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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Biswas leaves for S Arabia today

President Abdur Rahman Biswas leaves Dhaka for Saudi Arabia today to perform Hajj. He will be accompanied by Begum Biswas and Chief Election Commissioner Justice Mohammad Abdur Rouf, reports UNB.

### DUTA condemns terrorism

The Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) at an emergency meeting Tuesday condemned the terrorism by a group of unruly youths on Sunday on the campus during the special convocation. Presided over by DUTA President Prof KM Mohsin, the meeting said some BNCC volunteers were injured by the unruly youths when they were returning from the convocation programme and the car of a teacher was damaged, reports UNB.

### Dates for repolling in 7 pauras centres

The Election Commission has announced fresh dates for re-polling in seven centres of Magura, Sarishabari, Munsihganj, Noakhali and Choumuhani pourasavas. According to an Election Commission press release here yesterday repolling in Magura and Sarishabari pourasavas will be held on June 10, Munsihganj and Noakhali pourasavas on June 12 and Choumuhani pourasavas on June 14, reports ISS.

## Progress of projects under 7 ministries unsatisfactory

# Tk 9750 cr ADP for FY '93-94

National Economic Council (NEC) yesterday approved Tk 9,750 crore Annual Development Programme (ADP) for the next fiscal year (1993-94) marking a 20 per cent increase over the current year's allocation, reports UNB.

The Council at a meeting at the NEC building, chaired by the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, also approved the revised ADP budget of Tk 8,121 crore with local component of Tk 3,753 crore.

The ADP budget for FY 1993-94 include local currency of Tk 4,970 crore while project aid for the fiscal 1993-94 is Tk 4,780 crore.

The Prime Minister in her summing up speech asked all concerned to ensure accountability of the administration, saying that their responsibility was not confined to raising and approving budgets, officials told newsmen after the meeting.

She asserted that the present government is a people's representative government and it is aimed at ensuring welfare of the commonman within the shortest possible time.

Planning Minister Zahir-

uddin Khan, Irrigation Minister M Majid-ul Haq, Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sreer, Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman, Forest and Environment Minister Abdullah Al-Noman, Energy Minister Prof Khandkar Mosharraf Hossain, Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Miah, State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan and State Minister for Sports and Youth Sadek Hossain also addressed the meeting.

A report on the activities of the current fiscal was presented at the meeting by Secretary of the Planning Ministry Dr Mohammad Harunur Rashid.

The salient features of the new ADP include allocation of Tk 1,727 crore for development of human resources, which is 18 per cent of the total ADP allocation.

Nearly 15 per cent of the ADP, amounting to Tk 1,481 crore, has been earmarked for different programmes of poverty alleviation and Tk 1,875 crore for the power and gas sector.

Of the total allocation of Tk 903 crore for education sec-

tor, Tk 509 crore will be spent for universal primary education and mass education programmes during FY 1993-94.

A total of Tk 2,188 crore, about 22 per cent of the total allocation, has been sanctioned for agriculture, rural development and water resources sectors.

The allocation for Health and Family Planning sector amounts to Tk 750 crore, nearly eight per cent of the ADP for 1993-94, while Tk 15 crore will be spent for government's canal digging programme.

According to the report presented by the Planning Secretary, Tk 3,756 crore constituting only 46 per cent of the revised ADP budget for 1992-93 was spent till March this year.

The 1992-93 ADP allocation has been slashed by Tk 529 crore in the revised budget. 89 new projects have been included in it.

Progress of ADP Projects under seven ministries including Education, Health, Forest and Environment, Irrigation and Energy were described as unsatisfactory.

Referring to the dismal

scenario regarding progress of different projects, Begum Zia said work on the programmes has to be started from the very beginning of the new fiscal without waiting for written instructions.

The Prime Minister expressed her optimism that 'the nation will not remain backward if we all work unitedly' and sought cooperation from all in addressing to the national problems.

Sounding a note of warning, Begum Zia said those who are at top of the society should not be carried away by the false feelings that they will be spared in national crisis. 'None can live in peace unless unemployment and other problems of the people are resolved.'

'People of this poor country are looking upon you', she said adding that the activities of the government and officials should comply with their commitments.

Referring to the foreign investment, the Prime Minister said the foreign entrepreneurs are reportedly facing different problems including 'red-tapism'.

## UNDP report endorses govt's decentralisation theme

By Staff Correspondent

Moves towards greater decentralisation of the socio-economic and political systems of the country were strongly endorsed in the 1993 UNDP annual Human Development Report on Bangladesh released Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh's ranking in the 1993 UNDP Human Development Index (HDI) remained relatively unchanged, at 147 out of a total of 173 listed countries, compared to the previous year when it held the 135th position out of 160 nations.

The HDI ranking, based on a country's prevailing state of life expectancy, educational at-

tainment and basic purchasing power of the people, placed Japan at the top of the list while Guinea was at the bottom and Barbados, at number 20 overall, was first among the developing countries.

'When we talk of human development, we mean placing people at the centre of the development process, ensuring broad popular participation and giving disadvantaged members of society the opportunity to enhance their capabilities and express some choice in matters which affect their lives,' said Michael Constable, UNDP resident representative, while releasing

the report at a crowded press conference at the UN Information Centre yesterday.

Assistant resident representative Amanullah Khan and programme officer Rini Reza briefed newsmen on the contents and highlights of the report.

'Since the process was initiated in 1990, this year's report was prepared by a group of experts under the guidance of Mahub ul-Haq, a former Finance and Planning Minister of Pakistan.

The 1993 Human Development in Bangladesh report took 'decentralisation

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## DC-10 towed to hangar

By Staff Correspondent

After four days of strenuous effort rescuers Tuesday succeeded in towing Biman's damaged DC-10-30 aircraft to the Zia International Airport hangar, officials said.

The authorities have started preliminary work for assessment of the extent of damage and necessary repairs.

The 125-ton aircraft that crashed on the runway from the runway at the southern end of the airport on May 18, was dragged by an army tank, officials said, adding that a major part of the 70-hour salvage operation was spent on dragging the huge aircraft on to the runway.

Biman, Civil Aviation and army engineers pulled the air-

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## Halishahar incident Another Naval officer fired

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, May 25: Another Naval officer has been reportedly dismissed for his involvement in the onward incidents of Bandertilla-Halishahar in this port city, a source said here today.

The dismissed officer is Lieutenant Moinul Mahubub who faced disciplinary action after nearly four and a half months of the incident, dubbed as the nation's 'worst tragedy' that took place on January 2 and 3 last.

The Halishahar incidents, according to official sources, left 11 persons killed and 200 injured while unofficial sources pegged the death figure at 18. The incidents occurred when an angry mob, protesting the alleged violation of two girls, clashed over two days with a section of Navy men at the Bandertilla and Halishahar area.

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Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia speaking at the formal inauguration of the four-day national programme in observance of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam's 94th birth anniversary at the Shilpakala Academy yesterday evening. — Star photo

## Nation pays homage to Nazrul Break cycle of poverty: PM

By Staff Correspondent

The nation Tuesday paid homage to the National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam on his 94th anniversary of birth.

The government as well as different socio-cultural organisations observed the day through placing of wreaths at the mazar of the poet, holding of midah mahfil, discussions and cultural functions.

Inaugurating a four-day national programme at the Shilpakala Academy, the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia called for breaking the cycle of poverty, as was dreamed by the

National Poet.

Presided over by the State Minister for Cultural Affairs Professor Jahanara Begum, the opening function of the Nazrul Jayanti was also addressed by special guest Mohammad Nasruddin and Cultural Secretary Islam Uddin Malik.

'Poet Nazrul Islam will remain as an eternal source of inspiration to us,' the Prime Minister said, 'the best way to pay respect to him is to take part in the on-going struggle

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## Talks on Rohingya repatriation Yangon reluctant to involve UNHCR

The Home Ministers of Bangladesh and Myanmar yesterday expressed the hope that repatriation of the Rohingya refugees would be accelerated in the coming days, reports BSS.

After their informal talks at the state guest house Meghna, officials said that the two sides expressed their keenness to complete the repatriation of the Myanmar refugees on a large scale in a spirit of understanding and appreciation of each other's difficulties.

The Myanmar Home Minister, Lt Gen Mya Thin, who arrived in Dhaka on Sunday, led an eleven-member delegation of his country at the talks while Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury led an eight-member Bangladesh team.

The two sides stressed on a

peaceful resolution of the problem, as they had done in the past.

But for the refugees there is no problem between the two close neighbours, Mya said.

The Myanmar Home Minister described the relations between the two close neighbours like those between 'two twins'.

The Bangladesh Home Minister suggested to his Myanmar counterpart that Yangon should involve the UNHCR with the repatriation process on its side. In the reply the Myanmar Home Minister said, 'We can solve the problem mutually and bilaterally.' Gen. Mya, however, said, 'We are inviting the UN representatives.'

Home Minister Matin Chowdhury said that the pres-

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## Malaysia waives deadline for Bangladeshi workers' entry

Star Report

The deadline for Bangladeshi workers to enter Malaysia has been withdrawn, paving the way for several thousand of them to take the next available flight to Kuala Lumpur.

Bangladeshi workers who have already obtained work permits and visas for employment in Malaysia can now go there with prior clearance from the Malaysian High Commission in Dhaka.

Earlier, the Malaysian Immigration Department had fixed May 24 as the last date for the entry of Bangladeshi workers recruited by Malaysian employers.

Malaysian High Commissioner Ahmad Fuzi bin-Abdul Razak told The Daily Star last night that the recruited workers can fly to Kuala Lumpur any time depending on the availability of flights.

The high commissioner said that the immigration authorities in Malaysia will allow workers to enter the country according to lists provided to them by the Dhaka mission. The lists will contain the names and passport numbers

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## Ustad Fazlul Haq passes away

By Staff Correspondent

Eminent classical singer of the sub-continent Ustad Fazlul Haq is no more.

Relatives in Dhaka said that the *thumri* singer died of liver and kidney ailments Tuesday at his village home Char Bhabasur, in Dewanganj thana of Jamalpur district. He was 62. He was also a diabetic.

He left behind his wife, one son and a daughter, and many pupils, admirers and connoisseurs to mourn his death.

Ustad Fazlul Haq had expressed his wish to be buried under his favourite 'Krishnachura' tree near his home, according to relatives.

The burial is scheduled to take place after Zohr prayers today.

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## Woman shot as BCL, Shibir trade gunfire in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, May 25: A housewife received bullet wound when rival groups of students exchanged heavy gunfire at Kattirhat in Hathazari, 35 km off the port city today, reports UNB.

Firoza Begum, wife of Abdur Rahman, received the bullet on her back while she was asleep at about 5 am. She was admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Chittagong police control room, confirming the incident, said Chhatra League and Shibir activists had traded gunfire for about two hours from 4 am today.

During the last nine years, at least 36 people were killed in armed clashes in the area between rival groups of students.

## Durgapur college closed sine die

NETRAKONA, May 25: Durgapur Sotong Degree College was closed sine die tonight following a clash between rival students group centering election of the students union held today, reports BSS.

Five students were injured in the clash.

## Warrants against imams of Delhi Jama Masjid

PATNA, May 25: The first class judicial magistrate of Patna R P Mishra today issued a non-bailable warrants of arrest against Syed Abdullah Bukhari and Syed Ahmed Bukhari of Jama Masjid, Delhi, reports PTI.

Both the imams have been made accused in a complaint case filed by Surendra Kumar advocate of the Patna High Court under different sections of the IPC.

They were not appearing in the court despite issuance of summons. The court fixed June 10 as the next date of hearing.

## Iranian jets raid inside Iraq

ASHRAF BASE (Iraq), May 25: Iranian warplanes struck deep into neighbouring Iraq to attack two Mujahideen Khaleq guerilla bases today, reports Reuters.

The air raids, the first for more than a year, were apparently in response to a recent wave of Mujahideen sabotage inside Iran.

But reporters, visiting a few hours later saw little sign of damage to this sprawling camp, packed with the troops, guns, tanks and armoured vehicles of the Iranian exile force.

Two fuel storage tanks had burned. There were several small bomb craters near the outskirts of the base in hot, dry farmland northeast of Baghdad, 90km from the Iranian border.

Two Phantoms approached the base from the south, a Mujahideen commander at Ashraf told reporters. They dropped 12 bombs. Our forces

were on alert and there was heavy anti-aircraft fire. A plane was hit but it may have escaped. Mujahideen spokesman Ali Safavi said there was even less damage to a second camp further east attacked soon after but the air raid caused Iraqi civilian casualties at the town of Jahula.

There was no immediate report from the Iraqi authorities and no mention of the raid in Iranian news media.

Safavi said there were no casualties among the National Liberation Army of Iran, the exile force which fought on Baghdad's side in the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war. Mujahideen officials were arranging to take reporters to the second camp as well.

At least a dozen Iranian F4 Phantoms and Sukhoi bombers took part in three raids between 5.50 am and 6.30 am. The deepest was on Ashraf, one of five main Mujahideen bases in Iraq. It is named after

movement leader Massoud Rajavi's first wife, who was killed by security forces in Tehran in 1982.

Anti-aircraft fire drove off the first Iranian wave of F4 Phantom fighter-bombers and the second wave, 10 Sukhoi bombers, turned back, Safavi said.

The second and third attacks were on a base in Jahula, 35 km from the border. The Mujahideen's full-scale war against the Islamic government in Tehran ended when a 1988 truce halted fighting between Iran and Iraq.

But it maintains large, well-equipped and well-funded forces under Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's protection. Its statements and publications speak hopefully of some future day when it will drive the 'criminal mullahs of the Khomeini regime' from Tehran.

The Mujahideen recently stepped up sabotage raids in

side Iran in the run-up to a presidential election set for June 11.

Iran blames the attacks on infiltrators from Iraq but the Mujahideen insisted they are mounted from bases within Iran.

The commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards corps ground forces, Brigadier General Mohammad Ali Jafari, recently warned Iraq to curb the guerillas' cross-border raids.

'Otherwise we reserve the right to chase them into Iraq,' he told the Tehran newspaper Jomhuri Eslami newspaper in an interview published on Sunday.

The most recent Mujahideen attacks in Iran were reported last Wednesday. The group said its guerillas blew up an ammunition dump in the southern oil refinery city of Abadan and killed dozens of revolutionary guards in attacks in the previous week.