



Saber's bail order yet to reach jail

UNB, Mymensingh

Despite being granted bail by the High Court, Awami League leader Saber Hossain Chowdhury was not released from prison till yesterday evenina

Jail authorities said the bail order from Dhaka had not reached them yet. Saber's counsel hoped he would be set free today

When the matter was pointed out, the High Court yesterday ordered dispatch of the release order to Mymensingh jail through special messenger

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

Mercury dips further in N-dists Two more cold waves after January 16

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The mercury dipped further sources said. yesterday in northern districts raising the death toll and paralising life in shivering cold but the situation slightly improved in the capital. winter. The cold wave claimed 14

more lives in the country in the last two days till Friday, raising the unofficial toll to over 300, according to newspaper reports.

In the city, an unidentified floating woman aged about 45 died at Dhaka Medical Collage

The lowest temperature recorded at Ishwardi yesterday was 5.1 degree Celsius, the lowest in the country so far this In the capital, it increased to 11 from Friday's 10.4. The sun was visible for a few minutes in the

capital at noon yesterday. Meteorologist Akram Hossain said the situation in the country will start improving today but another two cold waves are likely

Hospital. She was taken there this month after January 16 after a cold attack, hospital The Meteorological Department forecast dense fog in northern districts and river basins for the next 24 hours and a medium cold wave in Chuadanga, Rajshahi, Madaripur, Tangail and Khulna districts. Our Gaibandha correspon-

dent reported six deaths. The victims are Moyzuddin, 82, Zarina, 70, Ayezuddin, 80, Kalu Mia, 60, Shajahan Ali, 65 and an dentified SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

HR body urges PM Repeal ordinance, ensure justice for the repressed STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Human Rights Watch (BHRW), a New York-based human rights organisation, has termed the Joint Drive Indemnity Ordinance discriminatory, anti-people and anticonstitutional, said a press release yesterday.

In a letter to Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and different ministries, the BHRW yesterday urged the government to immediately repeal the anti-democratic ordinance to ensure justice for the repressed SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

India wants strategic **South Asian Union**

SAARC needs upgrading: Sinha

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India has proposed creation of a South Asian Union (SAU), which will not only be an economic grouping but will also acquire a "political and strategic dimension"

"If Africa could think in terms of a union, if the Economic Community in Europe could become the European Union, if the ASEAN could make progress, if the countries in Latin America could make progress, there is no reason why we in South Asia cannot become a Union of South Asian states," Indian External Affairs Minister Yashwant Sinha said while inaugurating a seminar in New Delhi last evening.

Sinha made it clear that he was not suggesting an end to the South

Jan 12

Fajr

Zohr

Asr

Maghrib

Esha

Jan 13

Asia Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) but its upgrading in view of changed economic and political realities across the world.

However, he made no bones about his displeasure with the progress of the SAARC. Over the last 17 years, the body has not been able to move ahead on its main objective of economic cooperation. he said.

organised by the Dhaka-based Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) that India was ready for a free trade agreement with other SAARC

Petroleum traders threaten strike from Jan 23

UNB, Dhaka

Petroleum traders have threatened to go for an indefinite strike from January 23 unless the government meets their eight-point demand.

Dealers, distributors, agents and pump owners association vesterday reminded that the State Minister for Energy had earlier committed to meet their demands.

"We don't want anymore discussion. If the government does not implement the decisions taken in the October 7 meeting last year, we'll stop selling fuel from January 23," said M Nazmul Huq, chief spokesman of the association, at a

Left dead against alien hunting

SAKYASEN MITTRA, Kolkata

centre

Leftist parties of India are strictly against the central government's decision to implement the identity card system in West Bengal to find out people illegally living in the state.

excluded. "Many of us have our roots in At the same time, they expressed concern over exclusion these two countries. They should be included in the list." of Bangladesh from the 'dual citizenship' policy announced by the However, the issue of identity

cards has antagonised the leftist On Thursday, the central governparties more than the announce ment of dual citizenship.

ing this policy for people of Indian

origin in the USA, Canada, Great

Britain, Singapore and a few other

countries. What is surprising is that

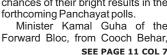
the countries like Bangladesh and

Burma (Myanmar) have been

The leftist parties think that it is just a step by the BJP to weaken the chances of their bright results in the

with the leftist parties, has protested the implementation of the dual

Parliamentarian Krishna Bose said, "The government is consider-



PM warns police Larvicide to Work dutifully or be sprayed

The Environment Ministry has agreed in principle with the City

Corporation proposal for aerial spray of larvicide by airplane and helicopter in the capital city and its outskirts to cope with the actions if anyone neglected duty.

An inter-ministerial meeting at the Environment Ministry took the decision allowing WHOapproved Ultra Low Volume Concentration (ULVC) insecticides for aerial spray over the city to check the growing menace of function.

face legal action UNB, Dhaka

Hoping that the police would ensure security of public life and property working hard with utmost sincerity, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday warned of legal

"You will have to overcome the crisis of confidence. It is not ours or yours or anybody else's desire that the image of police is damaged for a handful of police personnel," she said at the Police Week 2003

acts.

you will get the reward.'

Taking salute from the annual police parade at Rajarbag Police Ground on the occasion, the prime minister noted that people had lost

their confidence in police following various allegations raised against them in the past, including corruption, neglect of duty and patronisation of criminals.

"Already you have succeeded largely in restoring the confidence. I advise you to carry out your duties more carefully," she told the rank and file of the police force. She reminded them that suc-

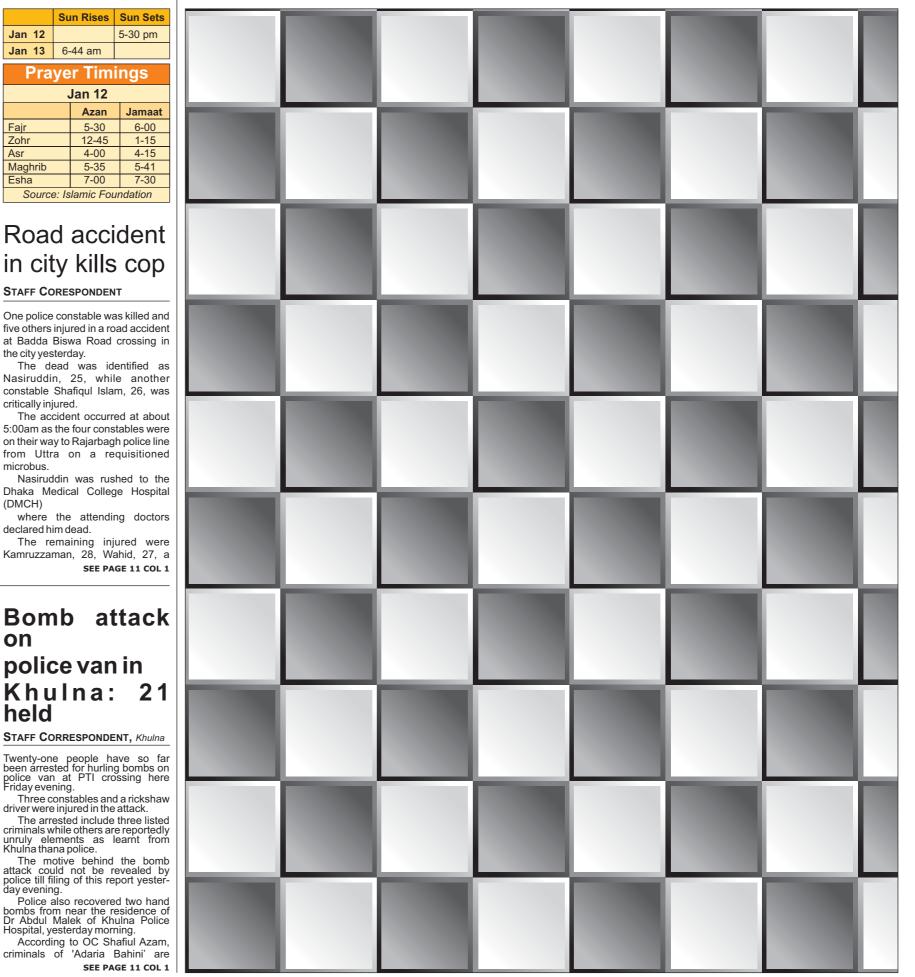
Thirty-seven police officers and cess in their duties not only bears reputation of the country but the personnel were decorated with gallantry awards Bangladesh country's development is also Police Padak 2002 and President inseparably linked with it. Police Padak 2002 as well as People will not invest, foreign President Police Padak for outinvestors will not invest if peace and discipline doesn't prevail in the Among them, only Dinesh country, said the PM, whose government had called out army in Kumar Biswas, ASI, was awarded posthumously the Bangladesh October last year to help improve Police Padak for his courageous deteriorating law-and-order situarole in nabbing and containing tion. Listing her alliance governnotorious criminals that cost him ment's multifaceted steps in devel-Twenty policemen were opment and modernisation of the awarded President Police Padak police. Khaleda informed the function that Rapid Action Team for their valiance shown in arrest-(RAT) had been raised with special ing terrors and robbers and recovering illegal firearms while 16 training imparted to skilled young others given President Police members of the police force so Padak for rendering extraordinary they could successfully tackle illegal arms-holders, terrors, service in maintaining law and order and resisting subversive extortionists and hardened criminals Prime Minister Khaleda Zia The objective is to ensure gave away the medals to the peace and sense of relief in public recipients. A family member of life, she told her audience about Dinesh Kumar Biswas received the special police corps that will the posthumous award on behalf soon go into operation as the army of the ASI killed in the line of duty. troops are now being called back In handing over the awards, she to the barracks said: "I promise, do good jobs and

countries

Sinha also told the seminar,

2,672 goods for which India has е n

ment in Delhi announced dual citizenship for prominent Indians iving abroad in certain countries. The Trinamul Congress, along press conference With Bangladesh, there are citizenship policy. He said the government recognised the genuineness of their SEE PAGE 11 COL 7 SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



But the spraying will have to be conducted keeping in mind that less hazards are caused to various friendly insects, including bees and butterfly, as well as public health.

An army man and a policeman embrace during the

pullback of the troops from the

Udyan camp in

the city yesterday upon a government

order that came

three months of

the countrywide

Operation Clean

Mosquito menace

from air

mosquito menace.

mosquito

UNB, Dhaka

after nearly

Heart by the

joint forces.

PHOTO: STAR

Suhrawardy

standing service. Chaired by Environment Minister Shahjahan Siraj, the meeting at the conference room of the ministry also decided that wide publicity through radio, television and newspapers must be conducted before the start of his life. spraving.

The meeting cautioned the general public that during such aerial spray, pregnant women and children must remain indoors while food and drinking water is properly covered.

The need for massive public awareness was underscored at the meeting for the ultimate success of the anti-mosquito drive.

Apart from aerial spray, comprehensive measures to destroy mosquito larva from waterbodies and drains will be taken and people of all strata will be encouraged to take part in the drive.

Gulshan Society wants Rajuk to stop construction at Road No. 121

UNB, Dhaka

Residents of Gulshan have demanded of the Raidhani Unnayan Kartripakkhya (Rajuk) to stop the latest construction work undertaken by Raiuk at Road No121 adjacent to Gulshan Lake.

Under the banner of Gulshan Society, they met Rajuk architects and engineers at the site yesterday and expressed their concern over the "unwanted construction" work.

The residents also demanded that there must be consultation with the local community with a view to arriving at a consensus on evolving a widely acceptable solution

Gulshan Society in a press release said the construction work SEE PAGE 11 COL 8



A police official checks a pickup damaged in a bomb attack that left three police

Road accident

in city kills cop STAFF CORESPONDENT

One police constable was killed and five others injured in a road accident at Badda Biswa Road crossing in the city yesterday.

The dead was identified as Nasiruddin, 25, while another constable Shafiqul Islam, 26, was critically injured.

The accident occurred at about 5:00am as the four constables were on their way to Rajarbagh police line from Uttra on a requisitioned microbus.

Nasiruddin was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH)

where the attending doctors declared him dead.

Kamruzzaman, 28. Wahid, 27. a SEE PAGE 11 COL

on

held

Friday evening.

day evening.

criminals of



men and a rickshaw-puller injured in the Khulna city Friday evening

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