



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

## CHITTAGONG

Hotel Hawaii Building  
39, Agrabad C.A., Chittagong  
Tel # 712127 Fax# 710106

## CEPZ

Ctg. Export Processing Zone  
Old Admin Building  
Halishahar, Chittagong  
Tel # 740108 Fax# 710106

## KHULNA

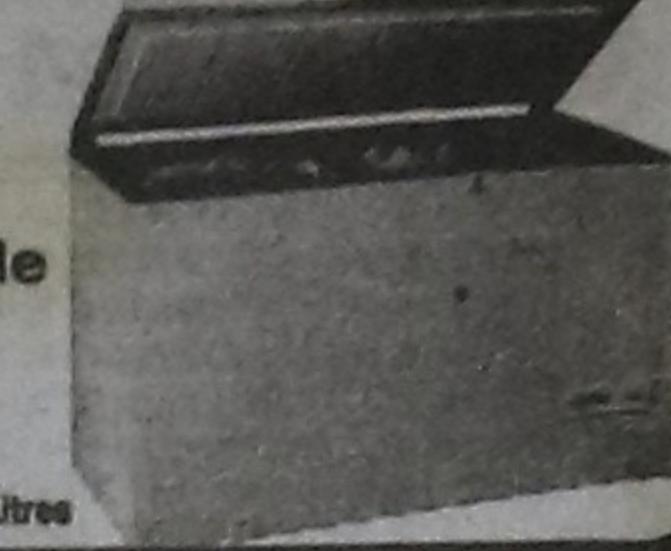
K.D.A Building  
Khan A. Sabur Road, Khulna  
Tel # 725008 Fax# 731932



Transcom Electronics Limited  
Authorized distributor in Bangladesh for Whirlpool Appliances, USA  
Dhaka : 015307-10, 819625-9 Ctg. : 716353, 723578  
Khulna : 728304 Bogra : 6215

## Refrigerator & Freezer

Instalment facility available



50 hurt, 100 houses damaged

## Followers of 2 religious bodies clash in Khulna

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Feb 4: At least 50 people were injured, 12 of them severely, in a clash between the followers of 'Ahle Hadis' and 'Mazhab' at about 3 pm today at Chitrali Cinema Hall maidan under Khalishpur thana at around 3 pm today.

Over one hundred houses were looted and damaged during the clash which spread in the entire Khalishpur industrial belt.

Police fired 30 tear gas shells and rubber bullets to disperse the clashing groups.

Police arrested 24 people for their alleged involvement in the clash.

Shahjalal Varsity  
Hartal called  
in Sylhet  
Feb 13

From Staff Correspondent  
SYLHET, Feb 4: The All-Party Students Action Committee (Opposition), has announced a weeklong agitation programme to press for immediate withdrawal of the names of different halls and buildings of the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology.

The programme was announced at a press conference at the Sylhet Press Club this evening.

The programmes include, procession, rally, strike in the educational institutions and hartal in Sylhet district on February 13.

Central Vice-President and Sylhet district President of Jatiyatabdhi Chhatri Dal, Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury announced the programme at the conference while district leaders of other organisations - Islami Chhatri Shibir, Chhatri Majlish and Talmajli were present.

The programme was announced at a press conference at the Sylhet Press Club this evening.

The leaders also demanded immediate release of 38 activists of the action committee.

They held Shahjalal varsity's VC and Dr Jafar Iqbal responsible for the death of two of their activists during the movement.

The leaders also demanded immediate release of all arrested leaders and workers of the organisation.

They also condemned the "controversial" Public Safety Act and warned of a tougher movement if the "black law" is not scrapped.

Those present at the press conference included JCD leaders Bazlul Basit Anju, ABM Mosharrif Hossain, Azizur Bari Helal, Tarique Islam Bani and Rafiqul Haq Bakul.

JCD to protest  
PM's presence  
on DU campus  
By DU Correspondent

Jatiyatabdhi Chhatri Dal (JCD), student wing of opposition BNP, will demonstrate on Dhaka University campus tomorrow to protest the presence of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on the campus.

Hasina is scheduled to inaugurate the Ekushey Book Fair at Bangla Academy, situated on DU campus, tomorrow afternoon.

Addressing a press conference yesterday, JCD leaders said they would bring out a procession and march towards Bangla Academy when the Prime Minister comes there. Participants in the procession would cover their faces with black clothes.

They said Hasina has lost the right to come to DU campus as the ruling Awami League headed by her and its front organisations have unleashed a reign of terror throughout the country.

"We can't allow her to come to the campus as her party's student wing Chhatri League has captured all the halls of DU and forced JCD leaders and activists out of the halls," said JCD DU unit president Manir Hossain.

The JCD leaders demanded immediate release of all arrested leaders and workers of the organisation.

They also condemned the "controversial" Public Safety Act and warned of a tougher movement if the "black law" is not scrapped.

Those present at the press conference included JCD leaders Bazlul Basit Anju, ABM Mosharrif Hossain, Azizur Bari Helal, Tarique Islam Bani and Rafiqul Haq Bakul.

## Death of a dream

From page 1

"If there was any negligence, I would have to go through the files first," Dr Ruhil was not available for comments.

Rahman said he arrived at the clinic at 8:20 a.m. and found the patient in the second stage of delivery. He said he immediately ordered an operation but the placenta was already detached.

"The placenta had separated from the womb and there was blood clot behind it, which explains the cause of the baby's death," said Rahman. "The only doctor did commit one vital mistake by not calling me earlier. Had I arrived little sooner, I could have probably saved the child," said the doctor.

Former NATO chief calls on Hasina

BRUSSELS, Feb 4: Former NATO Secretary General Javier Solana, who is now working with European Commission, called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her hotel suite here yesterday evening.

Solana narrated his experience in Kosovo where his organisation was working and said people were still suffering there.

He lauded the role of Bangladesh in peacekeeping missions around the world.

The Prime Minister said her government was committed to peace and had concentrated on peacekeeping operation under the UN peacekeeping forces.

24 shops gutted at Kishoreganj

KISHOREGANJ, Feb 4: Some 24 shops were gutted in a fire at Baro Bazaar in the town after midnight Thursday night, reports UNB.

Fire Brigade sources said the fire originated from a burning cigarette at about 2 am and soon engulfed the whole area.

Fire fighters extinguished the blaze after two hours of frantic efforts.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Published by the Editor from City Publishing House Ltd., 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000. Editorial News & Commercial Offices: House No. 11, Road No. 3, Dhanmondi 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 address: [dstar@bangla.net](mailto:dstar@bangla.net)



Running against time

With the Amar Ekushey Book Fair set for inauguration tomorrow, workers are busy giving final touches to the stalls.

Star photo by Sk Enamul Haq

## Doctor of Law conferred on Hasina

BRUSSELS, Feb 4: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was conferred upon honorary Doctor of Law by the Catholic University of Brussels (KUB) today in recognition of her contribution to democracy, peace, the rule of law and human rights, reports UNB.

Receiving the *honoris causa* degree from the rector of the University, the prime minister said democracy cannot be successful and effective without establishment of the rule of law.

Rector of the University Prof Dr Constant Methheussen handed the degree to the prime minister at a lively function attended by scholars, teachers, students of the varsity and Bangladeshi nationals living in Brussels.

Prof Marc Van Hoecke read out the citation of awarding the degree to Sheikh Hasina, saying she was awarded with the doctorate for her contribution in recognising democracy, and helping institutionalise democracy and economic liberalisation.

"The main reason, however, for awarding her the *honoris causa* is her decisive role in the process of democracy and the protection of human rights in her country," says the university citation.

Hasina suggested strict enforcement of law to counter national and international terrorism that poses dangerous threat to peace and sustainable development.

"I believe that we can effectively counter this threat through stricter enforcement of law, nationally, regionally and internationally."

The Prime Minister said democracy cannot work, nor human rights flourish without the rule of law. And there cannot be the rule of law without an independent judiciary.

However, she said in a plural society divergent views of the opposition are to be tolerated so long as they do not infringe upon national safety, security and integrity.

"We ardently believe that the rule of law ensures the basic rights of the people and protects the citizens from discrimination, coercion and fear," the prime minister said.

Bangabhaban

From page 1

Dispelling confusions, the Bangabhaban rejoinder said a representative of Jamaat on February 2 telephoned Bangabhaban saying a delegation of the party wanted to meet the Prime Minister to discuss the new law.

Bangabhaban received a list of an 11-member Jamaat delegation on February 3. Golam Azam was among them.

The same day, the release said, Bangabhaban sent a letter to Jamaat-e-Islami giving consent to a five-member delegation. Names of six others, including Golam Azam were omitted from the list.

The meeting of the five-member Jamaat delegation with the President has been fixed at 10:30 am on February 6 at the Bangabhaban.

"This information was intentionally suppressed in brief the news item which is undesirable," says the release.

Meanwhile, Jamaat against appealed to the President to allow party chief Golam Azam to call on him as the head of a party delegation.

The appeal was made in a letter sent yesterday by Jamaat secretary general Matiur Rahman Nizami to the military secretary of the President.

It said the President is the guardian of the Constitution and he is expected to be above any party opinion.

## Kibria talks tough on tax assessment

Finance Minister Shah A M Kibria warned the officials concerned yesterday against any abuse of the newly introduced spot-assessment system in direct tax on which the exchequer pins much of its hope for revenue, reports UNB.

This experimental system will not remain in force if it's abused and causes suffering to people," he told the tax officials at the annual general meeting of BCS (Taxation) Association at Officers' Club in the evening.

National Board of Revenue Chairman and Secretary of the Internal Resources Division Abdul Muyeed Chowdhury also spoke.

The Finance Minister said self-assessment and spot assessment had been introduced to widen direct tax net and increase the number of taxpayers.

Direct tax is the main source of government's revenue in developed countries and in Bangladesh also this is the area where scope for revenue growth

is immense.

He appreciated tax officials performance in achieving last year's target and hoped they would succeed in crossing this year's mark.

He said ongoing reform measures, when completed, would give the taxation system a modern look.

Abdul Muyeed Chowdhury called upon the tax officials to work devotedly to plug tax evasion and increase number of individual taxpayers.

He termed the existing number of taxpayers, roughly 700,000, quite insignificant and it is possible to double the number in the capital alone.

Association's president, A S Jahir Mohammad, secretary general Wahid Hossain and convener Asim Kumar Roy also spoke on the occasion.

Association leaders demanded implementation of new tax zones, as declared in the current budget.

## Book Fair

From page 1

The Bangla Academy authorities at a press briefing at the Academy bhaban yesterday afternoon expressed their determination to maintain the sanctity and law and order during the fair.

"We have taken some strict measures this year so that no untoward incident takes place," said Dr. Syed Anwar Hossain, director general of the academy.

"There will be plainclothed policemen who would guard against eve-teasing," the DG said, adding, if anyone is caught so doing, he will be handed over to the police and his name and photograph will be published in the newspapers and aired through the Television.

Giving special emphasis to this year's book fair, he said "we have taken up some programmes to observe the International Mother Language Day and highlight the Bangla language and culture in the international arena.

As part of the special arrangement, a small fair for the children with 39 bookstalls will be arranged during this year's fair. Books for the children will be available in encouragingly large quantities, the DG added.

There will be separate chatras (square) to be named after the seven martyrs of the language Movement - Salim, Barkat, Rafiq, Shafiq, Zabbar, Auwal and Ohilullah. Two chatras will also be named after the National poet Kazi Nazrul Islam and the Nobel Laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore.

Apart from this, Dr Anwar said, discussions, cultural functions and other programmes will also be held to highlight the significance of the International Mother Language Day and achievements of the country during the last century. The fair premises will be declared an entirely a 'polythene and smoking-free zone' as part of the environmental safeguard. Food shops and stalls for sale of snacks would however be allowed inside it, the DG said, adding that some food shops would be set up inside the fair ground under the direct supervision of the Academy.

"Some 39 new books, along with other books, will be put on sale at the 319-bookstall fair," Dr Anwar Hossain said. "The budget for this year's fair has been estimated at Tk. 18.50 lakh, which is bigger by Taka two lakhs compared to that of the previous year."

Noted authors, Selina Hossain, Fazlur Rahim, Farhad Barkat, Moinul Hasan and Lutfar Rahman Riton were also present at the press conference.

A huge digital screen will be built at the Academy premises for the first time ever to give all necessary information to the visitors at the fair. Information relating to the fair will also be available in Website while visitors would be able to place orders through the cyber net.

Talking to BSS after a meeting of the 11-party alliance on Thursday evening, Dr Kamal Hossain speaking on behalf of the alliance said, "We want the government to take initiative for a dialogue and sit with the opposition to open a dialogue and sit with the opposition to open a dialogue."

President Shahabuddin cited his constitutional obligation about giving assent to the Public Safety Bill, asked a delegation of 11-party alliance on Thursday to take an initiative for dialogue on the bill between the ruling party and the opposition when they met him at Bangabhaban.

Dr Kamal said the 11-party has profound honour for democratic process in the country and is in favour of discussion between the ruling and the opposition parties.

If the government thinks the passage of the bill is not appropriate, it can reconsider the bill," he said.

Dr Kamal said the 11-party thinks "the President can send the bill back to parliament as it is not a money bill as per the definition in Article 81 of the constitution."

In reply to a question, he said, "The existing laws to try the criminals have no loopholes provided those are enforced honestly with good intention."

Responding to another query on how the 11-party termed the Public Safety Bill as a "black law opposed by all opposition parties and mass people," the Gono Forum chief said the people are historically opposed to this sort of law.

He said due to lack of proper paperwork, coordination between different government agencies and sufficient documentation, criminals always do not get proper punishment.

## CPI (M) smells rats in Clinton's visit

BJP comes under fire for being 'servile'

use technology, imposed after Pokhran tests, remain in place.

Nearly 150 institutions continue to be barred from having any contact with US agencies.

Stating that US had shown the most vacillating attitude during the Kandahar Hijacking and treated India's request to declare Pakistan a terrorist state with scornful contempt, he said despite this government has, for all practical purposes succumbed to US pressure on signing CTBT, rejecting national consensus ... in the sphere of economic policy it is likely to succumb more.

Yechury said national interests will not be allowed any further submission and added this message must be conveyed to Bill Clinton when he visits our country, by building a massive campaign of mass mobilisation.

## PM returns this morning