CHITTAGONG, TLL: 226603, Fax: (880) (31) - 225258 VOL. II NO. 342 REGD. NO. DA 781

1443 ASIAN HIGHWAY, OPPOSITE Y.M.C.A. NASIRABAD

POUSH 24, 1399 BS,

DHAKA THURSDAY JANUARY 7, 1993

The Baily Star

RAJAB 13, 1413 HIJRI



- Inside Today -

ever before.

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NEWS BRIEFS

JS Chief Whip operated upon

Chief Whip of the Jatiya Sangsad Khandaker Delwar Hossain had a prostrate operation at the Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore yesterday morning, according to message received here yesterday. The ailing Chief Whip left Dhaka for Singapore on January 4 for treatment and was admitted to the hospital, reports BSS.

BCL (M-I) sweeps college union polls

· SIRAJGANJ, Jan 6: Pro Awami League Chhatra League (M-I) swept the student union election of the Ullapara Akbar All Government College bag ging all the 16 posts. Habirul Islam Sabbir and Yunus Ali were elected Vice President and General Secretary respectively, reports UNB.

Hartal observed in Shahjadpur

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 6: A halfday hartal called by Jattya Party (JP) was observed in Shahjadpur town of the district today to protest the assault on Jatiya Party leader and Paurasava Chairman candidate Habibur Rahman Swapon, Swapon, the President of JP unit of Shahjadpur, was allegedly assaulted by some BNP activists during his submission of nomination paper at the Straigant DC office Tuesday, reports UNB.

SAARC states should resolve issues thru' talks: Sharif

Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has expressed the hope that it should be possible for SAARC member states to "set aside" the stipulation in its charter that kept contentious bilateral political problems out of its purview.

"We should aim at resolven ing all outstanding issues through negotiations", Sharif said in a written interview given to the United News of Bangladesh (UNB).

Questioned how mistrusts among the member states could be removed, he said, "We hope it will be possible for the member states to set aside the stipulation in the charter disallowing discussion of contentious bilateral problems in SAARC forums."

The written interview with the Pakistani leader was timed for early December when SAARC summit was scheduled in Dhaka. But the summit was deferred to January 13-14 in view of the situation arising the razing of Babri Mosque in India.

at he Dhaka Stadium.

BIANI BAZAR (Sylhet), Jan

6: Prime Minister Begum

Khaleda Zia today lashed out at

the opposition saying "the de-

feated political forces are out

to disrupt the development

efforts of the government", re-

velopment and they believe in

the politics of destruction,"

she told a public meeting at

Hargobinda High School

She said nine years of au-

tocracy had put the nation 20

years backward. "We have to

work day and night to recover

and the present government is

proceeding accordingly with

production. We are here to

solve the problems of the

peoplé," she asserted and said

her government will continue

its development efforts to ful-

fill the basic needs of the peo-

ple and build a better future

The Prime Minister ac

cused the autocratic forces of

indulging in politics of de-

struction and reminded that

BAGHDAD, Jan 6: The Iraqi

army is ready to liberate areas

of the north and south of the

country that the government

no longer controls. Defence

Minister Ali Hassan Al-Majid

for the nation.

"We believe in politics of

its development programmes"

ground in Biani Bazar today.

"They are not friends of de-

ports UNB.

Sharif, however, would not agree that SAARC had failed to achieve meaningful cooperation due to lack of faith and trust among the member countries.

He pointed out that within a period of seven years, it has established an adequate institutional mechanism for promoting cooperation in several areas in a regional framework. "We can now look forward to. the full utilisation of this mechanism", he said.

meeting last year in Pakistan of opposition leaders of SAARC countries, he said political practice, public representatives and the media in member countries must contribute to the efforts to promote closer contacts and cooperation towards improving the lot of the commonman.

The Pakistan Prime Minister said economic cooperation and projects aimed at improving the living conditions of the commonman in South Asia has always been one of the

core areas of discussion in the SAARC fora.

At the Dhaka summit, he said, the South Asian leaders will reaffirm their commitment to improving the standard of life of the commonman in the region through implementation of the independent commission on poverty alleviation.

On the UN resolution for making South Asia free from being a nuclear arsenal, Prime inister Sharif expressed the Replying to a question on hope that India and Bhutan would reconsider their stand and support the concept of establishing a nuclear-weaponfree zone in South Asia.

> The two countries had voted against a resolution jointly moved by Pakistan and Bangladesh and adopted in the United Nations late last year to make South Asia region free from nuclear weapons.

The Pakistani leader evaded a direct reply on the military presence of western powers in the Gulf. Pakistan believes that maintenance of security in

Bangladesh Reds star defender Monen Munna (No. 13) and goalkeeper Mohsin watch with bated breath as the ball sails

towards the net to give the Polonia Warszawa team the only goal of yesterday's inaugural match of the 7th President Cup

she said.

Referring to the govern-

ment's educational pro-

necessary to compete in to-

day's world. "We have laid im-

portance on primary educa-

tion to strengthen the base,"

she said mentioning the pro-

gramme to develop 9,000

primary schools of the country

on women upliftment. Sixty

per cent of new teachers in

primary schools will be

couraged small and cottage

industries, poultry and pisci

culture. We can even carn

through export of fishes after

meeting the country's re-

Zia said her government be

lieved in balanced develop-

18.90 crore expansion pro-

gramme of Sylhet Airport

which will enable wide-bodied

aircraft to land there and ease

the transport problems of ex

patriates of the district.

On local demands, Begum

She mentioned the Tk

guirement", she said.

ment of the country

The Prime Minister en

women, she said.

Begum Zia also emphasised

grammes, she said education is

PM lashes out at opposition

Defeated forces out to

disrupt govt efforts

peace and discipline are pre-

grammes undertaken by the

present government can be

properly implemented, the

face of the nation will com-

hilly town was also addressed

by LGRD and Cooperatives

Minister Barrister Abdus Salam

Talukder. Finance Minister M

Saifur Rahman, Amanullah

Aman MP. Khandekar Abdul

Malek MP, Fatema Chowdhury

Paru MP and local leaders in-

cluding Abul Haris Chowdhury.

Gamaruddin, Abdul Mannan

Begum Zia stressed on in-

creasing production in fields

and factories to make the

tion, not only in the food sec-

from the area who are working

abroad to come forward in set-

ting up new industries.

employment generation and

building up national economy,"

"Industrialisation will help in

tor, but in all sectors."

"We must increase produc-

She urged the wage earners

and Amir Hossain Tipu.

country self-reliant.

The meeting in the little

pletely change," she said.

"If development pro-

requisites for development.

the Gulf region is solely the concern of the regional countries themselves, he said.

On the question of Beharis, Nawaz Sharif said the process of repatriation of those who opted for Pakistan on Independence of Bangladesh will begin shortly.

"We have resolved ourselves to repatriate all such persons in phases as funds become available and further housing facilities were completed in our Punjab province", he said.

He described as excellent the relations between Pakistan and Bangladesh, but felt that there still existed a large scope for fruitful bilat eral cooperation in the fields of economy and trade.

" "We are making determined efforts to expand and diversify economic and trade relations between Pakistan and Bangladesh", he said adding that private sector businessmen should play a greater role in promoting economic cooperation.

2 killed, 50 injured as Sramik Dal factions clash

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Jan 6: Two persons were killed and 50 injured when two factions in the Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal, the BNP's labour wing, clashed at Adamjee Jute Mills and Nawab Ashkar Ali Jute Mills here last

The Sramik Dal activists clashed in both the places over which faction would dominate the other, mills sources said.

Latifa Begum (45) was killed in the cross-fire during a fierce gunbattle between the supporters of Giasuddin Kalu and those of Jahangir at the New Colony area of the AJM at 10 pm yesterday.

Latifa injured critically and admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital died the same night. She was the mother of Jahangir.

Police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control firing rubber bullets and lobbing teargas shells.

Police also arrested Jahangir. During the clash, both the groups exchanged fire and blasted bombs injuring at least

15 workers. The situation at the AJM has remained tense today.

At Nawab Ashkar Ali Jute Mills, Sramik Dal factions-led by Milon and Almas respectively clashed leaving an unidentified male aged about 50 dead.

Police recovered the body from a drain in the mills compound. The body was sent to Narayangani Hospital for au-

During the clash, over 30 workers were wounded, more than 100 crackers exploded and scores of shots fired by the clashing workers while police fired blanks and lobbed teargas shells to tame them.

Cases were filed with Siddirganj and Rupganj thanas in connection with the incidents.

Hundreds still under open sky in Halishahar

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Jan 6: Life in Halishahar is yet to return to normal as panic and shockwaves of Jan 2-3 incident continued to haunt residents of the area.

Hundreds of people living under open sky, are suffering from cold and food crisis as all their belongings were destroyed during the widespread violence.

Talking to Daily Star this evening, the Mayor of Chittagong City Corporation Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin said, efforts had been made to rehabilitate the affected families at Halishahar. Chittagong City Corporation today distributed 3 tons of rice, packet biscuits, molasses, flattened rice, CI sheet and some money, the Mayor said. So far Taka five lakhs and 25 metric tons of rice had been allocated for the affected people, he

Besides, two special medical teams, each consisting of 4 See Page 12 Col 3

Govt not sincere in rehabilitating sick industries, blame owners

By Staff Correspondent Owners of the sick indus tries of the country have said the government is not sincere about rehabilitating the sick industries and that the industries will very soon be dead.

Inter-association Sick Industries Rehabilitation Council (IASIRC) and Bangladesh Scik Industries Association (BSIA) in joint press conference held in Purana Paltan yesterday said that although the government had taken up 30 recommendations to save the industries in last August no practical step had been

taken so far. On the other hand, the association leaders said, following the formulation of the recommendations different ministries took contradictory de cisions and the industries were facing cases under the Enemy Property Act- against

See Page 12 Col 8

Rebels, troops clash in Kashmir: 40 killed

SRINAGAR, India, Jan 6: At least 40 people were killed and several injured in the Kashmir town of Sopore today in clashes between separatist militants and Indian security forces, officials said, reports Reuter.

They said the clashes broke out after militants attacked paramilitary forces in the town 35 km (22 miles) northwest of Srinagar, summer capital of India's Jammu and Kashmir

The officials said most of the dead were either militants of civilians caught in the crossfire. Only one trooper was killed and another injured.

Fires started deliberately in five areas of the town could push the death toll higher, officials said.

Witnesses said paramilitary troops fired indiscriminately, and set houses and shops on fire in retaliation for the attack

"I saw two bodies lying on the road in the centre of the town," one witness told Reuters by telephone.

in the crowded Arampura area.

Witnesses said seven shopkeepers were among those More than 9,000 people

have died in the campaign against Indian rule over the Himalayan valley since January 1990, when secessionists intensified a campaign for Kashmir's independence or merger with neighbouring Pakistan.

India accuses Pakistan of training and arming Kashmiri militants, a charge that Islamabad denies.

The two neighbours have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir since independence from Britain in 1947. India controls two-thirds of the former princely state and Pakistan the remainder.

Govt pushing country to crisis: Hasina

By Staff Correspondent

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina Wednesday accused the government of pushing the country into a "delicate situation" by pursuing "wrong policies."

"What mysterious games the government is playing with the people ... we fail to understand in which direction the nation is heading," the Awami League chief commented at a function of the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) at the Engineers Institution in the capital.

She was referring to the recent incident in Chittagong, the firing on the long marehers (to Ayodhya) and the repatriation problem of Rohingya refugees.

Hasina, the chief guest at a reunion of the BCL (M-I) on its 45th founding anniversary, said that the government was vet to control the situation in the Patenga, Halishahar and Bandartila areas in Chittagong where a group of navymen went on the rampage killing people and burning property.

The Awami League chief alleged that the government played a dubious role over the long march initially supporting the marchers but finally resorting to gunfire that claimed at least 10 lives. She alleged that the gov-

ernment had made a mess out

consultation with Britain.

France and other allies, the of-

of the Rohingya refugee issue and maintained that the repatriation would have taken place smoothly with the involvement of UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

"The people cannot suffer for the failure of the government." Hasina said, adding that "people started losing faith in democracy because of the BNP's role.

But the Awami League along with the people, she said, would protest the bloodstained democracy for the sake of the country and the nation.

Noted journalist Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury also spoke at the function chaired by BCL President Mainuddin Hassan Chowdhury.

UNB adds: The Awami League leader in her lengthy speech referred to the situation in industrial and agricultural sectors, unrest in educational institutions, corruption, mismanagement and stagnancy in the economy.

Hasina said industrial production almost came to a halt, mills and factories were being closed, farmers were deprived of fair prices for their products, prices of agricultural inputs as well as essential goods were soaring-- increasing the plight of the poor and the

See Page 12 Col 4

the warning will be delivered

to the Iraqis on Wednesday or

which the industrialists could Truck driver stabbed to

By DMCH Correspondent A truck driver was stabbed to death at Mirpur Section-1 in the capital Wednesday afternoon.

death: 1 held

Witnesses said that when a mini-truck driver Abul Kalam, 35, was returning home to the First Colony, Mirpur Section-1, Mazar Road, another truck driver Awlad Hossain stopped him on the way and stabbed him at around 3:15 pm Yesterday.

Kalam was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where doctors declared him dead.

Local people said that Kalam had had a quarrel with Awlad and the murder was its sequel. Mirpur police said that im-

mediately after the murder they arrested Awlad. Awlad Hossain will be pro-

duced in the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court today (Thursday), said police.

In another incident at Mirpur, a pedestrian, Anwar, was killed as a minibus ran him over at Kazipara, Mirpur, at around 3:30 pm yesterday.

Mirpur police rushed to the spot, seized the minibus (Dhaka Cha-3675) and arrested its driver Ali Akber.

Anwar's body was sent to the DMCH morgue for autopsy.

DUTA polls today

By DU Correspondent The Dhaka University teachers will elect the executive body of the Dhaka University Teachers' Association for 1993 today.

The election is scheduled to begin at the University Club at 10 in the morning. The DUTA polls was first

scheduled to be held on December 24, 1992. But the election was postponed after about half-an-hour of voting on the scheduled date because of

Thursday. The warning also retaliation, two US officials The ultimatum would be Asked by reporters about a based on UN Security Council possible military response. said Wednesday, according to resolutions that authorize all Fitzwater said: "I wouldn't steer you away from anything." necessary means to ensure The plan was confirmed by ily, the source said. A US warplane shot down a diplomatic source at the Saddam's enemies are not sub-

backed Air Exclusion Zones in the Kurdish north and Shi'ite south to protect the local popplanes ulations.

said today, reports AFP. The allies have imposed UN

Majid, quoted in the ruling Baath Party daily Ath-Thawra,

from the Gulf War and 'is ready to liberate the territories of the north and the far south." The United States on

said the army had recovered

Tuesday expressed concern and hinted of possible retaliation for Baghdad's positioning of anti-aircraft missiles near the no-fly zone in Southern Iraq patrolled by US war-

We're monitoring the missiles," said White House spok-

esman Marlin Fitzwater." We're very concerned. We're still considering our options.

an Iraqi jet that ventured into

In Washington, the Bush administration is set to issue an ultimatum that Iraq remove

the south of face allied military

Bangladesh Reds

lose President

Cup opener

Sports Reporter

the opening tie of the seventh

President Gold Cup football

tournament 0-1 to Polonia

Warszawa of Poland at the

the all-important goal 19 min-

utes into the second half fol-

lowing a joint lapse by Reds

captain and goalkeeper Mohsin

and defender Monem Munna.

Earlier the defending champi-

ons lost two golden chances of

taking the lead when veteran

striker Sheikh Mohammed

Aslam muffed up one in each

Sports Sadeq Hossain inaugu-

rated the eight team 11-day

meet instead of Finance Minis-

ter Saifur Rahman who was

Detailed Report on Page 10

newly deployed surface to air

nussiles from a safety zone in

preoccupied in Sylhet.

State Minister for Youth and

Midfielder Jan Karas scored

Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Hosts Bangladesh Reds lost

United Nations in New York. The demand, which could

ficials said.

jected to abuses by his regime, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

condition of anonymity said

would warn Iraq to stop locking its radar onto allied aircraft, but will not specify how the allies will retaliate militar-The safety zone in the south

for Iraq was established last Acquist to protect the Shi'tte See Page 12 Col 8

population from Saddam, whose secular rule is at odds

See Page 12 Col 7

the southern no-fly zone on set the stage for another clash December 27. At the United Nations, the with Saddam Hussein before diplomatic source, speaking on President Bush leaves office in two weeks, is the product of

Iraqi army ready to 'liberate' areas not under control