

Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd. Licensee Of Federal Express Corporation Tel # 9565114; Fax # 9565112

## MOTIJHEEL

IBRAHIM CHAMBER 95, Motijheel C.A., Dhaka Tel # 9565114, Fax: 9565112

## BANGSHAL

Majed Court, 16/1 Siddique Bazar North South Road, Dhaka Tel # 9667462

### **NARAYANGANJ**

72, Sirajuddowla Road, Khanpur Narayanganj Tel # 9714336



# Ideal gift for any occasion.

Instalment facility available only for purchases above Tk. 7,500

Transcom Electronics Limited

Dhaka: 815307-10 Ctg.: 716353, 723578 Khulna: 720304 Bogra: 6215 Visit your nearest Philips Display Centre today

Let's make things better.

British millionaire busi-

nessman, James Goldsmith.

"I asked Jemima not to re-

turn to Pakistan because

Nawaz Sharif wanted her ar-

rested under the false charges

who died last year.

Khan.



PHILIPS

# 2 more cases against Shikdar revived

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Nov 7: Two more previous cases were revived today against Shikdar and his accomplices.

One was recorded with Khalishpur thana on March 5, 1995 under Sections 448/323/427. But the accused were acquitted as the court was not provided with any evidence for punish-

Another case was recorded with Khulna thana on September 17, 1996 also under Sections 143/323/324 and 448. The court also acquitted all the accused as the complaints were forced to compromise, said a source in

Wives and relatives of some of the victims have already expressed their grave concern for the failure to nab the remaining armed cadres including Jamai

Faruque, Nasir Khan and Ayub Munshi. They are allegedly threatening wives and relatives of the victims through different messengers not to make any statement before the court against Shikdar and other accomplices arrested so far.

form 'Sachetan Nagorik Committee' to give financial assistance to families of the victims of murders committed by Ershad Shikdar and his armed cadres.

On Saturday, the police commissioner helped four families from KMP's welfare fund.

#### Opposition parties may announce all-party action committees today The opposition alliance is

likely to announce all-party action committees today. "We would announce consti-

tution of all-party action committees tomorrow after hartal to escalate the current movement for realising our onepoint demand," a liaison committee member told UNB yesterday.

He, however, said it would be a difficult task to form such committee in various tiers due to wide gaps and misunderstanding prevailing among the partners of the alliance.

Replying to a question, he said they were working out format of the action committees under the setups of the parties across the country.

He said that central leaders of the alliance comprising BNP, Jatiya Party, Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Oikya Jote would have to go to grassroots level to make the mission a success.

About next course of action programme he said it would depend on the government's attitude. Fresh programmes will be announced today.

He hinted that tougher course of action might come before Shab-e-barat that commences in the last week of this month.

# 54 die in Kashmir bus crash

JAMMU, (India), Nov 7: At least 54 people were killed and 17 seriously injured when a bus skidded and plunged into a gorge in India's Jammu and Kashmir state, police said today, reports Reuters.

They said the accident happened in Kathua district, 85-km south of Jammu, the state's winter capital, on Saturday.

Police said the driver lost control of the vehicle due to a mechanical failure and skidded off the road while negotiating a sharp turn. Most of the injured passen

gers were taken to the local district hospital and those in very serious condition were admitted to the Government Medical College in Jammu. Star Television said most of

the passengers were local government officials who were returning to their homes on the eve of Diwali, the Hindu festival quoted police as saying

overloading may have been the cause of the accident because the bus was carrying more than 70 passengers.

# Tougher action

From page 1 became unbalanced and started

"raiding" houses of opposition leaders and activists to arrest them. He claimed that police raided the house of Amanullah Aman, MP Saturday night. City BNP Convenor Sadek

Hossain Khoka alleged that police, without any provocation, fired shots and tear gas shells and resorted to lathi charge on opposition activists at Jatrabari in the city, killing one housewife and injuring over 100 people.

He claimed that at least 250 BNP activists were injured and over 300 others arrested by police in the city during the hartal. He claimed that police also raided houses of at least 200

BNP leaders in last few days. Jatiya Party Acting Secretary General Maidul Islam. Jamaat -e- Islami Assistant

Secretary General Mohammad Kamaruzzaman and IOJ leader ARM Abdul Matin also addressed the briefing.

BNP leaders Tariqui Islam, Abdullah Al Noman, Anwar Zahid, Amanullah Aman, MP, Prof Shahidul Islam, MP, Jamaat leader Abdul Qader Mollah, IOJ leader Fazlul Haq Amini were also present on the occasion.

Meanwhile, a move is on to

Countrywide appeal will also be made to help create a fund for the committee which is likely to be formed this month, said a reliable source.

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia said people have rejected what she called subservient, inept, corrupt, conspirator and liar government by observing hartal yesterday, reports UNB.

BNP chairperson congratulated the countrymen for their spontaneous response to the hartal call and called upon them also to make today's hartal a success to hasten the fall of the "fascist government."

She condemned the killing reaved family.

# Old man shot dead in

From Our Correspondent JHENIDAH, Nov 7: An old man was shot dead by a group of unidentified assailants last night at village Sanbandha in Kaliganj thana of the district.

The victim was identified as

open the door and shot Shadat point blank. He died on the

morgue for autopsy. A case was this connection.

ports UNB. However, names of 45 news-

papers, magazines and periodicals were dropped from the list, he said yesterday.

state minister said the governdeclaration of a newspaper in absence of any such law.

newspaper in the list," he said. Referring to a news item published in a widely circulated newspaper recently, the Information Minister said the report

the Department of Films and Publications (DFP), the government would take action af-

The government has allocated Tk 70 crore for government advertisements in the

Replying to Nurul Islam Nahid (AL-Sylhet), the information minister said: 'The government does not interfere and control the activities of the government news agency, BSS.

Replying to Abdul Latif Mirza (AL-Sirajganj), he said the government has taken action against those who filed false reports and their appointments have already been cancelled.

The minister also said that

# Observe today's hartal to hasten fall of 'fascist govt': Khaleda

In a statement last night, the

of Rina Begum in Dhaka and attacks on many others by "Awami terrorists" and police across the country during the hartal yesterday. She also prayed for salvation of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the members of the be-

# Jhenidah

Shadat Hossain, 75. The reason behind the murder could not be known till filing of this report. Police said, the assailants entered the house by breaking

The body was sent to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital filed with Kaliganj thana in

## Minister tells JS Govt has no power to cancel declaration of a newspaper

State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed has told the Parliament that the government has enlisted 65 new newspapers, magazines and periodicals in the media list, re-

Replying to a question of Mirza Azam (AL-Jamalpur), the ment has no power to cancel the

"The deputy commissioner can only give the declaration and we (Information Ministry) only include the name of the

is totally incorrect. If there is any corruption in

ter investigation, he told the

newspaper, he added.

if there is any allegation against anyone working in Dhaka, the government would take action after investigation.



-Star photo

# Hartal: Two killed in city

nounced him dead.

Police however said that miscreants' killed him , without giving details.

A stray bullet killed housewife Rina Ahmed, 26, during police action on pickets at Jatrabari, her family members and neighbours said

She was standing on a first floor balcony when the bullet struck her policemen from a riot van fired at random in the area when pickets tried to set fire to a rickshaw, they said. Police however denied the allegation.

Rina was declared dead when brought to DMCH in a rickshaw van after the hartal. Wife Sabuj Ahmed, she left behind two children. Some sources said two police

officials later visited DMCH

and tried to convince doctors and others that she was killed in cross-firing during a clash between pro and anti-hartal Clashes between pro and anti-hartal pickets backed by police began at Jatrabari in the

in the evening. Agitated crowd torched an auto-tempo at 7-30 Police swung into action firing from a riot van to drive away pickets trying to torch a

morning and continued till late

rickshaw at the closing hours of the hartal. Pro and anti-hartal groups were active in Jatrabari, Saidabad, Shyampur, Dholaikhal, Shantinagar, Gulistan, Sheorapara, Dholaikhal, Moghbazar, New Market, Kataban, Dholaipar, Mirpur and some other areas. Police picked up 50 people from these areas on dif-

terent charges Sporadic explosions were heard in different parts of the city. Shah Alam, a rickshawpuller, was seriously injured when a bomb exploded in Gulistan area. The others admitted to DMCH with bomb injuries included Amir Ali, 32, an auto-rickshaw driver Manik, 30, Yunus, 18, Anwarul Huq, 20, Koli Mia, 65, Russel 15, Khalil 18, Abul Kashem, 30, Maidul Islam, 35. They were wounded in New Market Shantinagar, Mirpur, Elephant

Road, Nawabour Road and Jatrabari areas. Pickets burnt or smashed about a dozen of rickshaws during the hartal hours. They also ransacked about 20 vehicles and set ablaze at least five of those. Clashes took place between police and BNP activists when police dispersed their processions at Azimpur and

#### Rampura. BNP Office

During the hartal hours, the usual trouble spots - Nayapaltan, Kakrail, Bijoynagar and its adjoining areas-- were by and large peaceful and no major incident was reported. Police presence around the BNP central office was much less than during previous hartals.

Police put up barbed wire barricade at Nightangle and Fakirerpool crossings and prohibited entry of any rickshaw to avoid untoward incident. Po-

lice also blocked all lanes and by-lanes in Nayapaltan area and restricted movement of rickshaws. They .however, didn't stop movement of peo-

Police also didn't obstruct opposition activists from parading Nayapaltan, Bijoynagar, Kakrail, Shantinagar, Malibagh and Shahjahanpur areas, but didn't allow the processionists to proceed towards Paltan and Press Club areas.

BNP, Jatiya Party, Jamaate-Islami, Islamic Oikya Jote and Jagpa brought out a series of processions, most of those in Nayapaltan, Bijoynagar, Malibagh and Shahjahanpur areas. BNP brought out two big

processions from the party central office at 10:40am and 3:25pm.Party leaders Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, Sadek Hossain Khoka, Amanullah Aman, Jainal Abedin Faruq, Prof Shahidul Islam, Major (Retd) Hafizuddin Ahmed, Nazimuddin Alam, Maor Gen (Retd) Hafizuddin Ahmed and others led the processions. In the afternoon, it organised a rally in front of the

# Woman killed by son-in-law at Mymensingh

From Our Correspondent MYMENSINGH, Nov 7: A woman was murdered allegedly by her son-in-law at village Char Velamari in Nandail thana here yesterday. The dead was identified as

Omarjan, 55, wife of late Keramat Ali. Hazrat Ali married Mullokjan, daughter of Omarjan, nine years ago and has been living at his father-in-law's house since

than, police said. There had been a dispute between Hazrat and Omarian over Mullokjan's share of land

On the day of incident, Hazrat picked up a quarrel with his mother-in-law. At one stage he hit Omarjan with a stick. She died on the spot, police

The body was sent to My-

mensingh Medical College

Hospital morgue for autopsy

today. None was arrested till

#### filing of this report. Accused in several murder cases shot, held

Police shot and caught a person accused in several murder cases from Jurain rail-line in the city yesterday, reports UNB. Police said Kala Jahangir, 32, of East Jurain was shot when he tried to flee unfastening himself from the rope he was tied with after arrest at noon.

He received bullet wound in his left arm. Police took him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital from where he was shifted to Pongu

party office. Operation of two inter-city trains from Dhaka to Sylhet and Chittagong were suspended during the hours.Besides, another com-

> pended. Two local trains- one in Bonpara-Bogra route and the other in Shahbazpur-Sylhet route - were detained. Movement of other inter-

city and local trains was nor-

mal, Railway sources said.

muter train from Dhaka to

Brahmanbaria was also sus-

# Sirajganj BNP leader shot

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 7: A leader of BNP district unit was shot by some unidentified miscreants in the town this evening. The victim, Motiur Rahman, is vice-president of Sirajganj

According to witnesses. Motiur was attacked soon after he came out of Chadgadi Jame Mosque after Magreb prayers at around 7:30 pm.

Motiur received bullet wound in his back. He was rushed to the hospital. According to police, intraparty rivalry could be the reason behind the incident.

A case was filed but none

was arrested till filing of this

report at 9 tonight.

# FFs observe strike for declaring Nov

7 as Black Day Bangladesh Muktijoddha Smriti Sangrakkhan Sangsad vesterday observed a day-long strike demanding official announcement declaring November 7 as "Black Day" commemorating the "killing of freedom fighters," a statement of the or ganisation said, reports BSS. The sangsad warned that it would launch a "greater move-

ment" if the demand was not

met immediately. On this day

in 1975, the "anti-liberation

forces were installed in power"

after the assassination o

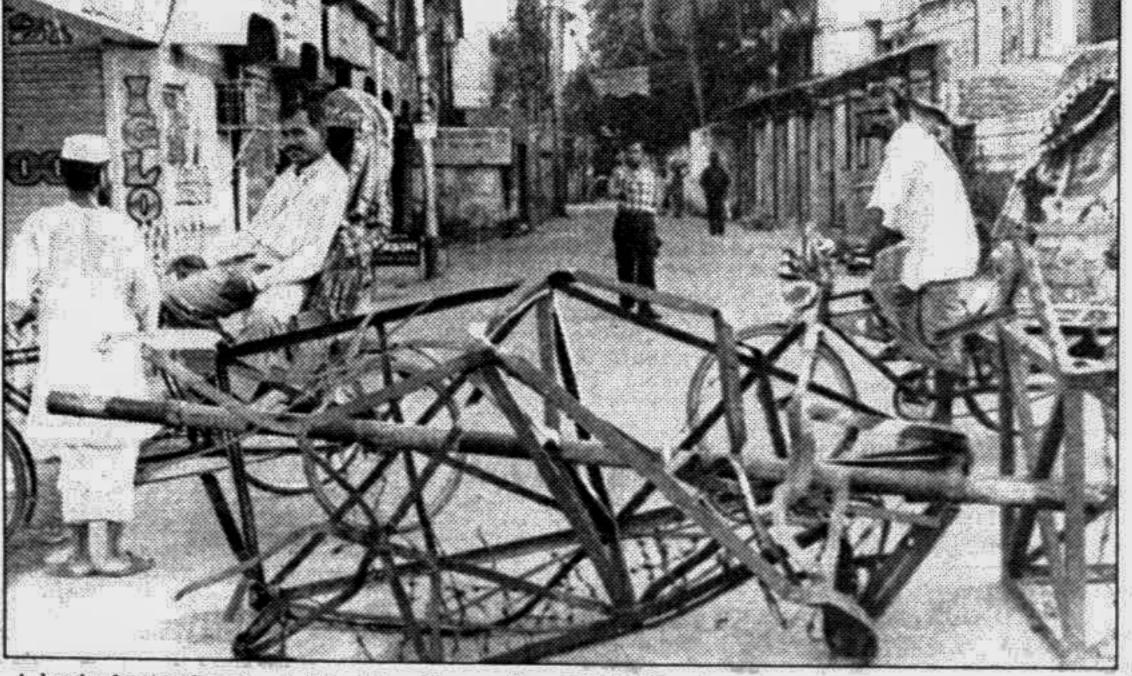
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur

Rahman, it said.

# Indonesia's President arrives in Thailand

BANGKOK, Nov 7: Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid on Sunday asked Thai Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai to support any bid by ravaged East Timor for membership of ASEAN, Thai officials said, re-

ports AFP. Wahid met Chuan for talks after flying in from Myanmar on the latest stop of a whirlwind inaugural tour of Association of Southeast Asian Nations members.



A barbed wire barricade blocking the road to BNP office during hartal yesterday.

# Jubo League activist shot in city

By Staff Correspondent Unidentified assailants shot a Jubo League activist in the

city last night. The victim, identified as Babu, 28, was sipping tea at a tea shop at South Maishundi, Narinda when the attackers riding two motor cycles shot him at around 8 pm. He received bullet wound in

his chest. Details could not be known immediately. Babu's condition was stated to be critical and he was at the operation theatre of Dhaka Medical College Hospital till filing of this report late last night.

# Body recovered near Golapshah mazar in city

By Staff Correspondent Body of an unidentified person was recovered near the Golapshah mazar in the city last

The body was taken to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital last night. Some people in the locality said he might have been beaten to death following series of

bomb blasts on Saturday night.

Others, however, said he died

#### from intoxication. Police failed to confirm the death. Autorickshaw torched in city

By Staff Correspondent An autorickshaw was burnt when a gang of unidentified men hurled a cracker at the vehicle in front of the City College at Science Laboratory intersection last night.

Witnesses said, a gang of youths threw a cracker on the vehicle (no. Dhaka Metro-Tha 110652) at about 10:35. Dhanmondi thana police

rushed to the spot and took away the vehicle. None was injured. The reason behind the attack could not be known till filing of this report at 11:00 pm.

### Breach in Chandpur town protection embankment

CHANDPUR, Nov 7: Concrete blocks on 15 meters of the Chandpur town protection embankment went down the mighty Meghna today, causing panic among the people living near the embankment, reports

Senior officials of the Water Development Board rushed to the spot and expressed serious concern at the situation. They said experts would be

### consulted soon to tackle the situation

Market blaze From page 1 shoppers ran through the crowded market. Seven fire engines battled the flames for more than four hours.

The fire was started by an

electric short-circuit and soon the shops selling firecrackers exploded, said Parampal Singh Siddhu, the senior superintendent of police. Another fire was reported in the city of Jullander in Punjab, in which a few shops were dam-

aged. One 10-year-old boy was

injured when firecrackers ex-

ploded near him. Enforcement of fire safety laws often in lax during Diwali as shops and petty traders stock firecrackers, often without a li-

# Dredging

From page 1 vey seeking anonymity said, "Indiscriminate and unplanned dredging in riverbed is dangerous and cause change in the

course of a river". Mohammad Mominullah, Director of the Bureau of Mineral Development (BMD) said, "I visited the spot on Saturday last and found the sand collection process unhealthy".

enough manpower to monitor the process and admitted that the government was losing revenue because of this. BMD issues the permit. Mominullah said, "I shall report the matter to the author-

He said the BMD do not have

ities concern for proper moni-toring and fixing guidelines." "The ultimate motive behind allowing sand collection is to keep the river flowing. But indiscriminate and unplanned sand collection will affect villagers," he said.

#### JU appointment From page 1

application was not even forwarded by the Registrar, they Another senior teacher al-

ments were aimed at securing vote in the next election of VC Panel and teachers' representatives in the Syndicate. Election of teachers' representatives was scheduled to be held in October, but was post-

leged that the ad-hoc appoint-

poned. position parties and the upcom-When contacted over teleing by-polls, specially in phone yesterday, VC Prof Tangail, also came up for dis-Alauddin Ahmed refused to talk cussion at the meeting, the to The Daily Star on the issue. sources said.

# Imran Khan's wife returns home to face trial

LAHORE, Nov 7: The British wife of cricket star turned — politician lmran Khan returned to Pakistan today to face charges of smuggling antique tiles, reports AP.

The charges were laid during ousted prime minister Nawaz Sharif's term in power. Imran maintained his wife's innocence and said the charges were politically moti-

"During Nawaz Sharif's government, my wife couldn't take the risk of returning to Pakistan." Khan told reporters at the Lahore Airport, where he arrived with his wife Jemima Khan, the daughter of

# 15 shops gutted at Joydevpur

GAZIPUR, Nov 7: Fifteen shops including two jewellery were gutted in a fire at Joydevpur bazar today, reports UNB. Fire service sources said the cause of the fire that broke out at about 2 pm could not be known immediately. Fire fighters rushed to the spot and extinguished the blaze at about 3:30

#### Rural Poverty Alleviation Bill '99 passed The Jatiya Sangsad yester-

day passed the Rural Poverty Alleviation Bill-1999, reports LGRD and Cooperative Minister Zillur Rahman moved for

passage of the Bill which was

earlier vetted by parliamentary standing committee on ministry of LGRD and Cooperatives. Only one amendment for eliciting public opinion and sending it to select committee was raised by JP (M-M) member Zulfigar Ali Bhutto was re-

jected by the House by voice There was no amendment to clauses of the Bill.

# Addict kills inmate at

treatment centre From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Nov 7: One drug-addict, identified as Ahsan Bari Khokan, 35, was stabbed to death allegedly by another addict Javed Masud at a private drug-addict treatment centre in Chandgao area in the city this

morning, police said. Javed and Ahsan were under treatment at the centre. They had an altercation at 9:30 am and one stage, Javed stabbed Ahsan. He died on the spot, po-

lice said.

Police arrested Javed immediately after the incident. Relatives and friends of the dead went on the rampage at the treatment centre known as Niramoy Kendra, at 2 pm protesting the killing. They ransacked the clinic and set fire to furni-

#### ture, police said. Police rushed to the spot and chased the agitators. Later, police were deployed in and around the clinic.

PM: Dialogue From page 1 leader for being "confused about her demands" and said, "none of the demands concern public in-

About the demand for resig-

nation of her government, the

PM said, "We will not hesitate

to resign when time will come for it. We will transfer power to a caretaker government to contest the next election." Hasina once again criticised Khaleda for her movement unitedly with Ershad whom she (Khaleda) once called the killer of her husband. "She (Khaleda) is now hobnobbing with Ershad

against whom she once waged

movement ... I do not understand what made her behave Replying to another question, she said the ruling party will try to make the people understand that the Opposition agitation has no logical ground

and is not for public interest.

summit will not affect the regional body's regular activities. she told a questioner. She said yesterday's ALPP meet was a routine exercise in which party MPs spoke about

development work in their con-

stituencies.

Postponement of the SAARC

But sources said, the prime minister in the meeting advised her party MPs to prepare for the Upazila and Zila Parishad polls saying, outcome of the local body polls will decide the party's fate in the next general election. About the postponed city corporation polls, she was learnt to have told the meeting that those would be held after the legal barriers were over.

The sources further said that the AL chief advised her party lawmakers to work more in their constituencies so that they could return with wider margins and ensure majority seats in the JS in the next election.

AL programmes to face op-

of smuggling antiques," said Wearing the traditional Pakistani dress of long shirt and baggy pants. Jemima stood at her husband's side throughout the interview, her head covered in keeping with Islamic tradition. "We are not afraid of the case, but feared that Jemima

would not get a fair trial under his government. But under the military rule, we fear no victimization." Imran said. Army Chief Gen Pervez Musharraf dismissed Sharif's

elected government in a coup last month, accusing it of destroying institutions, undermining the constitution and massive corruption. Jemima is charged with trying to smuggle 397 antique

tiles out of Pakistan. She maintains the tiles are not antique. If found guilty she can be sentenced to six months in jail and fined 5,000 rupees

### One killed, 7 hurt as rival groups clash in Pabna From Our Correspondent

PABNA, Nov 7: One person

was killed and seven others in-

jured in an armed clash between two rival groups at Char Bangabaria within Pabna Sadar thana last night. The dead was identified as Lokman, 30. He died on way to hospital

Of the injured, two were ad-

mitted to Pabna General Hospital in critical condition. A case was lodged with Pabna Sadar thana but none was arrested till filing of this report at 7 pm today. No intention to

duties on computer, says Tofail The government has not intention to re-impose import duties on computer which has

re-impose import

been identified as a thrust sector, reports UNB. "Zero-tariff facility will continue in the sector as we extend all-out assistance to let it grow smoothly," Commerce and Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed said yesterday, clarifying his

Saturday's remark at a function of NIIT-BEXIMCO venture. But if any unscrupulous trader misuses the duty exemption in computer import, then the government will have no option, the minister said urging

#### the computer traders to guard against any malpractice. Biman's Dhaka-Jeddah

flight rescheduled Biman Bangladesh Airlines has rescheduled its Thursday's Dhaka-Jeddah flight, reports

The flight as per revised

schedule will leave Dhaka for

Jeddah at 9 am instead of 4:30 pm, said a press release yester-The passengers are requested to get their tickets re-confirmed as per the revised schedule by

#### Monday from the nearest. Biman sales office. Touchstone worth Tk 5 cr recovered

at Mymensingh From Our Correspondent MYMENSINGH, Nov 7: Trishal police recovered a statue of goddess 'Kali' worth about

stone was stolen from Kali Mondir of Dhala Bazar on the night of September 22. The Hindu community submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner demanding immediate recovery of the

Acting on a tip-off, police re-

covered the statue from the roof

Taka five crore from Dhala

The statue made of touch-

Bazar today

#### of a latrine of a charitable dispensary today. Ctg hartal

From page 1

Shops and markets remained closed and attendance in government offices was thin. Delivery of goods to and from port remained suspended though partial cargo handling was carried out inside the jetties of Chittagong port, port sources Production at the mills and

due to poor attendance of workers, sources said. All kinds of vehicles except few rickshaws were off the roads during hartal hours. Railway sources said train service to and from Chittagong

factories was badly hampered

was as usual. Police and BDR were deployed at important points of the city to foil any attempt of violence.

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: 8616772-4, Commercial: 8616771, Fax No: 88-02-8613035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Internet edition address: http://www.dailystarnews.com and Email

**Editor: Mahfuz Anam** 

Published by the Editor from City Publishing House Ltd., 90 Kakrail,