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Nine frozen bodies found in fishing trawler

From Our Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, Oct 4: Bodies of nine fishermen were found inside the cold storage of a trawler after it beached in the Bauria canal in Sandwip this morning.
The vessel MV Shafulullah was carried by the sea currents with no helmsman on it. It left Chittagong on September 30 for fishing in the deep sea.
When the vessel reached the Bauria canal at around 10 am, local people boarded it but found nobody on it. They broke open the door of the cold storage only to find nine frozen bodies.
Witnesses suspected that pirates locked the fishermen in and looted all the fishes they caught.



Rubban Banu, a 36-year-old woman from Kakonda village weeps as her other family members wait to register their names at a flood shelter in Satkhira yesterday. The unexpected flood affected three million people in eight districts. --AFP photo

Flood engulfs 29 more villages in Satkhira

Cry for food, drinking water
By Staff Correspondent
The overall flood situation in the south-western frontier districts of Satkhira and Jessore has deteriorated further, according to our correspondents and news agencies.
Flood water engulfed fresh areas in Sadar, Taia and Kulia upazilas. At least 29 more villages went under water in Kuskhali, Bashdoha, Bolhari, Ghona, Alipur, Agordari and Bhomra unions under Sadar upazila in the last 24 hours.
The Kuskhali-Bolhari border embankment collapsed at Kholitola, Chowkighata and Baghabari points on Monday, submerging vast areas.
Two persons drowned in Sadar upazila. They were identified as Zohra Khatun, 30, of village Kalia and Shahidul Islam, 35, of Kathanda. Two others Wahed Bux, 60, and Naimuddin, 30, died in wall collapse.
Hundreds of people in the affected villages have taken shelter on rooftops or trees. They are awaiting evacuation and relief, especially food and drinking water.
Marooned people are virtually starving. No relief material has reached them. Only two BAF helicopters started airdropping of food yesterday which continued today.
Flood water is overflowing Satkhira-Bhomra road at different points and may inundate Bhomra land port and vast areas in the district. Road communication between Satkhira and Bhomra has been snapped due to onrush of water.
Flood water inundated the border outposts (BOPs) of Bolhari, Kuskhali, Tolugachi and Ghona. BDR personnel took shelter on the roofs of the BOPs.
Our Staff Correspondent adds from Khulna: Over 100 families from flood affected areas of Jessore and Satkhira districts have come to Khulna city to find shelter. Most of them came by trains on Tuesday and took shelter at the railway station and various other places.
The IWTA terminal was also being crowded by the distressed men, women and children.
These people have lost their houses, washed away by flood waters. These families do not have any means to arrange food, they are now looking for jobs.
Personal belongings of some other families were looted by miscreants while on way to Khulna.
"We need relief and shelter for our survival", said members of some families whose houses were washed away by the strong currents of swelling rivers and overland flows in the deluge-hit areas of Satkhira district.
The influx of flood affected See page 11 Col 5

Announcement



Hand made bombs are the most popular weapons political activists use against their opponents. But sometimes the bomb makers are victims of their own deadly activities. This week's cover story in STAR Weekend Magazine tells the story of a few such bomb-makers, young men destroyed by politics.

Inside Today

Article
Powerful French presidency Takes a Jolt

Voters Say 'Yes' to Term Reduction
Page 4

	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Oct 4		5:43 pm
Oct 5	5:52 am	

Prayer Timings

October 4		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-45	5-15
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-15	4-30
Maghrib	5-50	6-55
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

Hasina dissolves all AL bodies in Sunamganj

By Staff Correspondent
Prime Minister and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina yesterday dissolved all party committees in Sunamganj district and instructed leaders there to form new committees after resolving inter-candidate conflicts.
A visibly annoyed Hasina took the drastic move as rival groups in AL leadership in Sunamganj at a meeting with her at Ganobaban started accusing each other of damaging the party image in the district. The nearly five-hour meeting was part of her ongoing parleys with district leaders of the party as a pre-election ground-work.
The leadership in Sunamganj is sharply divided into two groups, one led by Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad and the other by the Prime Minister's Parliament Affairs Advisor Suranjit Sengupta.
"The party chief dissolved all the committees and gave some important directives", a party stalwart told The Daily Star last night after the meeting.
Abdus Samad Azad did not attend the meeting "to avert any untoward incident", party sources said. Syed Rafiqul Haq and Mohibur Rahman Manik, two MPs from Sunamganj, attended the meeting.
"Now the decision will come from her", said another senior party leader from Sunamganj.
UNB adds: The Prime Minister accused the opposition of plotting against her government, apprehending their debacle in the next general election.
"They have not got people's response to their movement. Likewise they won't get any response in the polls", she said addressing the party leaders from Sunamganj.
She said Awami League will have to run the affairs of the state by securing people's mandate again to protect country's independence.
See page 11 Col 7

Jubo League leader shot dead in Feni

FENI, Oct 4: A Jubo League leader was shot dead by unidentified gunmen in front of Veterinary Hospital in the town tonight, reports UNB.
The dead was identified as Bashir Ahmed, 28. Witnesses said a gang of terrorists stopped the tempo in which he was travelling at around 8.30 pm. They dragged him out of the vehicle and shot him.
Another tempo passenger also suffered bullet injuries.
When contacted, police said they knew nothing about the incident. However, the local leaders of Jubo League, the ruling party's youth front, blamed opposition BNP for the killing.
Another source said the Jubo League leader was killed as a sequel to intra-party conflict.

Six chargesheeted in Shipu murder case

By Staff Correspondent
Six persons including a son of a ruling party lawmaker have been chargesheeted in Itekhur Ahmed Shipu murder case.
Police submitted the four-page charge sheet before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court at 4 pm yesterday.
The investigation officer however did not single out the principal accused in the case. "The court will decide", said DB Inspector Rezaul Karim, IO of the case.
Itekhur Ahmed Shipu, 38, owner of a mobile telephone shop at the UAE Market at Banani in the city, was shot dead on the night of May 24. The case was transferred to DB on June 6.
The chargesheeted accused are: Ziauddin Jewel, son of Awami League MP Kamal Majumdar, Shaful Alam, Naimuzzaman Jubair, Joy Hasib, Sagar and Salkat.
Of the six, Joy Hasib, Sagar and Salkat are detained at the Dhaka Central Jail. The rest three including Ziauddin Jewel are absconding since the murder.
"The absconding three had been staying in India when we went to arrest them there. Now we are not sure where they are. But we are sure they are not in Bangladesh", the IO said.
The charge sheet was filed under Sections 302, 326, 201 and 34 of See page 11 Col 6

APAC to stage demonstration today

By Staff Correspondent
The BNP-led opposition alliance will stage demonstration across the country today to protest the government's alleged move to lease gas fields to foreign companies and export gas to India.
BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia announced the programme at a joint public meeting in Mymensingh on September 25.
As part of its nationwide programme, the BNP, Jatiya Party, Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Oikya Jote under the banner of All Party Action Council (APAC) will organise the rally in all the city district and thana headquarters and bring out See page 11 Col 5

SC should monitor loan default cases, send reports to CJ

Law Commission member blasts judges, lawyers, bankers & borrowers as part of a coterie
By Staff Correspondent
A Law Commission member yesterday blasted judges, lawyers, bankers and borrowers, saying they are all part of a coterie to delay settlement of defaulted bank loan cases.
The Supreme Court should monitor developments in these cases and send regular reports to the Chief Justice. But there is no monitoring of the cases now and as a result, the whole process lacks accountability, said Justice Naimuddin Ahmed, a member of the Commission, at a seminar in the auditorium.
The defaulters appoint high-profile lawyers by paying fabulous fees and the judges, impressed by the appearance of such big-wigs, delay the procedures of such cases, he stated.
"If a lawyer wants to delay a case, he can do it for some time. But if a judge wants to prolong the case, he can do it for an indefinite period," the former judge said.
Deputy Governor of the Bangladesh Bank Dr Sohrabuddin chaired the seminar while S A Chowdhury, Managing Director of Janata Bank, M Aminuzzaman, MD of Uttara Bank and Barrister Shamim Khaled Ahmed took part in the discussion on the topic. BIEM Director General Dr Muinul Islam also spoke.
Justice Ahmed observed that it should not take a court more than six months to give its verdict in a loan default case.
See page 11 Col 7

Discord over gas reserve, prospect for export

By Staff Correspondent
While US businessmen at a seminar in the city yesterday argued that Bangladesh has a reasonable quantum of natural gas reserve to allow export, a local expert rejected the idea saying the present reserve is not enough for 50 years' domestic use.
Speaking as chief guest, State Minister for Planning Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir said, while considering export of gas, policy planners will have to think that the people and the future generations are owners of country's mineral resources.
The seminar on "Issues in Energy Pricing", held at a city hotel, was organised by the Institute of Management Consultants, Bangladesh (ICMB) and sponsored by US oil company Unocal Bangladesh Ltd.
Rejecting the idea of export, Dr Nurul Islam, Director of the Institute of Appropriate Technology at BUET said Bangladesh has a proven reserve of around 11.49 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) of gas including that of Bibiana gas field.
President of American Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh (AmCham) Forest E Cookson said, "There is a reasonable agreement that as a consequence of gas field growth potential and new discoveries, 35 to 50 Tcf would be available."
With this level of reserve, there is sufficient basis for limited export. There is a prospect for export of three to seven Tcf of gas to India in twenty years, Cookson said in his key-note paper.
Dr Islam said the country will need 42 to 54 Tcf of gas to meet 50 year's demand. He referred to the declarations of the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition in this regard.
An estimate in 1974 said Bangladesh had gas reserves for 374 years, but now it has come down to 31 years, Dr Islam pointed out.
Prof Hafiz GA Siddiqi, Pro Vice- See page 11 Col 5

ANNOUNCEMENT

HONOURING THE NATION BUILDERS OF TOMORROW
The Daily Star proudly announces the 2nd ceremony of Awarding Certificates of Excellence to outstanding students of O&A Level Examinations (June 99 - June 2000) sessions.
The award ceremony will be held on 7 October, 2000, at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium at 3 PM.
Guests are requested to be seated by 2:45 PM.
Participation by invitations only.
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Bangladesh take on England today

Amid great expectation of cricket-crazy fans at home, the new born Test newcomers Bangladesh take on England in the ICC Knockout Tournament in Kenya today, reports UNB.
After graduating to the elite club of Test-playing nations, Bangladesh are going to play their first encounter in the 11-nation mega tournament dubbed Mini World Cup.
It is a huge task for skipper Naimur Rahman Durjoy, who recently took up the challenging job.
England came to Nairobi after beating west Indies for the first time in a Test series at home in 31 years as well as winning the tri-nation one-day series against West Indies and Zimbabwe.
But the Bangladesh skipper in an internet interview was confident that his team would do well.
The real strength of Durjoy and Co is their batting but they are missing the services of two regular openers Mehrib Hossain, the lone ODI century-maker, and Shahriar Hossain, due to injury.
But the main concern for the Bangladesh batsmen is the prospect of facing English pace men Darren Gough and Andrew Caddick.
The three-time World Cup finalists England, who yet to win any major tournament in recent times, have also a good batting lineup.
Bangladesh's success depends mainly on their middle-order batsmen and spinners.
Bangladesh, starting from their first ODI victory against Kenya in India in 1998, so far managed only three wins in 40 one-day internationals.
In 1999, in their maiden appearance in the World Cup in England, Bangladesh defeated fellow ICC associate Scotland, and then pulled off the biggest upset of the tournament against favourites Pakistan.
Fans and experts expect that the 10th Test-playing nation must prove their worth on the field to justify the honour.
In their last ODI match, Bangladesh tasted a 233-run defeat against Pakistan in the Seventh Asia Cup on their own soil.
In October 1998, Bangladesh hosted the first ever knockout tournament, but failed to play as See page 11 Col 4

Today's match
Bangladesh v England
BTV and ESPN will show the match from 12.45pm (BST).
Tomorrow is a rest day.

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Standard Chartered Grindlays
Subsequent to the acquisition of ANZ Grindlays Bank by Standard Chartered Bank, the Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh, has granted approval to change the name of ANZ Grindlays Bank Limited to Standard Chartered Grindlays Bank Limited.
We will be changing the exterior and interior signage of our branches and Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) in Bangladesh over the next few weeks.
Our valued customers will continue to enjoy the services they currently enjoy from ANZ Grindlays Bank, and we will keep you informed as new developments are introduced.
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