



Chitra Sarkar rendering Tagore songs at the National Museum auditorium yesterday in observance of the poet's birth anniversary organised by Rabirag. — Star photo

## Bosnian president freed after 24 hours

SARAJEVO, May 3: The Yugoslav army released President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia-Herzegovina today from a military barracks in Sarajevo where he was held for 24 hours, a European Community source said, reports Reuters.

He was released under an agreement negotiated by UN peacekeepers under which Bosnian forces said they would lift a blockade of the army's headquarters in Sarajevo and allow its commander, General Milutin Kukanjac to leave.

The army detained Izetbegovic on Saturday while heavy fighting raged in Sarajevo

between Muslims supporting Bosnia's newly won independence and Serbs opposed to the move.

Muslim forces earlier ringed the headquarters of the Yugoslav army commander today after the army detained President Alija Izetbegovic, eyewitnesses reported.

They said member of the Bosnian territorial defence armed with rocket launchers and machine guns took up positions around the Sarajevo, command centre of general Milutin Kukanjac.

## 3 killed, 4 hurt in road mishaps

By Staff Correspondent

At least three persons including a minor boy were killed and another four injured in three road accidents in and outside the city during the last two days.

A minor boy Masud died on the spot and four others injured when a Sripur bound passenger minibus rammed into the waiting passengers at a bus stand at Tongi at around 5:15 pm Sunday.

Of the injured Asia Begum, 25, and Razia Begum, 27, were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) while the other two Harunur Rashid and Abdul Barez were sent to the Pangu Hospital by a Fire Service team.

The bus driver managed to escape immediately after the accident.

Our DMCH Correspondent reports: A pedestrian was killed in a road accident near Darus Salam police outpost at Mirpur at about 8:30 am Sunday. Mirpur police brought the body to the DMCH morgue but could not give any detail.

One Yusuf Mia succumbed to his injuries at the DMCH at mid night Saturday following a road accident he met on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway at about 2:30 pm on the same day.

When Yusuf Mia, an employee of Padma Textile Mill Ltd., was going to his office, a speeding truck ran over him near Kanchpur Bridge. He was immediately admitted to the DMCH in a critical condition.

## Jamaat call to raise Farakka issue at UN

Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday demanded of the government to raise the Ganges water-sharing issue at United Nations and construct dams over country's major rivers for a solution of the water crisis, reports UNB.

The counter-measures was suggested by the Jamaat central working committee meeting to avert dehydrational impact of unilateral withdrawal of waters from the common rivers by India.

The meeting with party's Acting Ameer Abbas Ali Khan in the chair observed that north and western districts of the country were in the desertification process under the impact of Farakka barrage.

## Anami Proshad dead

Former Zamindar of Dhaka Balda Estate and member of the Trustee Board of Hindu Religious Affairs Welfare Trust Anami Proshad Roy Chowdhury died here of a heart attack yesterday. He was 60, reports BSS.

He left behind his wife, three sons and a daughter.

State Minister for Religious Affairs and chairman of the trust Prof M A Mannan visited the house of the deceased to pay his last respects. He conveyed his sympathy to the members of the bereaved family. President of Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Ulama Dal Moulana S M Ruhul Amin accompanied the Minister.

## Struggle won't stop until Golam Azam hanged: Imam

Jahanara Imam, Convenor of the Ghatak-Dalal Nirmul Coordination Committee, Sunday asked the people to go ahead with the current movement until the people's court verdict is executed, reports UNB.

"We are fighting for justice... our struggle will not stop until Golam Azam is hanged," she told a rally outside the National Press Club Sunday afternoon.

Presided over by Sadek Ahmed Khan, Convenor of the Dhaka city unit of Ghatak-Dalal Nirmul Committee, the rally was also addressed by Lt Col (Retd) Kazi Nuruzzaman, chief coordinator of the National Coordination Committee.

Jahanara Imam said despite "repressive" measures taken by the government, the movement against "war criminal" Golam Azam had been gaining momentum day by day.

Claiming the Nirmul Committee as a non-political organisation, she said it grouped activists from 59 organisations, including opposition parties, student organisations, professional groups and trade unions.

Jahanara asked the people to remain alert against "conspiracy" to foil the current movement, aimed at making the government execute the March 26 public trial verdict.

She also called for making the May 18 hartal a total success.

## BNP trying to rehabilitate Azam: Matia

JAMALPUR, May 3: Awami League leader Matia Chowdhury, MP today said the BNP government had enhanced the price of agricultural inputs defying the consensus of the three alliances, reports UNB.

"The government has broken the backbone of the peasants by raising price of essential farming items," she told a rally at the Jila High School ground, arranged on the occasion of biennial conference of the district Krishak League.

Presided over by Convenor of the Jamalpur thana Krishak League Didarul Alam Khan, the rally was also addressed by Krishak League President Rahmat Ali MP, Joint Secretary of the district Awami League Mirza Azam MP, and Abul Kalam Azad MP.

Referring to the trial of controversial Jamaat leader Golam Azam, she alleged the BNP government was trying to rehabilitate him to distort the history of the War of Liberation.

But, she added, the people of Bangladesh never allow the conspiracy to be hatched.

"The trial and punishment of hated Golam Azam must take place on this soil," she asserted.

## NCL

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Mr Faruq, 98.62 lakh, Alhaj A Ali, 6.05 crore, Tahera Akhtar, 2 crore, Nizamuddin, 2.63 crore, Saiful Islam Chowdhury, 1.74 crore, AFM Fakrul Islam, 1.27 crore and KM Rafique, 1.23 crore.

Meanwhile, the workers and employees of the BCI have formed a co-ordinating council and urged the government to restructure the organisation into a bank.

They also demanded security of the Bangladesh Bank investigation team now inspecting the BCI branches. The employees also said they would extend all-out cooperation to the Bangladesh Bank audit team.

The BCI Depositors Council Sunday urged the government to solve the BCI problem so that the depositors would be able to get refunds of their money from the institution.

The council at a press conference said that the depositors were confident about the BCI because the Finance Ministry had authorised it to borrow over Taka five lakh from people in 1988.

They said that the government previously warned the BCI for resorting to corruption but never warned the people to stop dealing with it.

Warning about consequences of the suspension of the BCI operations, the council said, it was now being followed by a negative reaction in the whole private financing sector. It had destroyed confidence in banking, they said.

The council suggested that if the government wanted a healthy economy, it should not let institutions like the BCI be suspended. About Taka 200 crore of the public was blocked with the BCI, it said.

It also said, that the government should formulate a 'precise policy to prevent financial institutions from collapsing.

The council told the journalists it would continue to press the authorities until its money was refunded.

It would meet the Finance Minister as soon as possible in this connection, it said.



A woman and a group of children clean up around a burned out building in Los Angeles yesterday. With most fires now extinguished, the clean up of the many ruins has started. — AFP photo

## 24 Bangladeshis killed in Afghan war

By Masud Hasan Khan

A total of 24 Bangladeshis Mujahideen, who took part in guerrilla warfare in Afghanistan, died in action, according to a spokesman of Harkat-ul-Jihad-el-Islam, Bangladesh.

Mufti Shafiqur Rahman, Publicity Secretary of the organisation of ex-guerrillas, said Sunday that all the 24 Bangladeshis were killed in action at several provinces of Afghanistan since 1984.

More than three thousand Bangladeshis joined the guerrilla warfare in Afghanistan to express 'their solidarity with the Afghan brothers fighting against the Communist occupation.

The martyrs are identified as — Maolana Abdur Rahman Faruqi-Jessore, Maolana Nurul Karim-Jessore, Matur Rahman-Gazipur, Maolana Abdul Momen-Mymensingh, Maolana Kamruzzaman-Jessore, Maolana Rahnuddin-Gazipur, Maolana Sheikh Ismail-Gazipur, Maolana Badrul Alam-Faridpur, Maolana Abdul Matin-Faridpur, Hafez Rahamatullah-Dhaka, Maolana Abdul Hamid-Mymensingh, Maolana Saifullah-Barisal, Mosharrar Hossain-Comilla, Syed Shah Rabiullah-Dhaka, Prof Rafiullah-Noakhali, Siddiquil Chowdhury-Noakhali, Mufti Obaidullah-Brahmanbaria, Maolana Nurul Islam Babar-Dhaka, Maolana Muhammad Farukh-Khulna, Nurul Islam-Bogra, Maolana Emdadullah-Hatta, Mohammad Ali-Barisal, Saiful Islam-Patia and Abul Gafur-Patia.

The Bangladeshis Mujahids fought mostly at Pakhtun, Pakhtia and Jelalabad provinces of Afghanistan.

The Publicity Secretary of Harkat-ul-Jihad-el-Islam said that Maolana Abdur Rahman Faruqi was a provincial commander of the guerrilla, the highest rank obtained by any Bangladeshis fighting in Afghanistan. The commander was killed in a mine explosion in 1988 at Khost, provincial capital of Pakhtia.

Hafez Rahamatullah is a grand child of Maolana Hafizji Huzur and Syed Shah Rabiullah is the third son of Syed Shah Faizullah, pir of Azampur Daira Sharif, in Dhaka.

The Publicity Secretary, who crossed Afghan border through Pakistan in 1984, said that the Bangladeshis guerrillas initially used to join the seven guerrilla groups fighting inside Afghanistan.

After extensive weapon training they joined the ansars, guerrilla groups composed of compatriots from different Muslim countries including Pakistan, Libya and Saudi Arabia.

Most of the the Bangladeshis guerrillas were students who went abroad for higher studies in theology on scholarship.

Meanwhile, several hundred devotees spontaneously joined a post-prayer procession in the capital Sunday to celebrate the victory of the guerrillas in Afghanistan.

The procession, led by the Bangladeshis Mujahideen, started from the south gate of Baitul Mukarram mosque and ended in front of the Jatiya Press Club.

## Three left parties

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congress, sources added. According to the draft political report of the joint conference, the new party will uphold Marxism-Leninism as its ideology while the party will 'aim at replacing present bourgeois democracy with people's democracy.'

The draft report maintained that despite the fall of a military junta in the face of a people's upsurge in 1990 and introduction of parliamentary democracy through a general election, democracy for majority of the people was yet to be ensured.

Branding the ruling BNP and principal opposition party in Parliament Awami League as the representatives of the imperialist interests reluctant to establish democracy and ensure national development, the draft report also said, 'They can neither go for basic democratic changes in the society nor even uphold a people-oriented social reform programme.'

A people's democratic revolution under the leadership of the working class of the country is necessary for bringing about a fundamental change in the present undemocratic social system, the draft report stated.

The report also appreciated that despite the military bureaucracy's departure Minister's chamber

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A case has been registered with the Ramna police in this regard and no arrests were made till the writing of this report.

Secretariat sources said the security of the secretariat, the seat of the government, was being compromised for the last few months.

A similar incident happened about a month ago in the office of the Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation, Water and Flood Control and in the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources. These ministries, sources said, are vulnerable because of their 'sensitive positions.'

Police could not detect the intruders involved in these two cases.

## Student killed by mates

From Our Correspondent

RAJBARI, May 3: A student of class seven was killed by his fellow mates at the village Ganindapur of Kharganj upazila under Rajbari sadar upazila today (Sunday).

Matur Rahman (14) was allegedly duped and taken by two of his friend Abu Newaz Mondal and Ziaur Rahman from his house and was killed by the help of other two accomplices near the river Padma.

Matur's parents went to police in the afternoon as he was missing for the whole day and informed them about the two friends with whom he went out.

Police arrested Newaz and Ziaur who confessed the killing and named Kawser and Ashim as accomplices. Matur's body was later recovered from the spot.

Police was continuing hunt to round up Kawser and Ashim.

## Hartal observed in Rajbari

From Our Correspondent

RAJBARI, May 3: Pickets brickbatted with police and damaged vehicle during a dawn-to-dusk hartal here today (Sunday).

Witnesses said police resorted to lathi-charge on the pickets when a group of unruly people damaged a donor agency vehicle during hartal hour near Rajbari Sadar Upazila office.

No one was arrested or injured in brickbating.

The hartal was called by the local party unity in protest against police atrocities on former Municipal chairman Mohammad Ali on April 12.

The authorities temporarily suspended 14 police personnel including Officer-in-Charge, and a Sub-Inspector following the Apr 12 incident.

## Nor'wester lashes capital

By Staff Correspondent

A moderate nor'wester lashed the capital and its adjoining areas on Sunday morning disrupting the normal city life.

Traffic in and around the capital came to a halt and the shopkeepers shuttered their establishments when the nor'wester (Kalbaisakhi) with a speed of 63 kilometers per hour hit the city at around 9-15 am.

The storm lasted for 15 minutes.

There was no report of damage or casualties.

The nor'wester swept over the northern region of the district and passed through the capital. Met office said.

Day temperature fell down considerably and the sky over the city was cloudy for almost day long following the nor'wester.

Met office forecast that a number of nor'westers likely to hit the country during the month.

## Milam visits Rohingya refugee camps

COX'S BAZAR, May 3: Authorities have decided to open another refugee camp as influx of the Rohingyas Muslims continued at the rate of 2,000 a day even after the Bangladesh-Myanmar accord their repatriation, reports UNB.

A total of Tk 22,50,000 will be spent for building the 14th camp.

US Ambassador William B Milam today visited the refugee camps to see the condition of thousands of Myanmar refugees.

DC Dauduzzaman Chowdhury and Rohingya Refugee Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner Khondker Shahidul Islam accompanied the Ambassador.

This will be required as the host Saudi government has decided to provide all pilgrims with identity card on their landing in the kingdom.

The Hajj pilgrims are to staple two passport size photographs duly attested by gazetted officer on their passport. The name of the hajjis and their passport, number should be mentioned on the back side of their photographs.

## The Midnight File

### Hekmatyar troops clash with militias

KABUL, May 3: Radical guerrilla leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's troops clashed Sunday with an unpopular militia he says must be ousted before he will accept a new rebel government. Hekmatyar's fighters also were blamed for a series of rocket attacks on the capital. But he lifted a blockade, allowing grain and other desperately needed supplies to be trucked into Kabul on Sunday, reports AP.

### Postal strike continues in Germany

FRANKFURT, May 3: Germany's postal union threatened Sunday to shut down national television as tensions heightened in a weeklong standoff over wages between the government and public sector employees. The move would affect the public networks ARD and ZDF, and subsidiary television and radio stations throughout the country, the newspaper said, reports AP.

### APU for Arab summit on Libya

NICOSIA, May 3: The Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) called today at a meeting in Tripoli for Arab states to hold a summit on Libya and to reconsider their decision to implement UN sanctions against the north African country. The APU, quoted by the official Libyan news agency Jana monitored here, argued that the sanctions were 'illegally' based on Chapter 7 of the United Nations Charter, which allows for force if world peace is threatened, reports AFP.

## Food security system

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stream of planning to provide increased scope for their participation in development.

She also said that a New Development Perspective for Bangladesh has already been framed to initiate the procedure as narrated by her. She thought implementation of the programme would result in a minimum annual growth rate of five per cent from 1992-93.

Begum Zia said that her government aimed to achieve universal secondary education and universal primary health care by 2000.

In the manufacturing sector, she said the focus would be on agro-based industry, linkage of small and large-scale industry and export promotion on the basis of competitive efficiency.

She thought the achievements of her government were many and quite significant. "We have been able to establish truly democratic atmosphere in the country for which the people have fought for long nine years," she said. The government was sincerely trying

to restore the democratic institutions and values which have been destroyed by the autocratic regime, she added.

Questioned about SAARC, Begum Khaleda Zia put her faith firmly in the organisation's ability to realise its aims. She mentioned that the idea of SAARC was first promoted by her late husband, president Ziaur Rahman.

She said the key thrust of SAARC's socio-economic mandate was to improve the lot of the common man visibly "so that they may live a life of dignity in an environment of peace, friendship and stability."

Agreeing with the correspondent, Shahed Rasheed, that Bangladesh had positively advanced in population planning rather than population control, the Prime Minister said that besides other factors, it was due to the total and absolute political commitment to the programme with strong support from the international community.

## Power situation reviewed

A working group has been constituted to study various aspects and avenues to expand power availability in the country under the chairmanship of member (Energy and Mineral Resources) of Planning Commission, reports BSS.

This was decided at a meeting held here Sunday at the conference room of the Planning Ministry of review the projects of energy sector under the chairmanship of Planning Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan.

The meeting was attended by Energy Minister Dr Mosharrar Hossain, Secretary, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED), Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, member (Energy and Mineral Resources) of Planning Commission, chairman, PDB and concerned high officials.

The meeting reviewed the load shedding situation and discussed short, medium and long-term strategies to overcome the situation.

## Logging

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preserving the environment because sustainable logging was one of the ways to protect the land from being degraded by shifting cultivation.

"Our forest policy has been developed over the years," said the Chief Minister adding that Sarawak's system of selective felling of trees was based on the Food and Agriculture Organisation's 1967 recommendations for sustained yields.

He said that the western environmentalists should come to see the logging situation in Sarawak. "They don't come to see the situation, but campaign against us," he added.

Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud told newsmen that Sarawak Government wants to reduce logging as recommended by International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO). The logging will gradually come down to 9 million cubic metre a year by 1995, if there is no economic recession. Steps will also be taken to increase efficiencies in logging to check wastage.

According to government officials, 70 per cent land of Sarawak are still under forest cover. Both reforestation and agroforestry programmes have been strengthened in the state for maintaining a sustainable forest management.

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## Mobile court against use of illegal weight

Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution Sunday conducted a mobile court led by Metropolitan Magistrate Hasanur Rahman against use of illegal weight and measurement for deceiving people, reports BSS.

The inspection of the court was conducted on petrol pumps, tank-lorry, jewellery shops, departmental stores and hardware shops at New Airport road, Gulshan markets number One and Two, Banani and Mahakhali.

## Afghanistan

From Page 1 Col 5

talk to the government if the militia were pulled out and that he had at his disposal what appeared to be a large force of tanks, armoured personnel carriers, anti-aircraft weapons, rockets and artillery.

Meanwhile, UN special negotiator on Afghanistan, Benon Sevan, flew into Kabul today on his first visit to Afghanistan since the Mujahideen takeover.

Official UN sources said Sevan, who has been working for years to bring an end to the 14-year-long Afghan war, was likely to meet with Sibtghatullah Mojaddidi, head of the five-day old interim government later in the day.

He was also expected to meet with individual Mujahideen commanders on the visit which coincides with a tense standoff between the Mujahideen government and holdout commander Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, whose troops are massed south of the city.

Sevan is also faced with the lingering impasse over the fate of former Afghan President Najibullah, who has been held up in a UN compound here since he tried to leave the country April 16.

Another report says, a huge convoy of trucks carrying Pakistan humanitarian aid reached the Afghan capital after a tense three-day standoff with guerrillas allied to Hekmatyar.

The trucks, numbering about 150, drove into Kabul late Saturday with wheat and vegetable oil, and parked along the central peace avenue here.

Truck drivers said Hekmatyar's Hezb-i-Islami rebels blocked the convoy at Sarowbi, about 60 kms (35 miles) from here, and refused to allow the convoy to proceed to Kabul.

The convoy reached Kabul after a spokesman for Moja deddi said a delegation of religious leaders had gone to Sarowbi to convince the Hezb rebels to allow it proceed.

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