

## Inside Today

### Article

**Why Not the Bro-  
om for Growth?**  
 New column: Window  
 on Asia by Shahed  
 Latif



The writer, a noted  
 economist of Bangla-  
 desh, has been writ-  
 ing a popular column  
 "From LDC to NIC" for  
 The Daily Star. Start-  
 ing with this piece,  
 his column is  
 given a broader  
 perspective  
 Page 4

## International



Former East German  
 leader Erich Honecker  
 takes a stroll on  
 the grounds of the  
 Chilean Embassy  
 in Moscow  
 Page 5

## Business

Indian inflation ex-  
 ceeds forecast  
 Page 6

## Feature

### Development

What ILO can do for  
 Bangladesh  
 Page 8

## Metropolitan

### Dhaka Day by Day



Service to humanity •  
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## NEWS BRIEFS

### List of refugees handed over

The 12th instalment of the  
 list of Myanmar Muslim  
 refugees numbering 19,708  
 was handed over to the em-  
 bassy of Myanmar in Dhaka  
 yesterday for necessary action  
 by the Myanmar government, a  
 Foreign Office spokesman said.  
 reports BSS.

### City BNP meet today

An emergency meeting of  
 the Presidents and General  
 Secretaries of all Thana  
 Committees of Dhaka City BNP  
 and its front organisations will  
 be held at 4 pm today at the  
 party's city office in Nawab  
 Yousuf Market, reports BSS.

### Dawoodi Bohra leader due today

Dr Syedna Mohammad  
 Burhanuddin, spiritual leader  
 of Dawoodi Bohra community,  
 arrives in Dhaka today on a 9-  
 day visit to Bangladesh, reports  
 UNB.

### Mirza Hafiz back home

Law and Justice Minister  
 Mirza Golam Hafiz returned  
 home Saturday from Pyong  
 Yang after attending the 80th  
 birth ceremony of DPRK  
 President Kim Il Sung, BSS.

## Opposition boycotts session for seven hours JS adjourned without decision on Azam

By Staff Correspondent

The session of the Jatiya  
 Sangsad was adjourned at 0.35  
 hours Sunday morning without  
 any ruling from the Speaker on  
 the stay of Golam Azam in  
 Bangladesh and issues relating  
 to people's court.

The session resumes today  
 in the evening at 7.

Earlier, the session was ad-  
 journed for 45 minutes at  
 4.40 pm yesterday afternoon  
 following the Deputy Leader of  
 the House Prof. Badruddoza  
 Chowdhury's request for the

same, so that the members of  
 the Opposition could rejoin  
 the session.

However, the House re-  
 sumed 7 hours after the ad-  
 journment. The Opposition  
 members excepting those of  
 Jamaat-e-Islami, Maulana  
 Obaiddul Huq of IOJ and  
 Salahuddin Kader Chowdhury

of National Democratic Party  
 staged a walkout on Thursday  
 evening demanding a decision  
 on the issue from the Speaker.  
 The Speaker, however, re-

quested the members to wait  
 till Saturday for his ruling.

About seven hours fifteen  
 minutes, the longest in the  
 history of parliament in  
 Bangladesh, were lost to break  
 the stalemate created out of  
 the walkout by the Opposition.

Immediately after the  
 House was adjourned hectic  
 parleys between the Treasury  
 Bench and the Opposition  
 started to break the impasse.

Adjourning the House, the  
 Speaker requested the Chief

Whips of both the benches to  
 assemble in his room. But the  
 Opposition members did not  
 turn up as they were in a  
 meeting, discussing their  
 strategy.

Formal contacts between  
 the Treasury Bench and the  
 Opposition were established at  
 around 7 in the evening.

A delegation of BNP com-  
 prising Deputy Leader of the  
 House Prof. Chowdhury, Chief  
 Whip Khandakar Delwar  
 See Page 12 Col 4

## 25 killed in road accident near Muktagacha

JAMALPUR, Apr. 18:  
 Twenty-five people, including  
 five women, were killed and  
 seven injured in a road acci-  
 dent near Muktagacha in  
 Mymensingh district early  
 Saturday, police said, reports  
 UNB.

The accident occurred  
 when a wheat-laden Dhaka-  
 bound truck carrying 35 pas-  
 sengers tumbled into a road-  
 side ditch at village Nimuria,  
 10 km off Muktagacha, on  
 Dhaka-Jamalganj highway at  
 about 1 am.

Muktagacha police said  
 the truck picked up the pas-  
 sengers, mostly day-labourers,  
 from Islampur in Jamalpur  
 district to reach them in the

capital on nominal fare.  
 They said the truck skidded  
 off the road as the driver lost  
 control over the steering and  
 plunged into the seven feet  
 deep ditch killing 25 passen-  
 gers on the spot and injuring  
 seven others. Most of them  
 hailed from Madarganj upazila  
 of the district.

Fire brigade units from  
 Muktagacha and Mymen-  
 singh carried out the salvage  
 operation from 2.30 am to 4  
 am and recovered 25 bodies  
 which were sent to Mymen-  
 singh Medical College  
 Hospital (MMCH) for post-  
 mortem.

Of the dead, seven were  
 See Page 12 Col 3

## CU reopens amid tight security

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Apr. 18:  
 Chittagong University classes  
 resumed today after a closure  
 of more than a year.

With the resumption of  
 classes the long-drawn crisis  
 in CU ended. The crises which  
 was triggered following cam-  
 pus violence, persisted for  
 more than a year paralysing  
 the academic life of over  
 twelve thousand students of  
 the university.

Moves were made at differ-  
 ent occasions earlier by the  
 government to break the  
 stalemate but all attempts  
 failed.

However, following a con-  
 sensus of the teachers, stu-  
 dents, authorities and mem-  
 bers of the public the  
 Chittagong University re-  
 opened with a ban imposed on  
 meetings, processions and  
 raising of slogans on the cam-  
 pus.

Meanwhile, the halls were  
 kept open from Friday amid  
 tight security measures allow-  
 ing the resident students to  
 enter by producing their iden-  
 tity cards. About 100 police  
 personnel were posted in the  
 campus to foil any attempt to  
 breach peace.

The classes were held  
 peacefully though attendance  
 was thin, campus sources said.  
 With the presence of students  
 and teachers the campus again  
 became lively, witnesses said.

## 37 more die of diarrhoea in southern dists

BARISAL, Apr. 18: Diarrhoea  
 claimed 37 lives and affected  
 2,042 people in six southern  
 districts in last 48 hours, of-  
 ficial sources said today  
 (Saturday), reports UNB.

They said five people died  
 in Barisal, six in Bhola, eight in  
 Jhalakati, nine in Pirojpur,  
 two in Borguna and seven in  
 Patuakhali.

Districtwise break-up of af-  
 fected people are: Barisal-786,  
 Bhola-263, Jhalakati-205,  
 Pirojpur-178, Borguna-209  
 and Patuakhali-406.

Unofficial sources, however,  
 put the death toll at 43 in the  
 six districts where more than  
 3,000 were affected.

Meanwhile, 53 temporary  
 medical centres were opened  
 in five southern districts to  
 combat the disease. Of them,  
 30 centres were set up in  
 Barisal, 9 in Bhola, 7 in  
 Jhalakati, 2 in Pirojpur and 5  
 in Patuakhali.

A 20-bed field hospital has  
 also been set up in Bakerganj  
 upazila of Barisal district.

## 100 more tribals return from Tripura

KHAGRACHHARI, Apr. 18:  
 About a hundred tribal refu-  
 gees returned Saturday ending  
 sub-human camp life in the  
 Indian state of Tripura, of-  
 ficials said, reports UNB.

With this, the number of  
 returnees stood at 1,597 in  
 the last one and a half months  
 and some 36,021 belonging to  
 10,581 families since June  
 1989.

The tribals, who were stay-  
 ing at Karbuk, Lebuchora,  
 Kathachora, Ladhua and Uda-  
 ypur camps in Tripura, crossed  
 into the country through  
 Puzang and Lowgang border  
 entrances and reported to  
 the local administration Sat-  
 urday, the sources said.

"The situation in the  
 refugee camps across the bor-  
 der is even worse than that in  
 the concentration camps,"  
 said one of the returnees,  
 Indra Raj Chakma.

Many of them complained  
 of constant harassment and  
 humiliation by the Indian bor-  
 der guards and the outlawed  
 Shantibahini insurgents who  
 ensnared them out of their  
 homes and hearth.

See Page 12 Col 2

## Saifur leaves for Paris today

Finance Minister M Saifur  
 Rahman leaves Dhaka for  
 London en route to Paris in  
 the early hours today to attend  
 the 'Aid Club Consortium  
 meeting' to be held in Paris  
 from 21 to 22 April, reports  
 BSS.

He is leading a five-mem-  
 ber delegation, comprising  
 See Page 12 Col 5



Sujata Mishra, a noted Indian classical dancer,  
 performing at a cultural show organised by the Rotary  
 Club of Dhaka North East at the National Museum  
 Auditorium yesterday.

## 'Trial body' rally today

By Staff Correspondent

'Ohtak Dalal Nirmul Com-  
 mittee' Friday brought out a  
 torch procession in the city to  
 press home its demand to  
 execute the verdict of the  
 people's court on Golam Azam.

The Committee also called  
 for a public meeting at 3 pm  
 today (Sunday) at the Banga-  
 bandhu Avenue despite non-  
 receipt of permission to use  
 loudspeakers.

Before the procession be-  
 gan Committee leaders ad-  
 dressed a rally at the Banga-  
 bandhu Avenue.

The leaders reaffirmed  
 their vow to punish all the  
 killers.

They regretted that while  
 the government did not grant  
 permission for rally of the pro-  
 liberation committee, it per-  
 mitted rally of the Jamaat-  
 Shibir, that opposed the  
 Liberation War.

The leaders declared that  
 they would continue the  
 movement until proper action  
 against Azam was taken.

The rally was addressed by  
 Mofazzal Hossain Maya, Fay-  
 zuddin Bhuyan, Jahiruddin  
 Jalal, Salahuddin Badal, Moni-  
 rul Haq Moni, Sharafat Ali  
 Bhuyan, M A Kashem, Col  
 (Retd) Munir and others.

The procession marched  
 with their torches from Banga-  
 bandhu Avenue to Mouchak  
 Market in Malibagh.

## Syria to resume flights to Libya

DAMASCUS, Apr. 18: Syria  
 is to resume flights to Tripoli  
 on Monday, in violation of a UN  
 air traffic embargo on Libya, a  
 source with the domestic car-  
 rier Syrian Arab Airlines said  
 today, reports AFP.

The company source said  
 last Thursday's flight had been  
 cancelled for technical rea-  
 sons. But the flight Monday is  
 to take off as scheduled from  
 Damascus at 12:30 pm (0930  
 GMT), he said.

Syria has not announced its  
 official position since the  
 United Nations Security  
 Council decided Wednesday to  
 slap air traffic, arms and  
 See Page 12 Col 7



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing the inaugural function of the Ninth  
 Foundation Training Course at Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre at Savar  
 Saturday.

## Forward Bloc to cooperate in handing over Tinbigha

The Forward Bloc which  
 has so long been opposing the  
 transfer of Tinbigha to Bangladesh,  
 has decided to co-  
 operate in the process of  
 handing over the corridor,  
 according to a report  
 published in Indian daily, the  
 Statesman Friday, reports BSS.

The Forward Bloc has re-  
 portedly suspended all its pro-  
 grammes of agitation on the is-  
 sue.

The major reversal in its  
 stand on the permanent leas-  
 ing of Tinbigha to Bangladesh  
 came on Wednesday following  
 clarifications by the West  
 Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti  
 Basu on three points raised by  
 the bloc, the report said.

The Ananda Bazar and the  
 Bartaman also published simi-  
 lar reports.

The government of  
 Bangladesh and the govern-  
 ment of India have reached an  
 understanding regarding  
 modalities for the implementa-  
 tion of terms of leasing out of  
 Tinbigha through an exchange  
 of letters on March 26 last.

The arrangement will come  
 into force from June 26 next.

The Indo-Bangladesh Land  
 boundary Agreement of 1974,  
 has provided for leasing out an  
 area of 178 meters by 85 me-  
 ters near Tinbigha to connect  
 Bangladesh's two enclaves  
 Dahagram and Angorpota with  
 main land.

## Process of promotion to continue All BCS cadres to get equal status: PM

SAVAR, Apr. 18: Prime  
 Minister Begum Khaleda Zia  
 inaugurated here today the  
 ninth foundation training  
 course for officers of BCS  
 cadres with a call for building  
 an efficient, responsible and  
 welfare-oriented administra-  
 tion which would be transpar-  
 ent and accountable, reports  
 BSS.

Let us work together to  
 build up the country and make  
 all out efforts for the welfare  
 of the people, she told them.

Held at the auditorium of  
 Bangladesh Public Administra-  
 tion Training Centre (BPATC),  
 the inaugural function was also  
 addressed by State Minister  
 for Establishment M Nurul  
 Huda and Rector of the Centre  
 Kazi Mohammad Manzur-e-  
 Mawla.

Begum Zia said her govern-  
 ment was pledged-bound to  
 establish efficiency in the ad-  
 ministration. She said people  
 had promoted a large number  
 of officers to remove their frus-  
 tration which was created during  
 the autocratic rule in the absence  
 of promotion. She said the pro-  
 cess of promotion would con-  
 tinue.

Referring to the recent uni-  
 fication of two cadres — BCS  
 Administrative and BCS  
 Secretariat — the Prime Minis-  
 ter said this was an important  
 administrative reform. "We

want that officers belonging to  
 all cadres get equal status and  
 equal opportunities for  
 promotion."

The Prime Minister said  
 the objective of the govern-  
 ment was to establish a happy,  
 prosperous, self-reliant and  
 democratic Bangladesh. In this  
 regard, she said her govern-  
 ment had taken various steps  
 which included introduction of  
 primary education, strengthen-  
 ing of mass-literacy pro-  
 gramme, female education, re-  
 sumption of canal digging pro-  
 gramme of Shaheed President  
 Ziaur Rahman. She said "above  
 all we have given top priority  
 to poverty alleviation as devel-  
 opment strategy."

She said her government  
 had attached importance to  
 people's participation in the  
 development activities and  
 taken steps for speedy indus-  
 trialisation. She said people  
 have high expectation from  
 this government adding "we  
 are determined to fulfil peo-  
 ple's aspirations."

The Prime Minister said  
 that development work of  
 the centre at a cost of Taka 43.22  
 crore had been taken. Besides,  
 she said, a Taka 27 crore de-  
 velopment project was being  
 implemented at the BCS  
 (Administration) Academy for  
 strengthening training activi-  
 ties.

## Vague decisions create hurdles to export: Anwar

By Staff Correspondent

Commerce Minister M K  
 Anwar Saturday urged the pri-  
 vate sector to come forward  
 with suggestions and strategies  
 to help the government formu-  
 late policies to boost exports.

Exchanging views with  
 members of the metropolitan  
 chamber of Commerce and  
 Industry (MCCI) on various  
 problems facing the trade and  
 industry of the country the  
 minister agreed that vague  
 government decisions often  
 created hurdles to exports.

Earlier, the President of  
 Bangladesh Garment  
 Manufacturers and Exporters  
 Association (BGMEA),  
 Mosharraf Hossain charged  
 that the incentives the govern-  
 ment has promised in the  
 present export policy are  
 often not materialised.

Anwar agreed to his charges  
 and said that any direction for  
 export promotion should be  
 specific in the future. He also  
 sought specific suggestions  
 from the private sector to

avoid such happenings.  
 About 100 traders and en-  
 trepreneurs exchanged views  
 with the minister for about  
 three hours.

MCCI President, M  
 Morshed Khan emphasised  
 that labour unrest leading to  
 low labour productivity was  
 causing price competitiveness  
 for Bangladesh products.

He said labour productivity  
 went down by 17 per cent dur-  
 ing 1970 to 1986.

Acknowledging the prob-  
 lem, the Minister said "We  
 cannot allow a handful of  
 labourers to hold trade and in-  
 dustry for ransom." He agreed  
 that the labour situation was  
 alarming in respect to produc-  
 tivity.

He further said that the  
 government would not patron-  
 ise any particular group at the  
 cost of 110 million people.

In response to MCCI's call  
 for exchange rate reform, the  
 minister said that devaluation  
 See Page 12 Col 8

## Mujahideen factions head for showdown UN move to evacuate non-essential personnel from Afghanistan

KABUL, Apr. 18: The  
 United Nations here today  
 started organising the evacua-  
 tion of its non-essential per-  
 sonnel amid reports that the  
 situation in the city was deterio-  
 rating, reports AFP.

The Foreign Ministry said  
 they expected Vice Defence  
 Minister Nabi Azimi to give a  
 briefing on the situation, but  
 no time was given.

In Islamabad, UN officials  
 said they had no information  
 about the possible evacuation  
 today of non-essential person-  
 nel, but confirmed  
 "contingency plans" for obvi-  
 ous security reasons.

In a series of public broad-  
 casts in Kabul the government,  
 army and party Friday reas-  
 sured the United Nations of its  
 full support over Afghanistan.  
 The statements, in reply to

expressions of concern issued  
 Thursday by UN Secretary  
 General Boutros Boutros-  
 Ghali, also said the present  
 Afghan government would do  
 its best to assure the safety of  
 UN personnel in Afghanistan.

Independent sources in  
 Kabul said it appeared that  
 some troops from the north  
 had already come in to the  
 city, with the knowledge of  
 the powers in Kabul, in the hope  
 of preventing infiltration from  
 the south by the troops of  
 rebel Mujahideen leader  
 Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

Afghan troops attacked re-  
 sistance bases around the east-  
 ern garrison city of Jalalabad  
 today, a pro-resistance news  
 agency said.

Troops started shelling the  
 Mujahideen bases near  
 Samarkhel and Ghani Khel dis-

tricts, the Afghan Islamic  
 Press (AIP) said. The attack  
 was considered a preemptive  
 strike by the troops loyal to  
 the current administration in  
 Kabul, it added.

Reuters says, Hekmatyar left  
 Pakistan for Afghanistan today  
 after naming a revolutionary  
 council to take control of  
 Kabul, his Hezb-e-Islami Party  
 said.

"I don't know about his  
 destination but he must be  
 somewhere near Kabul," the  
 spokesman said as fears grew  
 of a battle between guerrilla  
 factions for control of Kabul.

Hekmatyar's disciplined  
 and well-armed forces are  
 concentrated mostly south of  
 Kabul, while his main guerilla  
 foe Ahmad Shah Masood has  
 massed his men just north of  
 the capital.