

## South Korean PM roughed up

SEOUL, June 3: Prime Minister Chung Wori-Shik was injured slightly Monday when he was kicked and roughed up by militant students at a university where he was giving a special lecture, police and witnesses said, reports AP.

Government officials said Chung suffered bruises on his back and other parts of his body and was recuperating at his official residence.

Police officials said Chung was attacked by a mob of students hurling eggs and flour at Seoul's Hankook University of Foreign Studies.

"I feel extremely sad about today's situation," Chung said through a spokesman. "It's regrettable that the disturbance erupted when I wanted to fulfill my obligation as a professor rather than a Prime Minister."

The 45-minute incident broke out hours after President Roh Tae-woo ordered a tougher crackdown on violent protests. Earlier Monday, riot police using tear gas and water cannons fought students guarding a hospital morgue where the body of a dead protester was being kept.

Chung, appointed prime minister in a partial Cabinet reshuffle on May 24, was giving

a lecture to graduate students, police said.

Chung, 62, a former college professor of education, was a lecturer at the school for the spring semester. Aides said Monday was his final day there.

Witnesses said that 30 minutes after he began Monday's lecture, about 200 students began a sit-down protest outside the classroom. Students hurled eggs as he interrupted the lecture and came out of the classroom, they added.

Chung locked himself in another room, but students broke open the doors, witnesses said. He then was taken out to the school's playground, flanked by students, they said.

About 400 students followed the prime minister as he was forced to walk toward the school's main gate, witnesses said. Some students kicked and doused the prime minister with flour, they said.

Aides finally rescued the prime minister near the school gate and left the area by taxi, they said.

Television footage showed students yanking his necktie and jacket and his glasses falling to the ground. Broken eggs and white flour were all over his head and clothing.

## Plea for cohesive SAARC market

NEW DELHI, June 3: India today asked SAARC member-states to seize the historic opportunity of contemporary changes and work for a general freeing of the markets of the countries of the region and their integration within a specified time period, reports PTI.

Inaugurating a SAARC meeting of national coordinators, Indian Foreign Secretary Muchkund Dubey said if member-states were prepared to meet competition from the most advanced economies of the world, then "why not start by meeting competition from each other."

In a blunt appraisal of the SAARC functioning, Dubey said there had been an uneasy feeling for the last two or three years that the regional grouping had been far too cautious in its approach and that "our cooperation is not having any direct impact on day-to-day life of our people."

It is now being increasingly realised that SAARC cannot become relevant to the day-to-day problems of the people of the region until cooperation within its framework covered such areas as trade, manufactures, services, money and finance," the Foreign Secretary said.

The national coordinators from member-states during their three-day meeting here will finalise the report on how to bring the hard core economic areas within the SAARC framework.

The document is expected to be taken up for approval by the foreign ministers of member-states next month at Male during their mid-year review.

## Student processions

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Criticising the role of the Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) regarding recent terrorism on the campus, the JCD leaders said the DUTA protested presence of Jamaat leader on the campus but remained silent over the violent acts of Chhatra League (S-A). The JCD leaders accused Sheikh Hasina of providing shelter to the alleged murderers.

Chhatra League (S-A) workers brought out a procession from the premises of Madhu's canteen protesting arrest of Shishir and Guddu. The procession was followed by a rally. The DU unit leaders of the organisation, Quamruzzaman Ansari and Golam Mostafa Sujan addressed it.

They strongly condemned arrest of Shishir and Guddu and demanded their release without further delay. If the leaders are not freed, the Government must bear the consequences, they warned.

House searched

Meanwhile, plainclothes policemen searched the residence of Gopal, an employee of the DUCSU office, Sunday afternoon. Police personnel of the Detective Branch (DB) numbering 39 went to his house and examined some papers at 2.30pm. Gopal was absent during the police search. The search was said to be made in connection with the investigation of Dr. Milton murder case.

of the SAARC activities.

Any regional scheme should have a sound financial underpinning not only for supporting trade expansion but also for assisting the less developed partners to create production capacity and exportable surpluses in order to be able to participate equitably in regional economic cooperation, Indian Foreign Secretary emphasised.

He said that the less developed partners should also be given longer time frame to liberalise and hence in the beginning there should be no insistence on strict reciprocity from them.

The final objective should be a general freeing of the markets of the countries of the region and their gradual integration within a specified time period, he added.

Dubey said that there had been steady erosion in the terms of trade of developing countries due to the continuing decline in the commodity prices because of both structural factors and of being policy-induced.

Trends in bio-technology indicated the developed countries may soon be able to do without any of the agricultural products for the supply of which they are today totally dependent on developing nations, he added.

### Japan

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Disaster relief and despatched a Bangladesh relief team to Bangladesh consisting of two helicopters and 50 personnel to ferry relief materials to the coastal areas and off-shore islands.

### Vehicles damaged

According to another report, Chhatra League (S-A) workers of Tejgaon Polytechnic Institute damaged several vehicles and vehicular traffic was suspended for half an hour on the road adjacent to the institute Monday morning while they were protesting arrest of Talukder Sarwar Hossain, former general secretary of the institute's students union.

Sarwar, was arrested from who is also a Chhatra League (S-A) leader, Mottijheel Commercial Area Sunday following a number of cases filed against him with Tejgaon police on charge of terrorism.

Police said, agitated students brought out a procession from the institute premises at around 11 am in protest against the arrest of Sarwar and demanding his immediate release. The violent processionists started pelting stones at the vehicles plying on the road creating panic in the area. Police chased the attackers into the institute campus and helped restore normal trafficking of vehicles on the roads.



Movement of vehicles comes to a halt for a few hours Monday when a clash breaks out in the New Market area reportedly over collection tolls from the shopkeepers. —Star photo

## Rajya Sabha pays generous tributes

## Search for Gandhi's killers in Sri Lanka draws blank

COLOMBO, June 3: A three-day search in Sri Lanka for clues in the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi has drawn a blank, official sources here said today.

A team of top Indian detectives held meetings with local intelligence agencies and former Tamil guerrillas since Friday without any breakthrough in the case, official sources said.

They said the three detectives from the Central Bureau of Investigations — which has both intelligence and criminal investigation functions — were expected to leave the island tomorrow.

The main objective of the visit had been to identify the woman suicide bomber who is widely believed to have been a member of Sri Lanka's dominant Tamil separatist group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

"Basically the Indians are trying to get more information about the style of LTTE suicide attacks and see if they can put a name and an address on the woman who carried out the suicide attack," a local security official said.

The visiting detectives had meetings with the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) and the Peoples' Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE) to get more in-

formation about their archival, the LTTE.

Both the TELO and the PLOTE have had hundreds of their faithful killed by the LTTE, which fought to take control of the Tamil separatist campaign in northeastern Sri Lanka.

Sri Lankan Defence Secretary Cyril Ranatunga has said he could not rule out LTTE involvement in Gandhi's slaying, saying the bomb appeared to be similar to the one which killed Sri Lanka's State Defence Minister, Ranjan Wijeratne on March 2.

**Rajya Sabha's tributes to Rajiv Gandhi**

The Indian Parliament's upper house met here briefly today to mourn Rajiv Gandhi, describing the former Prime Minister's May 21 assassination as a "diabolical and premeditated conspiracy."

A somber Rajya Sabha, made up of members nominated by state legislatures, paid generous tribute to Gandhi in a condolence resolution adopted at the start of two days' proceedings.

The house was convened to approve the government's April decision to clamp direct federal rule in the northern state of Jharkhand, whose local government was sacked after it

lost a majority. Parliament's approval, expected tomorrow, is mandatory.

The Lok Sabha, parliament's elected lower house, was dissolved in March and new polls ordered.

**Former Speaker gunned down**

Sikh militants armed with Ak-47 assault rifles gunned down a former Speaker of the Punjab state assembly today.

Brij Bhushan Mehra, who was also a prominent industrialist, was being driven to his factory in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar when gunmen in another car overtook him and opened fire on his vehicle, the news agency said.

Mehra, 65, was killed along with his driver, it said. His bodyguard was seriously wounded. The assassins, believed to be Sikh militants fighting for an independent homeland in Punjab, sped away after the shooting.

Sikh militants were also suspected in the massacre of five members of a family in the rural district centered on Amritsar.

Sikh militants killed two civilians and lost two of their own men in shootouts with police elsewhere in Punjab.

## Bank loans and legal flaws

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Bangladesh Bank was empowered to publish the list under banking Company Act, passed in the last parliament.

Sharif Afzal Hossain, senior vice president of the Bangladesh Chamber of Industry said most damaging aspect of the publication of the defaulters list was that the foreign investors and entrepreneurs became shaky and "nervous" when they saw it.

Many of them are questioning the integrity of the traders and industrialists here. Hossain held the view that mere publication of the list would not serve the purpose. Government must identify the willful defaulters and punish them.

He however said the arrangements under which the defaulters and the lending banks would negotiate the repayment should be made spontaneous. Otherwise, the whole process may retrograde, he said.

Sulaiman Chowdhury, a former banker, told the Star that such action may force central bank's direct involvement in administration of bank loans. Many of the loanees have become defaulters due to circumstances beyond their control. In such cases, it is desirable that all efforts are made by the lending banks to salvage the situation through dialogue, negotiation and appropriate remedial measures wherever the position is retrievable. He said the banking sector was a very sensitive area and legal action and foreclosure were considered as last resort measure for a bank.

### Shibir locks students out of CU again

CHITTAGONG, June 3: Chittagong University classes could not be held for the second consecutive day today as the Islamist Chhatra Shibir continue to observe the strike, reports UNB.

Pro-Jamaat student wing has been observing class boycott to press home their demand for removal of the Vice Chancellor Alamgir Muhammad Strajuddin.

Shibir is demanding judicial enquiry into the violent incident in the campus December last in which one student was killed.

Chowdhury said the board of directors of the nationalised banks and financial institutions may be reconstituted by the government in keeping with the character of these institutions to give them a better sense of direction.

Executive director of a private bank told the Star that reforms of the existing laws in loan recovery process are necessary. He said the situation relating to stuck-up loans in the country was very serious. "We have overdue loans to the tune of 30 per cent of the total while the positions in Malaysia, Korea and India was 7, 6 and 12 per cent respectively."

He however said working capital should be given to the defaulters who were running their industries at losses and those who became defaulters on circumstantial ground.

A trader, who became defaulter taking commercial loan, said the central bank was "playing foul" with the miseries of the loanees. He asked how the central bank is allowing people to borrow money from many banks when there is a monitoring unit inside the bank? Why the bank officials involved in big loan-giving process are not being brought to book? He alleged that central bank published a backdated list as of December 31, 1990 in the month of May, 1991. By the time many had paid their instalments but those were not amended before publication. Why did the bank take risk in publishing a backdated list knowing fully well its repercussions? he questioned.

### Sajeda

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Incident of the attack on Gupta's residence on May 30, AL chief Sheikh Hasina personally inquired, through party officials, about the wellbeing of his family. It was said that Gupta refused to acknowledge this fact at the press conference, she added.

Before making the uncalculated statements, Gupta should have met Sheikh Hasina under whom he contested and won in two parliamentary polls with the AL Party symbol, she noted.

Sajeda Chowdhury called on him to refrain from making such misleading statements in future.

## Fort Grange leaves

CHITTAGONG, June 3: The British ship "Fort Grange" left Bangladesh waters today for its destination after completing her "relief activities" dubbed as "operation thanna" in the coastal areas, official sources said, reports BSS.

The Fort Grange arrived in Bangladesh two weeks back with four helicopters, eight rigid rider boats, two rescue boats and about three hundred mariners and sailors for carrying on relief and rehabilitation operation in the cyclone and tidal surge affected areas of Chittagong and Cox's Bazar.

Helicopters and rigid rider boats were engaged in carrying relief and rehabilitation materials to the remote affected areas of Chittagong and Cox's Bazar.

### Varsity teachers

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Rahman without refuting his version with argument and forced him to leave the meeting by terming him as a theoretician of Bangladeshi nationalism.

The BNP Secretary General said the effort of dividing the nation in various opinions by the members of Teachers' Association of the University by introducing unnecessary political debate would not be acceptable to the nation.

Our DU Correspondent adds: The National Committee for Resistance to Aggression (NCRA) on Monday demanded withdrawal of the decision of Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) to expel Professor Dr. Lutfar Rahman of Bengali Department, from the association.

An emergency meeting of NERA, presided over by Advocate Sheikh Ashraf Hossain also condemned the incident of compelling Dr. Rahman to leave the meeting of DUTA on Sunday.

### JCD factions end rivalry, demand JUCSU polls

By JU Correspondent

The two rival factions of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) ended their dispute and brought out a joint procession on the Jahangirnagar University Campus Sunday demanding early polls to the students union.

The factions, commonly known earlier as "locals" and "non-locals" demonstrated jointly in front of the VC's office for immediate announcement of the election date. Other student organisations were however in favour of elections after the masters examinations, scheduled from June 10.

Meanwhile, the Vice-Chancellor, deans of faculties, provosts proctor and the election commission held a meeting on the election issue Monday but no decision came out.

Abdul Awal Mollah, acting general secretary of JUCSU, told BSS that they would launch a movement against the university administration and boycott their masters examinations if date for JUCSU elections was not announced within 24 hours.

Meanwhile, the situation is becoming normal in the campus. Students, who left the halls fearing further attacks, are now returning to their halls. The police contingent which was deployed in and around the campus after May 19 clash has not yet withdrawn.

### Plea for political tolerance

One hundred forty seven Advocates of the Supreme Court have expressed their shock over the attack on the Secretary General of Jamaat-e-Islami, Moulana Matmur Rahman Nizami, MP, and urged all to show tolerance, reports BSS.

Condemning the assault on the Jamaat leader, the Advocates in a joint statement said Moulana Nizami himself became the victim of terrorism while attending a discussion meeting convened by the Vice-Chancellor of the Dhaka University to discuss ways and means to stop this scourge at the highest seat of learning.

The signatories to the joint statement include former Justice of Supreme Court and former Minister TH Khan, Advocate Khandkar Mahub Uddin Ahmed, Former Justice of Supreme Court Justice Siddiqur Rahman Chowdhury, former Minister Nasir Uddin Choudhury, former Justice Maksudur Rahman, Vice-President of Supreme Court Bar Association Humayun Hussain Khan, senior Advocate G A Khan, Barrister AR Yusuf and M L Bhowmik.

In a separate statement, Sudhin Roy Narayan, Convener of Sylhet district Jatiya Hindu Parishad, condemned the attack on Jamaat leader Moulana Matmur Rahman Nizami and Ganotantri Party leader Suranjit Sengupta.

## The Midnight File

### Erosion threatens Ishurdi

PABNA, June 3: Ishurdi Town is threatened by the erosion of river Padma which already grabbed a section of the Ishurdi town protection embankment in Shara area. Water Development Board (WDB) sources today said the erosion of Padma since May 31 had devoured the town protection embankment in Shara area, inundating Shara village and rendering about 200 people shelterless, reports UNB.

### Ishaq for Islamic common market

KARACHI (Pakistan), June 3: Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan today proposed the creation of an Islamic common market to minimise the adverse effects of protectionism, reports Reuter.

### Police firing in Varanasi: Nine workers killed

NEW DELHI, June 3: At least nine people were killed when police opened fire on rioting cement factory workers in the holy Indian city of Varanasi, report agencies.

It said about 60 more, including policemen, were injured in a protest against the privatisation of a cement factory that turned violent on Sunday.

Police went to the factory of help its new private management take over. The workers blocked entrances and pelted security forces with stones, the agency said.

The injured included a magistrate who was trying to assist police in the transfer of ownership.

About 7,000 employees of the nearby Obra thermal power plant went on strike to protest the police firing. Press Trust said. The strike has caused a severe electricity shortage in the area.

About 1,000 workmen of the Dalia cement factory had protested the Uttar Pradesh state government's decision to hand over the plant to the Dalmia group of industries.

The cement factory was owned by the state-run Uttar Pradesh Cement Corporation. But the government decided to transfer the factory to private business after strikes and low production lowered its profits.

### Advani changes face

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"strong character." Her expressions, her manner, her appearance, it reminded us of Indira Gandhi standing at the side of her father," said Hari Shankar Gupta, the joint secretary of the Indian Youth Congress.

Nearly as tall as her 6-foot (1.83-meter) father, she favours Indian clothing but wears her hair fashionably cut short in a Western style.

Priyanka has been toughened by tragedy. Seven years ago her grandmother was gunned down by her own Sikh bodyguards. Three years earlier, her uncle Sanjay, Mrs. Gandhi's intended political heir, died in a plane crash.

In the pre-dawn hours after her father was killed, Priyanka flew with her mother to the southern Indian city of Madras to bring home his body, shattered by an assassin's suicide bomb.

It also was Priyanka who went to the bank of the sacred Jamuna River in New Delhi to choose the cremation site. Breaking with Hindu tradition against women taking part in the funeral, Priyanka and her mother helped pile fragrant sandalwood logs on Gandhi's body before her 20-year-old brother Rahul ignited the fire.

The Congress Party, which was India's vehicle to freedom from British rule in 1947, has had a Nehru in its leadership for most of the 20th century, starting with Jawaharlal's father Motilal. For all but six years since independence, a member of the Nehru-Gandhi family has been prime minister.

Priyanka, a psychology student at New Delhi's Jesus and Mary College, is more in the public eye than her brother Rahul, who is attending Harvard University in the United States. She traveled often with her father on the campaign trail, sometimes with her mother and brother, sometimes alone.

When Congress offered Sonia Gandhi the party's top

### Barisal jail

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ing preparation of the seizure list of the items recovered from Sena Bhaban following the fall of his regime.

He was maintaining close relations with Ershad and looking after his cases.

He was also supplying food to the family of Ershad interned in a sub-jail at Gulshan though the jail authorities were supplying food for Roushan Ershad, her son Saad and daughter Jebin.

After his arrest the food supply for Ershad from his house has been stopped, it is learnt.

### Hands chopped

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severed from the wrist to avoid further complications.

The Chittagong District (North) unit of Islam Chhatra Shibir claimed the victims as their workers and blamed pro-Awami League Bangladesh Chhatra League for the attack.

Nurul Alam and Mafzur Rahman were reportedly kidnapped by political rivals from their respective residences in Shuabli Baramasia area of Fatikchhari early this morning. Later, they were attacked with sharp weapons and firearms.

Local people apprehend that the incident might be a sequel to an earlier clash between Shibir and Chhatra League activists here on May 31 when a League leader Nazim received bullet injury.

job, one rumor said Priyanka urged her to take it and "hold it in trust" until she comes of age.

Others dismiss the rumor, but it says much about Priyanka's public image. "She is a symbol of unity. She could keep the party united and more strong," said Gupta, the official of the youth wing which appealed to Priyanka to take charge "in the true Nehru-Gandhi tradition."

She is a keen debater, though by some accounts she is hesitant. A story in the Sunday Observer said she was given a poor grade in a school debate a few months ago when she "faltered and fell silent" for several uncomfortable seconds.

Some dedicated Congressmen have trouble seeing the party without a Gandhi at its head. Ram Sahay Pathak, a 50-year-old local leader in Agra, is on a hunger strike on the lawn of party headquarters in New Delhi to dramatize his hope that Rajiv's widow will change her mind.

"She was with Rajiv, she knew what he was thinking. She understands how to hold the people together," Pathak said.

What about Priyanka or Rahul? "They are just children. May be in 10 years," he said.

### Power supply to Baitul Mukarram resumes

By Staff Correspondent

Power supply to the Baitul Mukarram Market resumed Sunday afternoon after suspension for 35 days for non-payment of dues, amounting about Tk 40 lakh.

Power Development Board resumed supply after agreement with the merchants association and the Islamic Foundation which owns the market that the dues would be paid within a month.

Collection of dues was stalled when the Islamic Foundation pleading, smooth collection, installed 'one point meter' in July last year but the merchants association refused to pay saying it was against their interest.

PDB sources however told the Daily Star that system loss could be minimised substantially through 'one point meter' system.

### Lady and victim

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allegedly victimised by Zeenat Mosharruf and was charged with corruption involving export of urea fertiliser. The arguments on this case will be held on June 8.

Col (ret) Shahabuddin was in the court in connection with his case when Mosharruf Hossain and Zeenat Mosharruf were brought to the same venue in his presence.

### Stackpole

From Page 1 Col. 8

crisis and that they had hope for a new life. He said, "we appreciate the way the people worked and cooperated with us."

Earlier, Zonal Coordinator Mokammel Huq apprised General Stackpole of the damaged and destructions by the April 29 cyclone and tidal bore. He explained to him the relief and rehabilitation measures taken by the government.

Mokammel appreciated Joint Task Force, British, Japanese, Indian and Pakistan governments and NGOs for extending help.

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