

CU APSU wants arrest of terrorists in 10 days

CHITTAGONG, May 31: A rally of All-Party Students Unity (APSU) held at Dr Milon Chatter here today demanded arrest of those who were involved in terrorist activities on December 22 incident on the Chittagong University campus, reports BSS.

Presided over by CU/CSU Vice President Nazimuddin, the rally was addressed, among others, by CU/CSU General Secretary Aziz Uddin. APSU leaders Monzur Alam Shahin, Nazmul Karim Dulal and Mokaddes Ali Mojumdar. They demanded arrest of the offenders in the next ten days.

The APSU leaders protested the gherao of Vice-

Chancellor of Chittagong University and other Syndicate members by Shibir activists Thursday and called upon the concerned authorities not to bow down before any terrorist group.

The Vice-Chancellor and other Syndicate members of the university were gheraoed Thursday for seven hours by Shibir and Sangrami Chhatra Otkya demanding resignation of the VC and withdrawal of suspension order on five activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir.

APSU leaders also criticised what they called the move to rehabilitate anti-liberation forces on the Dhaka University campus.

Leaders of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, a component of APSU, did not attend today's rally at Dr Milon Chatter.

The rally was followed by a procession which paraded main city roads.

BCS body

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per cent of the total BCS (admn) cadres were with the new initiative to reorganise the association. He said that out of total 92 CSP officers of the cadres about eighty per cent have expressed their affiliation with the coordination committee. He said that though the term of the present executive committee of the BCS (admn) association expired on December 31, it did not hold the election to elect a new committee and was using the association for personal interests of its members.

When contacted secretary general of the BCS (admn) Association Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir told the Daily Star that he did not know anything about the existence of any alternative organisation of the BCS (admn) cadres.

He said the present executive committee of the association was elected for two years. He said that the election of the association could not be held in time because the deputy commissioners of different districts were not in a position to attend the conference after the fall of the past regime.

He said that the election of the association would be held at the first opportune time, when all the deputy commissioners would be able to attend the conference.

City corporation

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The Corporation at present has got a surplus manpower of about 2,500 who were recruited by previous administrators and mayors. Administrator Col (Retd) A Malek alone gave appointment to more than 1,000 people.

When asked about his conception about urban development in comparison to the one envisaged by the past regime, Abbas who is an elected MP from Dhaka city said, "I shall stress on increasing the basic facilities for the city dwellers first than looking for beautification".

The BNP leader said, 70 lakh people of the metropolis had given their verdict to the BNP nominees in February 27 polls and my nomination as Mayor by the government should not raise any controversy.

There was no chance of any election to the ward commissioner very soon, he said, adding commissioners might be nominated for interim period.

Suranjit

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racy seemed to be everybody's desire. She said that she had lodged an F I R with the Dhanmondi police but police did not arrest anybody.

After the incident Awami League Leaders Tofael Ahmed and Sheikh Selim phoned Dr Jaya Sengupta and enquired about the incident.

Condemning the attack Ganatantri Party president Syed Altaf Hossain said, "those who have done this had worked against the democratic norms and values. Such incident will not bring good to anyone, on the country, it would obstruct the democratic process which was initiated after long struggle against the autocracy."

He, however, expressed his ignorance about Suranjit's remarks on television when he said was given without concurrence of him or the party.

Meanwhile, BSS adds, the city unit of Ganatantri Party Friday held a protest meeting condemning the attack.

The meeting, presided over by city unit president of the party Mahmudur Rahman Babu, demanded exemplary punishment to those responsible for the incident and adequate security for Suranjit and his family.

The meeting was addressed, among others, by Sirajuddin Badsha, Fakir Abdur Rashid, Aktar Hossain and Sharafat Ali Hira.

Mahmudur Rahman Babu said a certain quarter had been engaged in disturbing the democratic atmosphere by creating anarchy and terrorism.

Bush

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The presidents met in the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius on Thursday to discuss attacks by the Omon special operations group on more than a dozen customs points in the past two weeks in Lithuania and Latvia.

Two people have died in the attacks on the customs posts in which Omon troops, also known as "black berets", seized Latvian and Lithuanian guards and burned border post to the ground. The posts are viewed as illegal by Soviet authorities.

Soviet television, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, reported on Thursday night that Soviet Procurator General Nikolay Trubin had instructed the Latvian procuracy, to take criminal proceedings against the Omon forces in Riga in connection with the attacks. It gave no details.

The Soviet prosecutor has ordered an investigation into the incidents, saying it appeared the Omon forces acted on their own initiative without reference to higher authority. Soviet Interior Minister Boris Pugo denied ordering the attacks.

In Vilnius, the three presidents issued a joint statement saying, "the maintenance of such military formations of terrorist character, at times assuming the role of mercenaries, must be condemned everywhere as Stalinist aggression".

It added: "A state which permits the use of violence as a political instrument must not expect multi-billion dollar credits from democratic states".

The statement, received by telex in Moscow, was an obvious reference to current attempts by the Kremlin leadership to secure trade credits and other concessions from the West to help halt the decline of the Soviet economy.

The attacks, some of which appeared to have been staged specially for Soviet television, have caused a sharp rise in tension between the three separatist republics and the Kremlin leadership.

Students

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memoranda separately by the student organisations to the Home Ministry.

Meanwhile, police arrested seven students from the Dhaka University campus Thursday night in connection with Monday's assault on Jamaat Secretary General Maulana Nizam.

Ranna police filed cases against the students for their alleged involvement in the assault. The arrested students were sent to court lock-ups on Friday.

Of the arrested students, five are of the Dhaka University and two of the Government Jagannath College. Police failed to mention if they were affiliated with any student organisations.

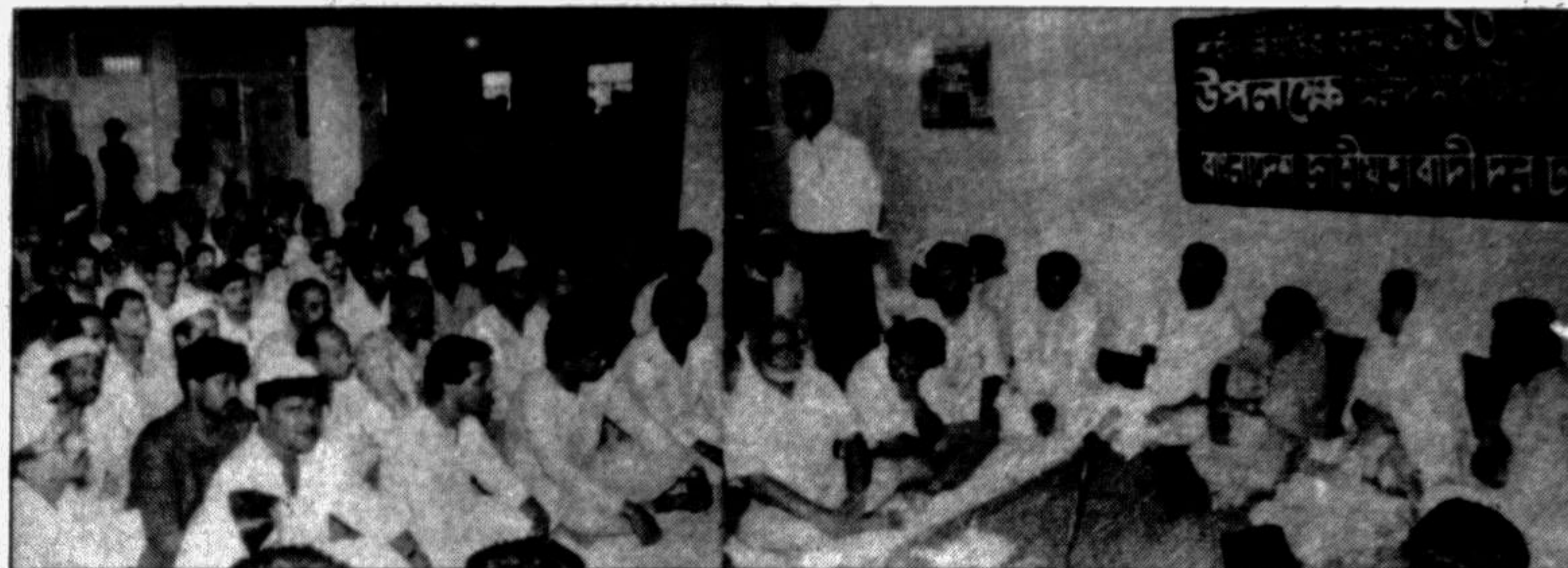
Police identified the students as: Rashiduzzaman, Nazrul Islam, Giasuddin, Shafiqul Azam and Moazzem Hossain of Dhaka University, and Ali Haider and Anwar Hossain of Jagannath College.

Baker to meet Syrian FM

LISBON, May 31: US Secretary of State James Baker announced today that he would meet Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Shara here tomorrow for talks on Middle East peace efforts, reports AFP.

SPD votes to block Kohl plan

BREMEN (Germany): May 31: Germany's opposition Social Democrats (SPD) voted today to block Chancellor Helmut Kohl's plan to give United Germany a wider military role in the world, reports Reuter.



Dhaka city Mayor Mirza Abbas addressing a milad mahfil and discussion meeting organised by city BNP on Friday in observance of the anniversary of President Zia's death. Prime Minister Begum Khaleida Zia also attended the function. — PID photo



Jamaat-e-Islami brought out a procession in the city on Friday demanding punishment of those responsible for the attack on Maulana Nizami in the Dhaka University. News on page 3 — Star photo

Short-term plan

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windspeed of 350 kilometres per hour. The damaged tower could withstand windspeed upto 160 km per hour. The estimated value of the project is around Tk 10 to 12 crore.

The sources said, after the failure of microwave system through the tower, alternative tele-communications arrangement could be restored through co-axial cable which was running parallel in Chittagong. The system became inoperative some years ago due to lack of maintenance.

Under the changed circumstances, the government is considering introduction of optical fibre system in tele-communications as an alternative to microwave system in the cyclone-prone areas in the coastal districts.

The Khulna-Chittagong microwave project via Barisal, abandoned since long, is again being considered for implementation. The implementation of the short-term project will bring in immediate results for the improvement of the whole telecom network of the country, the sources said.

The board has also taken up a long-term rehabilitation project involving an expenditure of Tk 2,300 crore. The plan includes construction of a high

capacity satellite station at Mahakhali, two 6-channel portable earth stations and introduction of optical fibre replacing the microwave system. Final shape of the long-term project will be incorporated in the 4th Five-Year Plan.

The sources said Japan, France, Canada and the United States were willing to fund both the short-term and long-term projects. A World Bank delegation is due in the city on June 4 to negotiate the 4th Telecom Credit. Japan is expected to play the leading role in developing the country's telecom sector, the sources said.

Work on the Mahakhali earth station had started during the fallen regime of Ershad. The project, estimated at Tk 300 crore, was taken up as a replacement of Betbunia Satellite Station. The contract was awarded to a UK-based company without ECNEC approval, violating usual norms. The matter is now under investigation.

The board also plans to expand telecommunication facilities in the rural areas. The analogue system, now in operation, will completely be replaced by digital system, the sources said.

Blast in Pakistan

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Shah said, while others said they thought a major earthquake had hit the area or troops were testing weapons.

Soon after the blast, secondary explosions rocked Nowshera, the headquarters of Pakistan's main armoured division, and missiles and rockets began raining down on the city, police said, quoting residents.

People fled, leaving their homes open, while ambulances and fire engines rushed into the city. Several vehicles collided in the panic, causing a road jam.

A rocket landed on a crowd causing unspecified casualties, a missile hit a truck and another blew up a man riding a bicycle, witnesses said.

A large part of the garrison city has been affected as projectiles were falling as far as 42 kilometers (20 miles) from the city, they said.

Road links, including the main highway linking Peshawar with Islamabad, were suspended and telecommunication links with the rest of the country were severed, sources said.

A similar blast in an ammunition dump in Rawalpindi on April 10, 1988, left over 100 people dead and several hundred injured.

Seven killed in gumbattle
At least seven people have been killed and 30 injured as a gunbattle between heavily armed tribesmen raged here

for the third straight day. Pakistani officials in Quetta said today.

Mortar, rocket and automatic weapons fire has prevented the entry of paramilitary troops into the Gultistan area, 90 kilometres (50 miles) north of Quetta, which is divided between rival Achakzai and Ghebzai clans of Pash-toons, the officials said.

Train service to the railway town of Pishin on the Iranian border was suspended while a delegation of three provincial ministers headed by the Baluchistan Assembly Speaker tried but failed to arrange a cease-fire.

The sources said an emergency had been declared in local hospitals and authorities were contemplating ordering a curfew to bring the situation under control.

The clash erupted after unidentified assailants late Tuesday critically wounded the driver of Mehmdul Achakzai, Deputy in the National Assembly who is also chief of his clan.

Immediately after the incident, the two clans took up positions and a pitched battle broke out, leaving at least seven people dead and 30 injured, officials said.

The fighting, which was continuing, followed long standing enmity between the two clans since the September 1989 killing of the Ghebzai chief and his two sons and a subsequent murder of Achakzai's cousin in October 1990 polls.

US for parity with Japan in financing ADB

WASHINGTON, May 31: Congress was told Thursday the United States intends to maintain parity with Japan in financing the Asian Development Bank because economic ties to Pacific and Asian nations are increasingly vital to American interests, reports AP.

US Deputy Assistant Treasury Secretary George A Folsom made the statement at a public hearing which heard charges that the Manila-based Asian Development Bank group has become a tool a Japanese regional economic expansion in East Asia, neglecting India and needier countries of South Asia.

The United States has "a long-time objective of maintaining parity with Japan ... in order to maintain our influence" in the ADB, which makes loans to the region's poorer countries, Folsom testified to a House banking subcommittee.

President George Bush's administration thus seeks 425 million Dollars from Congress as the US share of a special 1992-93 capital increase initiated by Japan for the Bank, he said.

"Although the president of the Bank is Japanese, a large percentage of its senior officers are Americans ... (and) by virtue of our position as the other major stockholder, we are able to play a major role in the decision-making ... of the Bank's directors on its policies and programs," Folsom said.

Parity with Japan is important, the Treasury official said, because the Bank is the "preeminent development institution in ... the fastest growing region in the world, and our rapidly developing economic ties to the Asian countries are increasingly important to our economic well-being."

US pays \$2.5m to ME hostage families

WASHINGTON, May 31: The US government has given families of Americans held hostage in Iraq, Kuwait and Lebanon more than 2.5 million dollars in cash payments and life and health insurance under a little-known benefits programmes, reports AP.

A total of 318 families received 1,721,918 dollars in salary compensation, 258 families were given 36,923 dollars for life insurance payments and 290 received 766,933 dollars for health insurance.

Most of the money went to families of the "human shields" held by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein last fall in Kuwait and Iraq. In addition, families of three of the six Americans held hostage in Lebanon and a fourth released in April 1990 were paid a total of about 116,000 dollars.

Protest over BTV programme

Sixteen intellectuals on Friday expressed their indignation and protest at what they called distorted and exaggerated remarks during a special programme of Bangladesh Television telecast Thursday night, reports UNB.

The remarks to which the intellectuals took exception were made by Prof. Emajuddin Ahmed, Suranjit Sengupta, Firoz Noon and Mir Shawkat Ali while participating in the programme marking the anniversary of death of President Ziaur Rahman.

In a joint statement, the intellectuals — university teachers, lawyers, doctors, engineers and agriculturists — described as travesty of truth the remarks made by these personalities eulogising Ziaur Rahman as an announcer of the independence war, patriot, loyal to constitution, far-sighted, courageous freedom fighter, champion of multiparty democracy and so forth.

They said the declaration of independence was first read out by Awami League leader of Chittagong late Abdul Hannan on the basis of a message and proclamation of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

But an identified group has been trying for last 15 years to portray Ziaur Rahman as the announcer of the War of Independence, they added.

The intellectuals alleged that Ziaur Rahman had captured power by trampling the constitution and inducted 'razakars' like Shah Aziz and Maulana Abdul Mannan in his cabinet.

Since Zia was a clever man, he did not take over power immediately after the assassination of Bangabandhu, they said and demanded publication of accounts of movable and immovable assets of Zia till his death.

They questioned how a democrat like Zia could put Col (Retd) Taher to the gallows by staging a farcical trial and also said people want to know in which sector Zia proved his valour during the war of liberation.

Zia in the name of multiparty democracy had introduced autocracy in the country, they further alleged.

The intellectuals criticised the ruling party for using the state-owned media for party campaign following the footprint of the ousted regime of Ershad.

The signatories to the statement are: Prof. Ataur Rahman, Prof. Fazlur Rahman, Dr Khorshed Anwar, Dr Tofazzal Hossain, Prof. Sajedur Rahman, Dr Mia Rafiqul Islam, Engr. Zulfikar Haidar Chowdhury, Engr. Mujibul Islam, Prof. Habibur Rahman, Agriculturist Dr Anwar Ali, Agriculturist Ahmad Hossain, Dr Abdul Khaleque, Dr Alauddin Al Baki, Prof. Aminur Rahman, Advocate Sirajul Islam and Dr Azizur Rahman.

The Midnight File

Angola peace accord signed

LISBON, May 31: Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and UNITA rebel leader Jonas Savimbi signed an historic peace agreement today formally ending their 16-year-old civil war. The ceasefire signed at the Portuguese Foreign Ministry banquet hall goes into immediate effect and is subject to international monitoring. The peace accord also provides for Angola's first multi-party elections between September and November 1992, reports Reuter.

UN to assess war damage

NICOSIA, May 31: A team of United Nations experts arrived in Tehran today to assess damage suffered by Iran during the 1980-88 war with Iraq, Iranian television reported. The eight experts from Belgium, Canada, Ireland, Mexico and the Netherlands would visit war-damaged areas during their two-week stay, the television said in a report monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, says Reuter.

Bush to visit Greece, Turkey

WASHINGTON, May 31: President Bush will visit Greece and Turkey after the July 15-17 London economic summit of the world's leading industrial democracies, the White House announced today. It said Bush would be in Greece July 17-19, and in Turkey July 19-21. No further details of his itinerary were released, reports Reuter.

Italy won't hand over Tesfaye

ADDIS ABABA, May 31: Italy refused today to hand over a former leader of Ethiopia who has taken refuge in the Italian embassy in Addis Ababa to the country's new leaders. The embassy said it had refused to hand over former Acting President Tesfaye Gebre-Kidan to rebels who have taken control of the capital, without formal guarantees of a fair and public trial, reports Reuter.

Investigators to screen Sri Lankans in India

NEW DELHI, May 31: Investigators probing for leads in the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi are likely to begin an intensive screening of Sri Lankans in India to help solve the murder, sources said here today, reports AFP.

The assassin's picture, taken by a photographer who also died in the blast, was the first clue police held and subsequent enquiries led to suspicions that a man present at the site was equipped as a back-up incase she botched the job.

Police are trying to confirm the identity of the photographer who was initially identified as Hari Babu, a freelancer, amid unconfirmed suspicions that he may have been hired by the killers to draw attention away from the bomber.

The detectives have not yet identified the woman assassin, whose body has been embalmed and placed on ice, but newspapers say she bore a striking resemblance to a photograph published recently in one of the LTTE's magazines.

"We have progressed from day one and Central Bureau of Investigation now we know the direction of our investigation," said a senior (CBI) official in New Delhi today amid reports that a Special Investigation Team (SIT) planned to screen the inhabitants of camps holding about 115,000 Sri Lankan refugees in southern Tamil Nadu State.

"It won't be long before we put a name, age and address to her," the official said, adding that India's military intelligence unit — the Directorate General of Military Intelligence (DGMI), once engaged in an anti-LTTE drive in the island — may be of help.

SIT detectives also planned to track many of the 90,000 Sri Lankans living in Tamil Nadu. CBI and SIT detectives here said that several Sri Lankans owning bungalows in the Tamil Nadu capital Madras would be screened and houses which had been used in the past by the LTTE seized under special police laws.

The planned crackdown followed reports that the murder of Gandhi, was meticulously plotted days in advance during which the conspirators may have travelled to New Delhi.

Thousands of policemen armed with photographs of the slain woman and the swarthy man, also photographed minutes before Gandhi's death, are searching hotels, bus depots, homes and guests houses and have picked up several people, mostly Sri Lankans, in the 10 days since the assassination.

Detectives arrested an unnamed Sri Lankan Tamil taxi driver in Tamil Nadu's K. dalkanal Thursday on the charge that he was painting a wall with graffiti on the day of Gandhi's murder, the Times of India daily said today.

"Rajiv, your stomach will burst and you will die. Only then will you understand the verdict of the people of Tamil Nadu," the man wrote.

The taxi driver told police he wrote the lines after drinking, but his log book showed that he had travelled between Kodakkanal, Madras and Sriperumpudur on May 21, the daily added without giving the date of his detention.

Detectives also stopped a Sri Lanka-bound flight in Madras and arrested a Tamil named Selvendran and his girlfriend Anita when the suspect said he was a trader in London and came to Madras on business trips and to meet the girl.

They also picked up another Sri Lankan woman named Shanti from a railway station Tuesday in the Tamil temple town of Madurai, but her male companion ran away during the arrest, newspapers said, adding that the 27-year-old woman was being interrogated in Madras.

Police and SIT officers are also following up statements by two Congress (I) eyewitnesses that a third man was present at the Sriperumpudur site and was seen talking to the woman bomber and the alleged backup man an hour before Gandhi's murder, dailies said.

The LTTE member who was picked up at Vedaranyam in Thanjavur district on Monday last and his associate from Tiruchirappalli, who were brought to Madras for interrogation, were in no way connected with the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi, according to official sources.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
This is for information of our valued clients that our Naogaon Branch has been shifted to the following address.

New Address 405, Sadar Road (1st floor) Naogaon Municipal Area Naogaon.	Old Address 485, Sadar Road Naogaon
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The Branch resumes its function at the new premises from today the 1st June 1991.

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