The Midnight-Eile

Ferry disaster: 46 feared

drowned in W Bengal

feared drowned after ferry boat capsized in India's castern

state of West Bengal, the United News of India said today. Five

bodies have been recovered, the news agency said. It said 20

passengers were rescued after the boat sank near Sagar

Papandreou's trial ends:

Verdict on Jan 16

Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, charged with complicity

in a 200-million dollar bank scandal, ended today and the

court said it would announce its verdict on January 16.

Papandreou, Prime Minister from 1981 to 1989, was charged

in September 1989 by the Greek Parliament with accepting

90 million drachams (490,000 dollars) in bribes from the

Bank of Crete's former owner George Koskotas, reports

Maoists blow up statue

of Indira Gandhi

Maoist group blew up a statue of late Indian Prime Minister

Indira Gandhi in the southern state of Andhra Pradesh, the

Press Trust of India reported today. The statue, a bust of the

former Premier which had recently been unveiled near a

court complex in Ranga Reddy district, was blown off its

Moynihan hands over

Bush's letter to Rao

Indian Prime Minister P V Narasimha Ruo here today and de-

livered a letter from President George Bush. In the letter,

Bush voiced Washington's desire to 'work together and

deepen' relations with New Delhi, a Foreign Ministry

NEW DELHI, Jan 4: US Senator Daniel Moynthan met

NEW DELIII, Jan 4: Radicals suspected to belong to a local

ATHENS, Jan 4: The 10-month trial of former Greek

Island in the Bay of Bengal, reports Reuter.

NEW DELHI, Jan 4: At least 46 people were missing and

## Haj applicants have to deposit Tk 78,900 each

The government has apthe Haj Policy for 1992, which will allow all apolicants to travel to Saudi Arabia to perform the holy pilgrimage provided they are medically fit and all their papers are found valid, reports

An official handout Saturday said all pilgrims will be sent to Saudi Arabia by plane under government supervision.

The Itaj will be held on June 10 subject to sighting of

Each Haj applicant will have to deposit Tk 78,900 which is subject to marginal adjustments later on. The amount includes Tk. 40,000 as airfare with royalty, Tk 2,000 foreign travel tax, Tk 200 terminal fee, Tk 25 for ptlgrim pass and cost of "Ahkamul Haj" book and Tk 36,675 against foreign exchange allocation of 3,500 Saudi Riyal.

Besides the compulsory 3,500 Saudi Rytal, a Itaj pilgrim will be entitled to buy 550 US dollars from scheduled banks at the IP rate. All ptigrims are advised to carry some US dollars with them during the pilgrimage, the handout said.

Women applicants will have to submit application for haj along with their "mohrem" in the same envelope. There will be no quota system for the applicants of "Haj-e-Badal". Those who performed Haj earlier will not be cligible for regular haj except "liaj-e-Badal" or with "mohrem"

Bangladesh Bank will take necessary measures for the non-ballotee Haj pilgrims. In respect of non-ballotec pilgrims, Biman Bangladesh air-

lines and the Saudi Arabian Airlines will contact with the Bangladesh Bank. The nonballotce pilgrims will have to carry with them 600 dollars and their confirmed date of return must be mentioned in the

The government will arrange houses only for those who intend to stay at rented houses at Makkah. Others could make their own arrangements.

The application forms for Haj will be available free of cost at all scheduled banks, offices of the Deputy Commissioners and at the Mirpur Haj Office in

The last date for submission of Haj application is February 15. The applicants will have to deposit the amount mentioned earlier at any scheduled banks and submit applications along with the receipt of the money to the Deputy Commissioner's offices by February 15 (Saturday).

The ptlgrims will have to report to their respective distriet medical board on February 16 for their medical

Pilgrims will not be allowed to carry foodstuff, tobacco, betel leaf and betel nut, kattha (catechu) or any contraband including drugs.

All pilgrims will have to report to the temporary haji camp at the premises of former Islami University at Gazipur four to five days before their departure for Saudi Pilgrim Pass will be issued

by the Haj Office to those who intend to perform Hat under government management.

# Police have big role

From Page 1 Col 8 the police have increased a lot in democratic atmosphere', she told them.

The Prime Minister said the objective and ideal of the great Liberation War was to establish democratic social system in the country. We have achieved democracy after a relentless struggle against the autocratic regime for nine years, she said.

She said we have to come forward with same zeal and spirit to build up the nation afresh as we had embarked upon the Liberation War and subsequently in the demoeratic movement

Begum Zia called upon all people irrespective of shade and opinion to work together to help resist corruption, terrorism and erosion of social She said Rajarbagh Police

Line was memorable in our history of Liberation War and i remind a glorious milestone of heroism of the police forces She said heroic armed resistance was started in Rajarbagh during the 1971 struggle.

The Prime Minister said. not only in Rajarbagh the valiant members of the police force from all over the country took part in the Liberation War and sacrificed their lives for the freedom of the motherland. Their sacrifice has created a golden chapter in the history of our Liberation War,

Strike at CU

From Staff Correspondent

Chittagong University unit of

the All-Party Students Unity

(APSU) today called a strike

for an indefinite period

protesting the recent removal

of Dr. Alamgir Mohammad

Strajuddin as Vice Chancellor.

The Chittagong University -

bound shuttle train was

blocked by APSU supporters at

the Chittagong Railway Station

and they also barricaded the

rail tracks near the university.

mands including the with-

drawal of the removal order of

Dr. Sirajuddin, expulsion of 63

alleged terrorists held respon-

sible for the December '90 in-

cident in which one student

was killed and another 100

were injured and the arrest of

Half-day hartal

observed in

Jhenidah

By Our Correspondent

day hartal was observed in

Jhenidah today.

JHENIDAH, Jan 4: A half-

Road communication of

nine south western districts

with Dhaka was cut off the

districts are: Jhenidah,

Jessore, Khulna, Bagerhat,

Satkhira, Narail, Kushtia,

Hundreds of passengers

were stranded at different

stations. About 200 vehicles

including buses, trucks, from

different routes were detained.

ness establishments were

closed and movements of the

Jatiya Chhatra Dal student

public were thin during hartal

The hartal was called by

At Jhenidah, shops and busi-

Chuadanga and Meherpur.

the alleged killers of Faruk.

The APSU placed six de-

No class was held today

CHITTAGONG, Dec 4: The

### **Obituary** references

By Staff Correspondent Obituary references of eleven eminent personalities of the country who died since the last session of the House were adopted today at the first sitting of the Jatiya Sangsad's (Parliament) winter session.

Speaker Shatkh Razzak Ali moved the obituary references which were unanimously adopted by the House. The House also observed oneminute silence in honour to the departed souls and offered munajat led by Ataur Rahman Khan of BNP.

The obituary references were made for the following persons: Former Prime Minister Ataur Rahman Khan, former Vice-President Dr M N Huda, ex-Chief Justices of the erstwhile East Pakistan High Court, Amin Ahmed and B A Siddigi, former Minister S M Shafiul Azam, former MPs Abdur Rashid Biswas and Prof Mostjul Islam, former member of the National Assembly Ali Amjad Khan, former members of the then provincial assembly Advocate Shamsur Rahman and Alhaj Moulvi Abdul Halim and former Justice of the Supreme Court Ranadheer Scn.

The Speaker advised the members concerned who proposed for inclusion of names of some other important persons who died since the last session, to send those names to the parliament secretariat.

Col (retd) Shawkat Ali of the Awami League proposed names of former Secretary Ahmed Fazlur Rahman while Tofael Ahmed of the same party named former member of the then Provincial Assembly Ismail Hossain Talukder.

Referring to a proposal by the Awami League member Abul Hassan Choudhury to record obituary reference for those members of the BDR who were killed by the Burmese troops, the Speaker said that the House would consider the proposal.

wing of National Democratic Front (NDF) following scrious burnt injury of Abdul Malck, President of Jhenidah District Unit and death of his wife Selina Khatun Friday night. Editor: S. M. Ali

### Executive Editor : Mahfuz Anam

Published by S. M. Ali on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Mottifheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, and printed by him at Offset Printing Dialogue Publications Ltd., 19 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215. Editorial, News and Commercial Offices .: 28/1, Toynbee Circular Road, Dhaka-1000. Tel: PABX: 245061-3, 246023-4. Editorial and News 863036. Commercial: 863035. Fax No: 88-02-863035. GPO Box No: 3257. GRAM : DAILY STAR, DHAKA.



The Daily Star

Bangladesh Chhatra League (S-A) brought out a procession in the city yesterday on the occasion of its 44th founding day. - Star photo

# Consolidate democracy:Biswas

From Page 1 Col 5 tributes to the hero-martyrs of the great independence struggle and said the red sun in our national flag is coloured by their sacrifices.

He also paid homage to the architects of independence and sovereignty of Bangladesh the moulders of national entity- valiant freedom fighter Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Moulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bashani, Sher-e-Bangla A K Fazlul Hug and Hussain Shaheed Suhrawardy.

President Biswas recalled the people's movement against autocracy and said its main objective was to consolidate the victory and give an institutional shape to our desired democracy

President Biswas recalled the contribution of the Acting President of the interim government, Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, to the transition to and said he democracy (Ahmed) had played a historic role in the process of transferring power to the elected public representatives in the critical juncture of the nation.

He said the present government is an accountable government and added establishing complete control over the government by parliament is the guarantee of an accountable and transparent administration. Lauding the performance of

the present government, President Biswas said the disaster management of the government in the wake of devastating cyclone and tidal surge of April 29 last year had received unprecedented international acclamation and recognition.

President Biswas said a new dimension had been added to the country's foreign policy with the installation of a democratic government. Bangladesh delegations

under the leadership of Prime Minister had played bold and active roles in the Commonwealth Summit, OIC summit and in the just concluded SAARC summit, he said

He said a number of Bangladesh proposals on world peace and prosperity had been spontaneously accepted in these sumnits.

present government had inherited a ruined economy from the autocracy. Owing to nine years' widespread corruption and faulty management, the wastage increased resulting in losses of an estimate Taka 9000 crore and making the financial institutions bankrupt.

The present government, he said, had issued bonds of Taka 1,737 crore for restructuring the capital of the nationalised banks to rescue the financial institutions.

He said the allocation in the Annual Development Programme (ADP) is 22 per cent higher this year than that of the revised ADP of last year. He said the target of rev-

enue collection from the taxes under the National Board of Revenue during five months till November 1991 was Taka 2,504 crore. In the meantime, Taka 2,502 crore has been realised, he added. On agriculture and food, he

said the main objective of the government is to make the country self-sufficient in food rapidly. During the current year, the target of the production is 2.05 crore tonnes. On industrial policy, the

President said the industrial approval process has been made easier. An encouraging response is being received from the foreign entrepreneurs to invest capital in the private sector, he added.

He said a total of 1,602 industrial projects involving Taka 678 crore have been approved and registered in the private sector during the last nine months.

The number of foreign investors is 23, he said adding besides, 145 projects-proposals with an estimated investment of Taka 255.63 crore are under process in the Board of Investment and banks. President Biswas said the

country's export target has been estimated at US dollar 215 crore in 1991-92 and 269 crore dollar in 1992-93.

In the energy sector, the president said power supply has been extended to more than 200 upazilas under the Rural Electrification Board.

President Biswas said the President Biswas said the government had approved two Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) projects at a cost of Taka 267 crore for setting up an LPG network.

On education, the president said the government had given the highest priority to this sector by allocating it Taka 1255 crore in the current fiscal year. He said compulsory primary education has been introduced from January this

The President recalled the canal digging programme initiated by Shaheed President Zia in 1977 and said its objective was to inspire people to build the country through voluntary work.

President Biswas said an estimated Taka 627 crore was allocated in the revised Annual Development Programme for irrigation, water development and flood control last year. About Taka 800 crore has been sanctioned in the current fis cal year. On communication system,

he said a realistic plan has been undertaken and an amount of Taka 423 crore has been earmarked for road development.

President Biswas said the government has a plan for adding 60,000 more telecom lines in the greater Dhaka.

President Biswas also spoke on the adverse effects of smuggling on the national economy and said the government has initiated a coordinated and all-out programme on water, land and river routes to curb smuggling.

On Upazila system, he said the government abolished it because of widespread nuismanagement and misuse of national money and constituted a high-powered commission to formulate recommendations for overall reconstitution of local government system.

President Biswas praised the country's armed forces and said the members of the armed forces have repeatedly shown their patriotism, dutifulness and responsibility by standing beside the distressed humanity during natural calamities.

# BCL factions

By DU Correspondent

Various factions of the rallies in the city.

Chhatra League (S-A) members gathered at the Kendria Shaheed Minar at about 11 am and brought out a procession that paraded the city streets and ended at it's central office at Bangabandhu Avenue with a rally, presided by Asim Kumar Ukil, General Secretary, HCL (S-A)

The BCL (S-A) will also hold a re-union and discussion meeting January 9 at the TSC road island at 3 pm.

The JSD (Inu) backed Chhatra League (N-5) observed its 44th founding anniversary through the hoisting of flags atop it's central office at Balaka Bhaban in the morning and later gathered at Modhu's Canteen at the DU and laid wreaths in the Kendria Shaheed Minar

BCL (N-S) also held a rally at the Shaheed Minar that was addressed by it's President Nazmul Hague Prodhan and General Secretary Shafee

of the three-day series of programmes. BCL (N-S) will gather and hold a rally at the "Auparajeyo Bangla" in the Dhaka University at 10 am January 6.

### Zaher Shah meets Pak Army Chief ISLAMABAD, Jan 4: Former

# observe founding

Chhatra League observed their 44th founding anniversary yesterday (Saturday) through hoisting flags, processions and

BCL (N-S) leaders said that

democracy had no value without the economic emanetpation of the labourers and the farmers.

Yesterday, was the first day

Afghan king Zaher Shah, exiled in Italy since his 1973 ouster, has held a meeting in Rome with Pakistan Army Chief General Asif Nawaz, press reports here said today, reports

The English-language daily The News said the meeting took place Thursday in the Italian capital

## spokesman said, reports AFP. Seen from the gallery

From Page | Col 4 tious handling.

pedestal Friday, the agency said.

One of the grounds given by Moudud of the JP for boycotting the Presidential address deals with the status of the speech itself. Article 73 of the Constitution provides that the President shall address Parliament after a general election and on the commencement of the first session each year. On other occasions he may also address or send messages to Parliament. The JP leader's point was that this provision was operative under a Presidential form of government, when the President ad dressed Parliament as the head of the government. Now the system has changed but this provision has not changed. So how can a President under parliamentary form address the House under a provision that existed when the system was Presidential.

### A reading of the Consti-JS to take up Golam Azam issue Wednesday

By Staff Correspondent Appointment of Prof Golam Azam as the chief of Jamaat-e-Islami party came up before the Jatiya Sangsad (Parliament) at its first sitting. Replying to points of order

raised by two Awami League MPs on the issue, Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali told the House that Parliament would take up the issue in the next sitting on Wednesday. Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim

and Col (retd) Shawkat Alt. both of the AL, raised the points of order on how a foreign national like Prof Golam Azam could become chief of a political party of the country. Referring to the Article 6 of the Constitution, they said election of a non-citizen as the chief of a political party was a violation of the constitution. The Awami League parlia-

mentarians said Prof Azam had opposed the country's War of Independence, collaborated with the occupation forces of Pakistan and left the country after Pakistani soldiers surrendered to the freedom fighters. They also questioned the government stance concerning the matter and criticised its silence on the issue and demanded expulsion of Prof Azam who is a Pakistani citizen.

Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali said that there was nothing new about Prof Golam Azam's staying in the country and the matter was very old. But it could be discussed on Wednesday when the House resumes he added.

Another AL member

Sudhangshu Shekhar Haldar urged the Speaker to circulate the constitution of the Jamaat among the members of the Parliament. Rashed Khan Menon of the Workers' Party, Shamsuddoha of the CPB, Shahjahan Siraj of the JSD (Siraj) and independent member Major (retd) Hasizuddin supported him on this issue.

### US hostage freed in Peshawar

ISLAMABAD, Jan 4: American hostage Joel Dehart was released today in Peshawar, Pakistan, after six months in captivity in Alghanistan, the US embassy here said, reports

tution clearly shows that nothing in Article 73 makes any reference to the system of government. Whatever it might have meant earlier, under the present circumstances if means that the President will address the House as the titular head. Maudud was really on very thin ice, to say the least. The AL's reason for boycotting

was that the speech of the President was blatantly partisan which is not acceptable from the Head of State. Under a parliamentary system the President is supposed to maintain a position above partisan politics. This President Biswas did not do in his speech, the AL claimed.

The point where both the AL and the JP seemed to have a joint ground for the boycott was on the guestion of the Presidential Ordinance that abolished the Upazila system, bypassing the Parliament. By doing this the President deprived the House of its right to debate important policies before they are put into practice.

The other issue that generated some heated arguments dealt with the question of Golam Azam's assuming the de jure leadership of his party. while he continues to be a citizen of Pakistan not having vct been given Bangladeshi citizenship. The Constitution provides that to form political parties one has to be a citizen of the country. The Speaker defused the issue by ruling that he would consider this point on the 8th of January when the House reconvenes.

The government should use this time to prepare some acceptable answers. The government is law-bound to monitor the activities of foreign national and take appropriate action especially when they start indulging in politics.

### Ershad From Page 1 Col 4

personal effects were yet to be returned, the prosecution

added. Besides the cash of Tk 1,90,81,565 seized from his official residence, Ershad's calendestine income was esti-

mated by the prosecution as: 1. FDR of Tk 10 lakh with Sonali Bank 2. Price of land and construction cost of Gulshan

house Tk 21.14 lakh 3. Construction cost of Rang-

pur house Tk 11.59 lakh 4. Disc Antena found at

Senabhaban Tk 2 lakh 5. Shares of National Tea Company Tk 25 thousand

6. Pajero Jeep Tk 3 lakh (duty 7. Personal effects Tk 11 lakh

8. Licensed arms Tk 1.85

## Teachers

From Page 1 Col 7

The leading teachers narrated a grim picture of their professional life because of a poor pay for a noble job.

Turning on campus situation, they pointed out closure of more than 200 educational institutions throughout the country for student unrest The speakers demanded eradleation of violence from educational institutions.

Presided over by the federation chairman, the rally was addressed, among others, by its Secretary General Principal AKM Shahidullah, Solaiman Mridha, M A Khalil , Principal A K M Jahtrul Islam, Shahtdur Ruhman, Azizul Haq Shah and Prof Asadul Haq.

# AL, JP stage walkouts

From Page 1 Col 5 ernment.

"The President as constitutional Head of State should rise above partisanship. But today he made a speech which is actually the subject of the Prime minister," Samad Azad complained.

The AL's one more complaint against the speech was that the President, paying tributes to the past national leaders, mentioned late President Ziaur Rahman before Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. In his speech the President

said, "I also remember the architects of independence and sovereignty of Bangladesh, the moulders of our national entity valiant freedom fighter Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani, Sher-e-Bangla A K Faziul Huq and Hussain Shaheed Suhrawardy."

Jatiya Party leader Moudud Ahmed in another Press briefing said the promulgation of certain ordinances, including the one on abolishing the Upazila system, was undemo-

two walk-outs, first one briefly against the placing of the ordinances which were decreed since the last session of parliament. Neither AL nor JP returned to the House whose business

The Jatiya Party MPs made

for the day was adjourned at 1-50 pm by Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali at the end of the President's speech. The winter session, which will resume on Jan 8, at 3 pm is expected to take up the

controversial issue of Prof.

Golam Azan., who was last week elected Ameer of Jamaat despite his losing Bangladesh citizenship for his anti-liberation role in 1971. Rising on point of order AL

MPs Sheikh Selim and Col.(Retd) Shawkat Ali raised the issue of Golam Azam and demanded a discussion on him his activities in Bangladesh. The Speaker said this could be taken up on January 8.

But before this assurance came, more than a dozen opposition members, including Tofael Ahmed, Sudhangsu Shekhar Halder, Salahuddin Yusuf, SM Firoz of Awami League, Rashed Khan Memon (Workers Party) Shamsudoha (CPB) and Maj. (retd) Hafiz (Independent) were on their feet to support Sheikh Selim who first raised the issue.

Citing the privilege of members, Chief Whip of the Opposition Mohammad Nasim pressed the button of his microphone and said Information Minister Nazmul Huda violated the privilege of the house by making certain remarks about the Indemnity Ordinance (Repeal) Bill.

The Information Minister is on the 15-member Special Parliamentary Committee headed by Law Minister Mirza Hafiz, which is considering if the bill brought by Mohammad Nasim five months ago can be introduced in the House as a bill or not. The committee, headed by Law Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz, is scheduled to finalise its report by January

Mohammad Nasim, referring to some press remarks of the Information Minister about the bill, wondered how a member of the committee could speak about it outside Parliament when the matter was still under consideration of the Parliamentary committee. On several occasions Nazmul Huda told the Press that the ruling BNP saw the bill as redundant.

Nazmul Huda defended himself by saying that there was nothing wrong in his remarks. "What I told journalists is that the bill is redundant and we cannot help Awami League members who did not help themselves with regard to the killing of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in the past." He said Awami League even failed to file a single FIR against the

Reacting sharply, AL member Tofael Ahmed took the floor and recalled the situation that prevailed following the Aug. 15, 1975 assassination of Sheikh Mujib in a coup. He said the front-ranking

leaders of Awami League were either killed or jailed and the two daughters of Sheikh Mujib - Sheikh Hasina and Sheikh Rehana - were out of the country at that time. He also mentioned the killings of four national leaders inside Dhaka Central Jail. Besides, he said, the then government issued orders to all police stations not to accept any FIR on Bangabandhu's killing.

We don't beg any favour from the ruling party. If this parliament fails, the people shall hold trial of the killers," said Tofael, his voice filled with emotion.

The indemnity Ordinance, promulgated by Khandaker Mushtaque Ahmed, has insulated the killers on Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib from any trial by a court of law.

Earlier, when the session started at 11.35 am, Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali nominated a five-member panel of chairman to preside over the parliament sittings in the absence of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker during the winter session of Jatiya Sangsad.

The members of the panel in order of preference are: Miah Mohammad Mansur Ali (BNP), Wing Commander (retd) M Hamidullah Khan (BNP), Sudhangshu Shekhar Haldar(AL), Selima Rahman (BNP) and Sheikh Ansar Ali (Jamaat).

### IEB convention today

By Staff Correspondent The 36th annual convention of the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) begins today. Prime Minister Begum

Khaleda Zia will inaugurate the

convention at the IEB head-

quarters at 10 in the morning.

Speaking at a press conference Saturday on the eve of the convention, IEB President Dr Engineer M Anwar Hossain said that the convention, the biggest since birth of the IEB in 1972, would be participated by some 3000 engineers from

home and abroad.