

Kamal Murder Case Adel sent to jail as he surrenders to court

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Former Deputy Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) and JP central leader, Jahangir Mohammad Adel, principal accused in the Kamal Hossain Murder Case surrendered to court yesterday and was sent to the Dhaka Central Jail.

Adel appeared before the CMM's Court at about 12.30 pm and prayed for bail.

The CMM, Shailendra Kumer Adhikari, rejected his bail prayer and sent him to jail. The court also directed the jail authorities to give him first class division in the jail hazat after hearing on an another petition about the division.

Adel came to the court with his lawyer T M Akbar. Moving the bail petition, he said that the accused was implicated in the case as part of

a conspiracy. He has voluntarily appeared before the court showing respect to rule of law. He would not abscond if bail is granted to him." the lawyer added

Court inspector Kanan Kumar Devnath opposed the bail petition. After hearing both the sides, the court rejected the bail petition and

ordered to send him to jail Kamal Hossain, 30, senior vicepresident of ward 67 unit of

Jubo League

FROM PAGE 1 He was wanted in two dacoity cases, police said

He belonged to city AL president Manzurul Imam group and headed a squad of armed cadres of the party, police said

The murder was a sequel to previous enmity, police said. No case was filed till 6:00 pm and none was arrested.

independence day.

on August 16 last year with Kotwali

The investigation officer of the arch 2 showing 22 witnesses. OC of Kotwali thana filed a sedition

the Supreme Court

Ershad FROM PAGE 1 sent the order tothe jail authorities

in the evening. Ershad's counsels collected copies of the order from the jail

authorities. The magistrate in his order said the JP Chairman, during his imprisonment in the Janata Tower graft case, had gone to the hospital citing health ground. But he met his partymen there and instructed them to create a law and order situation

Meanwhile, Ershad's brother GM Quader MP met him at the Dhaka Central Jail yesterday.

spoke to newsmen at Circuit House

after Islam and Clough left the

directly blaming the renegades from

PCJSS, who had formed the United

He made certain remarks.

Renewed appeal

briefing.

FROM PAGE 1

ued. "We are making efforts to have a direct contact with the abductors to free them. There has been some progress in this regard," he said without elaborating.

Democratic Peoples Front (UPDF) Islam dismissed an official BSS led by Sanchoy Chakma and Prasit news agency report that there had Khisa for the kidnapping. been a secret meeting with five of "I have names to show involve the kidnappers and the officials. The ment of Khisa and the likes of him BSS correspondent in Rangamati did not attend the briefing yesterday. Islam said that he did not make

the comments quoted by the BSS Correspondent "We are hopeful that they would

be freed soon," Islam said answering a guestion on the reports that freedom for the hostages are imminent

He also said that authorities are investigating reports that the hostages have been shifted to new places in Kaokhali. 30 kilometres north-west of Rangamati.

There have been reports that a loctor had been taken secretly by

Awami League was shot dead on August 16 last year as he protested hoisting of national flag of Pakistan by Jubayed. Tareg and others at the residence of Jahangir

Mohammad Adel on the night of August 14 last year, Pakistan's Victim's brother Mohammad Nazir Hossain filed a murder case

thana accusing four people includ-ing Zobayer Mohammad Adel and Tareg Mohammad Adel, sons of Jahangir Mohammad Adel in this regard.

case submitted a charge sheet against five persons including Jahangir Mohammad Adel on Shah Noor-e-Borhan, the then

case against three including Adel with the CMM's Court, Dhaka on August 21 last year in this connection. But Adel was granted bail by

Warmer and wetter conditions would increase the spread of infectious diseases such as malaria and yellow fever. The inundation of low-

such as coral reefs and forests...

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lying islands and coastal areas could lead to displacement of hundreds of millions of people." He continued: "The climate Panels's report says that sea-level could cause the disappearance of vast swaths of this region along with them such species as the famed Bengal Tiger. It suggests that crop production and aquaculture would be threatened, and with them the

livelihood and food security of many of the delta's inhabitants.' He however said, "Bangladesh for its part, has taken steps to address threats such as air pollution and the contamination of ground

Bangladesh alerted to impact of global warming

water by arsenic. UN agencies are ing...It predicts more extreme doing their best to help. But such droughts, floods and storms, and efforts will not be easy. significant changes in the function-

.. One thing we have learned ing of critical ecological systems over the years is that doom and gloom scenarios are not enough to inspire people and governments to

Stressing the need for development of energy needs, he said, "Two billion people lack access to electricity--cook with traditional fuels which contribute not only greenhouse gases to the atmosphere but also poisons to the household, which cause illness and several premature deaths each

"Helping these men, women and children to lift themselves out of poverty will necessarily require a bigger supply of energy.

Annan said key efforts are required in the energy sector which lies at the heart of development. "What we do in the field of energy, we can and must do in other realms

as well." The humanity's biggest challenge in the new century is to discover and use new technologies, create an environment of awareness and change consumption and production patterns.

"Issues of sustainable development is also a political challenge," Annan noted.

Painting a grim picture of global warming due to greenhouse gases, the UN Secretary General called for leadership by the industrialised countries to engage in technology transfer and take help of the devel oping countries to create what he said, a "win-win situation" for having sustainable development.

"The burden of leadership at this iuncture falls on industrialised countries, and in particular the United States, the European Union and Japan", he said, "We are talking about a new

ethics of global stewardship. And this of course is a political challenge.

Annan went on." This stewardship must come from countries big and small, rich and poor. It would mean that the more industrialised countries re-examine their consumption and production patterns. It would mean that in our efforts to eradicate poverty, we look at democratic governance, institution building and community-based development. It would mean upholding

"And it would mean placing the of these efforts.

He observed: "And it is said that developing countries should focus on development, saving the socalled luxury of environmental protection for later, when in fact the environment provides many of the precious resources and capital that societies need today to develop and sustain themselves

In his speech. Annan made a special reference to Bangladesh peacekepers and said, "They are among the world's most willing and able peacekeepers.'

He also pointed out that NGOs and enterpreneurs of Bangladesh are known throughout the world 'for their innovative schemes to fight poverty and empower women.

"The UN-Bangladesh partnership is strong and ready for the challenges of a new century," he observed

Earlier, Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad in his speech said. "We waited long to welcome him (Annan) to our country. We hoped he would spend some more time in the countryside.'

Forest and Enviornment Minister Sajeda Chowdhury gave the vote of

Shazneen case FROM PAGE 12 case with Gulshan thana on April 24,

1998 accusing Shahidul Islam alias Shahid, a domestic help at his house

Mojibur filed a rape case with Gulshan thana after six months' investigation into the murder case.

Shahidul Islam is the principal accused in the case while contractors Hasan is the alleged mastermind. All the accused Shahid, Hasan,

Badal, Shaniram, Minu and Parvin were present in the court during the cross-examination.

Special public prosecutors ABM Sharfuddin Khan Mukul and Mahbub Ahmed appeared for the state while Advocate Mosarraf Hossain Kajol, and MA Kamrul

Haran Khan Aslam for the accused. The murder case, pending with first Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka was earlier stayed by an order of the Supreme Court. The order will remain valid till disposal of the rape case

college teacher at Puthia said

examinees nowadays were more

interested in collecting the special

copies rather than buying or reading

at Puthia bazaar told this correspon-

dent that the new system of copying

He said the computer-composed

copies are more expensive than

special publications. A set of

copies is priced at Tk 25 to Tk 30,

whereas a special edition sells at Tk

Local people said students are

A teacher in the Natore town

attributed popularity of such books

to moral degradation of our society,

and held both teachers and guard-

ians responsible. "Our political

toting elements head the student

wing of the opposition party, she

Terming agriculture as the lifeline

of the country's economy, she called

for utilising every bit of fertile land for

boosting agricultural output. She

said agriculture was playing a major

role in the national economy and

Sheikh Hasina thanked the

university authorities for conferring

on her the honorary degree, that

reaffirmed her commitment to the

nation particularly to the upliftment

The function was also addressed

giving impetus to national growth.

depending largely on the mini books

and computer composed copies.

is on the rise in the entire region.

The owner of a photocopy shop

the prime minister returned from

clipped with pins On the other hand, the ministers who were placed in the groups scheduled to tour the designated districts on March 12 and 13, had to

nations. stay back in the city to attend the cabinet meeting on March 12 and the ECNEC meeting the next day. Meanwhile. AL leaders told this correspondent despite the late start they were instructed by the high command to complete the tour

Another bookseller in the same thana informed that although the practice began three years back, ales have peaked in recent times.

Printing of the mini books might have started from Pabna or Bogra, he said. He, however, declined to reveal from where he collects

"Some unscrupulous people of the locality are behind the dishonest

Terming the system as disasleaders and administrators are

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan called on President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday. Dhaka to play key role

FROM PAGE 1

and international powers like more in this regard in the future, he America in the kidnapping. They said and hoped that the SAARC want to have a new chess game in process would be reactivated. He CHT with its prospects for oil and described SAARC as a useful and gas and other resources to destabiconstructive organisation for cooplise the peace process," Shaktiman eration. Annan was quoted as saying,

said without elaborating. He also castigated the govern "SAARC has my full support." ment for ignoring PCJSS offer for

help in freeing the hostages. 'They did not take it when we are extending our hand," he said, adding that departure of Kalparanian Chakma, the CHT affairs minister from the negotiation process, shows and will shortly become the number one, he mentioned.

About his visit to Rajendrapur Peacekeeping Institute, he said, "I was very impressed by their standard of soldiering. I saw. And after what I saw. I could understand why Bangladesh produced so many fine peacekeepers."

He praised Prime Minister Responding to a question, Sheikh Hasina's peace missions to Anwarul Karim said the UN has two neighboring countries after they plans to turn the Institute into a had detonated nuclear devices and regional centre where proposed her follow up initiatives at other peacekeepers from other countries could get training. "The Prime Minister of

Annan praised Bangladesh for

being the first South Asian country

to sign the CTBT and hoped that

other countries would follow

United Nation's presence in

Bangladesh is 'formidable'.

Anwarul Karim noted that the

work in the fields of poverty alleviation and micro-credit Dhaka participated in all major UN conferences and the UN is

mentioned

process.

looking forward to its participation in five major conferences including those on small arms, racism and children this year, he said.

the biggest programme of the WFP

Annan referrred to socio-

economic activities of the UN and its

Employees United Front (TSUF) in He shared Bangladesh's cona meeting yesterday urged the cern as coordinator of the LDCs in authorities concerned to take adepressing for fair share of resources quate measures to check cheating to improve conditions. This will atexaminations

Annan expressed his firm

conviction that Dhaka would con-

tinue to play an all-encompassing

role in the UN and its affiliated

organs, and especially in shaping

up the international peacekeeping

international commitments to developing, financing and technology transfer.

advancement of women and the education of girls at the very centre

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Saudi Arabia.

before March 26.

Explaining the reason, one party

stalwart said, AL leaders have to

work hard to make a success the

government-sponsored move to

hold a series of rallies of freedom

Arrangements are being made

fighters from March 26 through 31.

to bring in thousands of freedom

fighters to the city on March 31 to

first converge at the National

Parade Square and then proceed to

the Suhrawardy Udyan where

Hasina would deliver a speech

following inauguration of

'Swadhinata Stambha.' The monu-

ment built to mark the site where

Pakistani occupation forces surren-

dered to an Indo-Bangla joint com-

Hasina is also scheduled to

address a 'grand rally' on March 30

at the Paltan Maidan in the city, said

AL leaders. AL would observe the

day as the anniversary of the fall of

Meanwhile, Teachers-

mand on December 16, 1971.

Khaleda government in 1996

SSC exams

FROM PAGE 1

administrations

thanks at the function Early polls

Mini answer guides

textbooks

eight only.

FROM PAGE 1

Teachers are reportedly involved n publication of these books, also editions and computer composed published for Degree (pass) exami-"I have opened my stall today

only to sell the mini books." a bookseller in Puthia thana of Raishahi said yesterday. "I earn a lot before SSC, HSC and Degree (pass) exams selling these."

these.

business." he said

trous for the country's education, a equally responsible."

Govt quitting power

said

of farmers.

FROM PAGE 1 after AL came to power, BNP started to issue ultimatums, one after another, threatening to pull down her government, "Despite all these, we have run the administration for four years and nine months with striking success," she said.

"All the indicators of development showed positive and upward trend, especially in per capita income and people's calorie intake,' she said.

She said her government had

steered the nation out of all major

problems and achieved self-

sufficiency in food production.

reaping bumper crop output for four

the abductors to treat Hulggard, 68, who had reportedly fallen sick, and three dozen bottles of mineral water had been bought by the kidnappers from Kaokhali bazar for them.

"These could be diversionary tactics by the kidnappers who, we understand, are camping at a new location, shifting from Kalapahar hills of Nanniarchar area to somewhere between Kaokhali and Lakhhichhari," Shaktiman Chakma, legal affairs secretary of the Parbattya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity, told reporters.

Legal adviser to PCJSS supreme and Regional Council for CHT Chairman Shantu Larma

Power crisis in city

FROM PAGE 12 sources said.

Under its crash programme, DESA was scheduled to install 1888 capacitor banks by today but it has installed 638. Moreover, those are still at the 'monitoring stage' and are yet to benefit any section of the city dwellers.

Meanwhile, DESA is yet to complete installation of Siddhirganj-Maniknagar and Tongi-Ulon-Bashudhara 132 KV transmission lines.

Earlier, the original time limit for completion of the project was already extended.

Installation of the two transmission lines will greatly help solve the problem of 'line overloading' in the city.

at it was a 'set game Shaktiman said their efforts and scouting in the area to locate the hostages have revealed the names

of the abductors. "There were six of them led by UPDF local area commander

Amulvadhan Chakma, 28, an antipeace activist who failed to graduate. His elder brother who was detained by police told me that his

FROM PAGE 12

government.

ment.

levels

brother left home two years ago to work for UPDF," Shaktiman said quoting Bhaggydhan Chakma. Two other names given by

him are Nona Chakma and Brahmainnya Chakma, both 25 and UPDf activists.

When contacted, a top DESA

official said that in the face of pro-

test from a real estate company,

they could not complete the 'pole

foundation work' of Tongi-Ulon-

Bashudhara transmission line. He.

however, hoped that installation of

the line would be completed by next

completed only the pole foundation

work of Siddhirganj-Maniknagar

Besides, DESA has so far

The Official further said,

DESA has been facing various

problems in implementing the

projects. We are addressing the

problems and hope the delay in

completing the projects will be very

Another senior BNP leader said

(Retd) Ákbar Hossain MP about a

who have no footing in their constitu-

encies and have marginal chance of

winning, are responsible for creating rifts and conflicts. He said these JP

leaders have made secret proposals

even ready to accept only 30 seats, if

The leader said a few JP leaders,

able courage which has been appreciated by the world," Annan said at the official talks. The visiting Secretary General

angladesh has shown cor

said he was highly impressed by the quality and performance of Bangladesh peacekeepers wherever they were engaged.

Bangladesh, he said, has the third Bangladesh now has second place in peacekeeping efforts in the world

kill against the Vajpayee govern-

their intentions clear soon after the

web portal put up for public viewing

Tuesday afternoon when they

demanded resignation of Vajpayee

houses of Parliament. In the days

the videotape issue.

largest programme of the UNDP, second largest of the UNICEF and Achilles heel exposed

Dhaka's example.

ready for a probe into the whole got to see exercepts of the videoissue. But already heads have tapes when they were aired on started rolling. The first to go was private satellite television channels Bangaru Laxman who admitted to on Tuesday as the expose set off a reporters after screening of videopolitical storm that puts a big questapes that he had accepted Rs one tion mark over the future of BJP-led lakh from representatives of a London-registered arms company The revelations have dealt a floated by the Indian internet media major blow to BJP's oft-claimed

plank of probity and clean image and The videotape expose has given the entire opposition led by ominous portents for BJP and Sonia Gandhi's Congress party a Vajpayee as they came close on the God-sent opportunity to go for the heels of opposition attack on Prime Minister's Office accusing some people in it of "riding rough shod" The opposition parties had made over different ministries and "undermining" cabinet system of governance. The videotapes have dragged the names of two leading personalities of the Prime Minister's and forced adjournment of both establishment.

What has come as an acute for and weeks to come, the opposition Defence Minister George will undoubtedly mount a major Fernandes is that his Samata Party offensive against the government on chief Java Jailv is shown sitting in his residence and redemanding money As of now, the Vajpayee government has taken the view that it is from the internet representatives

who masqueraded as middlemen of the arms company for arranging deals

> If even some of the charges Bengal and ruling DMK party in Tamil Nadu which face fresh assembly polls in their states in a couple of months. Already Trinamool and Bal Thackeray-led Shiv Sena have

demanded probe into the issue and more allies of BJP are likely to echo the demand. Vajpayee government has said the problem confronts only two constituents of the coalition -BJP and Samata Party which have to sort it out.

allies will be willing to share the burden of the controversy and, if so, how long

be taken up at the third LDC Summit in Brussels in May, he

Our Staff Correspondent from Barisal reports: Despite repeated appeals and warnings by the board authorities against cheating at the SSC examinations, many candidates were seen purchasing mini books on different subjects in the town vesterday.

Some of them were found photocopying questions and answer scripts in miniature form.

As many as 56,533 candidates will sit for this year's SSC examinations under Barisal Education Board

Bangladesh make FROM PAGE 12

Moududur Rahman Shuva struck the equalizer much to the delight of a few thousand home supporters.

Arjun Hallapa, who set Dhilon up for the first goal, sealed the fate of the match immediately after the lemon break

In the other match of the day China managed a hard-fought 3-2 win against Egypt.

EC: Dialogue FROM PAGE 12

Former Chief Election Commissioner Mohammad Abu down Hena sent the reforms proposals to the Law Ministry for enactment of laws and constitutional amendments in 1999. But, the proposals remained on the Law Reforms Commission drawing board

successive years. She said hei government began its journey with a food deficit of 40 lakh tonnes.

About education, the prime minister said her government wanted to free the campuses from terrorism. Meritorious students now lead her student wing, while gun-

by Education Minister ASHK Sadique and Vice Chancellor of the University Prof Dr AM Ashraful Kamal, Dr Kazi M Badruddoza, emeritus scientist. National Agricultural Research Institute, presented the convocation speech.

the sting operation run by news and

ministry officials and army officers

were captured on hidden cameras.

allegedly taking bribes to facilitate

the prospects of a fake company

"West End" seeking to sell equip-

multiparty coalition government.

questioned the authenticity of the

tehelka video and stressed that

there had been no corrupt defence

deals and no ministers had been

asset is its honesty and a conspir-

acy has been hatched to destroy it,"

"This government's biggest

The BJP, which dominates the

ment to the Indian military.

implicated.

Senior politicians, defence

entertainment portal, tehelka.com.

BJP: Arms scandal

FROM PAGE 12

Police used tear gas to disperse a noisy street protest crowd of Congress Youth activists, who paraded two donkeys with placards identifying them as Laxman and Defence Minister Fernandes.

Fernandes was also reported to have offered his resignation over the scandal, but it was rejected by the cabinet.

Observers said the chances of the government collapsing were minimal

"But it does mean a considerable loss of stature for the government. and this could weaken the electoral prospects of the BJP allies in the coming state elections," said political analyst Pran Chopra.

said BJP spokesman VK Malhotra. The BJP and its coalition part-"It is not only a political attack but ners were holding a crucial meeting a sinister plot to destroy the nation's yesterday afternoon, amid threats economy which was promising to by at least one ally that it might look up after our latest budget." he withdraw if Fernandes failed to step added.

Indian newspapers on Most of the partners have indicated they will stand by the govern-Wednesday were overwhelmingly ment, while calling for an independhostile to the government. "Guns, graft and videotape," ran ent inquiry into the allegations.

the front-page headline in the BJP president Laxman was the most senior politician implicated in Hindustan Times.

Opposition opens informal talks on seat sharing 400 bales of jute President FROM PAGE 12 gutted in N'ganj

BSS, Narayanganj

Four hundred bales of raw jute, majority. ready for export, were reduced to ashes on a motor boat at Charargop the parties are yet to find any new modality, apart from the formula given by BNP Vice Chairman Col. point on the river Shitalakhva in the early hours of yesterday, police and firefighters said

They said the boat laden with the jute of a purchasing agency from Narayanganj was bound for Janata Jute Mills Ltd at Polash under Narsingdi district.

Firefighters from Narayanganj extinguished the blaze by sinking to the BNP leadership that they are the boat half an hour after the fire broke out.

year ago.

marginal"

month

transmission line.

FROM PAGE 1 the leader: "It needs to contest in at the main opposition agrees to confirm nomination of four presidium least 230 seats to confirm a single members of JP.

According to BNP sources four JP leaders Kazi Firoz Rashid, ABM Ruhul Amin Hawlader, Lt. Col. (Retd) Zafar Imam and Saifur Rahman are desperate to get nomination from Dhanmondi, Bakherganj, Feni and Keraniganj constituencies respectively. Of the four seats, two were bagged by BNP, including one by Khaleda Zia and two others by Awami League

They said Firoz Rashid wants nomination from Dhaka-9 (Dhanmondi-Mohammadpur) where he got 8,738 votes in June 12, 1996

parliamentary polls, while BNP candidate Mir Shawkat Ali got 75,855 votes and AL nominee Mokbul Hossain 84,150. In Gopalganj-3 seat, Firoz bagged 453 votes against Sheikh Hasina

Ruhul Amin Hawlader wants to contest in Barisal-6 seat from where he bagged 15,661 votes. BNP candidate Principal Abdur Rashid Khan 34,038 and AL candidate Syed Masud Reza 41, 864.

Zafar Imam expressed his desire to get nomination from Feni-1 constituency where he got 15,497 votes, AL nominee Waziullah Bhuivan bagged 24,138 votes and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia 65,086.

JP city unit President Saifur Rahman is bargaining nomination from Dhaka-3 (Keraniganj) seat where in last election bagged 22,093 votes, AL nominee Mohammad Shahjahan got 52,662 votes and BNP leader Amanullah Aman

1,24,096. Alliance sources said BNP. JP Jamaat, IOJ and JSD (Rob) got 153 seats (BNP-116, JP-32, Jamaat-3, and one by IOJ and JSD each), while AL won 146 constituencies. Election in one seat of Bhola has not yet been held, although the tenure of the 7th parliament is nearing the end.

They said BNP was placed sec ond against AL in 108 seats, JP in 30

constituencies, Jamaat in seven seats and IOJ in one seat. The alliance leaders have so far reached an understanding that the party that stood second against AL will be given preference to nominate its candidates.

BNP leaders argued that its 12 MPs out of 32 quit mainstream party and floated party under the leader ship of Anwar Hossain Manju. So the JP (Ershad) has no right to claim these 12 seats. Moreover. Ershad and Naziur Rahman Manjur would not be able to contest at the polls due to legal procedures. IOJ's only MP joined AL after the 1996-polls.

said the JP under the sharing formula would get 48 seats, Jamaat 10 seats and IOJ one seat. A top leader said the BNP is ready to give JP 50 seats, Jamaat 15 to 18 and IOJ two.

The leader said the BNP has already secretly parleyed with the Jamaat besides the unity of the alliance

Another top BNP leader said the party would try its best to keep JP with the alliance and bring out a peaceful sharing modality. He said the JP leaders are now convinced that they would not be benefited if it joins the AL, breaking the alliance.

In this context, BNP policy makers

prime minister for her sincere efforts to promote agriculture and welfare of the farmers, saving Sheikh Hasina was duly awarded the International Ceres Award by the UN Food and Agriculture

Organisation (FAO) "I congratulate Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina ... for her ceaseless efforts, the country has today

achieved self-sufficiency in food." The President also thanked the Bangabandhu Agricultural University for conferring the honorary DSc degree on Sheikh Hasina.

President Shahabuddin Ahmed also congratulated the students who received MS and PhD degrees for their studies in agriculture.

mentation.

But it remains to be seen if other

leveled in the videotapes stick, BJP's coalition partners both in and outside the government may have a re-look at the nature of their association with the alliance. This is especially crucial for Mamata Banerieeled Trinamool Congress in West