

Day-long hartal in Chittagong

CHITTAGONG, July 15 : A dawn-to-dusk hartal was observed peacefully in the port city today at the call of two rival camps of students, reports UNB.

All-Party Student Unity (APSU) and Islami Chhatra Shibir-backed Sangrami Chhatra Otkya simultaneously called for the shutdown, the former for 12 hours and the latter for half the day.

It was the first general strike (hartal) in the port city after the fall of Ershad regime.

APSU is demanding cancellation of the one-man inquiry commission report on the December 22 incident at Chittagong University published recently, while the Shibirites stand for implementation of the probe report.

Chases ensued between APSU and Sangrami Chhatra Otkya activists while an APSU procession was passing by a meeting of the rivals near Andurkilla at 11am.

None was, however, hurt in the incident. Police brought the volatile situation under control.

All local long-route buses remained off and banks and industries closed. Few rickshaws were seen in the street.

Port and railway sources said their routine operations were hampered partially.

Meanwhile, Sangrami Chhatra Otkya, from its meeting near Andurkilla, announced a three-day mass contact programme. Central leader Nasrullah chaired the meeting.



Chairman of the commission enquiring into the allegations against former President HM Ershad and his associates, Justice DM Anwaruddin Ahmed, accompanied by the members of the commission, submitted the second and last volume of its reports to Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed on Monday. —Photo PID

GPO clash

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The GPO staff member at one stage threw an instrument at the customer and jumped over the counter to get hold of him, the witness said.

The other customers became angry at the behaviour of the GPO employee and tried to resist him.

A section of the staff then launched a joint attack against the men in the queue and beat some of them after closing all the gates in the GPO, some witnesses said.

The furious GPO staff members chased the customers out of the building. But soon after they returned with other members of the public from outside and attacked the GPO staff triggering of the clash.

Window-panes, counters, doors and sanitary fittings from the ground floor to the second floor of the GPO building were damaged by the agi-

tated attackers.

Police although informed immediately about the incident were late in coming, the sources alleged.

The Motijheel police, however, said that the clash took place as a result of securing of front positions in the queue among some customers and soon spread to the GPO staff.

Police promptly rushed to the spot on receipt of the information and brought the clash under control, police source said.

Two separate cases were registered with the Motijheel police in this connection.

Evening transactions at the GPO from 2-30 pm to 8 pm took place smoothly.

The government has constituted a high level enquiry committee into incident at the GPO. One GPO staff member has been put under suspension.

Shibir's call to ensure peace on DU campus

From Page 1 Col. 5

Islami Chhatra Shibir, student front of Jamaat-e-Islami, has urged the authorities to ensure peace on the Dhaka University campus so that the ensuing DUCSU and hall union elections can be held free and fair.

Addressing a press conference at the city office Monday Shibir president Muhammad Aminul Islam also demanded of the authorities to ensure equal opportunity for his organisation in the polls campaign.

He criticised the present university Education Council saying Shibir won the third position in the last DUCSU election but it was not invited to participate in any council meeting.

He demanded recasting of the council and participation of all student organisations in its meetings.

Commission

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While receiving the final volume of the report, the Acting President thanked the chairman of the commission and its members for the hard work done by them for completing the investigation and compiling the report on time.

Members of the commission Shah Abdul Hannan and AKM Mahbulul Huq were present. Hannan is a member of the National Board of Revenue while Huq is an Additional Inspector General of Police now working as the Director General of the Department of Narcotics Control.

Employees resist shakeup in Biman

From Page 1 Col. 5

Bangladesh Biman, in a major shakeup, has transferred 11 persons to different posts.

The shakeup came in the wake of an investigation team report to streamline the Biman services.

Meanwhile, the Flight Service Department of Bangladesh Biman is in total disarray as the newly appointed manager of the Department could not join office falling prey to coterie politics, sources said.

The General Manager (Administration) in an official order appointed the present Deputy Chief of Training (Flight Service) as the Manager (Flight Service) with effect from July 13.

But the appointee could not join his new post as the incumbent Manager (Flight Service) appointed Deputy Chief of Training, but annoyed at the new arrangement did not turn up to take over his new charge. He has started evasive tactics in taking over charge and is now enjoying sick leave, sources alleged.

The Midnight File

Bush-Gorbachev accord on arms treaty likely

LONDON, July 15: US President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev are likely to agree on Wednesday to a strategic arms treaty and a Moscow summit in late July or early August, US officials said today, reports Reuter.

20 Vietnam miners killed in tunnel collapse

HANOI, July 15: More than 20 people have died in tunnel collapses while mining gold in southern Vietnam, an official newspaper reported today, reports Reuter.

Bomb attacks on Turkish banks

BONN, July 15: Fire bombs were thrown at a Turkish bank in Bremen and at another in Hanover overnight in what were believed to be politically motivated attacks, police said today after a series of incidents believed to involve a left-wing Turkish group, reports AFP.

Murder

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After the killer escaped, Jewel came up and entered his house. He first saw a body in the kitchen covered with a white sheet. "I lifted the cloth and saw the face of Marzina slaughtered."

I pressed her belly to be sure if she was dead. The floor was covered in blood.

Then Jewel came out of the kitchen and his eyes caught something in the bathroom beside the kitchen. "I had a closer look and found that it was Zian. The baby was still alive with a wound on his chest and a rope tied around his neck. I almost fainted at the sight."

Jewel then heard his sister Nasima and Champa shouting from a room. He opened it and found both of them tied up with a rope.

Later more people came up and they opened the room in

Hartal in Pabna against police excesses

PABNA, July 15: An eight-hour hartal observed in the town today in protest against police excesses during market eviction here, reports UNB.

Sources said, the hartal from 10 am to 6 pm was called by the Tati Samabay Samity after police evicted the small market at the traffic point in the town early this morning.

Vehicles were off the streets and shops remained closed during the hartal hours.

Police ransacked the shops and caused damages to property worth about Tk three lakh while evicting traders alleged.

The eviction was carried out without any prior notice, they said adding the area belonged to the association and not to the government.

Later in a meeting this afternoon, the traders demanded compensation of the damaged shops.

Japanese team calls on PM

The visiting four-member Japanese parliamentary delegation led by Yeno Hirata, called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her residence here last night, reports BSS.

Hirata congratulated Begum Zia for her heroic struggle during the last nine years and for becoming Prime Minister of Bangladesh.

The team leader referred to the assistance given by his country during the recent cyclone in Bangladesh and said they would use their influence with the Japanese government so that it could come in a bigger way with help and assistance.

Hasina

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tary form of government saying there were undemocratic provisions in it.

She claimed that the AL-proposed bill in this regard was "more democratic" and would be acceptable to all. It was examined by experts, she mentioned.

Hasina also criticised the BNP-introduced 11th Constitution amendment bill providing for validating the appointment of the Chief Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed as Vice-President, ratifying all his actions as Acting President and his return to the bench.

She alleged that there were many provisions in both the bills which "would not be found anywhere of the world."

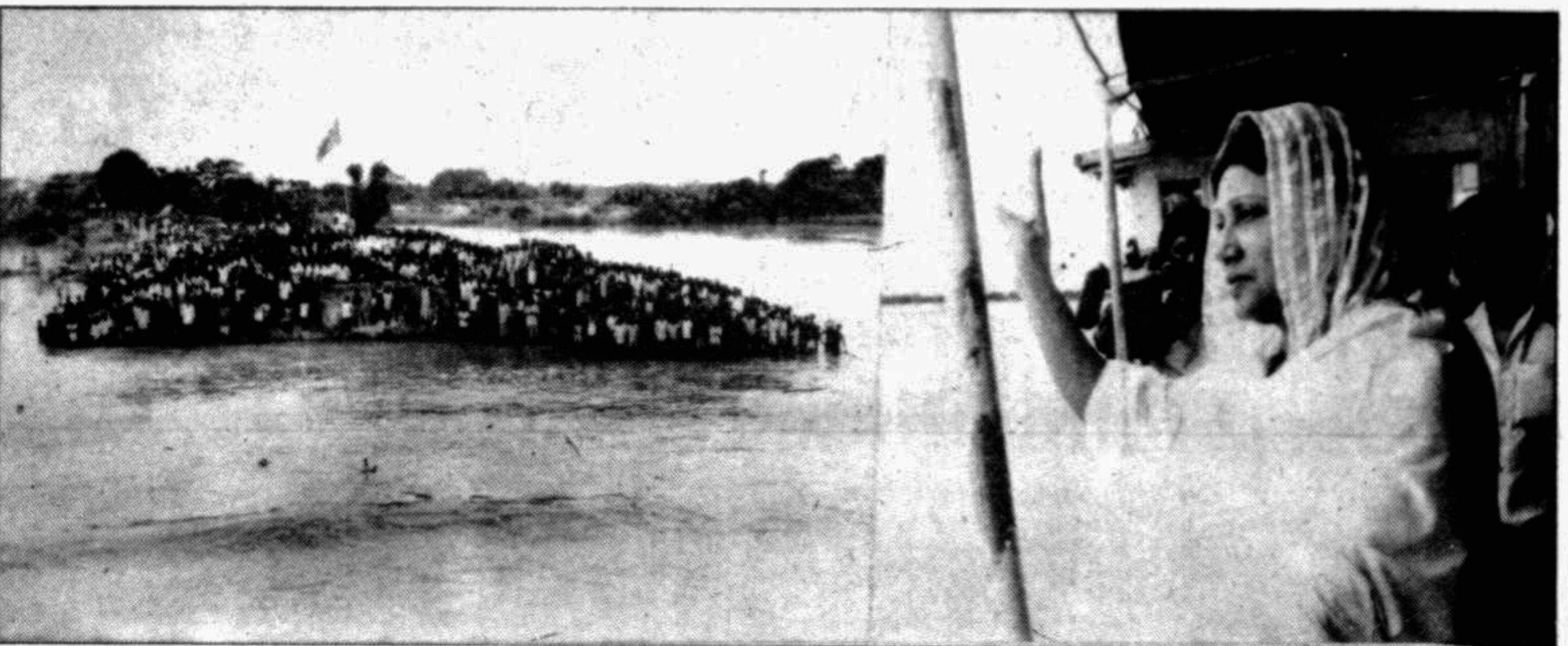
Terming the '91 budget as aid dependent, she recalled that in 1972 in a war-ravaged country, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had made a self-reliant budget.

Referring to the present situation prevailing in the educational institutions alleged that anarchy was being created at the behest of the ruling party for maintaining supremacy of its student organisation there.

The government could bring back normalcy in the educational institutions within an hour if it really wanted, she observed.

The opposition leader also deplored what she called the deteriorating law and order situation in the country. Government must ensure safety of life and property of the people, she said.

District AL President Md Ali Khan presided over the rally. District AL General Secretary Sheikh Md Abdullah and other AL leaders Nuruzzaman Rizu, Mahbub Ali Khan, Hasan Kabir, Mahbubur Rahman and BCL leader Khalid Aziz (Shipu), addressed the rally among others.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia visited flood affected areas of Sirajganj district Monday. —PID photo

Flood situation

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At least three lakh population became marooned on Sunday in Jamalpur and standing crops on 50,000 acres have gone under water.

Harindhara flood control embankment in Islampur and Damudarpur Kawamara embankment in Sarishabari upazila also facing serious threat.

Railway sources said due to erosion in the Jamuna ferry ghat were shifted on Saturday.

In Sherpur district due to breach in flood control embankment six unions of Sadar upazila were badly flooded affecting at least, one lakh population and 20,000 acres of land with standing crops.

Roads and Highways authority sources said disrupted road communication in Sherpur and Jamalpur would not be restored unless flood water recedes.

In Tangail, a regulator on the embankment of old Lohajang river near Bhuapur had been breached at midnight last night and a heavy rush of flood water was entering inside the embankment area, Water Development Department source said.

Both the Deputy Commissioner and relevant executive engineers rushed to the place of occurrence.

Due to this collapse in the embankment and onrush of Jamuna flood water had affected thousands in Ghatail, Kalihati and part of Basail upazilas. The closure embankment was not in danger, the sources said.

Voluntary services

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of the major reasons for the occurrence of such calamities, Begum Zia stressed the need for planting more trees to keep ecological balance and check desertification in the country.

The Prime Minister said the rapid growth population was also hindering economic progress of the nation. We must face such problems more consciously, she said.

She called upon all to extend their cooperation to make the country self-reliance connection instead of looking forward to the help and assistance from the government. We do not want to keep the nation dependent on relief. It would be difficult to achieve the goal of self-reliance by the government alone as it was now standing amid the ruination caused by last nine years of autocracy.

Prime Minister Begum Zia stressed the need for strengthening the primary education in the country and said a separate ministry would be set up, if necessary, for the primary education which will be headed by the Prime Minister.

She also underscored the need for adequate supply of books and other educational appliances to the primary edu-

Baker will travel to ME

LONDON, July 15: US Secretary of State James Baker will travel to the Middle East after the London economic summit on his fifth peace mission since the Gulf war, the White House announced today, reports Reuter.

RU clash

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BCL (S-A) RU unit and activists Shafiqul and Manik and Bahauddin Bahar General Secretary of JCD.

Babu, Shafiqul and Manik were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital while the rest were given first aid, at the University medical centre.

According to the eyewitness, BCL leaders allegedly made provocative comments on BNP government at a rally on the campus at noon. The JCD supporters protested the comments and started altercation with the BCL workers. They soon started throwing brick-bats and at one stage were locked in a battle when the lethal weapons were also used. Firearms were also brandished during the clash but no gun shot or cocktail blast was heard.

Privileges

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Md Aminul Huq (BNP).

The Standing Committee of Privileges shall examine every question referred to it and determine with reference to the facts of each case whether a breach of privilege is involved and, if so, the nature of the breach, the circumstances leading to it and make such recommendations as it may deem fit.

BSP petition

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Justice ATM Afzal, Justice Mustafa Kamal and Justice Latifur Rahman.

The Appellate Division took up the leave petition for hearing Sunday and heard the lawyers appearing for the BSP, for the journalists and other two federations and the Ministry of Information. After hearing, the court fixed Monday for order. On Monday the full bench of the Appellate Division by its order dismissed the leave petition filed by the BSP and thus the stay earlier granted stands vacated.

The BSP's counsel on May 31 filed a provisional petition for leave to appeal before the Appellate Division against the verdict of the High Court Division allowing stay order till July 14.

A two-judge Division Bench comprising Justice M Abdul Jalil and Justice M Badruzzaman on May 30 rejected the BSP's writ petition and discharged the rule on the technical ground of maintainability. The court held that the individual newspaper establishment and or news agency could have been aggrieved by the impugned award of the Fourth Wage Board award but no direct or personal interest of the petitioner, BSP has been adversely affected by the award.

The High Court Division, therefore, did not consider BSP as competent to file a writ petition and invoke the extraordinary writ jurisdiction under Article 102 of the Constitution.

Asrafu Hossain, Khondker Mahbubuddin Ahmed, Zainal Abedin and Mohammad Aftab Hossain appeared for the petitioner, BSP, the organisation of newspaper owners.

A R Yusuf, Sk Habib-ul-Alam and Nawab Ali appeared for the respondents — Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ), Bangladesh Newspaper Press Workers Federation (BNPWF) and Bangladesh Newspaper Employees Federation (BNEF).

Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan, additional Attorney General and Sharifuddin Chakladar, Assistant Attorney General, appeared for the Ministry of Information.

BCL (S-A) activists burn 5 vehicles

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arms and ammunition recovered during the two-hour search.

Soon after, the SM Hall activists of the Awami League-banned BCL (S-A) brought out a violent procession. They set ablaze three private cars and a motor cycle of British Council officials parked in front of the council. They also had their wreath on another micro bus and a vehicle and set them afire near the Sher-e-Bangla Hall of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET). All these happened by 4 in the afternoon.

The fire-fighters extinguished fire of all the vehicles.

Campus sources later claimed that the suspected killers of Dr Milton, a martyr in anti-autocracy movement, were freely moving on the campus and sometimes seen staying at the SM Hall during past few days. They were also reportedly seen in a motor cycle procession Sunday afternoon and in a motor cycle procession of the same organisation Monday morning, the sources claimed.

Monday's police action followed a request by a Jatyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leader, to nab the alleged killers, another source said.

Witnesses later claimed the alleged killers of Dr Milton's were on the campus while the raid was going on at SM Hall.

Police guard on the campus and at hall gates was reinforced to avert further incidents.

Meanwhile, BSS adds, different student organisations of DU brought out processions and held rallies on the campus to muster support in favour of their candidates in DUCSU and hall union elections.

Select body

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working on narrowing down the differences on conflicting issues like measures against floor crossing, procedures of president election and the making of ministers from non-MPs.

The issue of lifting the protected clause as proposed by the Awami League and Rashed Khan Menon of the Workers Party is also being discussed.

According to insiders the Select Committee is working almost like the liaison committee, which played a vital role during the democratic movement.

The insiders said that before the reaching of any final decision by the Select Committee representatives of both the Awami League and the BNP have to take the consents of their party chiefs.

The members of the Select Committee other than those of the BNP and the Awami League however said that though the matter of seeking consent of the party chiefs was delaying the process, it would help in reaching a unanimous decision in Parliament.

A Jamaat member earlier put forward a proposal to arrange a meeting between Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and the Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina to decide on the conflicting issues. But the proposal was ruled out by other members.

On the other hand the Jatyta Party which has always stood for the presidential system is also working in the Select Committee for a parliamentary system.

Select Committee member Barrister Moudud Ahmed told The Daily Star "We are playing a very effective role in the Select Committee."

He however said that his party had yet not decided about the form of government.

The Select Committee Chairman Mirza Golem Hafiz sought four days' time Sunday to complete the scrutiny of the bills which was approved by Parliament.

However the committee will not be able to place the report before next Sunday because the Parliament session will remain closed on Friday and Saturday.

Rao : confidence vote

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Rao, 70, who had a heart bypass operation a year ago, has not acted like a leader whose government could fall at any time.

The BJP has endorsed in principle Rao's plans to turn away from four decades of socialism and unleash market forces in the state dominated economy.

The government is expected to introduce a new industrial and foreign investment policy in parliament this week that would privatise some staterun industries and make it easier to set up joint ventures with foreign firms.

Deregulation

Within 10 days of taking office, he devalued the rupee twice, raised interest rates, announced major deregulation of the trade regime and outlined an almost revolutionary programme to deal with the country's worst-ever economic crisis.

India has been struggling for months to service four billion dollars of short-term loans of its total 71 billion dollar foreign debt, the third biggest in