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designate Burhanuddin
Rabbani has said that
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be set up soon.



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Metropolitan

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More than just win-
dow shopping



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NEWS BRIEFS

ALWC emergency meet today

An emergency meeting of
Awami League Working Com-
mittee will be held today at 7
pm at the Minto Road resi-
dence of the Opposition
Leader in Jatiya Sangsad Sheikh
Hasina. General Secretary
of Awami League Begum Sajeda
Chowdhury MP has requested
all members of the Working
Committee to attend the
meeting in time, reports BSS.

CU examinations postponed

CHITTAGONG, May 9: First
year subsidiary examinations of
Chittagong University, which
was scheduled for tomorrow
(Sunday), have been postponed
due to unavoidable circum-
stances. The postponed exam-
ination will be held on June 3,
said a university press release,
reports UNB.

EC team chief hosts reception

The head of the delegation
of the Commission of the
European Communities in
Bangladesh Ambassador Jacques
Baillly and Mrs Claude Baillly
Saturday evening hosted a
reception on the occasion of
the anniversary of the human
Declaration which led to the
formation of the Community in
the late fifties, reports BSS.

JCD postpones Ctg rally

CHITTAGONG, May 9: Jati-
yabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) has
postponed its divisional rally
scheduled for tomorrow
(Sunday) at Laldeh Maidan
reports UNB.

Warrants of arrest, property attachment fall through

Court orders breaking of BCI strongrooms

By Court Correspondent

The Chief Metropolitan
Magistrate directed yesterday
the Metropolitan Magistrates
A T M Ismail and Khandakar
Shaukat Hossain to be present
during the breaking of strong-
rooms of some BCI branches
in city today.

The court order was given
as warrants of arrest and prop-
erty attachment warrants
against Al-Haj Abdul Matin and
Sahidul Islam Directors of the
Bangladesh Commerce and
Investment (BCI) returned to
the court Saturday without ex-
ecution of the same.

The Officer-in-Charge of
Dhanmandi PS confirmed that
the accused persons were not
available at their given ad-
dresses and also that there
whereabouts were not known.

The court recorded that
there was no recovery accord-
ing to the attachment warrants
and directed the Metropolitan
Magistrates A T M Ismail to be

present at the BCI Moulavi
Bazar Branch under PS Lalbagh
and Khandakar Shaukat
Hossain at the BCI branches at
Nasiruddin Sardar Lane,
Bangsal and Bangla Bazar under
Sutrapur PS during the break-
ing of strongrooms of the said
BCI branches today.

The court issued the order
according to a written prayer
placed before the court by the
police authorities.

The court also directed the
concerned persons to attend
the BCI branches accordingly
at 11 am today.

Our staff correspondent
adds: Police on Saturday
launched a massive raid on dif-
ferent branches of Bangladesh
Commerce and Investment (BCI)
and sealed the branches.

Sabujbag police went to
Khilgaon branch of BCI and
sealed the office along with all
the papers and assets. The
Bangladesh Bank officials were

present during the action.
Gulshan police went to the
Gulshan branch and seized of-
ficial papers and Taka 7700.

Ramna police went to the
Mouchak branch. However,
the outcome could not be
known till writing this report
late last night.

Police also went to the
Sadarghat branch but could not
seal the office due to the ab-
sence of a magistrate.

Police sources said more
branches of BCI will be raided
today to seize documents and
records.

Meanwhile, Sutrapur police
said that the son of Mustafizur
Rahman, MD of BCI was re-
leased Friday night. He had
been taken in by the police to
know the whereabouts of his
father. Mita Rahman, however,
could not provide any clue to
his whereabouts police con-
firmed.

BCI MD to surrender, plead for bail

By Inam Ahmed and
Sohel Manzur

Mustafizur Rahman, Chair-
man and Managing Director of
the Bangladesh Commerce and
Investment (BCI) is likely to
surrender in the High Court
soon to plead for bail,
according to a source close to
the company.

One of the Directors of the
company Abdul Wadud has al-
ready surrendered in the dis-
trict court and pleaded for
bail, the source said, adding
that Barrister Ishtiaq Ahmed
and Barrister Rokonuddin
Mahmud would move the peti-
tion for bail to the BCI MD.

Another case challenging
the suspension order on the
activities of BCI by the
Bangladesh Bank is likely to be
filed soon.

Meanwhile, the application
to convert the BCI into a
scheduled bank could not be
moved as yet as, according to
an official of the Ministry of
Finance, the directors of the
company were charged with
criminal offences. The official
said that the application would
not be moved until disposal of
See Page 12 Col 3

Missing MP returns

AL calls hartal in Chittagong today

By Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, May 9: The
Awami League and its students'
front, the Bangladesh Chhatra
League, Chittagong unit, today
called for a down-to-dusk har-
tal throughout Chittagong to
protest the killing of three of
their party activists in two
separate armed attacks al-
legedly by the pro-Jamaat
Islamic Chhatra Shibir and NDP
at Fatikchhari, 30 miles off the
city on Friday.

The Chittagong city Awami
League leader and former MP,
Mosharraf Hossain, who re-
mained missing after the inci-
dents, returned to the city
early this morning and was
admitted to his own clinic, the
Holy Crescent Hospital here
with marks of multiple injury,
doctors said.

The Managing Director of
the clinic, Dr. Abul Mokarram,
quoting the injured MP, said
that the armed attackers beat
him severely with rifles butts.

Mosharraf, however, man-
aged to escape in the darkness
and later reached the city.

He was put under intensive
care in the clinic, Dr
Mokarram added.

Police said the armed ac-
tivities had attacked Mosharraf
on his way to the city the same
evening at Takirhat point of
Fatikchhari, where AL activist
Harun Bashar was shot dead
and a few others were injured.

The vehicle of Mosharraf
was also damaged. Before this
incident, the armed people,
See Page 12 Col 8

Fatikchhari OC suspended

CHITTAGONG, May 9: The
Officer-in-Charge of
Fatikchhari police station,
Aminul Islam, was suspended
today on charge of negligence
in duty, reports UNB.

Reliable sources said Islam
couldn't even inform the
Deputy Commissioner and the
Superintendent of Police of
the Fatikchhari shootout until
10 Friday night.

Hasina demands punishment to Fatikchhari killers

Awami League Chief and
Leader of the Opposition in
Jatiya Sangsad Sheikh Hasina
yesterday demanded of the
government to arrest the
killers of Awami League and
Chhatra League leaders in
Fatikchhari and give them an
exemplary punishment, re-
ports BSS.

Sheikh Hasina in a state-
ment strongly condemned and
expressed her anguish at the
killing of Bhojpur Union
Awami League leader Haroon
Bashar, Fatikchhari Thana
Chhatra League leader
Zamiruddin and Abu Ahmed
and injuring a large number of
workers what she alleged
Jamaat-Shibir-NDP's armed
attack on Fatikchhari Chhatra
League conference.

The Awami League Chief
said armed hoodlums of iden-
tified anti-liberation forces re-
sorted to indiscriminate fire at
the venue when leaders went
to attend Namaz-e-Jannaz of local
Awami League leader and
Union Parishad Chairman
Obaidul Haq who was killed in
a road accident. The Awami
See Page 12 Col 7

Majid-ul Haq leaves for Delhi today

Agriculture, Irrigation and
Flood Control Minister Maj
Gen (Rtd) Majid-ul Haq is
likely to leave today for New
Delhi as special envoy of Prime
Minister Begum Khaleda Zia,
reports UNB.

Haq is expected to call on
Indian Prime Minister
Narasimha Rao in Delhi on
Monday (May 11) and han-
dover to Rao a letter from
Begum Zia, diplomatic sources
said.

Additional Foreign Secre-
tary AH Mahmood Ali may
accompany the Minister who is
to hold talks with the Indian
leaders on the proposed visit
of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia
to India.

They are expected to fi-
nalise the agenda of the sum-
mit between Rao and Begum
Zia.

17 hurt as JCD, BCL clash in Ishurdi College

PABNA, May 9: At least 17
students were injured, four of
them seriously, in a clash be-
tween two rival groups in
Ishurdi College today, reports
UNB.

An Awami League leader's
jeep was burnt in the melee at
noon, witnesses and police
said.

College sources said
Jatiyabadi Chhatra Dal OS
candidate for the college union
election Tuhin was beaten at
about 10 am by a group of stu-
dents at the Hospital Road,
which bred the trouble.

When the news spread to
the college campus, Chhatra
League and Chhatra Dal ac-
tivities started fighting each
other at about 1 pm with
hockey sticks and handmade
bombs.

Among the seriously injured
Alamgir Hossain and Swapan of
BCL and Ahmed Hossain and
Tuhin of JCD along with 8
others were admitted into the
upazila health complex.

JUCSU polls schedule

By JU Correspondent

The schedule for the forth-
coming Jahangirnagar Uni-
versity Central Students Union
(JUCSU) and hall union polls
was announced Saturday by the
JUCSU Election Commission.

According to the schedule
issued by the Chief Election
Commissioner for JUCSU Prof
Meshbaudhin Ahmed, the elec-
tions will take place on June 3
from 9 am to 6 pm without
break.

Nomination papers for the
polls will be issued from the
Election Commission office on
May 16 and 17.

The candidates will submit
their nomination papers on
May 20.

The commission will scruti-
nize the nomination papers
and publish the preliminary
list of contestants on May 21.

Candidates may withdraw
their nominations on May 23.
Meanwhile, sources close to
the Election Commission said
adequate security measures
will be taken for the peaceful
holding of the ninth JUCSU
and hall union polls.

Lawyer alerted BB of NCL irregularities

Star Special

Directors of the National
Credit Limited (NCL), who
have been allegedly guilty of
taking loans from the com-
pany, should have been asked
by the Bangladesh Bank (BB) to
"vacate their positions imme-
diately" for violating the pro-
visions of the Companies Act,
1913 as well as the organisa-
tion's own Articles of
Association, according to a
noted lawyer who had dis-
cussed the matter with the
central bank in August, 1990.

As in the case of the
Bangladesh Commerce and
Investment Ltd (BCI), the
lawyer had offered his views at
the request of a high official of
BB. The official it is said, had
provided sufficient information

on the then activities of NCL to
enable the lawyer to form an
opinion on the controversial
organisation.

The NCL, a finance com-
pany, now reportedly hit by a
severe liquidity crisis, has
applied for permission to be
restructured as a full-fledged
scheduled bank. In this re-
spect, its efforts are getting
the support of a certain quar-
ter in the administration.

After discussing the BCI situ-
ation in a note to BB in May,
1990, on which The Daily Star
published a report yesterday,
the lawyer alerted the central
bank that NCL had also com-
mitted serious offences which
could not be treated lightly by
See Page 12 Col 4



Police coming out of Mohsin Hall, Dhaka University after raid yesterday.

— Star photo

Mujib's clemency likely to influence action on Azam

By Staff Correspondent

The clemency granted by
Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to
30000 collaborators in 1973 is
likely to influence the course
of action on Golam Azam in the
coming days, authoritative
sources said.

The clemency was an-
nounced on December 30,
1973 to persons convicted or
accused of offences under the
Bangladesh Collaborators (Spec-
ial Tribunal) Order, 1972.

The order covered persons,
imprisoned at that time under
the provisions of the Order or
absconding.

For those absconding the
conditions imposed were sur-
rendering to relevant authori-
ties and declaring allegiance to
Bangladesh.

Declaring the clemency the
then Prime Minister Sheikh
Mujibur Rahman expressed the
hope that those to be released
under it would come forward
to take part in nation-building

activities. He further ex-
pressed the hope that the per-
sons concerned would avail the
opportunity.

In a message on the occa-
sion Sheikh Mujib said that the
clemency would not, however,
cover those accused or con-
victed of rape, arson and mur-
der.

Sheikh Mujib hoped that
those who worked in the past
against national interest would
come forward in repentance
and as loyal citizens take part
in the country's reconstruc-
tion.

Mujib said "I sincerely want
this" and also hoped they
would avail of the new oppor-
tunity to work for the greater
glory of the nation, forgetting
their past roles.

Clarifying the order, the
then Home Minister Abdul
Malek Ukil said that there was
no contradiction with any law
See Page 12 Col 8

Police raid 2 DU halls: One held

By Staff Correspondent

Police raided two residen-
tial halls of Dhaka University
Saturday afternoon and ar-
rested one person.

The one-hour raid was con-
ducted following a gunbattle
between two factions of Jatiya
Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) backed
Bangladesh Chhatra League (N-
S) Friday night on the univer-
sity campus.

Police raided Mohsin Hall
and Bangabandhu Sheikh
Mujibur Rahman Hall at about
3 pm which continued till 4
pm.

During the raid, police
nabbed Nizan and Mashrur
from Bangabandhu Sheikh
Mujibur Rahman Hall but later
released Mashrur. Both of them
were identified as activists of
Bangladesh Chhatra League (N-
S), according to police.

Police said, they could not
recover any weapon from the
halls during the raid.

Campus violence won't be tolerated any longer : PM

NARAYANGANJ, May 9 :
Prime Minister Begum Khaleda
Zia called upon the people to-
day to wage a united war
against hunger, poverty and
terrorism to pave the way for
national development, reports
UNB.

"It is time for building the
nation. We shouldn't only raise
demands, we should rather
combat hunger, poverty and
violence in a body," the Prime
Minister told a huge public
meeting near the BIWTA ter-
minal here in the afternoon.

Organised by Narayanganj
town BNP, the meeting
chaired by Advocate Abul
Kalam, MP, was also addressed
by Home Minister Abdul Matin
Chowdhury, MP's Shamsun-
nahr Ahsanullah, Prof Rezaul
Karim, Sirajul Islam Siraj,
Ataur Rahman, Angur and
Jatiyabadi Chhatra Dal leader
Fazlur Rahman Milon.

Begum Zia said that when
the BNP government had cre-
ated an atmosphere for attract-
ing foreign investment, some
political parties resorted to
creating confusion and anarchy
for hindering "politics of pro-
duction" aimed at attaining
self-reliance.

Begum Zia asked industrial
workers to be vigilant against
all conspiracies and said they
(workers) should now come
forward to take the responsi-
bility of running their enter-
prises.

"Measures taken by the gov-
ernment will help the workers
become owners of the indus-
tries," she said and urged
them to unitedly resist at-
tempts by some quarters to
stall industrialisation in the
country.

Sounding a stern warning
against troublemakers on the
campuses, she made it clear

that her government would not
tolerate such activities any
longer.

Begum Zia also urged all to
plant trees in every nook and
corner of the country for
checking environmental
degradation.

She announced that tree
plantation week would be ob-
served in the country next
month.

Regarding various local de-
mands, she said the problems
would be solved in phases,
adding that construction of a
link road and installation of
modern telecommunication fa-
cilities have already been
started in the district.

Earlier, the Prime Minister
laid the foundation of the
Narayanganj Press Club at
Bangabandhu road in the town.
The three-storey press club
building will cost about Tk 60
lakh.

Kuala Lumpur Declaration roundup Third World to focus on new funding in Rio summit

By Chapal Bashar

The Kuala Lumpur Declara-
tion adopted by the Minis-
terial Conference of Develop-
ing Countries on Environ-
ment and Development in the
Malaysian capital will focus on
new funding arrangements for
environment that may benefit
countries like Bangladesh.

The call for a new funding
arrangement was the strongest
element that emerges out of
the three-day conference
which ended April 29. The
conference was attended by 55
developing countries where

the host country Malaysia
played a leadership role.

This leadership role will get
a new boost when Malaysian
Prime Minister Mahathir
Mohammad attends the Earth
Summit in Rio de Janeiro and
places the KL Declaration be-
fore the conference.

The summit, formally
known as the United Nations
Conference on Environment
and Development (UNCED),
will be held from June 3 to 14.

At one stage, there was
strong possibility that

Mahathir may not attend the
summit to show his disen-
chantment with the position of
United States at KL conference
and the campaign by Western
environmentalists against
Malaysia.

At the KL conference 11
developed countries were pre-
sent and US had disapproved
the creation of a new fund for
environment at Rio Summit.
Some western non-govern-
mental organisations (NGOs)
have also been campaigning
See Page 12 Col 4

Atmosphere yet to be 'safe' for Rohingyas' return : UNHCR

The United Nations High
Commission for Refugees
(UNHCR) wants safe and volun-
tary return of the Rohingya
refugees which is not possible
until a congenial atmosphere is
restored in their homeland in
Myanmar, UNHCR Mission
chief in Dhaka said Saturday.

Darjoush Bayandor told UNB
that the continuous flow of the
refugees from Myanmar indi-
cated an atmosphere congenial
for "safe and voluntary repa-
triation" of the refugees had
not been created.

More than 21,000 Rohingya
Muslims have crossed into
Bangladesh since April 28,
when the Foreign Ministers of
the two countries signed an

agreement on repatriation of
the refugees.

About 2,000 refugees are
coming every day making the
total to 2,44,022 till Thursday.

Darjoush, stressed the need
for halt of flow of the refugees
or at least improving the situa-
tion in Myanmar before repa-
triation begins.

About the possible involve-
ment of the UN agency in
repatriation of the refugees, he
emphatically said, "UNHCR
will not associate itself in the
process of repatriation until
congenial atmosphere is cre-
ated in Myanmar."

"We want to see none
should feel urgency to flee the
homeland", Darjoush added.

He said "we welcome some
aspects of the agreement
signed between the two coun-
tries on repatriation but we
have reservation on certain
aspects."

"May 15 timeframe as en-
visaged in the agreement to
begin the repatriation will not
help restore congenial atmo-
sphere for safe return of the
refugees... framing of the time
is not realistic, it should have
been flexible."

The UNHCR Mission chief
added "the agreement signed
between Bangladesh and
Myanmar does not seem com-
patible with safeguards for vol-
untary return of the refugees."