Big Five help for Kurds

termed conspiracy. By Staff Correspondent Bangladesh Language Society on Saturday termed

the help for Kurdish refugees in northern Iraq by the five permanent UN members as a deep-rooted conspiracy against the Arab world.

In a statement the Society said the imperialist forces were now engaged in a united effort to make the whole Arab world as well as other Muslim countries in Asia their economic and political slaves by providing the Kurds with humanitarian aid and extending them military help to get a separate land.

The imperialist forces, the society said, were expressing mild concern over the Israel-Palestine problem to cover their conspiracy against the world Muslim community.

The US-British-led imperialist gang was taking advantage of the crisis and the indifference of other big powers to capture the oil-resources in Arab lands and expand their capitals there, the Society commented.

If China refrains from vetoing the UN resolution in this regard the US would ultimately dominate the world economy and politics.

It would also be able to establish its exploitation in Africa, Asia and Latin America, the Society added.

The Society made a fervent call to the country's politicians, intellectuals and members of other communities to protest the conspiracy.

The statement was signed by Dr. Ahmed Shafir. Mohammad Habibullah, Bashiral-Helal, Dr. Narayan Biswas. K.M. Abdul Awal. Mansur Musa and Dr. Mohammad Shahjahan

18 more killed in Lanka

COLOMBO, Apr 20: Soldiers recaptured two villages in north western Sri Lanka and shot to death 18 Tamil rebels. officials said Saturday. Fifteen guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the most powerful Tamil rebel group fighting for an independent homeland, were killed Friday when troops captured Parappakatadan village in the Mannar district, the officials said. reports AP.

Pay Commission

From Page 1 Col. 8 Taka 1000 crore, a year.

The government earlier announced 10 per cent dearness allowance for its employees with effect from December last. The implementation of DA alone involves Taka 120 crore in 1990-91. This amount does not include the payments by the sector corporations and autonomous bodies for their employees in current fiscal

IMF funds From Page 1 Col. 7

second tranche (instalment) release under the ESAF before next June. The ESAF arrangement in

favour of Bangladesh was approved last July.

Bangladesh then received 60 million US dollars as the first tranche (instalment) drawings under ESAF.

JS session

From Page 1 Col. 4 1990 and March 1991.

Only one resolution on waiving of interest on agricultural loans upto Taka 10,000 was disposed of by the House.

The rest of the time was spent on flery exchanges over the positioning of the name of the Leader of the Opposition in the list of members on the Business Advisory Committee, the situation in Dhaka Central Jail, former President, H M Ershad's transfer to Dhaka Central Jail and river bank

During the first five days the new Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas and the new Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali were felicitated, and an obituary reference was adopted

in the House. The bills which are likely to be passed today are: The Supreme Court Judges Remuneration and Privileges (amendment) bill; the Union

Parishad and Pourashava (special responsibilities) bill: the Hindu Religious Welfare Trust (amendment) bill; and the Premises Rent Control bill.

New bills which are likely to be introduced today include one on the Jatiya Mohila Sangstha, and another on banking and company law, according to sources.

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JERUSALEM: US secretary of State James Baker (L) confers with Faisal Husseini (C) Director of the Institute of Arab Studies and Hanan Ashrawl a university teacher from the occupied West Bank at the residence of the US Consul General on Saturday.

AL contacting MPs

Ershad

From Page 1 Col. 7

ties through the Defense Counsel for procuring Ershad's signature and the permission of the jail authorities for encasement of the cheque to meet the party expenditure.

Ministry's Director Legal Affairs Shamsul Morshed who went to Wshington to help the Fairfax investigation team returned home before Eid.

According to the Foreign Secretary Abul Ahsan submission of the Fairfax team's report may take time as the investigation has not yet been completed.

He said that the Fairfax team is continuing its investigation at different levels to get evidence on the transfer of resources from the country by deposed President Ershad and his associates.

Trial resumes today

The Special Tribunal trying deposed President Ershad resumes today (Sunday) at 10 a.m.

The Tribunal will be housed at the same venue at Gulshan. Besides the arms case, the tribunal will also hear the money recovery case.

US

From Page 1 Col. 7 ment troops in southern Iraq today and rejected any negotia-

tions with Baghdad.

Ayatollah Taqi Al-Mudarresi the mentor of several Shi'ite opposition groups including the Islamic action organisation, said in a statement fighting was continuing in and around the cities of Basra. Tannumah and Karbala.

He said Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was a war criminal who should be punished and no negotiations should be conducted with him or his government.

Mudarresi is part of a 17member anti-Saddam alliance which includes the Kurdish groups whose leaders were reported to be holding talks in Baghdad on autonomy for Kurds in northern Iraq.

The Kurds, Shi'ites and other opposition groups formed the alliance to topple Saddam in December and launched a rebellion in March after Iraq's defeat in the Gulf

Mudarresi did not refer directly to the reported Iraqi Kurdish talks but said, "how could anybody negotiate with the one who destroyed Iraq and humiliated the Iragis?"

Mudarresi said rebels attacked Saddam's Republican Guards in Tannumah near Basra today and destroyed

three T-72 Tanks. Near the Shatt al-Arab waterway, rebels clashed with government troops and in the Shi'tte holy city of Karbala rebels, made hit-and-run attacks on Saddam troops, he

He said the Iraqi authorities took reprisals against the families of the rebels in Karbala and blew up 17 houses in Hussein suburb of the city.

"The three mosques where the rebels started their uprising in Karbala were demolished by Saddam's men," he

added. The statement said over 30,000 refugees, mainly women and children, had crossed into Iran in the last 24 hours. More than 700,000 more were on their way to Iran from northern Iraq.

Parliament told the Daily Star written notice to the Sec on Friday that a meeting of retary, and with the notice MPs belonging to the Awami submit three copies of the bill League will be held at the alongwith an explanatory stachamber of the Leader of the tement of objects and reasons. Opposition at the Parliament The AL bill, a private mem-Meanwhile the Foreign building tomorrow (Monday) at ber's bill as it is, has to be in-10 am to discuss the proposed troduced on a private member's day (Thursday) provided it fulfils all preconditions. He said he has started contacting MPs belonging to However, such a bill is also Jamaat-e-Islami, other smaller to go through a 'Committee on parties and independents to

From Page 1 Col. 3

Whip of the Opposition in

request them to lend their

only for changing the form of

government and not for the

The proposed bill provides

However, his initial reaction

He said they know fully well

was that the Awami League

was doing this for cheap popu-

that even the government

which commands a majority in

the House will find it tough to

get a constitutional amend-

ested in doing something they

would start negotiations with

the government. How can they

get a constitutional amend-

ment bill passed without en-

listing the support of two-

The Rules of Procedure of

the Parliament required that

thirds of the MPs,' he asked.

'If they were really inter-

support to the bill.

litical stand of AL

the proposed bill.

ment bill passed.

Mohammad Nasim, Chief

Private Members' Bills and Resolutions', which is yet to be formed by the present parlia-The parliament which went into session on April 5 has so

any member, other than a

Minister, desiring to introduce

a bill will give fifteen day's

far constituted only the Busirepeal of seven constitutional amendments starting from the ness Advisory Committee and Fourth Amendment — the pothe House Committee. Again if the bill is intro-Law and Justice Minister duced in the House the Mirza Golam Hafiz said that his Treasury Bench may refer it to ministry has started examining a select committee for scrutiny and modifications. Given all

> months before the House can take any decision on the bill. Mohammad Nasim said they do not expect BNP's support to the bill. However, once it is introduced in the House BNP will have to make its position

such technicalities it may take

clear. AL's proposal to change the Constitution without repealing all but the first three Amendments is a move to attract support from the Jamaat and other political parties which are opposed to the idea of going beck to the pre-1975 constitutional arrangement under which parties based on religion are banned.

Baker

From Page 1 Col. 7 complished, he cited an understanding by Israel and the Arabs that peace talks would be based on U.N. Security Council resolutions approved after the 1967 and 1973 Mideast wars.

They call for Israel to withdraw from territory the Arabs lost in 1967 and security for all nations in the region.

While Baker met with Hussein, about 150 Islamic students from Jordan University demonstrated in Amman, the capital of the Arab kingdom.

"Baker, go home," some of the students chanted. The Palestine Liberation

Organisation-approved Palestinian delegation that met with Baker earlier was headed by Faisal Husseini, a leading PLO supporter from Jerusalem.

The Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip was represented by Dr Zakaria al-Agha, who heads the physicians' association there. and the occupied West Bank was represented by Hanan Ashrawi, an English professor.

They called for a United Nations-sponsored international conference to achieve peace in the Middle East and said European participation "during the whole course of the process is essential."

Reuter reports : Saudi Arabia, contrary to earlier expectations, is unlikely to at tend at least the opening session of a regional Middle East peace conference with Israel, a US official said today.

Roh, Gorbachev accord

From Page 1 Col. 4 trade and suggested both countries, once bitter enemies, conclude a treaty of friendship and cooperation. South Korean officials said

Gorbachev understood Seoul's desire to join the United Nations and agreed with the principle.

Gorbachev also said he agreed with South Korea that North Korea should accede to a nuclear safeguards treaty and international inspection requirements.

"The two presidents share the same views on these two (nuclear and UN) matters "Kim Chong-Whi, Roh's national security adviser who was present at the talks, told reporters after the meeting.

Gorbachev proposed the two countries work on the treaty, for which Roh expressed support, the officials

Kim said Gorbachev reiterated commitments made in his previous two meetings with Roh to urge North Korea to make concessions on the nuclear issue.

UN membership has great symbolic value for the increasingly self-confident South Koreans as a certification of their international standing and economic prowess. But rival North Korea bit-

terly opposes the separate UN entry of the two Koreas, insisting that both nations, which are barely on speaking terms, share a single seat. Seoul has rejected this as unworkable. Kim said he could not dis-

close details of Gorbachev's position as stated to Roh during the private talks, but be added with a grin that his side was "very satisfied". I feel it's a historic sum-

mit," said Roh. "Our meeting has prepared the basis for ending Cold War confrontation and removing the danger of war and realizing North-South unification."

Gorbachev is the first Soviet head of state ever to visit the divided Korean peninsula and his trip has angered North Korea, which views South Korea as an archenemy.

"We view as valuable our relations with North Korea." Gorbachev told reporters before leaving. "At the same time I am happy that our relations with South Korea continue to develop.

"I feel sympathy for the Korea people who feel deep pain about the division of the peninsula," he said.

He and his wife, Raisa, departed Cheju at 0600GMT to return to Moscow. Hundreds of well-wishers cheered his departure at the airport, which was under tight security.

Gorbachev said he would return to Seoul for a formal state visit. He has already said he would also visit North Korea's capital of Pyongyang. He gave no details and offered no timetable.

Soviet officials appeared upbeat about the summit talks, particularly about the prospect of further economic cooperation which might help the faltering Soviet economy.

During a four-day state visit to Japan earlier this week, Gorbachev failed to win a commitment from Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu for sub-

17 hurt in clash at Faridpur

From Our Correspondent FARIDPUR, Apr 20 Seventeen persons were injured in three separate incidents in Faridpur district on Saturday.

Ten persons were injured when two groups clashed over gambling at Keshobnagar village under Nagarkanda upazila. Injured persons were admitted to Nagarkandas and Sadar hospitals.

Five persons were injured in a clash over crop damage in Goalbari upazila. Of the injured Abdul Awal (35) condition is stated to be critical. Two persons - Moti Mollah

(47) and Yunus Fakir - were injured when their opponents attacked them with dao. They were admitted to sadar hospistantial Japanese financial assistance.

A statement released by the two sides said "both leaders agreed to combine Soviet high technology with South Korea's manufacturing skills and promote joint venture investment in the development of natural gas, crude oil and other natural resources.

It said the two sides agreed to jointly pursue the development of Soviet oil fields and copper mines. It said development would also include a multibillion dollar project to develop natural gas in Sakhalin Island with South Korean companies jointly participating with third-nation firms Specific details were not immediately released.

Rina's husband being interrogated By Staff Correspondent

Police on Friday handed over the body of Rina Akhtar, who was allegedly killed for dowry, to her father Sohrab Akhtar.

Police has taken on remand Rina's husband Lutfar Rahman Sagar for interrogation but released her father-in-law, mother-in-law and uncle. Police said, no progress had been made till yesterday. The arrested persons had been mounting pressure on Rina for dowry, police said.

Meanwhile, Sutrapur police arrested three youngmen. named Sumon, Alauddin and Omar in connection with the murder of Gurudas Ghosh at Ruplal Das Lane on Monday

7 killed in Johannesburg

JOHANNESBURG, Apr 20: Seven people were killed in scattered violence, police said Saturday, including the mayor of a section of the Soweto black township who died when gunmen opened fire on his car, reports AP.

AZM Obaidullah Khan, FAO Regional Director for Asia and Pacific, called on the Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed at President's Secretariat Saturday, reports BSS.

Khan briefed the Acting President about the FAO activities in the region with particular reference to Bangladesh. The Acting President thanked Khan for continued interest of his organisation in Bangladesh. saying that the people of Bangladesh appreciate the activities of FAO in the Third World including it's accelerated cereal rice and wheat programme.

It was informed that the FAO programme now cover 24 upazilas in the country and within the next five years it would expand to 180 upazilas. The FAO Regional Director also emphasised on the intensification of diversified cropping system in tune with government policy in the country.

Peter Myers, FAO Representative in Dhaka and M Akhtar Ali, Additional Secretary incharge of the Presidents' Secretariat were also present during the discussion.

The FAO representatives congratulated the Acting President for having successfully guided the country to democracy by holding free, fair parliamentary elections. They said this was possible because of the firmness and neutrality of the administration and the election would remain an example for the whole of South

Video shop employee shot dead

By Staff Correspondent An employee of a Video shop Hasan (22), was killed when some armed assailants shot him in front of the shop at Razia Sultana road. Mohammadpur in the city on Saturday at about 8.30 pm.

An eyewitness said nine youngmen riding three motorcycles came to the shop and fired from a cut rifle on Hasan. killing him on the spot.

The eyewitness also said the leader of the group is known to be an activist of a political party. The assailants created terror in the area before fleeing by firing blank shots.

The body of Hasan was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital. A case has been filed with Mohammadpur thana.

Hasina

From Page 1 Col. 8

foreign policy.' She called upon the Government to take up the issue immediately with India with a view to ensuring security to life and property of the people.

Matiur Rahman Nizami

Moulana Matiur Rahman Nizami, Secretary General of Jamaat-e-Islami and leader of the Jamaat Parliamentary Party, also expressed concern at the killing of four Bangladeshi nationals in firing by Indian Border Security Force (BSF).

In a statement the Jamaat leader said the killing of four Bangladeshis including a BDR personnel demonstrated the weakness of government.

He urged the government to take effective steps to protect life and property of the citizens. He demanded compensation for the families of those killed in BSF firing.

Salam Talukdar

BSS adds: Bangladesh Nationalist Party Secretary General Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar has condemned and protested the firing by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) last Friday along the Kushtia border and urged India to refrain from resorting to such aggressive and provocative acts for the sake of good neighbourliness.

In a statement Saturday, he said the BSF opened fire without any provocation last Friday after entering Bangladesh territory in the Kazipur village in the Meherpur district and engaged in skirmishes with the Bangladesh Rifles men. They opened eight thousand rounds of firing and as a result BDR Subedar Abdur Rab and Bangladesh citizens Ekram and Makbul were killed and two BDR personnel and one Bangladeshi were also injured. he said.

Talukdar said 50 houses in Kazipur were burned and horrified people left the village. He said by doing so, India

had not only violated the United Nations Charter but also showed utter disregard to the spirit of SAARC and "panchsheel" principles of nonalignment that warranted all to remain respectful to others sovereignty.

Talukdar demanded compensations for the destruction of lives and properties and regret by India. He hoped that India would desist from resorting to such acts in the future for the interest of the good neighbourliness.

FAO to expand The Vidnight Cite

Thai junta sets date for martial law lifting

BANGKOK, Apr 20: A date has been set for he lifting of martial law, which has been in force since a military coup on February 23, That Prime Minister Anand Panyarachun said on army-run television late Saturday. But the military-appointed Premier, who was answering reporters' questions during a social function refused to disclose the date. It is being

MONROVIA, Apr 20 : Liberia's interim President Amos Sawyer was re-elected by acclamation at a national conference that failed to mend a split with chief rebel leader Charles Taylor. The rebel leader launched Liberia's civil war 16 months ago and now controls most of the country. He has observed a ceasefire but has refused to recognise Sawyer's government. His delegation walked out of the conference two weeks after it opened, reports Reuter.

Iraq frees 3 French newsmen

BAGHDAD, Apr 20: Three French Journalists, held in southern Iraq since last week, were released today, an Iraqi Information Ministry official said. He told Reuters the threemember crew working for French television channel antenna 2 - Richard Binet, a correspondent, cameraman Didier Dahan, and soundman Fabier Briand - would hold a news conference on Saturday night. He did not say when they would be allowed to leave Iraq.

Kuwait's new cabinet named

from the cabinet but added two other members, reports AP.

Hard-liners call for

MOSCOW, Apr 20: Hard-line leaders called on Saturday for the removal of Mikhail S Gorbachev from the presidency, and accused him of squandering his power and bringing the nation to the verge of catastrophe, reports

"What we need is a state of emergency, but Gorbachev will never do this", said Col Viktor Alknis, speaking to a conference of the hard-line Soyuz group. The only way out for us now is to collect signatures to

From Page 1 Col. 5

He and nearly 400 of his staff members were scheduled to arrive Sunday morning at Tampa, Florida, the Central Command's headquarters in the United States. Schwarz kopf will continue to command US forces in the Gulf from his

Tampa headquarters. "I'm looking for another cause," he said recently when

Operation Desert Storm the codename of the US war effort -transformed Schwarzkopf from an unknown to fame and potential fortune. Lucrative speaking engagements, job offers, a possible run for the Senate from Florida and multimillion-dollar book offers await

The Trenton, New Jersey, after 35 years of Army service to enter private life. Iraq was

staff is anticipating that he will be besieged by an admiring public which saw him frequently on television. His name became a household word during the Gulf War.

Often referred to as 'Stormin Norman," he shared a penchant for bluntness with Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who was fired by President Harry Truman during the Korean War for questioning policy. Schwarzkopf created an

sion interview that he wanted to pursue Saddam Hussein's forces rather than call a ceasefire in the war on February 27 His strategy of feigning an

amphibious assault then outflanking Saddam's forces led to a 100-hour ground victory that destroyed much of the Iraqi army and drove it from Kuwait.

controversial, Schwarzkopf personally and publicly apologized to the president, saying he agreed "100 percent" with Bush's decision to end the war. Critics have said Bush

An estimated 2 million Kurds fled Saddam's army in northern Iraq and now are suffering from hunger and disease along the borders of Iran and Turkey. Many Shi'ites have fled to Iraq, where the Shi'ite sect

session" to remove the President, he said. The demand came during a

weekend conference of a diverse group of Communist Party members, hard-line lawmakers and other rightwing activists to discuss strategy in the midst of the political paralysis gripping the country.

The meeting came five days before a plenum of the Communist Party Central Committee was expected to discuss Gorbachev's position as chief of the 18-million mem-

ber organisation. Gorbachev was heading back to Moscow on Saturday after state visits to Japan and South Korea in which he sought economic aid and investment in the Soviet Union's crumbling economy. Only in South Korea did he have some success.

The country is in a state of crisis and is approaching catastrophe." Yuri Blokhin, leader of the Soyuz group, told the 700 delegates to the conference. Blokhin urged the delegates to approve a resolution calling for a six-month state of emergency across the

Soviet Union.

political groups.

He said the state of emergency would suspend republican parliaments and create a direct line of authority from the Kremlin to local officials; re-establish strong central control over all factories and halt private enterprise by small businesses; repeal the unpopular 3-month-old sales tax; reverse recent price increases on basic consumer goods; and ban all rallies and opposition

IJO meet

From Page 1 Col. 4 Chisty, said "the entry into force of the new agreement

activities without interruption. Highlighting the progress made in respect of on-going projects, Chisty said IJO was conscious of the fact that the new uses should be found for a natural fibre such as jute so that ground lost to man-made

ratified the international agreement on jute and jute products, 1989, agreed at an UNCTAD meeting in Geneva on April 12 to put the agreement into force with immediate effect. This replaces the 1982 agreement under which the International Jute Organisation was originally formed.

The committee will consider eight new project proposals during its three-day session. project are:

The

Development of jute-based packaging and jute intermediatc as a substitute for wood, plywood and other packaging. improvement of existing spinning process including fine yarn manufacturing, technical survey of end-use requirement of jute geotextiles, market promotion in Australia and New Zealand, jute market development in selected European countries for the third year, market promotion for jute carpet backing cloth in Japan, jute market promotion in Japan for 1991-92-1993/94 and market promotion of jute products in selected African countries with particular ref-

withheld," he said, reports AFP.

Liberia's President re-elected

KUWAIT CITY, Apr 20: Kuwait's Prime Minister named a new cabinet on Saturday, changing almost every key post and ousting his ministers of oil, finance, justice and foreign affairs. The cabinet resigned March 19 amid public criticism of the government's difficulties in restoring essential services after the Gulf War. The Prime Minister. Crown Prince Saad al-Abdallah al-Sabah, removed four members of the royal family

Gorbachev's removal

convene a special parliament

Schwarzkopf

closed down after 257 days.

asked about his future.

native is retiring this summer his second war. He served as a battalion commander in Vietnam where there were no heroes and no welcome home

celebrations. Schwarzkopf's public affairs

embarrassing stir recently

when he suggested in a televi-

as President George Bush decided to do.

When his remarks proved

should have given Schwarzkopf the approval to finish off Saddam Hussein while he had him on the run so he would not have been able to crush the Kurdish and Shi'ite Muslim rebellions that began after Iraq lost the war.

is a majority.

will help IJO to continue its

fibres could be recovered. The countries, which have

erence to jute sacks.