Koirala-Wangchuk talks in Dhaka fail

KATHMANDU, Apr 12: Talks between Nepal and Bhutan on the repatriation of over 100,000 Bhutanese refugees in Nepal have failed. Nepalese Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala said today, reports AFP.

Speaking to the press at Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu on his return from the two-day summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) in Dhaka, Koirala said he had discussed with Bhutan's King Jigme Singye Wangchuk the repatriation of Bhutanese sheltered in southeastern Nepal.

"During our talks, the King referred to the threat of terrorism without specifying, but it is an absurd phobia about terrorism in Wangchuk's mind as we don't have a joint border with Bhutan," Koirala said.

"During our talks, the Bhutanese King agreed to continue officials talks through the formation of a joint committee to identify the Bhutanese of Nepalese origin sheltered in refugee camps in southeastern Nepal," he said.

"We have also agreed to issue a joint press statement before returning home explaining the refugee problem after the joint official committee's meeting," Koirala said

"But when the two sides met, the Bhutanese officials presented a draft statement describing the Bhutanese refugees as displaced groups,"

Koirala said adding, "so the Nepalese side also presented a draft describing the destitute Bhutanese as refugees but the Bhutanese side refused to accept it and the talks ended

Asked whether he was considering a second round of talks with Wangchuk, Koirala said, "to hold further talks with Wangchuk will be futile. We would rather hold talks with different UN bodies for economic assistance for the Bhutanese refugees on humanitarian grounds."

Meanwhile, a Nepalese Home Ministry source said that up to the end of March 102,600 Bhutanese refugees had entered Nepal and over 80 per cent were sheltered in camps run by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Southeastern

The exodus of refugees was continuing at the rate of 150

Koirala also told newsmen that he informally informed Indian Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao of his talks with the Bhutanese King.

Asked if he would invite Rao or other Indian ministers to Nepal to discuss the Bhutanese problem, Koirala said, "That will be my second move. We want to move step by step to solve this problem."

"The Bhutanese refugees for Nepal," he said.

Trade union bodies demands of the trade unions.

From Page 1 Col 7 made by the labour organtsations to gain support of the opposition political parties to make the May shutdown effective. "This time, we will attach special emphasis on stifling the industries, halting roads and rail transports, workstoppage in the government, semi-government and autonomous bodies and also to paralyse public life in the mafor cities including the capital", said a top labour leader who asked not to be named.

No bilateral talks between the government and the trade unions federations took place since the March 15-16 strike.

Meanwhile, the Pripartite Consultative Committee, comprising representatives of the government, the Employers' Association and the labour bodies, met to discuss minimum national wages and other

However, no substantive progress was made in the meeting. To ensure a "successful" and

"effective" fresh course of action the callers have, meantime, planned massive campaign programmes including public rallies, processions, mass-contacts and parleys with the major opposition parties.

However, the labour leaders expressed their willingness to respond to any offer by the government to discuss their demands, as agreed by the authorities earlier in two separate accords with the SKOP and Committee.

The agreed demands include announcement of the creation of a Wages and Productivity Commission, fixation of new national minimum wages, and shelving the government's disinvestment plans.

Women's Affairs Minister

Tariqui Islam and State

Minister Begum Sarwari

Rahman are expected to at-

The programme of the

academy includes cultural

function exhibition of handi

craft, science equipment, ju-

venile books and paintings and

To observe the new year's

day, "Muktaman", a cultural or-

ganisation, in collaboration

with DUCSU, will hold its 3rd

Spring Poetry Festival tomor-

row (Tuesday) at Amtala in the

premises of Arts Faculty of

The city unit of "Khelaghar"

has constituted a 60-member

committee and chalked out a

week-long programme to cele-

juvenile rally, discussion meet-

ing, cultural competition, prize

dhi" has arranged a week-long

exhibition of drama-poster at

Pratidandhi Bhaban at Sha

khari Bazar from Baishakh 1.

Group Theatre "Pratidan-

Bangladesh Girl Guides

Association has arranged a

women and girls, beginning at

Guide House at 9.30 pm on

Wednesday to welcome 1400

The course, open to all

Bangladesh Janata Dal has

ladies, will continue thrice a

week from 1:30 pm to 2:30

arranged a two-day programme

in its office premises at

Gulistan from tomorrow

(Tuesday), including a discus-

sion meeting at 4:30 pm to-

morrow, which will be fol-

Party Chairman KM Obaidur

Rahman will be present at the

discussion meeting as chief

casion of "Pahela Baishakh" has

chalked out various pro-

grammes. Guests of the hotel

will be able to go on horse cart

rides for one hour beginning 6

cultural programme will also

be performed at the restaurant

during dinner on the day.

A traditional Bangladeshi

am on the day free of charge.

Sonargaon Hotel on the oc-

lowed by a cultural function.

guest, said a pres release.

and bid good-bye to the pass-

'Karate" training course for

distribution and colourful rally.

The programme includes

Dhaka University.

brate the new year.

discussion.

tend the inaugural function.

Bangla new year 1400

From Page 1 Col 8 from Pahela Baishakh, includ ing Baishakhi Folk Festival, to celebrate the new year.

The academy has also made arrangement to sell books at 15 per cent concession in its all book centers from Baishakh 1 to 15, said a press release.

A week-long programme has been arranged by the Shishu Academy on the occasion, Social Welfare and

AL resolution

From Page 1 Col 7

trict level units, including those of Chittagong Sadar, Narshingdi and Comilla. The request was granted by the committee as it felt that it was difficult to solve the problems in the month of Ramzan.

About formation of the village level committees of the party, the ALWC resolved to issue a fresh circular asking the concerned local level units to expedite the matter.

The meeting also resolved to convene and extended committee meeting to select suitable party members for coopting in the extra posts of the district level units that were created following some amendments to the party constitutions made by the last council session of the Awami League.

The meeting of the ALWC was adjourned last evening to resume again at 10 this morn-

Today's session of the meeting is expected to discuss the party political course of action in the coming days.

UNE adds: "Like national flag and national anthem, national mausoleum is also a symbol of the country's independence which is ever alive in the minds of freedom-loving people, the working committee said.

A resolution of the meeting said it is a diplomatic norm to take heads of state or government to national mausoleum. But the BNP government had ignored that norms, it added.

"Moreover, we like to tell the people in a very modest way that the offering of fatcha to the mazar of a President was given priority instead of the national mausoleum. Is the mazar of that man more important than the national mausoleum?"

without any results."

district of Nepal.

to 200 daily, the source said.

are creating social, economic and environmental problems

> Sunday. He said this was the first known attempt by militants to enter India this spring after the snows had started melting on the mountainous border. India routinely accuses

Pakistan of training and arming the rebels. Islamabad denies the charge. In another shoot-out between security forces and sep-

aratist militants in Srinagar city, two guerillas and one soldier were killed The spokesman, briefing under the customary rules of anonymity, said there had

been half a dozen attacks on

SRINAGAR, Apr 12: Indian

troops shot and killed eight

suspected Muslim militants

on the frontier with Pakistan

after they tried to infiltrate

into Kashmir to aid the sepa-

ratist campaign there, a gov-

ernment spokesman said

soldier was killed in the 30-

minute gun battle with the

guerillas in the Kupwara sector

of India-Pakistan border on

The spokesman said one

Monday, reports AP.

security forces in Srinagar during the last 24 hours. Most parts of the Muslimdominated state remained paralyzed for the third day in response to a strike call by the pro-Pakistan Hizbul Mujahedeen to protest the killing of its leader Mohammed Moqbool

Ilahi Friday.

Seven Sikhs get life-term for hijacking plane

NEW DELHI, Apr 12: A court on Monday sentenced to life imprisonment seven Sikhs in a 1984 hijacking of an Indian Airlines jetliner, reports AP.

The Boeing 737, carrying 87 passengers and 10 crew members, was on a domestic flight from New Delhi to the northern city of Srinagar on Aug 24, 1984 when it was hijacked.

The Sikhs, armed with fake bombs, forced the plane to fly to Pakistan and then to the Middle Eastern Emirate of Dubai, where the hijackers surrendered the next day.

Tonmoy

From Page 1 Col 8 the murder of Zahir, no other arrest was made until yester-

Meanwhile, a top level police source vesterday said that they had received some clues of Akhtaruzzaman Babu's involvement in the murder. Investigation is going on, we are looking into all possible sides, we cannot settle down the case in this immature stage," said the source prefer-

ring anonymity. About Tonmoy, the source said, he was a paid agent of a naster-mind

One of the police investigators said that they received no new information from him.

So they did not feel the necessity for keeping him into custody, he added. But the source denied to disclose what information they received from onmoy.

A top businessman, Humayun Zahir, was shot dead in the premises of his Dhanmondi residence by two gunmen on Thursday. Tonmoy was arrested with a revolver loaded with three rounds of bullets within a radius of one hundred yards of the house immediately after the murder.

Earlier, family members of Zahir said that the murder was a consequence of a feud among the directors of United Commercial Bank Limited and Janata Insurance Company Limited. They accused Akhtaruzzaman Babu MP of the murder in the First Informa tion Report (FIR) lodged with Dhanmondi Police Station.



Firemen extinguish a blaze which tore through some 150 houses, small shops and hotels in Srinagar, Kashmir yesterday following clashes between pro-independence demonstrators -AFP photo and security forces.

Five killed in road 8 militants killed in clash with accidents Indian troops in Kashmir By DMCH Correspondent

At least five people were killed in separate road accidents in Dhaka and Narayanganj yesterday.

Fariduddin, 48, an employee of a shipping company in Chittagong died on the spot when a microbus and an autorickshaw collided near the Registrar's Building of Dhaka University in the morning.

Fariduddin, an injured passenger of the autorickshaw was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where attending doctors declared him dead.

Abdul Halim, 16, a student of Class X of Shahjahanpur

body sit-in

programme

now Apr 25

By Staff Correspondent

Samannaya Committee has

shifted its planned sit-in

demonstration in front of the

Secretariat from April 20 to

April 25 as holding of the SSC

examinations coincide with

sources said.

in the chair.

on the day.

the rallies.

the programme, committee

decided at a meeting of the

organisation's central body

with its chief Jahanara Imam

Auditorium in the JSD (Inu)

office, the meeting also dis-

cussed preparations for the

three-and-half-an-hour sit-in

scheduled to begin at 11 am

public rallies and bring out

processions all over the coun-

try to drum up support for the

programme. Jahanara Imam

and other central leaders of

the committee will address

body will start sending letters

urging all its units across the

Meanwhile, the Samannaya

It also decided to organise

Held at the Col. Taher

The shifting of the date was

The Ghatak Dalal Nirmul

Railway Colony High School died on the spot when a private car ran over him at Shahjahanpur in the morning.

In another incident Cantonment police yesterday recovered the body of one Abul 45, from the area. Police said that he was killed in a road accident

In Narayangani, one Aril Hossain, 13, and a 30-year-old unidentified man were killed in two separate road accidents at Kewdala and in Narayanganj town yesterday.

All the five bodies were sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy.

Nirmul Samannaya

Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali vowed here today to oppose the Khmer Rouge ethnic cleansing campaign in Cambodia and praised Vietnam's support for UN peace efforts in the neighbouring country, reports AFP.

Boutros-Ghali also pledged the United Nations full support for communist-ruled Vietnam's transition to a market economy, but warned that economic development could not be sustained without respect for human rights.

In a luncheon toast, he told Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet that the elections scheduled for May 23-27 remained central to the peace effort, and that all those involved must work to make the campaign and vote free and fair.

"All acts of intimidation, whether militarily, ethnically or politically motivated, must be opposed," he said.

Ghali to oppose Khmer Rouge ethnic cleansing campaign

HANOI, Apr 12: UN

The embattled UN-spon-

sored peace plan in Cambodia has topped the agenda during Boutros-Ghali's two-day visit to Vietnam the first by a UN chief in 14 years.

country to participate in the sit-in programme. Govt-professionals talks

From Page 1 Col 5 a reform in the existing administrative structure. But it is humanly impossible to do it over night". State Minister for Establishment Nurul Huda

Talking to The Daily Star over telephone Monday evening, Huda said that the government was keen on resolving the administrative problems, "and this can only be achieved through concerted

efforts" "We have accepted some of their demands in principle and have humbly requested them to postpone their programme", he said, "I am sure that they will respond to our

The work-abstention beginning at 10 am everyday follows a week-long campaign by the professionals to wear black

The State Minister for Establishment said that the government had accepted the demands like re-organising the "rules of business" by announcing the ministers as chief executives, re-arranging the present "warrant of precedence", withdrawing the Deputy Commissioners from the development coordination in the districts and amending the service anomalies by cancelling the Matin Committee

Report. He, however, pointed out that the government could not take any step on the demand which pressed for freeing the judiciary from the control of executive power since "only the parliament could decide on such matter".

So far, three formal talks

between the government and the leaders of the professionals had taken place since April 2 until yesterday.

The Prime Minister had earlier assigned LGRD Minister Barrister Abbus Salam Talukder to negotiate with the

BJP asks Rao to quit, hold mid-term polls

CALCUTTA, Apr 12: India's main opposition party ended a three-day national conference here today with a call for Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao to step down and hold mid-term elections, reports In a series of resolutions,

the 130 members of the na tional executive of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP, Indian People's Party) denounced the Rao government as "corrupt, incompetent and rudderless."

They called for general elections ahead of their scheduled 1995 date and the reinstatement of four BJP-led state governments sacked by the government after the Babri Mosque was demolished by Hindu extremists in the town of Ayodhya. The government dismissed

the four BJP governments following the December 6 razing of the Babri Mosque and banned three Hindu fundamentalist groups allied to the BJP which led the campaign for the destruction of the Islamic shrine.

PM thanks city dwellers

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday expressed her gratitude to the residents of the capital for their all-out support in holding the Seventh SAARC Summit smoothly and successfully, reports BSS.

In a statement the SAARC Chairperson said she was moved that the city dwellers had taken the troubles in the last few days for the smooth continuation of the programmes of the heads of the state or government of the SAARC leaders.

The Prime Minister said the city dwellers had to face difficulty in their movements as the movement of the vehicular traffic was restricted for a longer time in the city's main thoroughfares.

The SAARC Chairperson also expressed her gratitudes to the villagers who had greeted the SAARC leaders from both sides of the river Meghna during their river

She thanked the officials and employees of the government and non-government organisations and the individuals who contributed to the successful holding of the Seventh SAARC Summit.

Aid Club meet

From Page 1 Col 7 randum says, adding that there will be a net outflow of 50 million US dollar on account of services.

The 950 million US dollar projected level remittances from the expatriate Bangladeshis, against the estimated level of 900 million of the current fiscal year, will help to hold current account balance at (-) 850 million US dollar in 93-94, the memorandum shows.

According to the same document, there will be a net outflow of 54 million US dollar in the IMF account against the net inflow of 2 million US dollar in '93-94 fiscal year. Outflow on account of short term loans and other capital will, however, stand at 265 million US dollar during the

Total import bill is estimated to increase by 11.3 per cent from 4000 million US dollar ir '92-93 to 4450 million in 1993-94, the memorandum says.

Import of textiles, capital goods, crude oil, chemicals, dairy products, iron and steel and fertilizer will continue to increase during the next fiscal year while the import of foodgrain is estimated to fall to 0.98 million tons during the period.

Premadasa

From Page 1 Col 2 taken to evolve trade preferences among the member countries. The Dhaka Declaration, he

said, "not only expresses policies but also indicates the necessary follow-up action." Endeavours of the Colombo Summit President Premadasa

said, has culminated in Dhaka. He stressed the need to strengthen democracy and said "the people form the foundation of democracy."

"Unless the foundation is strengthened, the structure will not be stable," he said. Praising the role of the new

SAARC Chairperson, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, the Shri Lanka leader expressed the hope that she would rise fully to the occa-UNB adds : President

ment was seeking a political solution of the ethnic issues with Tamil rebels and hoped a move now underway to that end would succeed. He also told a questioner "in Shri Lanka, we had a very

Premadasa said his govern-

dreadful situation in the past . . that situation is no more "We have liberated many

parts in the northern end, and only in a small area, the incident is taking place," Premadasa said. Foreign Minister Mostafizur

Rahman bade him farewell at the VVIV lounge of the airport. Shri Lankan High Commissioner to Bangladesh . Dr A N Hanissa, and senior officials of the Foreign Ministry

Earlier, Begum Zia yesterday made a courtesy call on Premadasa at his suit at Sheraton Hotel During the call on the Shri

were present

Lankan President highly praised Bangladesh for successful y holding the Seventh SAARC Summit. He particularly appreciated the statesmanship of Begum Zia for making the SAARC Summit effective and termed the Seventh Summit most successful one. The Prime Minister re-

called the significant contribution of President Premadasa as the SAARC chairperson of the Sixth Summit in which he had played the pivotal role in identifying poverty alleviation, one of the major problems of the region.

SAARC summit: The Widnight Stile

Gore visits Poland Sunday

WASHINGTON, Apr 12: Vice President Al Gore will visit Poland next week for ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising during the Nazi occupation of World War II. It will be Gore's first trip abroad as vice president. Gore is scheduled to fly to Poland on Sunday and return Tuesday. While there, he will meet President Lech Walesa and other government officials, attend ceremonies at a memorial to participants in the uprising and deliver a speech in Poland's Parliament building, reports AP.

Artillery attack on Srebrenica: 20 killed

SARAJEVO, Apr 12: A heavy artillery attack on the Serbbesieged Muslim town of Srebrenica in Bosnia killed 20 people and injured about 45 today, a UN military spokesman said. Commander Barry Frewer told reporters that he had been told of the attack by a representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Srebrenica, reports Reuter.

Seventh minister quits Sharif's cabinet

KARACHI, Apr 12: Pakistani Minister of State for Production Jam Mashooq Ali resigned from the cabinet of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif today, the seventh minister to quit during the current politi-

cal crisis, reports AFP. Ali told a news conference that despite repeated complaints from him to the Prime Minister, Sharif had left him idle and not a single file had been given him in 15 months.

He said he had already sent his resignation to President Ghulam Ishaq Khan.

Ukraine ship

From Page 1 Col 8 patrol team comprising Customs, Navy and BDR personnel Sunday as it arrived at the outer-anchorage of the port for unloading the contraband goods.

According to official sources, the seized goods, with an estimated value of over Taka one crore, includes 148 television sets, 61 VCR and VCP's, 56 master carton of ctgarettes, 25 cartons of whisky, 720 cartons of beer and another 100 cartons of soaps.

Wangchuck From Page 1 Cbl 5

He particularly mentioned the endorsement of the SAPTA which he said "opens a new vista of economic cooperation among the South Asian countries"

The Bhutanese King termed the relation between Thimpu and Dhaka as excellent.

He also expressed gratitude to the government of Bangladesh for extending warm hospitality for himself and members of his delegation. Earlier, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia made a courtesy call on Bhutanese King Zigme Singhe Wangchuck at his hotel Sheraton suit.

Begum Zia thanked the Bhutanese King for his support which made the summit a success. She sought cooperation for the implementation poverty alleviation and economic programmes taken by the 7-nation forum in the re-

Wangchuck said that the credit for the success of the summit goes to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia for her relentless endeavours for holding the summit after being postponed twice. He assured his all out sup-

Chairperson in making the fo-

rum more stronger and dy-

port to new

7 more lives Diarrhoea claimed seven

Diarrhoea takes

more lives and attacked some 1,322 people in 24 hours till 9 am yesterday (Monday), reports UNB.

Control room sources in Dhaka said that with the latest deaths, the toll rose to 1,634 since the outbreak of the disease in early January.

So far, some 1,25,073 people in 16 districts were attacked by the water bornebacteria. The disease first broke out in eight southern districts.

Of the fresh deaths, three were in Noakhali, two in Laxmipur and one each in Jessore and Gopalgani dis-

Nor'wester From Page 1 Col 7

destroyed. Another nor wester lashed two unions in Kazipur thana of Sirajganj district injuring at least 13 people, two of them seriously yesterday morning, official sources said.

The injured Altaf (38) and Baten (21), were admitted into a local clinic.

The storm, which lasted nearly half an hour damaged at least 150 katcha houses in Nischintapur and Tekani

Koirala left for home after at tending the two-day (April 18 11) annual conference of the seven-member association. He drove straight in a ceremonial motorcade to the airport from

the hotel Talking to newsmen at the Zia International Airport, he greeted Begum Zia on her election as Chairperson of SAARC and expressed his conviction that during her tenure, the forum would further strengthen and develop into "a unifying economic

force" Koirala described the SAARC summit as a grand success. "Holding of a summit

in Dhaka is an achievement." The Nepalese leader expressed satisfaction over the measures embodied in the Dhaka Declaration for economic development to eradicate poverty from the region. He also said SAPTA would open a new horizon in economic cooperation among the

South Asian nations Koirala was seen off at the airport by Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman.

Special Drive for Gas Line Disconnection

SAARC

In view of realising the arrear, special drive for gas line disconnection begins from 17th April, 1993 in all areas including Dhaka Metropolitan area. Hence all classes of respectable consumers are requested to pay their arrear immediately and show the paid bill copy on demand to the disconnection squad on the spot of gas use.



Titas Gas Transmission & Distribution Company Limited

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"গাছ लागान, गाष्ट्रत পরিচর্যা করুন এবং পরিবেশ বাঁচান" – প্রধানমন্ত্রী

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unions of the thana. Koirala From Page 1 Col 3