

Inside Today

Article

International Trade Pessimism:
The Old and
the New
by Abdul Bayes
Page 4

International

Delhi tightens security
around Israeli, 5 west
Asian missions

Myanmar opposition
urges UN for mediation
Page 5

Business

Japan sets \$ 428b
budget for next fiscal
Pages 6, 7

Rising Stars

We liberated our little
country; The pied piper
of Buenos Aires; A
dress for Jashu; Loneli-
ness; and Jokes
Page 8

National

Contributions of BARD
to poverty alleviation
Page 9

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



In Black and White
Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

Proposed transport
strike called off

The Ad-hoc committee of the Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Samiti Federation has called off their token strike scheduled for tomorrow. The decision was taken yesterday by the Federation following a fruitful meeting with the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA), reports UNB.

CU AC meet Aug 4

CHITTAGONG, July 29: The meeting of the academic council of the Chittagong University will now be held on August 4, instead of July 30 in the conference room of the administrative building, a university press release said here today, reports BSS.

Trawler capsizes
in Surma: 1 dies

From Our Correspondent
SYLHET, July 29: One person died and 25 others were injured when a trawler with about 100 passengers on board capsized in the river Surma at Chhatak last night. The victim, Akiz Ali, 50, hails from village Shibpur under Deorabazar thana of Sunamganj.

DUJ rally
tomorrow

The Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) shifted its scheduled rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club today to protest retrenchment of journalists and the closure of the Daily Janata, due to the general strike called by the Opposition. The rally will now be held tomorrow at 11 am. Meanwhile, the DUJ Janata Unit observed a sit-in before its Shantinagar office yesterday noon. They will observe a similar programme at its Tejgaon office at 7 pm today, reports UNB.

Defamation suit
against Sharif

ISLAMABAD, July 29: The Pakistan government has filed a defamation suit against Opposition Leader Nawaz Sharif for accusing President Farooq Ahmed Leghari of corruption, reports said today, reports APP.



Flags of the seven South Asian countries flutter at the Dhaka Sheraton Hotel where the participants of the two-day 14th SAARC Council of Ministers beginning today will be putting up.

— Star photo

SAARC FMs' meet begins today

By Staff Correspondent

The two-day meeting of the 14th Council of Ministers of the SAARC countries begins in the capital today.

SAARC Chairperson and Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will open the meeting at the plenary hall of the International Conference Centre (ICC) at 10:30 this morning.

The one-hour opening session will be followed by plenary meetings of the Council of Ministers spread over today

Four Foreign Ministers — Pakistan's Sarder Aseff Ahmed Ali, the Maldives Fathullah Jameel, Sri Lanka's A C S Ha-

FMs of Lanka,
Maldives arrive

Foreign Ministers of Sri Lanka and the Maldives, A C S Hameed and Fathullah Jameel. Arrived here last night to take part in the two-day 14th session of the SAARC Council of Ministers beginning here today, reports BSS.

They were received at the Zia International Airport by the Foreign Minister, A S M Mostafizur Rahman, Bangladesh

See Page 12 Col 8

See Page 12 Col 7

SAARC has covered
areas of ties : Joshi

Ram Hari Joshi, Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation for Nepal, arrived in Dhaka

yesterday to attend the SAARC

council of ministers meeting

and said the regional forum

has covered a large area of co-

operation of collective benefits.

The ministerial meeting

will take up the report of the

standing committee and take

different decisions," he told

See Page 12 Col 7

See Page 12 Col 8

India ready to talk
to Pakistan: Bhatia

Indian State Minister for External Affairs R L Bhatia said

here yesterday that his country is

always ready to talk to

Pakistan for resolving all bilateral issues, including Kashmir, reports UNB.

"India is always for dialogue.

This dialogue alone can solve

all bilateral issues", he told

newsmen on arrival at the

Dhaka airport in the afternoon.

See Page 12 Col 7

See Page 12 Col 8

Students, police
clash: 20 hurt
at Zero Point

India must remove 'irritants': Aseff

Pakistan Foreign Minister said here yesterday India must remove 'irritants' with her neighbours in the interest of peace and stability in the region, reports UNB.

India has got irritants not only with Pakistan over the Kashmire dispute but with every single country of the SAARC.

Sarder Aseff Ahmad Ali told newsmen at Zia International Airport on his arrival here yesterday morning to attend the SAARC Council of Ministers Meeting beginning in Dhaka today.

Asked if there is any possibility of immediate talks between New Delhi and Islamabad over the outstanding issue over which the two countries had fought two wars, Aseff said "Pakistan never rejected talks. We are always ready to hold negotiation.... but it's up to India".

The Pakistan Foreign Minister was received at the airport by his Bangladesh counterpart ASM Mostafizur Rahman.

Bangladesh High Commissioner to Pakistan QAMR Rahim and Pakistan High Commissioner to Bangladesh Anwar Kemal were present at the airport.

Pakistan Foreign Secretary

See Page 12 Col 8

See Page 12 Col 7

Witnesses said, police clubbed some of the processionists for hurling stones at passing vehicles. Immediately the violence spread to other areas. It lasted for nearly 20 minutes.

The processionists exploded home-made crackers and pelted stones at the police who in turn lobbed teargas shells and even fired at them.

A constable, Nizamuddin who suffered splinter injury, was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) in a critical condition. Later he was shifted to the CMH.

Thirteen other persons, most of them students, were also admitted to the DMCH with crackers' wounds, cuts and bruises.

Police made four arrests from the spot.

Jamaat-Shibir activists

attack Instt of Fine Arts

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) has expelled Dr M Ershadul Bari from the association for alleged anti-organisational activities.

The DUTA executive committee in an emergency meeting at the DU club yesterday took the decision following what it called Dr Bari's involvement in activities contrary to the ideals, objectives and principles of the association.

The decision would be effective from July 29.

The meeting, chaired by DUTA president Shahadat Ali, also extended its support to the action programme of the Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association condemning National University Vice-Chancellor Dr Ershadul Bari.

The NU VC recently created a controversy over the playing of the national anthem before the start of the university's senate meeting.

The Jamaat leader also criti-

See Page 12 Col 4

See Page 12 Col 4</