

Khaleda urges students to use merit in practical life

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia on Thursday expressed her confidence that the target of giving education to all by the year 2000 would be achieved if the present trend of progress in the education sector continued, reports BSS.

"The facilities for education have been expanded and the rate of literacy is increasing fast. Inshallah, we will be able to impart education to all by the year 2000 if this trend continues," Begum Zia said at a state level reception given to a group of meritorious students in Osmany Memorial Auditorium.

The reception was given to 495 students including 137 girl students who secured positions in the merit lists of the Secondary School Certificate and Dakhil Examinations held under the four Education Boards and Bangladesh Madrasa Education Board in 1995.

The reception was also addressed by Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar and Education Secretary Ershadul Huq.

The Prime Minister told the meritorious students, "You should have the aim to use your merit and See Page 12 Col. 4

President held

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sador to France, told Reuters by telephone.

The fighting was mainly at a camp near the presidential palace situated 5 kms (3 miles) north of the capital, he said.

The fighting is at a military camp which is next to the presidential palace. It seems as if Denard is inside the palace with the president," Chouzour said.

"Television, radio and air communications have been cut. Another point of resistance and fighting is at the radio station which has been taken by the mercenaries," the retired diplomat added.

French military intervention forced Denard to abandon a previous coup attempt in the Comoros, a former French colony, in 1989. He fled to South Africa but later returned to France and was given a five-year suspended jail sentence for other mercenary activity in Benin.