



Prime Minister Khaleda Zia offers munajat as she inaugurates the construction of Kanchan Bridge over river Shitalakha in Rupganj, Narayanganj on Wednesday.

Khaleda fails to contain terrorism, corruption: Hasina

UNB, Narail

Former prime minister Sheikh Hasina claimed that her government built a strong economic base with a food reserve of 26 lakh metric tons and Tk 5,000 crore in banks, but four months' rule of the caretaker and the BNP-led coalition governments left the economy in shambles.

"We didn't leave the exchequer and granary empty like the previous government of BNP, but the caretaker government and coalition of BNP regimes plundered and ruined the economy," she told a workers' meeting of her party at the town hall auditorium on Wednesday.

Hasina, who is now on an organisational tour of southern dis-

tricts, criticised Prime Minister Khaleda Zia for her failure to contain terrorism and corruption although she declared war on those vices.

Responding to Finance Minister Sairur Rahman's remarks in parliament that the white paper on Awami League's corruption would be published, Hasina said hundreds of corruption cases were filed against BNP ministers and MPs after inquiry by the Bureau of Anti-Corruption, but those cases are now being withdrawn.

She alleged that the past government of Khaleda Zia had received huge kickbacks in buying two airbuses for \$150 million whose tender price was \$130 million.

After assuming power through a 'blueprint election' on October

1, Hasina told her audience, BNP ministers are giving orders to the administration over telephone to give work orders to BNP men, while BNP MPs are engaged in armed fights to clutch tenders.

Hasina criticised the silence of the four-party government of Khaleda Zia over the killing of innocent women and children and Muslim devotees in Afghanistan.

They sought votes for sheep of paddy to protect Islam, but now they keep mum, she said, adding there are two ministers of Jama'at-e-Islami in the cabinet, but they also maintain silence.

Calling it a double standard, Hasina said the alliance government does not consider Islam an ideal but as a means of capturing power.

FM urges opposition to join parliament

BSS, London

Foreign Minister Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury has urged the main opposition party to join parliament and help make it the centre of all activities.

"We sincerely want that the opposition should join parliament immediately and help make it the centre of all activities," he told editors of the local Bangla weeklies and prominent community leaders while exchanging views with them at the Bangladesh House (official residence of the High Commissioner) here on Wednesday.

Prof. Chowdhury said the government was very keen to make parliament effective for good government. "We have already offered the positions of the deputy speaker and chairmen of eight parliamentary standing committees to the opposition. We want to ensure transparency and accountability of the government by strengthening the parliamentary committees."

The Foreign Minister made a brief stopover here on Wednesday on his way back to Dhaka after holding a fruitful meeting with his US counterpart Collin Powell in Washington.

Talking to the editors and community leaders, Prof Chowdhury said, "We are committed to making Bangladesh free from terrorism and corruption and we are taking all necessary steps in this regard."

Exhibition on Nat'l Revolution and Solidarity Day begins

UNB, Dhaka

A three-day photography and book exhibition began at the National Museum auditorium on Wednesday marking the National Revolution and Solidarity Day.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister and BNP Secretary-general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan inaugurated the show arranged by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs.

More than 100 photographs, 130 books, 70 magazines and 40 copies of daily newspapers were put on display.

The exhibition will remain open for all from 3 pm to 6 pm.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Former Accountant General Alhaj Abu Syed Hafizullah died of old-age complications at Comfort Diagnostic Centre in the city on Wednesday at the age of 93.

He left behind his wife, two sons, four daughters and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

Hafizullah hailed from Shams-pur village of Bikrampur district.

His quikhwani will be held at his 68, Green Road residence after Magrib prayers tomorrow.

Renowned philanthropist, social worker and founder of Chittagong Hi-Care School Mahfil-Ara Rahman, wife of late Dr Dalur Rahman, died of a cardiac arrest at her residence in Chittagong on November 7. She was 77, says a press release.

Mahfil-Ara was associated with eye camp society and a number of others socio-cultural and welfare organisations.

BCU council begins

DU CORRESPONDENT

The 21st council of Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) Dhaka University unit began yesterday on the campus.

President of the BCU central executive committee Hasan Tariq Chowdhury Sohel inaugurated the two-day council 11:00am, being held in front of the Aparajeo Bangla.

The BCU leaders at the council called upon students to unite against the aggression of US capitalist policy across the world.

BCS psychological test postponed

UNB, Dhaka

Psychological test (written) of the 23rd BCS (special) examination scheduled for November 17 has been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances.

Fresh date of the exam will be announced through newspapers soon, according to a PID handout.



Light rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light rain or drizzle is likely at one or two places in Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country during the period, Met office said.

It also predicted that night temperature may fall by 2-3 degree Celsius over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 30.0 degree Celsius was recorded at Jessore and the lowest of 19.8 degree at Rangpur and Syedpur.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:15 pm today and rises at 6:10 am tomorrow.

Table with columns: City/Town, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (Morning, Evening). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Cox's Bazar.

STOCK

TODAY'S TRADED ISSUES NOVEMBER 08, 2001

Large table containing stock market data for November 08, 2001. Includes columns for Company, DSE, CSE, Financial Performance, and various market indicators like Day's Market and Non Traded Issues.