

REGD. NO. DA 781

Une Hally

DHAKA SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8, 2009

SECOND EDITION

Plus Star Campus

0,000 I Contrast Ratio CRYSTALCIEAR

47" Full HD LCD TV

People's Right to Know

www.thedailystar.net

KARTIK 24, 1416 BS • ZILQUAD 19, 1430 HIJRI • 32 PAGES PLUS STAR CAMPUS PRICE: TK 10.00

PM seeks power from Bhutan

VOL. XIX No. 292

Dhaka, Thimphu renew trade deal, agree to tackle climate challenges together

AGENCIES, Thimphu

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina proposed that the electric power generated in the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan could be exported to neighbouring countries, including Bangladesh.

The visiting prime minister also stressed the need for joint efforts in power and energy sector, particularly in generating hydroelectricity, for mutual benefits.

She told her audience while addressing a banquet function hosted by her Bhutanese counterpart Jigme Y Thinley at the Royal Banquet Hall in the capital yesterday night.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh renewed its bilateral trade agreement with Bhutan yesterday for the next five years under which Bhutan will get duty-free access of 18 new products to Bangladesh, mainly fruits and vegetables.

In another function, Sheikh Hasina told

Bhutanese King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuk that Bangladesh and Bhutan could work together in tackling the challenges of climate change.

UNB adds: Sheikh Hasina said Bangladesh has already talked to neighbouring India about transit route between Bangladesh and Bhutan aiming to boost cooperation in trade, tourism, industrialisation, power generation and the

"Once this route is established, we could immediately start Dhaka-Thimphu direct bus service, with normal transportation."

She called for intensifying cooperation between Bangladesh and Bhutan specifically in establishing small-and medium-scale industries in both the countries.

Addressing the banquet function hosted by Jigme Y Thinley yesterday night, Sheikh Hasina SEE PAGE 15 COL 1



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina meets King of Bhutan Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck at the Palace Tashichoedzong in Thimphu PHOTO: PID yesterday during her four-day visit to the country.

Waterways workers go on strike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 1.5 lakh water transport workers under five labour organisations began an indefinite strike from 12:00 last night to press home their 22-point demand.

The strike will continue until fulfilment of their demands, said Golam Mowla, president of Bangladesh

Noujan Sramik Federation. The demands include raising wages of the workers, stepping up security in the waterways to stop extortion and robbery, restoring navigability of the rivers and canals through regular dredging and checking corruption at the shipping department.

Sources in the labour bodies concerned claimed the workers have long been deprived of reasonable wages due to lack of sincerity of river

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

November 7 observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

November 7 was observed by socio-political organisations from different viewpoints across the country.

BNP, main opposition in parliament, and its associate organisations observed the day as "National Revolution and Solidarity Day" with elaborate programmes in the

However, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal and some other organisations and political parties observed it as "Civil-Military Uprising Day" and "Day of Killing of Freedom Fighters"

BNP and its allies organised a discussion meeting at the city's Engineers Institute near Ramna Park yesterday to mark the day.

At the discussion, BNP

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Admin in disarray

Political influence of successive governments stalls much-needed reforms

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

Sluggishness has gripped the entire public administration, as all previous reform attempts towards making it service oriented have gone into hibernation amid mounting political influence of successive ruling parties.

With the present government also transferring, posting, and promoting civil bureaucrats allegedly based on political considerations, and personal liking and dislikes of ministers and ruling party leaders instead of their perfor-

"This has been the practice in the administration over the years, causing a major slide in morale and a lack of commitment among the civil servants," observed a secretary of an important ministry, asking not to be named.

the administration has been reshuffled in such a manner that is encouraging the officials to take on a political colour and to curry favours

with ruling influential quarters for promotions or good postings at the cost of public services and their relevant responsibilities.

"Where the civil administration now stands, one does not need to work, but to maintain a lobby with influential ruling quarters," the secretary said when asked how the present bureaucracy is functioning.

He said the overall standard of the civil service is frustrating, where officials hardly take care of their responsibilities. "Still, there are some good officials who are not partisan and mances, the administration seems to remain in hever bother about their postings and promotions... These persons are holding the administration together."

Asked what steps the government has taken for administrative reforms, Prime Minister's Adviser on Establishment Ministry and Administrative Affairs HT Imam said initiatives In the 10 months of the current government, to change the name of the establishment ministry and to redefine its role in collaboration with UNDP are parts of the reform initiative.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

Star receives another letter from BNP

The Daily Star has received a letter from BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain following his October 29 rejoinder on this newspaper's report dated October 27 and headlined "Aug 21 attack on Hasina, AL Rally: It was Hawa Bhaban Plot".

Having already published in full Mr Delwar's earlier rejoinder with extraordinary prominence as the second lead story on the front page on November 1, we are under no journalistic obligation to publish his second write-up on the same subject, which essentially repeats the contents of the rejoinder.

However, as a gesture of courtesy to his party and to his person as its secretary general, we will publish his letter in a few days along with our ---Editor response.

MILITANCY CHARGE

149 out on bail, stay ominous

SHARIFUL ISLAM

Law enforcers fear around 150 suspected or convicted militants who are now out of jail may embrace militancy again as there were no to prove the charges in the court. motivational programmes in the prisons.

Police sources say 149 of those released either on bail or on completion of jail terms were arrested on charge of their link to banned keep constant watch on those people so that Islamist outfit Jama atul Mujahidee

Bangladesh (JMB). The sources add some of them were acquit-

ted of the charges as investigators either did not get any evidence of their involvement or failed Against this backdrop, the police high-ups,

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and other intelligence agencies have instructed their forces to SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaihi Rajiun



Imtiyaz Husain, aged 68, former Chairman of Dhaka Stock Exchange and Chairman of Imtiyaz Husain Securities Ltd. passed away following massive cardiac arrest on 29th October Morning in Kabul, Afghanistan while on World Bank assignment. Mr. Husain was performing a key role for the World Bank. working closely with their development partners, USAID and Afghanistan Government, on developing capital markets in Afghanistan. He was survived by his wife, two sons, two daughters-in-law besides a host of friends and admirers.

His mortal remains has arrived in Dhaka by Emirates, flight no. EK584 on November 7, 2009, and will be briefly kept in front of

his work premise, South Breeze Apartments, 8, Gulshan South Avenue. Next KFC Gulshan-1 and near Gulshan Shooting Club on the morning of November 8, 2009. Afterwards his Namaz-e-Janaza will be held at Azad Mosque, Gulshan (after Zohar prayer).

Requesting your kind prayers his wife Sharmin Husain his sons Shabbir & Tawqir his daughters-in-law Zohora & Sayma

Enquires: 01711526325 US EMBASSY ATTACK PLAN

Lashkar plotters identified

KAILASH SARKAR

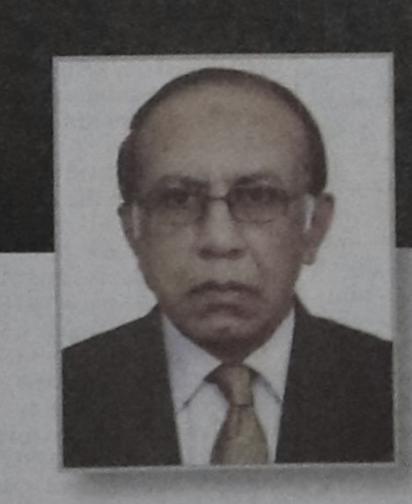
The Detective Branch of police has identified several persons including foreign nationals as Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) operatives holed up in the country with plans to attack the US embassy in Dhaka and other establishments.

A DB official, who would not be identified talking about matters under investigation, also said the three LeT men arrested recently at a hilltop madrasa in Chittagong had regular contact with two Lashkar leaders detained in the United States and one in Pakistan on charges of scheming to attack a Danish newspaperhouse.

India-born US citizen David Coleman Headley alias Gilani Daud and Pakistan-born Canadian Tahawwur Hussain Rana were arrested in Chicago in October and Pakistani Abdur Rahman Sayeed in Pakistan last week. The three had ordered the Let men in Bangladesh to attack the local US embassy, added the official.

DB officials said they suspect several money transactions have taken place to fund terror attacks in Bangladesh. They have already traced one involving Tk 4 lakh.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

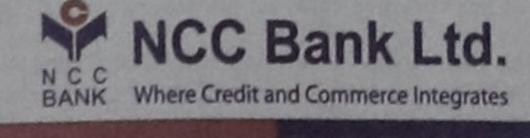


We Mourn

We are deeply shocked and grieved at the untimely sad demise of Mr. Mir Zahir Hossain (64), Sponsor Director and former Chairman of NCC Bank Ltd. who passed away at 1.30pm (BST) on Saturday 7 November 2009 in Pitsburg, USA. (Inna Lillahi.....Rajeun).

We pray to the almighty Allah to grant eternal peace to his departed soul. We also share the grief with his bereaved family members. May the Almighty give them the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss.

> Members of the Board of Directors & Management of



from climate peril UK parliament told

Senior British lawmaker and former health minister Frank Dobson has called for worldwide action to rein in climate

Long-term climate adaptation plans on a 'vast scale' side by side with immediate measures could save Bangladesh from disastrous consequences. "Nothing else will do," Dobson said during a five-hour debate on climate change in the House of

The Labour Party legislator spoke focusing on Bangladesh and termed it "the most vulnerable" country, according to the UK parliament website.

Dobson told the House of Commons, "It is clear that the climate is changing and that in most parts of the world it is changing for the worse. I wish to concentrate my attention on the one place that is most vulnerable to climate change and has the largest population at risk--Bangladesh, a country a little larger than

He said Bangladesh had long shown tremendous resilience in the face of natural disasters.

In the face of those natural disasters, over the centuries the SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Save Bangladesh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

change and save the most vulnerable countries like Bangladesh.

Commons on Thursday.

England and with nearly three times our population."

FSIB

ISLAMI BANK

ফার্স্ট সিকিউরিটি ইসলামী ব্যাংক লিঃ فارست سيكيوريتي اسلامي بنك ليميتد FIRST SECURITY ISLAMI BANK LTD. 23 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh. Tel: 880-2-9560229 (Hunting), 9550334, 7171029-30

Fax: 880-2-9561637, 7162566, e-mail: info@fsiblbd.com, Swift Address: FSEBBDDH

চকবাজার

www.fsiblbd.com

मान्यक्षण अधिक रिवार्ट भव सव सव विविध्य अधिक रिवार्ट करन

(बार स्व होना शबि गर बाहार निरमेंन शब्द गर्र)।

আধুনিক ব্যাংকিং সেবায় শরীয়াহ্ ভিত্তিক

ইসলামী ব্যাংক