

স্বদের কেনা-কাটার জন্য—**তনুশ্রী**
TONUSREE
 তনুশ্রী বস্ত্রই শাড়ী ও মেয়েদের পোষাক
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The Daily Star

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Inside today
Magazine



A 1.2m dollar International Telecommunications Union (ITU) project aims to upgrade the broadcasting technology in this region, says Mr. Sunuhi Cav, ITU Chief Technical Adviser in an interview with The Daily Star.
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Qazi Kholiuzzaman Ahmed writes on the economic problems and the role of planning and governmental interventions in the extremely poor and highly differentiated economy of Bangladesh.
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The Horror and the Holocaust



The "environmental exposition" creating the chilling atmosphere of '71 brings to mind the cruelty of the savage Huns.
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Down to Earth
 A new column by The Daily Star Associate Editor, Khalilur Rahman, dealing with the day-to-day problems, appears on every Friday beginning today.

NEWS BRIEFS

BNP leading in Kushtia-2 poll
 Abdur Rouf Chowdhury of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) was leading with 49,080 votes against his nearest rival Abdul Wahed of Jamaat-e-Islami who got 28,805 in 110 out of 113 centres of Kushtia-2 constituency in the parliamentary election held Thursday. Election Commission sources said Thursday, reports BSS.

Bush felicitates Shahabuddin
 US President George Bush has felicitated Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed on the occasion of the Independence Day of Bangladesh. "The significance of this year's celebration has been greatly enhanced by your recent commendable progress towards democracy," Bush said, reports BSS.

Plan to extend age-limit for Government service

Ministries should publish White Papers: Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Thursday called upon the officials to strengthen the hands of the patriotic nationalist government in its efforts to change the lot of the teeming millions of the country, reports BSS.

The Prime Minister said the prime need of the hour was to provide the minimum basic necessities to the hitherto-neglected and deprived masses.

Addressing a meeting of the senior government officials, including secretaries, joint secretaries, heads of corporations and autonomous organisations at the Osmani Memorial Hall Thursday morning, Begum Khaleda Zia called upon them to work with sincerity, honesty and dedication in realising the hopes and aspirations of the people.

She said the people have given mandate to her government to serve them and added, "If we fail to deliver the goods the people will not forgive us."

Referring to the celebration of the National Independence Day only two days ago, she said that changing the map and flag of a country was not the only aim of the Liberation War. The people of the country took arms for independence of the country in order to bring an end to all sorts of exploitation and deprivation so that they could have a decent living with dignity.

Begum Zia said that 20 years had already passed since our independence but the basic needs of the people could not yet be fulfilled. Hence expectations of the people on this new nationalist government were very high, she pointed out.

Begum Zia referred to the misdeeds of the last nine-year autocratic government which in the name of development had served the personal and group interests and destroyed the national institutions as well as the economy of the country.

She pleaded that today we must rebuild all national organisations to serve the interest of the people.

Begum Zia pointed out that corruption constituted a serious obstacle on the way to our national development and called for eradicating that from all institutions, organisations and society as a whole.

"If we fail to eradicate corruption from the society and do not perform our duties, we would be accountable to the people," she said.

The Prime Minister also See Page 12 Col. 4

Sirajul Haque firm to defend Ershad: AL threatens action

Star Report

Despite threat of disciplinary action Awami League president Advocate Sirajul Haque stood firm in his decision to defend deposed President Ershad in the arms case.

Sirajul Haque's decision to defend Ershad has created adverse reaction in the rank and file of the party.

Some of the top leaders of Awami League indicated that if Sirajul Haque proceeded further to defend an autocrat like Ershad, his party membership may be suspended with immediate effect without showing any cause.

Talking to The Daily Star Advocate Sirajul Haque, who was the chief public prosecutor against the Governor of the then East Pakistan Dr. Abdul Muttalib Majeed, said he would have no other option than giving up presidium membership if Awami League insists on his not defending Ershad. He argued that if Ershad was allowed to contest the February 27 parliamentary election, what is wrong in defending him by a legal practitioner.

Advocate Sirajul Haque, however, denied that he had carried any letter from Ershad as reported in a section of the press. He further said Ershad only passed a verbal message to the Awami League presidium through him, saying that he would request Jatiya Party to support Awami League move to change over to parliament-

See Page 12 Col. 3

MPs reluctant to sit with Shamsul Huda in parliament

By Staff Correspondent

The reluctance of many MPs to sit at the inaugural session of the Jatiya Sangsad with Speaker Shamsul Huda Chowdhury in the chair is likely to make the session run into trouble.

The Speaker however insists that he preside over the session.

Political parties represented in parliament are yet to make an official decision in this regard.

The business of the inaugural sitting will be to elect a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker, before taking up other matters such as the inaugural address of the Acting President and the adoption of obituary references.

Speaker Shamsul Huda See Page 12 Col. 1



Body of one of the eight prisoners killed in firing by jail guards at Comilla on Wednesday being lifted in a van yesterday. Photo : Shafuldin Bitu

Normalcy restored in Comilla Jail

From Our Correspondent

Comilla, Mar 28: Normalcy was restored in the Comilla Central Jail today after the authorities deployed BDR personnel in and around the premises and the local administration discussed with the rebellious prisoners their demands.

Meanwhile, a number of convicts were reported to have been absconding from the condemned cell after Wednesday's jail mutiny. The absconding prisoners include Tajul Islam who was awarded death penalty in the sensational Nidarabad murder case of Brahmanbaria.

The Deputy Commissioner today constituted a one-member inquiry committee with the Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) to find out the causes of the jail revolt and look into the demands of prisoners. The committee worked during the whole day today and collected information on the alleged mismanagement inside the jail.

It also investigated whether opening fire on the rebellious prisoners was necessary to bring the situation under control.

Jail authorities handed over four of eight bodies of Wednesday's armed clash victims to their relatives. Other bodies were kept in the morgue of the Sadar Hospital till late last night.

The prisoners killed by the jail guards and police were identified as convicts Jaial Ahmed (28), Nurul Islam (27), Abdul Hakim (41) Zakir Hossain (30), Nuru (48), and accused Md Kuddus (27), Abul Kalam Liton (20) and Fakhrul Islam (25).

Four injured prisoners were being treated at the Sadar Hospital. The injured Deputy Jailor was transferred to his house from the Sadar Hospital as his condition was stated to be improving.

Jail sources said today that Wednesday's trouble at the jail started when a section of the prisoners broke out of their lockups raising various slogans in favour of their two-point See Page 12 Col. 1

BNP fields 28 for women seats, Jamaat 2

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party Thursday announced the names of party candidates for 30 reserved women seats in the Jatiya Sangsad, reports BSS.

The party has fielded candidates for 28 seats and adjusted two seats with Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh. The Jamaat nominees are for the Gopalganj, Madaripur and Shariatpur constituency and Naogaon and Natore constituency.

The Parliamentary Board of BNP interviewed 258 women candidates who sought nominations for the reserved seats.

Following are the names of the candidates nominated to contest for the reserved seats: Khurshid Jahan Huq (Panchagar, Thakurgaon and Dinajpur), Mrs. Shaheda Sarkar (Reba) (Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat and Rangpur), Reba Mahmud (Kurigram and Gaibandha), Mrs. Shahina Ara Huq (Joypurhat and Bogra), Begum Raushan Elahi (Sirajganj and Pabna), Prof. Lutfunnesa Hossain (Nawabganj and Rajshahi), Rasheda Khatun See Page 12 Col. 4

Sabah family youths warned of hanging

KUWAIT, Mar 28: Kuwait's Crown Prince threatened to hang young members of the ruling Al-Sabah family if they continued to run 'goon squads' harassing Palestinians and other people, a Western diplomatic source said today.

The source said Sheikh Saad al-Abdulla al-Sabah, who is also Prime Minister, summoned six or seven younger family members 10 days ago after being angered by credible See Page 12 Col. 4

Demand for Chautala's ouster mounts

Mob attacks Rajiv's car

NEW DELHI, Mar 28: Former Indian prime minister Rajiv Gandhi escaped unhurt when an angry crowd attacked his motorcade during an election tour in northeast Bihar state today, reports Reuter.

Gandhi was attacked 160 km (100 miles) east of the state capital of Patna in the town of Madhepura.

About 2,000 angry people stopped Gandhi's car and tried to drag out his son Rahul. The vehicle was badly damaged.

Supporters of Gandhi pushed the crowd back and he left the area immediately.

It was not immediately clear who the attackers were but some shouted slogans praising the Janata Dal party of former Prime Minister VP Singh.

Bihar is an important power base of Singh who last year promised to reserve some government jobs for lower castes among Hindus. Mid-term elections are due in May, and Bihar is regarded as one of the most important states in north India.

The neighbouring Uttar Pradesh state, police reported 10 people killed in Hindu-Muslim violence in the town of Saharanpur.

They said an indefinite curfew had been imposed on the town. See Page 12 Col. 8

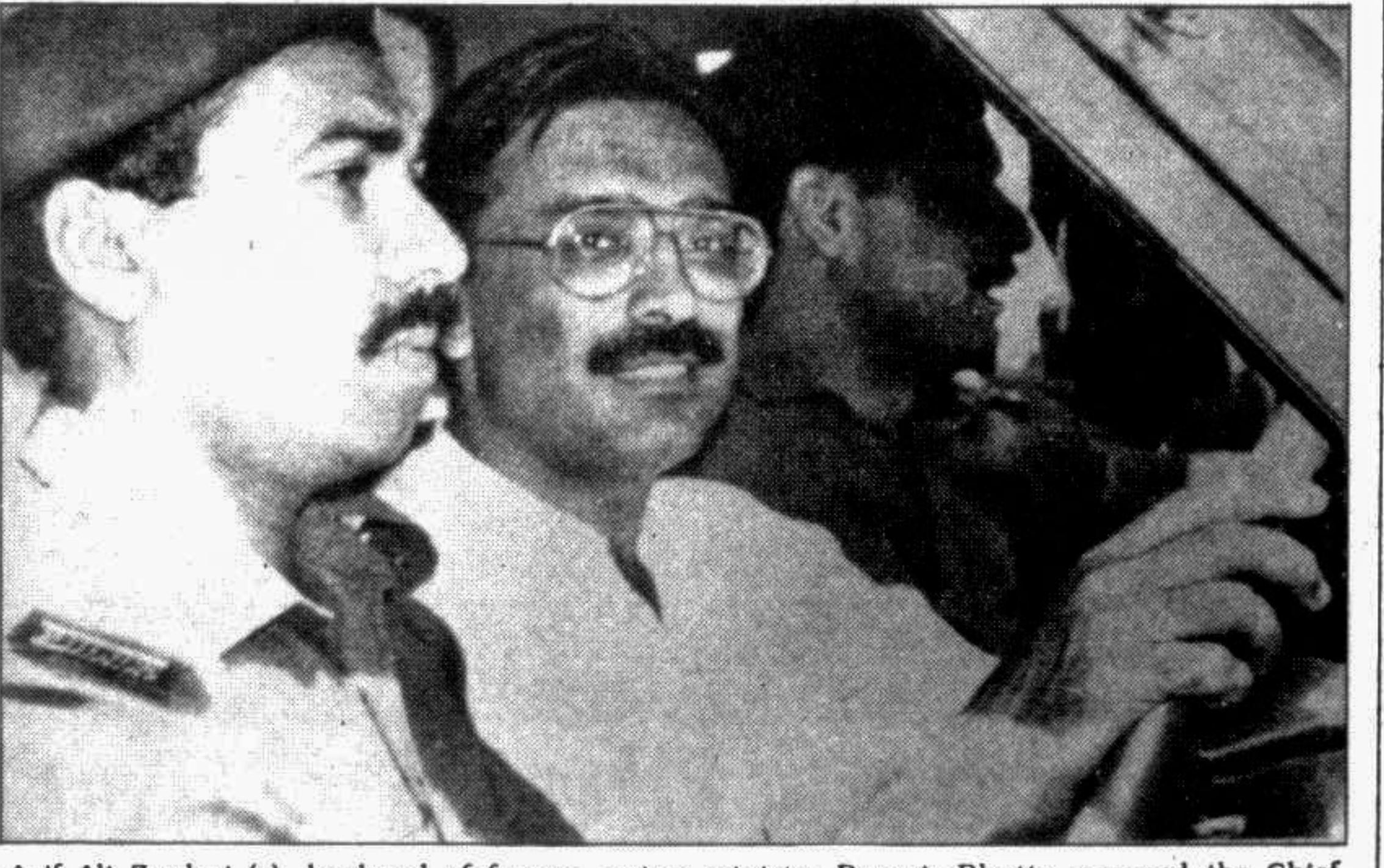
Indian special envoy arrives tomorrow

Indian special envoy Muchkund Dubey arrives here Saturday afternoon carrying a message from Chandra Sekhar for Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, an official said Thursday, reports UNB.

During his 24-hour stay in the metropolis, the Indian Foreign Secretary will call on Foreign Minister ASM Mustafizur Rahman, Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Minister Majedul Haq and Foreign Secretary Abul Ahsan, besides delivering the message from his country's Prime Minister to Begum Zia.

The Foreign Ministry official said Dubey was likely to discuss with his Bangladesh counterpart bilateral problems.

The Indian envoy will leave for New Delhi Sunday afternoon, concluding his short mission.



Asif Ali Zardari (c), husband of former prime minister Benazir Bhutto, accused the Chief Minister of Sindh of sending the four men who hijacked the Singapore Airlines Airbus Tuesday, following a hearing at the Special Terrorism Court in Karachi Thursday. —AFP photo

Aggrieved officers gherao Estt Secy

Star Report

Over 200 officers gheraoed Establishment Secretary Hasnur Rahman at the Secretariat on Thursday demanding immediate revision of largescale promotions made recently by the government at the top level.

The aggrieved officers stayed with the Establishment Secretary in his chamber for over an hour from 1.25 pm and dispersed only after assurance that anomalies would be properly looked into within a week.

The angry officials put forward three-point demand in the backdrop of package promotions hurriedly carried out within a fortnight from February end. One of the main points relates to the reorganisation of the Appointment, Promotion and Deputation (APD) Wing of the Establishment. See Page 12 Col. 5

BCL, JCD clash at DMC: Two injured

By DMCH Correspondent

Two persons were injured at Dhaka Medical College in a clash between the workers of Chhatra Dal and Chhatra League (S-A) in the presence of the Health Minister on Thursday.

The Chhatra League workers demonstrated against the selection of Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf as the chief guest by the Dhaka Medical College Students Union (DMCSU) at the prize giving ceremony of the annual sports competition.

The Chhatra League workers obstructed the Health Minister's joining the function for about 50 minutes.

When the DMCSU Sports Secretary Jashmuddin Ahmed, a leader of Chhatra Dal, protested the incident Chhatra League president of Dhaka Medical Unit Kausaruzzaman and about 15 workers of the organisation attacked him.

He was seriously injured and was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital immediately.

Chhatra League workers also ransacked the office of Professor Nurul Islam Khan, Sports Adviser to the DMCSU.

Chhatra Dal workers later retaliated. They assaulted Chhatra League president Kausaruzzaman.

College authorities summoned police at 6 in the evening and the dispute was settled through negotiations at an all-party meeting. See Page 12 Col. 3

By-poll no bar to election of women members

The parliamentary party of Bangladesh Nationalist Party in its meeting in Dhaka Thursday observed that there was no constitutional or legal bar to the election of women members in the Jatiya Sangsad.

Referring to the question raised by certain political parties about the validity of women's election to Parliament for 30 reserved seats, the Secretary General See Page 12 Col. 6

Social Welfare Institute closed sine die

By DU Correspondent

The Institute of Social Welfare and Research of the Dhaka University was closed sine die Thursday following an untoward incident at the Institute.

A group of student ransacked the office and stoned the Institute protesting the M. S. S. results announced on Wednesday.

They gheraoed the chairperson of the examination committee Nazmin Noor Hakim and one of its members Abdul Hakim Sarkar for delaying the announcing of results.

The students also alleged that Nazmin Noor Hakim and Abdul Hakim Sarkar had manipulated the results.

They alleged that deserving students were deprived of the first class while it was given to some unknown students.

Massive security in Moscow: Yeltsin wins key vote

MOSCOW, Mar 28: Rebel Russian leader Boris Yeltsin won a key vote against the Kremlin in his republic's main legislature today as police and military mounted massive security measures in the tense Soviet capital, reports Reuter.

The legislature, the Congress of People's Deputies, clearly angered by what one radical called "brute psychological pressure against the people," voted to annual central government orders banning protests in Moscow for three weeks.

It also voted to suspend a decree by President Mikhail Gorbachev that put control of the Capital's police force under the Soviet Interior Ministry.

But Gorbachev rejected an appeal by the Congress to remove troops — apparently from the Interior Ministry's elite forces — from the city streets, Yeltsin's deputy Russian Khazbulatov told the Parliament.

The twin Congress decisions, largely symbolic although approved by a surprising 532 votes to 280, came only hours before what radicals say will be a huge demonstration in Moscow in support of Yeltsin.

At least two columns of military trucks, each with some 60 vehicles including cistern wagons apparently for use with fire hoses, were seen moving into the city this morning ahead of the planned rally.

Police sealed off the area around Red Square and the Kremlin, where the Russian Congress was meeting, and dozens of other military trucks were parked along the walls of the ancient fortress and in nearby streets.

Military trucks also took up positions around Moscow's major Inner Ring Road, and on streets leading to the Kremlin — apparently to block any effort by the demonstrators to march into the centre.

Communist Party officials — implicitly backed by Gorbachev himself — have argued that the radicals might use the demonstration to "seize power" amid growing political and economic chaos across the country.

But the radicals, now supported by striking miners in major Soviet coal basins who also want Gorbachev to step down and clear the way for a new and looser federal administration, say their only aim is to "defend Yeltsin".

The Russian Congress was called at the demand of communist deputies with the clear initial aim of unseating the former member of the party's Politburo from his post as president of the federation's parliament, the Supreme Soviet.

However, there have been some signs that conservatives and hardliners may be rethinking following a large popular vote across Russia.

Police raid DU Surja Sen Hall

By DU Correspondent

Dhaka Metropolitan Police Thursday mid-night raided the Surja Sen Hall of Dhaka University.

The cause of the raid and the possible recoveries or arrests could not be known immediately.

However, a source said that police may have raided the Hall to round up an absconding person allegedly involved in a bank robbery.

The search was continuing till filing this report.

Sehri and Iftar timings

Ramzan Day	Last time	Ifar
12	Friday 4.34 a	6.30 pm
13	Saturday 4.32 am	6.20 pm