

Come to CHITTAGONG Come to BANGKOK THAI RESTAURANT
 The only place for ORIGINAL THAI FOOD & SEAFOOD in CHITTAGONG (NO BRANCH). Please try us and you will love BANGKOK THAI RESTAURANT more than ever before.
 1443 ASIAN HIGHWAY, OPPOSITE Y.M.C.A. NASIRABAD, CHITTAGONG. TEL: 226603. Fax: (880) (31) - 225258

The Daily Star

TRANSAIR INTERNATIONAL
 Travel And Cargo Agent
 DON'T NEED TO THINK ANYMORE WITH YOUR AIR TRAVELLING OR CARGO, WE'LL BE THERE FOR YOU.
 WE'RE HERE
 OFFICE: ROAD-11, BLOCK-8, BANAKH, DHAKA-1212, BANGLADESH.
 TEL: (880) 882787-79
 FAX: (880) 882788 TEL: 6400-484
 ANYTIME ANYWHERE ANYTIME

VOL. II NO. 153 REGD. NO. DA 781 ASHAR 12, 1399 BS, DHAKA FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1992 ZILHAJ 24, 1412 HIJRI 12 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 4.00

Inside Today

Article
 Make Hay while the Sun Shines
 Column: Window on Asia by Shahed Latif
 Page 4

International



Arafat says Israelis vote against war, terrorism of Shamir
 Page 5

Magazine



Conversation with Begum Sufia Kamal, My World by SM Ali, Write to Mita



All those missing masterpieces of Shilpacharya
 Pages 9, 10, 11

Business

Saudi Deputy Minister for Finance pleads for private sector initiative to promote bilateral trade
 Page 7

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



A Gift of Recognition
 Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

JU Senate meet today

JU Correspondent
 The annual Senate meeting of Jahangirnagar University will be held today (Friday) at the Senate hall of the university, at 4 pm. A budget for the 92-93 fiscal year will be placed before the Senate members, according to university sources.

Peer Dudu Mia seeks doa

Peer Mohsinuddin Ahmed Dudu Mia, President of Bangladesh Farayazi Jamaat, who received injury in his waist on Saturday, is now taking rest at his residence at 137 Bangshal. He solicited doa from the countrymen for his early recovery, reports BSS.

Indemnity Bill

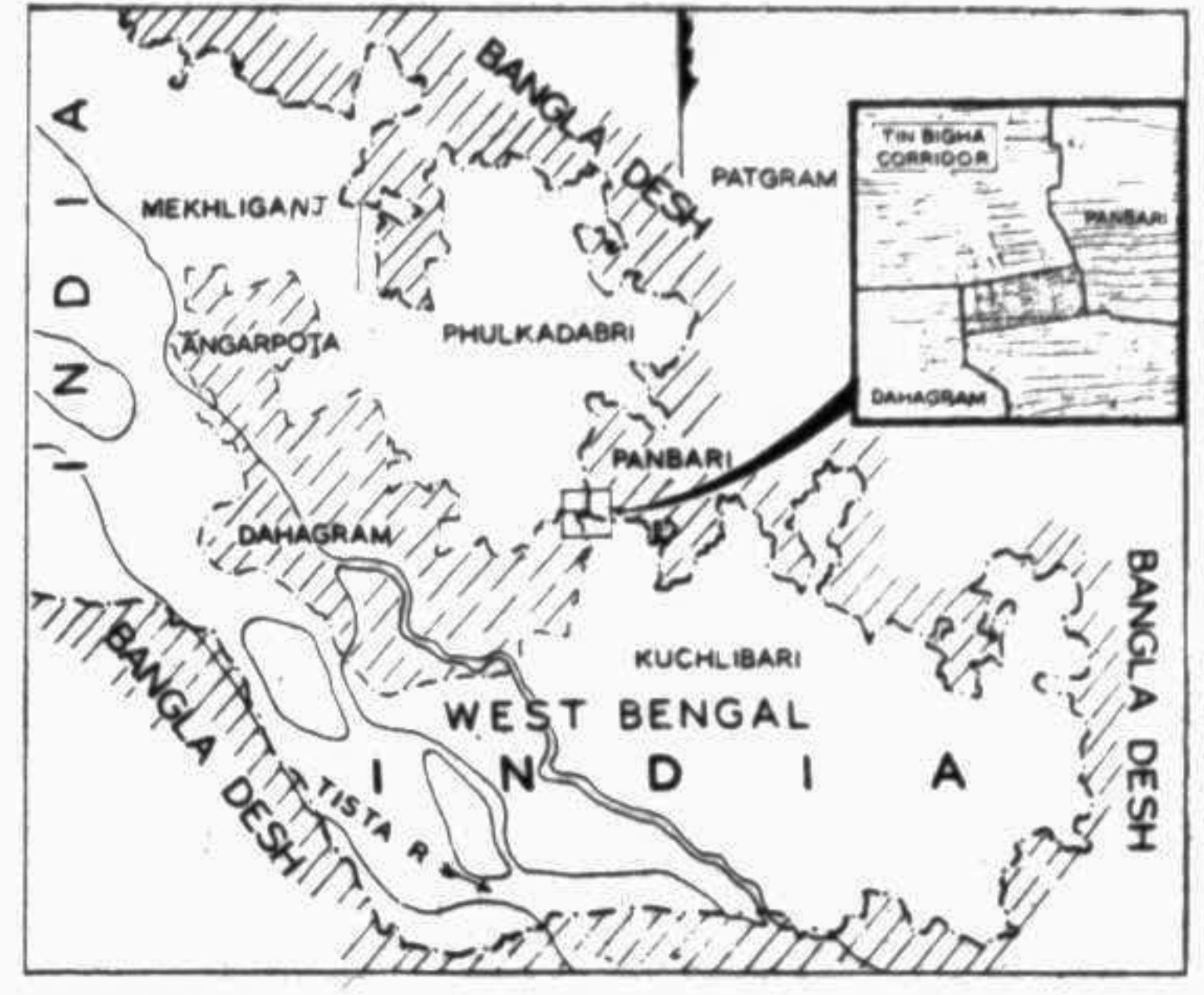
Parliament yesterday extended time by another 70 days to the Special Committee for finalising its report on the Indemnity Ordinance (Repeal) Bill introduced in the House in August last year. Chief Whip Khondokar Delwar Hossain sought extension of time as it expired yesterday, reports UNB.

Bangladesh gets leasehold on Tinbigha today

From Toufique Imrose Khalidi
 BURIMARI (Lalmoirhat), June 25: A very low-key ceremony, attended by district level officials of the two countries will mark the formal leasing of Tinbigha corridor to Bangladesh tomorrow (Friday). The district-level officials of Bangladesh and India sat this afternoon to talk tomorrow's programme and chalked out the formalities. Lalmoirhat Deputy Commissioner Khalilur Rahman and Coochbehar District Magistrate Gopal Krishna led the respective sides in the discussion held at the Burimari BDR outpost along the border. Lalmoirhat DC, leading a small team of district officials, will walk through the corridor down to Dahagram. The programme to be attended only by a select gathering of officials and a few journalists at 11 am Bangladesh Standard Time (10-30 Indian Standard Time) tomorrow. They will just open the gate and will cross the road," said the DC. The handover takes place as per 1974 agreement signed by the Prime Ministers and subsequent understandings reached by the foreign ministers in 1982 and then again in March 1992 between the foreign ministry bureaucrats of the two countries. The "lease in perpetuity" of the tiny piece of land, measuring 170 meters by 85 meters, to Bangladesh would enable her to "exercise her sovereignty" on the two enclaves, the 1992 agreement said. Some 16,000 people of the area will now have "free and unfettered" access through the corridor, according to the agreement. Talking to The Daily Star See Page 12 Col 4

In the beginning was Radcliffe Award

By Sabir Mustafa and Toufique Imrose Khalidi
 The leasing of the Tinbigha corridor by India to Bangladesh today is expected not only bring to an end a dispute that has remained a festering sore in bilateral relations for two decades. It is also likely to drop the curtain on efforts of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to reap political gains by making an emotional issue out of the legal wrangle over this 178m x 85m strip of land. The fundamentalist BJP and a dissident faction of the Forward Bloc (FB) are the only groups left in West Bengal which are opposed to the lease agreement. The rest have already given their nods of approval to the final accord worked out between officials of Bangladesh and India on March 26 this year. "Our movement is over, there is no problem now. The BJP, which was routed in West Bengal in the last general elections, had tried to make some political capital out of See Page 12 Col 1



MP challenges minister on BCI issue Govt not obliged to return deposits, says Saifur

By Staff Correspondent
 Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman said yesterday that the government was under no obligation to return the money of the depositors of now suspended Bangladesh Commerce and Investment Ltd (BCI). The depositors may take legal action to recover their money, he said. Making a statement on a notice of public importance in the Jatiya Sangsad (JS) Saifur further said that the total liability of BCI at the time of its temporary closure stood at Tk 190 crore and that an audit was going on to assess the total assets of the organization. Tracing the history of the irregularities in the BCI, the Finance Minister said that on three occasions, in 1989, 1990, 1991 the Bangladesh Bank (BB) issued show cause notices against the organization. BCI, despite all these instructions, continued its illegal activities he added. The Finance Minister further said that BCI was a non-banking financial institution and it had no permission to operate as a bank. The irregular activities of the BCI as identified by Saifur include, extending huge amounts in loans to its Directors and their relatives, illegally operating banking transactions, failure to maintain current assets against liability and huge withdrawals by directors to serve personal interests. The statement by the Minister failed to satisfy Kazi Shamsur Rahman of the Jamaat who gave the notice. In reply to his queries about the extent of precautionary measures taken, Saifur replied that the government had taken enough measures and there were no reasons for people to lose confidence in the BB. He further said, to stop recurrence of such incidents the government was going to amend the Banking Law. Intervening at this stage, Speaker Shaikh Razaque Ali wanted to know why the BB did not take action against the BCI. Saifur replied that before taking action against a financial institution different steps were to be followed. The clarification of the Minister failed to satisfy the Speaker and he commented that innocent people were suffering and wanted to know See Page 12 Col 4

PM visits Pakistan in August

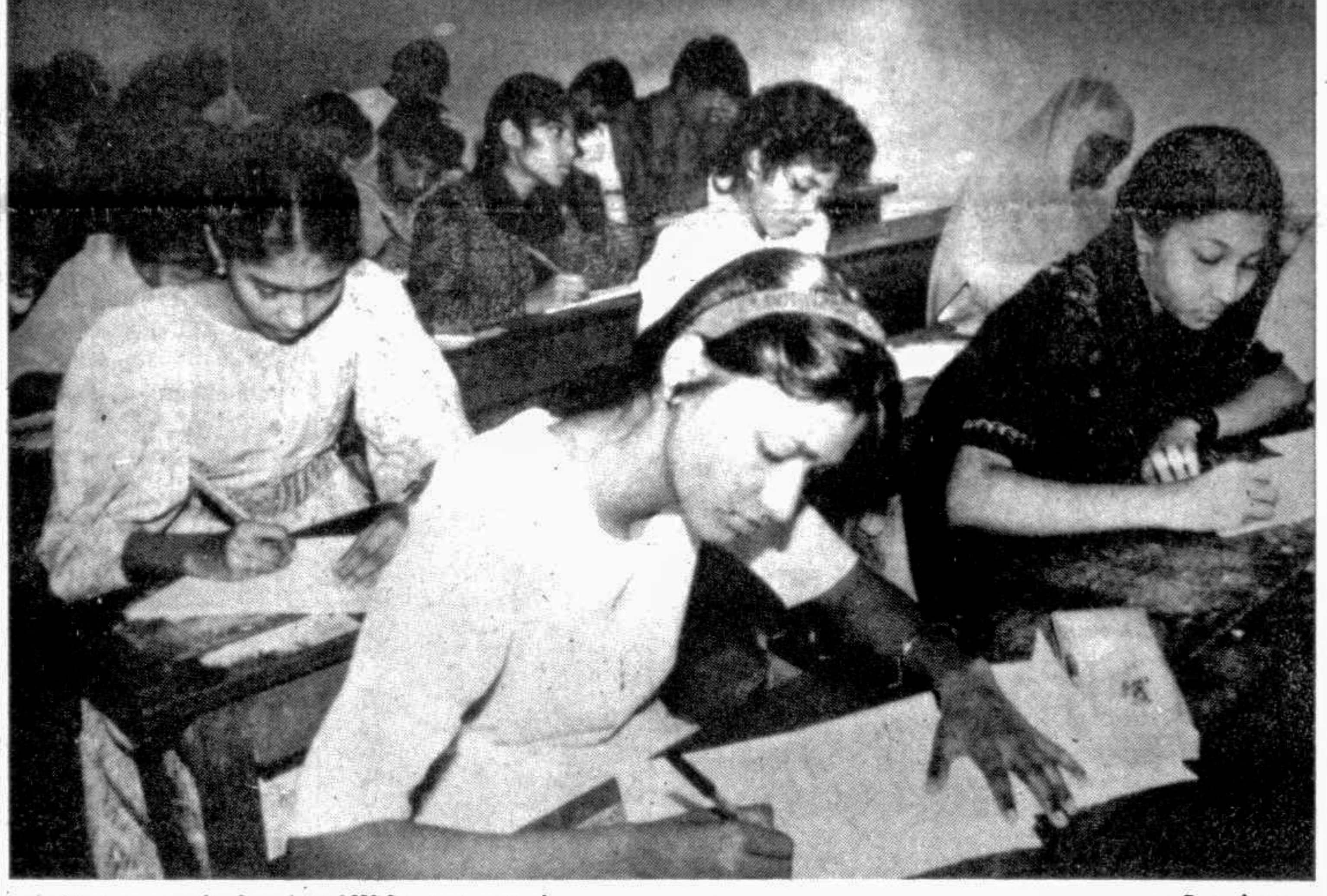
By Masud Hasan Khan
 Prime Minister Begum Khaleeda Zia is expected to make a state visit to Pakistan during the first week of August. Disclosing this, Foreign Minister ASM Mustafizur Rahman told the Daily Star Thursday that the PM's visit, her first to Pakistan since she became the prime minister more than a year was expected to be a three-day one. Earlier, the minister told Parliament that the Prime Minister would discuss, among other issues, the sharing of assets with her Pakistani counterpart during the planned visit in August. In response to a query by M Shamsuddoha (Niphamar-2), in the House, Rahman said that Bangladesh had been demanding due share of the asset from Pakistan since independence of the country in 1971. The question was raised by Abdul Alim Doha of BNP since Shamsuddoha was boycotting the session.

Home Minister's death figures confuse JS

By Staff Correspondent
 Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury seems to be a little confused as to how many people were murdered in Dhaka city this year. According to his reply in parliament Thursday to a question by Abdur Rouf (Niphamar-1), 35 cases of murder were recorded this year until June 1. However, to a similar question by Rahmat Ali (Gazipur-1), the Home Minister replied that 53 were murdered in the capital till May 31. These two replies seemed to indicate that 18 of the slain might have risen from their graves during the 24 hours between May 31 and June 1. The startling revelation was made from the two sets of question-answer sheets distributed to the press by the Parliament Secretariat during the Thursday's session. The Minister also informed the house that 22 cases of rape, 50 incidents of mugging and 435 cases of extortion were also filed during the period.

3000 docs to get jobs in phases: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleeda Zia said in Dhaka yesterday that her government wanted to reach healthcare system to every door-step of people by strengthening rural based health infrastructure, reports BSS. She said "we want that the rural people do not have to rush to the cities for treatment, but they should get proper treatment at their villages." The Prime Minister was addressing the installation ceremony of Bangladesh Medical Association at the Engineers Institution's Auditorium. Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, Deputy Minister for Health and Family Welfare Sirajul Haq, BMA President Dr M A Majed, BMA General Secretary Dr Gazi Abdul Haq, Social Welfare and Cultural Secretary Dr Shaful Azam and mother of Shaheed Dr Shamsul Alam Khan Milon, Mrs Selina Akhtar also spoke on the occasion. Begum Zia said the government had attached top most importance to the elimination of poverty and the development of human resources, which had been duly projected in the allocations of the proposed national budget. She said the rule of increase of allocation in the health and population sector in the budget is about 25 per cent. The Prime Minister said "we want to establish a stable, proper and prosperous democratic social system to realise the basic demands of the people. She said it would be easier to solve five basic demands of the people if the democratic process continued. Besides, she said, bureaucratic complexities would be removed if the process continued. Describing the steps taken so far in the health sector by the government the Prime Minister said doctors had already been appointed in 1274 unions of the country and more 250 doctors would get appointment soon. The graduate physicians would get appointment in other unions in phases which would provide job opportunities for another three thousand physicians of the country. The Prime Minister pointed See Page 12 Col 3



A city centre on the first day of HSC exams yesterday. — Star photo

30 injured in bomb attacks Transport strike drags on

By Staff Correspondent
 At least 30 people, mostly bus passenger, were injured in two separate bomb attacks related to the countrywide transport strike which passed its fourth day on Thursday. The striking transport workers hurled a petrol bomb on a loaded passengers bus of Gulshan-Pirjongi Major route (No 6) near Kawranbazar in the afternoon injuring more than 25 passengers including women and children. In another incident near Dayaganj truck terminal two workers opposing the strike were injured in bomb attack by their rivals as they were barricading the road. Eleven of the injured were admitted to hospital. Meanwhile, the situation in Dhaka and Chittagong improved further with more vehicles plying the streets but the situation remained unchanged in Khulna and Rajshahi region. Transport services in route No-6 and in Sayadabad-Gazipur route were almost normal and buses and minibuses in other routes also plied. A large number of taxis and tempos also ran in the capital, witnesses said. A federation source opposing the strike said that a number of vehicles left Sayadabad terminal for different destinations on Thursday. A Communication Ministry source also confirmed the news. The Gatabai and Mohakhali terminal, which are the strong holds of the striking workers could not operate as the pickets were active in the terminals. A ministry source said that four ferries were sent to Nagarbari from Aricha to bring back the stranded vehicles. There was no bid for resolving the crisis through negotiation on Thursday, ministry and federation sources said.

HSC exams : 455 expelled on first day

By DU Correspondent
 The Higher Secondary Certificate HSC examinations began peacefully under the four education boards yesterday (Thursday). On the first day of the examinations, a total of 455 students were expelled for adopting unfair means. Of them, 116 were from the Dhaka Board, 143 from the Rajshahi Board and 21 from the Jessore Board. Bengali first paper examination was held on the day. UNB adds: A total of 131 candidates were expelled on the first day under Dhaka Board. Candidates appearing at different centres of the capital reported that transport strike caused serious problem for them in coming from far-flung areas. Of those expelled, seven were from Dhaka City, three from Narayanganj, 65 from Mymensingh district, 15 in Narshingdi, 22 in Netrakona, 2 in Manikganj, 2 in Madaripur and 2 from Gopalganj district. Reports from other Boards and centers were not immediately available. A total of 2,47,669 candidates appeared from four education Boards of the country,

Opposition on JS boycott PM's remark worsens situation further

By Staff Correspondent
 The opposition parties in Parliament excluding the Jamaat yesterday accused the government of failure to create a congenial atmosphere for the opposition to join the budget session of Parliament. The Chief Whip of the Opposition in Parliament Mohammad Nasim briefing newsmen last evening at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban made this accusation. Montreal Hoque Chowdhury of the Jatiya Party, Rashed Khan Menon of the Workers Party, JSD chief Shajahan Siraj and Islami Oikya Jote leader Moulana Obaidulla were also present at the briefing. The opposition leaders told newsmen that the situation had further aggravated with the Prime Minister's remark in a public meeting yesterday that the opposition's boycotting of the budget session was a betrayal to the people who had voted the opposition members to Parliament. The opposition leaders said that they were shocked, if not surprised, at the Prime Minister's remark. They however said that the boycotting of Parliament session by the opposition was an accepted weapon for the opposition. See Page 12 Col 3

100 Bangladeshis lose jobs for LA clash

Some 100 Bangladeshis living in the United States have temporarily lost jobs following the recent ethnic violence in Los Angeles, Foreign Minister said this in parliament yesterday, reports UNB. Replying to a question stood in the name of Kazi Abdur Rashid of Awami League, ASM Mustafizur Rahman also said 11 business houses owned by Bangladesh nationals and some other commercial houses were affected in the riot inflicting a loss of about 85,000 dollars. The Foreign Minister said the US government took necessary measures to help the victims recoup the losses suffered by the Bangladeshi citizens and other minority groups there. In a separate question stood in the name of Ebadur Rahman Chowdhury (Jatiya Party), Rahman informed the House that the number of Bangladeshis women detained in India is 43, in Pakistan 35 and one in Sri Lanka. To a question from Kazi Mohammad Hossain (Brahmanbaria-5), the Foreign Minister said about Tk 64.60 crore was allocated during the current fiscal year for running country's missions abroad, which was about Tk 3 crore higher than that of last year (1990-91).

Entrepreneurs of sick industries threaten action programme

By Staff Correspondent
 Inter-Association Sick Industries Rehabilitation Council at a conference Thursday threatened to take up an action programme on July 25 if the government failed to take decision on its demands by 15th of the same month. The demands of the Council, comprised of 21 manufacturers' associations and trade bodies, include, allocation of Taka 500 crore for rehabilitating the sick industries, exemption of all interests of the entrepreneurs of sick industries. See Page 12 Col 7

Outsider killed in DU hall

By DU Correspondent
 Mithu (23), an outsider, was shot dead in Zahurul Huq Hall of the Dhaka University in the early hours Thursday. According to sources, sound of at least 10 gunshots was heard from the Zahurul Huq Hall area last night and later Mithu was found with bullet wound in his chest in front of the TV room of the extension bloc of the hall. Police sources said that Mithu, son of the Tara Mia of Kotwali thana was taken to the Dhaka Medical College hospital by a resident of the same hall at about 2 am. But the doctors declared him dead. Zahurul Huq Hall Student Union sources said that Mithu, their guest, was shot in an attack by the armed hooligans. See Page 12 Col 4