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Inside today

International



President George Bush pulled out his driver's licence and a credit card Monday to prove his identity to a skeptical eight-year-old. Page 5

Feature

Environment

The good news on the environmental front in a long time is that a new line of refrigerants that will replace CFCs is in the market for sale. Page 6

Metropolitan

Modern life is such that natural is no longer the logical. "Sleep and relaxation" was the subject of a lecture recently at a local hotel. Page 3

Article

Tough Sein Win heads govt in exile



Nearly a year after a multiparty election in Burma junta clings to power and ignores the people who won by a landslide. Page 4

NEWS BRIEFS

AL to take oath March 19

Newly elected Awami League members of parliament will take oath March 19 at 11am at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban. Sheikh Hasina, leader of the Awami League Parliamentary Party, will lead her party MPs, a party press release Tuesday said, reports UNB.

Lok Sabha session ends

NEW DELHI, Mar 12: Legislators in Lok Sabha wound up the 10-day session Tuesday with a debate on a constitutional amendment to prolong federal rule in the state of Punjab, where Sikh militants are fighting for a separate nation, reports AFP.

Kuwaitis rush for exit visas

KUWAIT CITY, Mar 12: About 2,000 Kuwaitis mobbed a soccer stadium Tuesday to apply to leave the country, complaining that the government has failed to provide food, water, electricity and other basic necessities, reports AP.

Schwarzkopf in Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY, Mar 12: The Commander of Allied Forces in the Gulf, General Norman Schwarzkopf, flew into the Kuwaiti capital today and gathered a handful of sand from the beach in front of the US Embassy, reports AFP.

Date extended

The late date for submission of nomination papers for the 30 reserved women seats of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has been extended till today (Wednesday), a BNP press release said Tuesday night, reports BSS.

Widespread defections by Saddam's troops reported

Iraq uses napalm to quell rebellions

NICOSIA, Mar 12: Iran's state radio said Tuesday that refugees from Iraq reported Napalm attacks by loyalist forces against rebels in Basra, as rebellions against Saddam's rule continued, reports Agencies.

The Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Nicosia, also quoted an unidentified Kurdish rebel spokesman as saying the Iraqi government threatened to kill Kurdish hostages in Kirkuk. The spokesman said the threat has hindered rebel efforts to take the province, IRNA reported.

Iraqi opposition leaders meeting in Beirut on Tuesday conceded that Republican Guard troops have retaken the holy cities of Karbala and Najaf in fighting against Iraqi Shi'ite rebels.

The sources said control of several southern Iraqi cities shifts back and forth daily between rebels and government forces.

Fighting also was reported in low-income Shi'ite suburbs of Baghdad. Travelers fleeing Iraq said there was a heavy military presence in the capital.

Tehran radio said that victims of the reported Napalm attacks began arriving in Iran on Monday and Tuesday.

"The victims said the Iraqi government had resorted to the extensive use of Napalm bombs in order to crush the popular uprising," the radio said, quoting an official Islamic Republic News Agency report.

Iraq's rebellious Kurds say they have pinpointed the northern oil center of Kirkuk

as part of a drive to unseat Saddam Hussein.

Radio Baghdad reported late Monday that Saddam chaired a meeting of his Revolutionary Command Council during which aides reported on visits to trouble spots across the country. It gave no details.

Iraqi Shi'ite Muslim rebels were holed up in mosques in the holy city of Karbala on Monday, battling with Saddam's troops, who were using artillery and tank fire, opposition leaders reported.

They said that diehard fighters as well as civilians rapped in the cross-fire were being slaughtered in the bombardment and that 500 have been killed or wounded since Friday.

Travelers fleeing Iraq said

there was a heavy military presence in the capital.

The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) claimed that the government has rounded up 5,000 Kurds, mostly women and children, and are using them as human shields to forestall an attack on the oil industry city of Kirkuk.

PUK also said that rebels had been able to seize the strategic oil town of Khanakin, only about 60 kilometers (36 miles) from Baghdad.

Shi'ite and Kurdish sources reported widespread defections by Saddam's troops in the north and south.

They said two army brigades have joined the popular uprising in the south since Sunday.

Jalal Talabani, the PUK

See Page 10 Col 1

BNP victory has banished terrorism: Khaleda



Begum Zia on Tuesday addressing a meeting at Tungbari (Munshiganj-3) where election, which was deferred following death of a candidate, will be held tomorrow. —Star photo

By Staff Correspondent

BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia on Tuesday said her party would form the government soon and would work for implementing the 19-point programme of late president Ziaur Rahman in phases.

Addressing several election campaign rallies in Munshiganj Khaleda Zia said that the people had voted for patriotic and democratic forces to govern the country and now was the time to work together to build the nation.

The meetings were held in Rampal High School, Tongbari College and Ballagaon High School premises. The election in the Munshiganj-3 constituency was postponed following the death of Islami Oikya Jote candidate Tofazzal Hossain. The election will now be held tomorrow (Thursday).

"My government won't allow any corruption in national life and if anybody found in this evil practise will be severely dealt with," Begum Zia said adding that even her party members would not be pardoned if they were involved in such undesirable activities.

Begum Zia said, "the days of terrorism and anarchy have gone with victory of BNP and the tomorrows are only for politics of production."

The BNP candidates won the elections in (1, 2 & 3) seats of Munshiganj (1, 2 & 3) See Page 10 Col 4

Erase trend to seize power thru coups: CPB

Md Shamsuddoha was elected unanimously the leader of the Bangladesh Communist Party Parliamentary Party at a meeting of its newly-elected MPs in Dhaka Tuesday, reports BSS.

The meeting held with Doha in the chair, was attended by CPB's other MPs-elect Nazir Hossain, Mozahar Hossain, Md. Dabirul Islam and Md. Yusuf.

In a resolution, the CPB's Parliamentary Party called upon all conscious sections to come forward to giving the

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Shibir activist Killed at Chittagong

From Our Correspondent

Chittagong, Mar 12: Firoj Mahmud (28), a Islami Chhatra Shibir activist and student M.A. final year of Chittagong University, was killed on Monday night by a group of miscreants.

He was kidnapped from near Gulzar Cinema of Panchalaish in the evening. Later Kotwali police recovered him from near Wazilullah Institute at midnight. He was in a critical condition. He was taken him to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

Chhatra Shibir blamed Chhatra League for the killing. However, none was arrested.

Fate of World Trade centre dangled

By Nazmul Ashraf

The fate of a World Trade Centre (WTC) in Dhaka is still dangled. No tangible progress has been achieved after completion of its preliminary works in early eighties.

The Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), the sponsor of the project, made repeated appeals to the government for inclusion of the project in the Annual Development Programme (ADP), and also submitted various proposals to the higher authorities suggesting possible sources of funds to implement the project but to no avail. A WTC is needed to promote exports, the EPB sources said. Late President Ziaur Rahman allotted

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A woman voter casting vote in the elections of registered graduates' representatives to the Senate of Dhaka University on Tuesday. This was the first Senate poll through direct ballot. —Star photo

Shah Moazzem released

By Staff Correspondent

Former Deputy Prime Minister Shah Moazzem Hossain was released from the Dhaka Central Jail on Tuesday afternoon. He was arrested from a house at Malibag on December 13 last year after the fall of the Ershad government on December 6.

Shah Moazzem, secretary general of Jatiya Party was detained under the Special Powers Act, 1974 for 120 days. He was released following a High Court verdict.

Shah Moazzem is one of the close associates of the ousted President Ershad and top ranking Jatiya Party leaders to be released from deten-

tion. Ershad is now detained at a Gulshan villa along with his wife Raushan. He is facing criminal charges for possessing illegal arms.

Former Vice-President Moudud Ahmed, former ministers — Mahmudul Hasan, Sheikh Shahidul Islam, Jafar Imam, Ruhul Amin Hawiader and Kazi Firoz Rashid — all are now in detention.

Former Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed, former ministers — Anwar Hossain and Nazur Rahman have been hiding since the fall of Ershad regime. Warrants of arrest were issued against them.

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Four 8-party partners may form separate group

By Staff Correspondent

Four smaller parties of the Eight-party alliance have been informally exchanging views on forming a parliamentary group. The four parties together got 12 seats.

"We are discussing possibilities of working jointly in Parliament and exploring the ways to play an effective role there. But we have not yet decided whether we would form a parliamentary group, or maintain our separate party entities inside the Sangsad," said a source close to all these parties.

Among these parties the BKSAL and the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) have secured five Parliament seats each while NAP (Mujaffar) and

the Ganatantri Party go two other seats.

The Awami League, the biggest partner of the alliance, which bagged 88 seats have already formed their parliamentary party with Sheikh Hasina as its leader. But there was no move from the AL to form a broadbased parliamentary party along with all the partners of the alliance, it is gathered.

When contacted Tuesday night, the central leaders of all the four parties told The Daily Star that they would review the situation at their party level and a final decision on the parliamentary group is expected after the MPs have taken oath.

DU Senate polls held

The Elections of the registered graduate representatives to the Senate of Dhaka University was held at the Teachers-Students Centre of Dhaka University on Tuesday, reports BSS.

The elections began simultaneously in four centres — Dhaka University centre, Mymensingh Agricultural University centre, Chittagong University centre and Barisal B. M. College centre.

Candidates under four panels contested the election directly for the first time for 25 seats. Earlier election used to be held in postal ballot. According to the Election Commission sources out of 3105 voters, nearly two thousand cast their votes in Dhaka University centre counting of votes began immediately after close of polling.

The results will be declared by the Election Commission on March 14 at 11 am at Registrar building of Dhaka University, the sources said.

Dhaka to get Tk 136.24 cr Japanese grant

Star Economic Report

Bangladesh will receive Taka 136.24 crore (5.14 billion Japanese Yen) from Japan as grant assistance for debt relief.

An Exchange of Notes on the grant assistance was signed by the two countries in Dhaka on Tuesday.

The amount (5,144,950,000 Yen) will come as Japan's grant assistance for debt relief for the second half of fiscal year 1990 in accordance with the UNCTAD resolution of 1978, the Embassy of Japan said in a press release.

The Exchange of Notes for the first half of the fiscal year for an amount of 5.18 billion See Page 10 Col 2

Hearing of writ against Ershad's detention today

The hearing of the writ petitions challenging the detention orders of former president HM Ershad and Begum Raushan Ershad will be held today, reports BSS.

The petitions were heard Tuesday by the Division Bench of the High Court Division comprising Justice Mohammad Abdul Jalil and Kazi Shaifuddin. The Attorney General Aminul Huq made a prayer to the court seeking two days time on ground of his sickness. The court allowed one day's time.

The petitioners were represented by Barrister Rafiqul Huq, Barrister Kazi Shahad Hossain and Advocate Sheikh Rezaul Karim. Attorney General Mr Aminul Huq appeared for the state.

Mizan says he has more tricks up his sleeve

Acting chief of Jatiya Party Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury Tuesday warned the country would be paralysed if Ershad is not released before Ramadan, reports UNB.

"The release of Ershad is not only the demand of Rangpur but of the whole country," Mizan told a meeting organised by the district JP at the Public Library ground.

"If Ershad is not set free, Mizan knows how to free him," Chowdhury bragged.

He, however, said JP didn't believe in the politics of terrorism and wanted to uphold constitutional politics.

He demanded immediate release of Ershad and his col- See Page 10 Col 6

Anti-communist protests paralyse Y'slav govt

BELGRADE, Mar 12: The head of Yugoslavia's collective presidency declared Tuesday that the federation's executive power was paralysed by the most forceful anti-communist protests ever seen in Serbia, the largest republic, reports AP.

Defence Minister Gen. Veljko Kadijevic Summoned the highest state body into an emergency session, Borsav Jovic, head of the presidency, said in a statement.

"The presidency... is paralysed to such an extent, in these dramatic circumstances, that it has practically ceased fulfilling its constitutional functions and responsibilities," said Jovic's statement, carried by the official Tanjug news agency.

It was not clear whether the meeting had actually begun.

The presidency, nominal commander of the armed forces, includes representa-

tives of all six Yugoslav republics, which are sharply split among themselves over the future of the crumbling Balkan federation.

The move came as Serbia's Communist government faced a fourth day of student demonstrations in the centre of Belgrade.

The republic's government on Saturday called in the military to help quell a protest against Communist rule. Two people were killed and at least

100 injured in the protest, which sparked a wave of new demonstrations posing the government's most serious threat in decades.

Croatia and Slovenia, engaged in a bitter dispute with Serbia about the future of Yugoslavia, denounced the use of the military against protesters.

Jovic's statement said the security situation in Yugoslavia "has been endangered in various parts of the country".

"In such circumstances and upon the demand by the federal defence minister, I have called an urgent presidency session as the supreme commander of the armed forces, to be held immediately", his statement said.

Earlier Tuesday, the Serbian government partially gave in to student protests by demanding the resignations of five Belgrade TV officials.

The announcement by Culture Minister Bajo

Saranovic was greeted with jeers from the crowd, which had swelled to about 10,000 people.

The students also were calling for the release of an opposition leader arrested Saturday, and the firing of the republic's Interior Minister, whom they hold responsible for the violence.

Another major opposition rally was scheduled for later Tuesday in Belgrade, the federal and Serbian capital.