The Daily Star



8 Bogra JCD men

FROM PAGE 12

mary membership of the JCD will also be cancelled. The convenor and the joint convenor of the JCD central committee, Sahabuddin Laltu and ABM Mosharraf Hossain, have

approved the decision The Bogra zilla committee of the JCD has also been reorganised. Shahid-un-Nabi Salam and Shahabul Alam Piplu have been declared president and general secretary of the new committee. Shahidul Islam, a member of the central committee, conveyed the message through a press release on Sunday. The decision, however,

6 hurt as rival **BNP** men clash in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

At least six people were injured in a clash between two rival groups of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) in Kashimpur village under Sadar Police Station yesterday.

Seriously injured, Antu, 34, and Abu Bakar, 40, were admitted to the Pabna General Hospital. The clash ensued over extortion

from a brick-field in the village under Hemavetour Union in the afternoon. No case has been filed with

the police station. Police were deployed in the area to control the situation

Hasina to address two seminars in Delhi

BSS, Dhaka

Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina will address two seminars in New Delhi.

The seminar on "Human Rights, Poverty Alleviation and Peace in Asia," organised by South Asian Institute, will take place tomorrow, and the seminar on "Peace and Nonviolence" will be held on November 29.

Sheikh Hasina, who attended the three-day Conference of Asian Political Parties held in Bangkok from November 22, is scheduled to reach New Delhi tonight, her press officials said here today.

She is expected to return home on November 30.

Two to die for killing woman 8 years ago

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Habiganj

Two persons were sentenced to death by the District and Sessions Judge's Court,

Habiganj, yesterday for killing a woman eight and a half years ago. The convicts are Kalu Mia and Abdul Aziz of village Borjum in

triggered a violent protest by the JCD supporters. The agitated activists of the JCD beat up one Zobaidul Islam Riton, vice-president of Azizul Haque College unit of the JCD.

Meanwhile, an employee of the deputy commissioner's office, Ziaul Kabir, recorded a General Diary (GD) in Bogra Sadar Thana, stating that some unruly people ransacked the furniture and damaged the doors and windows of Bogra circuit house on Saturday evening.

The incident took place when a group of agitated Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders and activists, angered by the proceedings at the council session, went on the rampage. Some central leaders of the JCD were manhandled and general secretary candidate Piplu was seriously injured. He has been undergoing treatment at Dhaka.

Press report protested

Lutfur Rahman Kajol, president of Cox's Bazar district unit of Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal, in a statement yesterday protested a news item published in The Daily Star on November 17.

In the news item titled "11 BNP men picked up from Hannan Shah's iftar party," it was printed that three members of notorious Kajol Bahini were arrested from in front of Niribili hotel in Cox's Bazar.

Kajol claimed that he is one of the directors of Niribili hotel and no one was arrested from in front of his hotel. There is no notorious Kajol Bahini in BNP in Cox's Bazar, he said. Arrest of two Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal activists, as reported

in the news item, was done from their respective residences on November 17. They were released later as they were found innocent, he said

Burglary at journalist's house in city **STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

About Tk 1.5 lakh in cash and gold ornaments were looted from the residence of a journalist in the city's Banasri area Sunday night.

A gang of burglars entered the house of Mujibor Rahman, senior staff reporter of the Daily Janakantha, at D-46 Eastern Housing apartment. They broke open the door of the fifth-floor apartment, said police. No family member was home

when the incident took place. The iournalist found the main door of his apartment unlocked when he returned home from office, said one of his colleagues. The security guard of the apart-

Listed criminal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

village under Amadi union of Koira

According to police, a group of

armed men stormed into the house

of Moshal Shana at midnight on

Sunday. They dragged him out and

slaughtered him in the foreyard of

the 'second-in-command' of

Shangram Shana, ring leader of

New Biplobi Communist Party.

Shangram Shana was gunned

down by unidentified miscreants in

September at Mussalmanpara

armed miscreants also looted the

house of Mobarak Shana, brother-

in-law of Moshal Shana, also an

armed cadre of the NBCP, police

Before slaying Moshal Shana the

under Khulna thana

Police said Moshal Shana was

upazila in Khulna district.

his house.

said.

field level.

murdered

in Khulna

ment was at the entrance at the time, he said. Police arrested the Rabiul Islam, for alleged Shamsuddin caught rice dealer involvement Babul Chandra Pal in the act from A general diary (GD) was filed



Miss World contestants Ana Sargic (L), of Yugoslavia, and Maja Anjeza (R), of Albania, joke with each other during a press conference in London yesterday. The contest has been moved from Lagos, Nigeria, to London after violence in the region disrupted the event.

Principal put behind bars

for graft **OUR CORRSPONDENT,** Patuakhali

Police arrested the principal of Janata College in Dumki thana in the district yesterday on charges of graft and forgery.

The Principal, Abdul Mannan, was produced before the court yesterday. The court sent him to jail. According to sources, one Tazem Ali was appointed as a peon of the college and was asked to begin on August 25, 1993. But when Tazem Ali went to join on the day, the principal demanded Tk 10,000 in bribe. Failing to pay, Tazem Ali could

not fill the post. Police arrested Abdul Mannan in Kalatala of Patuakhali town yesterday following a case filed by Tazem Ali with the Dumki Police Station on Sunday. There are four other separate cases against Abdul Mannan with the police station, police said.

Students of the college had put his room under lock and key on August 21 because of various allegations against him. He has not been attending office since then, sources said.

Meanwhile, the food department Sunday terminated one Open Market Sale (OMS) dealer from Patuakhali municipal area for selling rice in the black market.

Sources said a municipality administration team led by Commissioner Abu Zafa

Walkout over bill in JS

FROM PAGE 1

this morning (Tuesday) to decide whether it would rejoin the parliament session.

Even before the Agriculture came to power in 1996, it renamed Minister Motiur Rahman Nizami the award 'Bangabandhu tabled the bill before the House, senior AL lawmaker Abdus Samad Azad took the floor right after the recitation of verses from the Qur'an. He demanded that the bill be withdrawn. Identifying Nizami as an antiindependence element belonging to Jamaat-e-Islami, the AL noted that the bill was designed to destroy the

spirit of the War of Independence But Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar advised Abdus Samad Azad to raise his objection when Nizami would stand up to introduce the bill. Immediately after that all the AL MPs sprang to their feet, shouted against the bill, threw their files and tore down papers in hands. Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the

parliament Abdul Hamid then led the stormy walkout. No sooner had the AL lawmakers left the House, Nizami stood up to take the Chair's permission for introducing the bill. With the Speaker declaring that there was no objection to introduction of the bill, Nizami introduced the bill.

The bill proposes that from now on the word 'Bangabandhu' in the 1976 Ordinance would be replaced

Since the promulgation of ainst the nation's independence natio

1976 ordinance people with outagainst the country, its flag and its standing contributions in the field of history. Azad held Prime Minister agriculture have been awarded with Khaleda Zia responsible for 'taking

> Suranjit Sengupta recalled that Motiur Rahman Nizami was a gazette-notified collaborator who fought against the country's independence. "We set aside many controversial issues and joined the parliament to make it effective but after this 'provocative' bill we can no longer stay in this House."

Sengupta noted that the BNP-led four-party coalition government deliberately had the bill introduced by a war criminal to belittle the spirit of the nation's War of Independence and to affront the values and existence of the nation.

Terming the introduction of the bill by a collaborator unprecedented. Sengupta vowed to fight against the ploy, taking people by their side

SAMS Kibria alleged that BNPled government was trying to erase the name of Bangabandhu, using Nizami who had fought against Bangladesh in 1971

Some other senior AL leaders who also spoke at the press briefing of bullets were also recovered from a gravevard at Mohakhali Wireless expressed strong resentment at the Gate in the early hours of yesterday. bill that, they said, would hurt the

'Benga' Babu held

locality.

reports

and Shibganj.

reports that the joint forces yesterday

arrested Awami League leader and

Chairman of Mohanpur Union

Parisad Saiful Islam, 45, from the

Collectorate Building premises.

Sources said the arrestee was

involved in criminal activities in the

people and recovered three firearms

and a huge quantity of liquor in differ-

ent parts of the district. The team

arrested a listed criminal named

Ranju and recovered a revolver as

per his statement from a canal at

Ishwardi. The arrestees are said to be

involved in criminal activities includ-

ing extortion, our correspondent

the joint forces arrested eight people

and seized 216 bottles of Phensidyl in

Sribordi upazila on Saturday

Our Sherpur correspondent says

In Bogra, the army arrested five

Our Rajshahi correspondent

people and recovered a pipe-gun and

a locally-made gun from Shantahar

reports that a team of joint forces

arrested 16 people including a listed

criminal and recovered an unspeci-

fied number of firearms from the 16

spondent, two cadres of the outlawed

Biplobi Communist Party (BCP) were

arrested in possession of firearms in

Salgharmadhua village of

Kumarkhali upazila in the district.

According to police, Nabir Uddin, 30,

and Jalal Uddin, 35, close associates

of notorious criminal and top PCB

leader Akdil Hossain, were hauled up

from an abandoned house along the

Ganga-Kapotakkha Canal at

Kumarkhali. Law enforcers also

recovered a pipe gun and a sawn-off

ters in a press release vesterday said

they arrested 1,474 people including

four identified criminals during the

countrywide ongoing special police

drive in the last 24 hours ending at

6:00am yesterday. They also seized 14 firearms along with 27 rounds of

ammunition, the press release

(DMP) in a press release said they

arrested 278 people including 25

wanted criminals during a special

Young man

stabbed to

A CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A young man was stabbed to death

over a land dispute in Harida village

death

The Dhaka Metropolitan Police

Meanwhile, the police headquar-

gun in their possession.

added

drive

According to our Kushtia corre-

districts of Rajshahi Division.

In Pabna, the army arrested six

FROM PAGE 1 about 10:30am on November 1 and handed over to police on the spot. Mallick was not taken into army custody, the sources maintained. The additional Police Super of the zone also supervised the November 1 drive, they added. Later Mallick was placed in jail custody. Yesterday, he complained of chest pain and was

taken to the hospital. According to police, Mallick fell sick reportedly during interrogation in the army camp. He was produced before the court showing him arrested on suspicion (under section 54 of the CrPC).

On November 12, a court gave him a one-month detention order under the Special Powers Act. Like those against Arju, charges against Mallick were not specified.

The victim's body has been handed over to his relatives, sources

Meanwhile, the army arrested 134 people including 20 listed criminals across the country during the ongoing anticrime crackdown in the last 24 hours ending at 8:00am yesterday. They also seized 27 firearms

inducing six pistols, five revolvers, four shotguns and five pipe-guns along with 50 rounds of bullets.

So far 7,026 people including 1,671 listed criminals have been arrested across the country since the drive styled, 'Operation Clean Heart' started on October 17. A total of 1,174 firearms and 26.326 rounds of ammunition have also been seized.

The joint forces of army, BDR and police arrested notorious Benga' Babu in a residence at Uttar Goran in the city's Khilgaon area in the early hours of vesterday

A team of the Detective Branch of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police raided the residence of the 'Benga' Babu in the city's Mirpur area and questioned his family members. The police detectives were told that he was staying at a rented house at Uttar Goran. The detectives immediately went to the spot and cordoned the house. An army team was also

rushed in their aid. They arrested the gangster and recovered a seven-shooter along with seven rounds of bullet, a mobile phone and a sharp weapon. They also arrested his wife Dilara Akther Munni and seized 40 bottles of Phensidyl from the house.

After quizzing the accused, the joint team also arrested KHM Khan Johnny, 22, Abul Bashar, 57, Babul, 36, Majharul Islam Rony, 22, and Mafidul Islam Johnny, Hossain Shadat Islam, Asad Iman, and Motiur Rahman Rafi, all 20 years old, from Kafrul and Mohakhali areas.

Police said 'Benga' Babu was accused in at least 15 cases including for murder. He is an accused ir Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) ward commissioner Saidur Rahman Newton and DCC prospective candidate Shawkat Hossain Mister murder cases. He is also an accused in the double murder case at Segun Bagicha. Police said they are investi-

Amir Hossain, 38, Bellal Hossain,

40, Nur Islam Nurur, 47, said to the

close aides of Monir, were also

Meanwhile, detectives arrested

Mohammad Ansar Ali from Dohar.

Nababganj yesterday. Ansar, an

accomplice of slain wanted criminal

Alauddin, is an accused in several

criminal cases including for murder-

ing assistant sub-inspector Dinesh

and robbing Pubali Bank at the

In another raid, a team of the joint

orces yesterday arrested five people

including listed criminal 'Neta' Bada

in the city and seized three revolvers.

Another army team arrested two

accused in film actress Irin murder

Tejgaon Industrial Area.

Sunday.

arrested yesterday.

under Sonatala Upazila yesterday. Abdur Rashid, 28, son of Hasen Ali of Harida, was stabbed as he gating to find out whether Babu is joined hands with his brother-in-law nvolved in other criminal activities. Sakimuddin in a clash with Helal of Two revolvers and seven rounds the same village.

A case was filed with the Sonatala Police Station.

Agriculture Award. Nizami mentioned that the bill was introduced to bring necessary amendments to the 1976 ordinance as the government has decided to introduce 'National Agriculture Award.

president's award. When the AL

Briefing newsmen at the meeting room of the deputy opposition leader's chamber, the AL leaders

the bill. Deputy Opposition Leader Abdul Hamid said, "By introducing this bill the government revealed its political vengeance. This will bring no good

dangerous consequences." introduction of the bill as an act of 'violation of the Constitution' since the name of Bangabandhu, who is mentioned as the nation's hero in the Constitution, was being eliminated

Azad lamented that a mural of Bangabandhu was removed from inside the Dhaka Cantonment a few days back and the government was

He alleged that the present with the 'National Agriculture.' government had taken a stance

demanded immediate withdrawal of

to the nation; rather it will lead to Abdus Samad Azad found the

vet to reinstate the mural.

the country to the brink of collapse'.

Chunerughat thana of Habiganj district.

The Judge, AKM Estiyak Hussain, acquitted two others of the charge.

The victim, Rahima Khatun, a housewife of village Borjum, was raped and killed by the two convicts on May 30 in 1994. Her brother filed a case with the Chunerughat Police Station in this connection. Police submitted charge sheet

against four persons. Of them, Kalu Mia confessed to his guilt before a first class magistrate.

The court examined 10 witnesses, confessional statement of Kalu Mia. other evidence on record and found two of the four accused persons -- Kalu and Aziz -- guilty. The other two were acquitted.

Still defiant FROM PAGE 12

The information secretary, in a letter on Sunday, withdrew the three officials and two employees from BTV and placed their services at the disposal of the information ministry.

Sources in BTV news section said the three officials attended office till 10 last night and that they did not report to the ministry.

When contacted, a senior official of the information ministry said disciplinary action will be taken against them if they continue to attend office at the BTV and do not report to the ministry immediately.

False case

FROM PAGE 12

The court yesterday gave the verdict in absentia after cross-examination of all four prosecution witnesses.

In its observation, the Judge said "After enactment of the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act 2000, many false cases under the Act are being filed to satisfy one's personal vendetta and previous enmity. This case is an example ".

Abbas Uddin is vice-president of Dhaka Metropolitan Shop Owners' Federation and Secretary of Mirpur Baitun Noor Jame Mosque.

Tinni

FROM PAGE 12

day remand after arrest and sent to the Dhaka Central Jail on completion of the remand.

As Keraniganj police failed to make any headway in the sensational murder case, the CID took over it Sunday and started investigation.

Shabujbagh intersection when he with the Khilgaon Police Station. was hiding half a ton of rice. The dealer confessed to selling rice in the black market.

SAFTA FROM PAGE 1

zero per cent in 10 years. On the other hand, the developing nations would do the same over five years.

The meeting also discussed pros and cons of SAFTA including protec-Moslem alias Moshal Shana, 45, a tionist measures. mechanism to listed criminal and alleged member solve trade disputes and measures of outlawed New Biplobi Communist for maintaining balance of payment. Party was murdered at Harinagar The meeting sources said

Bangladesh would oppose any nontariff and para-tariff measures by India. Pakistan and Sri Lanka against products from the SAARC LĎCs

According to commerce ministry sources, Sri Lanka may also seek some special facilities as a small developing nation.

According to trade experts, the transformation of SAPTA into SAFTA would take a long time through regular negotiations.

Meantime, the Centre for Policy Dialoque (CPD) has prepared a draft on the SAARC Secretariat's document titled "Treaty on South Asian Free Trade Area".

LGRD ministry, the responsibility of

holding the local government elec-

tions, they said. "Yet, the govern-

decisions. Should such interference

According to the CPD, Bangladesh is now much more prepared to enter a free trade regime in the region than any other SAARC members

UP polls FROM PAGE 1

bilities.

schedule "unlawful".

Food supply According to some senior EC offi-FROM PAGE 1 cials, the commission will take a officials and employees to stay at decision in this regard at a meeting their respective workplace at the tomorrow The officials were enraged by the

It also warned that officials and "unilateral" government move to employees, who would leave their defer the election schedule, terming workplace without prior formal t "an insult to the EC". approval from their superiors, would be brought to the book under the ment has given the EC, not the

disciplinary rules. The cabinet, in principle, also adopted proposals to enact two separate laws to make Bangladesh Sericulture Research and Training Institute as an independent institution separating from the Bangladesh Silk Board. The proposed laws are

Bangladesh Sericulture Research and Training Institute Act, 2002 and amendment to Bangladesh Silk Board Ordinance 1977.

More structures demolished

FROM PAGE 12 pillar.

Elderly villagers were in tears when the tugboats were pulling down homes. Many villagers went up the roofs in a bid to thwart the drive. In the same area, Haji Ishtiaq's

concrete structures were pulled down the same way. Ishtiaq protested the demolition drive vehemently. Locals said they had documents of the lands dating back to 1912 and most villagers inherited the plots from ancestors

Shambhu Nath Sarkar, about 70. a carpenter, said his family had lived in the area for over three generations. He said his home was built more than 30 years ago and he had all documents to prove it.

else's property...this is my ancestral home. If the government wants to acquire it for some development work, it has to start that particular procedure and we are ready to comply with," Sarkar said.

The demolition team knocked about half a dozen structures down and cleared the path for a proposed road-cum-flood-protection embankment.

At noon, a group of people, mostly madrassah students, showed up at Kamrangirchar, across the river from Khagail, and protested the demolition drive. They carried a banner that read. "Don't demolish properties that have proper documents"

One of the most aggressive

UN arms inspectors

FROM PAGE 12

tion mission is due on Wednesday. "We are in a position to receive the first group. But we still have a lot of cleaning to do," Yashuhiro Ueki, the inspection mission's spokesman in Iraq told reporters. His colleagues were busy fixing broken windows and sweeping up mess accumulated since the last inspectors left in

War of words

1998

Iraq insists it has no biological, chemical or nuclear arms and IAEA chief Mohammed ElBaradei told reporters in Cairo on Sunday night that inspectors will not be put off if Baghdad reiterates that line when it gives its account on By framing a law, the govern-December 8

"Iraq is meant to present a declaration on December 8 and if it says that it doesn't have weapons of mass destruction then we ment is bypassing the EC in taking will continue inspections in order to be sure that this declaration is continue, the EC might request the correct and precise," ElBaradei government to entrust the LGRD said

US President George W Bush ministry with the election responsisaid last week that Iraqi President Earlier on Saturday, the EC Saddam Hussein's days would be numbered if he carried on denyofficials termed the government decision to change the UP election ing having weapons of mass destruction

encroachments on the river looms "We have never lived in someone

Kholamora bank.

said they received notices from the BIWTA and many structures are facing demolition. They said they all had proper documents dating back to 1912 and invested a lot in building houses. They met the local member of parliament, Amanullah Aman, who assured them that the demolition drive would not be carried out as long as the matter was settled.

The drive continued until an hour before iftar. Today is the concluding day of the drive as part of the ongoing phase of freeing the lifeline of the capital from encroachment and pollution

In Baghdad, Ueki said a hotline was being set up linking the

inspection mission's operations centre and the National Monitoring Directorate of Iraq.

"The hotline is usually for crisis management," he added. "So if trouble happens we need to communicate with each other." Twenty tonnes of equipment

has been flown to Baghdad from Larnaca, Cyprus, by UN Aircraft, including communications gear, computers, furniture and medi-

In Washington, the US News and World Report said senior Bush administration officials were mulling a three-stage plan for governing a post-war Iraq that was put together by an interagency task force dubbed the

ished US military presence.

Under the third phase, power would be transferred to a representative, multi-ethnic Iraqi government after a constitutional convention, according to the magazine.

over Kamrangirchar. One Haji Enayetullah has recently filled up more than five acres to build an edible oil industry. The encroachment was so dangerous that BIWTA experts said it changed the watercourse, causing erosion all along the

The protesters at Kamrangirchar

Four tribesmen FROM PAGE 1

that lasted for about an hour and a half

In a sequel to the incident, activists of the rival organisations fought another gunbattle at Kutukchhari village in deep forest at about 7 am leaving three UPDF activists killed and 12 people injured.

recover the bodies and identify the victims

When contacted, Additional Police Superintendent of Rangamati Khosrul Alam said he heard about the incident, but could not give details.

Army sources at the district headquarters said they sent troops to the spot, who are yet to return.

Benapole FROM PAGE 1

officers they were teachers and were travelling on tourist visas.

After the arrest, the two were sent to the capital escorted by a police team to be handed over to the Motijheel police.

According to BBC, Malik and Sorentino had had spent two weeks filming footage for a report on Islamic extremist groups.

The recovery followed interrogation Cyclone still of 'Chikna' Monir. a listed criminal and second-in-command of top criminal Syed Imam Hossain, and his driver stationary Abdul Malek. An army team arrested them in Rupganj, Narayanganj on

REUTERS, Kolkata

Indian authorities warned fishermen not to go to sea off the eastern states of West Bengal and Orissa and called for those out on their boats to head back to port yesterday as a cyclone swirled in the Bay of Bengal.

"The cyclone is still around 800 km south of Kolkata and is practically stationary at the moment," TK Sarkar, director of the regional office of the India Meteorological Department, said.

Officials said they had expected the cyclone to hit West Bengal's coast this afternoon with wind speeds of 50-60 km per hour but were now waiting to see when it

acy theory," said a source.

mplemented."

rise to 4.200MW.

He observed, "What is taking

Regarding power crisis in the

future, the PDB chairman noted, "A

feeling of frustration is there as it

demand if the power projects are not

required number of power plants to

meet the demand of over 6,000MW

power in 2007 - which is about

Meghnaghat AES power plant, the

PDB will be able to tackle the situa-

tion next summer. But the crisis will

begin from the summer of 2004

when the demand is expected to

"It takes time to construct a

With the launching of the 450MW

double the current demand.

The PDB aims to set up the

Our Sirajganj correspondent would move and in which direction

Dark days loom

FROM PAGE 1

the infrastructure. phase Meghnaghat 450MW, he said, "We have decided to float the But industry insiders rule out such 'theory of conspiracy' tenders in different times and with "It's good to have power projects different types of offers." in both private and public sectors.

"Now we are considering imple-There is not enough private sector mentation of the Second phase growth here to justify any conspir-Meghnaghat 450 MW on our own. We will arrange the required fund for it. We have already contacted ICB in this regard, and ICB has been place is unplanned development scrutinising different aspects of our with no sense of direction.' proposal," he said.

The AES Meghnaghat 450MW first phase project is a landmark scheme in which the PDB secured would not be possible to meet the world's lowest tariff for 22 years of power supply for that plant.

But though the negotiations of Haripur and Meghanghat private power projects were successful, the government started shifting its policies gradually.

As a justification of these policy shifts, both the PDB chief and the state minister for power are citing examples of high costs of bargemounted power plants, but they are saying nothing about the successful installation of Haripur and Meghnaghat plants.

A PDB high official added that private power developers should not be allowed to dominate the power generation system. "If the private power developers dominate the sector, they would also control

power plant, so it would be difficult to meet the demand if the implementation work of the projects does not start immediately," he said.

Executive Steering Group.

The magazine said that under the first phase Iraq would be ruled by the military, almost certainly a US general. The second phase would be an international civilian administration, entailing a dimin-

Police said they are trying to