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West Bengal cricketers arrive February 9 Page 11

NEWS BRIEFS

Special train for pilgrims

CALCUTTA, Feb 4: A pilgrim special train, carrying about 1.500 pilgrims from Bangladesh, will be run from Rajbari in Bangladesh to Midnapore in West Bengal on the occasion of 'urs' festival at Azangachi (in Midnapore) this month. Eastern railway sources said today that the 'pilgrim special train' would arrive at Gede in India via Darshana on February 16 and reach Midnapore next day via Ranaghat, Naihati, Dum Dum Jn. Dankuni, Liluah and Howrah. reports PTI.

BCS (econ) assoc postpones strike

Bangladesh Civil Service (Economic) Officers Association Tuesday decided to postpone its work stoppage programme scheduled to begin today, reports BSS.

Top level transfer

Syed Shamim Ahsan, Member of the Planning Commission, has been appointed Secretary of the Railway Division, the Ministry of Communications. Nurul Momen Khan, the incumbent Railway Secretary, has been made Secretary of the Ministry of Youth and Sports. A K M Hashem, a Deputy Secretary at the now-defunct Vice President's Secretariat has been promoted to the rank of Joint Secretary and made Officer on Special Duty (OSD) at the Ministry of Establishment. Syed Nurul Huda Shamsuzzaman, a Deputy Secretary at the Ministry of Establishment, has been promoted and made an OSD (Joint Secretary) at the same

Ministry, says a handout.

Indemnity Repeal Bill

Hasina launches offensive to woo opposition colleagues

By Mahfuz Ullah and Nurul Kabir

Sheikh Hasina has launched a 'quiet offensive' in a bid to ride over the obstacles in the of passage of the Indemnity (Repeal) Bill.

The offensive came yesterday against the backdrop of a losing hope that ruling BNP was not going to support the

The first phase of the offensive includes meeting with

KHULNA, Feb 4: Prime

Minister Begum Khaleda Zia

today asked police to crack

down on terrorists and cul-

prits without fear or favour for

maintaining peace and order

they belong to my party," she

said while addressing senior

police officials at the Khulna

Metropolitan Police (KMP)

Commissioner's office this

Home Minister Abdul Ma-

Begum Zia said mainte-

nance of peace and order had

become imperative for consol-

idating and perpetuating

impediments to development...

we must enforce law and order

because the government be-

lieves in welfare of the peo-

cerity and dedication on the

part of the officers and per-

Stressing the need for sin-

'Anarchy and violence are

also spoke at the

tin Chowdhury and Inspector

General of Police M Enamul

afternoon.

meeting.

democracy.

"Nab the terrorists... even if

in the country, reports UNB.

leaders of other political parties having representation in Parliament. Sheikh Hasina's desire to talk to others was communicated to parliamentary colleagues by Chief Whip of the party Mohammad Nasim.

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Chief of Awami League (AL) had a meeting with Rashed Khan Menon, MP. the General Secretary of the

Nab terrorists even if they're

in my party, PM tells police

duties, she sought their allout

cooperation in ensuring peace

and development in the coun-

laid emphasis on gearing up

drive against smuggling. Un-

less it is done, indigenous

industries will not flourish.

years of autocratic rule and

said the government would

solve the problems of police

gradually despite resource

the police to work together

with the people, saying they

are friends under a demo-

training facilities would be

provided for enabling them to

morning Begum Khaleda Zia

addressed the seventh an-

niversary of KMP here

Begum Zia also inspected a

guard of honour and took

salute from a smartly turned

tackle new crime patterns.

She also said improved

Another report adds: In the

The Prime Minister urged

constraints.

cratic setup.

(Khulna)

Begum Zia referred to nine

In this connection, she also

Workers Party, Suranjit Sen Gupta, MP of the Ganatantri Party. Fazle Rabbi MP and Manirul Haque Chowdhury, MP of the Jatiya Party(JP). Shahjahan Siraj. MP of JSD and Shamsuddoha MP of CPB in her parltament chamber yesterday late afternoon.

Awami League sources say Hasina will have meetings with other political parties, individ-

Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali

Home Minister Abdul Matin

Chowdhury, Foreign Minister A

S M Mostafizur Rahman, Social

Welfare Minister Tariqui Islam,

Inspector General of Police M

Enamul Huq, Syeda Nargis Ali

MP and Whip Md Harun-Ur-

Rashid were also present at

Minister said that the main

guarantee of democracy is to

ensure uninterrupted peace

and stability through main-

of metropolitan police system

in the country by late Pre-

sident Ziaur Rahman, she said

another metropolitan police

will soon be raised in Rajshahi.

of police during the War of

Liberation and congratulated

them for their positive and

pro-people role in the march

towards re-establishing demo-

pular concept of community-

oriented policing", the Prime

Minister urged the law

Mentioning present-day po-

cracy in the country.

She lauded the glorious role

Referring to introduction

taining of law and order.

In her speech, the Prime

the function.

uals and professional groups in coming days to decide her future course of action on the

The Indemnity(Repeal) Bill is now pending before the special parliamentary committee. At the last meeting last Wednesday, insiders say, the committee members failed to reach agreement on the rec-

See Page 12 Col 6

Degree exams under DU, CU uncertain

Non-govt teachers' strike

By DU Correspondent

The degree examinations under the Dhaka and Chittagong universities, sched uled to begin February 10 and 12 respectively, have become uncertain because of a planned strike by the non-government teachers.

The Central Liaison Committee in the Teachers' Movement (CLCTM), an al liance of three teachers' organisations Monday announced a boycott of the examinations if the government failed to fulfil its demands with the 6th of this month.

Over 85000 students are to appear the Degree examinations under the Dhaka University this year. 69 out of 125 centres are at the nongovernment colleges.

Meanwhile, the Dhaka University Examination Controller told The Daily Star that the authorities were taking necessary steps to hold the examinations despite the teachers' announced boycott.

What can we do if the teachers won't conduct the exams', the Deputy Examination Controller of the DU said.

Principal A K M Sha hidullah, Secretary General. Bangladesh Federation of Teachers Association (BFTA). We are firm on the decision not to conduct the exams if the government fails to give us a positive result'.

The non-government teachers have also called upon the government teachers to boycott the examinations.

The leaders of the BFTA said that the government had not taken any decision regarding the boycott of the examinations.

Principal Shahidullah added that it would cause session jam if the Degree examinations were not held.

The non-government teachers have been on an in definite strike since January 18 demanding immediate implementation of their 15point charter of demands.

Arafat weds

PARIS, Feb 4: PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, 63, married his 28-year-old economic adviser several weeks ago, a well informed source said in Paris Monday, reports AFP.

Arafat's bride, Souha Tawil, originally from Jerusalem, was a former member of the Greek Orthodox Church who had converted to Islam, the source

He added that the marriage took place in Tunis, where the Palestine Liberation Organization has its headquar-

The two started to work together when the PLO Chairman first visited France

daughter of Raymonda Tawil, who once headed the Palestine

Commentary

AL should think carefully before mass agitation

By Mahfuz Anam

It is not clear why the Awami League (AL) chief Sheikh Hasina did not preside over the AL Parliamentary Party meeting last Monday. Whatever may have been the reason, it was a wise move. It gives her time to think things over seriously before going for the mass agitation.

Earlier, the AL Working

Committee in an emergency meeting, presided over by Abdus Samad Azad, decided to go for mass agitation after the failure of the Special Parliamentary Committee to come to a consensus decision on repealing the Indemnity Ordi nance of 1975 that protects the killers of Bangabandhu

See Page 12 Col 7

Shaheed Day Star Report Following the success of the

Countdown to

January 30 strike at the Dhaka University against Prime Minister Khwaja Nazimuddin's assertion three days earlier that Urdu would be the only state language of Pakistan, the movement for Bangla gathered momentum with a provincewide strike on February 4.

The Dhaka University State Language Action Committee (DUSLAC) called the strike at all educational institutions throughout East Pakistan, with the hub of the action naturally being in Dhaka.

However, problems were See Page 12 Col 3

Leela Samson enthrals audience

Our Staff Correspondent Leela Samson presented a

wonderful treat of poise and a sense of joi de vivre in her Bharat Natyam recitais at the National Museum on Tuesday

Dressed in rose and gold, Leela was confident, ecstatic and flamboyant. In the first piece "Vernam" she combined many different styles and expressions. The dancer spoke of the glory of the Lord Stva. In the second item

'Padam' the dancer was wandering around the Mandhara mountain. The dancer said she was not the one the Lord sought. Romance filled the air.

ln "Sariga Kongu". Radha was shown as covering her face, and beckoning. Sri Krishna shyly. He too gazed at her. Radha's "Sahi" meanwhile, teased her about following someone who chase girls in Brindavan.

in "Ashapdi"- once again was based on the Radha Krishna love theme. Radha pined for Krisha but turned away because of her pride. The subject of flowers and arrows were brought into the theme. The last pieces- were

See Page 12 Col 6

Hearing of Milon murder case begins Saturday

By Asiuzzaman

The hearing of Dr Milon murder case begins Saturday before the court of Additional District Judge Mohammad Ismail Hossain, court sources

Dr Shamsul Alam Khan Milon was killed by the assailants allegedly killed by the ousted autocratic regime on November 27, 1990 near TSC square of the Dhaka University. His death gave momentum to the anti-Ershad movement which forced the regime to resign on December 6, '90. The Criminal Investigation

Department (CID) after long investigation framed charges against 14 accused. The accused are Golam

See Page 12 Col 6

'Pakistan won't let India Tinbigha transfer talks at final stage, JS told

-Star photo

by Barrister AKH

Morshed, Chairman of the

the former director general of

the Institute of Strategic

Studies, Islamabad, said

Pakistan did not want nuclear

weapons in South Asia and was

ready to sign the Nuclear Non-

subservient state in South Asia

and we will do everything to

ensure sovereignty and secu-

Giving an outline of

Pakistan's policy towards nu-

See Page 12 Col 8

rity to our country," he said.

"But we don't want to be a

Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

General Matinuddin, also

Board of Governors of BIISS.

Negotiations are at final stage between Bangladesh and India for implementation of the agreement providing transfer of "Tinbigha" corridor to Bangladesh. Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman informed the Jatiya

Sangsad Tuesday, reports BSS. Replying to a question from Begum Rashida Khatoon (Jamaat), he told the House in a written reply that a land boundary agreement between the two countries was signed in New Delhi on May 16, 1974.

Under the accord, the Foreign Minister said, South Berubari, southern portion of No. 12 union and the adjoining

Khaleda, Schaefer talk bilateral

See Page 12 Col 5

issues

Visiting German Deputy Foreign Minister Helmut Schaefer called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her residence Tuesday evening and discussed matters of bilateral interest of the two countries, reports UNB.

The German minister, who came Tuesday on a three-day official visit, appreciated the development efforts of the See Page 12 Col 5

By Staff Correspondent

unanimously passed a bill enhancing the remuneration and privileges of the Chief Justice and other Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Court Division.

The Supreme Court Judges (Remuneration and Privileges) (Amendment) Bill, 1992 was adopted by the House along with an amendment moved by the Awami League member

However, all other amendments moved by the

the House. With the passage of the Bill, the Chief Justice will now receive a monthly salary of Taka 12,800 in place of the earlier salary of Taka 8,500 prescribed in the 1978 Ordinance. Similarly, the Judges of the Supreme Court will receive Taka 12.000 in place of Taka 8,000 while the Judges of the High Court will receive taka 11,500 instead of Taka 7.750.

The amendment, accepted by the Law, Justice and See Page 12 Col 4



By Mahfuz Ullah

Directive or no directive, Immediately after the Quran

on-time attendance remains a problem for the House. Quite often, the day's business starts with a thin attendance, sometimes lacking in quorum. So was the problem yesterday. Tilawat, Rashed Mosharraf of Awami League raised the ques-

See Page 12 Col 1

in May 1989. Arafat's new wife is the tion of quorum and wanted to Press Service.

SPA to go if law and order situation improves: Speaker Mahbubur Rahman of the Department of Government

> the Special Powers Act of 1974 was introduced by the then government in view of the prevailing situation at that

> He said certain provisions of the act was amended in the present Parliament and a part

of it was still in force because of the prevailing situation. "Special Powers Act is of course a bad law and one of the

A retired Pakistani general

Tuesday said that his country

"will not allow any country to

enjoy nuclear monopoly in the

on what we are doing," said Lt.

Gen (retd) Kamal Matinuddin

while giving a talk on "South

Asia's Nuclear Debate : A per-

spective from Pakistan," in the

capital Tuesday evening. The

government of Pakistan has

repeatedly denied of having

Bangladesh Institute of

International and Strategic

Studies (BIISS) was presided

The talk, organised by the

We will continue to work

South Asia".

nuclear weapons.

country was unlawful activities like road blockades, campus violences and other practical problems," he said.

behaviour of all concerned, the Speaker said the political parties should be reasonable and responsible in their behaviour

so that democracy could be institutionalised in the country.

See Page 12 Col 8

out contingent of police force. sonnel in discharging their See Page 12 Col 6

Bank employees demonstrating in the city yesterday to press for their 10-point demand. Story on page 3. - Star photo

Chief Justice, Judges to get higher pays

The Jatiya Sangsad Tuesday

Mohammad Rahmat Ali.

Opposition were rejected by

Speaker of the Jatiya

Sangsad Sheikh Razzaque Ali

Tuesday said the government

was seriously considering to

repeal the Special Powers Act

of 1974 as soon as it outlived

its necessity in the country.

this law was not at all neces-

sary in the country if law and

order situation improved and

normalcy was restored through

an end to violent activities in

various places including the

He said the existence of

reports BSS.

educational campuses. The Speaker was giving his presidential speech at a symposium on "principles of democracy" organised by the Institute For Law and Development' in cooperation with the United States Information Service (USIS) at the USIS auditorium in Dhaka Tuesday afternoon.

Noted lawyer Sayed Ishtiaque Ahmad, Prof Emajuddin Ahmad of Dhaka University and Dr. Elizabeth

Hanson, a Professor of Political Science in the University of Connecticut of the United States now visiting Bangladesh. presented three papers at the symposium. The papers were on

"Constitution and democracy in Bangladesh since 1972." "The future of democracy in South Asia" and "Democratic principles for the 21st cen-Information 'Minister

Nazmul Huda and Prof

and Political Science of Jahangirnagar University. among others, took part in discussion on the papers. Shaikh Razzaque Ali said

reasons for its existence in the

Stressing the need for mutual tolerance and democratic

"It will be extremely difficult to establish democracy in

Leela Samson, a leading light in the Indian classical style

monopolise N-power'

By Staff Correspondent

of the Bharat Natyam, at the National Museum yesterday.

Bangladesh if the parties concerned failed to speak in democratic language," he said. In this respect he called upon the opposition members in Parliament to criticise the government in a constructive Information Minister

Nazmul Huda stressed the