The Midnight File

World Trade Centre

closed sine die

closed indefinitely in the wake of Friday's blast, forcing the

55,000 people who work there to seek a new temporary

home, the New York Times said today. Among the major ten-

ants of the building are the New York Commodity Exchange

and other commodities exchanges such as the coffee, sugar

and cocoa exchange ad the New York futures exchange, re-

Missing human rights activists

found murdered in Turkey

ANKARA, Feb 28: Three missing Human rights activists

have been found murdered, two with their hands bound and a

single bullet wound to the head, the Turkish Human Rights

Association (THRA) said Saturday. The body of Cemal Akar,

31, a Kurdish member of THRA and the president of the pro-

Kurd Party of Equality and Democracy in the eastern town of

Erzincan was found late Thursday near Pulumur. Relatives

identified the body of Akar, who had been missing since

Constitution to be amended

Sharif promises to curb

cial assemblies.

l'akistan.

resentatives.

years, at bay.

Sharif told reporters Thurs-

day the president's power to

dismiss the National Assembly

threatens Pakistan's frail

parliamentary form of govern-

ment. .. It must be effective

enough so that the purpose

behind the mandate given by

the electorate is duly and

meaningfully served and ac-

complished," Sharif was

quoted as saying by the state-

run Associated Press of

Politicians on the left and

right of the political spectrum

have blasted the eighth

amendment saying it gives a

single person the upper hand

over the country's elected rep-

elected by the National

Assembly, Senate and four

provincial assemblies.

The president is indirectly

However, supporters of the

eighth amendment say it

keeps the military, which has

ruled Pakistan for 25 of its 46

military was poised to take

over during Ms Bhutto's term

Most Pakistanis believe the

"If the nation opts for the

parliamentary system.

NEW YORK, Feb 28: The World Trade Centre will remain

'JPL showed vacant space at Kawran Bazar as its permanent address'

A senior official of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakhya (RAJUK) Testified before a Special Judge's Court yesterday that Janata Publishers Limited (JPL) which owns multi-storied Janata Tower at Kawran Bazar Commercial Area (KCA) showed a vacant space on plot 49 KCA as its permanent address while applying for approval of building's architectural plan, reports BSS.

Mrs Raushan Ara Begum alias Begum Raushan Ershad is the Chairman of JPL who applied to RAJUK in the later part of 1989 for approval of the 15 storted Janata Tower building.

Maqbul Ahmed, authorised officer of RAJUK's plan approval section was making his deposition as a prosecution witness in the Janata Tower Case now being heard in the Court of Additional Session Judge and Special Judge Md Ansarudding Sikder. Ahmed is PW-16.

Only Saturday it was revealed in the same court that Begum Raushan Ershad had JPL incorporated with Registrar of Joint Stock Company showing 49 KCA as its registered office before the land was actually bought by JPL from some allottees of RAJUK.

The PW-16 during deposition conducted by Attorney General Aminul Haq said that Mrs Raushan Ara Begum on 17.12.1989, Chairman JPL filed an application for the ap-

NEW DELIII, Feb 28: India's

main opposition party an-

nounced Saturday it would

stage nationwide mass rallies

in an escalating campaign for

early polls and the construc-

tion of a Hindu temple on the

ruins of the Babri Mosque, re-

(BJP) said it would organise

more than 1,000 rallies in

cities and towns over a fort-

night starting March 15. A

planned show of party strength

was thwarted here Thursday by

Senior party leader Sunder

Singh Bhandari announced the

plans at a press conference af-

ter 140 BJP MPs met Pre

sident Shankar Dayal Sharma

to demand the ouster of the

Congress (1) party government

"It is clear that this gov-

ernment has forfeited the

right to remain in power," said

a memorandum they handed to

Sharma. "It should seek a fresh

mandate from the people of

also protested the sweeping

arrested of its activists and the

police beatings of its leaders

here Thursday, calling the

crackdown an attack on

party President Murli Manohor

Joshi were injured in the po-

lice action aimed at enforcing

a ban on the BJP's New Delhi

Several BJP MPs including

democracy.

of premier PV Narasimha Rao.

The Bharatiya Janata Party

ports AFP.

proval of plan of a 15 storted building for Janata Publishers showing 49 KCA as its permanent address. The prayer was approved two days later and on that day (19.12.1989) Taka 35 thousand was deposited with Agrani Bank's RAJUK branch as fee for plan approval. Ahmed said that in its application JPL mentioned 24 Amin Bagh, Santinagar, Dhaka as its present address.

which was made an exhibit in this case.

ceiving the report, he gave a note with a finding that the applicant (the person who prayed for approval of JPL building plan) put her signadestination or disclosing her

BJP to stage 1,000

rallies from Mar 15

by all members of the plan approval committee to which Ahmed was member Secretary.

Earlier at the outset of the court, Attorney General Aminul Haq drew the attention of the chair on a particular portion of recording of the deposition of PW-10 during his cross examination by MA Malek, defence counsel for M Rahmatullah, former Chairman of RAJUK. Faruk Ahmed Khan, Metropolitan Magistrate was the first prosecution witness of the day who testified that he recorded the statements of KZ Islam and Col (Retd) Saiful Haq the PQ-1 and PQ-2 respectively in his own handwritings the magistrate okayed the signature of two PWs.

KZ Islam and Col (Retd) Saiful Haq during deposition earlier confirmed handling and receiving over Taka 10 crore for construction of Janata Tower. Out of this money Taka 6.5 crore was given in cash by former President HM Ershad to KZ Islam through Col (Retd) Saiful Haq.

The third prosecution witness was Abdus Salam Talukder, an upper division assistant at RAJUK's plan ap-

A total of 3 PWs made their deposition yesterday.

Sharfuddin Ahmed Mukul, defence counsel for Begum Raushan Ershad made a brief crossing of PW-16 and will take up the issue today when the court resumes.

"The learned advocate A R "and that is my ruling."

Noting that the Home Minister had told the House that Golam Azam was not a citizen, Awami League member Col Shawkat Ali (Retd) asserted that he was not a citizen. This is the fact and it is not subjudice," he said "the question is whether he can get it back or not."

But the Speaker argued that the matter before the court was the legal basis of cancelling the citizenship as a birth right. "As far as I know, and I have read the petition and the previous judgements. the writ challenges the order of cancellation of the citizenship, the legal basis to take

He added that it could "very well" be legally argued that the order was illegal. "I am following the proceedings carefully and I have given my own opin-

celling the citizenship pre-

the discussion to an end reminding the House that the matter is subjudice. "We should not discuss the issue as it is a subjudice, the upper court will provide a decision."

A division bench of the High Court yesterday issued rule upon the government to show cause why the detention of Khaledur Rahman Tito, Jatiya Party Secretary General, will not be declared illegal and un-

The bench comprising Justice Anwarul Haq Chowdhury and Justice K M Hasan made the rule returnable within 4 weeks.

The rule was issued on a writ petition filed by Tito's wife Rawshan Ara Begum challenging the fresh detention last week of her husband under the Special Powers Act.

on December 24 from infront of the party central office at Kawran Bazar.

PSC submits annual report to President

Bangladesh Public Service Commission (PSC) for the year 1992 was submitted to President Abdur Rahman Biswas at a simple ceremony at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports BSS.

Acting Chairman of the PSC Mohammad Amin Mia Chowdhury handed over the report to the President.



- PID photo the founding day ceremony of Diabetic Association in the city yesterday.

injured, lying among potatoes

and onions scattered in pools

Rocket attack on Kabul: 60 killed

KABUL, Feb 28: Rockets and shells ploughed into

took effect two weeks ago.

The workers brought out a procession and tried to hold a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club at around 11am demanding release of their imprisoned leaders including former President Hussain Mohammad

Police batoncharged the processionists and lobbed tear gas shells to disperse the mob. witnesses said.

Ershad.

In protest against the police attack, the processionists immediately went on a rampage and damaged several vehicles pelting stones, witnesses said.

Police picked up two persons from the spot and detained in the Ramna Police Station for interrogation, but they were released later on, said police.

Mizan

From Page 1 Col 8

with him during his departure for Saudi Arabia last month was unthinkable. "I was taken to a covered room for search" Chowdhury said adding that the Customs officials' even searched his shoes.

The Customs officials reportedly discovered a letter of former president Ershad, now scrving a jail term, to an influential member of the Saudi royal family requesting a move to get him (Ershad) out of the jail, from a JP leader accom panying Chowdhury to the Arabian country.

An offended Chowdhury told the chair that he had en joyed due respect from all the governments in the past although he differed on various issues many a time with them.

Giving an account of the incident taking place on the day he was flying for Saudi Arabia. Chowdhury said that he was

finally allowed to embark on the aircraft but the plane took 40 minutes to take off because his co-passenger, the International Secretary of the Jatiya Party, was offloaded by the security officials.

The JP leader said that even during his absence the matter was discussed in the Jatiya Sangsad when the Home Minister had made 'undue comments" about him. He said as a citizen and politician he opposes the ruling BNP, "but not the country for which we fought and sacrificed."

He said after the claim of the government that democracy had been restored, they should have shown a little bit of restraint in dealing with their political opponents.

Later, on being asked by the Speaker, the Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury said that he would make a statement Monday in the House. He also refuted Chowdhury's allegation that he had made some comments about the JP leader during his absence in the floor of the House.

cratic country.

words of appreciation for the association for the development of the hospital depend ing mostly on its own resources without depending on government grant.

the medical profession, Begum Zia hoped that they would keep themselves equipped

help for the Institute of Disorders (BIRDEM).

condole deaths in World Trade centre blast

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday expressed her deep shock at the loss of lives and properties, caused by bomb explosion and fire at the New York's famous World Trade Centre, reports

In a message to the President of United States William J Clinton, she condoled the deaths and extended her sympathy to the affected

From Page 1 Col 7 viduals and non-government organisations would come forward for national development following the example set by the Diabetic Association, She said none should expect the government to do everything in an independent and demo-

Turning to the members of

She assured government's Research and Rehabilitation in Diabetes Endocrine Metabolic

UNB adds: Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina in a mes sage to US President Bill Clinton expressed her shock at the death and destruction in Friday's bomb blast at the

ports AFP.

The Prime Minister had

World Trade Centre in New

president's power ISLAMABAD, Feb. 28: Prime nipulating the election results to relegate her party to a weak Minister Nawaz Sharif proopposition in the National mised Sunday to try to curb Assembly and the four provin-

January 25, the THRA said, reports AFP.

the power of the president, reports AP. He vowed changes in an 8year-old constitutional amendment giving the president

sweeping powers to dismiss Pakistan's National Assembly or powerful lawmaking lower house of parliament. This power has been exer cised twice since the amend

ment was introduced by Pakistan's military dictator Gen Mohammed Zia-ul Haq, in 1985 after he declared himself president. Zia invoked the amendment to sack Prime Minister

Mohammed Khan Junejo's government in May 1988 on charges of corruption and dragging its feet on a promise to make the country Islamic. Zia's successor, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, resurrected the amendment to

leaning government in August 1990, 20 months after she swept to power in the first free and fair elections in 11 Ishaq Khan accused Ms Bhutto's fledgling government

dismiss Benazir Bhutto's left-

of political ineptitude and rampant corruption, charges she denied. Her dismissal paved the way

for Sharif's sweep to power in elections in November 1988. Ms Bhutto accused both

Sharif and Ishaq Khan of ma-

but resisted when the president promised to sack her. The president is up for reelection in December this year

and Ishaq Khan is expected to seek a second term.

খেলাপী গ্রাহকদের বিরুদ্ধে ঢাকা ওয়াসার লাইন কাটার অভিযান

সম্বানিত গ্রাহকদের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাতে যেঃ

ক) সময়য়ত বিল পরিশোধ না করার জন্য ঢাকা ওয়াসার বিপুল পরিয়াণ রাজত্ব অনাদায়ী রয়েছে।

 ব) ঢাকা ওয়াসা মহানগরীতে খেলাপী গ্রাহকদের বিরুদ্ধে পূর্ণোদ্যমে সংযোগ বিচ্ছিত্র করার অভিযান শুরু করেছে।

গ) সংশোধিত আইন মোতাবেক খেলাপী গ্রাহকদের বিরুদ্ধে জরিমানাসহ আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ

ঘ) বিপুল পরিমাণ বিল অনাদায়ের কারণে ইতিমধ্যেই সংশ্লিষ্ট গ্রাহকদের মালামাল ক্রোকের জন্য মহানগরীর বিভিন্ন থানায় ৩৯৯টি ক্রোকী পরোয়ানা জারী করা হয়েছে। সংযোগ বিচ্যুতি ও অন্যান্য জটিলতা এড়ানোর জন্য আজই হালনাগাদ আপনার বিল পরিশোধ

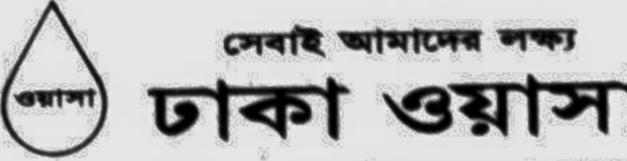
নিয়মিত পানি ও পয়ঃ বিল পরিশোধ করে ঢাকা ওয়াসার গ্রাহক সেবার মানোরয়নে সর্বাত্মক সহযোগিতা দিন।

বিল না পেয়ে থাকলে সংশ্লিষ্ট আঞ্চলিক রাজ্য কর্মকর্তা অথবা গুয়াসা তবনে সরাসরি প্রধান রাজ্য কর্মকর্তা বা সদস্য (অর্থ) এর সাথে ৩২৫২৪০ ও ৮১৬৭৯৯ নং টেলিফোনে যোগাযোগ করন্দ

রাজ্য আঞ্চলিক অফিসের টেলিফোন নহর নিমরূপঃ

ফকিরাপুল অফিস-রাজ্য কর্মকর্তা-808018 চাদনীঘাট অফিস-রাজ্য কর্মকর্তা-२८४७२७ (লালবাগ) দাদমাটিয়া অফিস-রাজ্ব কর্মকর্তা-976450 মিরপুর অফিস-949940 রাজ্য কর্মকর্তা-মহাখালী অফিস-606650 রাজ্য কর্মকর্তা– ফকিরাপুল অফিস-802799 রাজর কর্মকর্তা– কম্পিউটার বিশিং এর জন্য সিস্টেম এনাশিষ্ট এর টেশিফোন নং–৩১৩০৯২

এ যোগাযোগ করন্দ।



ভয়াসা-জঃতঃ ৮৫/১৩

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Editor: S. M. Ali

government has jute sector

From Page 1 Col 4 oped from jute waste fetched the BJRI Tk 5 lakh in '91. BEXIMCO bought the cellul-

Novotex blanket, that sci-

entists claim to be as good as woolen blankets made a relatively good market in the defence sector. In the last 10 years, the BJRI sold the sector such blankets worth Tk 2.5 lakh (each blanket costs Tk 300 to 350)

Prospects of geo-textile or geo-jute and jute shoes are also very good, observe the scientists. While the shoes are already being exported in large quantities, the government has taken initiatives to promote geo-textiles, used as filtres, drainage and reinforcement in road construction or embank-

"The geo-textile made from jute is a positive substitute of the synthetic type used worldwide," a scientist said, "while the synthetic type af fects the subsoil water resources with its hazardous chemicals and increases the heat of the soil, the geo-jute does not create such effect. As the BJRI had developed

some 35 types of geo-textiles, the government instructed the concerned authorities to use geo-jute experimentally in the Jamuna embankment project and in the construction of highways last September. "No matter what we develop at the BJRI, it would not

change the jute market of the country or the economy. What we need is a political commitment on the part of the government that it wants jute, the pride of Bangladesh, to be utilised to its fullest," the scientists concluded.

After the fee was deposited the then assistant authorised officer, now the authorised officer PW-16 asked inspector of RAJUK's planning department to make a report with spot verification. On 21.12.1989 the Inspector submitted a report along with a sketch where in the plot 49 KCA was shown as a vacant space. The witness testified the report of the Inspector with a sketch map

Ahmed said that after reture without mentioning her

However on 2.1.1990 Mrs Raushan Ara Begum stamped the seal upon the application as Chairman of JPL and on that very day the plan for the multistoried building was approved. The approval note was signed

banned all political assemblies

in the capital for three

months, citing fears of vio-

Bhandari said next month's

BJP rallies would highlight the

party's demands for early polls

and the construction of a

temple on the site of the Babri

Mosque in Ayodhya razed by

Hindu zealots on December 6.

Banglabazar Patrika

From Page 1 Col 5

meant what he said about ap-

prehending the culprits

quickly as, he noted. There

had been no arrests after simi-

really mean it? How long

would it take to apprehend the

pointed out that the govern-

ment's sincerity was proved by

the importance placed in

bringing the terrorists to book

in handing over the case to the

ment's intention, the Minister

added that the government

also placed importance on this

case as it believed in press

freedom. He also expressed

the government's regret over

the attack on the newspaper

asked the Minister if it would

be possible to apprehend the

perpetrators of the act within

the next 15 days. 'It is impor-

plary punishment and such in-

cidents do not recur," he said,

adding 'the House is very

the House that all necessary

measures were being taken to

ficult to predict a timeframe

for the arrest, he said 'maybe

the culprits can be appre-

hended within the next two

Attention Motion, Tofael

Ahmed said that a group of

armed and masked miscreants

had raided the Green Road of-

fice of the Banglabazar Patrika.

a Bangla daily, February 22 and

ransacked the office and dam-

aged the computers, printers

and other communication

mercilessly beat up the two

guards at the office. A case was

Water crisis

From Page 1 Col 7

Every year, according to the

official, the crisis becomes

acute during the month of

Ramadan as the mid-night

consumption is in addition to

not possible for WASA to fulfil

the demand unless the

Sayedabad water treatment

plant project is implemented.

underground water tanks re-

main dry for most of the time

of the day. They have to pre-

serve day's need when the

water carried by WASA lorries

to meet their demands. The

lorries each carries 2,000 gal-

lons of water that cost Tk 150.

Some of the residents buy

City dwellers say that their

The official says that it is

the normal demand.

supply is available.

filed with the Tejgaon police.

The miscreants, he added,

Earlier, moving the Call

Pointing out that it was dif-

bring the culprits to book.

The Minister again assured

much concerned.*

tant, so that they get exem-

Speaker Shatkh Razzak Ali

Saying that there was no

"Does he (the Minister)

In reply, the Home Minister

lar incidents in the past.

culprits?"

The Hindu revivalist party scope to doubt the govern-

Azam

From Page 1 Col 8

Yusuf is arguing that he (Azam) is a citizen and it is commonsense that as long as the court ruling is not given anyone can say anything," he said, adding

away a birth right."

At this point the Speaker sought the opinion of Jatiya Party member Moudud Ahmed. You have pointed it out correctly, as the issue is being heard in court we should not discuss the matter." Ahmed

However, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad argued that the order cancelling the citizenship of Azam was still valid. "As long as there is no court decision to the contrary, the order can-

But the Speaker brought

Tito's detention: HC issues rule on govt

lawful, reports UNB.

The JP leader was arrested

The annual report of the

of blood in the vegetable marhomes and a busy bazar in ket. Shoppers fled in panic Kabul today, killing more than and merchants pulled down 60 people and injuring 100 a their shutters while others day before planned peace talks washed the blood from the between rival Afghan leaders in neighbouring Pakistan, reports Defence Ministry spokesman blamed the hard-Two mortar bombs exline dissident Hezb-I-Islami ploded among crowds in the party of Gulbuddin lickmatyar Feruzhgar Bazar, killing 14 people and injuring more than for shattering the ccasefire 60 in the bloodiest attacks and bombarding the city with since an informal ceasefire more than 40 rockets and shells. Relatives wept over their Official Kabul Radio said 62 civilians had been killed in the Chhatra Samaj latest barrage, while hospitals estimated the number of inprocession jured at more than 100. Khaleda, Hasina President Burhanuddin batoncharged Rabbani was due to visit Islamabad on Monday "to initi-By Staff Correspondent ate an intra-Afghan dialogue" in a search for an end to the fac-A group of workers of tional fighting that has killed Shangrami Chhatra Samaj, a 1,000 people and injured student wing of Jatiya Party. 6,000 since January, Pakistan's clashed with police at Foreign Minister said. Topkhana road when police in-One rocket slammed into a tercepted their procession first-floor apartment in a Sunday morning. Soviet-built housing complex killing eight members of one family, including four children.

The lone survivor, nine-year

Nearby a woman and her

"I just have one son left",

old Fayaz, stood outside, dazed

and bleeding from a shrapnel

three sons were killed as they

wept her husband, Mahmud

Zahir. "I don't know what to

CPB

From Page 1 Col 7

Some of the hardliners said

that the majority decision

herence to communism and

indicated that they would

uphold the communist flag in

presidium of the party passed

the reform plan by a majority

four other proposals including

that of the 13 hardliners were

placed before the central body,

Central Committee, was placed

member said adding that Mu-

jahidul Islam Selim, Shahid

ullah Chowdhury, Ahsanullah

Chowdhury, Morshed Ali, Jas-

himuddin Mandal, Sunil Roy,

Dibalok Singha Roy, MA Akash

Shah Alam, Tapan Datta, Abdul

Kader, Azharul Islam Arju and

Syed Abu Zafar voted against

Both CPB President Saif-

uddin Ahmed Manik and Nurul

Islam Nahid voted in favour of

said that all the rejected and

adopted proposals would be

distributed among some

12,000 members of the CPB

across the country for their

discussed at the local level

general body meetings where

both the groups would try to

convince the members and

delegates to support their re-

reform in the party was noth-

ing new. Leaders in 1957 tried

to reform the party slightly.

the latest being during the last

Congress in November 1991

when the party constitution

created, the name of congress

was changed as national con-

ference, the words Marxism

and Lelinism were dropped.

the presidium was formed and

the party became the party of

the working people instead of

the need for reform urgent

now, so the Central Committee

took the decision," Nahid said,

adding that "We will try to

Mukul Chowdhury were pre-

sent at the press briefing.

"Most of the members felt

The president's post was

Nahid said that the idea for

The proposal would also be

At the press briefing Nahid

Shekhar Datta's proposal.

by Shekhar Datta, a central

The proposal, passed by the

but were rejected.

the proposal.

consideration.

spective proposals.

was largely amended.

the labour class.

Earlier, the 15-member

Meeting source said that

Bangladesh.

could never change their ad

cooked and washed clothes.

wound in his leg.