

INSURANCE OFFICIAL MURDER

2 to die,4 get life

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka Court yesterday sentenced two persons to death and four to life in jail for killing an insurance official in Netrakona on January 26 in 1998.

The convicts with death are Majibur Rahman and Mohammad Khokan while Hasen Ali, Mohammad Ali, Babul and Quamrul Islam were given life in jail.

All the convicts were tried in absentia.

Judge Shahed Noor Uddin of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 gave the verdict at a jam-packed courtroom.

The punishment of the fugitives will be effective from the date of their arrest or surrender and the convicts with death can appeal to

Ramendu

re-elected

World ITI VP



Ramendu Majumdar, President of the Bangladesh Centre of the International Theatre Institute (ITI), was re-elected vice-president of the World ITI and president of the ITI Communication Committee at the 31 st World Congress of ITI in Tampico recently, Mexico, says a press release.

Nasiruddinn Yousuff, organising secretary of Bangladesh ITI, was re-elected president of the ITI Cultural Identity and Development Committee. Manfred Beilharz of Germany was re-elected the ITI Worldwide President.

The 2004 volume of the World to Theatre, published by the Bangladesh ITI was launched at the inaugural session of the Congress on May 30.

Nasiruddin Yousuff presnted a paper on "Myths and Rituals: Challenges for contemporary creation" in the Congress.

3 brothers killed

as bus runs them

over in sleep

UNB, Dinajpur

Three brothers were killed while in sleep under the wheels of a truck as it rammed into their roadside grocery at Birganj in Dinajpur yesterday.

Abdul Latif (15), Lutfar (12) and Labu (10), sons of Jahangir Ali, perished in the accident when the driver lost control and drove the truck into the shop at about 5:00am, witnesses said.

The tragic accident occurred at Hatkhola on Birganj-Thakurgaon road. The killer truck bound for Thakurgaon from Dhaka was seized but driver Delwar managed to flee.

Locals angered by the accident blocked traffic from 6:00am to 12 at noon. Police came to the spot and quelled the agitating crowd to withdraw the blockade.

A case was filed with Birganj Police Station.



Members of Bangladesh Everest Team-1 pose for photograph with Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed, *Second from right*, at a press conference in the city yesterday. Bangla Mountaineering and Trekking Club organised the conference on successful trekking of Everest base camp by the team members recently.

EVEREST EXPEDITION

Bangladesh team

reaches base camp

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Everest Team-1 had successfully reached the base camp located at the 17,300 feet height of the Mount Everest.

This was stated by Inam Al Huq, leader of the six-member team, at a press conference at the National Press Club yesterday.

He said the team would try to reach the peak of the Everest carrying the national flag after five years.

"We will keep on our practice and trekking on different peaks in India and Nepal in next five years. We will trek the Yogin (18,000) peak of India and Imza-Se (20,000) of Nepal in next October as part of our practice. A five-year trekking experience is needed to trek on the summit," said Inam.

Other team members included Golam Kuddus Chowdhury, executive director of Transcom Beverage, Sadiya Sultana Shampa, Musa Ibrahim, M A Muhit and Shamsuzzaman.

Golam Kuddus, Sadiya and Musa narrated their experience in

Timbers worth

Tk 7.13 lakh

seized

UNB, Dhaka

Members of Coast Guard West Zone seized 1,326 cft timbers worth Tk 7.13 lakh in separate drives on Friday and Saturday.

They said the seized Sundari, Kakra and Poshur timbers were stolen from the Sundarbans by the organised gangs.

The seized timbers were deposited with the forest department, said a Coast Guard press release.

1164 more held

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 1,164 people, including two listed criminals, during their countrywide drive on various charges in the last 24 hours till 6.00am yesterday.

During the drive, they also recovered two firearms, two other arms and six bullets and filed two cases against three people under the Arms Act, says a police headquarters press release.

India's energy deal within

region to ensure US interest

Expert tells seminar

UNB, Dhaka

companies.

Bangladesh Economic Association (BEA), Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) and Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) jointly arranged the seminar at IEB auditorium.

Other experts also presented papers on a number of energy related issues at the seminar.

Prof Islam, also Director of the Institute of Appropriate Technology of BUET said: The main objective of USAID funded SARI/Energy project was to facilitate the US companies to implement energy development projects in South Asia region.

In this context, he also pointed out that during the last five years Bangladesh has been unduly pursued by one international oil company (IOC) and pressurised by their allies to export natural gas to India.

"On the basis of hypothetical and speculative quantity of natural gas resources (32-42 TCF) it has been argued that Bangladesh has large reserve of gas to commit export," he said in his paper at the inaugural session.

Prof Islam praised the successive governments for rightly respecting the views of the great majority of people on the contentious issue of gas export despite external pressures of the IOCs and their allies.

He said researchers proposing energy cooperation in South Asia need to recognise and appreciate the political realities that operate behind the deals relating to the US and India. "Bangladesh should consider energy cooperation deals by ensuring long-term energy security of the country."

Qazi Kholiquzzaman of BEA presented a paper on "Regional Cooperation towards Energy Security in Bangladesh" where he emphasised developing cross-border energy trade based on hydro-potentials of Nepal (43,000 MW) and Bhutan (20,000 MW).

FBCCI President Abdul Awal Mintoo, who presided over the session, said Bangladesh should seriously consider about its energy security as it is directly linked to poverty alleviation, economic development and empowerment of people.



Orientation programme of City University for summer semester was held at its auditorium recently. Vice Chancellor Prof DR M Shamsul Haque addressed the new students. Prof Shamsul Haque appraised the freshers about the norms, rules and culture of City University and asked them to avail the modern facilities.

Sandwip Samity

executives



Abul Quasem Haider, vice-president of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Advocate Syed Rafiqul Islam were elected president and general secretary of Sandwip Samity in Dhaka, says a press release.

The biennial election 2004-05 of Sandwip Samity was held in the city recently.

Other office-bearers are ABM Wahidur Rahman, senior vice-president, Advocate Liakat Ali and AKM Shajahan, vice-presidents and Safiqul Islam, joint secretary.