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NEWS BRIEFS

**APSU calls strike
 at CU**

CHITTAGONG, Mar 31: The
 All-Party Students' Unity
 (APSU) has called strike at the
 Chittagong University on
 Saturday demanding cancella-
 tion of the BBA admission test
 held on February 10. Univer-
 sity sources said Bangla and
 English question papers of the
 test had been leaked out
 before the examinations. The
 authorities constituted a 4-
 member committee with four
 deans of the University to en-
 quire into the matter after the
 leak. The committee found the
 question papers partially
 leaked out, reports UNB.

Lightning kills 4

CHITTAGONG, Mar 31: Four
 women were killed in light-
 ning in Banakhali thana of the
 district Wednesday. Police said
 Guranibala Dey, 25, and
 Monima Dey, 19 of Jaldigam
 died instantly as a thunderbolt
 struck them while moving
 amidst thundershower at noon.
 Rubeya Khatun, 18, of
 Gunadamar and Ayesha 10, of
 Madhukhali villages died when
 lightning flashed on them in
 the afternoon, reports UNB.

4 held with arms

CHITTAGONG, Mar 31: Police
 arrested four youths and
 recovered a rifle alongwith
 eight bullets after an en-
 counter at a village in
 Fatikchhari thana of the dis-
 trict Wednesday night. Acting
 on a tip, Rajuan police raided
 the house of Farooq Ahmed at
 Dharmapur at midnight.
 Sensing police presence the
 miscreants opened fire. Police
 replied with seven shots.
 Police said four of the gang
 surrendered after half an hour
 of gunfight. Two others
 sneaked out, reports UNB.

**4-member team
 to visit Russia**

A two-member Bangladesh
 team will visit Russia next
 week aiming at increasing co-
 operation between the two
 countries particularly in the
 field of culture. The delegation
 will be led by State Minister
 for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahan-
 Ara Begum, reports UNB.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had an audience with Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko of Japan at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo yesterday. — PID photo

Dhaka-Tokyo joint statement

**Khaleda's visit to strengthen
 ties, increase cooperation**

TOKYO, Mar 31: Bangladesh
 and Japan have underscored
 increased cooperation between
 the two countries in various
 fields as well as for deepening
 mutual understanding and
 strengthening friendly rela-
 tions, reports BSS.

The Japan-Bangladesh joint
 press statement, issued mark-
 ing the official visit of Prime
 Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to
 Japan from March 28 to April,
 at the invitation of the gov-
 ernment of Japan, said the
 prime ministers of the two
 countries reviewed bilateral
 trade and investment rela-
 tions.

It said, on March 29 Prime
 Minister Begum Khaleda Zia
 held an official meeting with
 the Prime Minister of Japan
 Morihiro Hosokawa and they

exchanged their views on bi-
 lateral, regional and global is-
 sues of common interest in a
 friendly and cordial atmo-
 sphere.

The two prime ministers
 confirmed the most cordial
 relations existing between
 Japan and Bangladesh.

The statement said that the
 visit to Japan by Prime
 Minister Begum Khaleda Zia
 was most useful for strength-
 ening friendly relations, deep-
 ening mutual understanding
 and increasing cooperation in
 a variety of fields between the
 two countries.

The joint statement said
 that during her stay in Japan,
 Prime Minister Begum Khaleda
 Zia was received in audience
 by their majesties the
 Emperor and Empress on

March 31. His Majesty the
 Emperor also hosted a court
 luncheon in honour of Prime
 Minister Begum Zia.

It said that present at the
 talks between the two prime
 ministers on March 29 were
 Deputy Prime Minister and
 Minister for Foreign Affairs
 Tsutomu Hata, Chief Cabinet
 Secretary Masayoshi
 Takemura, and other senior
 officials from the Japanese
 side, and Minister for Foreign
 Affairs A S M Mostafizur
 Rahman, Minister for Finance
 M Saifur Rahman, Special
 Envoy of the Prime Minister, M
 Morshed Khan and other se-
 nior officials from the
 Bangladesh side.

Prime Minister Hosokawa
 paid tribute to the efforts of
 See Page 12 Col 4

Japanese boat purchase case

**Three of Ershad's ministers
 may depose against him**

Three former ministers under
 ex-President Hussain Muham-
 mada Ershad are likely to
 make depositions against their
 former boss in a corruption
 case, court proceedings in-
 dicated yesterday, reports
 BSS.

Prof MA Matin, Air Vice
 Marshal (Retd) AK Khandakar
 and Serajul Hossain Khan, who
 served General Ershad as
 Deputy Prime Minister,
 Planning Minister and Relief
 Minister respectively, have
 been named as witnesses in
 the chargesheet against the
 country's former ruler in the
 Japanese boat purchase case.

According to the prosecu-
 tion all three ministers, in
 their statements before the in-
 vestigating officer of the case
 — the Special Case No 19 of
 1993 — stated that by his ac-
 tion, Ershad had influenced
 the procurement of fibre-glass
 relief boats from the Marubeni
 Corporation, a Japanese trad-
 ing firm, causing financial loss
 to the nation.

Ershad and K Inoyama, a
 Japanese national representing
 the Marubeni Corporation,
 were earlier charged with mis-
 appropriating government
 funds to the tune of Taka 33
 crore through the purchase of
 over two hundred boats, ignor-
 ing the lowest bidder in the
 tender. Despite several at-
 tempts by the prosecution,

Inoyama has remained un-
 traced and the trial began in
 his absence.

The High Court, upon a de-
 fence appeal, asked the
 Special Judge's court to draw
 up a fresh charge since the
 earlier one was done without

**5 JU JCD men
 expelled**

By JU Correspondent

Five Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal
 (JCD) faction leaders of the
 Jahangirnagar University unit
 were ousted from the party
 Wednesday for their alleged
 anti-party activities.

A press release, issued by
 the JU unit president Masud
 Hasan Talukder and general
 secretary Aminul Haq Alam,
 blamed five of their former
 colleagues for violating party
 discipline.

The expelled leaders are:
 Saiful Islam, Shafiqul Islam
 Jiban, Arshed Ali, Walid and
 Rafiq.

Campus sources said these
 JCD leaders led the local fac-
 tion — from Savar and adjoining
 areas — during last February's
 violence that resulted in the
 university's closure.

Savar police have arrested
 Shafiqul Islam Jiban and
 Arshed Ali on criminal
 charges.

any legal representation from
 Ershad.

As the court took up the
 case yesterday for charge fram-
 ing, defence lawyers raised ob-
 jections saying they were not
 allowed to see many docu-
 ments relevant to the case.

Earlier, at the outset of the
 proceedings yesterday, Er-
 shad's defence lawyer Khan-
 daker Mahub Hossain thank-
 ed the presiding judge,
 Special Divisional Judge
 Anwaruddin Sikder for allowing
 him to consult his client.

Although the Public
 Prosecutor (PP) objected to
 the defence plea of showing
 the papers and documents at
 this stage of the case before
 charge framing, the judge con-
 sented to the demand and
 asked the prosecution to assist
 the other side. Accordingly,
 the necessary papers and docu-
 ments were shown to
 Ershad's defence lawyers.

After a recess of nearly an
 hour to enable the defence to
 go through the papers, the
 court took up the matter of
 charge framing, but could not
 do so because the two sides
 debated for long on the validity
 and relevance of the docu-
 ments relating to the case. The
 court allowed both the sides to
 place their arguments and
 later fixed April 11 as the next
 date of hearing.

Rauzan 210 MW power plant

**PDB enrgs oppose new deal
 with Chinese firm**

By Sharier Khan

The Power Development
 Board (PDB) may sign an
 agreement with a Chinese firm
 within a month for the second
 phase work of the Chittagong
 210-MW power plant at Rauzan
 despite the fact that the firm's
 first phase work was found
 unsatisfactory, the PDB sources
 said.

Since its commissioning in
 April last year, the plant
 tripped innumerable times and
 as many as 467 different types
 of problems were reportedly
 detected in it.

But a vested quarter is re-
 portedly trying to reach an
 agreement with the China
 National Machinery and

Equipment Import and Export
 (CMEC) for the second phase
 work although the engineers
 of the PDB are opposed to the
 idea, said the sources.

In May last year, the
 Executive Committee of the
 National Economic Council
 (ECNEC) approved a project
 profile of Tk 600 crore for the
 second phase work of the
 plant with Chinese assistance.

Sources in the PDB told
 The Daily Star that the Chinese
 are trying to increase the pro-
 ject cost but Bangladesh may
 not agree to their proposal.

The Rauzan plant had a
 faulty start. The plant was
 handed over to the PDB be-

hind schedule in April last year
 and it kept on tripping regu-
 larly since then.

The CMEC experts are sup-
 posed to observe the plant for
 12 months after the beginning
 of its operation in order to
 detect and repair all faults.

The PDB has five joint
 working groups comprising
 Chinese and PDB engineers to
 monitor the performance of
 the first phase work.

The authorities, during sev-
 eral meetings with the repre-
 sentatives of CMEC, had noted
 that the CMEC was not coop-
 erating with the five working
 groups.

See Page 12 Col 4

**Unite to oust this
 govt: Hasina**

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, Mar 31: Awami
 League chief Sheikh Hasina
 today called for launching a
 united agitation to remove
 the government.

"The BNP has lost its man-
 date to run the country be-
 cause of vote dacoity, reign of
 terror and rampant corrup-
 tion," she said.

Sheikh Hasina was address-
 ing a reception accorded her
 this evening at the Gopalganj
 Chowrangi Corner jointly by
 the local district Awami
 League, the Jubo League and
 the Chhatra League.

Gopalganj district Awami
 League president Muhammad
 Ali Khan Abu Miah presided.
 Others who spoke on the oc-
 casion were Kazi Abdur Rashid
 MP, M Abdullah, general se-
 cretary of the district AL,
 Salahuddin Panna and S M

See Page 12 Col 6

**Coal directorate
 abolished**

Star Report

The Directorate of Coal under
 the Ministry of Commerce
 stands abolished from today. A
 10-member cell formed by the
 government will complete the
 winding up process.

According to official
 sources, A M Shaheedullah,
 Trade Consultant to the
 Ministry of Commerce, has
 been appointed head of the
 Abolition Cell which will also
 monitor the auction of the
 coal now lying at the govern-
 ment depots.

The government has already
 appointed auctioneers who
 were authorised to clear the
 stock through open auction by
 June this year.

Sources said that the
 Directorate could arrange sale
 of more coal through its last
 tender, floated recently. About
 one lakh tonnes of coal will
 remain unsold at 11 depots,
 which will be looked after by
 the district administrations.

**Tk 10,500 crore ADP
 target for '94-'95**

By S Y Bakht

The Annual Development
 Programme (ADP) outlay for
 1994-95 is projected at Tk
 10,500 crore, up 23 per cent
 from last year, and the growth
 rate is targeted at 5.7 per cent
 as against the expected growth
 rate of 4.5 per cent during the
 current fiscal.

Outlining the country's
 overall economic projections,
 the government's memoran-
 dum for the Bangladesh Aid
 Group meeting, scheduled for
 April 18-20 in Paris, seeks an
 aid commitment of 2,000 mil-
 lion US dollars and a dis-
 bursement level of 1,883 mil-
 lion dollars for the next finan-
 cial year. The memorandum
 was approved by the Cabinet
 last week.

The government's pro-
 jected aid disbursement level
 for next year is also similar to
 the 1,800 million dollars rec-
 ommended in the Country
 Economic Memorandum
 (CEM) prepared jointly by the
 World Bank and the
 International Monetary Fund
 (IMF), which will also be
 placed before the Paris meet.

The government memo
 notes the 'successes' in im-
 plementing the economic re-
 form measures over the last
 three years, despite 'severe'
 bottlenecks and observes that
 the success of the reform in-
 tiatives should be considered
 in the socio-economic context
 of Bangladesh.

See Page 12 Col 1

**40 hurt as schoolboys,
 cops clash in Mirpur**

By Staff Correspondent

Pitched battles between
 schoolboys backed by local
 people and riot police yester-
 day morning in Mirpur left at
 least 40 people injured.

During the three-hour bat-
 tle over possession of a land,
 police lobbed over thirty tear-
 gas shells, fired at least ten
 rounds of bullets and baton-
 charged indiscriminately to
 disperse the mob.

The injured persons admit-
 ted to the Dhaka Medical
 College Hospital are: Sohel
 (13), Roni (5), Rinku (19),
 Mamun (10), Mohsin (17),
 Monir (20), Rafiq (22), Mamun
 (25), Nazrul (25), Afroz (25),
 Mujib (30), Humayun (35) and
 Billal (50).

Eight injured policemen
 were admitted to the Rajar-
 bagh Police Lines hospital.
 They are: Subedar Abdul Man-
 nuan, Havildar Riaz, Constables
 Moiz, Rashid, Tarek, Shamsu,

Hafiz and Manju.

The Mirpur thana police ar-
 rested 24 persons during the
 clashes.

The clashes started after
 the students of the Mirpur
 Government Boys High School
 demolished a wall of a pro-
 posed multi-purpose market
 near the school early yester-
 day.

The schoolboys and local
 people have been resisting the
 construction of the market,
 owned by the Muktabangla
 Cooperative Society, alleging
 the society had illegally occu-
 pied the land which reportedly
 belonged to the school.

But according to the police,
 the cooperative society bought
 the land some years ago from
 the government and had just
 raised the walls and a portion
 of the foundation pillars for the
 market.

See Page 12 Col 6

**Jamaat meetings
 postponed:
 Azam leaves
 Satkhira**

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Mar 31: In the
 face of stiff resistance, the
 Jamaat Ameer Golan Azam left
 Satkhira town early this morn-
 ing.

Two scheduled meetings of
 the front organisations of the
 Jamaat-e-Islam were post-
 poned due to the opposition of
 the major political parties.

In the afternoon, the All-
 Party Alliance held a meeting
 at the local municipal auditor-
 ium to thank the people of
 Satkhira for unitedly resisting
 Golan Azam and his men.

The meeting slated the at-
 tack on the Muktijoddha
 Sangsad, the tearing down of

See Page 12 Col 8

**New SC Bar
 executives**

M Hafizullah and Moham-
 mada Ozair Farooq were
 elected president and secre-
 tary respectively of the
 Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar
 Association for the year 1994-
 95 in the elections held on
 March 29 and 30, reports BSS.

A K M Nuran Nabi and Shah
 Mohammad Khasruzzaman
 were elected vice-presidents
 while Miftah Uddin Chowdhury
 was elected treasurer. The
 other office-bearers are Md
 Moutazzuddin Fakir and Adilur
 Rahman Khan (asst. secys).

S M Rezaul Karim, Abul
 Bashar Mohammad Bayezid,
 Md Khaled Ahmed, Gulam
 Asheque, Jhulan Kanti Paul,
 Alal Uddin and Md Abu Sayed
 Mollah were elected members
 of the executive committee.

Advocate M Hafizullah
 polled 362 votes against his ri-
 val Barrister K S Nabi who
 polled 239 votes. A total 1108
 ballots were cast.

The out-going president,
 Kazi Golan Mahboob, who
 sought re-election, polled 218
 votes.

PHILIPS
WorldCupUSA94

The Daily Star

WorldCupUSA94
Quiz Competition

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a trip to the
World Cup
Final
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Los Angeles

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Here's your chance to watch the World Cup '94 final live by winning
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HOW TO PARTICIPATE

From TODAY, April 1, '94, The Daily Star starts a series of Quiz Competitions (6 in all)
 on World Cup Soccer. In every round, a set of questions will be published for 10
 consecutive days in the Sports Page of The Daily Star (except for the final BUMPER
 ROUND which will last a month). Write down the correct answers to ALL the
 questions clearly and hand-deliver or mail the ORIGINAL paper clipping to: THE
 DAILY STAR, HOUSE NO: 11, ROAD NO: 3, DHANMANDIR/A, Dhaka: 1205, as
 per the following fixture:

FIXTURE OF THE ROUNDS	STARTS	ENDS	ANSWERS MUST REACH BY	LUCKY DRAW FOR PRIZES
Quiz 1	1 April '94	10 April '94	14 April '94	17 April '94
Quiz 2	11 April '94	20 April '94	23 April '94	24 April '94
Quiz 3	21 April '94	30 April '94	3 May '94	4 May '94
Quiz 4	1 May '94	10 May '94	13 May '94	14 May '94
Quiz 5	11 May '94	20 May '94	23 May '94	24 May '94
Quiz 6	21 May '94	20 June '94	23 June '94	24 June '94

YOU MAY SEND AS MANY ENTRIES AS YOU LIKE.

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