



Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.
License Of Federal Express Corporation
Tel # 9565114; Fax # 9565121

MOUCHAK

108, D.I.T. Road
Malibagh, Dhaka
Tel # 9345261

KAWRANBAZAR

33, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue
Kawranbazar, Dhaka
Tel # 9130647, 9130906

DEPZ

Dhaka Export Processing Zone
Service Building
Ganakbari, Savar
Tel # 9338931

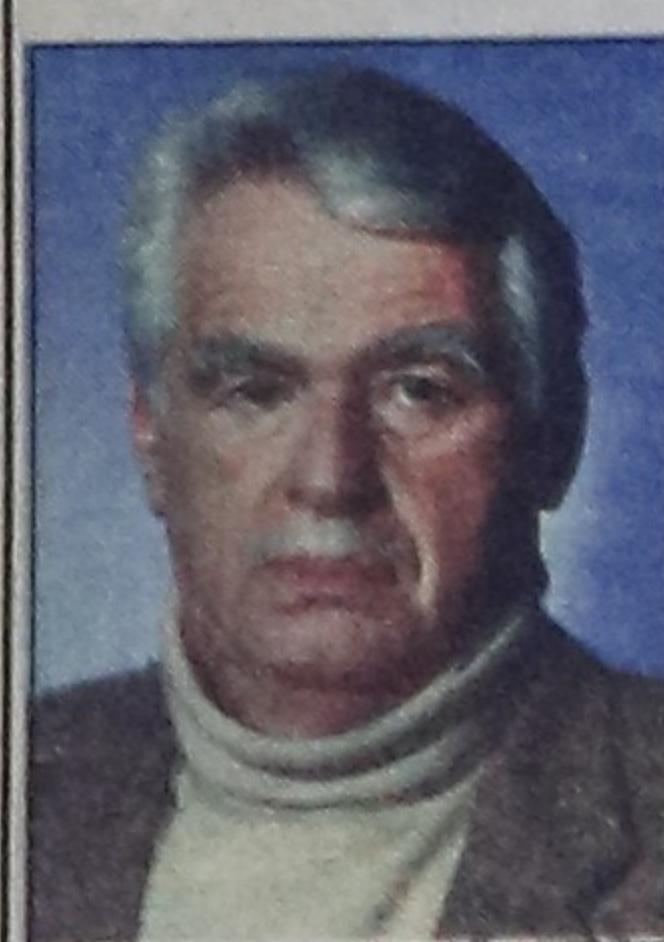


Upright Freezer

Chest Freezer



TRANSCOM ELECTRONICS LTD.
Authorized Distributor in Bangladesh for Whirlpool Appliances, USA
Dhaka: 8115307-10 CTG, 716353, 723578 Khulna: 720304 Bogra: 6215

**Hankel keeps up**

Frankfurt University professor Wilhelm Hankel is reportedly preparing again to lodge a complaint with Germany's high court aimed at abolishing the euro because he believed it is unstable. It is the second time the economist, with several other colleagues, is attempting to abolish the euro by court action. A complaint filed in January, 1998 was rejected in April of the same year, shortly before German parliament approved the euro's launch for January 1, 1999.

— AFP photo

SC to hear Ershad's petitions today

By SC Correspondent
The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court will hear today two separate petitions filed by former President HM Ershad in connection with Janata Tower Case.

Ershad filed one petition seeking further extension of time for surrender before the trial court.

The SC will hear the remaining petition.

The other petition was filed for exempting him from surrendering before the court.

Ershad's lawyers Barrister Rafiqul Huq and Khandker Mahbub Hossain yesterday moved the two petitions.

Justice Mahmudul Amin Chowdhury fixed today for hearing of the petition by a full bench of Appellate Division.

19 senior police officers transferred

By Staff Correspondent

Nineteen senior officers of Bangladesh Police comprising Police Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner (DC), Superintendent of Police (SP) and Additional Inspector General (AIG) were transferred yesterday, sources said.

Police Commissioner of Khulna Anwar Iqbal was transferred to the Police Headquarters as AIG.

Among others, DC (East) of DMP Mokhlesur Rahman was transferred as SP to Gazipur, DC (West) Moshtak Ahmed as SP to Narshingdi, DC Abdul Jalil as SP to Gopalganj, SP's Amrit Islam of Narail as SP to Satkhira, Mosharrif Hossain of Sathkhira as SP to Khulna, Sobhak Hossain of Sylhet as SP to Narail, Faruq Ahmed of Gazipur to SB headquarter, Mokhlesur Rahman of Narshingdi to Sylhet, Abu Hanif of Sylhet to the Police Headquarters, Jasim Uddin of Gopalganj to Saroda Police Academy, Sajid Hossain of Rajshahi to Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), Mesbah Uddin of Noakhali as SP to Sherpur, Nawsher Ali and Nurul Awar of Police Headquarters as SP to Rajshahi and to the DMP respectively, deputy director of National Revenue Board Rowshan Ara as DC of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police and Abdul Wadud to Armed Police Battalion at Khulna, Khoda Baksh of Police Headquarters to Internal Affairs and Kamal Hossain as SP to Sunamganj.

It may be mentioned that the decision of transfer of the above mentioned officials was made earlier, but serious lobbying from different quarters delayed birth to a child.

The transfer orders were finalised after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina approved them on Sunday.

Sharif loses appeal on hijacking conviction

KARACHI, Oct 30: The provincial Sindh High Court today upheld former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's conviction on a hijacking charge and accompanying life sentence, but over turned the guilty verdict on a charge of terrorism, reports AP.

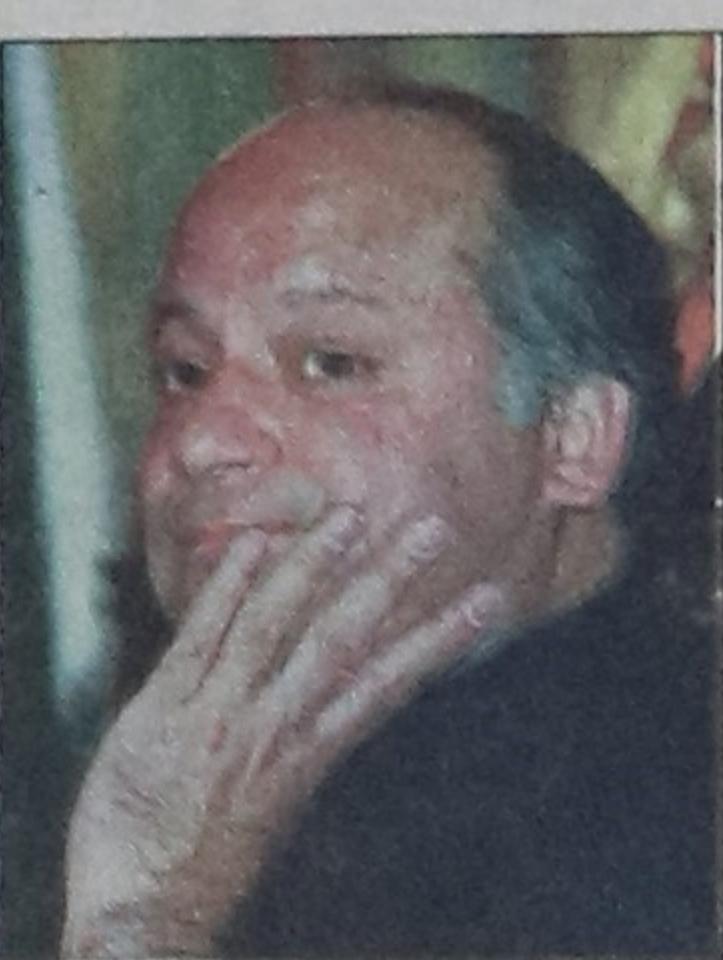
The panel of three judges also denied a prosecution appeal which sought the death penalty for Sharif rather than the life sentence.

Sharif will appeal to the Supreme Court, his last avenue of appeal, said his wife, Kulsoom Sharif, who has been crisscrossing the country championing her husband's cause.

Her head covered in the traditional headscarf, Kulsoom said the unsuccessful appeal was not a surprise.

"We don't expect justice," said Kulsoom. "The judges are helpless in the present situation," a reference to the military rule in Pakistan.

The judges were divided on their ruling, with one of the three, Judge Sermat Jalal Usmani, ruling in favour of Sharif. But the



Nawaz Sharif
majority upheld Sharif's hijacking conviction and life sentence, which is sufficient under Pakistani law.

In his ruling Usmani said there was evidence of abduction which would carry a three-year jail term.

The majority ruling also upheld the 500 million rupee fine against Sharif, as well as the loss of all his property.

Sharif was convicted on April 6 of terrorism and hijacking charges and sentenced by a special anti-terrorist court, set up during his regime, to two concurrent life terms. One of the two terms was overturned by the provincial Sindh High Court.

A life sentence in Pakistan is a minimum of 25 years in jail.

Meanwhile the prosecution had appealed the jail term demanding the death penalty, which is allowed under the law.

Prosecution lawyer Raja Qureshi said no decision has been taken on whether to appeal to the Supreme Court.

The charges against Sharif stem from an incident last October 12 the day the army seized power in Pakistan, throwing out Sharif's elected government and putting the former prime minister in jail.

Sharif was charged with refusing to allow the commercial airline returning Pakistan's army chief Gen Pervez Musharraf to land in southern Karachi. The aircraft, with more than 200

See page 11 col 7

Status of tax registration**JS body under fire for not disclosing report on MPs**

By Inam Ahmed

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Finance Ministry yesterday came under criticism from an opposition legislator for not disclosing a report on the status of tax registration of the parliamentarians.

Yesterday's standing committee meeting also witnessed some debates on the pre-shipment inspection (PSI) system as some members stated that there are controversies about integrity of PSI companies.

"We have already paid the PSI agents some Tk 18 crore in foreign currency for doing the job," one member reportedly said. "PSI is a temporary system and it cannot go on for ever. We need to build our own in-house capacity."

Many of the members also agreed and pointed out that because of Internet facility all types of price information are available on the net. If properly trained, the customs officials can easily figure out the prices and estimate tariff.

Meanwhile, a NBR report on PSI, which was presented in the meeting, said the introduction of

the system has reduced consignment release time, improved efficiency of the port and reduced harassment of importers.

The report, however, mentioned that the customs authorities have found some discrepancies in the classification, value and volume of products in the clean report of finding certified by PSI companies.

These companies have been served with show-cause notices, the report mentioned.

UNB adds: The NBR collected Tk 3845.88 crore during July-September period of the current fiscal (2000-2001), which is 1.66 per cent up the target of Tk 3782 crore. The growth is 18.05 per cent higher than that of the first quarter of the previous fiscal.

Revenue target for the current fiscal is Tk 18,000 crore.

The meeting discussed appointment, transfer and training of revenue officials as per the new law enacted by the parlia-

See page 11 col 6

ment.

Meanwhile, a NBR report on PSI, which was presented in the meeting, said the introduction of



Relatives of Mominur Rahman Shimul and residents of Uttara formed a human chain in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday, demanding arrest and trial of the Juba League leader's killers. Shimul was gunned down in front of Uttara Friends Club on October 30 last year as he protested against toll collection and other immoral activities in the area.

— Star photo

**Death of nurse
Situation tense
at KMCH**

From Staff Correspondent

KHLNA, Oct 30: Situation at the KHLNA Medical College Hospital (KMCH) remained tense after death of senior staff nurse Rahela Khatoon while giving birth to a child.

Nurses and employees blamed female gynaecologists Dr. Razia Sultan and Dr. Afroza Khatoon's negligence for untimely death of Rahela.

It may be mentioned that the decision of transfer of the above mentioned officials was made earlier, but serious lobbying from different quarters delayed birth to a child.

The transfer orders were finalised after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina approved them on Sunday.

See page 11 col 1

**BGMEA reiterates demand
Resolve trade union
issue in EPZs
without delay**

By Staff Correspondent

BGMEA President Ansur Rahman Sinha has reiterated his call for an immediate solution to the trade union issue in Export Processing Zones (EPZs) for the greater interest of Bangladeshi's export business.

"Duty-free and quota-free access of goods to the US market will be very difficult without solving the issue," he told a press conference at the BGMEA office here.

Describing the outcome of his meetings with US officials and law makers during his recent visit to Washington, Sinha said the

issue is still unresolved although the government earlier claimed that an understanding was reached on it.

"So far we know, the EPZ problem is a major hindrance to improvement of trade relation with US," he added.

Sinha led a 16-member BGMEA team to Washington this month, which was part of the Prime minister's entourage during his visit to the US.

During the visit, the BGMEA delegation discussed with a number of members of US Congress

See page 11 col 1

**PM asks for Rly
land to build
DU women's hall**

By DU Correspondent

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has directed the authorities concerned to allocate unused land of the railway to Dhaka University authorities to construct a dormitory for the female students of the university.

The PM directed the authorities to take proper step to hand over the land besides the Curzon Hall to the university immediately, said a press release yesterday.

She also asked the DU authorities to start construction of the hall immediately after receiving the land to reduce acute accommodation problem of the female students.

DU Vice-chancellor Prof. AK Azad Chowdhury told The Daily Star yesterday that they were planning to construct a 500-seat modern dormitory for the female students at a cost of Tk 12 crore.

Female students, who constitute about 50 per cent of the total students, are suffering a lot due to the acute accommodation problem.

**Gold worth Tk 40
lakh seized
in Sylhet**

From Staff Correspondent
SYLHET, Oct 30: Sixty-two goldbars worth about Tk 40 lakh were seized by DB police of Sylhet last night.

Two persons were arrested during the raid.

Acting on a tip-off, a police squad led by Additional SP MA Gani, raided the 2nd floor of the house at 23 Moubar Residential Area in the town at Sylhet.

Police followed the goldcarriers when they have just entered the house.

The gold was brought by some one who came by an Airbus Flight of Biman that arrived Sylhet Osmani Airport last night from Dubai, police informed.

Police followed the persons arrested from the house along with the gold. The arrested are: Haripada Dev of village Uttar Golapnagar under Golapnagar thana and Kamal Ahmed of Barsala under Kotwali thana.

The public representatives from the three hill districts taking vote from Jumma people, on the other hand, are now leading luxurious life betraying the hill people," said Larma who struck peace agreement with the government in 1997 to end over two

An intimate moment

West Bengal Home Minister Buddhadev Bhattacharya (R) gestures as he speaks to Chief Minister Jyoti Basu at a Left Front rally in Calcutta yesterday. Bhattacharya will replace Jyoti as the new Chief Minister from November 6 after the latter retires from the post next month on health reasons.

— AFP photo

PCJSS threatens to take recourse

BANDARBAN, Oct 30: CHT Regional Council Chairman

Jyotirindra Bodhipriyo Larma alias Shantu Larma today said the Prime Minister's commitment to rehabilitate 4 lakh outsider Bengalees to the plains with due honour was not fulfilled for reasons not known.

The public representatives from the three hill districts taking

vote from Jumma people, on the other hand, are now leading luxurious life betraying the hill people," said Larma who struck peace agreement with the government in 1997 to end over two

decades of tribal insurgency.

"Collaborators are enjoying the fruits of the peace treaty depriving the Jumma people," he said clobbering the privileged elite of the indigenous communities.

The PCJSS supremo alleged that the government, violating the clause of peace treaty regarding withdrawal of army camps from the region, is trying to establish three full-fledged cantonments in three hill districts.

PCJSS leaders alleged that the peace deal signed between the government and them was violated by giving lease of 36,231 acres of land in the hill tracts.

Meanwhile, a report published by the Hill Tracts Affairs Ministry said the government had formed a land commission headed by a retired justice to settle the land disputes in the hills.

Measures have been undertaken to allocate two acres of khas land each to the landless tribal families, it added.

Besides, 70 army camps have already been pulled out from the hill districts.

JAMMU, India, Oct 30: India and Pakistan traded heavy mortar fire over their disputed Kashmir border for the third straight day today, following weekend clashes that reportedly left 17 soldiers from both sides dead, reports AFP.

Indian Army spokesman Maj Sanjay Khanna said Pakistani mortar units fired 1,200 shells on Indian positions in four districts of the southern Kashmiri border

in earnest on Saturday, when the Indian army said up to 12 Pakistani soldiers were killed after troops repulsed a Pakistani raid in the border district of Rajouri.

Measures have been undertaken to allocate two acres of khas land each to the landless tribal families, it added.

Besides, 70 army camps have already been pulled out from the hill districts.

In addition, a report published by the Hill Tracts Affairs Ministry said the government had formed a land commission headed by a retired justice to settle the land disputes in the hills.

Meanwhile, a report published by the Hill Tracts Affairs Ministry said the government had formed a land commission headed by a retired justice to settle the land disputes in the hills.

Meanwhile, a report published by the Hill Tracts Affairs Ministry said the government had formed a land commission headed by a retired justice to settle the land disputes in the hills.

Meanwhile, a report published by the Hill Tracts Affairs Ministry said the government had formed a land commission headed by a retired justice to settle the land disputes in the hills.

Meanwhile, a report published by the Hill Tracts Affairs Ministry said the government had formed a land commission headed by a retired justice to settle the land disputes in the hills.

Meanwhile, a report published by the Hill Tracts Affairs Ministry said the government had formed a land commission headed by a retired justice to settle the land disputes in the hills.