did not tell the fact that ex-

pressed as a proportion of GDP

actually dropped to 9.4 per

investment and here the gross

per cent in 1981 to 11.7 per

cent in 1991 while the public

investment dropped in the

corresponding period from

8.7 per cent to 6.7 per cent,"

need for bringing the people

and their interests to the fore-

front in the country's plan-

ning, policy formulation, im-

plementation and administra-

littical parties, he said they

had come out with different

manifestoes but it was not

clear if those were the result

of any analytical studies target-

ing the clearly established

during the two decades, no

perspective plan for develop-

ment could be produced while

the five year plans remained

legends to be used more as

references quoted in seminar

papers rather than imple-

mented faithfully by the gov-

ernment," Dr Hussainy said

its to the United States, the

Attorney General said federal

penitentiaries (jails) are using

electronic surveillance for

controlling the jail and main-

taining surveillance over pris-

violation of human and funda-

mental rights, Attorney

General said jail code is an

"administrative guideline, not

constitutional rights raised by

defence, the Attorney General

said, "Constitutional safeguards

zens, but not applicable to

convicted persons undergoing

sentence or punishment". He

said it is true that fundamental

rights are not operative in

jails, although those are not

fully "demonetised." In this

"demonetised system, election

surveillance is permitted," he

explained. He further added

even concealed camera is now

used in many courtrooms of

developed countries including

defence lawyer Humayun said

since hearing on a complaint

ties of his client is lying in

High Court, such action

(installation of camera) was

ing as "unfortunate" which

would take away "privacy"

which is an inalienable right of

Sikder remarked that the vio-

lation of constitution was be-

yond the jurisdiction of his

court. He advised desence to

submit a supplementary evi-

dence to their High Court

hearing on various allegations

including setting up of camera

The court will resume to-

Witnesses said two rival

groups coming from the

Khurshid Mahal Cinema and

Zilla Parishad Market areas

engaged in heavy firing as soon

as Hasina completed her

Witnesses further said sup-

porters of A B M Mohiuddin

Chowdhury and Akhtaruzzaman

Chowdhury Babu (MP), both

leaders of Awami League,

clashed several times before

Sheikh Hasina reached the

At one stage Begum Sajeda

Chowdhury intervened and sat

between the quarrelling

PM: Poverty circle

From Page 1 Col 7

Shaheed President Ziaur

Rahman in leading the country

towards progress and prosper-

ity and said those who do not

want the development of

Bangladesh had conspired

during the period.

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meeting venue.

speech at about 5-45 pm.

Special Judge Ansaruddin

the former President.

and BNP in the firing.

He described the happen-

of lack of facilities and difficul-

Taking the floor once again

England.

undestrable.

Hasina in crossfire

are available to ordinary citi

As for the infringement of

mandatory", he pointed out.

Discarding defence claim of

"On the official side also

need of the people.

TV camera in jail room

I want justice: Ershad

Focusing on the roles of po-

He, however, stressed the

investment declined from 15.9

*Development depends on

cent in 1991.

Dr Hussainy said.

neers at a national seminar for developing human resources of the country to face the challenges of the 21st century.

scientific inventions towards

The seminar titled Development challenges of the 21st century: Bangladesh perspective" was organised on the occasion of the 37th convention of the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) at its Rajshahi centre.

Engineer S M Al-Hussainy presented a keynote paper at the seminar held in three sessions with an overview encompassing all sectors of development while lobal Mahbubul Huq presented papers on various priority sec-

need for an appropriate structural transformation of the economy saying that without this the country would not be able to solve the deep-rooted problems of growth, employment and poverty alleviation.

"The track records of economic performance that could enable us to cope with the

The reported installation of

closed circuit television cam-

era in former president

General Ershad's cell in

Central Jail generated heat in

the Special Judge's Court yes-

terday when it resumed pro-

ceedings in the corruption

charges against the former

president and others in Janata

began its proceedings with

presiding Special Judge

Ansaruddin Sikder in the

chair, Advocate Yusuf Hussain

Humayun, defence lawyer for

the former president II M

Ershad informed that TV cam-

era has been installed in his

client's jail room in the de-

"violation of Constitution".

Advocate Humayun said the

move will record all move-

ments including private activi-

ties much to the embarrass-

ment of his valued client. He

sought redressal from the

Attorney General and said such

actions was also against jail

Ershad who was listening,

stood up and taking chair's

permission complained that he

is not provided with any

weekly, not allowed to use jail

library and given only one

daily. He wondered whether

there was any justice in the

country as camera was fitted in

his room without his knowl-

edge. This is violation of fun-

damental rights and I want jus-

General said he was not aware

of the development and also

added it is a matter concern-

ing the jail authority. He, how-

ever, stated that "manpower

surveillance can be replaced by

electronic surveillance as is

the practice in most of the

From Page 1 Col 3

The earlier clash took place

at the meeting immediately

before the arrival of Sheikh

flasina at the venue, police

said adding that it occurred

following a dispute over taking

positions in front of the stage.

blasted and people ran to

safety, witnesses and police

swarmed the venue to hear

Sheikh Hasina's address when

situation turned normal. But

after the address of the

Opposition leader the trouble

resumed again sending people

scampering to safety, wit-

to cover the meeting were al-

legedly assaulted in the melee.

reaction to the firing at the

meeting venue, Sheikh Hasina

said, "It was a planned attack

on me by forces backed by the

government." However, pre-

ssed by journalists, she did not

rule out the possibility of

involvement of Jubo Command

Some journalists who went

UNB adds: Giving her initial

nesses said.

At the time cocktails were

However, people again

Referring to his recent vis-

Responding Attorney

tiec", he added.

modern prisons".

clash, police said.

Describing the act as a

tenu's absence.

Immediately after the court

Tower case, reports BSS.

adding that these did not certainly lend us the distant vision to gauge the challenges of the

> Dr Hussainy termed the planning and implementation of development for an increased population "a daunting challenge" and said that the only way out would be to use the increased population also to generate resources to meet the increased demand.

> "A major challenge for Bangladesh would obviously be to improve substantially the quality of life of the people and attain a satisfactory level of human development," Hussainy

> He also said that mastering of appropriate technology would be inevitable to maintain the desirable level of productivity, to be competitive in quality and price in the world market.

> Emphasizing on the development of science and technology, he said that the capability of facing successfully the challenges of the future and the key to survival as well as pursuing a sustainable development to ensure a better future lay in the development of science and technology.

> President of the IEB. Zamilur Reza Chowdhury, S M Al-liussainy and Iqbal Mahmood presided over the inaugural, second and third

sessions respectively.

7 hurt as JCD, BCU clash at

Beanibazar

From Our Correspondent SYLHET, Jan 24 : Seven students were injured in a clash between the activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) at Beanibazar Government College this noon.

The clash followed simultaneous processions by the organisations in the college premises. Jainul Haq (20) of Chhatra Union was in critical condition.

In the afternoon, Juba League and Chhatra League (Mil brought out processions protesting the class

The JCD also brought out a procession at the thana head quarters condemning the inci

Meanwhile, several crack ers were blasted and at least ten rounds of gunshots were fired when a group of armed young men attacked a saw mill at Tilagar area this afternoon.

The mill owner, an Awami League leader, Azizur Rahman blamed the JCD for the incident. Rahman's house was also attacked. A case has been registered with the Kotwali po-

Woman killed in road accident, one stabbed

By DMCH Correspondent One person was killed and another was wounded in two separate incidents in the capi-

tal Sunday. An unidentified woman of 45 died on the spot as she was run over by a speeding truck at Kawran Bazar early Sunday.

In another incident one Abdul Quader was stabbed and robbed of Taka 11,000 at Dhalpur under Demra police station Sunday evening.

When Quader was going to Golapbagh from Dhalpur, he was waylaid by some five muggers.

Ctg BCL leader succumbs to injuries

CHITTAGONG, Jan 24: The injured Chhatra League leader Shakhawat Hossain Arefin succumbed to injuries at Chittagong Medical College Hospital this noon, reports UNB.

Arefin, a student of Chittagong Government City College was admitted to the hospital on January 22 with serious injuries. He was allegedly attacked by Shibir activists on the day.

The Shibirites dragged him down from a tempo at Chhoto Kamaldah Bazar and cut off the tendons of his hand and legs.

Fire at tyre factory

By DMCH Correspondent At least five persons sustained burn injuries as fire spread at a tyre factory at Subol Das Road at Lalbagh in the city last night.

Of the injured Ashraf, 22, Nazrul, 25, and Shahjahan, 25 were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital

(DMCH). Witnesses said that fire spread in the factory when a boiler exploded at around 8:30

pm last night.



Khelaghar members brought out a procession in city yesterday marking it's 40th founding anniversary. - Star photo

Dhaka reviewing

From Page 1 Col 7 of our policy and actions and also to arrogate itself the right to advise us on matters in which it has no locus standi whatsoever," the Indian statement said.

Observers here, however, point to the fact that the JS resolution did not condemn the Indian government. The statement went to the

extent of saying: "We shall watch and judge future actions of Government of Bangladesh, with due attention." Official sources here said

that the New Delhi statement, strongest so far in terms of contents, had lost touch with

The international community, they say, condemned and expressed concern over the incident. The European Community, the OIC, the United States have spoken on the issuc.

The sources refer to the fact that not only India, that has seen violent communal riots killing hundreds across the country but also the subcontinent and some other parts in the world have borne the brunt.

The incident sparked off a situation that saw, two days later, the sudden postponement of the SAARC summit and then again, when violence re-erupted in India, Prime Minister Narasimha Rao's "inability" to attend the rescheduled summit.

New Delhi, however, backed out of its position a day after saying that/a vittated regional atmosphere in the aftermath of the Ayodhya disasjer forced the second post ponement

The Indian reversal of prompted statement Bangladesh to issue a protest and coldshoulder the visit of the Minister of State for External Affairs R L Bhatia who came as his PM's envoy to explain Indian position.

The row over the summit postponement chilled relations and there has been no talk of the scheduled bilateral meetings.

The two countries were to hold this month the longstalled meeting of the Joint Economic Commission (JEC) and the Joint Committee on Experts, a recently formed body that deals with the longstanding dispute on water

5-party demands repeal of black laws

The left leaning Five-party alliance yesterday urged the government to repeal all black laws to give democracy an institutional shape and also demanded ban on communal politics in the country, reports UNB.

Addressing a rally at Nur Hossain Square in the city in the afternoon, the alliance leaders also called on the people to be united in the fight against black laws and communal forces as well as in realising the just demands of teachers, students and different professional groups.

Foreign assistance

From Page 1 Col 4

been able to muster a good amount of internal resources, he said that the local funds continued to be limited.

"So, I think we will most certainly have to depend on foreign assistance and we would not be keen to ask for lesser level of foreign assistance."

However, he hastened to add that it did not mean that Bangladesh was not willing to be economically self-reliant and not trying to achieve independence in the management of its resources.

Saving that the disbursement level of foreign aid in recent years have generally met the internationally accepted targets and, at times even exceeded it, Chaudhury said that the disbursement rate during the first quarter of 1992-93 was the highest in the history of Bangladesh.

He noted that the criteria used by the World Bank and others to measure disbursement performance for food aid were using 100 per cent of the opening pipeline plus 75 per cent of the new commitments, for commodity aid 75 per cent of the pipeline and 25 per cent of the new commitments and for project aid at least 20 per cent of the opening pipeline.

The overall disbursement for the first quarter stood at 618 million US dollars and the project aid amount was 377 million dollars, which, he pointed out, was 33 per cent of the yearly estimate. There is no problem in the disbursement of food and commodity aid, he added.

The aid disbursement for FY '93 is estimated at 1918.5 million dollars, with 250 million dollars in food aid, 500 million dollars in commodity aid and 1168 million dollars in project

The project aid disbursements, he added, in FY 88 stood at 94.6 per cent as against 100 per cent which is full conformity. In FY '89 it was 96.1 per cent, in FY '90 127 per cent, in FY '91 101 per cent, and in FY '92 102 per

"So, you see the overall disbursements compare very favourably with our achievements in previous years and not only that but also with the internationally set standards." However, he noted that

there were some bottlenecks

in implementation of projects which slow down disbursement of foreign aid.

He noted that there were accusations of delay in land ac quisitions, delay in procurement of goods and services, sometimes an absence of forward planning and some management weaknesses.

"These have been generally taken to be the main bottlenecks on our part, which we need to overeome."

lle also pointed out that disbursement was also hampered sometimes by the conditionalities imposed by the donors and even by the disbursement limit set by the donor country.

"There is room for improvement in the disbursement situation and to achieve a minimum of five per cent growth rate it has to increase significantly," he added.

He termed the conditionalities imposed by the donors on the withdrawal of subsidies from the agricultural sector and those on the energy sector as "stiff".

"I think the donors are being very unrealistic in the assessment of the situation and the conditions they are prescribing are not only unrealistic but are also unacceptable," he added.

With more than 45 member nations, Chaudhury said that the importance of IDB would increase in the future with the changing global economic environment.

Bangladesh, he said, obtained over 700 million dollars in loans from the bank over the years and there were ample scopes to increase the allocation in the future. "It is much more easier to negotiate for loans with the IDB and the conditionalities are not as stringent," he added.

Chaudhury joined the civil service of Pakistan in 1960 and held various positions in a number of districts in the country.

After independence, he held a number of important position in various ministries including commerce, shipping and planning. He also served as a UN offi-

cial at ESCAP in Bangkok and was also elected the president of the International Maritime Organisation, while he was the sceretary of the Shipping Ministry. He joined ERD under the Ministry of Finance in 1983. (Detail of the interview will be <u>gublished</u> soon.)

Mass Upsurge Day observed By Staff Correspondent

Different political parties

and student organisations, Sunday observed the 24th anniversary of the historic mass upsurge with a renewed call to root out any form of autocracy from the country.

The Five-party Alliance held a public rally in front of GPO while the student groups brought out processions on the Dhaka University campus.

Hasanul Hug Inu of JSD presided over the rally ad dressed among others, by Nirmal Sen, Bimal Biswas, A I M Mahbubul Hug and Abdullah Sarker.

inu alleged that the democratically elected government was now stuck in a autocratic framework and was ruling the country like deposed autocrat. He called for wider unity to

The day is being observed since 1969 when the anti-Ayub movement culminated to the mass upsurge ousting the then

change this "autocratic strue-

dictatorial rule in the erstwhile East Pakistan Matiur, a student of Class Nine of Nabakumar Institution of Dhaka city among others were killed in police firing on

Our DU Correspondent adds Student organisations brought out processions and held ral hes on the Dhaka Puncesity campais a state that the observe the Mass Upsurge Dav

the day.

The pro Awami League Chhatta la ague (M-I) held a rally at the Aparajco Bangla of the DU yesterday morning. The rally addressed by the

BCL (M-I) leaders igbalur Rahim and Pankaj Nath. The Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO) also brought out a procession and held a rally at

the Aparajeo Bangla yesterday

The GCO rally was addressed by Sajjad Zahir Chandan and Ragib Ahsan Munna with Abul Kalam Azad in the chair.

JP women From Page 1 Col 4

marchers. Most of the processionists fled after the police action but some 10 to 12 women pushed aside the police and continued the march to the Press Club.

During the scuffle, sarces of two women were torn and the JP women alleged that "police assaulted them to stop the procession." The processionists were

demanding immediate release their jailed party chief HM Ershad and denouncing alleged harassment to them. The female wing of the

Party will hold a press conference Monday on the incident.

FAO DG

From Page 1 Col 2

born Director General of FAO.

A council meeting of FAO will be held in July during which the candidates would be short-listed, the sources

Saouma will be completing an unprecedented third consecutive term as the Director General of FAO later this year. A controversial personality

for his somewhat authoritative style, Saouma has been under strong criticism of several Western nations, including the United States, for his recruitment and spending policies.

Apart from Bangladesh Chile, Australia, Germany, Ircland and India will also put up candidates for the post. At the moment the chances

of Ahmed of being elected to the top-most post in the UN system are considered moder-

Some observers believe that

the European countries would

be trying hard to capture this

important post. candidate recently visited

Meanwhile, the Australian Danglagesh to campaign for his candidature.

Zardari may be freed soon

KARACHI, Jan 24: Astf Ali Zardari, husband of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, on Sunday predicted the Islamic government soon will clear the way for his release from jail. "My first priority will be to bridge the gap with my children," Zardari told The Associated Press during a recess at his bail hearing. "Twenty months is a long time in prison and I have hardly sperit any time with my children," said Zardari. He and Bhutto have a 4-year-old son, Bilawal, and a 3-

She blamed the BNP gov

Sheikh Hasina said that the BNP had made false pledges to the people before going to power and failed to fulfil its pre-election commitments.

As a result the poor people of the country-were getting poorer day by day, she added saying that the BNP government also failed to safeguard the interests of the farmers and toiling masses of the coun-

from total frustration as their hopes and aspirations for which they voted BNP to power, are not at all fulfilled" she added.

said that Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had introduced her policy of "Dal-Bhat" instead of "fish-and rice" the common food of the Bangladeshis'

She also alleged that the ministers in the BNP government had largely indulged in corruption to fatten their bank balances while the pockets of the general public members

The Awanii League chief called upon the people to be united under the umbrella of

had already taken some changed economic programmes to turn the country into a self-reliant one in near

llasina reiterated her call for establishing the ideals and principles of her assassinated father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, in the country to

Presided over by city Awami League president M A Mannan, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Sajeda Chowdhury MP, Mozaffar Hossain Paltu, Obaidul Kader, Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury MP, Ataur Rahman Khan and

lackeys of autocracy, Sheikh Hasina said the government

Children

at present there were 15 lakh blind people in the country. Among an estimated 30

million blind people in the world, 80 per cent live in the developing countries, he said. The President said that the

number of blind in the developing countries could be ten times higher than in the developed states.

Blindness is related to poverty, he pointed out. Poor dict, lack of pure drinking water, absence of proper health services and sanitation systems were the main causes, he added.

President Biswas said that 80 per cent of blindness could be prevented or cured. The government and the NGOs must put in their best efforts

The President hoped that the APAO congress would contribute greatly to eradicate blindness in the Asia-Pacific region.

APAO President Professor Satichi Mishima, Secretary General Prof M Arthur Lim, President of the 14th congress of APAO Prof . M A Matin and Vice-Presidents Prof M Mustafizur Rahman, and Dr Rabiul Hossain also spoke at the opening ceremony of the five-day congress, first of its kind in the country.

At the opening ceremony the Jose Rizal Medal, the highest honour bestowed by the APAO, was conferred upon Prof M A Matin for his outstanding contribution to the

promoted Police Commissioner Mirza Ragibul Huda despite complaints against him

by an enquiry commission. "He was involved in the police attack on journalists at the Press Club with the backing of the government", she alleged.

The opposition leader called the recent Halishahar incident a "terrible" one and alleged that government had failed to take any punitive action against persons responsi-

The government is doing politics with the distressed people of Haltshahar," she said.

nothing for the development of the port city of Chittagong. The Karnafuli Bridge was not constructed even two years after the eyelone that damaged it, she added.

Bangabandhu government had reconstructed about 750 bridges in the war ravaged Earlier, the Awami League

Chittagong Bar Association. She also visited the affected areas of Halishahar and talked to the members of the affected

AL: Hartal

From Page 1 Col 5 Working Committee meeting was telephoned to UNB by Awami League presidium

Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Abdus Samad Azad described Sunday's incident in Chittagong an attempt on

Another report said: AL presidium member Begum Sajeda Chowdhury MP last night demanded immediate enquiry into what she called an attempt on life of Opposition Leader in Parliament Sheikh

"It's yet another attempt on her (Hasina) life, Sajeda who is accompanying the opposition leader told UNB by

"She (Hasina) is under constant threat," Sajeda said, recalling the police firing on an anti-government procession the Awami League President led in the port city on this day

Sajeda Chowdhury said a group of gunmen, their faces covered with black cloths. started indiscriminate firing and exploding bombs as soon as llasina concluded her

"What does it indicate, what does it signal?" Sajeda questioned. She criticised the government for its failure to ensure the protection to opposition leaders and parliament

members. She demanded that the culprits must be arrested after proper investigation and pun-

Press Note

From Page 1 Col 3

League chief Sheikh Hasina, a press note issued by Ministry of Home Affairs said last night. reports BSS.

Following is the text of the Press Note: Bangladesh Awami League organised a public meeting at Laldighi Maidan in Chittagong vesterday. Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina was the chief guest of the meeting.

meeting exchange of hot words and untoward incident happened as two rival groups of Awami Leaguers tried to take control of the stage and on the sitting in the front row. At this time both the groups resorted to throwing chairs, bomb blast and firing.

leaders of both the groups, the situation became calm and the meeting restarted and leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina arrived at the dats. Chasing and counter chas-

At one stage following the

ing started again when Sheikh Hasina was about to board her car after finishing her speech.

The Midnight File

Arms seized from Mirersharai Jamaat office: 7 held CHITTAGONG, Jan 24: Seven Jamaat-Shibir activists were arrested and some arms seized from Mirersharai thana Jamaat office which was raided by police today. The arrests

police raid was conducted at 1 pm, reports UNB.

Hasina: Terrorism

From Page 1 Col 5

at risk. ernment for unleashing such terrorism.

Now people are suffering

Being critical Sheikh Hasina

The whole administration o the country has been messed up by her wrong policy" Hasina

were getting emptier.

her party to wage a movement for the achievement of economic emancipation. She informed that her party

materialise his dream of "Soner Bangla".

ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury. UNB adds: Accusing the government of patronising the

From Page 12 Col 8 membrane over eye. President Biswas said that

to avert the situation, he said.

field of Ophthalmology.

A total of 400 eminent eye doctors from home and abroad are taking part in the congress.

From Staff Correspondent current problems and hence, RAJSHAHI, Jan 24: Engibrace us for meeting future challenges are not encouraghere Sunday stressed the need ing," he said, adding that the next century. 16 per cent growth of export

They also called to direct all developing the standard of living of the deprived people.

Mahmood, Shah M Faruq. Amzad Hossain Khan, Q Siddiqui, S M Shahidullah, Md Golam Mohiuddin and

Al-Hussainy stressed the

ble for the incident. Hasina said government did

In this context, she said the

leader addressed a meeting of lawyers at the auditorium of

families.

member Amir Hossain Amu.

party Chief Sheikh Hasina.*

telephone.

speech. The shots were directed at Hasina, she said.

Jatiya Sangsad and Awami

At the beginning of the

intervention of police and

ing, blasting of bombs and fir-

include president and general secretary of Thana Jamaat Molizur Rahman Nizami and Nurul Karim. Police said three pipe guns, two ammunition and one explosive were seized from the Jamaat office, about 60 km from Chittagong. The

year-old daughter, Bakhtawar.