

The only place for ORIGINAL THAI FOOD & SEAFOOD in CHITTAGONG NO BRANCH Please try us and you will love BANGKOK THAI RESTAURANT more than ever before.
1443 ASIAN HIGHWAY, OPPOSITE Y. M. C. A. NASIRABAD, CHITTAGONG, TEL: 226803, FAX: (880) (31)-226258

NIRMAN TILF
Broken Marble Tiles In More Shades Than The Rainbow
Tel: 805987, 861985

Inside Today

Article

Focus on Immigrants Again

Column: Between The Lines
by Kuldip Nayyar
Page 4

International

Gunmen take 19 Supreme Court judges hostage in Costa Rica



Japan's Crown Prince Naruhito's fiancée, Masako Owada completes 'princess education'
Page 5

Business

Huge quantities of sugar remain unsold
Clinton's policies may spark trade wars
Pages 6,7

Feature

Health

Violence on Roads Takes 700000 Lives Yearly World-wide, Combating Cancer and AIDS, Malaria Threat Growing Around the World
Page 8

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Fish-hawker at the Doorsteps
Page 3

OIC call to lift arms ban on Bosnia

KARACHI, Apr 27: The Organization of the Islamic Conference Monday unanimously called for lifting the arms embargo on Bosnian Muslims and urged the United Nations to approve the use of force against Serbians if necessary, reports AFP.

The OIC skipped normal procedures and moved with unexpected speed in passing the resolution, in order to support a Pakistani resolution at the UN Security Council on the issue of Bosnia, said Munir Akram, spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of Pakistan, host of the OIC foreign ministers meeting here.

Akram said the President of the Security Council, Pakistan's permanent repre-

sentative at the world body Jamsheed Marker, had called the Pakistani government to say that its draft resolution, calling for 'stringent measures against Serbia and Montenegro' may come up for consideration within hours.

All 51 OIC delegations adopted the resolution unanimously, said Akram. The resolution also called for an arms embargo on the rump republic of Yugoslavia, accused of helping the Bosnian Serbs.

"Bosnia has the right to self-defense, said the resolution, which decried the international arms embargo on Muslims in the Balkan nation as the major factor impeding the use of the right of self-defense."

"We request the UN Security Council to act decisively and expeditiously under the provisions of the UN charter and allow UN member states in cooperation with Bosnia to take all necessary measures to uphold the right of self-defense, sovereignty and political independence" in Bosnia.

The resolution urged the UN Security Council to "immediately take further appropriate measures, including the authorization of the use of force," to ensure that Serbs did not receive weapons.

The world body should place "all heavy weapons in the republic of Bosnia Herzegovina under effective international

See Page 12 Col 1



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia handing over certificate to one of the graduate students in the first convocation ceremony of the Islamic University in Kushtia yesterday.— PID photo

SC stays judgement on Golam Azam

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday issued stay order on operation of the judgement declaring Jamaat leader Golam Azam as citizen of Bangladesh, reports UNB.

The full bench, presided over by Justice Habibur Rahman, stayed operation of the judgement till June 14 when the leave of appeal against the April 22 judgement of the High Court will be heard.

The other judges of the Appellate Division were Justice Mustafa Kamal, Justice ATM Afzal and Justice Latifur Rahman.

Seeking the stay, Attorney General Aminul Haq submitted that the government was aggrieved by the judgement. The government will be seriously prejudiced if its operation is not stayed.

He further submitted the appeal petition will be merely an academic discussion if the operation of the judgement is

not stayed. Therefore, he argued, in the academic matter, the Appellate Division cannot hear it rightly and properly.

The Attorney General said the government with no legal obligation but to free Golam Azam immediately who had been arrested under the Foreigners' Act, if its operation is not stayed.

Golam Azam was not a citizen of this country since 1971. Now, if the judgement is not stayed, the situation may go out of control and the civil administration may find it difficult to contain it, he argued.

The Attorney General prayed for 8 weeks' stay. The court, however, granted 6 weeks and instructed the government to prepare the petition for leave of appeal.

At one stage, Justice Mustafa Kamal observed that stay cannot be granted in a declaratory matter.

"The government is bound

Thousands chant 'death' for Pak President

TAXILA (Pakistan), Apr 27: Thousands of Pakistanis chanted 'death' for President Ghulam Ishaq Khan today as they cheered sacked Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, reports Reuter.

An estimated 10,000 supporters greeted Sharif at the archaeological town of Taxila, about 30 km (18 miles) northwest of Islamabad, as he drove through on his way to northwest frontier province as part of a cross-country campaign against his dismissal last week.

Ishaq Khan sacked Sharif on April 18 for alleged corruption, nepotism and terrorising his opponents, dissolved the National Assembly (lower house of parliament) and ordered fresh elections for July 14.

Sharif told the Taxila crowd that the president had acted in self-interest.

"What should be the punishment for that man who wronged the nation... who

See Page 12 Col 7

Nation pays homage to Sher-e-Bangla

By Staff Correspondent

The nation Tuesday paid homage to Sher-e-Bangla Abul Khasem Fazlul Huq on his 31st death anniversary.

Different political, professional and socio-cultural organisations organised elaborate programmes to mark the day.

The day's programme included placing of wreaths and offering of fatcha at the mazar of the great leader, discussions and seminars on the life and ideals of Sher-e-Bangla.

In the capital, Zia Parishad arranged a discussion at its central office in which speakers said that the ideals of Sher-e-Bangla would inspire the people to take the country on the road to prosperity.

Presided over by Kabir Murad, the discussion was also addressed, among others by Syed Mesbahuddin, Taranga Anwar, Ayub Hossain Khan and Anwar Hossain.

Sher-e-Bangla Parishad, Krishak Sramik Party,

Edn guiding force for progress : PM

By Staff Correspondent

SHANTIDANGA-DULALPUR (Kushtia), Apr 27: Education is a basic right of the people, it is a guiding force to achieve development and progress of the nation, says Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, reports UNB.

"There is no alternative to education to promote democratic values," she told the first convocation of the Islamic University here today.

The Prime Minister, who is the Chancellor of the University, chaired the function and conferred bachelor's and master's degrees to 358 students of the university in different subjects in five academic sessions from 1985-86 to 1989-90.

Describing the university as the highest seat of learning, the Prime Minister said its aim is to impart education and conduct researches. The university education also reflects sense of values of the people of a country and imbibes the na-

See Page 12 Col 1



Grameen Bank was awarded the King Boudouin International Development Prize on 22 April, at the Royal Palace in Brussels. Present in the award giving ceremony were (from L to R) Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Secretary-General of the United Nations, Danielle Mitterrand, wife of the French President, King Boudouin, Prof Yunus, Queen of Belgium, Ana Milena Munoz de Gaviria, wife of the Colombian President and Jacques Delors, President of EC commission. Manjeera Khatun, one of the Directors of the Grameen Bank, who also represented the bank at the award ceremony is seen in the second row, between King Boudouin and Prof Yunus.

Use of local fabrics in garments declines

The much warranted "backward linkage" in the country's garment sector has made little headway as the existing quota policy failed to contribute towards increasing the use of local fabrics, reports UNB.

While the urgency of using local raw materials is being stressed frequently for sustaining the garment market, official estimate shows that the use of home-made fabrics has declined over the years from 9.50 per cent in 1987-88 to 1.50 per cent in last year (1991-92).

Readymade garments fetched to the tune of 1.2 billion US dollars in 1991-92, but

because of gross dependence on imported fabrics, the net value added earning is only 13 per cent.

The sector imports 700 million square meters of fabrics a year—mainly from India, China, Korea and Hong Kong.

The quota distribution policy severely lacks incentives for use of local fabrics as, experts pointed out.

Performance quota holders, who are exempted from conditionalities of using local fabrics, now gobble up almost hundred per cent of the quota received by the country.

Free quota and local fabric quota, on the other hand, have in fact become non-existent,

reflecting the absence of any incentive in the government quota policy for using local fabrics. Share of free quota was 60 per cent in 1985 while it has come down to less than 5 per cent.

Thus, said officials and people in the garment industry, the benefit of quota has become concentrated to only the old manufacturers—a situation that has been seriously blocking emergence of new exporters.

Of the total 1,400 garment exporting factories, only 734 received quota allocation in 1991-92 and the rest are surviving by exporting non-quota.

See Page 12 Col 7

Make May 9, 13 programmes a success: Jahanara Imam

By Staff Correspondent

Convener of the Nirmul body Jahanara Imam yesterday urged the people to make the May 9 sit-in around the Jatiya Sangsad and the May 13 country wide 8-hour hartal a success.

She was addressing a rally held in protest of police attack on demonstrators supporting Nirmul Committee movement on April 25 in the city organised by the Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Samannaya Committee.

The rally presided over by Jahanara Imam and conducted by Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury, Syed Hasan Imam and Shahriar Kabir.

The Nirmul Committee leaders said that the Court's verdict giving Golam Azam Bangladesh's citizenship did not reflect people's opinion.

Yeltsin gets 58pc vote

MOSCOW, Apr 27: President Boris Yeltsin was backed by 58 per cent of those who voted in Russia's nationwide referendum and his market reforms were endorsed by 52.9 per cent, electoral officials announced Tuesday, reports AP.

The preliminary official results confirmed what exit polls and unofficial returns indicated shortly after the polls closed Sunday.

Despite Yeltsin's victories, there were signs of new confrontations brewing with the Communist-dominated Congress that has tried to block his reforms and has chipped away at his powers.

President Yeltsin issued a sharp warning to Serbs on Tuesday and pledged unity with the West, defying his hard-line critics after his vic-

See Page 12 Col 2

Rallies in 4 divns next month Accord to launch united movement

By Staff Correspondent

An opposition platform led by the Awami League (AL) yesterday formulated a "three-point agreement for a united movement against the government."

The 'minimal unity' was forged in a joint meeting of the leaders of the AL, the Five-Party combine, a four party alliance called the Patriotic Democratic Front (PDF) and the Ganatantri Party (GP) held at the AL Central Office with the Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Abdus Samad Azad.

The three point demands are:

- 1) Protest against evil move to give legal protection to 'war criminal' Golam Azam, and his trial under the International War Crimes Act 73.
- 2) Protest against government restriction and attack on and interference in public meeting, strike and hartal aimed at curbing people's

democratic rights and demand for scrapping all black laws.

"3) Protest against government's conspiracy against the spirit of independence and Liberation War and demand for banning the politics of Jamaat-Shibir, Juba Command, Freedom Party as well as all communal politics.

The joint meeting of the leaders yesterday decided that they would hold rallies in four divisional headquarters outside the capital to drum up public support in favour of the three point demands.

According to a press release of the newly formed opposition combine, the rallies will be held in Rajshahi on May 5, in Barisal on May 6, in Khulna on May 7 and Chittagong on May 8.

The leaders attending the yesterday's joint meeting included, Abdul Mannan, Zillur Rahman, Amir Hossain Amu,

See Page 12 Col 4

NGOs should operate independently: Milam

By Staff Correspondent

United States Ambassador in Bangladesh, William B Milam Tuesday said that the NGOs should be allowed to operate independently to play a positive role in developing the society.

"Our experience is that NGOs work best, and serve the society, when they are controlled the least," he said while addressing a luncheon party organised by the American-Bangladesh Economic Forum yesterday at Hotel Sheraton.

"Groups such as business associations, NGOs, trade unions should neither be antagonistic nor beholden to the government. There is no need for suspicion of diverse power centres, such as NGOs, or to 'treat them as an enemy'."

Milam said and added that it was better to recognize that these various associations of citizens played a positive role in developing society.

The US ambassador said in a democratic system, power was not monopolized by the government. Rather, it was spread throughout the society, he added.

"Government has no monopoly on intelligence or on the ability to act correctly in pursuit of proper goals. Citizens can and should organize themselves into groups to further goals which they think are desirable," he said, adding that in a democracy, this was not only their right, but also their duty.

See Page 12 Col 4

30 hurt as BDR, local people clash in Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, Apr 27: At least 30 people were injured, one with bullet, in a violent clash between some BDR men and agitated people at Jamtali Railway Station this (Tuesday) evening, reports UNB.

Of the injured, Solaiman (30) of Krishnadia village in Kamarkhand thana, who suffered bullet injury in the waist, and two others with head injuries were admitted to Sirajganj General Hospital in critical condition.

Witnesses and railway police said the clash ensued at about 6:40 pm when three BDR personnel of Rifle Battalion No 3 at Mirpur in Kushtia, travelling by a mail train, challenged luggage and bags, allegedly full of Indian saris, of some passengers at the station.

See Page 12 Col 6

JU Syndicate suspends Golam Hossain

By JU Correspondent

Jahangirnagar University authorities late Monday suspended Dr Golam Hossain, Provost of the Al-Beruni Hall, for assaulting Vice Chancellor Professor Kazi Saleh Ahmed.

JU authorities also relieved Dr Hossain of all his official duties charging him with misdemeanour and snatching away of important official papers.

The decision to suspend the provost was taken in accordance with the Sub-Section 10 (Ka) 2 of the Skill and Disciplinary Ordinance at an emergency meeting of the Syndicate, according to a statement of the university.

JU Syndicate also formed a five-member probe body to investigate into the Monday's assault on the Vice Chancellor, sources said.

Dr Golam Hossain, an associate professor of the Government and Politics Department, beat Vice Chancellor Prof Kazi Saleh

See Page 12 Col 6

Govt detained Azam to appease certain quarters: Nizami

By Staff Correspondent

Secretary General of the Jamaat-e-Islami Matiur Rahman Nizami Tuesday said that government had detained Golam Azam to appease certain quarters in the country and abroad.

Addressing a public rally near the Baitul Mukarram Mosque, he said that the government should release the Jamaat chief "without any delay" showing respect to the High Court verdict.

Nizami, also the parliamentary party chief of the Jamaat, said that the notice under which Azam was arrested March 24, 1992 was proved to be illegal after the court verdict that "Golam Azam is a citizen by birth."

Azam was arrested for alleged violation of the country's Foreigners Act by becoming Amir of the Jamaat.

Chaired by the city unit President A.T.M. Azharul Islam, the meeting was also addressed by Sheikh Ansar Ali MP, Enamul Huq MP, Kamruzzaman and Jashimuddin.

The Jamaat Secretary

See Page 12 Col 3

21 hurt as police, Rohingya body supporters clash

COX'S BAZAR, Apr 27: A clash between police and the supporters of Rohingya Repatriation Committee in Ukha today left at least 21 people, including six cops, injured, police and witnesses said, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the clash erupted at Balukhali Customs Gate when police tried to remove a heavy blockade put up by the Committee activists on the Cox's Bazar Teknaf Highway to make its dawn-to-dusk hartal a success.

The hartal, called by the Committee to press for its one-point demand for early repatriation of about 2.22 lakh Rohingya refugees—was observed partially.

Of the injured, Azizur Rahman (14) was admitted to Ukha Health Complex with

See Page 12 Col 8

NEWS BRIEFS

Food employees withdraw strike

The work stoppage programme of Bangladesh Food Inspectors Association and food department unit of Class Four Government Employees Association has been withdrawn following a fruitful dialogue between Food Minister M Shamsul Haq and leaders of the two associations held yesterday, reports BSS.

Govt to retire EPBDG

The government has decided to retire Director General of Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) Md Habibur Rahman in the public interest on completion of 25 years of his service under Section 9(2) of Government Servant (Retirement) Act, 1974, reports BSS.

SSC examinee held

SIRAJGANJ, Apr 27: An SSC examinee was arrested from Kazipur centre here for tearing the answer script of a fellow candidate in front of a Magistrate today (Tuesday), police said. Al-Amin, a candidate from Chalitadanga High School, was expelled and arrested after he allegedly tore the answer script of Abdul Bari who did not give him the chance to copy from his script. Bari, a poor and meritorious student of the same school, was later allowed 45 minutes extra time to complete his examination, reports UNB.