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Tk 46.79 lakh looted from travel agency

By Staff Correspondent

Burglars took away Tk 46.79 lakh from a travel agency at Toyenbee Circular Road in the city's Motijheel area in the early hours of yesterday.

They entered the first floor office of Pan-Bright Travel Agency at 29 Toyenbee Circular Road by breaking the wall from an under construction building nearby.

The burglars broke open three lockers and looted Tk 46.79, 200. Police said the incident might have taken place between 12 midnight and 4 am yesterday.

Ruhul Amin Mithu, managing director of the office, filed a case with Motijheel police in this regard. None was arrested till writing of this report last night, police said.

Wife beaten to death in city

By Staff Correspondent

A woman was allegedly beaten to death by her husband at their East Kazipara residence in the city's Karful area yesterday evening.

Amir Jan, 26, wife of Siddik driver and a resident of 365 East Kazipara, was beaten to death following a family feud, sources said.

Karful police said Amir Jan got into an argument with her husband yesterday afternoon and at one stage Siddik started beating her. Amir Jan fell unconscious when her husband punched her in the belly.

She was taken to a local clinic where attending doctor declared her dead.

Karful police said late last night that none came to the police station to file any case in this connection. Police failed to give any details of the incident.

ISA activists clash with police in city: 25 hurt, 75 held

By Staff Correspondent

Twenty-five people, including four policemen, were injured in a clash between police and the activists of Islami Shasantantra Andolon (ISA) at Bangla Motor in the city yesterday.

The clash erupted at about 3.30 pm when police intercepted an ISA procession coming from Baitul Mukarram after Zohr prayers.

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BDR, BSF sign accord to stop push-in, smuggling

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and the Border Security Force (BSF) of India signed an accord in the city yesterday to take effective steps against push-in, woman and child trafficking, smuggling of arms and drugs and other commodities.

Maj. Gen. ALM Fazlur Rahman, Director General of Bangladesh and EN Rammohan, Director General of BSF signed the accord after the conclusion of a four-day DG level meeting between the two sides.

The meeting stressed on improving cooperation between the two countries regarding various bordering issues, the two director generals later said at a press briefing at the BDR headquarters at Pilkhana.

"The border stretches 4156 kilometers along Bangladesh and India. Some sporadic incidents can always take place along such a lengthy border," BSF chief Rammohan said adding that it is possible to solve all the problems through discussion.

"There are some problems which is beyond our jurisdiction. In such cases we will deal with the matter through our concerned officers," Rammohan added.

He noted that BSF did not kill any unarmed Bangladeshis in the past few months, but some Indian civilians had killed some Bangladeshis.

Asked why his country is not ratifying the Mujib-Indira treaty of 1974 although Bangladesh has signed it, he said both BSF and BDR were border-guarding force and it was beyond their authority to put pressure on the government to sign the treaty.

"There are hundreds of problems along the border areas and to reduce the number of issues, we need to sit together regularly",

the DG, BSF said justifying the half-yearly meeting of the two countries.

Sources said that the BSF assured implementation of the 1974 Indira-Mujib accord that ensures easy movement of Bangladesh nationals through the Teen Bigha corridor and exchange of the enclaves of the two countries.

When his attention was drawn to reports of nurturing insurgency in Bangladesh by India, Rammohan said it was very difficult to comment on this matter. "We are here to come to a conclusion about the existing problems of both sides," he said.

The DG, BDR however defended his Indian counterpart, saying that his department carried out several combing operations in the northeastern areas of the country to crack down on See page 11 col 6

BNP's condition for shifting rally venue

By Staff Correspondent

The BNP and its allies in the four-party opposition combine have decided to go ahead with the "grand" public meeting at Paltan Maidan on November 7 although the government declined to allow it to use the ground.

However, they would consider shifting the venue if the government permitted holding of the rally at Manik Mia Avenue on the day.

"We are taking preparation to hold our scheduled rally at Paltan Maidan on November 7. The government will have to bear the consequence if it tries to obstruct us from holding the programme," said BNP Secretary-General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan while briefing newsmen after an emergency meeting of the Central Liaison Committee (CLC) at 29 Minto Road yesterday evening.

The CLC meeting was convened following the National Sports Council's (NSC) refusal to allot the Paltan Maidan to BNP. Sources said the Bangladesh See page 11 col 6



A look into the future ... three young women have their eyes glued to the computer screen on the inaugural day of the week-long City IT 2000 at the BCS Computer City, IDB Bhaban at Agargaon in the city. - Star photo

TK 1.7cr heroin, gold seized in Ctg: 6 held

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 25: A special team of the Department of Narcotics Control (DNC) here seized 1640 grams of heroin worth over Taka 1.50 crore from a house at Kadamtoll in the city this morning, official sources said.

On receipt of secret information, Narcotics Department officials with the help of police raided the house at around 7 am. They also seized one gold bar weighing ten tolas, one revolver and Tk 1.61 lakh from the same house.

Six people including the owner of the house were arrested in this connection, sources said.

They are Kamal Uddin, owner of the house, Shah Alam, Selim Mohammad Feroz, Nazrul Islam and Majed. Of them, Nazrul and Majed are from Jessore while

Kamal, Shah Alam, Selim and Feroz from Chittagong, police said.

Saifur Rahman, Additional Director of Narcotics Control Department told this correspondent that the house was surrounded by police at 5.30 am and search operation was made at 7 am.

He believed that heroin was brought from Jessore to sell in the port city.

The heroin was found in 18 small packets, 16 packets each containing 100 grams and two packets each containing 20 grams, Rahman said.

The arrested were handed over to Doublemooring thana police.

A case was lodged with Doublemooring thana in this regard.

Low over Bay may turn into depression

By Special Correspondent

A well-marked low formed over the east central Bay and adjoining south-east Bay yesterday is likely to intensify further into a depression, Meteorological Department sources said.

It may move in a west-northwesterly direction.

Appearing as a 'low' in the Andaman Sea on Tuesday, it turned into a well-marked low by yesterday, the sources said.

Production at AJM still suspended

From Our Correspondent NARAYANGANJ, Oct 25: Production in Adamjee Jute Mills remained suspended for the second day today.

The management of the mills could not give any decision regarding payment of arrears wages to the workers till 6 pm today, sources said.

About 5,000 workers of Adamjee Jute Mills walked out of their work places shouting slogans at 10 am yesterday demanding payment of their wages for the month of September.

Trimming overstaffed industries ministry Tofael's directive to send all relevant papers to JS body

Star Report

Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed has finally directed his ministry to send its revised organogram and terms of reference to the relevant parliamentary sub-committee for its consideration.

Tofail's directives seem to have satisfied the sub-committee members who have been vocal about trimming the overstaffed ministry. However, the committee members themselves are doubtful about implementation of their recommendation, which would be formulated soon, sources said.

The minister at a meeting of the Standing Committee on Industries Ministry on Wednesday directed Industries Secretary AI Amin Chowdhury to send relevant papers to the sub-committee.

To a query by BNP lawmaker A K M Mosarraf Hossain, Tofail said the sub-committee would be provided with all necessary documents. "The committee has every right to get relevant papers and documents, and the ministry is bound to send it."

Presided over by committee Chairman Dewan Farid Gazi, the meeting was attended, among others, by Rafiqul Anwar and Sajahan Sarder of ruling Awami League, A K M Mosarraf Hossain of BNP and Mohammad Golam Hossain of Jatiya Party. High officials of the Industries Ministry were also present.

Earlier, the Standing Committee had recommended downsizing the ministry and formed a three-member sub-committee. But, the Industries Ministry did not respond to queries from the parliamentary sub-committee about its strength, structure, terms of reference and distribution of works.

As decided in the meeting, the committee sent a letter to the ministry on July 5 asking for related documents within one month. Instead, the ministry See page 11 col 3

Students at BSMMU continue agitation

By Staff Correspondent

Post-graduate students at the Banghabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) broke windowpanes and chairs yesterday in a bid to force the authorities to withdraw the decision to change the existing course curriculum.

About 500 students with support from some of the university teachers protested the change in the existing course curriculum for Masters in Surgery (MS) and Doctorate in Medicine (MD).

Earlier on October 11, the students had handed over a memorandum containing nine-point demands to the Vice-chancellor of the University Prof. MA Quaderi.

On Tuesday, the students gheraoed the VC, the two Pro-VCs, Registrar and Comptrollers for about two hours and demanded withdrawal of the decision to introduce the new course curriculum.

Sporadic violence was reported in the main building of the university on Tuesday. Some win See page 11 col 1



Death, the great leveller... Congress President Sonia Gandhi (C) wipes her eyes during a wake at the party headquarters for former party president Sitaram Kesri (inset) in New Delhi yesterday. Kesri, 81, died on Tuesday of a pulmonary embolism. Story on page 9. - AFP photo

Motive of killers was to annihilate Bangabandhu, his family: Defence

The main motive of the malevolent killers was to annihilate Bangabandhu and his family and they did just that, reports UNB.

This was stated yesterday by the special public prosecutor of the Bangabandhu murder death reference case, Serajul Haq, analysing the strategy of development and killing style of the disgruntled army men.

"The killers had planned to annihilate Bangabandhu and his family and they did it in a pre-planned manner," submitted the government counsel before the High Court, making his arguments on the fourth straight day of the death-reference hearings.

Citing a vivid eyewitness account of the massacre, as given by prosecution witness 1, the prosecution lawyer said the attackers entered the house from south side firing precautionary shots.

Advocate Haq said, as he went on narrating the courage, that a reception room had broken and Muhtul Islam got injured.

In such a situation, Bangabandhu asked the receptionist to lie down on the floor and Bangabandhu himself also lay down. Then, firing stopped for some time. Bangabandhu went up to first floor of the building. At that time, Bazul Huda, an army officer who was known to Muhtul, along with some other soldiers, gathered in front of the reception room.

The army men shot Sheikh Kamal on the ground floor as he told them that he was the son of Bangabandhu.

"Knowing him as Bangabandhu's son the attackers shot Kamal dead on the spot. The incident proves that the attackers went there to kill Bangabandhu and his entire family," the prosecution lawyer argued.

Advocate Haq said, as he went on narrating the courage, that a group of soldiers went upstairs and started to drag Bangabandhu downstairs when the leader shouted: "What do you want? Where are you taking me?" At this stage some other army men gunned down Bangabandhu on the staircase.

Later, another group also dragged Begum Mujib. Finding her husband lying dead on the staircase, Begum Mujib cried out: "If you want to kill me, kill me here. I would not cross Bangabandhu's body."

She then freed herself from their clutches and returned to her room wherein she was killed.

Giving a vivid account of the tragic scene, the lawyer said Sheikh Russel who was brought down to the ground floor asked Muhtul: "Will they kill me?"

Muhtul assured the minor boy: "No, they will not kill you." As the boy asked them to take him to See page 11 col 7

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Notice Inviting Proposal to Participate in the Self-Financed Publicity Work of Dhaka International Trade Fair-2001

On the occasion of Dhaka International Trade Fair-2001 (DITF-2001) sealed proposals are hereby invited from reputed advertising firms in their letter head pad by 3 PM on 09.11.2000 to make and display banners, road island sign, road island decoration; to print fair directory and fair guide; to publish special supplements in the national dailies and other related creative publicity work on self-financed basis. Design and cost break-up of the proposed work have to be submitted with the proposal. If selected, the firms have to deposit 10% of the proposed total cost for each head of the work, in the form of Bank Guarantee in favour of Dhaka International Trade Fair fund before issuing work order. Necessary documents have to be submitted as a proof of experience in the related work. Information Division of the Bureau may be contacted for further details.

The fair authority may accept or reject any or all of the proposals without assigning any reason thereof.

Abdul Mazid Bhuyan
Director, Export Promotion Bureau & Member-Secretary, Publicity Sub-Committee
Dhaka International Trade Fair-2001

Final voters' list to be published today

The final voters' list compiled this year will be published throughout the country today, reports BSS.

An Election Commission press release said, according to available information from districts, the total number of voters was 7,48,23,855 of which 3,85,30,414 were males and 3,62,93,441 females.

The number of voters in Rajshahi Division is 1,84,03,832 of whom 93,18,273 are men and 93,87,559 women.

Khulna Division enlisted 87,17,917 voters of whom 44,23,867 are males and 42,94,050 females.

In Barisal Division 50,89,502 voters were enlisted of whom 26,23,204 are men and 24,66,298 women.

Dhaka Division enumerated 2,36,81,407 voters which included 1,24,22,239 males and See page 11 col 1

	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Oct 26		5.24 pm
Oct 27	6-02 am	

Prayer Timings

October 26

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-45	5-20
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-35	5-40
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

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