shariful Haque Dalim, Lt Col Aziz Pasha, Lt Col Faruqur Rahman, Lt Col. (Dismissed) Sultan Shahriar Khan, Lt Col (Relieved) Rashed Chowdhury, Maj (relived) SKM Mahiuddin, Risalader (retd) Muslemuddin, Captain (retd) Abdul Majid, Maj (relieved) Ahmed Sharful Hossain, Maj (retd) Khairuzzaman, Captain (relieved) Kismet Hashim, Captain (retd) Nazmul Hossain Ansar, Dafadar Marfat Ali Shah and LD Abul Hasem

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday paid rich tributes to the memories of the four assassinated national leaders terming their

1975 killing in high securi'v jail as a "stigma" on nationa life and "heinous incident in the history of human civilisation."

"None can earn the love o people killing their elected representatives, rather the killers remain as accused persons before the people and society for ever," he said in a message on the eve of the Jail Killing Day to be observed today.

> PM's message Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina said yesterday that the present government is firmly determined to hold trial of all political killings in the country. "We, as per hopes and aspi-

rations of the common man. are also determined to establish permanent peace in the country," she said in a message on the eve of 24th Jail Killing Day. Paying glowing tributes to the memory of four national leaders - Sayed Nazrul Islam, Tajud-

din Ahmed, Captain M Mansur

Ali and A H M Quamruzzaman - Sheikh Hasina said that the killing was a deep rooted conspiracy to make the Bengali nation leaderless. "The four national leaders strengthened the hands of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in flourishing of democ-

preparing people in the war of independence," she said. She added, "The heinous killing which took place inside the Dhaka Central jail on November 3, 1975 was an unprecedented black event in the

racy, Bengali nationalism, secu-

larism and socialism along with

### Ershad leaves for China today

history of world civilisation."

Jatiya Party chairman Hossain Muhammad Ershad will leave Dhaka today on a five-day visit to China, reports UNB.

He will be accompanied by his private secretary Maj (retd) M Khaled Akhtar and party leader Golam Masih.

# BNP holds rally

maat-e-Islami procession to march through the Topkhana

Road and Press Club area about five minutes before the BNI' procession reached there. After 3-4 minutes' con-Irontation, the BNP procession-

marched through the Topkhana Road. BNP lawmakers Joynal Abedin Faruq, Amanullah Aman and Nazimuddin Alam and about a dozen female ac-

ists broke the barricade and

tivists were in the front row of the procession. The unscheduled rally in front of the Press Club was addressed by Sadek Hossain Khoka MP and Amanullah Aman MP. After the rally, BNP leaders and activists marched

up to the party central at Naya Paltan. Riot police followed the procession. No untoward incident

took place. Presided over by Sadek Hossain Khoka, the rally at Muktangan was addressed by, among others, Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Tariqui Islam, DCC ward commissioners Kazi Abul Bashar and Golam Morshed, Fazlul Haq Milon, JCD leaders Habibunnabi Khan Sohel and ABM Mosharraf Hos-

They strongly protested the police firing on journalists during the hartal that left two photo journalists injured and said the Awami League government has resorted to "attack" on the judiciary and the press to "snatch away independence of the judiciary and freedom of

BNP Standing Committee member Abdul Matin Chowdhury said the government become angry with journalists as they started criticising the government for its alleged misdeeds. There is no alternative but to

topple the government to get rid of the present "suffocating situation" he said and called for in-

### Body recovered BAGERHAT. Nov 2: The po-

lice reco ed body of an unidentif. young man from the river in Moralganj thana this (Tuesday) afternoon, reports UNB Local people saw the body

near Bara kal village at 5 am and informed the police. · Police sent the body to Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

floating on river Pangachhi

tensifying the one-point move-

Tariqul Islam said it is not possible to continue the democratic process without ensuring security of journalists and freedom of the press. BNP, with the help of people, will foil the government's evil design to curb freedom of the judiciary and the press, he said.

Sadek Hossain Khoka claimed that some senior police officials told them (BNP leaders) that they could not discharge their duties neutrally because of government intervention"

Jatiya Party, Jamaat-e-Islami and Islamic Oikya Jote also held separate rallies and brought out processions in the city yesterday to protest police "attack" on journalists.

### Khaleda

From page 1

are unprotected, villagers and BDR personnel are being killed. industries are on the verge of closure and people are annoyed due to water-power-gas crises." The concluding session of

the three-day BATEXPO was also addressed by former finance minister M Saifur Rahman, BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, former commerce minister M Shamsul Islam Morshed Khan MP, FBCCI President Abdul Awal Mintoo and BGMEA President Anisur Rahman Sinha.

Khaleda Zia claimed that a

suffocating situation was prevailing in the country due to serious deterioration of law and order, terrorism, toll collection and politicisation of the administration. "We can not allow the situation to continue for the grater

interest of the country and the nation. We want to create such an environment where there will be no confrontation or abuse of power despite political difference", the former prime minister said. Saifur Rahman said it is the

government which is creating

political instability. Garments industry in the country got a start during the tenure of former president Ziaur Rahman and it flourish during Khaleda Zia's time, he claimed. "Not a single composite textile mill was set up in the last three years", he said.

Anisur Rhaman Sinha urged all the political parties to reach a consensus on economic isHasina says

# BNP, allies take side against democracy

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said by announcing to boycott the city corporation polls and vow to resist it. BNP and its opposition allies in fact took the side against democracy and people. reports BSS.

Though BNP and its allies were openly denouncing the polls, their partymen, in fact, would contest in the forthcoming city corporation elections. she said while addressing leaders of Rajshahi district, Bagha and Charghat thana Awami League at the International Conference Centre in the city. Sheikh Hasina, who is also

Awami League, called upon the rank and file leaders and workers of her party to strengthen the organisation upto grassroot levels and take massive preparations for the forthcoming city corporation and upazila elec-Party general secretary and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman. Rajshahi district AL president Rakhal

Mohammad Zakirul Islam

Santu, Charghat AL president

Anwar Hossain, general secre-

Jail Killing Day Chandra Das, general secretary

> tary Raihanul Islam, Bagha AL president Abdus Samad Sarder and Bagha thana AL leader Layebuddin Lablu spoke on the occasion. AL presidium members Amir Hossain Amu, Abdul Jalil and publicity secretary Abdul

> > the dais.

voting rights of the people. Referring to the meaningless and issueless hartal being called frequently by the opposition, the prime minister said these were aimed at interrupting the pace of development and jeopardize the verdict of the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu. the president of Bangladesh

The prime minister urged the party leaders to work with

devotion for earning love and

them to unveil the ill motive of

BNP and its allies to destroy

democracy and snatch away

The prime minister called

confidence of the people.

The prime minister asked her partymen to highlight the huge development work by the government to the general masses. In this connection she said her government is pledgebound to make rational development of all regions of the country. When the question of development of the areas is concerned, we never take into consideration who won the parliament seat or by which party. Although we got very few seats in the Rajshahi region, there is no dearth of sincerity on our part to develop this vitally important northern region of the country, she added.

The prime minister advised the party leaders to sink all narrow differences, if there is any among them. Only unity and amity among the leaders and workers could bring success for a political party, she added.

# PM: Defence plan

Mannan were also present on

Battery, one Field Ambulance Battalion and one division Ordnance Company were raised for the newly formed 19 Infantry Division

Besides, she said, a National Defence College (NDC), one Military Instittue of Science and Technology (MIST), one Armed Forces Medical College and one Peace Keeping Training Centre were set up. The Prime Minister said

Khulna Shipyard has already

been handed over to the Navy.

The process is also on to transfer the Bangladesh Machine Tools Factory to the Army to raise the overall efficiency of the Armed Forces. Under the development plan for the Navy, a deal was signed to buy a modern naval frigate to

defend Bangladesh's maritime boundary and the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The frigate will join the naval fleet in 2001 Two patrol boats from South Korea would also join the Navy

soon to increase the surveillance in the EEZ areas. Hasina informed the House that an approval was given to buy an Action Speed Technical Trainer for the Navy to impart practical training to the train-

ers to face any war situation in the sea. The Prime Minister told the House that the government had approved purchase of new aircraft and equipment to enhance the Air defence capability and coordinated management during calamities and improve the standard of training for the Air Force personnel.

She said four FT 7-B fighter training aircraft, three MI-17 helicopters, one bell 212 sea search and rescue helicopter. one Bell 206 L-4 long range helicopter and two low looking radar were already purchased. Hasina said process is un-

port planes and eight Mig-29 aircraft. To make the armed forces more dynamic, she said, a number of steps have been taken. The plan for establish-

derway to buy four C-130 trans-

ing a new army brigade has been taken to consolidate the Thailand). Shova

## BDR, BSF

till 11-30 pm.

From page 12

by police in connection with several murder cases, also threatened her not to enter Swarnakamol. Meanwhile. Shova has made

describing different criminal activities of her husband. According to a reliable source in the KMP, Shova has also exposed "perverted" psychology of Khodeja that led to the brutal murders of house tutor Jahangir, Akimul and Advocate

a lengthy statement to police

Meanwhile. Shikdar's eldest son Monir has sought permission from the authorities concerned to see his father in Jes-

sore Central Jail. Monir wants an 'honorable settlement' of the dispute over property matters after talking to his father, said a reliable

In another development. additional police commissioner A H M Nooruddin will report for duty at the KMP headquarters tomorrow, said official source. He was on medical leave

since last two months during

the period of Ershad Shikdar's

arrest and subsequent interro-

gation. UNB adds: Another case was revived against Ershad Sikder and some of his accomplices in the District and Sessions Judge Court here today.

The accused in the criminal case are Ershad Ali Shikder. Jalil Munshi, Norr-e-Alam, Jalil Gazi, Joynal and Lutfar. Chief Metropolitan Magis-

trate Sirajul Islam had acquitted them from the charge in the criminal case on December 9. 1997.

Public Prosecutor Abdus Salam appealed for retrial of the criminal case, whic' is likely to be taken up by the District and Sessions Judge's

defence system in Sylhet areas.

which are enriched by natural resources. Besides, Bangladesh Infantry Regimental Centre is being set up for recruitment and training. The government also agreed in principle to buy one

fixed wing aircraft, three rotary

win aircraft, and four L-39

training aircraft to increase the activities of the Army Aviation The Prime Minister said salary for the members of the armed forces was enhanced by at least 12 per cent and al lowance by at least 30 per cent under the new Pay Scale which became effective from July

1997. Replying to M Tajul Islam (AL-Comilla), the Prime Minister gave details of her government's achievement in econ omy, diplomacy and sports.

About the objective of the newly formed Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP), she said it was aimed at establishing peace in the Asian contingent.

### Essentials

From page 1 A number of sellers at New Market Kutcha Bazaar yester day said that prices of both homegrown and imported onion kept on rising. The Indian variety was selling at Tk-30-32 per kg comparing to Tk 24-26 a couple of days ago. The local variety was selling at

Tk 35 per kg. Potatoes were selling at Tk. 10 or 11 per kilogram a week back but the price rose yesterday to Tk. 13 to 14. Prices of other seasonal vegetables were also very high. Tomato was selling at Tk. 45 per kg. bean at Tk. 40, cucumber at Tk. 28, and

palmal at Tk. 20. However, prices of lentil remained stable at Tk 40 for local

variety and Tk. 38 for Nepalese Among the other major spices, ginger was on sale at Tk. 40 (homegrown) and Tk. 56 (imported from Indonesia) and garlic at Tk. 40-45 (homegrown) and Tk. 28 (imported from

From page

disarmed him and seized his pistol with six bullets. On information, the BSF of the Barchhara outpost started firing. The BDR also retaliated The exchange of fire continued

The situation became tense

in two other bordering areas -Tekerghat and Naraintala this morning where BSF began firing. The BDR also replied with shots. The exchange of fire continued till 10 am today. Import of coal through the

Chandpur-Barchhara Land Customs remained suspended for the last four weeks due to a tussle between the Indian customs and BSF The BSF this afternoon sent

a message preparing a flag meeting with a view to getting the police officer and the constable back. The meeting will be held at Tekerghat at 10 am tomorrow, said an official.

# One held

From page 1 in Gopibagh at about 2:30 pm when he was staying at that

China and his accomplices fired a number of gunshots at police during the raid. Police also replied with about seven gunshots. At one stage police were able to arrest China but his acce plices managed to escape. L ce said.

### **CMCH** From page

while. The Chittagong

Char of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) today urged the government to accept the demand of the striking doctors. It also threatened to launch

a greater movement from next week if the demand was not