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9 days to the
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Political standoff
Holzman seeks
President's
initiative
for consensus

US Ambassador to Bangladesh John C Holzman has sought the President's initiative to bring about a consensus among the government and the opposition, reports UNB.

"Any initiative taken by the President for bringing about a consensus among the political parties will help bring political stability which is necessary for economic development of the country," said Holzman when he called on President Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangababu to express his concern at the "confrontational politics" between the Government and the Opposition.

He, however, expressed his

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'Mysterious' notes to free 2 held at Nagar Bhaban

Police threaten to withdraw

By Staff Correspondent

A police officer in charge of checking vehicles at the Nagar Bhaban gate yesterday threatened to withdraw his force when 'mysterious notes and requests started reaching him' for release of two persons he had detained for defying police orders.

According to police, two persons — Dr Nasiruddin and contractor Abu Hossain — refused to be checked at the entrance of the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) office and drove their cars inside, defying orders. The two persons went inside the office. Police later held their drivers.

"I will withdraw my men if they keep asking me to release these people who defied our polite requests and tried to show their influence," said Sub-Inspector Ziaul Haque.

Police have been deployed at the Nagar Bhaban gate following the Mayor's request for containing terrorism at his office.

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Shibir enforces hartal in Ctg: 51 rounded up

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Dec 21: A day-long hartal, enforced in greater Chittagong by Islami Chhatra Shibir today, passed off almost peacefully, police and witnesses said.

Shibir called the hartal protesting killing of its two activists at Chittagong university on Sunday.

CHITTAGONG, Dec 21: Islami Chhatra Shibir has withdrawn tomorrow's hartal in greater Chittagong following police assurance of releasing its activists, reports UNB.

A tense situation is prevailing there since December 12 when armed cadres of Chhatra League factions fought gun battles over tender bids. The Nagar Bhaban wore a deserted look yesterday as a result of the clashes and presence of terrorists on Monday.

However, the armed cadres were not seen at the Nagar Bhaban yesterday.

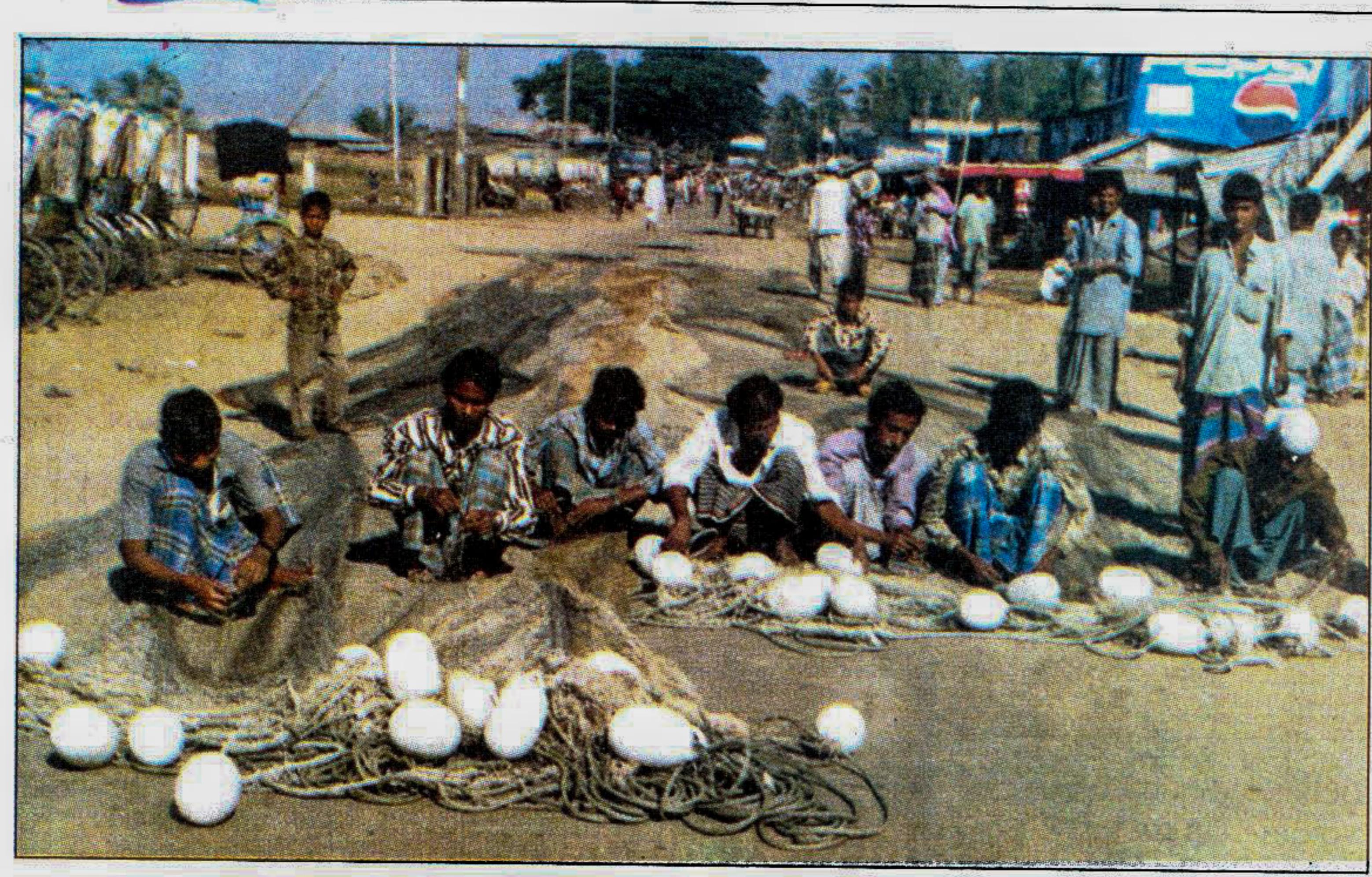
When contacted, Mayor Mohammad Hanif said he had no knowledge about yesterday's incident at the Nagar Bhaban gate. He said his office will not interfere in police action to nab terrorists and has asked his security guards to find out the persons who tried to get the two drivers released.

But at about 3 pm, this correspondent found that the contractor's driver was freed but the doctor's car and his driver were held at the main entrance of the DCC.

Pickets damaged a large number of rickshaws at different places of the city, witnesses said.

Pickets were seen at Alankar crossing, Dewanhati crossing, Chawki Bazar, Chandrapur, Sirajuddah road, Anderkilla and Monir road.

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These fishermen fix fishing net right on the middle of the Airport Road at Cox's Bazar taking advantage of the hartal yesterday.

— Star photo by A K M Mohsin

Inside Today

Article

From BMW to Matto Case
Gaping Holes in
the Justice

System

Praful Bidwai writes
from New Delhi

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Sehri, Iftar timings

Ramadan	Dec	Sehri	Iftar
13	22	-	5:20
14	23	5:13	5:21
15	24	5:13	5:21

Prayer Timings

December 22		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5:12	5:22
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	3:42	4:00
Maghrib	5:21	5:28
Tarabi	7:15	7:45

Source: Islamic Foundation



The 10 Bangladeshi women trafficked to India were brought back home yesterday. Still in trauma, they pose for photographers at a shelter of the Mahila Ainjibi Samity at Mirpur.

— Star photo

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক বিজ্ঞপ্তি

"বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক পুরস্কার" ১৯৯৯ এর
জন্য আবেদনপত্র প্রেরণের সময়সীমা
বর্ধিতকরণ প্রসংগে

অর্থনৈতিক বিষয়ে উল্লেখযোগ্য অবদানের জন্য প্রকৃত
বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকগণের নিকট থেকে "বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক
পুরস্কার" ১৯৯৯ এর জন্য আবেদন/মনোনয়নপত্র প্রেরণের
সময়সীমা ৩১শে জানুয়ারী ২০০০ পর্যন্ত বর্ধিত করা হইল।
পুরস্কারের জন্য অর্থনৈতিক যে কোন শাখার গবেষণা কর্ম বিবেচনা
করা হবে। তবে বাংলাদেশের অর্থনৈতিক বিষয়ক গবেষণাকে এবং
বাংলাদেশে কর্মরত গবেষকদের গবেষণাকে বিশেষ গুরুত্ব দেয়া
হবে। সম্প্রতিকালে অধিকারিত একটি নির্দিষ্ট গবেষণা কর্ম বা
একক কোন বিষয়ে একাধিক গবেষণা কর্মে উৎকর্ষের মানদণ্ডে
যথৈ নির্বাচন করা হবে। বিশেষ ক্ষেত্রে জীবনব্যাপী
গবেষণামূলক আবেদনও বিবেচনায় নেওয়া হবে। গবেষণা কর্ম
জৰ্নালের প্রকৃত, পুস্তকের অধ্যায় আকারে হতে পারে।

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক থেকে প্রাপ্ত আবেদনপত্র/মনোনয়নপত্র এর
হচ্ছে প্রাথী ব্যক্তিগতভাবে সরাসরি আবেদন করতে পারবেন
কিন্তু কোন ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠান কোন প্রার্থকীক মনোনয়ন দিতে
পারবেন। আবেদনপত্রের সাথে প্রার্থীর জীবন ব্র্তান্ত
(Curriculum Vitae) এবং যে বিশেষ অবদানের জন্য প্রার্থী
বা তার মনোনয়ন দাতা ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠান "বাংলাদেশ
ব্যাংক পুরস্কার" এর উপর্যুক্ত বলে মনে করেন তার উপর একটি
সংস্কেপের পাই কলি আবেদনের সাথে পাঠাতে হবে।

এই পুরস্কারের আর্থিক মূল্য হবে নন্দ দুই লক্ষ টাকা। সেই
সাথে বাইশ ক্যারেট মানের দুই তোলা ওজনের একটি স্বর্ণ পদক
এবং বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের একটি ক্ষেত্র।

আবেদন/মনোনয়নপত্র ৩১শে জানুয়ারী ২০০০ তারিখে বা
তার আগে নির্বাচী পরিচালক, প্রশাসন বিভাগ-এর নিকট
পৌছাতে হবে। অসম্পূর্ণ আবেদনপত্র এবং উক্ত তারিখের পরে
কোন আবেদনপত্র পাওয়া গেলে তা বিবেচনা করা হবে না।
আবেদনপত্র ও প্রাসংগিক অন্যান্য তথ্যের জন্য অফিস সময়ে
নির্বাচী পরিচালক, প্রশাসন বিভাগ, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, প্রধান
কার্যালয়, ঢাকা-এর কার্যালয়ের সাথে যোগাযোগ করতে অনুরোধ
করা যাচ্ছে।

মোঃ বিলাল ইসলাম
নির্বাচী পরিচালক
বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক
ফোনঃ ৯৫৫৭৫৫১

Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha Dhaka Notice Inviting Tender For Commercial Plots

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from intending
bonafide Bangladeshi nationals having reputation in
hotel business for leasing out two most suitable plots
measuring more or less 18.64 (eighteen point six
four) khata having road facilities on two sides by
Gulshan Avenue Road (Comprising Plot No-57, 57/A)
in Gulshan (South), Dhaka on 99 years lease basis
for constructing a hotel of international standard.

Interested bidders may collect tender schedule
from Sonali Bank/Agrani Bank, RAJUK Bhaban,
Dhaka on payment of Taka 5,000/- (Taka five thousand)
only in cash (non-refundable) from 26-12-99 to
30-12-99 during office hours and will be received in
the office of the Member (Finance)/(Planning)/(Dev)
Admn. & Land/(Estate), Commissioner, Dhaka
Division, Chief Engineer, RAJUK and Director
(Estate) RAJUK from intending persons upto 2:00
PM on 04/01/2000. Tenders will be opened at 2:30
PM on the same day in presence of the bidders, pre-
sent (if any).

The authority reserves the right to accept any ten-
der or to reject any or all tenders without assigning
any reason.

Chairman
Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha
RAJUK Bhaban, Dhaka

GD-1222

Sitakunda JCD president shot dead

CHITTAGONG, Dec 21: A
leader of the Jatiyatobadi
Chhatra Dal was shot dead at
Sitakunda thana headquarters
tonight, reports UNB.

Police said Khairul Islam
Sabuj, president of Sitakunda
thana unit of Jatiyatobadi
Chhatra Dal, was killed during
a gunfight between the activists
of JCD and BCL at around 11
pm.

Angry supporters of BNP and
JCD put up barricades on the
Dhaka-Chittagong highway in
protest against the killing, dis-
rupting traffic with the port

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Zia murder
JS body asks govt
to submit report
on 4 army officers
involved

A parliamentary body yes-
terday examined pending peti-
tions and asked the government
to submit reports within 30
days on four army officers who
were involved in the killing of
President Ziaur Rahman in
1981, reports UNB.

The sub-committee of the
Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Defence had ear-
lier given two months to the
government for submitting nec-
essary documents on the trial of
Col. Rashid, Col. Delwar, Maj.
Bazlul Huq and Maj. Rezaul Karim.

Among them, Rashid and
Delwar were hanged after the
Chittagong revolt. Maj. Bazlul
Huq and Maj. Rezaul Karim were
sentenced to 10 years impris-
onment for their alleged in-
volvement in the killing of Zia-
ur Rahman at Chittagong by a
martial law court.

Noorjahan Delwar, wife of
Col. Delwar Hossain, Anwara
Rashid, wife of Col. Rashid, and
two other officers claimed that
their husbands and themselves
were innocent and sentenced
illegally by the martial law
court, and that they were not al-
lowed to defend themselves.