Delhi won't allow OIC mission to Kashmir

Thursday rejected a request by the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) to send a fact-finding mission to disputed Kashmir to investigate alleged human rights violations against its Muslim residents, reports AP.

Foreign Minister Dinesh Singh said the government told the conference it would not give visas to the delegation, United News of India re-

The OIC asked to visit the Muslim- dominated province in the northern state of Jammu-Kashmir last week. India rejected a similar reguest in November 1991.

Pakistan, which is a member of the Islamic Conference, says India is repressing the Muslims of Kashmir. India accuses Pakistan of funding and training militants for terrorist operations in Kashmir.

PTI from Kohima says, the Union Defence Minister, Sharad Pawar, today lashed out at Pakistan for aiding and abetting insurgent outfits in Jammu and Kashmir and some other parts of the country.

Addressing Assam rifles personnel at the Zakhama Cantonment, Pawar said that since Pakistan could not match India in defence capabilities, it was trying to destabilise the country by fomenting insur-

The basic problems of the masses like poverty and unemployment needs to be addressed to resolve the underground issue, the Defence Minister said, adding that cooperation of the locals in Assam and Punjab had made it possible to contain insurgency in these states to a great ex-

291 more Rohingyas return home

Advice to foreign job seekers

Verify employment with Manpower Bureau

The government yesterday cautioned once again those trying to get jobs in foreign countries including Malaysia not to proceed without first Employment and Manpower Training at Kakrail in Dhaka whether the assured work

there exists legal opportunities Bangladesh repeatedly cau-

Even then, the government agencies were sending work-

Because of this, the handout said, on the one hand young

It said that it was completely illegal to go to Taiwan, Japan, and South Korca for employment.

Young man Delhi to discuss stabbed holding seventh to death

By DMCH Correspondent A 25-year-old man Lutfor Rahman was stabbed to death at Harirampur, Mirpur, in the capital early Thursday morn-

A group of armed men held Lutfor and stabbed him near his house, 71, Harirampur at around 5:30 am when he was returning home from Gabtali Bus Terminal by a rickshaw. The killers could not be identified immediately, said police.

Lutior was a supervisor of Deer Night Couch Transport Service and he had returned to Dhaka from Kurigram one and a half hours before his death at the hands of the armed men.

Deputy Secy's house robbed

By Staff Correspondent

The house of a Deputy Secretary of Establishment Ministry at Pallabi, Mirpur, was robbed of cash and gold ornaments worth about Taka 1.5 lakh early Thursday.

A band of armed dacoits wearing masks stormed into the house breaking open the grille-fence at around 3:30 am yesterday and looted Taka 15000 in cash, 15 tolas of gold ornaments and other belongings worth about Taka 1.5 lakh.

He said that goodwill and cooperation of the local people was essential to tackle the problem. The situation in Nagaland had improved a great

COX'S BAZAR, Feb 11: Two hundred ninety-one Rohingya refugees comprising 66 families voluntarily went back to their homes in Myanmar through two transit camps at Teknal here today. Official sources told BSS here tonight that with this 26th batch of repatriation, the total number of repatriated persons now stands at 21, 168.

dishonest recruiting and travel

agencies or individuals were

making money alluring young

people to illegally send them

on employment in Taiwan,

Japan and South Korea via

some transit points like

Bangkok, Hong Kong or

trapped young job seekers, as a

result were having to pay fines,

face repression or end up in

jails in foreign lands being

It warned those seeking

It warned job seekers not to

go to Taiwan, Japan, Singapore

or South Korea in the expecta-

tion of getting jobs as no such

legal opportunities exist in

Meanwhile, the government

The government also sought

said necessary stern measures

against unscrupulous recruit-

ing agencies or individuals

cooperation of the people and

requested them to bring to the

notice of the concerned ad-

ministrative authorities about

the activities of recruitment

agencies or individuals en-

gaged in illegally sending job

ment and sufferings and im-

pairment of the country's im-

seekers causing them harass-

these countries.

were underway.

jobs abroad to remain careful

and alert so that the dishonest

recruiting agencies or individ-

ual could no more trap them.

caught by the immigration, it

The unfortunate and the

In spite of repeated warnings in the past it said some

Calcutta.

verifying with the Bureau of really existed or not, reports An official handout said that

to export manpower to Malaysia and that the Government of tioned the employment seekers not to be misled by the dishonest employment agencies.

said it came to the notice that some dishonest employment ers illegally and on false

people seeking jobs and their guardians were getting bankrupt being cheated and on the other the goodwill and image of Bangladesh were being

The handout said that the hapless workers were also getting into troubles being caught by the immigration personnel after illegally going abroad being trapped with job assurances by dishonest recruiting agencies or individu-

SAARC Secy Gen in summit

KATHMANDU, Feb 11: The Secretary-General of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-Operation (SAARC), Ibrahim Hussain Zaki, today left for New Delhi to hold consultations with Indian leaders on convening the twice-postponed Seventh SAARC Summit, reports PTI.

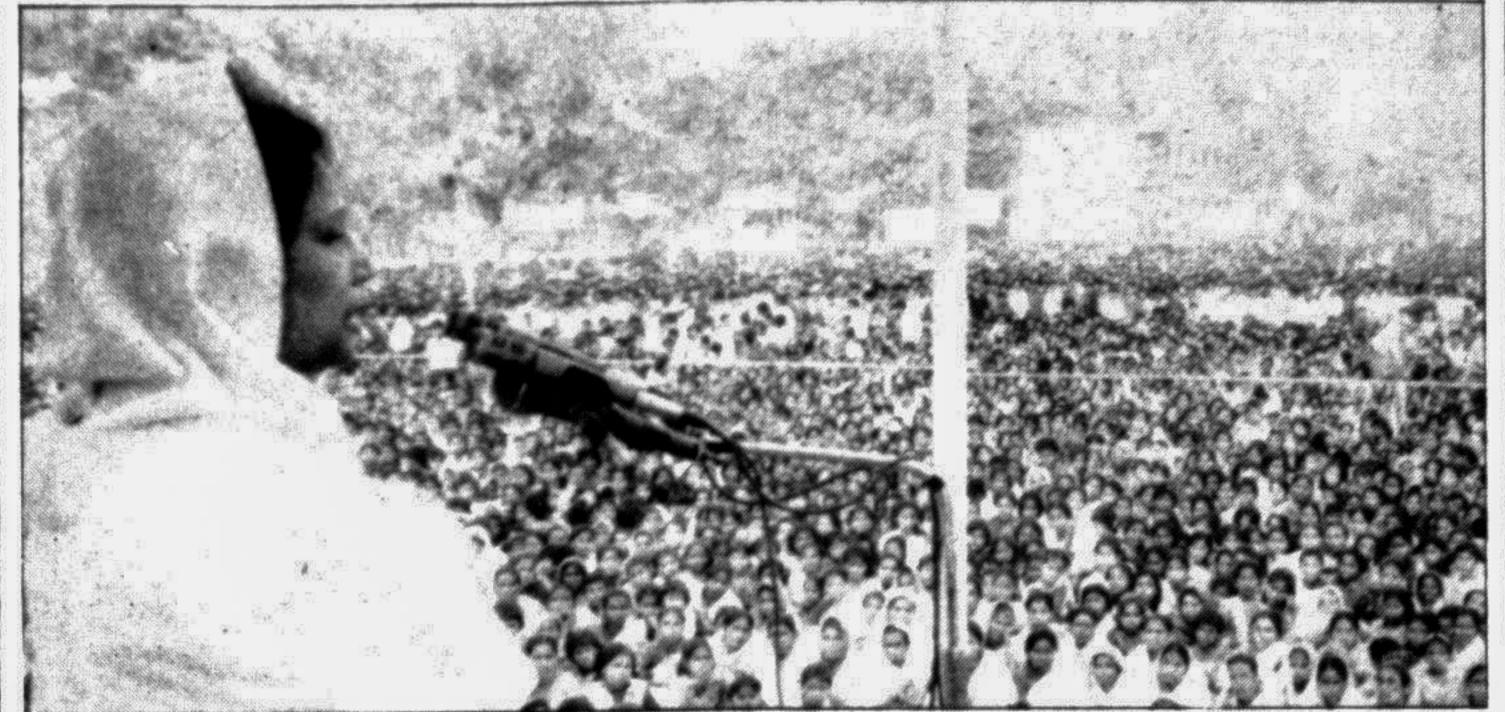
Apart from fixing the date of the summit, to be held immediately after the month-long Ramzan and Eid-ul-Fitr on March 23, Zaki will discuss issues like the South Asian Preferential Trade Agreement (SAPTA) South Asian Development Fund (SADF), poverty alleviation and protection of children programmes, which are on the agenda of the seventh summit.

Zaki will meet the Prime Minister, P V Narashimha Rao. the Minister for External Affairs, Dinesh Singh, the Foreign Secretary, J N Dixit, besides others.

A former Deputy Foreign Minister of Maldives, Zaki has already met the leaders of Shri Lanka and Maidives, including Ranasinghe Premadasa President of Shri Lanka and current Chairman of the SAARC.

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Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a public meeting at Nagorpur Government College ground in Tangail - PID photo yesterday.

Bandung seminar adopts Dhaka's intra-OIC trade proposal

An OIC seminar held in Indonesia has adopted Bangladesh resolution calling for regional and sub-regional cooperation among the OIC member states to develop intra-OIC trade, reports UNB.

Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and the Indonesian government jointly organised the seminar in Bandung, Indonesia recently, according to a delayed message received here vesterday.

The OIC countries at the seminar stressed the need for adopting urgent measures to counter the present trend in trade by drawing up a step by step strategy of globalisation of their trade and industry.

They suggested that regional and sub-regional cooperation arrangements be evolved among the OIC member states and a group of experts formed to recommend the modus operandi to achieve this objective.

Formation of a group of experts was also suggested to draw up an Islamic Free Trade Agreement (IFTA).

To develop intra-OIC regional trade, Bangladesh proposed for evolving cooperation arrangements among the OIC member states of South Asian region comprising Indonesia, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Brunei and Maldives. Regional cooperation is

essential as most of the regions of the OIC have evolved regional co-operation arrangements like the Magreb Union in North Africa, GCC in the Gulf and the recent en-

largement of the ECO with Alganistan and the Central Asian Muslim States, the pro-

Indonesian Minister for Science and Technology Dr Habibic inaugurated the seminar, also addressed by the IDB President, government officials and private sector representatives of OIC member states.

A 5-member Bangladesh delegation was led by Bangladesh Ambassador to Indonesia A K M Farooq. The other members included representative of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Salahuddin Kasem Khan and Maj Gen (Retd) Amjad Khan Chowdhury of Economic Relations Division

People may move for govt's ouster

From Page 1 Col 8 totally rejected the Jamaat in the just-held municipal polls and imbued the new generation, with the spirit of the Liberation War and let it know the Jamaat's heinous role in the war."

Calling upon her followers to push forward the on-going movement against all war criminals and communal forces, an optimistic Imam said, "Trial of war criminals including Golam Azam, Matiur Rahman Nizami, Abbas Ali Khan and Delwar Hossain Saidee must take place on this

Begum Sufia Kamal while addressing the meeting as chief guest noted that it was because of the Samannaya Committee's movement that Golam Azam had been jailed. The committee's struggle won't conclude with the execution of Azam, it will continue until elimination of his (Azam's) followers who, she said, were spread over the nation and had been vitiating the society by their anti-humanity

Sufia Kamal urged all especially the women and the young generation to rally round the Samannaya Committee movement with a view to proteeting the country's independence and sovereignty and upholding the spirit of the Liberation War.

Among those who spoke on the occasion were the Awami League General Secretary Zillur Rahman, Abdur Razzak, MP of AL, Saifuddin Ahmed Manik and Nurul Islam Nahid of CPB, Kazi Aref Ahmed and Hasanul Haq Inu of JSD, Mohammad Afzal of Ganatantri Party, and committee leaders Prof Abdul Mannan Choudhury, Shahrler Kabir, Lt Col (Retd) Abu Osman Choudhury, Col (Retd) Kazi Nuruzzaman, Badruddin Omar, Fayez Ahmed, Prof Panna Kaiser, Principal Ahad Choudhury, Syed Hasan Imam and Prof Kabir Choudhury.

Zillur Rahman in his speech accused late President Ziaur Rahman of destroying the



Begum Sufia Kamal addressing the first founding anniversary meeting of Nirmul Committee in city -Star photo yesterday.

spirit of the Liberation War by dropping all the four basic state principles from the Constitution and rehabilitating the Rajakars in the country's

Late Zia brought home the leader of Rajakars and Al-Badars, Golam Azam and permitted him do politics silently. Rahman alleged adding that his (Zia's) widow, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia had facili tated Azam's being declared Ameer of Jamaat violating the Constitution.

The BNP betrayed its commitment in the Joint Declaration to take over power and was patronising the antiliberation forces to cling to power, he alleged.

The AL leader assured the Samannaya Committee of his party's continued support to the movement aimed at ensuring trial of all war criminals and establishing the spirit of the Liberation War in the

Abdur Razzak, MP pointed out that the main achievement of the Samannaya Committee's movement was that it enabled the younger generation to know the glorious history of their motherland and identify their friends and foes.

Criticising the government's reluctance over the Jamaat-Shibir atrocities Razzak warned that the fascist forces would spare none, no even their patron, the BNP. Saifuddin Ahmed Manik

called for a united movement of all who believed in noncommunal politics and in the spirit of liberation, to free the nation from communalism and protect democracy.

Hasanul Haq Inu called on the government of Khaleda Zia to dissociate itself from the anti-liberation forces, or face a mass movement.

He bitterly criticised the freedom fighters in the ruling party for their silence over the Jamaat-Shibir group. The meeting was followed by a cultural function.



A DCC WHIM SENDS PEOPLE TO SPIN: A during-the-day repair work closed the road from Shahbag to Kataban intersection Thursday triggering off traffic jam in different parts of the city much to the disadvantage of the commuters in the peak hours. Star photo

PM: Hartal

From Page 1 Col 7 and local BNP leaders Mohammad Sclim, Mahmud Hossain Khan, Ali Imam and Sharifuddin.

Referring to the benefit of the canal digging programme she said 1,200 canals were dug during late Zia's rule and that led to an additional production of 12 lakh tons of food grains.

The Prime Minister said Bangladesh had exported rice to Guinea, an African country, during Zia's time. She said the people has started reaping the benefit of canal digging programme and urged them to collectively participate in the programmes for boosting pro-

The Prime Minister said the BNP government was contemplating to export rice again in view of the increased production. She underlined the need for going for the planned plantation on both sides of the canals to help maintain a good environment.

About the local problem she said electricity would be supplied to Nagarpur thana.

We believe in peace not war: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday reiterated Bangladesh's policy of friendship with all and malice to none", underlining the principle of avoiding confrontation, reports UNB.

"We believe in peace, not war", the Prime Minister said addressing the graduation ceremony of 17th Army, 11th Naval and 13th Air Staff Course at Mirpur Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC) in the morning.

Begum Zia said participation of foreign students in the staff courses here reflect the national policy of deep friendly and meaningful bilateral relations with all.

"We continue to uphold the pledge of collective efforts through the SAARC spirit in the region", she pointed out. "This is the basis of our foreign

She expressed the hope to explore and develop new vistas of cooperation, peace and progress through SAARC. Referring to the curse of

poverty, disease, natural calamities, population boom, illiteracy and environment pollution faced by the developing countries, the Prime Minister said "these problems are more dreadful to us than military threats.

Earlier, the Prime Minister distributed certificates among the graduates. A total of 104 student-officers, including 20 overseas students from France India, Kenya, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Qatar, Shri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand and Zambia attended the courses.

Fish rot

From Page 1 Col 4 said that the demand of the cold storage owners to withdraw VAT from their products was illogical as the wholesalers had to pay the extra price for VAT and the manufacturers had nothing to lose.

Meanwhile, the exporters said the fish exports are being affected by the continuing strike. President of Bangladesh Fruit, Vegetable and Allied Products Exporters Association Fariduddin Ahmed talking to The Daily Star said, fish supply for export from the regions of Sylhet, Rajshahi and Chittagong has already declined by 70 per cent and it would totally stop within a few days if the strike continues.

About 100 exporters of the country send Ruhi, Aire, Boal. Koi, Shrimp, Lakka, Latia etc to Japan, Middle East, Italy and London.

"We export about 100 tonnes of fish worth Tk 40 lakh a week to these countries, Ahmed informed, "the cold storage owners should consider this loss."

The exporters have already communicated their problems to the cold storage owners but the government is yet to take any move.

The Midnight File

Demonstrators demand Koirala's resignation

KATHMANDU, Feb 11: Thousands of leftist demonstrators shouted slogans today demanding that Nepal's Prime Minister resign over a hydro-electric power deal with neighbouring India. Police in riot gear were deployed around the central secretariat, which houses the offices of Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala, as protesters waved placards saying: "traftor Girija should resign" and 'scrap unequal treaties with India", reports Reuter

Fresh rocket attack on Kabul: 24 killed

ISLAMABAD, Feb 11: At least 24 people were killed and more than 100 injured in renewed rocket attacks on Kabul today, the state-run radio Kabul reported. The broadcast monitored here claimed that forces of dissident leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar fired more than 150 rockets, causing heavy losses to life and property, reports AFP.

14 more killed in Kashmir violence

SRINAGAR, Feb 11: Nine militants were among 14 people killed in separate incidents while security forces arrested 14 subversives in Kashmir valley and Doda district of Jammu region since last night. Five bodies were recovered from Shadipora area in Ganderbal on the outskirts of Srinagar today, an official spokesman said. Four of the victims were hanged to death while another was shot dead, reports PTI.

Welcome Mahathirs

From Page 1 Col 7

Dr Mahathir, his wife and signing ceremony of an agreeother members of his delega tion will, in a ceremonial motorcade drive to Bangabhaban where he will be formally received by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

The two prime ministers would have formal talks tomorrow morning when the whole gamut of bilateral relation between Bangladesh and Malaysia would come up for discussion.

The two leaders, at their scheduled 90-minute talks, would discuss ways for increased bilateral cooperation and also exchange views on regional and international issues of common interest. According to official

sources, the formal talks will deal with setting up of joint ventures in private sector, renewal of bilateral cultural agreement, employment Bangladeshi manpower in Malaysia, cooperation in agriculture, amendment to the existing civil aviation agreement, assistance in the field of sports and other bilateral matters.

Dr Mahathir's 16-member official delegation includes his Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Minister of International Trade and Industry Rafidah Aziz, Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Dr Abdul Hamid Bin Othman and high officials from different ministries.

Besides, 24 businessmen and 12 representatives from Malaysian media will accompany the Prime Minister.

Dr Mahathir will have busy schedule during his visit which will also take him to

The Malaysian Prime RU teacher

From Page 1 Col 7 meeting, excluding Jamaat-e-Islami, held at the local office of Workers Party today threw protest programmes against "terrorism unleashed by Jamaat-Shibir.

They will hold a combined rally on February 14 at Saheb Bazar, a mass procession on February 16 and another rally at Binodpur, adjacent to the university campus, on February

Presided over by local

Workers Party Secretary Ferdous Kamal Masum, the meeting was attended by local BNP leader Advocate Enamul Haq and Salahuddin Baby, Fazle Hossain Badsha of Workers Party, Awami League's Moniruzzaman and CPB leader Shafigur Rahman Badsha. Awami League President

and Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina will visit Rajshahi tomorrow (Friday) to see the injured students at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital. She will address a workers' meeting of AL as chief guest in the evening and later exchange views with RU teachers.

Hasina will exchange views with local journalists on February 13.

Meanwhile, Rajshahi University Academic Forum, said to be a group of teachers without political affiliation, condemned the February 6 incident and criticised the role of police during the gunfight.

Forum President Prof Amirul Islam and General Secretary Dr Kamrul Islam in a statement today said the clash and casualties could be averted if the law enforcing agencies became active at the outset of the bloody gunbattle.

They also condemned the assault on the Vice-Chancellor, the Ragistrar and the RUTA President by some students.

They proposed two more appointments in the inquiry commission formed by the government to probe the February 6 incident's at the university. Political parties cannot

deny responsibility for the

February 6 campus catastrophe

which claimed five lives and

left many injured.

of the two countries. The Malaysian premier will be accorded a civic reception by the Dhaka City Corporation at the north Plaza of Sangsad Bhaban tomorrow afternoon when he will be presented with a key to Dhaka city. Dr Mahathir will lay wreaths

fomorrow morning at the National Memorial at Savar and plant a sapling at the memorial complex. Dr Mahathir and members

ment on economic and com

mercial cooperation between

Federation of Bangladesh

Chambers of Commerce and

Industry (FBCCI) and Malaysian

National Chambers of

Malaysian Trade Centre in the

city sponsored by the Malaysia-

Bangladesh Venture Ltd

(MBV), a joint venture com-

pany set up recently by the

private sector entrepreneurs

He will inaugurate the

Commerce and Industry.

of his delegation will fly to Chittagong Sunday morning where he will witness signing of the memorandum of understanding (MOU) on cooperation between Malaysian International Shipping Corporation (MISC) and Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC). He will also visit Kaptai and two industrial units at the Export Procession Zone (EPZ) at Chittagong.

Dr Siti Hasmah will take her to the historic Ahsan Manzil, Jatiya Mahila Sangstha and handicraft projects. Dr Mahathir, his wife and

A separate programme for

members of his delegation will leave for Pakistan from Chittagong Sunday afternoon.

JP walk out

From Page 1 Col 5 been carrying a letter written on behalf of the imprisoned JP chairman Ershad to King Fahd. He was off loaded from the plane and sent to the jail with

a detention of 30 days.

The JP MPs, following the incident at ZIA, moved an adjournment motion on the issue yesterday but the Speaker rejected it. The Speaker, however, requested the Finance Minister to make a statement in the House after investigating the JP allegation.

Monirul Hoque Chowdhury, apparently dissatisfied with the ruling, wanted to speak on the issue on a point of order. But Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali did not allow Monirul Hoque Chowdhury to deliberate on the issue arguing that the demand did not cover rules relating to a 'point of order'. At this stage, the JP MPs walked out of the House at 7.25 pm.

The Business Advisory Committee of Parliament has recently decided that no demand for floor on point of order would be entertained in the House unless the demand covers rules relating to a 'point of order written in the Parliament Rules of Procedure. Monirul Hoque Chowdhury

represents the JP in the Business Advisory Committee.

106 Indians

From Page 1 Col 7 the Indian government-backed youth organisation attacked the people of Tripura tribe at Shukkupara, an Indian opposite Bangladesh border outpost in Panchhari thana's

Kestamonipara, on February 1. They also told the Bangladesh security officials that several hundred others were waiting on the border line to cross into Bangladesh.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh authority sent a protest note on February 10 to the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) asking them to hold a flag meeting immediately to stop such influx. But no reply from Indian side has yet been reccived, authoritative sources

The border security along the CHT has been tightened, sources also said.