

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a meeting at Mirpur yesterday. - Star photo

He added that the total fi-

nancing for the expansion

plan would be done locally.

"They (BOL) can finance it

themselves as they are in good

shape, I think that is the bot-

tom line, it means that we are

A dominant market posi-

tion, good managers who know

the market well and attention

to the diversified use of its

products were identified as

the reason for the BOL's suc-

know the market very well,

they have taken advantage of

the opportunities and have

been working all the time at

diversifying the applications of

100 subsidiaries in some 50

countries worldwide with an

annual turnover of three billion

pound sterling, said that the

government was yet to re-

spond favourably to the BOL

proposal to set up the LPG

say now as to why and where

these things have so far not

been able to be realised, but

let's say that we had had some

difficulties in persuading the

public sector that we could do

meeting last week with

Finance Minister M Saifur

Rahman, he had proposed that

this project be reviewed again

as it was "very much" in the

vate sector could do very well

and it is straight into our basis.

so we could really bring added

value to that and more impor-

He said that if the proposed

promised the Finance

project went through he

would visit Bangladesh again.

Minister that if this project

goes ahead I will come back

Asked if BOL would diver-

sify into other businesses here,

Rich noted that, as part of the

company strategy, there was

"things we don't know very

"long story" of diversification,

that generally went "badly",

he added: and to come to

Bangladesh and diversify into

something we don't know and

then lose the capital, already

scarce enough, would not be

doing the country a good deal."

4-hour work

stoppage at

**DMCH** 

By DMCH Correspondent

staff of the Dhaka Medical

College Hospital (DMCH) ab-

stained from duties for four

hours from 8 am to 12 noon

yesterday in protest against

storming of the hospital by

At a rally yesterday all the

staff of DMCH decided to ab-

stain from duties for three

hours from 10 am to 1 pm to-

armed men last Thursday.

day and tomorrow.

Doctors, nurses and other

on Page 7)

(See details of the interview

plan to diversify into

Saying that the BOC had a

tantly it would happen.

specially for that".

This is something the pri-

spirit of liberalisation.

He added that during his

"I think it's not for me to

Rich, whose company has

gases," he added.

bottling plant.

a good job."

"I think our managers

# **BOL** expansion scheme

growing.

From Page 1 Col 8 posed that the government set up a Taka 120 million liquid petroleum gas (LPG) bottling plant in a joint venture with the public sector.

"We have grown with the market and, of course, right now we are getting short of capacity and our managers here are proposing a new Taka 100 million expansion," Rich said. "We are happy to subscribe to that in terms of our shareholders' saying yes that is a good idea."

## Poetry festival from tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent The two-day Seventh National Poetry Festival will begin tomorrow at the TSC island of Dhaka

National Poetry Council at press conference Saturday at TSC announced the schedule of the festival.

University.

The slogan of this year's festival is 'Joi Banglar Joi Kabitar (Victory for Bangladesh, vic tory for poetry).

Convenor of the poetry

council Prof Mazharul Islam told newsmen that 'Joi Bangla' was incorporated in the slogan of the poetry festival in view of the recent rise in the activities of the anti-liberation forces and to uphold the spirit of the War of Independence.

Joint Convenor of the council Samudra Gupta, Mohan Raihan, Aslam Sani, Md Samad and Rabindra Gop were among others present at the press conference.

#### Book fair From Page 1 Col 8

this year's book fair and other programmes would be an exceptional one compared to those of the previous years both in size and content.

The programmes of the Academy include: Discussion on Bangla Academy books from February 2 to 7, discussion on language, literature, culture and research oriented subjects from February 10, announcement of the Bangla Academy Literature Award '92 on February 20 and distribution of the awards on February 22.

The main programme of the Academy will begin on February 15. Prof Mamtazur Rahman Tarafder will deliver the key-note speech.

A total of 338 organisations will participate in the book fair while 480 stalls will be set up in the Academy compound and the adjoining road. The number of organisations that participated in the book fair the previous year was 272 while the number of stalls were 375. Bangla Academy is going to

publish a total of about 100 new books and reprint 43 books for this year's book fair.

Prof Harun-Ur-Rashid said that for the first time the sales centres of the Academy located in Chittagong, Khulna, Kushtia and Rajshahi will celebrate the Amar Ekushey by organising discussion meetings, cultural function and selling books in reduced price.

The Academy will also introduce 'Raffle coupon' for those who will buy books worth Taka 100. After the rafhe draw scheduled to be held on February 28, 100 couponholders will be given books

worth Tk 250 each. Dhaka University Central Students' Union (DUCSU) and various student organisations in a joint statement Friday pledged to cooperate in organising the programmes and book fair of the Bangla

Academy. The student leaders also called upon the people of all strata to extend cooperation and maintain discipline to

make the book fair a success. The statement in this regard was signed by Ragib Ahsan Munna of Bangladesh Chhatra Moitree, Sazzad Zahir Chandan of Bangladesh Chhatra Union, Roknuzzaman Rokon of Bangladesh Chhatra League (B-K), Moshrefa Mishu of Chhatra Oikkya Forum, Ahad Ahmed of Bangladesh Chhatra

Federation, Ishaq Ali Khan of

Bangladesh Chhatra League (M-

1) and Milon Mchedi of

DUCSU.

## Khaleda

From Page 1 Col 3 Textile Abdul Mannan, State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahanara Begum, State Rahman, Mir Showkat Ali MP, Salauddin Ahmed MP, Ziaul Hug MP, Amanullah Aman MP, Syed Mohammad Mohsin, BNP nominec, Ekhlasuddin Mollah, son of late Harunur Rashid Mollah and Saidur Rahman. people had given correct decision by voting the BNP to power in the February 27 election in 1991 to carry out development, production and solve the accumulated problems of the people.

She urged the voters of Mirpur to elect BNP candidate to complete the unfinished tasks of Harunur Rashid Mollah, a ruling party MP who died recently, in the locality as well as strengthen the hands of BNP.

BNP does not believe in words but in work and development, Begum Zia said, adding that her government had taken all measures to increase production on the one hand and had been construction roads, bridges, schools, colleges, hospitals, madrashas and supplying electricity throughout the country on the

of opposition parties had reperplexed by seeing the de oriented politics of BNP.

#### DU clash

From Page 1 Col 5

Later at about 11.20 am the same group found another Shibir activist Mamun, who came to buy a university ad mission guide book, took him inside the TSC and beat him

up mercilessly, witnesses said. Police again rushed to the spot and rescued Mamun using batons as they did so.

pelted a police truck standing nearly.

Police then chased the group and picked up one Parag, a Muktijoddha Chhatra Command supporter. The angry students then chased the police snatching back Parag. witnesses said.

tear gas cannisters in and around the TSC premises to disperse the gathering.

During the chases and counter chases between police and agitated youths, Afzal Ilossain, Member Secretary of the Muktijoddah Chhatra Command was injured seriously. sources said.

Later, the Muktijoddha Chhatra Command brought out a procession from the TSC area and held a rally near the DUS cafeteria at the TSC crossing after marching arou-I nd the campus.

Communications Fazlur Rahman, State Minister for Minister for Social Welfare and Women Affairs Sarwari The Prime Minister said the

Criticising the opposition for their negative politics, the Prime Minister said a section sorted to hartal, anarchy, destruction and anti-government propaganda as they had been velopment and production-

that the group beatup Shafiq scriously.

Police rushed to the spot and rescued Shafiq, seriously injured in the head, sources

sources said.

Then the angry students

Police then lobbed several

## France, Belgium send in troops

Sheikh Hasina addressing an election meeting at Mirpur in city yesterday

50 killed in Kinshasa BRAZZAVILLE (Congo), Jan 30: The reinforcement of France's embassy security detachment and impending arrival of several hundred Belgian troops appeared Saturday to have restored calm to the Zairian capital, Kinshasa, reports AP.

Businessmen reached by telephone said many people were returning to work after a two-day rampage by Zairian

## JCD-BCL clash leaves 10 hurt at a city college

At least 10 people were injuted when supporters of BNP backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Awami League backed Bangladesh Chhatra

League (BCL) clashed at New

By DMCH Correspondent

Model Degree College and its surrounding areas on Mirpur Road Saturday noon. Of the injured Asaduzzaman, a first year student of the college was admitted to the Dhaka medical College Hospital (DMCH) while two others, one identified as Babul

were admitted to the

Dhanmondi Nursing Home. All

the three suffered bullet in-

Clash ensued when a group of BCL supporters attempted to enter into the college and the JCD activists chased them at around 1 pm.

Witnesses said that at least 10 gunshots and 20 blasts were heard during the half an hour clash.

troops that claimed about 50 lives, including the French ambassador and six other for-

Belgian troops were scheduled to arrive here, a 15minute ferry ride across the Congo River from Kinshasa, later Saturday morning. Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko has said the Belgians have no right to intervene in their former colony, but Belgium has disregarded Mobutu's edicts in

Belgian officials said the fighting, which erupted Thursday, had evolved into a power struggle between soldiers loyal to Mobutu and troops backing a pro-democracy movement.

The first contingent of about a dozen French troops arrived in the central African nation late Friday and went straight to the French embassy compound to protect some 400 compatriots who sought refuge there.

#### Accused mum From Page 1 Col 5

Rahman was sent to the Dhaka Central Jail from CMM's Court on the same day.

Earlier Special Branch (SB) of police arrested Habibur Rahman under Section 54 of the Cr PC for alleged smuggling of state documents to a foreign country.

The SB and two other intel igence agencies which interrogated Rahman declined to make any comment on the investigation.

# PM: Safe shelter

From Page 1 Col 4 Programme Dr Jamilur Reza Chowdhury presented the key-note paper.

Mentioning the huge loss of lives and property of about Taka 9,000 crore, Begum Zia lamented that "despite receiving forecast we could not save the lives and property due to infrastructural limitations."

Pointing out that cyclones and tidal surges occur at a specific time of the year, she said plan for the shelters should be made in such a way that they can be used in different welfare purposes for the rest of the period.

The Prime Minister also stressed the need for maintenance of the infrastructures to be built and mentioned the dilapidated condition of the shelters constructed during the 60s and 70s which can no longer be used.

Begum Zia emphasised on coordination between the work of government and nongovernmental organisations (NGO) in cyclone preparedness and facing the calamities.

She recalled the contributions of the NGOs, international organisations and the American Operation Sea Angels in rehabilitation programme after the devastating cyclone in April 1991.

She said it should be ensured that the shelters are not all over the risky zones to benefit the largest possible section of the coastal popula-

The Prime Minister expressed her gratitude for commitment by the governments of EEC countries and Japan, and different international organisations including the Islami Development Bank, Saudi Development Fund and the World Bank.

She said the proposed masterplan is an example of the high calibre of the country's experts and added that preference would be given to local experts. Expatriates will be appointed only in cases where there will be lack of technical knowhow.

organisations involved in formulating the masterplan, Begum Zia said the governimplement the recommendation of the plan after it is finalised.

Secretary of Planning Division Dr Mohammad Haroonur Rashid, Member Physical Infrastructure of the Planning Commission A T M Shamsul Huq and Department Chief Physical Infrastructure Omar Hadi also spoke on the occasion.

concerned were present.

· the Port Rest House January

19 for the convenience of the

people and extended its time

schedule upto February 3 in

lier, officials said.

stead of January 30 fixed ear-

tion being conducted inside

Chittagong Naval base by a

constituted by the Navy author-

ity, has reportedly reached a

final stage to be followed by

Over 100 more Navy per-

sonnel including officers

might face the action soon,

said the sources adding that

they were now being kept un-

der close observation. All of

them belong to the BNS Isa

Khan base here, sources also

Halishahar area has been re-

Meanwhile, security in the

added.

leased.

another phase of drastic ac

tion, reliable sources said.

Meanwhile, the investiga-

## Hasina

From Page I Col 7

- Star photo

cal Awant League leaders Shamsul Huda and Mohammad Hanif and addressed, among others, by senior party leaders Begum Sajeda Chowdhury, Mohammad Nasim, Amir Hussain Amu and Candidate of the party in the Mirpur byelections for February 3, Kamal Ahmed Majumder.

Introducing the party candidate. Sheikh Hasina said that the AL nominee was fighting the Mirpur by-election with the Boat the symbol which drove away the Pakistani oppressors, led the nation to freedom and presented the country with a sacred Constitution. She also urged the people not to be confused with what she termed, the wild propaganda" by the ruling party and requested them to cast their votes judiciously.

She also bifterly criticised the ruling party for what she termed its "hobnobbing" with the fundamentalist Jammat-e-Islami, saying that this Jamaat had killed thousands of people during the Liberation War and was now conspiring to undo the hard earned independence

#### Trade centre From l'age 1 Col 8

both the eduntries.

The Malaysian Trade Centre will be located at the Concord Tower, a multi -storey building at Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue in the city.

According to the organisers of the centre, a nearly 10,000 square-foot area on the ground and the first floors of the building will be used for the trade centre.

The ofganisers plan to accommodate a showroom of Proton Saga cars and offices of the general sales agent (GSA) of Malaysia Airlines and the Malaysian International Shipping Corporation (MISC) in the ground floor while the Malaysian products of different kinds will be exhibited on the

The Centre will also provide information to local traders interested in doing business in "Private sectors of both the

countries will come closer through this centre which will help increase communication between the business communifies of Bangladesh and Malaysia", said the sponsors of

When asked to comment about the trade centre, Ahmad Fazi Bin Abdul Razak, the Malaysian High Commissioner to Bangladesh said, 'this will certainly boost trade between the two fraternal countries."

The High Commissioner mentioned that the existence of such a trade centre would also be the focal point in bilateral economic cooperation.

Business activities between Malaysia and Bangladesh will now be more visible, he

Mukarram Hussain Khan, one of the organisers of the Malaysian Trade Centre believed that it would increase trade understanding between Dhaka and Kuala Lumpur.

'The centre will provide services and facilities to the businessmen of both the countries', said Mukarram, Director of Concord, a leading construction company in Bangladesh, also one of the partners in the joint venture company MBV. PM: France

#### From Page 1 Col 8

has been postponed."

Later on the day, a Foreign Office spokesman formally announced the postponement: "Dates envisaged in the beginning of February 1993 appear now to be unsuitable because of domestic preoccupations which preclude the Prime Minister's absence from the country at this time, including the ongoing pourashava polls as well as important by-elections to the Jatiya Sangsad during this period.

Election to the crucial Mirpur constituency is scheduled for Wednesday.

The spokesman said that the efforts were underway to fix mutually convenient new dates for the postponed trip and the Foreign Ministry is in close touch with the French Foreign Office' in this regard.

# The Midnight File

**UNSC** member: Russia to support India's bid

NEW DELHI, Jan 30: Russia will support India's bid to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council. President Boris Yeltsin said Friday

"If the issue is brought up for discussion, I will give a yes vote, Yeltsin told a joint news conference with Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao at the end of a three day visit which put relations with India back on track.

The 61-year-old Russian leader said there was a need to review the principles governing membership of the 15member UN Security Council, five of whom are permanent members with veto rights, reports AFP.

## 'Pakistan has acquired four to seven nuclear bombs'

WASHINGTON, Jan 30: Pakistan has acquired four to seven nuclear bombs, Russia's Foreign Intelligence Service said in a report released Thursday Kyodo news agency said

Pakistan was "in possession of its first atomic bomb in 1986 and has meanwhile accumulated four to seven of them, the report released at a press conference held by Yevgeny Primako, Director of counter intelligence service in Moscow said, reports PTL

# Pourashava polls

From Page 1 Col 5 joint meeting of the candidates from Awami League, Jatiya Party, Workers Party and an Independent at the local Daratana Square.

The candidates in a written complaint to the Returning Officer alleged rigging and demanded fresh polling.

In Magura, an independent Commissioner candidate Gaztur Rahman was knifed by armed opponents as he tried to stop their stuffing ballot boxes at the Dudhmollick high school centre.

At least seven weapons

were seized by the police from

the trouble makers during violence in the town, who allegedly forced out the agents of the Awami League candidate. Supporters of the AL and the Independent candidates

brought out processions in the town protesting the alleged rigging by the BNP candidate. Our Correspondent in Gaibandha reported: A mobile court fined eight people for

rigging in different centres of

the paurashava. At Rajbari, a mobile court sent four persons to jail and fined three others including two teenage girls for stulfing boxes with false votes during

the paurashava polls.

According to the available unofficial results, the elected pourashava chairmen with their party affiliation were: Rajbari- Ali Newaz Mahmud Khayyam (Workers Party), Pangsha — Abdul Aziz Sarder (BNP), Faridpur — Fazlul Kabir Chand (Independent), Ku shtia — Anwar Ali (Awami League), Kumarkhali - Nurul Islam Pasha (BNP), Hajiganj — Abdur Rashid Majumder (Independent), Bogra Advocate Zahrul Islam (Independent), Sherpur Mizanur Rahman Manju (AL), Santahar - Ghulam Morshed (AL), Joypurhat — Abdul Aziz Mollah (AL), Mymensingh -Delwar Hossain Khan (BNP), Gouripur - Abdul Khaleq Munshi (BNP), Muktagacha -Abdul Hye Akhand (AL), Shahjadpur — Hasibur Rahman

Swapan (Jatiya Party), Sirajganj

- TRM Nur-e-Helal (BNP),

Bheramara - Dr. Monwarul

Alam (BNP), Nababganj -Abdul Mannan Sentu (Oikya Parishad), Cox's Bazar - Nurul Afsar (AL), Bandarban - Ayub Chowdhury (AL). Patiya -Shamsul Alam Master (JP). Khagrachhari - Abul Kashem (BNP), Gazipur - AKM Manzurul Huq (AL),

#### US trade show From Page 1 Col 8

want to turn into an annual events, aims at stimulating new interests in US products and thus eventually attract more American investment in Bangladesh. The ABEF is an associate member of the Asia Pacific Council of American Chamber of Commerce.

A total of 32 companies. agencies and NGOs have stalls in the show being held at the Sheraton Hotel "As Bangladesh continues to

press forward with its economic reform programme, expect that the commercial dimension in the US-Bangladesh relationship will grow in importance," the US Ambassador in Dhaka, William 13 Milam, said at the brief opening ccremony.

Syed Humayun Kabir, the president of the ABEF, also

#### Sarbahara Party men kill 3 in Shailakupa

JHENIDAII, Jan 30: Three members of Purba Banglar Communist Party were killed by gunmen of Sarbahara Party Friday night in Shailakupa thana, police said today, reports UNB.

The dead were named Kartik Biswas (40) of Laxmipur, Paritosh Biswas (32) of Kharibaria and Panchanon Biswas (40) of Kachua.

Their bodies were sent to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital for autopsy. According to police, Kartik

and Paritosh were throttled to death by twisting muffler around their necks near the Kachua bridge at about 10 pm.



# বাংলা একাডেমী ঢাকা

অমর একুশে' ৯৩ উপলক্ষে বাংলা একাডেমীর গ্রন্থমেলা উদ্বোধন করা হবে ১ ফেব্রুয়ারী '৯৩ বিকেল ৪ টায়। উদ্বোধন অনুষ্ঠানে অতিথি থাকবেন বিচারপতি মুহম্মদ হাবিবুর রহমান। वनु छोरन একাডেমীর ফেলো, জীবন-সদস্য, এবং সুধীজনকে সাদর আমন্ত্ৰণ

ডিএফপি (জি) ১৪৯২-২৮/১ মহাপরিচালক বাংলা একাডেমী, ঢাকা। B->8≥

> Editor: S. M. Ali **Executive Editor: Mahfuz Anam**

Published by the Editor on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 and printed by him at The Sangbad Ltd., 36 Purana Paltan, Dhaka. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No. 11; Road No. 3; Dhanmondi R/A., Dhaka-1205. PABX 500092-4. Advertisement: 500091 (Direct) Fax No. 88-02-863035. GPO Box No. 3257. GRAM : DAILY STAR DHAKA.

#### Guilty to face upto death sentence move freely from tomorrow as the completion of the enquiry. Chittagong Zila Parishad of From Page 1 Col 7 reaching a final stage now, on they had done earlier. fice initially, later shifted to

maintaining peace and harmony there. Nasiruddin advised to sort

out any misunderstanding between Navymen and local people across the discussion The Naval chief in his speech assured the local people of Halishahar of allout co-

operation to ensure complete peace and safety to them. "We are all brothers, let us live together in peace and cordiality by forgetting the past"

Rear Admiral Islam said. The Naval chief announced that any one member or dependent from each dead person's family would be provided a job at the Naval dockyard in addition to free-education up to class ten to any one child of each person who died in the January 2-3 violence at Halishahar.

Rear Admiral Islam also said that more Navy personnel might face drastic action after

the Halishahar incident.

He said that the first enquiry board had submitted its report within seven days which was immediately followed by the dismissal of 19 Navy personnel and court martial of another 13 for their involvement in the Halishahar rampage. The Enquiry Board is headed by Commodore Fakruddin Ahmed, sources said.

He advised the local people to lodge complaints directly with the local base commanders sending copies to him in case of any misdeed or injustice done by Navy personnel. Serious action would follow the complaints, the Naval chief

He further announced that about 4500 Navy personnel including 500 officers, whose movements were restricted to the base after the Halishahar

incident, would be able to

Meanwhile, the one-mem-

ber Enquiry Commission formed by the government with Justice Sultan Hossain Khan to probe the January 2-3 Halishahar incidents has so far recorded depositions of about 300 persons. According to official sour-

ces, those who deposed in the high-powered Enquiry Board commission that began its operation January 14, included public members affected in the Halishahar incident, other people related and Navy personnel including officers. The now dismissed Commodore Commanding of

Chittagong Navy base AZ Nizam is also expected to depose within two or three days, said the sources adding that it would also receive statements from the BDR and the police personnel present during the incident.

The Enquiry Commission that started functioning at the

built in same area, but spread

Thanking the development ment will take the initiative to

Ministers, members of parliament, diplomats and experts