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Article

Compromise is an,

essential ingredient of

that broth called demo-

cracy, which always

means balancing con-

flicting views in a

pluralistic society

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International

Former First Lady

Imelda Marcos plans to

ship home from Hawaii

the body of ousted

President Ferdi-

nand Marcos

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**Business** 

Executive's tips

by Shahabuddin

Mahtab

BCIC urea sale proce-

dures contradict trad-

ing rules

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Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day

Irate as you may be,

there is nothing that

you can do to stop the

endless stealing from

SHRABAN 18, 1398 BS,

**DHAKA SATURDAY AUGUST 3, 1991** 

-Inside Today PM apprises Acting President of latest

developments in an urgent meeting

# Shahabuddin will quit if amendment bills not passed

The Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed last night assured the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia of using his good offices for removing the obstacles to the transition to the parliamentary form of government. He categorically told the Prime Minister that if his efforts to get the Constitution amendment bills passed smoothly in parliament failed, he would re-

linquish his office straightaway. The assurance came at an urgent meeting of the Prime Minister with the Acting

President at his official residence, BSS said.

The Prime Minister apprised the Acting President of the latest position in respect of the constitutional amendment bills.

The Prime Minister and Leader of the House, Begum Khaleda Zia, expressed her grave concern over the political motive of a section of members of Parliament who were deliberately putting obstacles to the passage of the

The Prime Minister sought the good offices of the Acting President for smooth passage of the two bills which are intended for switching over to the parliamentary form of gov-

Among those present on the occasion included Education Minister Prof. Badruddoza Chowdhury, Finance Minister Saifur Rahman, Deputy Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali, LGRD Minister Abdus Salam Taluk der and Commerce Minister M K Anwar.

# Relevant

By Staff Correspondent

Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed of Friday said he would relinquish his office if the Parliament failed to pass the Constitution amendment bills.

The Acting President was talking to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia who called on him to apprise him of the latest situation in respect of the Constitution amendment bills, in case, Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed expresses his inability to continue in the office. Speaker of Jatiya Sangsad will automatically be-

Article 55(2) of the existing Constitution says, ".....when both the President and Vice-President are unable to discharge the functions of their respective offices on account of absence, illness or any other cause, the Speaker shall act as President until a new President elected to fill such vacancy enters upon his ofHasina terms bill provisions anti-people

## AL will resist move to pass BNP's form of govt bill

Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina Friday said her party would resist any move to pass the present Constitution Amendment Bill in Parliament for changing the form of government as it contained provisions detrimental to people's rights, a

BSS report said last night. The AL chief's threat was voiced at a reception accorded to her by 'Prottoy,' a socio-cul- simple majority in the tural organization at the WAPDA Auditorium in the city yesterday.

On the same day, at her party's extended meeting, the AL chief also expressed skepticism about the sincerity of the BNP for passing the Constitution Amendment Bill introduced for switching over to parliamentary system.

In her inaugural address at the extended meeting Sheikh Hasina alleged that the ruling party was looking for pleas to

By Staff Correspondent

withdraw the amendment bills. She said that BNP did not change its manifesto yet for adopting parliamentary system.

Sheikh Hasina · demanded repeal of Indemnity Ordinance of 1975 saying, "all obstacles against rule of law should be removed." She said that her party submitted Indemnity (repeal) Bill aimed for the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu and it could be passed with a Parliament. She deplored that the bill was not yet introduced in the Parliament.

Held at 29, Minto Road, the official residence of the Leader of the Opposition, the meeting was attended by the members of AL Working Committee and National Committee, presidents and secretaries of party's district committees, MPs and the AL candidates who contested last parliamentary election.

About the Amendment Bill

for switching over to parliamentary system, Sheikh Hasina said that BNP had to introduce the bill due to people's opinion. But the bill incorporated certain provisions which would ultimately bring about 'parliamentary autoc-

racy,' she added. She mentioned about the procedure of president's election, induction of non-MPs in the cabinet, strict measures against floor crossing by MPs. provision for referendum on the BNP's bill and said that these have created doubt about the sincerity of the ruling

She said that AL had submitted two separate bills for ending politics of coup and conspiracy and to ensure independence of judiciary according to the joint declaration of three alliances. But BNP has taken 'delaying tactics' on all these issues, she alleged.

See Page 12 Col. 7

#### Analysis

#### Hasina reopens debate on 12th Constitution amendment bill

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina has reopened debate on certain provisions of the Constitution 12th Amendment Bill, unanimously finalised at the Parliamentary Select Committee. Four AL members had signed the unanimous report of the committee.

She said the constitution amendment bills should be passed by removing 'inconsistencies relating to referendum, presidential election, floor crossing, and technocrat ministers'. And detailed discussion should be allowed for this, she added.

Inaugurating a two-day special extended meeting of her party's Central Executive Committee at her Minto Read official residence Sheikh Hastna, who is also the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, said her party would not tolerate adoption of 'unholy tactics' to get the bills See Page 12 Col. 3

#### Islamic FMs meet: Abul Ahsan off to Istanbul

Bangladesh will play an active role in the 20th Islamic Foreign Ministers conference beginning in Istanbul on August 3, Foreign Secretary Abul Ahsan said on Friday, reports BSS.

He said several issues including the details of the next Islamic summit in Senegal later this year and issues relating to solidarity and cohesion among the Muslim nations would come up in the meeting.

The Foreign Secretary left Dhaka Friday for Istanbul heading the five-member del-See Page 12 Cot. 7

#### DCCI team meets PM

A delegation of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her Sugandha office Friday evening, reports BSS.

chamber President Mahbubur Rahman, handed over a cheque for Taka seven lakh eight thousand to Prime Minister's Relief See Page 12 Col. 7

The delegation, led by

#### BNP considers demand of JP as alternative By Moinuddin Naser The ruling BNP is actively

considering the demand of Jatiya Party to allow deposed President Ershad and three other MPs to participate in the voting on the Constitution amendment bills.

A meeting of the 'kitchen cabinet' of BNP was held Friday evening to discuss the consequences of the decision if Ershad and three other Jatiya Party MPs, now in jail, were brought to Parliament in this connection. Earlier, acting chairman of

Jatiya Party Moudud Ahmed wrote to the Home Ministry to allow Ershad, Kazi Zafar. Anwar Hossain and Sardar Amjad Hossain — all Jatiya Party MPs - to attend the Parliament session on parole.

Moudud Ahmed also sought permission for a meeting of the Jatiya Party MPs with Ershad in the jail to discuss the Constitution amendment bills and finalise the party

Secretary of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party Monirul Haque told The Daily Star that they had already communicated to the ruling BNP that they would vote in favour of the bills if the detained party MPs were allowed to attend the

Parliament session. BNP from the very beginning gave cold shoulder to the demand of Jatiya Party. But in the changed situation, a section of BNP leaders suggested the Prime Minister that it would be better to consider the demand of Jatiya Party.

The suggestion was made in the wake of Awami League's pressure for introducing the Indemnity Repeal Bill in Parliament before the passage of the Constitution amendment bills. Awami League in a dramatic move initiated a debate in the House on the repeal of the Indemnity Act, of the 1975, which was incorporated in the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution barring the trial of the killers of Shetkh Mutibur Rahman and four other leaders of Awami League.

They further suggested that if Awami League abstained from voting in favour of the amendment bills, all other parties in Parliament including Jamaat, CPB. Workers Party. JSD (Straj), IOJ and other independent members would See Page 12 Col. 8

## constitutional provision

came the Acting President.

Under the Constitution election of a new President is to be held before the expiry of the present term of the Vice President in October.

### Sheikh Hasina addressing a reception accorded to her by a cultural organisation at the WAPDA auditorium on Friday. -Star photo Campus violence political: DU VC

## By Staff Correspondent

There could be loss of life Prof Moniruzzaman Mia. on the campus if the university Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka was not closed July 30 and University, Friday said the university was closed sine die to students directed to leave avoid "possible dangerous consequences" although this closure would not rout terrorism

halls, he said in a statement. The statement was issued to clarify the position of the DU authorities in the face of

varying statements and comments from different quarters about the university's closure, the VC said.

He said cause of terrorism on the campus lies outside. It is poked from cutside and its See Page 12 Col. 6

## **Kuwaitis remember** Iragi invasion

**KUWAIT**, Aug 2: Kuwaitis marked the first anniversary of the Iraqi invasion today by firing rounds of ammunition into the air and shouting "Allahu Akbar" from rooftops and minarets, report agencies.

Tracer bullets lit up the night sky while young men, driving sleek limousines and sports cars, cruised around Kuwait City sounding their horns and singing patriotic

Muezzins summoned the faithful to prayers from minarets at midnight, drawing cries of "Allahu Akbar" across the city of high-rise buildings and wide avenues.

Despite impromptu celebrations overnight, the government kept a low profile and the official media carried mournful messages recalling

No official ceremonies or demonstrations were planned. Shops and government offices were closed.

The streets were all but empty after sunrise, when the temperature starts its quick climb to well above 40 degrees Celsius (105 Fahrenheit), apart from mainly Asian foreign guest workers heading to menial jobs. "We just want to forget what

happened. That is why there are no parades or anything." said one Kuwaiti.

Kuwait City basked in bright sunshine, a reminder that one of the worst legacies of the invasion - blazing oil wells blown up by the Iraqis in the last days of the seven-monthlong occupation - was gradually being brought under con-

Smog and soot from the fires shut out the sun in the weeks following the February 28 liberation of the emirate by a US - led alliance of Western and Arab countries. Fire fighters have capped

more than 250 of about 600 See Page 12 Col. 4



Mizan Chowdhury ... out of jail yesterday. -Star photo

## Mizan released

from the campus.

By Staff Correspondent

Former Prime Minister and Jatiya Party leader Mizanur Rahman Choudhury was released on bail Friday after over 100 days of detention.

Mizan was arrested on April 21 and put under 120 days detention in the Jessore jail. He was later shifted to the Dhaka Central Jail. Before his release Mizan was undergoing treatment at the PG Hospital from where he was released at 10.20 pm Friday.

A High Court Division bench of the Supreme Court declared Mizan's detention order illegal but he was not released because of two specific cases of bank loans against him.

Jatiya Party leaders and workers received Mizan Choudhury at the PG Hospital

UNB adds: Mizanur Choudhury later said, he, as a liberal democrat, never believes in violence and unlawful activities.

See Page 12 Col. 8

#### PLO welcomes peace conference rights of the Palestinian peo-Middle East peace conference

The Palestine Liberation Organisation officially expressed its accord Friday on the principle of a peace conference, but set conditions and asked for guarantees to ensure its success, reports AFP.

According to the Palestinian news agency WAFA, an official Palestinian source asked for five guarantees before the PLO will participate in the confer-

-The goal of the conference must be the implementation of US Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. which require an Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied in 1967, including the Arab part of Jerusalem.

-Recognition of the "legitimate national political

ple, including its right to selfdetermination". -Participation in the con-

ference is the "sole province of the PLO, which will designate its representatives without external interference." -Open treatment of the

Jerusalem question during all stages of negotiations, which means dealing with the issue of Palestinian representatives from there as well as with the status of the city itself. -An immediate halt to

Jerusalem. Report from Tel Aviv adds: Palestinians from the occupied territories today welcomed the convening in October of a

Jewish settlements in all oc-

cupied territories, including

but weighed down their acceptance with conditions after talks here with US Secretary of State James Baker, report agencies. "We think that the peace

process has a chance now of succeeding," delegation leader Faisal Husseni said after the four-hour meeting, adding that Palestinians should name their own representatives. Baker arrived in Jordan

from Israel today and immediately began talks with King Hussein on Middle East peace efforts, officials said. Foreign Minister Abdullah Al-Nsour greeted Baker at the airport and escorted him to

the Hashimiyen Guest Palace

on the outskirts of Amman to

meet the King, who along with other Arab countries supports the US plan for a peace con-Amman is willing to accept

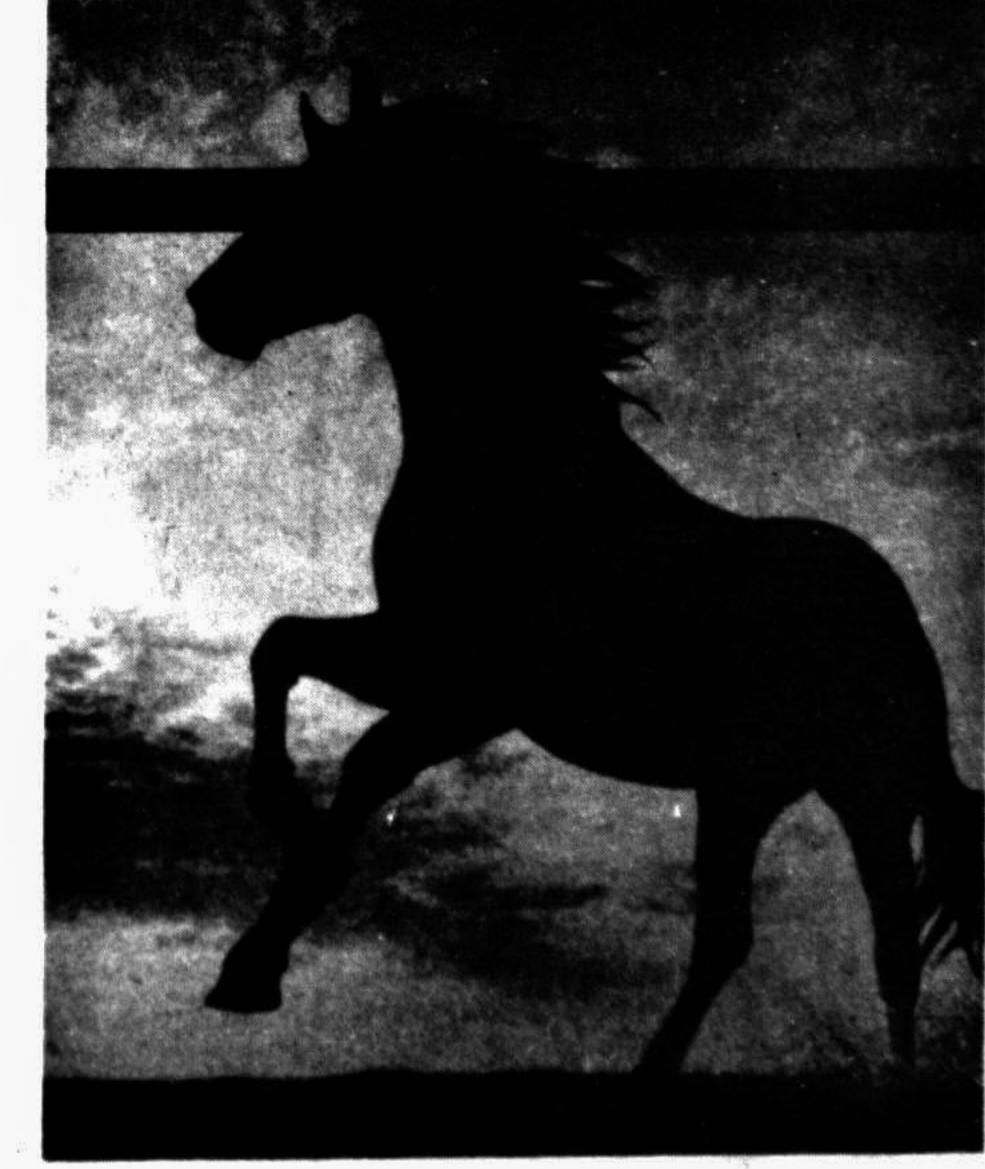
US proposals for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to a planned October conference if the Palestinians Earlier today Baker met

Palestinians in Jerusalem for

four-hours to prod them into agreeing to join Israel and its Arab neighbours at the talks. Israel, bowing to US pressure, agreed on Thursday to attend talks provided agreement was reached on the make-up of

a Palestinian delegation. Israel says it will not sit down with Palestinians from Arab, east Jerusalem or PLO.

# Green Delta Never Looked Back



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the garden Page 3 Sport "I won't play soccer professionally again,"

> President of International Olympic Committee wants a revolution to sweep away sports which have no real following outside Olympic Games Page 11

says Diego Maradona

Page 10

**Feature** 

Banking and Finance

Thailand's gems industry has grown from backyard business to an internationally recognised operation Page 8

### **NEWS BRIEFS**

#### 18 killed in UP road accident NEW DELHI, Aug 2: At least 18 passengers were killed and

22 injured when a transport

bus plummeted into Alaknanda river in the northern India state of Uttar Pradesh today.

reports AP.

Atlantis lifts off CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida). Aug 2 : The shuttle Atlantis lifted off today after 10 days of delays, carrying five astronauts who will launch a 120 million dollar satellite and then experiment with miniature wasps and brine shrimp on a nine-day space flight, reports Reuter.

# Rally

A joint rally of BFUJ, BNEF, BNWF and DUJ will be held today at 11 am in front of the Ittefaq Bhaban. A two-hour work suspension will also be observed from 11 am in all newspapers and news agencles, reports BSS.