BDR CARNAGE

Tk 7cr BAB

Take special programmes to rehabilitate street children

Ensure women's social security: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs to arrange special programmes for rehabilitating hapless street children and ensuring social and economic security of women.

"Why a child will have to take the path of begging. Why they will not have a home to live in? When the children are supposed to go to school, why will they have to choose such life? Take special arrangements and projects. If we can educate the street children properly

and build up their lives, they will be our she said. country's asset," she said.

charge of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, was making opening remarks at a power point presentation at the ministry.

Hasina was informed about various programmes and projects initiated by the ministry for welfare of the children in school.

our future, our aim should be building up the new generation as welleducated, ideal, and patriotic citizens," festo.

"Make sure that no child is used in The prime minister, who is also in risky work which may harm them physically," she added.

> The prime minister also expressed concern over high dropout rates of the children from school and said such non-continuation of schooling must be stopped and the children must be kept

She asked the ministry officials to "As we always say that children are draw up plans and programmes to work for the development of the children and women in line with the AL election mani-

digital

PM tells Scouts

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

has called upon the Scouts to

pursue their knowledge and

perseverance and help build a

modern and technology-

opening a four-day country-

wide health education camps

of Bangladesh Scouts and

Rovers through a video confer-

nation hopes that the Scouts

would receive proper educa-

tion and build a country where

there would be no poverty, no

hunger and no suffering of

Some 36,000 Rover Scouts

The prime minister said the

ence on Monday night.

She made the call while

based digital Bangladesh.



BDR headquarters yesterday demanding trial of the war criminals and killers of army officers.

Govt firm to ensure neutral Help build probe into BDR carnage

Says commerce minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Commerce Minister Faruk Sonargaon Hotelin the city. Khan yesterday said the government is committed to ensuring an impartial and modern investigation to find out real culprits involved in cre. the gory February 25 to 26 mutiny at the BDR headquar-

impartial, acceptable and modern investigation so that we can find out the real cul-

Faruk said, "The issue is victimised." related to our sovereignty as border security force, who also guards trafficking in the border areas. So, we will have to ensure an impartial justice."

attack on house

BNP Secretary General

Khandaker Delwar Hossain has

condemned the bomb attack

on the house of Jatiyatabadi

Muktijoddha Dal President and

former lawmaker Principal

In a statement on Tuesday,

Delwar Hossain said the attack

was part of continuous attacks

on BNP leaders and workers,

launched by the 'Awami mis-

creants' after the last parlia-

FNB concerned

The Federation of NGOs in

Bangladesh (FNB) yesterday

expressed concern over specu-

and analysis about the elements

behind the carnage at the BDR

people and would hamper the

process of unearthing the con-

truth be revealed and made

federation said. "We believe that

investigations will, with their

efficiency and neutrality, fulfil

DHAKA

Bangladesh Rural Development

Board and JICA jointly organise a

workshop on institutionalising rural

development through "link model"

Venue: NEC auditorium. Time

ODAY

the demand of the people."

Workshop

5:30pm.

spiracy, it said in a press release.

headquarters on February 25.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

mentary elections, he added.

was not an isolated incident. It

Sohrab Uddin in Kushtia.

of Sohrab

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

four-day 'Made in Thailand Exhibition 2009' at Pan Pacific

Earlier, the government appointed Faruk Khan to coordinate all the investigations into the bloody massa-

Faruk said BDR personnel who returned to Pilkhana headquarters following the "It is important to ensure directive of the home ministry after the mutiny will get justice, adding: "Whoever involved in the bloody mutiny prits and punish them," he will be punished. But who were not involved will not be

The BDR jawans who had the BDR is used to work as a returned to their workstation after the mutiny will get chances to talk to their relatives through phones, he said and added that the process of The minister was speaking setting up several phone

Speakers tell summit

Protecting human rights is a

must to institutionalise

democracy and media has to

play a vital role in creating

awareness about human

rights, National Human Rights

Commission Chairman Justice

Amirul Kabir Chowdhury said

very important in protecting

human rights though some-

times journalists have to face

harassment in performing

Development Journalism and

Communication (BCDJC)

organised the summit titled

'Human rights and media' at

National Human Rights

Munira Khan, member of the

Bangladesh Centre For

professional duties, he said.

the National Press Club.

The role of mass media is

at a summit yesterday.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT quarters were serious violation of

under immediate consideration in this regard.

"Initially, we will set up a cell where BDR men can meet their wives, children and parents but no friends will be allowed right now," the ministersaid.

Faruk also explained the government's stance on the matter, saying that the permission is given so that no confusion could be fumed over the issue.

He said members of FBI and Scotland Yard have already started working to help the government probe into the Pilkhana carnage, adding: "They will provide assistance especially to forensic examination and other

technical supports which would help us find the causes at the inaugural function of a booths inside Pilkhana is as well as culprits."

human rights. She also said death

of any innocent BDR soldier will

also be a violation of human right.

the human rights commission

and media has to aware the

people about human rights, she

or telecast more awareness

programmes on human rights

rights activist, said media

always give importance to

publish the news of violation of

human rights instead of pub-

lishing or telecasting awareness

of Information Service Centre,

Nepal, Masud Chowdhury, lecturer

ofIndependent University, journal-

Shimanta and Amirul Karim Barlin,

Subodh Raj Pyakural, chairman

programmes.

Suggesting media to publish

Media is the main weapon of

are taking part in the four-day camps. During videoconference, Hasina talked to the Scouts and BNP condemns | Protect human rights

humanity.

Rovers who are attending the health camps in Gopalganj. She hoped that the number of scouts who are imbued with the spirit of serving the humanity would increase in the country and their move-

ment would gain strength in the future. The prime minister also said she was optimistic that

the Scouts will also brighten the country's image both at home and abroad. She pledged her government's continued support for

the development of the Ahmed Ziauddin, a human Scouts. To ensure healthcare for all, a total of 18,000 community hospitals will be revived again, she said.

> be taken to build a Scout Bhaban in Gopalganj.

ist Jahangir Alam Akash, AKM in Canada for fair probe into BDR carnage

UNB, Dhaka

ing in Carleton and Ottawa universities in Canada have demanded exemplary punishment of perpetrators of the BDR headquarters carnage through transparent, neutral and fair investigations.

mourning meeting, in memory of those killed at the Pilkhana tragedy, held recently at Bell Theatre Auditorium of Carleton University in Ottawa, jointly organized by Bangladeshi students of Carleton and Ottawa universities and some Bangladeshi expatriates in

A memorandum signed by all the participants, was adopted in the meeting and sent to Bangladesh Foreign Ministry through Bangladesh High Commissioner in Ottawa, according to a message received here yesterday.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



KS Millat former

stroke complications at Birdem hospital in the city yesterday at the age of 75, says a press release. He left behind his two

daughters, one son and a host of relatives to mourn his death. His qulkhwani will be held at his residence at Rampura in

Rein in party cadres on campuses Khaleda asks govt

UNB, Dhaka

Leader of the Opposition in and dormitories, and drove Parliament Khaleda Zia yesterday urged the government to rein in its party cadres in the educational institutions to

restore academic atmosphere. made the call when a delega-Bangladesh Open University (BOU) met her at her Gulshan

office last night. educational institutions are grappled with the worst problem of violence since the present government has

assumed power. cadres of Awami League's student front started capturing educational institutions allover the country after the national election, unleashing a rein of terror and torturing

issued a show cause notice to

its member Chowdhury Tanbir

Ahmed Siddiky as his son made

derogatory remarks about

and her senior party colleagues

in his presence at a press con-

notice on Tuesday asking Tanbir

to explain within 72 hours why

disciplinary action should not

Meanwhile, Gazipur BNP

leaders vesterday demanded

expulsion of Tanbir from the

party. They also declared

Tanbir and his son Chowdhury

Irad Ahmed Siddiky 'un-

standing committee took the

decision of action against

Tanbir in an urgent meeting at

the chairperson's Gulshan

office, with Khaleda in the

chair. Tanbir was not present in

"Irad Ahmed Siddiky's objec-

tionable remarks against Khaleda

in the presence of Tanbir were in

breach of party discipline," party

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

World Kidney Day will be

observed in the country today

with a view to creating aware-

ness about kidney diseases and

day with the slogan 'Keep your

blood pressure under control'.

Bangladesh Renal Association

(BRA), Kidney Foundation,

KAMPS, BADAS and

Hypertension Society of Heart

Foundation will jointly hold a

procession and a discussion in

drome, remedy and prevention

The discussion titled 'Syn-

Different organisations will

their treatments.

standing committee has issued son.

spokesman Nazrul Islam Khan the local party office.

WORLD KIDNEY DAY TODAY

The remarks have angered ists took out a broom proces-

the party adherents. So, the sion against Tanbir and his

Call to increase beds

as elsewhere across the globe Society of Bangladesh organised

for kidney patients

On Tuesday night, the BNP

The committee issued the

ference on Monday.

be taken against him.

wanted in the district.

the meeting.

toldreporters.

IRAD'S REMARKS ABOUT KHALEDA

party chairperson Khaleda Zia mayoral aspirant for Dhaka

They also captured halls out the students of other organisations, including Jaiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), from the campuses.

She further alleged that the The BNP chairperson ruling party "terrorists" also humiliated teachers apart tion of pro-BNP teachers of from politicising the educational institutions.

The BNP chairperson criticised the government "for The BNP chief said the its failure" to reach textbooks to the students in time as it had failed in the past.

A 25-member delegation, led by BOU unit president of Jatiyatabadi Teachers' Forum Khaleda alleged that the Prof Dr Ekramul Haque, met

Khaleda. BNP Joint Secretary General Nazrul Islam Khan, Joint Secretary Selima Rahman and Khaleda's Press Secretary Maruf Kamal Khan general students on the cam- were present at the meeting.

the show cause notice on

Tanbir, he said, adding that the

statements were not only

motivated, but also defama-

Monday, Irad Ahmed Siddiky, a

City Corportation, alleged that

Khaleda demanded Tk 5 crore

from him in exchange for party

backing in the upcoming

unfortunate and shocking.

chairperson was his

misperception. What he has

said is not correct. I myself took

him to madam [Khaleda]," he

said at a press briefing at his

Gazipur BNP leaders at a press

conference yesterday

demanded expulsion of Tanbir

the press conference held at

Later, the leaders and activ-

Protesting the remarks,

His father Tanbir was pres-

mayoral election.

Gulshan home.

from the party.

At a press conference on

with stump STAFF CORRESPONDENT

assistant general manager of Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) succumbed to his injuries at a city hospital yesterday, three days after his son hit him with a stump in his head.

Tomal Tahsin Ovi, a student of a private university, hit his father at their Banani residence at around 10:00pm on March 8 following a family feud, said Morshedur Rahman, nephew of Sinha, who was the AGM at

Mirpur branch of the bank. Sinha was immediately

In another incident, the police recovered the body of an unidentified girl, aged about 22, from a canal near Basundhara Project under Badda police station on

GATCO GRAFT CASE HC extends

A division bench comprising Justice Sheik Rezowan Ali and Justice M Rais Uddin passed the order upon a petition of Khaleda Zia, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament.

ent at the press briefing at his But on Tuesday, Tanbir termed his son's comments case, following a writ petition that had challenged the legal-"What Irad said about

AUG 21 GRENADE ATTACK

Statement of another PW recorded

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday recorded statement of one more prosecution witness in

ment of Alam Sardar. Later, he was cross-examined by defence lawyers.

16 for next hearing of the cases and summoned three other witnesses to appear before it on

In his statement, Alam told

police in his presence.

support for victims' families UNB, Dhaka

Eligible family members of the army officers killed in the Pilkhana carnage will get jobs in private banks apart from support for their education.

The assurance came when a 28-member delegation of Bankers' Association of Bangladesh (BAB), led by its President Nazrul Islam Mazumder, called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her official residence Jamuna on Tuesday.

The bankers also handed over a cheque for Tk 7 crore to the prime minister. The BAB delegation

expressed deep shock at the death of talented and welleducated army officers in the BDR Headquarters carnage.

They also highly praised the PM for handling the crisis with wisdom and farsightedness. The PM told the BAB dele-

gation that the government would stand by the martyred army officers' families during their need in the future too. She also asked the bankers

sures, if necessary, to protect the country's economy from the fallout of the global economic recession. Finance Minister Abul Mal Abdul Muhith, Commerce Minister Col (retd) Faruk

Khan, PM's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad were present on the occasion. PM consoles Nazmul's

family Later, family members of computer engineer Nazmul

Hossain, 30, one of the civilian victims of the Pilkhana carnage, met Hasina at her official residence. The PM consoled and

assured them of all necessary cooperation in the future.

Rebel BDR man, father, cousin arrested in Naogaon BSS, Naogaon

Naogaon yesterday.

The joint forces of Operation Rebel Hunt seized arms, ammunition and gold ornaments, looted by a BDR member during Pilkhana massacre, from his village Kirtipur in

Acting on a tip-off, a joint team of the Bangladesh Army, Rab and police led by Major Murad conducted the raid at the house of BDR sepoy Nahid and his cousin Alam Hossain alias Dipzol and recovered a pistol, four bullets, two gold bracelets, part of touchstone statue and one bottle phensidyl.

The arms, ornaments and statues were looted from Pilkhana during the BDR mutiny. The joint forces also arrested Dipzol and Nahid's father Afzal Hossain in this connection.

The sources said Nahid joined 23 Rifles Battalion, now stationed at Khulna, two years ago. He joined the BDR headquarters on deputation on February 25 and 26 and later

After the mutiny, he surrendered to Naogaon 46 Rifle Battalion headquarters on March 1. During interrogation,

Dipzol said Nahid handed over the arms, ammunition and ornaments to him at his house on February 27.

Police arrested Nahid from Naogaon Rifle Battalion and handed over to the Armed Forces.

Shariatpur

A correspondent in Shariatpur adds: Joint forces in a drive at village Daser Jongal at Gosairhat in the district on Monday night seized gold ornaments looted from Pilkhana during the BDR massacre and arrested parents of a rebel BDR jawan and another person in this connection.

Acting on a tip-off, a joint team of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab)-8 and Gosairhat police led by Captain Hasibuzzaman seized two tolas of gold ornaments from the house of Nargis Akter, a relative of BDR Sepoy Md Ali Sentu.

The joint team arrested Sentu's parents Md Shahid Bepari and Rokeya Begum and Nargis Akter's husband Kajol Mia in this connection.

lative comments, statements Over Tk 1.10cr foreign Such speculations may currencies seized at ZIA create confusion among the

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials at Zia The people demand that the International Airport (ZIA) seized foreign currencies public and the culprits be given exemplary punishment, the

those who are conducting the Austrian citizen, and his Bangladeshi born British national wife Rokshana Tirker were handed over to airport police who yesterdayafternoon.

Malaysian Airlines at around 1:50am with the currencies.

Gulshan area.

Science fair

The inaugural ceremony of the BCSIR science fair 2009 will be held. Venue: BCSIR meeting room. Time: 10:00am.

Paediatrics Nephrology Society of Bangladesh organises discussion marking the World Kidney Day. Venue: Bangladesh Institute of Child Health auditorium. Time: 12:00am.

Seminar

Discussion

Department of Women Affairs organises a seminar on 'Men and women united to end violence against women and girls'. Venue Biam Foundation. Time: 10:00am. Lecture

Ben-Ten-Tusscher, ambassador of the Netherlands, will deliver a lecture on 'Shifting strategies Contemporary Dutch gender policies'. Venue: 5020 Arts building, Dhaka University. Time: 10:00am.

Babli Islam and Md Shahin Mian Commission, said killing of the army officials at the BDR headalso spoke at the summit.

worth over Tk 1.10 crore from a foreign couple early yesterday. Identified as Stefan Tirker, an

were placed on a two-day remand The couple was scheduled to fly to Malaysia by a flight of the

Customs sources said acting on a tip-off, immigration officials challenged them and after interrogation, Stefan Tirker told the immigration police that he has a garment factory in

MUTINY AT BDR HQ

Workers' Party of Bangladesh has said an all-party parlia-

mutiny at BDR headquarters. The party said uniting the people against the force

an urgent national duty. maker Rashed Khan Menon in

the chair. the deaths of Maj Gen Md Rafigul Islam and Lt Col Shahidul Islam in a helicopter crash at Tangail on Monday.

Later, customs officials unloaded their luggage and found the currencies, including dollar, Thai baht and Malaysian Ringgit, equivalent toTk1,10,34,000. Intelligence sources said

Stefan has allegedly been involved in foreign currency smuggling since 2007. Immigration authorities said they got the information

one month back and they were closely monitoring it. Officer-in-Charge Khan Md Sirajul Islam, also the

out of the currencies as they have no legal papers in this connection. Intelligence reports said the couple had been carrying out such illicit activities for a

long time, he added.

investigation officer, said,

"The couple was smuggling

'Launch all-party JS probe' The meeting in a resolution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

mentary enquiry committee should be formed to find out all culprits, including those behind the February 25-26

involved in the conspiracy was The call came from a meeting of the party's politburo at it central office on Tuesday with President of the party law-

The meeting also condoled

hoped that the probe body formed by the government, another enquiry committee led by the army and the one led by CID would complete enquiries with their own initiatives. The mutiny was aimed at

creating unstable situation, weakening defence forces and threatening national existence of Bangladesh, saying that an all-party parliamentary probe body should be formed to investigate into the incidents, they added. General Secretary of the

party Bimal Biswas, politburo member Nurul Hasan, Fazle Hossain Badsha, Anisur Rahman Mallik, Shafiuddin Ahmed, Iqbal Kabir Zahid and Hafizur Rahman Bhuiyan spoke at the programme. prayers.

Show cause notice against Tanbir Father, son declared 'unwanted'

in Gazipur STAFF CORRESPONDENT BNP Standing Committee has

She also said steps would

Expat students

Bangladeshi students study-

The demand came from a

Canada.



managing director of Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation, passed away due to post

of kidney diseases' will be held at the Institute of Diploma Engineers Bangladesh at Kakrail with President of BRA and Kidney Foundation Prof Harunor-Rashid in the chair. the city tomorrow after Zohr International Diabetes and Kidney Foundation will bring

the city.

out a colourful procession from the National Press Club at 10:00am. Paediatric Nephrology

a press conference at the Dhaka

Reporters' Unity auditorium

vesterday. Experts stressed the need to hold programmes to mark the increase bed numbers for the kidney patients at different hospitals, referral centres as well On the occasion, as to create new posts in paediat-

ricnephrology.

Some five to seven percent of the children, who are admitted to Dhaka Shishu Hospital, are suffering from any forms of kidney diseases. But there are only three referral centres in the country to provide appropriate treatments to these patients, they added. President of the society Prof

Mohammad Moazzem Hossain, Secretary Prof Mohammad Hanif, Prof Mainuddin and Prof Habibur Rahman took part in the programme.

Father dies as son hits him

Mafizur Rahman Sinha, an

to remain alert and take mea-

rushed to a local hospital and later shifted to LabAid Hospital where he died in the early hours of yesterday, Morshed

Tuesday morning. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy.

bail for Khaleda

UNB, Dhaka

The High Court yesterday extended bail for six months to former prime minister and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in the Gatco scam case.

On September 30 in 2007, she had secured interim bail from the High Court in connection with the Gatco graft

ity of the case. The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) filed the case with Tejgaon Police Station against Khaleda, her younger son Arafat Rahman Koko and others amid a countrywide purge after the 1/11 changeover following a serious political crisis stemming from election issues.

Gazipur BNP president and former MP Hasanuddin Sarkar read out a written statement at

connection with the August 21 grenade attack cases. Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 Judge Mohammad Masdar Hossain recorded the state-

The court then fixed March the day.

the court that on August 21, 2004, he learned that his nephew Nasiruddin Sardar was injured in the grenade attacks on an Awami League (AL) rally at Bangabandhu Avenue and he was taken to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) for treatment. On hearing the news, he went

to the spot at about 11:00pm the same day and found his nephew (Nasir) dead. Later Motijheel police went there and prepared an inquest report on Nasir. He put signature on the inquest report that was prepared by