Tk 150cr seheme for water supply in GK project areas

By Staff Correspondent

Irrigation and Flood Control Minister M Majid-ul-Haq yes terday told parliament that the government had undertaken a Taka 150-crore project to en sure water supply in some ar eas under the Ganges-Kobadak (GK) project

The planned floating pump project will help supply water in the farming season, the minister said in reply to a call attention notice by treasury bench MP from Kushtia Abdur Rouf Chowdhury.

The minister said that all the pumps of GK project remained inoperative during the dry season every year since the water level of the Ganges went down sharply. The country incurred a loss of Tk 100 crore annually as farmers of the project areas in greater Kushtia failed to cultivate 1,20,000 acres of land only in 'Kharip-1' season, he said

The minister noted that since 1975 the water flow of the Ganges has been decreasing because of unilateral withdrawal of water at Farakka Barrage by India. It caused an ominous effect on agriculture, industries, fisheries, forestry. water transport and public heath in one-third area of Bangladesh, the minister said. The north-western part of the country was facing the threat of desertification, he added.

Majid-ul-Haq further said that the situation hand taken a serious turn following expiry of the water sharing agreement with India in 1988. The ground water level in the area has gone down and salinity in water has increased threatening ecological balance, he said.

The minister said that because of increased salinity and scarcity of water some 50 lakh acres of land had been affected

He pointed out that as the situation in 10,000 sq-mile areas of south-western region of the country deteriorated, many people started migrating to other areas of the country for livelihood. It created irrigation problem for more than three lakh acres of land in the region, he added.

The growing salinity was also causing damage to sundari trees in the Sundarbans. Because of this, the country was incurring a loss of crores as of Taka.

The minister said there were regular bilateral contacts with India in this regard and recalled that the Prime Minister had raised the issue Assembly session.

Ronald Nilsson, Patrik Ander-

sson, Joachim Bjorklund (Pon-

tus Kamrak, 55th), Roger

Ljung, Stefan Schwarz, Klas

Ingesson, Jonas Thern (Hakan

Mild, 70th), Martin Dahlim,

Tomas Brolin, Kennet Ander-

Referee — Renato Marsiglia

OIC peace mission

due in Kabul

tomorrow

of flerce fighting and massive

exchange of heavy artillery fire,

Kabul was unusually quiet today

a few days before the expected

visit of a peace mission from

the Organisation of Islamic

Conference (OIC), reports AFP

neither side traded rocket fire

over the city, although there

were some minor artillery ex-

changes around the frontlines

gn Affairs Najibullah Lafraie

said the peace delegation, led

by OIC Secretary General Ha-

mid al-Ghabid, might arrive in

the capital Tuesday but their

itinerary had not yet been

Tutsi rebels

attack French

troops in Rwanda

French troops on a controver-

sial humanitarian mission to

Rwanda come under fire for

the first time Sunday by Tutsi

rebels, a French officer said,

were evacuating 270 civilians

- mostly Tutsis, some Hutus

and several European nuns -

from the path of a Rwandan

Patriotic Front offensive in

southwestern Rwanda when

the convoy came under fire,

refugee casualties in the fire-

fight, which lasted less than a

minute, Thibault said. He did

not know if any rebels were

Depression in

Bay likely

likely to be formed in the Bay

of Bengal during the current

month, a Met office long-range

sion, Deputy Director at the

Storm Warning centre at the

Met office Sazedur Rahman

told UNB that "this monsoon

depression is a normal phe-

nomenon and one of the major

mm rain per day is not un-

common during depression

Chittagong division is likely to

experience the highest 600-

650 mm rain followed by 480

530 mm in Barisal division.

Dhaka division may have 250-

Rajshahi and Khulna divi-

sions may have 300 350 mm

rain against normal 315 mm

and 358 mm rain respectively.

400 mm rain.

He said that 200 to 250

According to the Met office,

source of monsoon rain.'

Talking about the depres-

One monsoon depression is

There were no French or

said Col Didier Thibault.

killed or injured.

forecast said.

The French paratroopers

GISENYI, Rwanda, July 3:

confirmed.

reports AP.

Minister of State for Forei

No jets were active and

KABUL, July 3: After a week

Swedes outplay Saudis

Saeed Falatah.

From Page 1 Col 7 defenders on the right and

pulling a pass back to the edge of the area. Klas Ingesson had a clear shooting chance but placed the ball wide. Within a minute, however, it was 2-0.

right and hit a well-placed leftfooted shot from 20 meters between goalkeeper al-Daeyea

Andersson cut in from the

and his left-hand post. The Saudis kept battling and almost pulled a goal back in the 68th minute.

After Ravelli had fingertipped a 25-meter free kick from Owairan over the bar, he was in trouble from the corner that followed.

With Ravelli out of his goal, Falatah got in a close-range header that Ingesson deflected over the top. Nine minutes from the end

Ravelli rescued Sweden again with a finger-tip, diving save when substitute al-Ghashiyan wriggled through the defence and fired goalwards from 15

Five minutes remained when the same substitute crashed in a spectacular goal to set up the chance of a Saudi come-

He turned a defender wide on the right and powered a left-footed shot into the roof of the net from 12 meters.

Before the Saudis had the chance to look for an equaliser, however, Andersson sco-

red the Swedes' clincher. He collected a pass from

Dahlin, ran forward and then rolled a right-footed shot past goalkeeper al-Daeyea and into the net via the inside of the far

SAUDI ARABIA— Mohammed al-Daeyea, Mohammed al-Khlaiwi, Abdullah Zebermawi, Mohammed al-Jawad, Ahmed Jamil Madani (substitute: Fahd al-Ghashiyan. 55th minute).

Bogra by-polls

The polling for the by-election in the vacant seat of Bogra-4 constituency will be held on July 7 as per schedule announced by the Election Commission, reports BSS.

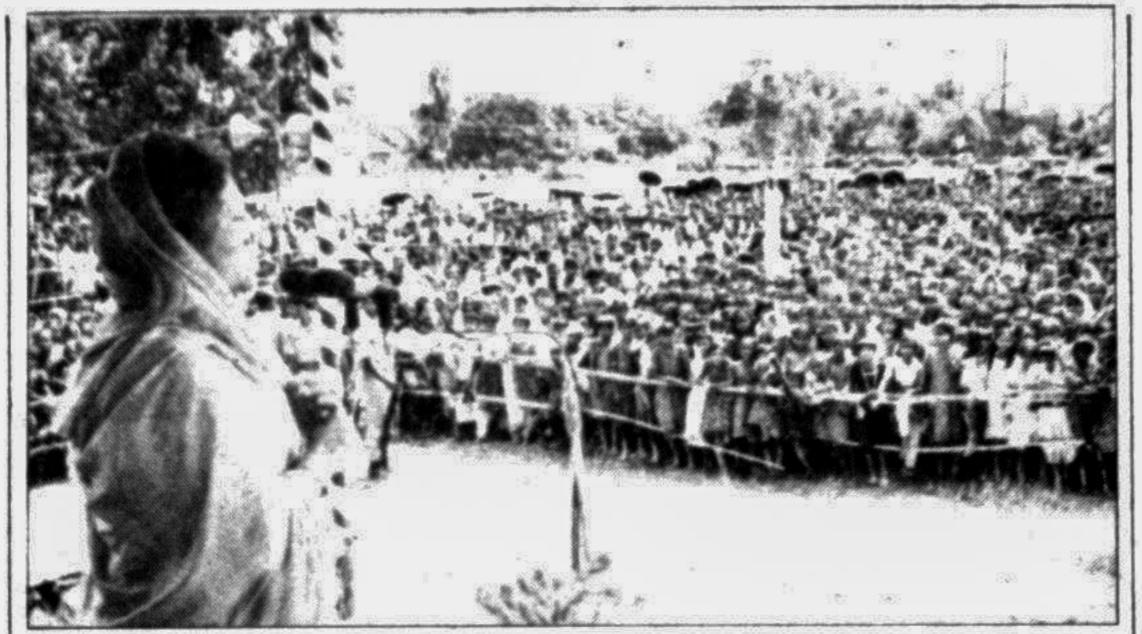
The voting will begin at 8 am and continue without any break till 4 pm, an Election Commission press release said in Dhaka yesterday.

Meanwhile the Election Commission said that the election expenses of the elected candidate would have to be submitted to the returning officer concerned by the polling agent within 15 days of the publication of the polls results in 170 form with an affidavit as per Sub-Clause (1) of Clause 44 C of the People's Representation Order of 1972. In the event of non-appointment of any polling agent, the candidate himself will be considered as an agent. A duplicate copy of the return of expenses and affidavit submitted to the returning officer will have to be sent to the Election Commission secretariat through registered post.

It cautioned that if any polling agent failed to submit the return of election expenses within the stipulated period, he would be liable to punishment for violation of laws, and for that violation he can be sentenced from two years to seven years of rigorous imprisonment with a fine.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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BNP ('hairperson and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a public meeting at Nandigram Degree College ground in Bogra district yesterday. - PID photo

Khaleda From Page 1 Col 6

paddy attended the election rallies and wayside pro grammes braving rain and scorching heat

A total of 1,72,932 voters of Kahalu and Nandigram under the Bogra-four constituency are now preparing for the July 7 by-election.

Those who addressed the public meetings included Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khondoker Mosharrai Hossain, State Minister for Establishment Aminul Huq. Mayor of Rajshahi City Corporation Mizanur Rahman Minu, Rowshan Elahi MP, Golam Mohammad Siraj MP, Shahinara Hoq MP, Abdul Majid Talukdar MP, Helalu zzaman Talukdar Lalu MP Bogra district BNP leader Rehan Nobi Badsha, and local leaders Qamrul Hasan, ATM Shamsur Rahman and Fazlur Rahman, Dr Ziaul Huq Mollah also spoke.

rich tributes to late Azizul Huq Mollah and recalled his contribution to various democratic movements and for the development of his constituency.

Late Mollah, she said who developed his locality through construction of roads, bridges and supply of electricity, he could not finish his task.

The BNP Chairperson urged the electorate of the constituency to elect his son Dr Zia for completing the unfinished task of late Azizul Huq Mollah and help continue the on-going development programmes of the area.

dwelt at length on various development programmes undertaken by her government since it came to power.

The Prime Minister later

getting the benefits of her development programmes, she The BNP Chairperson also

addressed a workers' meeting of her party at the Bogra circuit house at night.

Begum Zia will continue her election campaign tomorrow She will address public meetings in different parts of Kahalu Thana.

Workers' body alleges

12 Muktijoddha Trust units being privatised

By Staff Correspondent

The central action commit tee of the Bangladesh Muktijoddha Kalyan Trust yesterday said the sub-committee of the Board of Trustees was privatising 12 industries ignor ing the interests of the free dom fighters.

Already some 800 workers including 66 war maimed freedom fighters, have been retrenched from three of the 12 industries.

The leaders of the commit tee at a press conference in the city accused the sub-committee of "illegally" leasing out the "Shadhinata Bhaban" to private entrepreneurs. Convener of the action

committee Azizur Rahman also alleged that moves were underway to handover the "Trust Adhunik Hospital" to the Jamaat-i-Islami's sister organisation Islami Ummah. The hospital was built with French aid for the treatment of freedom fighters.

The press conference was addressed by joint conveners Mahmud Parvez Jewel and Ali Ahmed, member secretary Khandker Abdul Karim Jiban, Abul Sattar Kamal, M Kamal and Abdul Latif Bhuiyan.

They said the government had stopped paying allowances to 500 trust beneficiaries in the last two months and was planning to stop the payment of allowances to another 1500 freedom fighters in the near future.

"The war-affected freedom fighters are living in inhuman conditions because they had lost their jobs. They have lost jobs because they protested against the privatisation process of the Trust," said Azizur Rahman.

They also accused the administrator of the Trust's Gulistan complex of misappropriating money and said the was the ring," Wood said.

the post for the past 12 years. "The industrial units of the Trust are sick due to mismanagement and wrong planning. We had been pressing for balancing, modernisation, rehabilitation and expansion (BMRE) for a long time. But instead the government is privatising tho-

> The authorities have already floated tenders for the follow ing industries: Sirco Soap Co. Metal Packages, United Toba cco Company, Buxley Paint and some others, it was disclosed

se industries," Azizur Rahman

administrator has been holding

plane crash

USA plane crashed while trying to land in a thunderstorm at the Charlotte-Douglas International Airport, killing The jet's tail section slammed into a house with five people

seen running from the plane yelling, "Help me, help me. I'm on fire."

At least 33 people were taken to area hospitals, including the five crew members, authorities said.

from the impact, others were from burns and smoke inhalation. Many were reported in serious or critical condition.

Trip Wood, who lives near the airport and was one of the first at the scene, said he saw a dead man wearing a wedding ring carried out of the wreck.

gone. About all you could see

22 killed in US

22 of the 56 people aboard. inside and caught fire, reports

"The skin on his arm was

Police escort rebel Prince Norodom Chakrapong to the airport yesterday after government troops foiled a march on the Cambodian capital by soldiers loyal to the prince. - AFP photo

Prince Chakrapong forced out of country

Coup bid in Cambodia foiled

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia, July 3: Without a shot being fired, the government suppressed an attempted coup Sunday, arresting one of the leaders and forcing the other - a son of King Norodom Sihanouk - out of the country, reports AP.

Interior Minister You Hockry said politician Sin Song was under house arrest and Sihanouk's son, Prince Norodom Chakrapong, had been forced on to a Malaysian Airlines flight just nine hours after the attempted govern-

ment takeover. "The important thing about this incident is that a democratically elected government has survived," US Ambassador Charles Twining said.

This was the second time

the government elected in a

UN-organised polls in May

1 1993 had suppressed an insur-

rection by Sin Song and Chakrapong.

They led a failed secessionist movement after their Cambodian People's Party lost by a small margin in the election and fled to Malaysia. The two then returned to Phnom Penh, where they have been seeking two of their party's 51

seats in Parliament. "They tried to destroy the national institutions — the government and National Assembly," Information Ministry spokesman Sieng Lapresse told a news briefing. The men had planned to arrest the chief of staff and other high-ranking officials and army officers in what he characterized as an "attempt to create public disorder."

Sin Song was interior minister under the previous administration. UN investigators and human rights groups have

accused him of involvement with death squads assigned to assassinate opponents during last year's campaign. Earlier this year, Cambodian legislators criticised the US State Department for granting Sin Song a visa to attend a Washington prayer breakfast. Chakrapong was a deputy

premier in the former admin-

istration. His father and half-brother, First Premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh, intervened to have Chakrapong expelled, rather than arrested. Sieng said. adding that the government concurred because it 'didn't want to have any bloodshed or Manjur Hamid Emet, a final

complications. The government first learned about the coup attempt when up to 300 armed men in 12 armoured vehicles and five military trucks were spotted driving toward the capital Saturday evening.

Cows take soft drinks!

By Masud Hasan Khan Imagine a scene where a

ow is drinking Coke or Pepsi. The scene may look like an overdone advertisement by the giant soft drink bottlers, yet it is a practice in Singair Thana of Manikganj district where the farmers buy cold drinks to cool off their cows for fatten-

"We buy Coca Cola or Fanta when it is too hot during the summer," says Aklima Khatun of Deshuhati village," when the cows get fat, the drinks cool off their body."

A member of the Katakhali Mahila Samity, Khatun, 40, took Taka 30 thousand as loan from the Proshika Manobik Unnayan Sangstha, an NGO, and bought five cows under "Cow fattening project."

Normally, the cows are bought three to four months ahead of the Eid-ul Azha and sold at higher prices on the eve of the Eid.

Giving an account of how the cows are fattened, Muhammad Shahidullah of Singair says after purchasing the cows the farmers, administer several vaccines to kill the worm in their liver. "Then the farmers fix a balanced diet for their cows. Usually, the menu includes rice husk which they get free from Proshika

Besides, they also feed the cows potato, 'gur' (molasses) 'khoil'?? carrot and other seasonal vegetable.

After three to five weeks the cows start getting fat.

Proshika officials at Singair however, point out that the farmers buying cold drinks for cows are extreme cases and they do it out of affection for

Normally, they feed the cows soft and spongy core inside the banana tree which also cool off the cattle, they

The officials at Singair say women are more enthusiastic than men about the cow Fattening Programme because they can look after the cows without affecting their daily household works. Jamila, 30, of Maddhya

one cow at Taka 5,000 which she sold at Taka 7,000 before the last Eid. After five per cent service charge paid back to Proshika,

Char-gram, says she bought

Taka 1,200. "I gave the money to my husband who started bamboo trading," she said.

she earned a net profit of

Livestock development project is part of Proshika's integrated rural development pro-

Some 380 cows are now being fattened by the farmers in 40 projects in Singair.

From Page 1 Col 8

around 666 yesterday. Market operators said the market correction of the share prices is over and now there would be a surge again if for-

eign investments continué to take place. In the last two weeks, the index hovered around 640 points mark and at last it started a slow climb to over

660 points mark. Operators feel the market has its depth and it is now thriving with all potentiality for a foreign push.

"I can see encouraging signs in the market," said Imtiyaz Hussain. Vice-Chairman of In the next few months, at

least nine companies will go public. These are BEXIMCO Knitting, Dynamic Textiles, Bengal Biscuit, Saleh Carpet, Mithun Corporation, Northern Jute Mills, Phoenix Insurance, Mita Textile and Eastern Housing. "There is now plenty of

shares in the market as against the situation of dry market earlier, sources said.

"The new shares are coming and this will prove whether the investing public are really serious about the country's capital market, Imtiyaz said. With the new shares, the market capitalisation is expected to increase by about 100 million dollars.

note of caution about the new shares saying that 'the investors should analyse the prospectus of the forthcoming issues to determine the status of the projects." This note of caution seems

Imtivaz, however, issued a

to have come against the backdrop that some companies, as market operators say, are 'over geared.

BUET student commits suicide From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, July 3: A student of BUET, Dhaka committed suicide by hanging himself at his family house at Badurlatka area of Sylhet town last night. According to reports,

year student of electrical engineering witnessed the World held at the National Eidgah Cup football match on the television last night. Later, he went to sleep. But his body was found hanging with the roof of the house in the early morning last respects. today, family sources informed

The Midnight File

Ghali's special envoy in Mogadishu

MOGADISHU, July 3: Ambassador James Victor Gbego of Ghana has arrived in Mogadishu as special representative of UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, a UN spokesman said today. He takes over the post formerly held by US Admiral Jonathan Howe, whose mission ended in February. Gbego served as Ghana's special representative to the UN in New York from 1980 to 1990, reports Reuter.

N Yemeni troops reach suburb of Aden

DAR SAAD, Yemen, July 3: UN officials warned Sunday of impending epidemics in Yemen as a result of the civil war. and northern forces reached a suburb of Aden, stronghold of the breakaway south. Northern forces were entrenched on the edge of Dar Saad, some only 500 yards (meters) from their southern enemies. Heavy shelling was reported across the suburbs north of Aden for the second straight day. At least 10 people, including four children, were killed Sunday in northern shelling of Khormaksar, a wealthy area northeast of Aden where many diplomatic missions are located, the Kuwait News Agency reported, reports AP.

Press Israel to stop attack on Lebanon, Syria tells US

DAMASCUS, July 3: Syria urged the United States today to put pressure on Israel to stop attacks on Lebanon if it wanted US Secretary of State Warren Christopher's tour of the Middle East to be a success, reports Reuter. It welcomed remarks by

President Bill Clinton in which he said the Arab-Israeli peace talks should continue, but said Washington should also press Israel to "adhere to the principles of the peace process." Christopher has said he will

visit the region on July 17 to try to revive the 32-month-old Arab-Israeli peace talks, especially between Syria and Israel "Christopher's mission re-

quires several conditions for success. The main condition is the halting of the series of Israeli aggressions against Lebanon and getting Israel to commit itself to the principles of the peace process," a Syrian

Bill passed From Page 1 Col 4

authority to operate the enterprise in a commercial and efficient manner. (b) shall ensure that the

memorandum and articles of association of every such industrial enterprise are strictly followed in managing the affairs and business of the enterprise. (c) shall, as soon as possi-

ble, take all necessary measures to incorporate, as a limited company under the said Act VII of 1913, such industrial enterprise if not so incorporated.

(d) May, for the purpose referred to in Clause (c), amend the memorandum and articles of association or the charter agreement, contract or other instrument respecting constitution of such enterprise.

(e) may, if it is considered expedient in the interest of the enterprises concerned. take necessary measures for merging one industrial enterprise with another." Another bill - the Bangla-

desh Bank (Amendment) Bill, 1994 - seeking removal of legal barriers for introduction of a five-taka coin was introduced in the House. In the absence of Finance

Minister M Saifur Rahman, State Minister for Finance Mojibur Rahman introduced the bill. Earlier, a call attention no-

tice of the treasury bench MP L K Siddigi was disposed of. In his notice, the ruling party MP expressed his concern over the curriculum of the country's English medium schools as well as the kindergarten schools where the students are taught the geography of India instead of that of Bangladesh. He invited the attention of the Education Minister to the matter. Besides, the Jatiya Sangsad

witnessed the usual questionanswer hour. The House resumed its sitting in the afternoon with Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni in the

After the magreb prayers, Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali presided over the sitting. He adjourned the House at

9:00 pm to resume at 5:30 this afternoon

Imam's body

From Page 1 Col 8 will bring the body down from the aircraft and hand it over to the leaders waiting at the gangway

Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina, central leaders of the Nirmul Committee Sufia Ka mal, Dhaka city mayor Moha mmad Hanif and sector commarfders of the Liberation War will receive the body on behalf of the nation

From the airport, her body will be taken to the mortuary of the Diabetic Hospital. Jahanara Imam will be

buried at the Freedom Fighters' Cemetery, Mirpur, on Tuesday. Her namaz e janaza will be

after Zohr prayers Before burial, her body will be taken to the Central Saheed Minar for people to pay their

government daily said. "Washington is the party which could exert real pressure on Israel to force her to respond to the peace initiative and to submit to the principles and basis on which the process was based, Al-Baath daily said.

Israel has increased raids on Lebanon in the past few weeks, attacking targets of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (party of God), which has been waging a war, against the Israeli presence in South Lebanon. Israel launched its latest

raid on Thursday and on Friday when its tanks opened fire at Arafat arrives in

Jericho tomorrow

JERUSALEM, July 3: PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat will go to Jericho on Tuesday for the first time since the start of self-rule, the Palestinian police commander of the West Bank town said today, reports Brigadier-General Haj Is-

mael Jabr told reporters, "Arafat will visit Jericho on Tuesday morning." A senior security official in the enclave said Arafat would arrive in Jericho from Gaza and leave the same day for Jordan. Another Reuter report says:

Thousands of Palestinians cheered PLO Chief's motorcade today as he began his third day of a historic homecoming to the Gaza Strip.

Hasina From Page 1 Col 4

"We believe in democratic and systemic struggle." The BNP government was spreading falsehood about her party and conspiring to foil its agitation, she alleged and urged the people to guard against all

She also reiterated the demand for cancelling the results of the 'rigged' Magura by-elections and holding polls afresh. The Opposition leader ac-

intrigue.

cused the BNP government of corrupt practices and plunder of national wealth. The procession led by Hasina, who was on a truck, ended near the Suhrawardhy

Road, Purana Paltan, Kakrail, and Malibagh. Hasina waved to the people

Uddyan after parading Banga-

bandhu Avenue. North South

gathered along the route. Carrying banners, placards, festoons and portraits of Hasina and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the processionists chanted slogans in support of the demand for a caretaker government and against the

present government. AL central leaders Abdus Samad Azad, Abdul Mannan, Tofael Ahmed, Amir Hossain Amu, Rahmat Ali, Mozaffar Hossain Paltu and Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin accompanied Hasina.

ADB cancels

From Page 1 Col 4 PMEs through the fixation of retirement age, a freeze on new hiring and the provision of voluntary separation pack-

Of the above objectives, no progress has been made on restructuring the PMEs while little progress has been made in manpower rationalisation and a new industrial policy was put in place in 1991. Provisions have been made for voluntary separation under which some workers were retren-

The privatisation process also bogged down in procedural formalities and the lack of autonomy for the Privatisation Board. However, the government has since provided greater autonomy to the board after the problems of implementing the programme were discussed at a cabinet meeting late last year

In cancelling the loan, the ADP, while noting the slow pace of progress, said it would take another two years to implement the programme and to use the second tranche of the loan. The bank felt it was not useful to keep the money blocked for such a long period of time

Fuad Amin, Fahad al-Bishi (Khaled al-Muwallid, 63rd) Hamzah Saleh, Saeed al-Owai ran, Sami al-Jaber, Hamzah SWEDEN— Thomas Ravelli

The BNP Chairperson paid

The people have started

CHARLOTTE, NC. July 3: A

at the press conference.

One man in a uniform was

Most of the injuries were