



PHOTO: STAR

Joseph Cofer Black, counter-terrorism coordinator of the US State Department, called on Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina at Sudha Sadan in the city yesterday. US Ambassador Harry K Thomas, right, was also present.

Robber killed, 5 cops hurt in Khulna shootout

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

One robber was killed and at least six including five cops were injured in an hour-long police-robbers shootout in Nishan Khali in Dakop upazila Saturday midnight.

Robbers Jahangir Alam Gazi, 42, was killed and Abdul Kader, 40, hurt. He is receiving treatment at Khulna Medical College Hospital under custody. Police arrested three robbers – Kader, Rafiqul Islam and Humayun Kabir – and recovered six foreign-made guns and 80 live bullets.

Acting on a tip off, a platoon of police

led by Officer-in-Charge Nasiruddin of Dakop Police Station raided a hideout of Akkas Bahini, robbers of the Sundarbans, in Nishan Khali and ran into a hail of bullets. Most of the robbers ran away, as the cops returned fire, police said.

Police sources said ringleader Ariful Alam Akkas was a close associate of Asaduzzaman Litu and also has a link with Jatiya Party (Manzur).

Wounded OC Nasiruddin, Assistant Sub-inspectors Shujayet Hossain and Hares Mollah, constables Mamun Reza and Shah Alam were admitted to Dakop Upazila Health Complex.

SKOP strike Oct 6

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad (SKOP), an alliance of trade unions, yesterday called a dawn-to-dusk strike across the country on October 6 demanding implementation of their nine-point demand including a national payscale.

Addressing a press conference at the National Press Club, the SKOP leaders threatened to announce tougher programmes if their demands are not met by that time.

They also demanded immediate implementation of the agreement signed between the SKOP and the government on January 8, 2004.

According to the agreement, the government should stop privatisation of industries, reopen all shutdown mills and factories, and form a wage commission for them.

The SKOP leaders said the strike will be enforced in all private and government transport sectors, offices and industries.

Jatiya Sramik League President Mesbahuddin Ahmed read out a written statement at the press conference.

Wajadul Islam Khan, convenor of the SKOP and general secretary of the Trade Union Centre and Babu Ramesh Chandra, general secretary of Jatiya Sramik League also spoke.

PM receives donations for flood victims

BSS, Dhaka

One more ministry and 10 organisations and institutions yesterday donated Tk 31 lakh and vegetable seeds worth about Tk 10 lakh to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund for the flood-affected people.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia received the contributions from representatives of the organisations separately at her office.

Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman handed over a cheque to the prime minister on behalf of his ministry. Secretaries of different divisions under the ministry were present.

On behalf of the Bangladesh Seed Merchants Association, it's Adviser Asaduzzaman and President Zahir Uddin Ahmed gave vegetable seeds worth about Tk 10 lakh for distribution among the farmers. Food and Disaster Management Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf was present.

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin and Ahaj Mohammad Kabir Chowdhury handed over a cheque on behalf of Ainjibi Oikya Parishad, Chittagong.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh President Akhtar Sohail Quasem handed over a cheque on behalf of his organisation.

Azim new ACCL president



Club Ltd. (ACCL) recently, says a press release.

Md Shahid-ullah Azim, managing director, Classic Group of Companies, has been elected president of the All Community

The election board of the club also elected 20 directors. They are Shahab Uddin, Moazzem Hossain Moti, Salauddin Gazi, Jobaidur Rahman Milon, Abu Alam Chowdhury, Harunur Rashid, ASM Golam Morshed Sayeed, Md Golam Faruque, Ashraf Hossain Chowdhury, Abdur Rab Khan, UN Mahmudul Islam, SK Nurul Alam, Munadir Islam, Ruhul Amin Akil, Taherul Alam Chowdhury, Emdad Hossain, Saiful Alam, MA Baten, SM Shaifuzzaman and Md Nasir.

ICAPP call not to practise double standard in fighting terrorism

Beijing Declaration adopted

UNB, Beijing

A conference of Asian political parties concluded here yesterday, calling on the Asian countries not to practise double standard in fighting terrorism and not to link it with any particular ethnic group or religion.

Strongly condemning all forms of terrorism, the 3rd International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) made a strong plea for getting at the root cause of the vice.

"Terrorism, splittism and extremism have already become plagues that do harm to human society ... we

Lawyers observe 'Black Day'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sammitila Ainjibi Samannoy Parishad, a forum of lawyers, yesterday formed a human chain on the Supreme Court premises as part of a programme to observe the countrywide 'Black Day'.

Parishad leaders called for observance of the day in all the bar councils of the country through daylong programme to mark one-year completion of what they called uling party's armed cadre attack on several hundred lawyers at Dhaka Bar Council on 6th September, 2003.

The human chain was formed also to protest the August 21 grenade attack on Awami League rally at Bangabandhu Avenue, recent appointment of 19 judges to the High Court, filing of 'false' cases against lawyers in Bogra and Chittagong and to express solidarity with the ongoing agitation of the Supreme Court Bar Association.

Advocate Subrata Chowdhury, member secretary of the parishad, said the government is resorting to repressive measures against the lawyers.

"Appointment of incompetent judges to the High Court will not only affect the judiciary but also the people of the country as a whole," said former law minister advocate Abdul Motin Khosru while taking part in the human chain.

strongly condemn and oppose all forms of terrorism," it said in a declaration called Beijing Declaration 2004.

The declaration echoed the sentiment of the speakers from different political parties of Asia. Leaders of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and main opposition Awami League from Bangladesh, among others, attended the meet.

Awami League International Affairs Secretary Alhaj Syed Abul Hossain MP, addressing the first session of the conference, strongly condemned the "barbaric assassination attempt" on Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina.

The 12-point Beijing Declaration 2004 was adopted in the concluding session of the three-day conference to an acclamation from the delegates from 35 Asian countries.

Held in the Banquet Hall of

Beijing Hotel, the session was chaired by Minister of International Department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee Wang Jiarui.

Vice Minister of the International Department of CPC and Speaker of the Committee Ma Wenpu, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the ICAPP and Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines De Venecia and member of the political bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Chairman of the Organising Committee of the Thirdd ICAPP Liu Yunshan addressed the Conference.

The ICAPP advocated for strengthening cooperation among the sovereign countries and between regional organisations against terrorism and taking steps to eliminate the root causes of terrorism while giving full play to the role of the United Nations.

Asian political parties, large or

small, old or new, should be entirely equal, respect other's independence and self-determination, choices and practices, internal and external policies established on the basis of conditions in their respective countries, and refrain from interfering in other's internal affairs, the declaration said.

The declaration maintained that ideological differences should not be a barrier to contacts and cooperation among Asian political parties.

Concerning differences and conflicts between the parties, it said Asian political parties should adopt the spirit of seeking common ground and reserving differences to act together on bilateral and multilateral plans.

They should "resolve differences through dialogue and negotiation or temporarily set them aside so that they do not affect the normal development of bilateral relations", the conference suggested.



PHOTO: STAR

Ainjibi Samannaya Parishad forms a human chain in front of the High Court in the city yesterday in observance of the 'Black Day'.

Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad (SKOP) held a press conference at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

WEATHER
T O D A Y

Rise in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over the country till 6.00pm today.

Day temperature may rise slightly over the country, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 34.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sayedpur and lowest 24.4 degree Celsius at Faridpur.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:11pm today and rises at 5:42am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	31.5	25.8	79	85
Chittagong	32.0	25.0	80	79
Rajshahi	34.4	27.3	84	77
Khulna	33.5	27.6	77	76
Barisal	32.6	27.0	79	87
Sylhet	29.8	25.8	96	52
Cox's Bazar	31.5	25.6	79	83

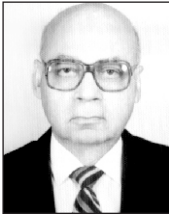
Today is the 8th death anniversary of eminent educationist Professor Mohammed Noman, says a press release.

Former vice-chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, he also served as principal of Dhaka College.

Qurankhwani and milad mahfil will be held on the occasion. Food will also be distributed among orphans and destitutes.

Professor Noman Smriti Foundation will hold a discussion on the life and works of the educationist.

Chehlum



Chehlum of Lt. Col. (ret.) Dr AFM Burhanuddin will be held today, says a press release.

He died of a brain stroke at Dhaka CMH on July 28.

Burhanuddin also served as a principal of Rajshahi, Mymensingh and Dhaka Medical Colleges.

He is survived by two daughters and a son.

DHAKA
T O D A Y

Band show

In aid of the flood victims, Sports Zone, in collaboration with L.R.B, organises a band show. Venue: Paragon Bhawan, 5 Mohakhali. Time: 7.00pm.

Film show

Academy Film Society will screen a film titled 'Gone With the Wind' (1939). Venue: Society Auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 6.00pm.

Indian film show

The High Commission of India will screen a film titled 'Barsaat'. Venue: House-25, Road-96 Gulshan-2.

Lecture

In observance of 32nd death anniversary of noted musician maestro Alauddin Kha, Bangla Academy organises a solo lecture by Sheikh Saadi Khan. It will be followed by a session of classical instrumental music. Venue: Seminar room of the academy. Time: 5.00pm.

Memorial meeting

Bangladesh Diabetic Samity organises a meeting to commemorate the 15th death anniversary of its founder Professor Dr Mohammad Ibrahim. Venue: BIRDEM Auditorium, Shahbagh. Time: 4.30pm.

Condoence meeting

Condolence meeting in memory of Aamra Suriyamukhi, a socio-cultural forum, organises a condolence meeting in memory of Awami League leader Ivy Rahman. Venue: News Bank Hall, 33 Topkhana Road. Time: 5.00pm.

Discussion

Weekly discussion meeting of Muldhara, a forum of writers, journalists and artists, will be held. Venue: House-15, Road-7, Dhanmondi. Time: 6.30pm.

Publication ceremony

The publication ceremony of two books written by National Professor Kazi Motahar Hossain and another book by Jobaida Mirza will be held. Venue: Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum. Time: 5.30pm.

Mahila Parishad programme

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad organises a programme to pay homage to Golam Murtaza Khan, an engineer and freedom fighter, who was killed in a road accident on August 29. Venue: National Press Club Auditorium. Time: 3.30pm.



Prof Dr Md Kaysar Hussain, pro-vice-chancellor of Asian University, speaks at an open workshop on foreign study at the Russian Cultural Centre in the city on Friday. The International Admission Council, Dhaka, and Pembrokeshire College, UK, jointly organised the event.