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Jatiya Party Chairman and former President H.M. Ershad, flanked by his counsels, emerges out of the High Court yesterday after filing of a writ petition challenging cancellation of his JS seat. — Star photo

Arafat reiterates demand for east Jerusalem

CAIRO, Sept 3: Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat vowed today to keep working for a Palestinian state with its capital in Jerusalem, but did not say when he might declare such a state, reports AP.

Arafat did not refer to his previously stated intention to announce statehood Sept. 13. With that deadline less than two weeks away, he reportedly is being pressured to hold off to allow more time for peace negotiations with Israel.

Israel has indicated it might annex parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip in response to a declaration of a Palestinian state outside a peace agreement.

said at today's opening of the two-day biannual meeting of Arab League foreign ministers.

"We are going forward with great determination and willfulness toward our independence and national sovereignty over our Palestinian lands and establishing our independent Palestinian state and its capital holy Jerusalem, the heart of Palestine, heart of Arabs and heart of believers," he said.

The Palestinian claim on east Jerusalem - captured by Israel in 1967 fighting - conflicts with the Israeli claim on an undivided Jerusalem as its capital. The clash derailed an Israeli-Palestinian summit in the United States in July and has hampered efforts to revive those talks.

In the United States, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak of-

ferred Palestinians limited control over east Jerusalem, but Arafat held out for sovereignty. The eastern sector of the city contains the third-holiest Islamic shrine as well as sites sacred to Jews and Christians.

Arafat and Barak are scheduled to discuss the peace process in separate meetings with US President Bill Clinton on the margins of the UN Millennium Summit in New York this week.

A draft resolution prepared by Arab League Secretary General Esnat Abdel-Meguid backs Arafat on his claim to Jerusalem and his plans to declare statehood, but urge a resumption of the peace talks. The draft also urges the United States to double its efforts to reach a "just and comprehensive solution" to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina consoling Happy Boral, the widow of Advocate Kalidas Boral at the Ganabhaban yesterday. Boral, the joint secretary of Bagerhat District Awami League was killed by miscreants recently. — PID photo

Nishi's death

Submit charge sheet against Anwar, Nasrin: Home Minister

Home Minister Mohammad Nasim yesterday asked police to submit charge sheet against Anwar Hossain and his wife Nasrin Begum responsible for the tragic death of the five year old maid Nishi, reports BSS.

The Minister gave the directive when Nishi's mother, Mosammat Syria Begum met him at his secretariat office here. IGP, Mohammad Nurul Huda was present.

He also extended financial help to Syria Begum and ordered the concerned officials to ensure proper security and treatment.

The minister urged the lawyers not to plead for the killers and also urged the judges to take necessary action for speedy trial of the murder.

Nishi buried, mother taken to protective custody

Five-year old Nishi who died due to torture by her mother's employers was buried at the Jurain graveyard in the city yesterday, police said.

Earlier, Home Minister Mohammad Nasim had met the victim's mother Syria Begum and also gave her Tk 5000 cash. The minister also assured her necessary help relating to the case of her daughter's death.

Nishi died of infection from burn injuries on Friday at a city hospital, after her mother's employers, Anwar Hossain and his wife Nasrin Begum, had allegedly poured boiling lentil soup on her as punishment for defecating in the kitchen.

Syria Begum, who complained of insecurity and is in fear of harassment from her former employers, was taken into protective custody of Shyampur police yesterday.

The couple had employed her as house maid at their Kadamtoli residence under Shyampur Police station about six months back, Syria said, adding that Anwar is the owner of two trucks and Nasrin a house wife.

Muggers snatch Tk 1 lakh from businessman

Muggers shot a businessman and snatched Tk one lakh from him at Gandaria under Sutrapur thana in the city yesterday.

The miscreants attacked Sharif Ahmed, 23, son of Nazim Ahmed of West Gandaria, while he was going to deposit the money at Sonali Bank, Dayaganj branch at about 11:30 am.

A gang of four muggers waylaid Sharif when he reached Dayaganj bridge point, hospital sources said quoting the victim.

The muggers shot him in his right leg as he refused to hand over the money. He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital with serious injuries.

Kotalipara incident

2 OCs, dist intelligence officer suspended

The Home Ministry suspended two Officers-in-Charge and the district intelligence officer of Gopalganj for neglect of duties that entailed assassination attempt on the Prime Minister, reports UNB.

Besides, immediate transfers of the police super, additional police super and assistant police super (circle) of Gopalganj were ordered in departmental action.

Showcause notices are being issued to police super, additional police super (circle) on same charges, the Home Minister told journalists yesterday.

The OCs who were suspended for lapses in security of the Prime Minister during her visit to Kotalipara July 20-22 are of Gopalganj Sadar and Kotalipara thanas.

Time limit for surrender of 20 lawyers extended

The High Court has extended till October 29 the time limit for surrender of 20 lawyers to court to face charges under the Public Safety Act (PSA) allegedly for ransacking a lower court in the city following the murder of fellow lawyer Habibur Rahman Mondal on August 20.

A Vacation Bench of the High Court (HC) comprising Justice Nurul Islam and Justice Latifur Rahman yesterday granted the extension following a petition for this, President of the Supreme Court Bar Association Barrister Mainul Hossain moved the petition.

The Bench also asked police not to harass or arrest them during this period.

The HC now on vacation reopens on October 15.

Police filed a case under PSA against 33 people including them of damaging public property at the Dhaka District and Metropolitan courts and the DC's office during demonstrations on August 20 protesting the murder of Mondal earlier on the day.

Mondal, who was a city BNP leader, was shot dead by four unidentified gunmen on way to court.

The lawyers had earlier sought bail. A Division Bench of the HC comprising Justice Amirul Kabir Choudhury and

Kotalipara meeting venue and helped, a probe committee was formed to determine the responsibility for the security lax.

The action taken against the police top brass of the district and the two police stations were based on the probe committee report.

Nasim told journalists at his office that security of the Prime Minister is the first priority of the nation and Kotalipara incident could not be taken lightly.

The Home Minister, who earlier had asked the investigators to file a treason case against those who wanted to kill the Prime Minister, said their trial would be held at special tribunal.

Approval has already been sought from the Law Ministry, Nasim said.

Meanwhile, several persons have already been arrested in connection with planting of the two massive explosive devices.

Justice Abdul Aziz on August 24 gave them two weeks time to surrender to court and directed police not to harass or arrest them during the period.

Biman's DC 10 develops trouble at Heathrow

A DC-10 aircraft of Bangladesh Biman developed mechanical trouble at Heathrow airport in London on Saturday, disrupting a number of international flights of the national airline till yesterday.

Biman sources said that a number of flights were rescheduled after the aircraft was stranded at Heathrow. It was brought back to Dhaka yesterday after necessary repairs.

The flights affected included one to Muscat yesterday, which left Dhaka more than three hours behind schedule.

Sandwip tidal surge claims 6 so far

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Sept 3: At least six people including five children died in Sandwip due to the tidal surge in the past four days, Red Crescent source said today.

Two of the dead were identified as M H Khan, 12 of Musapur union and Jamal Uddin, 40 of Sarikait union while identity of others could not be known.

District administration sources said they received reports of three deaths in Sandwip so far.

Flood situation at three unions Rahmatpur, Azampur and Musapur of Sandwip remained unchanged while at five other unions started improving.

About 11,000 residents who took refuge in the cyclone centres, started returning to their houses from today, Red Crescent source said.

Water level at Rahmatpur, Azampur and Musapur unions marked rise during high tide period this afternoon. A large number of people remained marooned in these unions.

Besides, people were facing acute crisis of pure drinking water in Sandwip as most of the ponds went under water and tubewells out of order, sources said.

Diarrhoeal diseases might break out if measures were not taken immediately for pure drinking water.

District administration was yet to take any other measures to help the marooned people except sending ten tons of rice and Tk 20,000.

The tidal water entered the Sandwip island through breaches of embankment.

Four thousand dwelling houses were damaged by the tidal wave.

Alim, Fajil, Kamil exams results tomorrow

The results of Alim, Fajil and Kamil examinations under Bangladesh Madrasah Education Board (BMEB) will be published simultaneously tomorrow, reports UNB.

An official announcement said the results would be available with all the examination centres at 4pm on the day.

Centre secretaries will collect the results from the offices of the concerned Deputy Commissioners and heads of the educational institutions from the centre secretaries.

The examinees have been advised to go to their own institutions or concerned examination centres for results.

TK 2.15 lakh snatched from ad firm officials

A group of armed miscreants snatched Tk 2.15 lakh from two officials of an advertising firm at Bijnayagar in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

Motijheel Police said an accountant of the ad firm 'Step Media' and its marketing officer were stopped by the muggers at about 1:45 pm when they came to the ground floor of the 'Sky Lark' Bhaban after withdrawing the money from the Kakrali branch of ANZ Grindlays Bank.

The muggers snatched the money from Rabul Alam, accountant of the firm at gun point. They also shot in his leg. The muggers left the place riding on two motorbikes.

Police said the officials withdraw the money to pay salaries to the employees of the ad firm.

A case was registered with Motijheel police in this connection.

Jubo Dal, BCL clash in Feni

FENI, Sept 3: A gunfight between Awami League backed Chhatra League and BNP backed Jubo Dal left three people injured on the outskirts of the town today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the clash took place at Sultanpur village when Jubo Dal activists tried to rescue four of their fellowmen allegedly kidnapped by BCL workers in the morning.

On information, police rushed to the spot and picked up three Jubo Dal workers - Kalam, Jahangir and Nasir Uddin - from Barahipur Ochnag area and sent them to Sadar Hospital. They were being treated under police custody.

In another incident, seven BNP workers were injured in a clash with Awami League activists at Olatali village in Dagonbhuyian upazila this morning.

Talking to newsmen, Director General of the RDA of Bogra Abdur Rahim said the academy is now implementing UNDP supported micro-credit programme in 48 villages in Tarash and Raiganj thanas.

About 5,000 households in the two thanas are being provided with training and small credits for pottery, weaving, horticulture, fish cultivation, dairy and poultry farming, planting of fruit bearing trees, afforestation and adult education.

He said though CEPA programmes at the grassroots level are still at an early stage of implementation, these are contributing a lot to empowerment of the poorest people in various localities.

Abdur Rahim stressed the need for expanding such micro-credit programmes all over the country. He observed that the hard-core poor can be empowered fully if the programmes continued for over five years.

Case against mayor KCC employees threaten to stop water, power supply

Employees of Khulna City Corporation today threatened to stop water and power supply in the city if the case filed against Mayor Sheikh Tavebur Rahman is not withdrawn, reports UNB.

The KCC Employees' Union at a protest meeting in front of local Press Club gave a seven-day ultimatum to withdraw the corruption case and threatened to go for tougher movement.

The Bureau of Anti-corruption recently filed the case against Tavebur Rahman for a corruption involving Tk 3.5 crore.

Shipu murder: One arrested

Tejgaon police yesterday arrested one person in connection with Shipu murder case.

The arrested was identified as Shaikat. He was arrested at about 8:30 pm from Tejgaon Commercial Area.

Shaikat was later handed over to Detective Branch of police as they were investigating the case.

Ifekhar Ahmed Shipu, 38, a cellular phone businessman of UAE Market at Banani in the city was gunned down allegedly by three men on May 24 this year.

Teachers' representatives in DU Senate Blue panel bags 20 posts, White 15

Pro-Awami League 'Blue panel' bagged 20 posts in the voting yesterday to elect 35 teachers' representatives in the Dhaka University Senate, the highest policy-making body of the university.

'White panel', backed by the BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami, got the rest 15 posts in the election, held at the Teachers-Students Centre (TSC) of the university.

Dean of Arts Faculty Prof. Kazi Shahidullah, belonging to the Blue panel, bagged the highest 622 votes while Dean of Law Faculty Prof. Ershadul Bari of White panel secured the lowest 411 votes.

The other representatives elected from the Blue Panel for a three-year Senate term are Prof. AAMS Arefin Siddique of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism (529 votes), Prof. RIM Aminur Rasheed of the Department of Physics (531 votes), AZM Nawsher Ali Khan of the Department of Botany (485 votes), Prof. ABM Mahmud of the Department of History (414 votes), Prof. SM Mahfuzur Rahman of the Department of Finance and Banking (438 votes), Prof. Galib Ahsan Khan of the Department of Philosophy (465 votes), Prof. Tofaile Ahmed Chowdhury of the Department of Chemistry (443 votes), Prof. Nasrin Ahmed Shilu of the Department of Geography and Environment (445 votes), Prof. Nilufer Naher of the Department of Chemistry (469 votes), Prof. Mesbah Uddin Ahmed of the Department of Physics (470 votes), Prof. Md. Ashraf Uddin Chowdhury of the Department of Economics (454 votes), Prof. MD Khairul Hossain of the Department of Finance and Banking (458 votes), Prof. Md Nurul Islam of the Department of Statistics (422 votes), Prof. Shawkat Hossain of the Department of English (424 votes), Sharif Ullah Bhuyian of the Department of History (473 votes), Prof. Shahid Akhter Hussain of the Department of Soil Science (417 votes), Prof. Sultana Shaifi of the Department of Physics (449 votes), Prof. Gias Uddin Ahmed of the Department of Public Administration (474 votes) and Hasibur Rashid of the Department of Management (427 votes).

Those elected from the White Panel are Prof. AFM Yusuf

Haider of the Department of Physics and Provost of Surya Sen Hall (585 votes), Prof. Anwar Hasan, chairman of the Department of Applied Physics and Electronics (431 votes), Prof. Abdul Momin Chowdhury of the Department of History (511 votes), Prof. Abu Ahmed, chairman of the Department of Economics (494 votes), Prof. UAB Rajia Akhter Banu of the Department of Political Science (415 votes), Prof. Earul Kabir of the Department of Biochemistry (455 votes), Prof. SMA Fayez of the Department of Soil Sciences (535 votes), Prof. Wakil Ahmed of the Department of Bangla (527 votes), Prof. Jannatin Nesa Tahmidia Bism, chairman of the Department of Botany (529 votes), Prof. MD

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Young man beaten to death

A young man was beaten to death by a mob at Shanir Akhra in the city in the early hours of yesterday.

Local people chase and severely beat up Monir Hossain, 23, son of Solaiman Sheikh, a resident of Gabindapur at Shanir Akhra, as he tried to stop an auto-rickshaw at about 1 am yesterday.

He was suspected to be a mugger and beaten to death, police said.

Police however could not confirm whether Monir was really a mugger or a victim of pre-planned attack by rivals.

According to some witnesses, four muggers tried to hijack an auto-rickshaw from its driver coming to Shanir Akhra. The gang ran away when the driver cried for help.

The mob then caught hold of Monir and beat him to death, witnesses said, without confirming whether the victim belonged to the gang.

Demra police recovered Monir's body at about 3 am yesterday and sent it for autopsy.

Aysha Akhter, the victim's aunt, filed a case with Demra police. Nobody was named in the case.

A lifebuoy for potters & weavers

From page 1

In March this year to 33 potters in Dhagara village under Raiganj thana in Sirajganj district.

The Rural Development Academy (RDA) of Bogra which is implementing the UNDP programme has formed a pottery federation, divided it into three units - two female units and one male unit - and provided it two wheel machines, two earth smashing rollers and some other pottery making equipment.

Initially, a total of 91 potters have become members of the federation. During a recent visit to Palpara in Dhagara village, it was witnessed that the training and credits have greatly benefited the potters and im-

proved the condition of these hard-core poor people.

The beneficiaries of the programme told newsmen that though there is a huge demand for pottery items in the market, they have been facing some problems, especially relating to marketing.

Haripad Pal said he went to Dhaka recently for a market survey and found a huge demand for pottery products. The pottery federation has decided to initially supply the products to local markets instead of the capital's market because of carrying cost and risk of damage.

He said now they can produce quality items if they are provided with improved burner, colour, designing dyes, white earth and fine species of porcelain.

The trained weavers then provided training to other members of the federation and started production with new designs from April 18.

Federation President Jalil Uddin said they are now selling each lungi up to Tk 20 to 25 higher than the previous price as they introduced new design and colour.

He said members of the federation have deposited Tk 10,000 from the profit in last two months and are now planning to purchase a handloom machine at a cost of Tk 25,000 in November from their own savings.

Weaver Mattar Rahman (54) said weaving in this locality was about to vanish because of lack of capital and poor quality of products, but the training programme and small credits of UNDP greatly helped them stay in their traditional profession.

Matlar further hoped that weavers in this village would be able to buy weaving machines and latest equipment for diversified and quality products if the training and credit pro-

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Office of the Project Director
100 Wireless set procurement project
Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief
Bhaban # 4, Room # 206
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

Local Re-Tender Notice
Memo No. MDMR-PC-AC-1/12-99/28 Dated: 30.08.2000

- Local re-tender is invited in two envelope to procure 100 Wireless set of modern technology with built in Telephone, Fax, Computer and E-mail connection facilities under the project "Procurement of Wireless sets for the Cyclone affected and other areas of the country of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief".
- The tender document can be procured from the office of the undersigned (Room-206/A, Bhaban-4, Bangladesh Secretariat, at a price of Tk. 5500/0 (non-refundable) for each set during the office hours from 4.9.2000 to 9.10.2000. The tender will be dropped on 15.10.2000 at 2.30 PM in the tender box kept in front of Room # 225, Building # 4, Bangladesh Secretariat. Technical proposal will be opened on the same day at 3.00 PM in presence of the tenderers/bidders (those who remain present at the time of opening).
- After procuring the tender document if there is any queries on the terms and conditions of the tender document or specification then clarification may be obtained from the undersigned on 10.10.2000 at 11.00 AM. The prospective tenderers/bidders need to come to the Conference Room (Room # 225, Building # 4, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka) of this Ministry for getting required clarification.
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