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Recalling Lessons from the Gulf War and its Impact on the Third World Countries

by Md Asadullah Khan Page 4

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Dhaka-Thimpu trade gap stands at \$2 cr

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NEWS BRIEFS

500gm heroin seized in Khulna

500gm heroin seized in Khulna. Khulna Customs and Excise recovered 500 grams of heroin worth Taka 50 lakh today from a Jessore-bound passenger bus.

RU Chhatra League leader arrested

RU Chhatra League leader arrested. Rajshahi police arrested Shaikat Hussain Shaikat, vice president of the Rajshahi University unit of Chhatra League (S-P) today.

Transfers

Joint Secretary of the Election Commission Secretariat M Nazrul Islam Siddiqi has been transferred to the Ministry of Commerce as the Joint Secretary.

Kashmiri women's chastity campaign

Kashmiri women's chastity campaign. A Muslim fundamentalist women's group in Kashmir is distributing daggers and training women to combat government troops who try to sexual assault them.

Khaleda-Mahathir talks today Dhaka, KL for private sector cooperation

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 11: Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Bin Mohamad tonight expressed identical views to work together for closer economic cooperation between the two countries, reports BSS.

They will hold official talks tomorrow to review the traditional and historic bonds between the two countries to strengthen economic cooperation and bilateral relations. Speaking at a dinner hosted

by Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Bin Mohamad in honour of Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at Sri Perdana, the two leaders said Bangladesh and Malaysia would encourage private sectors to work together for closer economic ties and reduce the trade gap.

On her arrival at Sri Perdana, the Prime Minister was warmly received by her Malaysian counterpart Dato Seri Dr Mahathir Bin Mohamad and Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Binte Mohammad Ali.

She signed the visitor's book there. Members of Malaysian cabinet, high officials, heads of diplomatic missions line up at the main lounge for introduction to the Prime Minister.

Members of the Bangladesh delegation was also introduced to the Malaysian Prime Minister.

Dr Mahathir Mohamad delivered his speech and proposed a toast to the Bangladesh Prime Minister.

The Malaysian Prime Sec Page 12 Col 3

PM meets King

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 11: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had an audience with King Yang Di Pertuan Agong and his wife Raja Permaisuri at the Royal Palace Istana Negara this afternoon, reports BSS.

The King said relations between the two friendly countries of Malaysia and Bangladesh, are very cordial.

Referring to a large number of Bangladeshi workers in Malaysia, he said they were making contributions to the development of his country.

The Prime Minister gave a brief resume of Bangladesh and the activities of her government.

The Prime Minister had also a photo session with King Yang Di Pertuan Agong and his wife Raja Permaisuri at the Royal Palace.

The Prime Minister signed the visitor's book there and remarked, "I am greatly honoured to be in the Royal Palace to pay my respects to their majesties."

Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman, Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Special Envoy to the Prime Minister, M Morsheed Khan and principal secretary to the Prime Minister ANM Eusuf were present. — AFP photo



Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia walks beside Malaysian Premier Mahathir Mohamad (L) after arriving in Kuala Lumpur yesterday on a four-day official visit.

US dismisses Iraqi claim, firm to 'stay on course'

KUWAIT, Oct 11: More American soldiers arrived today in Kuwait after US officials dismissed Iraq's insistence that its troops were leaving. President Clinton sent 350 planes, including bombers, and pledged to "stay on course", reports AP.

"There has been no change in the pattern of Iraqi activity from yesterday, so we will continue our deployment," Clinton said today.

"We recognise strong support for the international community for this approach."

Meanwhile Britain, declaring there is no evidence of Iraqi troops withdrawing from the Kuwaiti border, today dispatched more warplanes and marine commandos to the Gulf.

Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd headed for Kuwait tonight for a meeting with US Secretary of State Warren Christopher and the foreign

ministers of six Gulf states. Hurd will go to Saudi Arabia after the foreign ministers meeting on Wednesday.

There had been hope that the six-day crisis might be defused when Iraq's UN ambassador said Monday that Iraq was withdrawing its troops from the border to a site north of Basra, Iraq's second-largest city on the Gulf.

The officials Iraqi news agency today said Iraq has completed withdrawing Republican Guard and other army units from the border. An estimated 20,000 Republican Guard troops, were among the 80,000 Iraqi troops deployed in southern Iraq.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Foreign Minister Mohammed Saïd al-Sahhaf as saying in Baghdad that the pullback was completed today.

An unidentified Foreign Ministry source was quoted by the news agency as saying the Russian and Chinese embassies in Baghdad will be asked to send their military attaches to the south to verify the pullback.

But Kuwait said today it still sees no sign of a withdrawal of a large Iraqi force deployed near the border.

Asked if Kuwait had evidence of an Iraqi withdrawal, Foreign Minister Undersecretary Suleiman Al-Shahheer told reporters "deeds should come before words... we have to wait."

In Iraq, journalists on the road to Basra, the southern capital and the country's second-biggest city, said troops and military equipment were moving in both directions, with heavy artillery heading south.

Aristide returns Saturday, Cedras to go into exile

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Oct 11: Haiti's former military ruler and his right-hand man will be heading together into exile, a US Embassy spokesman said today. Haitian military sources said a likely destination was Panama, reports AP.

Ministers loyal to exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, meanwhile, prepared to take charge of their offices today now that the military ruler Lt Gen Raoul Cedras, has resigned and promised to leave the country.

Shipments of gas and diesel oil were on their way to Haiti meanwhile, the first sent by international oil companies since December. The world's trade embargo on Haiti ends after Aristide's homecoming scheduled for Saturday.

Cedras resignation Monday cleared "the field for the real work of reconciliation," said Aristide spokesman Jean-Claude Martineau.

Aristide supporters also demanded the resignation of

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Oct 11: Haiti's military-backed President Emile Jonassaint has effectively stepped down, a lawyer for exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide said today. "He's not going to work today, Aristide side Ira Kurzban told Reuters.

President Emile Jonassaint, installed by the army in May.

"We can now roll up our sleeves and begin to rebuild democracy in the spirit of reconciliation," Aristide's commerce minister, Louis Deloitte II said in an interview.

With Cedras' resignation,

Haiti's military met the terms of the agreement former President Carter concluded last month as US warplanes were in the air, ready to launch an invasion.

Cedras is about to go into exile; so too is Brig Gen. Philippe Biamby, who resigned Saturday. Port-au-Prince police chief Michel Francois, architect of the September 1991 coup that overthrew Aristide, fled last week to the neighbouring Dominican Republic.

The agreement did not require the coup leaders to leave Haiti, but the United States has been urging them to do so. US Embassy spokesman Stanley Schragger said Tuesday Cedras and Biamby would be leaving Haiti together, but he said he did not know when or to where.

Dispute over Nobel Peace Prize

OSLO (Norway), Oct 11: The Nobel Peace Prize committee, wracked by its worst dispute in two decades, has decided to give this year's award to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO leader Yasser Arafat, a newspaper reported Tuesday, says AP.

The Oslo newspaper Aftenposten said one committee member, who regards Arafat as a terrorist, was so angered by the decision that he planned to resign in protest when the prize is announced in Oslo on Friday.

The report appeared to break a tradition of deep of see Page 12 Col 2



Yunus wins World Food Prize

WASHINGTON, Oct 11: The 1994 World Food Prize, often compared with the Nobel Prize, has been awarded this year to Dr. Mohd. Yunus, founder of the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, reports PTI. The 2,00,000 dollar award is being presented by John Ruan, chairman of the World Food Prize Foundation. Dr. Norman Borlaug, 1970 Nobel laureate and father of the 'green revolution', and Robert McNamara, former World Bank president were two previous winners of the prize. The citation says that the prize is being awarded to Yunus "in recognition of the See Page 12 Col 8



FASTEST MAN IN ASIA: Qatar's Talal Mansoor, draped in the national flag, completes a lap of honour after successfully defending his Asian Games 100m sprint crown for an unprecedented third time yesterday. Mansoor clocked 10.18 seconds. (Story on page 10) — AFP photo

C'wealth team meets leaders AL for caretaker govt on top of agenda

By Nurul Kabir The two-member Commonwealth advance team, which arrived in the city Monday to help create a congenial atmosphere for a dialogue between the opposing political camps, met representatives of both the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and the principal Opposition Awami League (AL) yesterday. The proposed dialogue between the ruling party and the Opposition in Parliament is likely to start after the arrival of the Commonwealth Secretary General's emissary Sir Ninian Stephen, due tomorrow. The advance team comprising Christopher Childs and Dr. Anafiq met SAMS Kibria, newly appointed political advisor to the AL chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina, at the latter's Dhanmondi residence yesterday afternoon. Kibria, while talking with the Commonwealth team on the already set agenda for the proposed dialogue, stressed the issue of a caretaker administration for holding general elections, AL sources said. He tried to explain to them the importance of a caretaker government for ensuring a free and fair elections in the country, a top AL leader told The Daily Star last night. On the other hand, the Commonwealth delegation met BNP leader and Chief Whip of Parliament Khandaker Delwar Hossain at the residence of Deputy Leader of the House Prof. Badruddoza Chowdhury at 8:30 last night. Sources close to the Chief Whip told this correspondent that the BNP leader had explained to the Commonwealth team the importance of a more powerful Election Commission for ensuring a fool-proof electoral process. Both the sides, however, expressed their readiness to join the proposed dialogue on the basis of the agenda set by the Commonwealth Secretary General. Strengthening of the Election Commission, caretaker government issue and a code of conduct for political leaders and workers are on the agenda. The Commonwealth team is learnt to have sought separate appointments with Prof. Badruddoza Chowdhury and Abdus Samad Azad — deputy leaders of the House and the Opposition respectively. Meanwhile, senior leaders See Page 12 Col 1

KCC elections Opposition bags all 6 posts of female ward commissioners

From Our Correspondent KHULNA, Oct 11: All the six candidates fielded by the combined opposition group have been elected female ward commissioners of Khulna City Corporation (KCC). The election was held amid tight security in the conference room of the Deputy Commissioner's office. The DC conducted the election as Returning Officer. The elected female ward commissioners are: Fatema Chowdhury, Nazma Sultana, Razia Sultana, Mamtaz Ashraf, Ruma Khatoon and Rosy Rahman. The candidates of the ruling party were defeated by two votes each. Sixteen candidates contested the election for the six seats. The KCC mayor and 31 elected ward commissioners elected the six female ward commissioners.

No plague in Ctg: Azadi report unfounded

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Oct 11: There is no plague patient in Chittagong, said the administration officials here contradicting and protesting a report published in a local daily today (Tuesday). The officials said, the report on plague published by the Daily Azadi was found, after investigation, absolutely false and concocted. So, there is nothing to be panicky, they added. The Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) also investigated the press report on plague but found it totally baseless. According to a press release of the Chittagong Metropolitan Police, when the report of the daily on a plague patient came to the notice of the police commissioner, a probe body was immediately formed with senior police officials. The police team went to the clinic 'Upasam' in Panchlaish as reported in the daily and found that one Masud Monjur 18, was admitted there after being attacked by food poisoning and was released after proper treatment. But he was not attacked by plague and the report, published in the daily was false. Even a high powered media See Page 12 Col 8

S M Sultan laid to rest in Narail

By Staff Correspondent Celebrated painter S M Sultan was laid to eternal rest at his home in Narail yesterday amid mournings by his friends, wellwishers and admirers. Our Jessore Correspondent reports: Sultan was buried beside his "Shishu Swarga" (Children's Paradise), a school founded by him, at 3:15 in the afternoon. Editorial on page 4

11 killed during strike in Pakistan

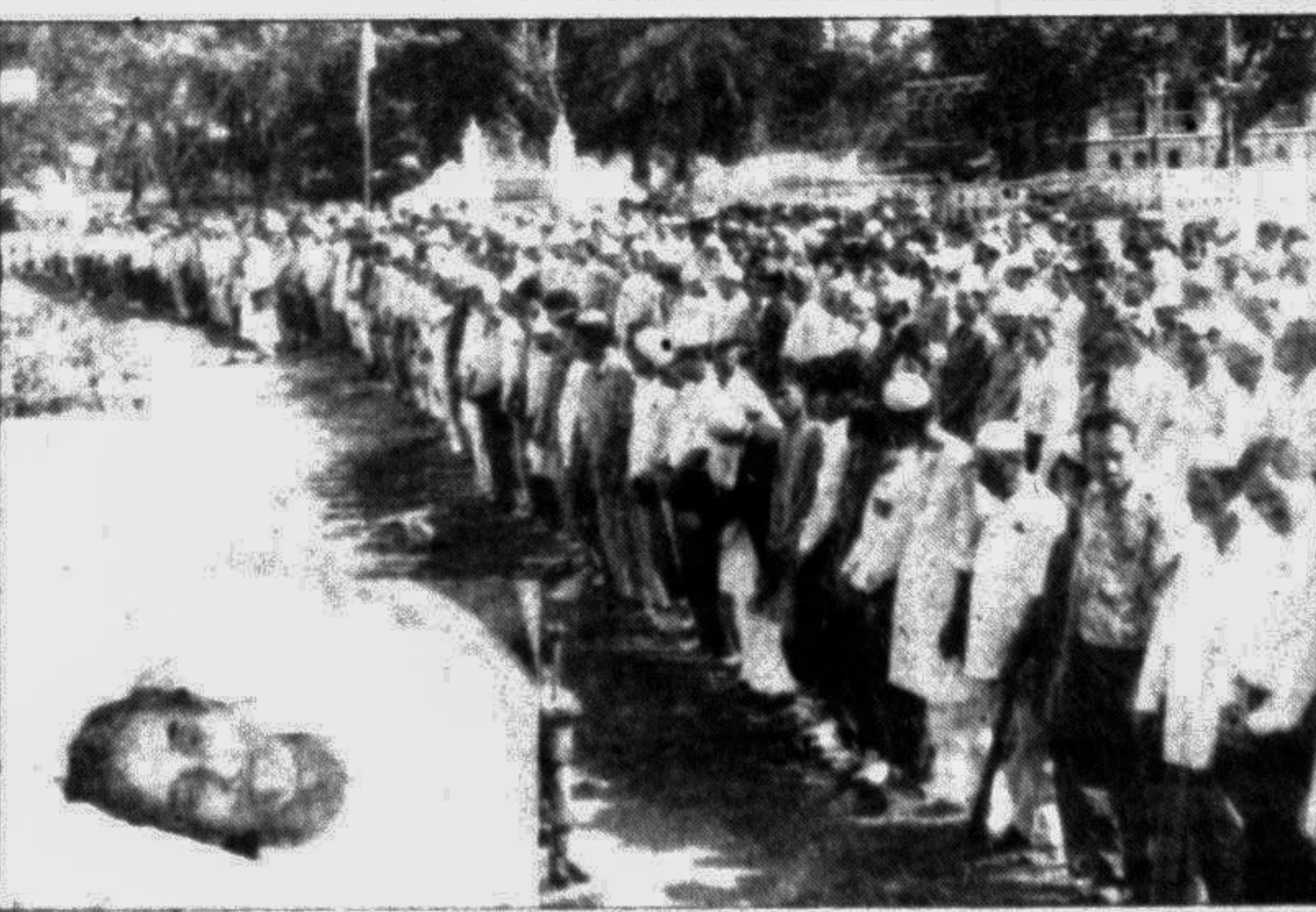
ISLAMABAD, Oct 11: Eleven people were killed and more than a dozen wounded in Pakistan today in unrest provoked by a partly observed opposition strike aimed at toppling Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, police and officials said, reports Reuter. Opposition leader Nawaz Sharif said the stoppage had been a success and road transport had been halted across the country. "The government has reacted madly, it has lost its senses," he told Reuters at his Lahore home, which was riddled by hundreds of police. "They have arrested thousands of our people." But a government spokesman said the strike mounted by Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League (PML) was a failure. "If the objective was to bring everything to a halt and bring down the government, that has failed," Information Secretary Hussain Haqqani said. "If the objective was a massive show of public support, that has failed too." Six supporters of Benazir's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) riding on top of a bus were swept off as it drove under a bridge in Lahore during an anti-PML demonstration, five died on the spot and two in hospital, police said. Police said opposition supporters fired on a bus in the town of Charsaddah, 30km (19 miles) northwest of Peshawar, killing a man and a woman and wounding nine other passengers. In Gujrat, 106 miles southeast of Islamabad, provincial officials said one man had been shot dead during a clash between police and PML supporters at the house of PML Senator Chaudhry Shujat Hussain. See Page 12 Col 7

Sangram Parishad to gherao Sect today

By Staff Correspondent The Sanmilitiya Sangram Parishad, a platform of fundamentalist groups, will gherao the Secretariat today as part of its programme to 'unseat the government' and to press home 11-point charter of demands. The demands include formulating a blasphemy law, restricting the activities of NGOs and, cancelling the 25-year Bangladesh-India Friendship Treaty. The National Democratic Alliance (NDA), the Freedom Party, the Islamic Shashantantra Andolan and other affiliate organisations of the parishad will gherao the Secretariat.

Kumari Puja today

Durga Puja mandaps wore a festive look as the Hindu community prepared for celebrating Mahastami, the main occasion of the five-day festival today, reports UNB. Kumari Puja, part of the Mahastami, will be held at Ram Krishna Mission in the city today. On the second day of the Puja, Saptami, yesterday hundreds of devotees — men, women and children — in colourful dresses thronged the mandaps. In Hindu mythology, Durga Puja, also called 'Sharadivya Utsav' or Autumn festival, symbolises the victory of the good over the evil. It also marks the return of Durga from heaven to her father's home on earth. Puja mandaps in the city assumed a festive mood with the decorated idol of Durga and her companions, Durga, a beautiful goddess with her ten hands, is symbolised to have See Page 12 Col 2



The namaz-e-janaza of S M Sultan (inset) was held at the Eidgah Maidan in Jessore yesterday morning. — Star photo by Atiur Rahman