The Midnight File

12 killed in Pak accident

ISLAMABAD, Mar 11: At least 12 people were killed and

five others seriously injured in a collision between a minibus and passenger bus in Punjab province today, the official Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) said. The accident oc-

curred near the town of Kharian some 130 kilometers (81

Former Bolivian president held

Meza, a fugitive who was sentenced in Bolivia last year to 30

years in jail for treason and armed insurrection, was arrested

by federal police Friday. The United States has also accused

Garcia Meza of being involved with drug trafficking. The news

of Garcia Meza's arrest was broadcast on the Bandeirantes and

Globo television networks, but police would not say what he

SAO PAULO, Mar 11: Former Bolivian president Luis Garcia

miles) south of here, the agency said, reports AFP.

was charged with, reports AP.

Arafat

From Page 1 Col 7

forces in proper crowd-control

and equip them accordingly,

or they should be withdrawn

and replaced with ordinary po-

lice already specifically trained

and equipped for crowd-con-

issued a veiled warning Friday

that revenge for the mosque

slaughter in the Israeli-occu-

pied West Bank by a Jewish

settler might come in New

The Islamic Resistance

Movement, or Hamas, said in a

leaflet distributed in the occu-

pied Gaza Strip that the

Lebanese-born gunman who at

tacked a vanload of orthodox

Jews in New York City on

March I was inspired by

condemnation on your heads

and our hand is backed by mil-

ready to carry out their execu-

tion role against Jews," said

28, was acting under Islamic

inspiration when he opened fire on a van carrying 15

Orthodox Jews on the city's

Brooklyn Bridge, killing one

Ravi Shankar to set

up music school

NEW DELHI, Mar 11: Sitar

maestro Ravi Shankar has been

promised cheap government

land for a music academy, after

he threatened to take his pro-

ject to the United States, re-

music recordings, instru-

ments, books, memorabilia and

will train students in Indian

classical music, said K

Dharmarajan, a government

"Given Ravi Shankar's

stature and the nature of his

project, the government de-

cided to reduce the price by a

sixth of the original offer," he

Shankar had at one time

He now hopes to work on

said he might build the school

in Encinitas, Calif, with the

his other dream project in

India: a national radio channel

broadcasting only classical and

Fish

From Page 1 Col 3

in the 1980s. However, from

then onwards, the production

slightly picked up and

reached over nine lakh tons in

due to the closed water fish

culture," Dr Nuruzzaman said,

"At the present rate of cons-

umption, the country would

need 15 lakh tons of fish a year

by the end of this century but

the target is not likely to be

achieved because of the dec-

"Overfishing and

line in open water production.

indiscriminate fishing of the

egg carrying and undersized

fishes is also a major threat to

the fish stack." Dr Rahman

said. "Some fish species have

waned to an alarming level."

Out of about 260 species in the

country, almost 50 per cent

have declined, experts claim.

Among the most depleted

species are Puti, Kajari, Pabda.

Fali, Mahashol and Taki. The

production of Ruhi fish is also

declining, "In the 1960s, 30 to

32 per cent of the catch

composition used to contain

Ruhi fish. But now it has come

down to three to five per

of embankments along the

rivers has affected the pro-

duction of Ruhi fish as their

breeding grounds have been

the hilsa fish is not yet an

endangered species its

number has also dropped in

the upper stream. The hilsas

used to swim upstream and lay

eggs four times a year. Now

they habitate mostly in the

downstream region of the

a migration of the fishermen

from the upper areas like

Chandpur, Noakhali, Faridpur

to coastal areas like Patuakhali.

Bhola, and Dublarchar," Dr

would raise the fish produc-

1.1 million open water fisher

Nuruzzaman added.

livelihood

"As a result, there had been

On the otherhand, although

Indiscriminate construction

cent." Dr Rahman said.

"This increase was mainly

housing official, Friday.

said in an interview.

help of his fans.

folk music

The school will stock his

and wounding three others.

It claimed that Rashid Baz.

lions of Muslim hands that are

We will retain the cry of

Islamic teachings

the leaflet

ports AP.

AP adds: Islamic militants

# DOWN TO EARTH

# A Down-To-Earth Issue

The present piece is literally on a down-to-earth issue: city's graveyards. In the city there are at present five grave vards under the management of the Dhaka City Corporation. They are (1) New Azimpur graveyard (2) Old Azimpur graveyard (3) Jurain graveyard (4) Banani gravevard and (5) Shaheed Buddhijibi graveyard at Mirpur. There is also a housing department graveyard at Mohammadpur under the management of the Mosque Committee which is at present closed except for rare cases of

In each of these graveyards, there is provision for reservation of space for burial on payment of cost for each plot of land. This cost varies in each graveyard for current burial and for reservation of plot for future burial. Such cost is not uniform for all the graveyards.

The new Azimpur graveyard is exclusively reserved for burial in purchased plots. Since this graveyard is reportedly totally filled up to its capacity, there is no more sale of reserved plots in this gravevard except in some excep tional cases where burial is allowed in space available between graves. The same is also the case, as reported, in the old Azimpur graveyard. However, a separate general area is earmarked here for burial free of cost. In this gen eral area, graves are dug up one year after burial to make room for burials. Such practice is reportedly followed also in the general area of other graveyards.

In the Jurain graveyard, apart from the general area, it is learnt that about 1000 plots are now available in the re-

From Page 1 Col 5

African Embassy in Mmabatho,

the homeland's capital. Friday

after a day of shooting, rioting

and looting that followed the

apparent collapse of the

independent homeland's ruler.

A hospital worker said more

than 80 people were admitted

Botha said South Africa's army

were there to protect embassy

staff, but he indicated they

were prepared to battle right-

wing forces hoping to return

Bophuthatswana President

Lucas Mangope to power. The

troops will "maintain law and

order and to protect South

African citizens and their

interests should the situation

African National Congress is a

nerce opponent of Mangope,

said it was not enough. At a

campaign rally in Pretoria, he

called on the government and

the Transitional Executive

Council — a multiracial body

that works alongside the go-

vernment — to take control of

Friday to decide on possible

action. It would need agree-

ment from President F W de

Klerk for any further military

intervention. De Klerk has

made clear he hopes to

negotiate with Mangope rather

than risk a bloody clash that

could easily spread into South

Africa and turn into a free-for-

all among the country's coun-

Friday in other parts of Bophu-

thatswana, which comprises

seven disjointed land masses

in the north and east of South

Armed attack: 4

held in Sylhet

From Our Correspondent

armedmen were rounded up at

about 9 pm today from Sheikh

reportedly hired a group of

seven to eight armed with

weapons who stormed the

house of one of his neighbours

Laimia and Faruk. They opened

several rounds of blank fire

and exploded a number of

crackers to create panie in the

areas caught three of the at-

tackers while the others man-

aged to escape. Two revolvers

and five rounds of ammunition

were recovered from their

possession. They were later

Advocate Soyfur Rahman at

about 11 pm. The other ar-

rested are - Zulfikar Alam

(Luku), Maruf Ahmed (Muhit)

and Mokarram Hossain Imon

alias Shahin.

Kotwali police arrested

handed over to the police.

People from the adjoining

Ghat area of Sylhet town.

SYLHET, Mar 11: A group of

Soyfur Rahman Advocate

New unrest was reported

tless political factions.

The TEC was to meet later

But Nelson Mandela, whose

deteriorate.'

Bophuthatswana.

Foreign Affairs Minister Pik

with injuries overnight.

50 killed in S Africa

By A S M Nurunnabi served area for current and advance booking of plots. The

price of a plot for current burial is Tk 25,000/- and Tk 35,000/- for advance reservation of each plot.

In the Banani graveyard, the price of each plot for current burial is Tk 60,000/- and Tk 1.20.000/- for advance reservation. Space in the reserved area is still available for 300 to 400 burials, as learnt from Corporation sources.

In the Shaheed Buddhijibi gravevard at Mirpur, it is learnt that a large area is available in the reserved area for about 10,000 burials. The price of each plot is the same as for Jurain gravevard, i.e. 25,000/- for current burial and Tk 35.000/- for advance reservation. Here there is a separate bloc for burial of distinguished freedom fighters. The total number of such plots in this block is 48 and no price is charged for such

It is learnt that the Dhaka City Corporation has at present no plan for opening up any new graveyard for the city population.

It is felt that burying the dead in this city has assumed the dimension of a nightmare for the less privileged. This is due to the rising prices of burial materials. The cost of a shroud is not less than Tk 750/-, the bamboo needed for the grave is about Tk 300 and although pits in the general area of a graveyard are available free, the grave diggers charge a fee according to their estimate of the position of the relatives of the dead. There is a further cost of Tk 300/- to be paid at the gate. Thus all told a burial even for those who do not buy a plot or can-

Africa. Sun International, whi-

ch operates nine hotels in

Bophuthatswana, closed there

Friday because of protests

about 150 kilometres east of

Mmabatho said riots and

looting broke out overnight

and that five people suffered

were strewn with the debris of

Thursday's rioting. The bloody

body of a young man, his face

beaten, lay in a graveyard

across the road from a looted

shopping mall littered with

In a sign of the homeland

government's opposition to de

Klerk's reform, there were no

campaign signs for the April

26-28 election that is expec-

ted to put the ANC in power.

Mangope has banned campa-

igning in his nominally inde-

pendent territory and vows to

resist plans to return it to

South African rule after the

mained unknown, but it app-

eared he had fled the capital.

Bus terminals

From Page 1 Col 4

'I came to see off my

brother, and some bus helpers

taking me to be a passenger

pushed me into a bus. I said I

will not go anywhere but they

would not listen,' one person

said at the Gabtoli bus terminal

luggage was stolen while the

helpers and conductors were

trying to force him inside their

ace every year, the city cor-

poration, road transport ow-

ners and labourers and the

police had previously taken a

decision to prevent the har-

assment of passengers. But

there was none to stop the

ticketing system is absent, the

cost of bus fair has reportedly

our income,' one bus driver at

Gabtoli said. We get some

extra money from our trips

from Dhaka. But our buses will

return to Dhaka practically

In some bus routes where

'Well, we have to balance

incidents till yesterday.

doubled or tripled.

As such incidents take pl-

A passenger said that his

minister, Roelf Meyer.

officials, said Botha.

capital everyday.

vehicles

yesterday.

Mangope's whereabouts re-

glass and emptied of goods.

The streets of Mmabatho

gunshot wounds.

Residents in three towns

not afford to do so, would involve the relatives in costs running to Tk 2000/ or over. In this way the post mortem problem has become as great for the less privileged as the one of living.

We need hardly bother about the privileged ones, since they or their relatives can afford to spend a large amount of money for buying plots for burial

What observers feel concerned about is the problem faced by the less privileged. To relieve them somewhat, it is strongly felt that the concerned authority can write off the registration fee charged at the gates of graveyards and the price asked for a shroud and the bamboo frame should be subject to strict control. It is apprehended in some quarters that if the trend of rise in prices continues the poor would all be reduced to going around to raise donations to have a relative buried.

Japan, a rich country but with acute land scarcity, reportedly deals in some cases with the problem of internment in its characteristic way: small cubicles on shelves are built in multi-storied complexes which are closed as corpses are interred therein.

Since every one sooner or later will need to be buried somewhere, it is as urgent a problem as having schools for education or stadiums for sports; in most respects an even more urgent problem. Since even the dead cannot escape the effects of inflation, it is perhaps not too much to hope that the state should interfere in keeping the prices of a grave and burial materials at a reasonable level.

## Four hijackers arrested in city

By Staff Correspondent A team of Detective Branch (DB) police arrested four hijackers from Kakrail in the city and recovered a pipegun from them yesterday evening.

The hijackers riding an auto-rickshaw were prowling near the Kakrail Church crossing at about 7:30 pm.

When the DB men challenged them, they hurled a cocktail.

The DB men fired a bullet which hit one of the muggers, Sentu Mia in his left thigh. He was admitted to the police hospital.

auto rickshaw.

# link disrupted

Dhaka derailed near the Kushiara Bridge at about 6:30 am. However, no casualties have been reported. Later, the rail line was cleared by a relief

passengers go out from the Bus conductors and helpers are reportedly forcibly herding the passengers in to the motor

> Former city mayor and city BNP convenor Mir Nasiruddin led the procession which was brought out from the local BNP office and ended in front of the

Addressing the protesters, Mir Nasiruddin demanded arrest of the killers of Selim

within 48 hours. Two persons — Selim and Kazi Mohammad Yusuf, the later an activist of Islami Chhatra Shibir, were gunned

The killings had led to wide-spread shootouts and violence between the rival groups throughout the day which conunued till late night Thursday.

Police were patrolling the city thoroughfares today to avert further violence. Tension prevailed in the Chandanpura area where the killings took place. Five people were taken into police custody on Thursday in connection with the killings.

Jamaat-e-Islami also held a

The party will submit memoranda to the civil and police administrations tomorrow demanding trial of the killers.



- Star photo

#### Jumatul Wida From Page 1 Col 5

the musallis who were massacred in Hebron recently by settler Jews.

A large procession was brought out from the Baitul Mukarram Mosque and other places including Chittagong in support of retaking control of the Al-Quds. The processionists paraded

different roads of the city chanting various slogans demanding an end to Zionists occupation of Palestine and other Arab lands. They also drew the attention of international community for the safety and security of lives of the Arabs in the occupied lands.

#### Five Sarbaharamen held in Madaripur

MADARIPUR, Mar 11: Police arrested five members of outlawed Purba Banglar Sarbahara Party and rescued a man they had kidnapped here early today, reports UNB.

Local people gheraoed the miscreants who took shelter at the Shilchhara Family Planning Centre in Sadar thana last night and called in police.

A squad comprising cops of Sadar, Rajoir and Shibchar thanas\_led by Police Super Shafiqul Islam raided the centre and held the outlaws.

The miscreants fired several rounds of gunshots and blasted crackers before they were rounded up. They were identified as Rafiqul Islam Mafiz, 27, Habi, 25, Nannu alias Pannu, 23, Sirajul Islam, 25, and Babu alias Bhulu, 25. Police said the group abducted one Mongrej Khan, 85, from Char Shemareil in Shibchar thana of the district on March 6 and demanded Tk two lakh ransom from his relatives.

The outlaws declined to free Mongrej Khan although his relatives had paid them Tk 25,000.

#### Lebanon introduces death penalty

BEIRUT, Mar 11: The Lebanese parliament approved the introduction of capital punishment for political murderers in a late-night vote on Thursday, reports Reuter.

ports AP.

attack Thursday.

sieged enclave.

Serb delaying tactics.

# Slovak PM removed

BRATISLAVA, Mar 11: Slo vakia's Parliament today removed controversial Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar from office by passing a vote of no confidence in him, reports

A total of 78 deputies voted for the resignation of Meciar and his government, while members of the ruling coalition refused to cast their votes in his favour.

After the vote, boycotted by Meciar's movement for a democratic Slovakia (HZDS) and its allies the Slovak National Party (SNS), Parliament was suspended on a motion put by the opposition party of

### Bush fire in Ctg extinguished

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Mar 11: A big bush fire that blazed over a vast tract of land around a military ammunition depot and a naval camp at Madambibir Hat under Sitakundu

after two days, Fire Service sources here said. The fire broke out Wednes-

The blaze however, caused no major damage either to the depot or any other property,

Some local men reportedly set the fire to weed out the jungles for the purpose of cultivation.

From Page 1 Col 8

Karachi by an Emirate flight on Wednesday. His passport has been impounded.

of smuggling currency through ZIA foiled by the customs this

month.

the case.

### the democratic left (SDL), the former communists It wil

meet again Wednesday to discuss the date and arran gements for general elections. During the no confidence

debate Meciar demanded the resignation of a critical President Michal Kovac, say ing he "does not have the right, according to the consti tution, to control the govern ment or initiate its removal."

Meciar's two-hour speech was devoted largely to his differences with the head of state, who had sharply criticised Meciar Wednesday, ac cusing him of "stirring up hatred," practising intimidation and being incapable of dia-

### PM recalls Jadu Mia's contribution

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has said that late Moshiur Rahman Jadu Mia was an uncompromising leader and courageous and brave soldier of democracy, reports BSS.

In a message last night on the 15th death anniversary of Jadu Mia, the Prime Minister said the leader dedicated his whole life for the flourishment of democracy in the country.

Begum Zia also recalled the outstanding contributions in the democratic process of the country.

### Regional telecom

From Page 1 Col 7 collected essential data and exchanged views with local experts to fix the terms of reference.

The survey report recom-

mended that UNIDO should appoint one expert each in Dhaka, Kathmandu and New Delhi besides setting up an investment development service in the Indian capital.

According to the survey conducted by Telecommunications Limited, India had 0.68 main telephone lines for every 100 people in 1991 Bangladesh had 0.21 and Nepal 0.33.

Besides, 22.89,769 people in India, 14,08,882 in Bangladesh and 3,546 in Nepal were in the waiting lists to get tele phone connections in 1991.

But officials said the NATO aircraft were not asked to use any air power as the guns fell silent once they appeared. UN spokesman Joe Sills

told a news conference that Serb shells southeast of Bihac were falling near an observation post manned by French soldiers from the UN protection force.

Meanwhile the US and Russian special envoys to the former Yugoslavia held talks in London Friday aimed at resolving the conflict in Bosnia.

Charles Redman and his Russian counterpart. Vitaly Churkin, were meeting at the US Embassy, according to a Russian Embassy spokesman.

to meet on Yugoslavia."

### Hasina returns home

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League president Sheikh Hasina returned home last night after a week-long visit to India, reports UNB

During the visit, Hasina of-

fered fateha at the mazars of in Bangalore.

The opposition leader. for Aimir on March 4.

yor Mohammad Hanif, Obaidul Qader, K S Nabi, Abul Hasan Chowdhury, MP, and Rahmat Ali. MP, received her at the

### Shop gutted in Barisal

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Mar 11: Property

terday evening. Everything inside the shop

was reduced to ashes. Taka one lakh in cash was also burnt, owner of the shop said. Electric short circuit trig-

gered off the fire which engulfed the entire shop within a very short time. One employee was also injured in the fire.

## with timber merchants: 15 hurt

SIRAJGANJ, Mar 11: At least 15 people were injured three of them seriously, when they were beaten up by a grou of armed extortionists at the ferry ghat here today (Friday)

reports UNB. Police and witnesses said a group of toll collectors demanded money from some timber merchants of Ruppur in

Iswardi thana of Pabna district. merchants refused, the extorcash and other belongings.

25. Jalaluddin, 26, and Rajab Ali were admitted to a local

the local police in this connection.

## From Page 1 Col 7

corded a reception in front of the city corporation by Nagorik Committee (citizens commit-

unit of the Awami League.

fice of the mayor after a mus

#### US : Kashmir From Page 1 Col 4

European countries had made it clear they would abstain if the resolution came to a vote.

Kursheed said: "Pakistan's unconditional withdrawal of its resolution on Kashmir showed that even OIC members did not support their own resolu-

porters after his overnight re-

Kursheed said India was ready for a dialogue with Pakistan on Kashmir, the spark for two of their three

wars since 1947.

"Political stability in Pakistan would not be in the interest of India, or continuing

Pakistan have criticised Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto for the withdrawal of the resolution. calling it a 'diplomatic flasco

Experts say, though the fish last year's session of the culture on a massive soale **Human Rights Commission and** at the 48th session of the UN tion, this would not help the General Assembly in 1993. It did not come to a vote on eimen who would lose their ther occasion.

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## **Editor: Mahfuz Anam**

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The other arrested are Shajahan Mia, Bahit and Hasnain. Police also seized the

Sylhet-Akhaura rail From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Mar 11: Sylhet-Akhaura rail communications were disrupted for four hours as an engine of a inter-city train derailed this morning. The Jayantia Express which left Sylhet Railway Station for

leaving chaos in his wake. "It appears there is practically no government there," said South Africa's constitutional affairs South Africa's ambassador in Mmabatho tried "for hours' overnight to find Mangope or any high-ranking government

### Ctg BNP, Jamaat protest killings

CHITTAGONG, Mar 11: The BNP and its front organisations — Juba Dal and Chhatra Dal brought out a protest procession in the city today against Thursday's killing of Juba Dal leader Aslam Parvez Selim, re-

ports UNB. Dost Mohammad building.

down in two separate incidents in the city early Thurs-

protest meeting at Andarkilla this afternoon after Jumma prayers and demanded arrest of those responsible for the killing of Shibir activist Yusuf.

completely intransigent," said Peter Kessler, a UN relief agency spokesman in Sarajevo. He said the Serbs were violating an agreement signed by all warring parties permitting

Russian-made short-range

Luna missiles were used in the

confirmation of the report,

which also said 32 people

were wounded. Bosnian Serbs

encircling Maglaj have pre-

vented UN monitors and con-

vovs from reaching the be-

Thursday just a few kilometres

from the city after four days of

"The Bosnian Serbs are

A UN convoy turned, back

There was no independent

thana, 20 miles off the city, was exunguished this evening day evening.

Fire Service said.

# Pak citizen

trate's Court, Dhaka, today (Saturday) Sayeed came to Dhaka from

It was the second attempt

## Another Singapore-bound passenger, Mohammad Nazmul

Haque, was held at ZIA with foreign currency equivalent to 1.5 crore last Wednesday. He was sent to the Dhaka Central Jail. The Detective Branch (DB) of police is investigating

#### Serb missiles kill 11 in Maglaj free movement of aid through-SARAJEVO, Mar 11: Boswho were menacing a UN obnian Serbs fired a missile

out Bosnia "We hope the international barrage into the desperate community will hold them to Muslim enclave of Maglaj. their commitments ... because killing 11 people and flattening eight apartment buildings, no one else will, and people simply won't get fed," said Bosnian radio said Friday, re-Kessler. The radio reported that

The UN commander in \ Bosnia, Lt Gen Sir Michael Rose, has pledged to take a tougher line with combatants who interfere with aid convoys. But UN mission chief Yassushi Akashi's spokesman, Michael Williams, said there were no plans to use force in the Maglaj

rounded by Serb and Croat forces for most of the past nine months. UN officials who travelled with the last convoy to reach the city in October described it as a "shattered town" of "subterranean people" forced to cower in shelters.

The town has been sur-

Reuter adds: NATO warplanes were called in near Bihac in northwest Bosnia Thursday to buzz Serb gunners servation post of French soldiers, the United Nations said

President Clinton's envoy

The US Embassy issued a one-line statement saying: "Mr Churkin and Mr Redman took advantage of their simultaneous presence in London today

Khawja Mainuddin Chisty (RA) at Ajmir Sharif, Nizamuddin Awlia in Delhi and Tipu Sultan in Mysore in India. She also met her daughter, Saima Putul,

companied by her younger sis-Party presidium member Abdul Mannan, Dhaka city Ma-

worth about Taka four lakh was gutted in a devastating fire that broke out in an oil shop at steamer ghat in the town yes-

# Extortionists clash

while they were returning from Mymensingh. When the tionists hit them with iron rods and sticks, and looted

Seriously injured Alauddin

A case has been filed with

# Ctg mayor

The reception held after the Jumma prayers was presided over by M A Mannan, president of Chittagong city Mohiuddin entered the

The United States and most

"Pakistan should gracefully accept defeat," he told re-

turn from Geneva

He said, he hoped the diplomatic reversal in Geneva would not lead to political instability.

bilateral dialogue," he said. Opposition parties in

Pakistan moved a simu resolution on Kashmir during