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# The Daily Star

Drive carefully and observe all traffic rules. The man you are likely to kill by rash driving may be yourself.

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## Inside today International



The uprising in Iraq could drag on for months with Saddam Hussein's defeated army proving unable to match the mobility of the rebels.

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Environment Social imperatives of environment management. Page 6

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Raushan's case adjourned

The hearing of the bail petition of Begum Raushan Ershad was adjourned Saturday till April 1, at the court of Sessions Judge, reports BSS. The bail petition was earlier rejected by the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate. Later an ad-interim bail was also rejected by the Sessions Judge. The same Sessions Judge, however, accepted the bail petition of Begum Ershad.

### APSU burns newspaper copies

Our Correspondent KHULNA, Mar 30: Leaders of the All Party Students Unity (APSU) today burned copies of the daily Purbanchal for publishing a contradictory news item on an APSU Press conference.

### 22 killed in Punjab

CHANDIGARH, Mar 30: Twenty-two people, including six militants and four security-men, have been killed in Punjab since Friday night, reports PTI.

### 33 insurgents surrender

AGARTALA, Mar 30: Thirty-three members of the outlaw "Lamakautal" an insurgency outfit, have surrendered to the Tripura Chief Minister, Mr Sudhir Ranjan Majumder, at Babupara, a remote hilly area in the Amarapur sub-division of south Tripura district Friday, reports PTI.

### Schri and Ifar timings

Ramzan Day Last time for Ifar  
14 Sunday 4:31 am 6:20 pm  
15 Monday 4:30 am 6:21 pm

## Bid to create a market for foreign goods alleged Chambers reject World Bank terms on loans

By Moazzem Hossain

The World Bank's tough stance on government compliance with its conditions for future loan approvals has come under strong criticism of the private sector.

Representatives of the private sector at a meeting on Saturday at the Ministry of Industries strongly resented the Bank's conditions on the rate of interest on credits for ex-

port-oriented industries, duty structure for import of capital machinery for setting up of industries in less and least developed areas, protection to local industries and special credit allocation for industrial development activities.

The one and a half hour meeting with Industries Secretary Shaful Alam in the chair centred on the new industrial

policy now in its final stage of approval. With no understanding whatsoever reached between the two sides, the meeting ended.

The functionaries of the leading Chamber bodies who attended the meeting as representatives of the private sector requested the visiting World Bank appraisal mission to communicate their "strong

reservation" about the aid conditions of the Bank to its headquarters.

Such conditions will throttle the private sector which the Bank apparently wants to help develop, the representatives of the private sector noted.

The leader of a Chamber body told The Daily Star on See Page 10 Col 3



Students of Dhaka University mourn the premature death of Nafia Gazi. Nafia, a meritorious student was killed when her rickshaw was hit by a BRTC bus in the city on Friday.

## 75 p.c. of Kuwait returnees may not be reinstated

By Moinuddin Naser

The fate of 75 per cent of the repatriated Bangladeshis, employed in Kuwait's private sector before the Gulf war is hanging in the balance.

The post-Gulf war situation in the Middle East is responsible to a great extent for causing this problem for the Bangladeshi returnees, sources say.

Before the war brokeout a total of about 70,000 Bangladeshis returned from

Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Of this total only 25 per cent was employed in the public sector while the remaining 75 per cent was employed in the private sector.

Foreign Ministry sources said that the government of Kuwait could easily ensure reinstatement of the workers in the public sector but that the Kuwait government could not impose anything on the private sector there, unless the individual private companies agreed to accept the re-

turnees. So it would be difficult to send back the Bangladeshis who used to work in the private sector and left those countries before the war.

But the sources said there was a bright prospect for recruitment of fresh manpower from Bangladesh by the private companies and the consortiums, which were formed for the reconstruction of Kuwait.

An ILO multi-disciplinary team will be visiting Bangladesh this week to look into the affairs of the war driven Bangladeshis from Kuwait and Iraq. The team will also assess the loss of property of the repatriated Bangladeshis.

According to Foreign Ministry sources the government has already approached the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the Red Cross and the United Nations to look to the interests of the Bangladeshi workers during the post-war reconstruction of Kuwait and Iraq.

The IOM also helped repatriate Bangladeshis from Iraq, Kuwait and Jordan prior to the Gulf war.

After the war, in another development, the Kuwaiti government took a decision to reduce the number of expatriates to bring a balance between the number of Kuwaiti people and expatriates.

See Page 10 Col 4

## G M Shah's call to continue freedom struggle Defiant Muslims fired upon in Kashmir: 20 injured

JAMMU (India), Mar 30: Indian security forces wounded at least 20 people in Kashmir when they repeatedly fired at Muslims trying to defy a curfew in response to a rebel-sponsored general strike, reports AFP.

Parliamentary personnel fired at hundreds of Muslims who tried to stage processions and head to the Eidgah grounds on the outskirts of the city of Srinagar to observe a 'Martyrs' Day,' news reports here said.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) reported an unspecified

number of bomb explosions and clashes between Muslim separatists and Indian security forces in Kashmir state's summer capital, Srinagar.

PTI did not give any casualties, but officials here said at least 20 people were wounded in repeated firings in and around Eidgah by the paramilitary Central Reserve Police Forces and Border Security Force.

Srinagar District authorities earlier Saturday withdrew a curfew relaxation to bar people from attending a public meet-

ing at the Eidgah grounds called by five major Muslim separatist groups fighting for independence.

In a related development, a former Jammu and Kashmir state Chief Minister, G. M. Shah, Saturday urged Kashmiri Muslims to continue their campaign for independence from India.

He also paid tribute to Wali, the slain JKLF leader and urged the United Nations to pressure India into giving freedom to the Kashmiri people as it did in case of Kuwait.

## Students demand arrest of Nafia's killer

By DU Correspondent

The leaders and students of the Economics Department of Dhaka University held a rally in front of National Press Club Saturday demanding arrest and trial of the killer of Nafia Kamal Gazi, a second year student of the Department.

Speakers at the rally also called upon the Government to take stern action against the reckless drivers to save valuable lives like that of Nafia Kamal.

The rally also decided to hold a mourning meeting on Monday at the Department of Economics.

The rally was addressed by Dr Abul Barakat and Masud Imon.

## Hasina condoles

Chief of Bangladesh Awami League and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina on Saturday expressed her deep shock at the tragic death of meritorious student of the Economics Department of Dhaka University Miss Nafia Gazi, reports BSS.



## Yeltsin out to grab absolute power

MOSCOW, Mar 30: A leader of the Russian parliament said today that Boris Yeltsin's push for an executive presidency in the giant republic concealed a grab for absolute power, reports Reuter.

But striking Siberian miners rallied behind Yeltsin, currently Chairman of the parliament, warning that refusal to create the executive presidency post — as supported in a recent referendum would only prolong their crippling strike.

The Russian presidency, sure to go to Yeltsin in any popular poll, would free him from his communist critics in parliament and provide a solid mandate for further attacks on his rival, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

## Three JS members take oath: JP men absent

Chief Election Commissioner, Justice M A Rauf, Saturday administered the oath of office to three Jatiya Sangsad members-elect at the Sangsad Bhavan, reports BSS. Shanker Gabinda Chowdhury (AL) of Natore-2, Raushan Ali (AL) of Jessore-3 and Abdur Rauf Chowdhury (BNP) of Kushtia-2 took the oath.

With these three members, the total number of MPs taking oath stood at 259.

The 31 Jatiya Sangsad members-elect belonging to the Jatiya Party did not turn up at the Sangsad Bhavan for taking oath Saturday. The Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party has urged the government to create a congenial atmosphere by April 1 so that the JP members along with their leaders could take oath.

## Indian Foreign Secy in city, meets Khaleda today

Star Report

Indian Foreign Secretary Muchkund Dubey arrived in Dhaka yesterday (Saturday) carrying a letter for Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia from her Indian counterpart.

Dubey who came here as a special envoy of Indian Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar was received at the airport by Foreign Secretary Abul Ahsan and Additional Foreign Secretary A.S. Mohammad Ali yesterday afternoon. Bangladesh High Commissioner to India Faruk Ahmed Chowdhury was also present at the airport.

The Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh K. Srinivasan was also present.

"This is a goodwill mission from India to show good gesture to the new government of Bangladesh, and it will help open a dialogue to solve bilateral issues," said Foreign Minister A.S.M. Mustafizur Rahman while talking to The Daily Star. Muchkund Dubey, in his long diplomatic career had also been the Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh for a long period.

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## Govt must be neutral in Presidential polls: Mizan

By Staff Correspondent

Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, Acting Chairman of Jatiya Party on Saturday urged the government to maintain neutrality in the coming presidential election. Chowdhury termed the present government as partisan.

Chowdhury was addressing as a chief guest an extended meeting of Jatiya Samikha Party at its central office.

Chowdhury criticised the authorities of radio and TV for not giving due coverage of news of Jatiya Party. He thanked the journalists for presenting their news.

Referring to the detention of H M Ershad, Mizanur Rahman said the popularity of a man could not be resisted by a false case. Presided over by the President of JSP Shah Mohammad Abu Zafar, the meeting was also addressed by the central leaders of Jatiya Party Mia Musa Hossain, Hasanuddin Sarkar, Ismail Hossain Bengal and Secretary General of JSP M.A. Qadir.

The meeting which continued till night will resume this morning.

## 30 women elected MPs, BNP's strength now 164

By Staff Correspondent

All the 30 candidates, who filed nomination papers to contest for 30 Parliamentary seats reserved for women, were Saturday declared elected unopposed.

The elected women members of the Parliament include 28 from the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) while two other from Jamaat-e-Islami.

With the election of 28 women MPs, the BNP's strength in the 330-member fifth Parliament stands at 164.

As per schedule, the Secretary of the Election Commission who was appointed Returning Officer of the polls for women seats received nomination papers Saturday from 9 am to 4 pm. The Returning Officer scrutinised them at 5 pm and declared all the 30 candidates elected as they had no contestants.

According to earlier schedule, today (Sunday) was the date for scrutiny of the nomination papers and the elections to the 30 reserved seats was fixed for April 4.

The elected MPs from the

reserved seats belonging to BNP are Mrs. Khurshid Jahan (Women Constituency-1), Saheba Sarkar (WC-2), Rebeka Mahmud (WC-3), Saheen Ara Huq (WC-4), Begum Rawshan Ilahti (WC-5), Lutfun Nessa Hossain (WC-6), Selma Shaheed (WC-8), Shamsun Nahar Ahmed (WC-9), Farida Rahman (WC-10), Syeda Nargis Ali (WC-11), Rawshan Ara Hena (WC-12), Selma Rahman (WC-13), Anwara Habib (WC-14), Rahma Khandaker (WC-15), Nur Jahan Yasmin (WC-16), Bari Ashraf (WC-17), Farida Hassan (WC-18), Sarwar Rahman (WC-19), K. J. Hanida Khanam (WC-20), Begum Shamsun Nahar Khawja Ahsanullah (WC-21), Jahan Ara Begum (WC-22), Fatema Chowdhury Paru (WC-24), Khaleda Rabbani (WC-25), Asia Rahman (WC-26), Rebeza Chowdhury (WC-27), Halima Khatun (WC-28), Rosy Kabir (WC-29) and Mameching (WC-30).

Two women MPs elected from Jamaat-e-Islami are Rashida Khatun (WC-7) and Hafeza Asma Khatun (WC-23).

With the election to the reserved seats

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## Alien culture to be resisted: Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said Saturday her government would do everything possible to prevent intrusion of alien culture to protect our national heritage, reports UNB.

"We do not want to look back but lead the nation towards progress in all fronts upholding our national culture," she told a delegation of Sammlita Sangskritik Jote that met her at the Banani office of BNP.

Culture bears the identity of a nation, Begum Zia said and called for united efforts of all quarters for flourishing national culture and heritage.

She stressed the need for positive contribution of cultural activity in the country's democratic transition and assured all cooperation from the new government.

The 8-member delegation of the Jote included Faiz Ahmed, Nasrullah Yusuf, Ramendu Majumder, Ataur Rahman, Jamaluddin Hossain.

Mamunur Rashid, Mafidul Huq and SM Solaiman.

The Sangskritik Jote placed before Begum Zia its long-cherished 11-point charter of demand which includes setting up a national theatre, cancellation of the Cultural Commission report to the ousted Ershad regime, scrapping Theatre Performance Act 1874 and democratisation of Television and Radio freeing them from "autocratic administration".

Leaders of the Jote said the commission was formed by the autocratic regime to have control over cultural activities and use them in its vested interest.

State Minister for Food Barriater Nazmul Huda, BNP Parliamentary Party Secretary Fazlur Rahman Patal and JASAS leader Zahid Hossain Chhunu were also present.

A separate charter of demand of Bangladesh Betar Television Shilpi Sangsad was also placed.

## Hasina happy over communal harmony

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, Mar 30: Awami League (AL) chief and Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina said that her party would fight in and outside legislature for the welfare of the people, besides establishment of parliamentary democracy in the country.

She was speaking at a rally of the party activists at the Gopalganj Circuit House today afternoon.

Sheikh Hasina expressed her satisfaction over the communal harmony prevailing in the area. It will not be tolerated if any one tries to destroy the harmony, she said.

## \$34m gift for Kuwaitis

KUWAIT, Mar 30: Kuwait began handing out 10 million Dinars (34 million dollars) today to reward citizens who stayed through seven months of Iraqi occupation, reports Reuter.

Presided over by Md Ali Khan, AL President of Gopalganj district, the meeting was also addressed by Kazi Abdur Rashid, MP, Sheikh Md Abdullah, General Secretary of Gopalganj district AL and Kamrul Islam Rahim.

In the morning, Sheikh Hasina addressed district level officials at the Circuit House.

## AL body meets Monday to discuss nominations

By Staff Correspondent

The Awami League Parliamentary Board will meet tomorrow (Monday) to discuss nomination of party candidates for the coming by-elections in ten seats to Parliament.

Among the ten seats, four were vacated by BNP chief and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia while former President

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## 6 Gulf states suspend aid to Jordan, PLO

turned its back on you. There is no forgiveness for this. It is not a romance where lovers quarrel. The crime is too big to forgive," he said, referring to Jordan.

Jordan was officially neutral but broadly sympathetic towards Baghdad during the conflict caused by Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

On the clearly pro-Iraq stand taken by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, Beshara said, "Mr Arafat took a very reckless course of action and will have to bear the consequences."

The GCC states had long been the PLO's main financial backers and also provided tens of millions of dollars of aid to

Jordan, where a majority of people are of Palestinian origin.

Beshara refused to disclose the amount of aid suspended. But in the past 12 years Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, granted the PLO alone close to one billion dollars.

A western diplomat said Beshara left the door open for aid reaching Palestinians living under Israeli occupation by saying that "Palestinians are not a country, they are a people."

The western diplomat said Beshara gave "a frank analysis of how the GCC sees the post-Gulf war era ... no longer hamstrung by the myth of 'b unity'.