## Bangladesh can raise head in pride: Yunus

Bss, New York

Prof Muhammad Yunus said his winning of Nobel Peace Prize has removed the notion that Bangladesh is a country of contradictions, rather it is capable of delivering something to raise its head in pride in the world

The Nobel laureate was speaking at a reception accorded to him by the Bangladeshis living in the USA. They gave him a crest and a letter of appreciation.

He was also accorded another reception at UN headquarters where President of the UN General Assembly Sheikh Haya Rashed Al-Khalifa and Deputy Secretary General Mark Malloch Brown, among others, spoke,

Recalling the public emotion that the nation saw following the SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

'RESIST ANARCHY'

### 4-party holds countrywide rallies today

**UNB**, Dhaka

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday asked the party men to "resist" what he called AL-sponsored anarchy and vandalism by making today's countrywide demonstrations a success.

The BNP-led four-party alliance will hold rallies and bring out processions at all divisional and district headquarters today against the alleged act of violence by the 14party combine.

In a press statement, Mannan Bhuiyan said AL is out to "destroy country's democracy and economy in the name of programme like blockade

Meanwhile, city BNP President and Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka said Awami League has resorted to conspiracy as it doesn't have confi-

dence in the people.

He was addressing a joint meeting of the city BNP at Bhasani auditorium yesterday afternoon in preparation for today's rally at Muktangan at 2:00pm.

### Kyoto countries set 2008 for talks on more carbon cuts

AFP, Nairobi

The 168 members of the United Nations' pact for cutting greenhouse gases will launch negotiations in 2008 over the next round of pledges for tackling global warming, a worldwide conference on climate change decided here on Friday.

The negotiations will determine action for curbing carbon pollution from 2013 to 2017, after Kyoto's present commitment period expires

But no date is set for concluding the negotiation process, nor are there any pre-conditions for the talks

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



# Fortune-seekers look down the barrel

Cheated by manpower frauds, 31 women now try in vain to pick up the pieces

PORIMOL PALMA

Cheated by brokers and a section of officials of the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET), Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (Caab) and immigration department, 31 women who were about to fly for Lebanon from Dhaka on Friday are now left in total uncertainty about their future

The poor rural women, who sold their belongings and took loans from relatives and others at high interest for getting jobs as domestic help in the Middle Eastern country, have been kept at a shelter home of

Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association (BNWLA) in

The victims are now too worried if they would ever get back their money -- Tk 50,000 to Tk 1 lakh each-- that they gave to the brokers without any documents.

"How shall I go back home now and what shall I tell my husband and our three kids?" asked a bewildered Shahnaj of Singair,

Shahnaj gave Tk 70,000 to a broker, Joynal Abedin, six months ago when he promised her a job in Saudi Arabia. But later he refused to keep his promise on the plea that

controversial police officer Kohinoor Mian at a rally at Muktangon in the capital yesterday.

quite frightening," he told CNN.

fought Saddam's regime."

"Iraq is slipping continuously into

Meanwhile in Iraq coalition and

Iraqi troops in southeastern Iraq

continued their hunt for five Western

security contractors abducted the

insisted that the British PM's views

had been misrepresented and that it

was "disingenuous" to portray it as

an admission, the UK's Press

gested that the West's intervention

in Iraq had "so far been pretty much

what I say to people is why is it difficult in Iraq? It's not difficult

because of some accident in plan-

ning, it's difficult because there's a

deliberate strategy -- al-Qaeda with

Sunni insurgents on one hand,

Iranian-backed elements with Shia

militias on the other -- to create a

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

During the interview, Frost sug-

Blair replied: "It has, but you see

Association said.

of a disaster!

Blair's Downing Street office

a chaotic level of violence. "To be

honest, this is not something that I

could have imagined when we

Blair 'accepts' Iraq

war as disaster

AP, CNN, London

Britain was "a disaster."

British Prime Minister Tony Blair

provoked a storm yesterday after

apparently admitting that the inva-

sion of Iraq by the United States and

Blair gave the surprise assess-

ment of his decision to go to war in

an interview with David Frost on Al-

Jazeera's new English-language

the comment as evidence that Blair

has finally accepted that his strategy

in the Middle Eastern state had

story on their front pages Saturday

admits on Arab TV," was the head-

tionally admitted the Iraq War fallout

line in the Daily Telegraph.

British newspapers carried the

"Iraq invasion a disaster, Blair

"PM Tony Blair last night sensa-

British opposition MPs seized on

she was physically unfit.

She borrowed the money from a relative at a monthly interest of 10 percent and now the interest alone totals more than Tk 40.000." waited for six months dreaming of a job abroad but now you see our plight," she this correspondent at the shelter home yesterday.

"I could not even buy milk for my baby for want of money," she said with tears in her eyes.

Earlier, Shahnaj had gone to Dubai, worked as a domestic help and returned home five years ago with a good amount of saving. But SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

acceptable solution.

further violence

UNB, Dhaka Leaders of the 14-party combine

1-pt movement

if demands not

met by today

14-party leaders say

have asked their activists to get

ready for one-point movement as

the ultimate option if their 11-point

demand are not fulfilled by the president/chief adviser to the caretaker government by today. Addressing a rally at Muktangan yesterday with Awami League (AL) Dhaka City General Secretary Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya in the chair, AL presidium member Tofail Ahmed urged the caretaker chief to meet their

> Tofail criticised the president for his attitude towards finishing the unfinished tasks of the immediate past prime minister Khaleda Zia.

demands by Sunday--the deadline

set by them while calling off country-

wide blockade on Wednesday

SEE PAGE 15 COL

### Businessman abducted for Tk 10 lakh ransom

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Criminals abducted a businessman from Patiya upazila on Friday night for a Tk 10 lakh ransom

Nazim Uddin, 30, son of Amin Sharif of West Haidgaon under Patiya upazila was abducted at around 8:00pm while visiting his sister's house at Anjurhat under Junglekhine union of the same upazila, said Nazim's family

Nazim had Tk 1 lakh in his pos SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Bangladesh Chairman Kabir M

Filthy, toxic waste of dyeing factories at Aganagar of Keraniganj flows into the Buriganga further polluting the river.

The caretaker government yesterday withdrew 18 deputy commissioners (DCs), appointed 33 new DCs and transferred 57 upazila nirbahi officers (UNOs) as part of its ongoing move to reshuffle in the administration.

The photograph was taken under the Second Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge.

In another move, Khulna Divisional Commissioner Mahfuzul Haque was withdrawn and brought to the establishment ministry, being replaced by Trading Corporation of

18 withdrawn

57 UNOs transferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Superior Selection Board (SSB) meanwhile sits today with the cabinet secretary in the chair to settle promotions and postings of the government employees who were deprived during the rule of the immediate past BNP-led four-party coalition government.

A large number of government officials and employees deprived of motion and posting staged a

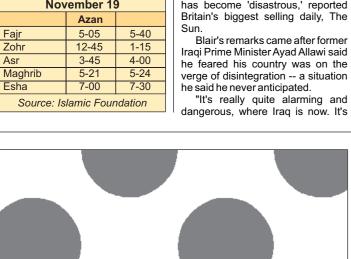
33 dists get new DCs, Israeli minister wants Hamas leaders 'sent to paradise'

AFP, Jerusalem

A far-right Israeli cabinet minister called yesterday for Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniya and other militant leaders to be sent to "paradise."

"One should not attack the refugee camps where people live in misery, but rather attack the leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad." the newly-appointed Minister of Strategic Affairs Avigdor SEE PAGE 15 COL 7





# Russia warns against pushing N Korea, Iran 'into a corner'

US chides Moscow, Beijing for slow sanctions talks

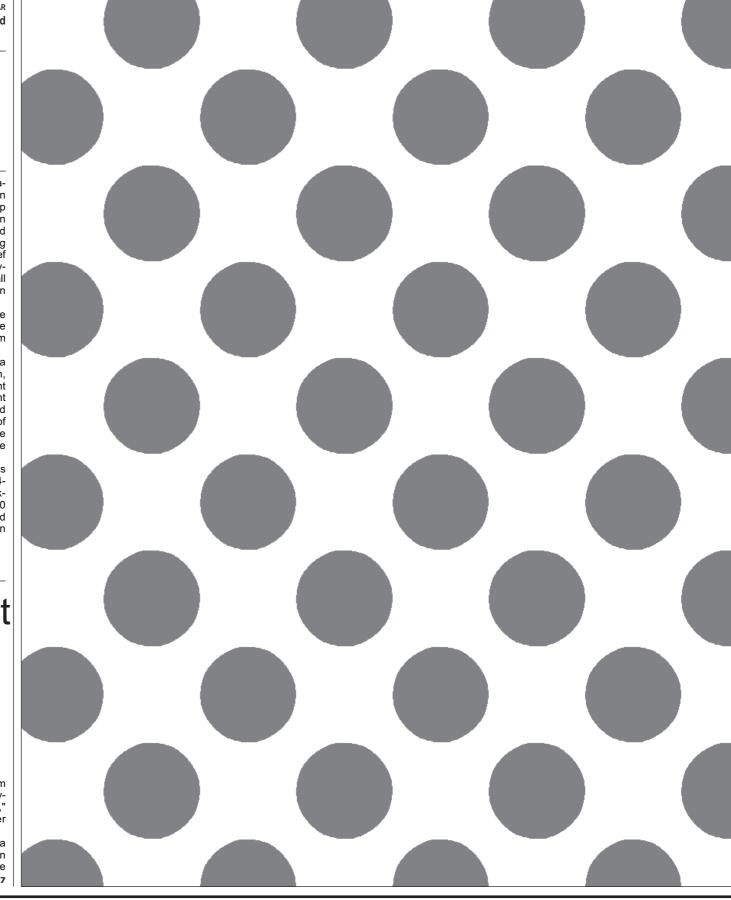
AFP, Hanoi/ Washington

Russia yesterday warned the international community against pushing Iran and North Korea "into a corner" amid ongoing efforts to halt their nuclear ambitions.

"I think the world community must go very carefully -- firmly but

carefully -- on resolving the problem of the Korean peninsula and resolving the Iranian nuclear problem," said Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov.

"Because if we can now find a mutually acceptable accord, then this allows us to strengthen the



### EDITOR: MAHFUZ ANAM-Published by the Editor from Transcraft Ltd., 229 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd. 52 Motifiheel C.A., Dhaka-1208 on behalf of Mediawo