

Eid shopping fever grips Ctg city

BSS, Ctg
With brisk buying binge, the port city is completely under the grip of 'Eid shopping fever' as most buy-

ers, especially the home-goers, were thronging the shops at different markets.

All traditional market places -- from footpath to posh shopping malls are crowded with the buyers looking for their desired clothes for their near and dear ones.

Market sources said gathering of the people for shopping around the markets were increasing heavily and sales are showing an upper trend during the last couple of days as the private and public service holders have already received their salary and bonus.

Most of the shop owners in New Market, Shopping Complex, Mimi Super Market, Reazuddin Bazar, Central Plaza, Amin Centre and different shopping malls in the city were very happy with the sale of their products ahead of the holy Eid this year.

Port city witnessed heavy traffic congestion at New Market, Station Road, Agrabad, Chawkbaraz, Dewan Hat, Bahaddarhat, Enayet Bazar because of heavy rush of customers in and around the markets and people's run towards bus and train stations.

Traffic police were also seen struggling to tackle the situation at those points.

Most of the city dwellers have also started to leave the city for their homes in the rural areas to enjoy the Eid-ul-Fitr, the greatest religious festival of the Muslim community, with their relatives and other members of the family.

AIUB to sign deal with US university

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) is going to sign a collaborative deal with the Hampton University-USA to internationalise its business management curriculum.

Dr Kanata Jackson, head of the School of Management, and Dr Martha Dawson, former vice-president of Hampton University, arrive in the city on December 7 to sign the deal.

Collaboration between the two universities will also promote overseas education facilities for Bangladeshi students and faculties by providing institutional assistance in designing lectures and sharing expertise in international commerce and arranging joint research projects and site visits, said a press release.

Established in November 1994, the AIUB has 2,500 students and three faculties which offer bachelor degree in computer science, computer engineering and electrical engineering.



Buyers crowd a vendor selling spices in the city yesterday. With Eid only a couple of days away, demand for spices went up sharply.

6 die in Rajshahi, Natore incidents

BSS, Rajshahi

Six persons including two housewives died in separate incidents in Rajshahi and Natore districts on Tuesday, hospital and police sources said yesterday.

The two housewives identified as Dolly Begum, 25, wife of Shahad Ali of Kismat Bihanali village un-

der Baghmara upazila and Rabeya, 30, wife of Abdul Baset of Arani village under Bagha upazila both under Rajshahi district committed suicide by taking poison at their respective houses. Family feud might be the reason behind the suicides.

Both the bodies were sent to hospital morgue for autopsy.

Shafiqul Islam, 35, son of Abdul Gaffar of Kandail village under Paba upazila, received fatal head injuries following a road mishap on Tuesday. He was rushed to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries at night.

Three persons were killed in three separate road mishaps at Natore. Two of them were identi-

fied as Dulu Begum, 56, wife of late Abdul Zabbar of Azunpur village under Sadar upazila and Abu Bakar, 36, son of Roish Uddin of Chouri village under Shingra upazila.

Separate cases were lodged with the respective police stations.

Obituary



Emeritus Scientist of the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT) Dr Sufi Mohiuddin Ahmed died at the Combined Military Hospital in the city yesterday afternoon at the age of 67, says a press release.

He was suffering from pancreatic and stomach cancer. He left behind his wife, two daughters and scores of admirers to mourn his death.

He will be buried at Banani Graveyard following his namaj-e-janaaz after Zohr prayers at Bhatarata Jame Mosque today.

A former scientist of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), late Sufi got Bangabandhu Award for his contribution to agriculture.

Meanwhile, CIMMYT staff members in Dhaka have expressed their profound shock at the demise of the renowned wheat scientist.

Death anniversary

To day is the first death anniversary of Salema Khatun, mother of ASM Fazlul Haq, director, Public Relations Department of PDB, says a press release.

On this occasion, Qurankhwani and milad mahfil have been organised at her residence at Shukhanpukur village of Gabtali upazilla under Bogra district.

Relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the milad mahfil.

Indian propoganda against Bangladesh continues

BSS, Dhaka

Indian print media seem to have waged psychological warfare against Bangladesh by continuously dishing out baseless, fabricated, motivated and concocted news items in an orchestrated manner, political observers said here yesterday.

"The reason behind spate of bombing of baseless information by India is not clear. But it is most likely that India might want to pressurise Bangladesh internationally to ensure a better share of business in energy sector," one western diplomat said.

The Indian side might be considering that US companies will be mainly benefited if the pipeline deals are accomplished with the present planning, the diplomat said.

The diplomat said it was very interesting to watch the spate of Indian propoganda to portray Bangladesh as terrorists nation when US President George W Bush was applauding government of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia for its stand against terrorism.

In a recent message to Khaleda Zia, the US president said "As we have both commented in previous correspondence, the ties that bind our two countries, are multi-dimensional, but I especially value your support in the war on terrorism. He wished her success in this endeavour."

The Indian intense interest in the energy sector could well be reflected in columns written in "The Indian Express" where it stated, "taken together, natural gas supplies from Bangladesh and the east coast of India would raise the importance of the Bay of Bengal basin."

Officials quoting intelligence report in Bangladesh said Indians are too desperate to prove that Bangladesh is terrorists nation that has been manifested by ultra aggressive propoganda of Indian press. "They might even resort killing political leaders or bomb public meetings to prove that Bangladesh is involved in political terrorism," he said.

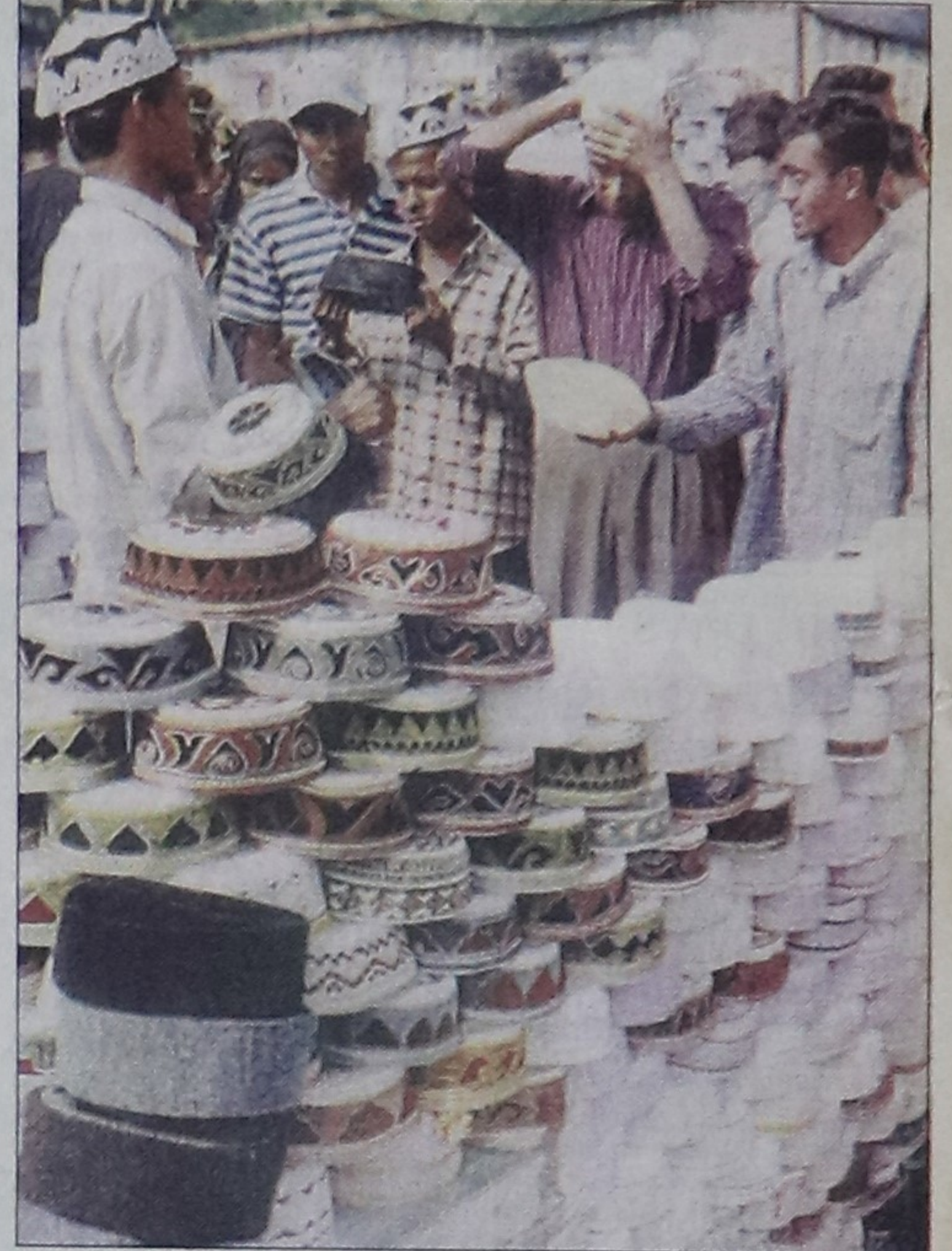
Bangladeshi politicians also reacted sharply against the propoganda. Bangladesh Workers Party has expressed its deep concern over the anti-Bangladesh "malicious propoganda by the 'fundamentalist BJP government' of India.

Bangladesh Communist Party (CPB) also protested the "anti Bangladesh campaign" launched by Indian media. It also expressed concern at the recent deterioration in the bilateral relations between the two neighbours.

The CPB leaders called upon the people in the sub-continent to unitedly fight against communalism and terrorism.

Indian External Affairs Minister in parliament he said these were aimed at warning Bangladesh not to play any role beyond Indian axis.

The observers however said the journalists who are writing the stories seems to have less knowledge about the terrorists who have taken shelter in India and trying to brand them as ISI agents with malafide intention.



A man tries a topi as a roadside vendor looks on yesterday. Vendors selling topis are doing brisk business ahead of Eid.

Advertisement for Biman Bangladesh Airlines. It includes the airline's logo, name in Bengali and English, contact information for international airports, and details for an international tender for supplies. The tender is for 50,000 PCS of thermal baggage tags and 14,000 PCS of thermal boarding cards.

Advertisement for Bangladesh Jijda Shiksha Pratisthan. It is a recruitment notice for various positions including teachers, accountants, and administrative staff. The notice lists the number of vacancies, educational requirements, and application procedures for each position.



People queue up in front of a counter at a bank in the city yesterday. A large number of people drew money yesterday, the last working day before Eid.



People buy Iftar items from a shop in the city yesterday. Although most of the city dwellers are leaving for their village home, there is no marked drop in the number of buyers.

Advertisement for the Bangladesh Coast Guard. It is a notice for a recruitment exam for various positions. The notice includes details about the exam date, time, and the subjects to be tested. It also mentions that the exam is for the year 2002-2003.

Advertisement for Biman Bangladesh Airlines regarding a re-tender for aircraft tow-tractor baggage. The notice provides details about the items to be supplied, the quantity (Qty-05 Units), and the terms and conditions of the tender. It also includes contact information for the Biman management.