NEWS

DU VIOLENCE

Pasha placed on two-day remand

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Saiduzzaman Pasha, a Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal cadre, was shown arrested and placed on a two-day remand yesterday in an arms case filed with Shahbagh Police Station in the capital.

Pasha was one of the three men who were seen with firearms in newspaper photos and TV footages during a factional clash of JCD at Dhaka University in mid January.

Metropolitan Magistrate Dilara Alo Chandana passed the remand order after Shahbagh police produced him before the court with a seven-day remand prayer for interrogation.

In the forwarding report, Sub-Inspector Abdul Kayyum, also the investigation officer of the case, mentioned that Pasha needs to be grilled to recover the arms, which he carried during the clash on the

him following the clash between the two factions of JCD, the student wing of BNP, on January 18 this year on DU campus.

Earlier on January 28, the detective branch of police arrested Pasha with a firearm from Kadamtoli in the city's Demra. Later, he was remanded for three days in this connection.

After BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia was arrested during the caretaker government regime, Pasha put up posters at Dhaka College and its surrounding areas under the banner of "Khaleda Zia Mukti Parishad", of which he was the president.

Pasha is also accused in several cases filed with the city's New Market, Jatrabari and Demra police stations on charges of extortion and other criminal acts.

BAF deploys contingent in **UN** mission

METRO DESK

Bangladesh Air Force deployed a 104-member contingent 'Banair-1' at the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad, says an ISPR release. An 80-member main body of

the contingent led by Group Captain Abdul Motaleb Bablu left Dhaka for Chad by a UN chartered plane on Monday.

BAF also deployed three Bell-212 helicopters in the mission. Other members of the contingent have left Dhaka for Chad by different flights since January 12.

Miners begin strike at Barapukuria

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Bangladeshi miners at Barapukuria Coal Mine Company Ltd (BCMCL) went on an indefinite strike from Monday midnight demanding profit bonus.

Coal production dropped to 700 to 800 metric tons (MTs) yesterday due to the strike against the average coal production of 3500 MTs, sources in the BCMCL said.

The local miners enforced the strike after two and half hours long conciliation meeting between the leaders of 1,100 Bangladeshi miners and BCMCL authorities ended Monday without any solution. However, BCMCL authori-

ties said 300 Chinese miners have been extracting coal from Barapukuria mine.

The miners yesterday brought out a procession and held a rally where they urged the BCMCL authorities to pay them the profit bonus without any delay.

BCMCL made a profit of about Tk 6,15,000,00 and distributed the amount among the officials and staff depriving the miners who are directly involved in coal extracting by going around 450 feet under the ground.

They said each miner would get Tk 51,000 if BCMCL distributes the profit equally among the officials, staff and miners. But they urged BCMCL authorities to give Tk 31,000 profit bonus to each miner, miners said.

The agitating miners also demanded assurance of equal distribution of profit bonus from next fiscal year.

BCMCL officials, however, claimed that miners do not deserve the profit bonus, as they are not the direct employees of BCMCL according to their recruitment code. The miners alleged that If the contracted company, XMC, earns profit then the miners will get the bonus, they added.

> **BCMCL** General Manager (admin) Md Abdul Jalil, General Manger (mining) Md Quamruzzaman, BCMCL Miners and Workers Union President Md Rabiul Islam and General Secretary Nur Islam were present in the meeting held at the BCMCL conference room on Monday.

> During the meeting, BCMCL officials offered the miners Tk 4,100 each as profit bonus to keep them away from any agitation, but the miners rejected the proposal, official sources said.

The case was filed against long the clash 2001 JS POLLS VIOLENCE

Judicial probe body formed

Bss, Dhaka

The government has constituted a judicial enquiry commission to investigate the offences committed during and after the 8th parliamentary election in 2001.

The commission has been constituted in compliance with a High Court order, an official handout said here last night.

The victims have been requested to submit written or verbal allegations to the chairman of the commission retired district and sessions judge M Shahbuddin at the Central Circuit House Road, Dhaka,

from 10:00am to 2:00pm except weekly holidays.

The handout said the allegations like killing, looting, setting fire, rape, eviction from homeland and other inhuman activities should be submitted or produced within 20 working days.

The allegation can also be sent by post, the handout said.

The commission expects cooperation from different professionals, human rights organisations and NGOs, it added.

The telephone number of the commission is 9343259, the handout added.



Thai princess

Gaibandha

this month

Princess Maha Chakri Sirin

of the royal family of

Thailand and members of

advisory board of

Bloomberg School of Public

Health of John Hopkings

University, USA, will pay a

visit to Gaibandha this

month to see rural life and the activities under Jivita

Jivita is a maternal and

child health and nutrition

research project under the

health ministry and being conducted in 19 unions in

Gaibandha and Rangpur

Maha Chakri Sirin will visit

Bangladesh to see the life-

style and culture of rural people and ongoing activi-

ties of Jivita project. She is

coming to Bangladesh in the

middle of this month, they

lands and witness the liveli-

hood of the char people. She

has a plan to stay in a

thatched house at a

Brahmaputra char near

Balashi Ghat under

Fulchhari upazila in the

district to express her soli-

Ministry of Foreign

Affairs, Ministry of Health

and Family Welfare and Thai

Embassy in Dhaka are

jointly working to make her

visit a success. District and

local administration have

been taking necessary mea-

project is to find out ways to

reduce the death rate of children and improve health

of mothers and children.

The aim of the livita

sures in this regard.

darity with char people.

She will also visit char

Sources said Princess

districts since 1999.

to visit

BSS, Gaibandha

project.

said.

Members of BAF contingent board a UN chartered plane at Zia International Airport on Monday to fly

to Chad to join the UN peacekeeping mission.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

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Amnesty opposes death sentence

UNB, Dhaka

In a significant development, five military men found guilty of killing Bangladesh's founding Mujibur Rahman.

In a statement issued on seeking their extradition.

highly unlikely. There is a high risk that they, too, might be executed," the Amnesty

It observed that family members of the convicts also live in fear of being attacked by political one of a total of 12 persons sen-

The Amnesty called on the justice," it said.

The international HR agency said Amnesty International opposes the execution of these five men, which "should never have taken place". It added: the haste in which the executions were carried out raises serious questions about the timing and procedures for these executions.

It called on the government to ensure transparency about its handling of this case.

August 15, 1975 killings of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members were grave human rights abuses, and those who committed them should be brought to justice.

"However, bringing people to justice must not in itself violate the human rights of the accused," said the Amnesty International opposing the death penalty in all cases "regardless of the nature of the crime, the characteristics of the offender, or the method used by the state to kill the prisoner".

Monash University reunion Feb 7

METRO DESK

Monash University, one of the prestigious public universities in Australia, will hold an alumni & student reunion 2010 at Le Saigon at 54 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan #2, in the city at 8:00pm on February 7, says a press release.

All former and current students of Monash University, including its overseas campuses, are invited to attend the dinner.

Australian High Commissioner Dr. Justin Lee will attend the programme.

All former and current students are requested to register and contact for details immediately at monashbangladesh@yahoo.c om. Interested persons can also call at 011 98172538.

Amnesty International condemned last week's execution of leader, Bangabandhu Sheikh

Monday, the London-based human rights watchdog noted that six other men sentenced to death in their absence in the same case are living outside. Bangladesh government is

"The execution of these five men will make their extradition International said.

activists of the ruling Awami League party. Quoting media reports, it said Awami League activists led by a local AL leader attacked the house of Aziz Pasha, tenced to death for killing Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, in Tetra village in Harirampur Upazila in Manikganj on January 31.

government to establish an impartial and independent investigation into this attack. "The government should publicly condemn any such attacks and bring anyone involved to

The HR watchdog said the

Sirajganj adds: At least two people were killed and 15 others

> injured in a road accident in upazila here yesterday. roadside ditch, killing two

> > The deceased were identified as Nabi Hossain, 25, son of Shahzahan Ali of Narina village in Shahzadpur upazila.

Identity of another could not be known immediately. The injured were admitted

hospital. Police sent the bodies to Sadar hospital morgue for

was killed when a Nasiman, locally made motorised vehicle crashed him at Katenga village of Chatmohar upazila

passengers of the bus on the Prang of the same village.

Sources said the accident took place when a speedy Nasiman hit Jibon when he was crossing the road, leaving him dead on the spot.

Nestle Bangladesh Limited donated 18 computers to different schools in Gazipur to facilitate study on information technology. Manufacturing Director of the company Jatinder Middah handed over the computers to the headmasters of the schools on Monday. Senior Manager (Corporate Affairs and Communication) Mirza Golam Hossain was also present.

1,420 cellphone sets seized at airport Additional Commissioner

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials on Monday night seized 1,420 pieces of mobile phone sets from the parking lots in front of terminal building-2 of Zia International Airport (ZIA).

Assistant Commissioner

Asaduzzaman Ripon of customs at ZIA told The Daily Star that one person disappeared into the crowd leaving four hand bags containing 1420 pieces of cellphone sets at the parking lots as the customs personnel chased him around 10:30pm. The customs team led by

Hossain Ahmed recovered the bags, he said, adding that the mobile sets are China-made Nokia, Alcatel and Sigmatel brands. Asaduzzaman said the

custom officials could not identify the bearer as the bags were without tags. They suspect that the cellphone sets might have been brought from Hong Kong as a flight landed at ZIA around 9:30pm from Hong Kong, he

He said the mobile sets were carried by a Dhaka-bound passenger from Hong Kong.

Road crashes kill 3

METRO DESK

At least three people were killed and 15 others injured in separate road accidents in Sirajganj and Pabna in two days. Our correspondent from

Patdhari area in Ullapara Police and witnesses said the accident took place around 1:00pm when a Sirajganjbound bus from Pabna skidded off the road and fell into a

spot and injuring 15 others.

to Ullapara upazila health complex and Sirajganj Sadar

Our correspondent from Pabna reports: A minor boy

under the district on Monday. The deceased was identified as Jibon, 6, son of Mongla

ORPHANAGE CASE HC passes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

order today

The High Court will pass order today on two petitions filed by BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and her son Tarique Rahman seeking stay on the proceedings of Zia Orphanage Trust embezzlement case against

After hearing arguments from the counsels of both sides, the HC bench of Justice MA Wahhab Miah and Justice Md Abdur Razzaque fixed the date. The court said it would

pass order on the petitions in presence of the petitioners' counsels, the attorney general and advocate Anisul Huq, a lawyer for the Anti-corruption Commission. The ACC filed the case against Khaleda and Tarique

and five others on July 3, 2008 with Ramna police station in connection with embezzlement of over TK 2.1 crore by forming the Zia Orphanage Khaleda and Tarique -- now

in London for treatment -filed two separate petitions with the HC on November 11 last year seeking stay order on the case proceedings against Barrister Rafique-Ul Huq

appeared for the petitioners, while Attorney General Mahbubey Alam argued for the government and advocate Anisul Huq and advocate Khurshid Alam Khan stood for the ACC.

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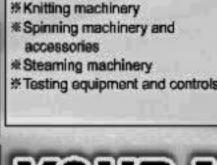
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