Rembrandt a copycat?

Unusual progress in unofficial Indo-Pak disarmament talks

NEW DELHI Feb 27: Nuclear experts from India and Pakistan met in the western Indian state of Goa for rare regional disarmament talks where representatives of both sides claimed important progress, official, sources said

They said the four-nation 'unofficial conference' last month which also involved Chinese and US defence experts had the backing of New Delhi and Islamabad.

"It was decided not to go public about—the conference but I assure you that there was unusual progress, particularly between India and Pakistan," a representative at the talks told Reuters.

The two arch-foes have not held official talks since January 1994 after hitting a deadlock over Islamabad's demand for a discussion on a plebiscite in India's Jammu and Kashmir state which Delhi rejects.

For the past five years, Muslim rebels have been fighting a separatist war against Indian rule in the Himalayan region in which some 17,000 people have died.

"The fact that the Indian side has agreed to sit at regional talks with Pakistan is it-

Three killed in

city incidents

By DMCH Correspondent

killed in separate incidents in

about 18, was seriously injured

when he fell from the first

floor of a building at Fakirerpul

admission in the Dhaka

Medical College Hospital

when knocked down by a

speeding autorickshaw at

Nimtoli, Anandabazar at about

Badsha Miah, 35, was sent to

the DMCH where he suc-

killed when a speeding bus ran

over him at Mirpur bus stand

DMCH morgue for autopsy.

From Page One

ing, he never went for miking

to invite poor people for taking

Zakat. "I am not rich enough

distributing Zakat among a

crowd. I have a list of people

whom I offered Zakat and I

have done this today also." he

that every year we distribute

Zakat among some distressed

people," he said. He regretted

that some people died in a

not send anybody to open the

gate of the school. Somebody

trying to come out of the

school might have opened the

visited the area at about 12:30

pm, some people were still

hanging around in the hope

that they would be offered Za-

on-duty in front of the school

also said that Mirza Abbas was

scheduled to distribute Zakat.

Abbas said people were misin-

formed and he had no such

mothers of Shukkur Ali and

Hazrat Ali were seen wailing

for their sons. Mother of

Hazrat rushed to the hospital

At the DMCH morgue,

programme at the school.

A police official, who was

When this correspondent

He further said that he did

stampede.

gate, he said.

"It is our family tradition

cumbed to his injuries.

in the morning.

The victim, Mohammad

An 18-year-old Kajal was

Police sent all bodies to the

the city yesterday.

in the morning.

(DMCH).

10:30 am.

At least three persons were

One Enamul Haque, aged

The victim died soon after

A pedestrian was injured

self a matter of great satisfaction, a Pakistan representative at the talks said

India officially says nuclear disarmament is a global issue. It had rejected Pakistan's offer of a regional peace pact with New Delhi to be endorsed by China. Russia and the United

An India-Pakistan citizen's conference in New Delhi last week said both governments were forced to take hardline positions because of pressure from rightwing nationalists in their countries

The Goa talks stemmed from a similar meeting in Shanghai last February beween representatives of the four countries. The Pakistan delegation was represented by slamabad's ambassador in New Delhi Riaz Khokhar.

Indian defence experts said despite its official opposition to regional talks, New Delhi had decided to encourage a dialogue with Pakistan infor-

There was a shift, albeit a subtle one, one Indian defence analyst told Reuters.

He said China's involvement in the talks was equally significant. Beijing officially refuses to hold nuclear talks with in- device in 1974 but says it is dia, saying it could not discuss not making the bomb.

Council of editors'

polls Mar 30

Council of Editors will be held

on March 30 next, a press re-

lease of the council said yes-

The nomination papers of

the interested candidates will

be received from 9 am to 4 pm

on March 16 at the office of

the chairman of the election

commission M Haider

Chowdhury at National Life

Insurance Col Ltd. 79

Motifheel Commercial Area

(second floor). Dhaka, the

terday, reports BSS.

The election of Bangladesh

the issue with a country which was not a member of the official nuclear club.

They maintained that old argument in Goa," one conference sources said. "But China's presence there showed a small concession."

The next round of talks has been scheduled for Islamabad, western diplomats say the unofficial meetings were significant for the two countries as both were capable of building nuclear weapons quickly.

india says it cannot give up its nuclear option even if Pakistan agrees to a pact because of China's atomic arsenal.

India and China fought a brief border war in 1962. India and Pakistan have fought three wars since independence from Britain in 1947, two of them over Kashmir.

in the next few days.

WASHINGTON, Feb 27

Even Rembrandt stole some of

his best ideas from other

artists, according to a new ex-

hibit at the National Gallery of

Art. Only in his day, people

thought it was a good idea, re-

Imitation and Invention: Old

Master Prints and Their

assistant curator of prints, ex-

plains that in the days before

photography the making of

prints was the way artists put

their ideas before a wide audi-

ence. The important thing was

the idea, and the twist that

rism was considered a form of

education and public relations.

critic Karel van Mander, who

died in the same year - 1606

- that Rembrandt Harmensz

perfectly all right, like a bee

sucking nectar from a flower

to turn into honey, van Mander

advised young artists. He put it

"Steal arms, legs, bodies.

Rembrandt took the advice.

The show includes a

hands, leet, "tis here not for-

bidden...Well cooked pickings

Rembrandt etching of the

Virgin and Child, done when

the great Dutch artist was no

longer young. He had looked

hard at an engraving by the

Italian painter Andrea

Mantegna, created more than

of his own, using exactly the

same touching pose as

Mantegna did: the Virgin's

cheek pressed against the

Child's, her hands clasped in

just the same way around him.

Her knees under their heavy

drapery are in just the same

JCD factions clash

over Zakat: 15 hurt

activists of the Jativatabadi

Chhatra Dal (JCD) were in-

jured, one seriously, in an in-

tra-party clash over distribu-

tion of Zakat clothings at

Ullapara Bazar today, reports

tween the rival groups of the

JCD, one led by its thana unit

organising secretary Selim and

another by former JCD leader

Fazlu, erupted following a

quarrel to distribute sarees

and lungis sanctioned by the

Witnesses said the clash be-

SIRAJGANJ, Feb 27: Fifteen

Rembrandt did an etching

Stealing artistic ideas was

What we would call plagia-

Jecmen quotes the Dutch

each artist put on it.

van Rijn was born.

into a poem:

make good stew.

150 years before.

Greg Jecmen, the gallery's

ports AP.

Sources.

Western diplomats say Kashmir is a potential flashpoint for a nuclear war between the two populous coun-

Pakistan says it has acquired a nuclear capability but a political decision has been taken to use it only for peaceful purposes.

India exploded a nuclear

Great escape! ISLAMABAD, Feb 27: A dozen prisoners escaped after temporarily blinding their police escort with chilli powder while being taken back to jail from trial court, news reports said today, says AFP.

Police have launched a hunt for the escapees, who were facing trial on charges of murder, kidnapping, robbery and theft.

According to the reports. the prisoners overpowered the policemen in nearby Rawalpindi, unlocked their handcuffs and seized two vehicles to flee from the scene.

Campaign against a mosque in Varanasi

NEW DELH, Feb 27: Thousands of soldiers and police surrounded an ancient mosque in northern India today as a banned group of Mindu radicals launched a campaign to destroy it, reports AP.

The extremists believe Muslim invaders built the 16th-century mosque in Varanasi city after destroying a

Today is a major Hindu holiday, and the outlawed World Hindu Council has urged the tens of thousands of Hindus who travelled to Varanasi to worship there to support their anti-mosque

The radicals told the worshippers to do that while entering a Hindu temple 25 yards (meters) away from the mosque and pouring water from the sacred Ganges river on an idol of their god Shiva.

The soldiers and police will not intervene unless activists attack the mosque or members of the banned group protest nearby.

The Press Trust of India news agency said that 50,000 Hindus travelled to Varanasi. including 25,000 radicals.

In 1992, the World Hindu Council helped organise a rally of Hindu extremists that destroyed an ancient mosque in the nearby holy city of Ayodhya.

position. The Child's left foot is crossed over His right, exactly as in the Mantegna picture.

Two US soldiers carry a crate as they walk past a Pakistani soldier of the UN peace-keeping

force manning a heavy machine-gun on the beach in Mogadishu, Somalia yesterday. The US

contingent is part of the Operation United Shield that will help the troops to pull out of Somalia

Then Rembrandt put in some twists of his own. One of the Virgin's feet is crushing a snake that crawls out from under her robe. That symbolised The show is called the doctrine of Christ's redemption of humanity from the sin provoked by Eve's ser pent. There's a cat in the background, for no particular reason that Jecmen can think of. Rembrandt just liked playful domestic details, he said.

Rembrandt also cleverly worked the Virgin's halo into the pattern of a window behind her and put Joseph on the outside, looking in. He added a trunk with clothes spilling out of it, an armchair a fireplace and other extra bits. But the main figures remain almost exactly as Mantegna drew them.

The two rooms of the show contain 64 works of artists. models and imitators, paired to show the resemblances. All are small, white prints.

Andrew Robison, the gallery's senior curator, said a more colourful exhibit of the same kind could be mounted with paintings.

But that would have to be a major international show with borrowings from imiscums and private collections all over the world," he said, "It would take years to put together."

This show was done almost entirely with prints from the gallery's own huge collection. normally kept in archives and brought out only on request. It is part of a series of "theme" exhibits designed to bring the collection out of the vaults and visible to the public.

"Imitation and Invention: Old Master Prints and their Sources" will be at the National Gallery's East Building through August 6. There are no plans to send it anywhere else.

'Chiching Fak' banned

banned a book entitled "Chiching Fak' jointly edited by Lila Mazumder and Sushanta Pal and published by Swapan Bashak, from 7, Shayamacharan Dey Street, Calcutta-73. A government handout said that the book (first published in 1974) contained an imaginary picture of Hazrat Mohammad (SM) which has hurt the religious sentiment of the Musselling and distribution of the

man was stabbed to death on broad day light infront of a crowded shopping centre in the town today, reports UNB. Witnesses said Shahid, 22

was critically injured when two miscreants repeatedly stabbed him infront of the Bhuiyan Market at Kandirpar at about 1

Quetta blast

Efforts to find the bodies were hampered by heavy snow and rain that made it difficult to travel to the mine, about 40

The Sunday night blast took place more than 2,500 feet (750 meters) underground and was one of the worst coal mine disaster in recent years in

Khatians From Page One

the Demra thana from Demra Tahsil Office, those of the Uttara, Cantonment and Gulshan thanas from Uttara Tahsil Office at Azampur and of Mohammadpur, Dhanmondi and Mirpur thanas from Mohammadpur Tahsil Office.

Car bomb blast

day in the town in Dahuk province bordering Turkey, Rassoul said, condemning it as an 'odious crime.' Zakho is under the control of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) control.

The PUK has been locked in a bitter power struggle with its main rivals the KDP for several months in which Iraqi President Saddam Husein has

The area has been controlled by the Kurds in defiance of Baghdad since the end of the January-February 1991 Gulf war with the help of a USled coalition.

The Midnight File

Cong won't contest local polls in Andhra

HYDERABAD. India, Feb 27: India's ruling Congress party will not contest local polls in Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao's home state Andhra Pradesh where it was defeated in assembly elections in December, the party said today. State Congress general secretary PV Rajeshwar Rao, the Prime Minister's son, said the party would not put forth and candidates for the polls next month because of lack of time. reports Reuter

10 injured in fire at garment factory

At least 10 people were injured, one of them seriously, in a fire at a garment factory at Pallabi in the city yesterday. However, no major casualty was reported. The fire originated from the store room of the garment factory - People's Products Limited. However, it was brought under control by local people and workers of the factory. The Kuliarchar Sweater Factory at Malibagh Chowdhurypara was also caught by a fire at 6:30 pm. Nobody was injured in the incident, reports UNB.

Imports, exports up

From Page One cellaneous industries increased from 155 million to 214 million dollars.

- AFP photo

JCD on rampage

in Khulna

From Our Correspondent

of the JCD went on the ram-

page in various parts of the city

to several rooms of the

Shaheed Titumir Hall of the

Govt B L College, Faruk

Academy, an orphanage, the

Sramik Kalyan Federation of-

fice, the Khalispur Jamaat of

fice. Aralat Manzil belonging to

Moulana Delwar Hossain

Saidec Nazirghat Mess and

damaged window panes of the

house of Moulana Yusuf, a cen-

Many of the BNP-backed

JCD activists, brandishing

firearms, created a reign of

terror in different areas of the

city, reportedly in the pres-

paralysed during the violence.

Islami Chhatra Shibir(ICS) has

threatened to paralyse city life

if cases filed against its ac-

tivists were not withdrawn and

the arrested leaders set free

immediately, an ICS press re-

hartal from 6 am to 2 pm was

observed here today protesting

violence that left at least two

people killed in the city in last

and Jativatabadi Chhatra Dal

separately called for the hartal

to protest the killing of Ward

Commissioner and Awami

League leader Moslemuddin

Khan and JCD city unity gen-

eral secretary Abul Kalam Azad. During the hartal hours all

modes of transport remained

off the streets and shops and

business establishments

police and para-military BDR

were deployed at vulnerable

points of the city during the

of JCD leader Abul Kalam Azad

was held at Khalishpur,

Daulatpur and Shaheed Hadis

Park and his body was sent to

One stabbed to

death in Comilla

COMILLA, Feb 27: A young-

his village home in Comilla.

Heavy contingent of armed

Meanwhile, namaj-e-janaja

The Awami League the BNP

UNB reports: A half-day

Normal city life remained

Meanwhile, the pro-Jamaat

tral leader of the Jamaat.

ence of police.

lease said today.

two days.

hartal hours.

KHULNA. Feb 27: Activists

They ransacked and set fire

The actual settlement of foodgrain imports over the same period stood at 68.1 million dollars compared to 15.8 million dollars in July-December of 1993 while sugar imports increased from 32 million to 69 million dollars dur-



Khorshed Alam

Export volume during the six-month period stood at 1.69 billion dollars compared to 1.38 billion dollars over the same period of 1993-94 with frozen food recording a 50 per cent growth, leather by 51 per cent, ready-made garments by

21 per cent and jute goods exports increasing by 30 per

Exports of raw jute, however, declined while that of tea was lower than the previous

Remittances and transfers upto December last stood at 667 million dollars, up from the 587 million dollars during the first six month of 1993-94. Remittances alone increased from 520 million to 584 mil-

lion dollars during the period. The monetary growth during the six-month period stood at 7.9 per cent compared to 4.12 per cent over the same period of the previous fiscal, Alam said, while attributing the growth to factors relating mainly to the external sector.

Domestic credit also grew by two per cent during the period with private sector lending showing a healthy 7.6 per cent growth. He said that during the period Tk 1,481 crore was sanctioned as industrial loans compared to only Tk 541 crore during the same period of the previous fiscal.

Total capital inflow also showed a sharp increase during the July-December of 1994-95 and stood at 50 million dollars, five million in foreign direct investment and 45 million in portfolio investment, compared to only 12 million dollars during the same period of 1993-94. Alam pointed out.

Diabetic Awareness Day today rium vesterday. President of

The Bangladesh Diabetic Society will observe the Diabetic Awareness Day today to create consciousness among the people about the killer disease, reports UNB.

in Bangladesh, nearly 25 lakh people are suffering from diabetes, rated the third among killer diseases worldwide after heart ailment and cancer. Of them, only two lakh are getting any treatment.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas will be the chief guest at the day's main function at the Society's auditorium at 4

Newspapers will carry supplements while radio and television will air special programmes. A commemorative stamps will also be issued and leaflets distributed at the thana level through the LGRD and Cooperatives Ministry.

To mark the occasion, the Society will bring out a book on 'Complications of diabetes and how to get rid of them'.

Addressing a press confer-

ence at the BIRDEM audito-

the Society Alamgir MA Kabir said only two lakh diabetic patients are getting treatment from the BIRDEM and its 31 satellite clinics across the country.

About 1.40 lakh patients were registered with the BIRDEM since it was set up on February 28, 1956. Some 70 new and nearly 1,000 old patients are getting treatment from the BIRDEM free of cost everyday.

Medicine Consultant of the BIRDEM Dr Zafar A Latif said people in the 35-50 age group are vulnerable to diabetes. If it is not controlled, this disease can seriously damage eyesight, the kidneys and the nervous system within five years.

Heart disease, cancer, diabetes and road accidents are considered the major killers around the world. Urbanisation, stress and changed food habits are some of the causes of diabetes. Dr Latif said.

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য যাইতেছে যে, আসনু "ঈদ-উল-ফিতর" উপলক্ষে যাত্রী সাধারণের সুবিধার্থে ঢাকা–খুলনা মহাসড়কের ১ম ও ২য় ধলেশ্বরী ফেরী ঘাটে, জিঞ্জিরা - কেরাণীগঞ্জ- দোহার সভ্কের তুলসীখালি এবং মরিচা ফেরী ঘাটে এবং ফতুল্লা-মুন্সিগঞ্জ-লৌহজং সড়কের মুক্তারপুর ফেরী ঘাটে ফেরী চলাচলের বিশেষ বন্দোবস্ত করা হইয়াছে। শুধুমাত্র ঈদের নামাজের জন্য ঈদের দিন ২ (দুই) ঘন্টা ফেরী চলাচল বন্ধ থাকিবে যানবাহন ফেরীতে উঠানামার সময়ে যাত্রীদিগকে যানবাহন হইতে নামিয়া যাওয়ার জন্য বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ করা যাইতেছে।

ইহা ছাড়া জনসাধারণকে ফেরীতে কর্মরত কর্মচারীদের সহিত সহযোগিতা এবং সৃশৃংখলভাবে ফেরীতে উঠানামা করার জন্য বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ করা যাইতেছে।

শাহাবউদ্দিন

ডিএফপি-৪৬০৪-২৩/২ 18-019

নিৰ্বাহী প্ৰকৌশলী (সওজ)

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from a garment factory where recovery of the injured. she works. New DSE rules

From Page One

foreign investors for current buoyancy of the market, but the contribution of local investors should in no way be underestimated," he added

favour of foreign funds extremely limited the availability of securities for local investors, throwing them into frustration.

Squeezing availability for domestic investors saw frequent oversubscription of IPOs, even by 20 times in one case, in recent months.

Arguing in favour of the lock-in, the SEC chief said the market requires a cushion against any collapse in case of foreign funds suddenly withdrawing on a large scale — a Mexico syndrome.

"Lock-in is nothing now, it is a common measure in markets across the world. It's a safety measure," he said. Khan pointed out that Sri Lanka has a two-year lock-in while India a five-year one.

The SEC officials refuted allegations from different quarters that the new guidelines would scare away foreign investment from the nascent

Even after new regulations, recognise the contribution of they argued, the Bangladesh stock market is still far more liberal compared to most other emerging markets. Many markets have other kinds of restrictions like capital gain Excess allotment of IPOs in tax which is absent in

> Bangladesh, they said. Dr A K M Shahabub Alam said although the Bangladesh market is a small one, it is fairly attractive because of lucrative returns. He said shares are generally undervalued in the DSE resulting in a price earning ratio of 12, compared to 20 in neighbouring markets.

Moreover, he said, while a few restrictions have been imposed, foreign funds had simultaneously been allowed to underwrite shares which opened opportunities for earning from commission.

Preferential allotment has been a great privilege to foreign portfolio investors. putting them in a vantage position compared to local investors, and facilitating them to earn a reasonable profit. The SEC officials said they

were now explaining the rationale of the new guidelines to the foreign funds.

The Chairman of the election commission will announce the names of the candidates at

press release added.

4 pm on March 20 at the same office after scrutiny Meanwhile. March 22 has been fixed as the day for withdrawal of nomination papers by 3 pm while there will be hearing at 3 pm on March 21 on nomination papers if any cancelled.

Stampede kills five Both the mothers did not know that their sons had gone Hindu temple there. to Motifheel School to have

When contacted last night Headmaster of the school Rashiduddin Zahid said that no permission was given to anyone for the use of the school premises yesterday. The office was open on the day although

the school is currently closed for the Eid vacation, he added. He said that he was unaware of the incidents that led to the deaths as he was out on official

The headmaster, however, noted that while being office at around 9 am he saw a large number of people standing in front of the school and near the house of Mirza Abbas. which is located opposite to the school premises.

UNB adds: Awami League President Sheikh Hasina expressed deep shock at the tragic death of people in the stampede.

In a message, the Awami League chief blamed the Zakat distributors for tragedy for their mismanagement and carelessness.

Hasina urged all concerned incidents.

to check recurrence of such She prayed for salvation of the departed souls and early

From Page One to the Constitution.

Significartly, the highest policy-making body of the party did not either reject or accept the fresh offer of direct from Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

The AL's two main allies the Jatiya Party and the Jamaat - have also rejected the Speaker's ruling and demanded dissolution of the Fifth Parliament and fresh elections under a caretaker administration.

High ranking ruling party sources said that as a follow-up of the Prime Minister's February 23 speech in Parliament, they might take fresh initiatives after the Eid holidays in a bid to iron out the remaining points of discord. A number of ranking BNP

leaders said that a fresh dialogue might start on a twopoint agenda - the Prime Minister's promise that she would resign 30 days ahead of the elections and Sheikh Hasina's January 10 speech in which she accepted the idea of an interim government under the President.

"Neither of the leaders can retract from promises already made," one senior minister said. He said that since the matter of the resignation letters was with the High Court when the Speaker's ruling was pending, neither side could show too much interest to evolve a patch-up formula.

He hoped something might

be worked out now since the BNP had no intention to hold an election boycotted by the major opposition parties.

be unhappy with the AL chief's readiness to accept a caretaker government under the President insisting instead that only a 'neutral, caretaker government' is acceptable to

cal losses because of such a game of dialogue and street agitation."

In the backdrop of the Speaker's ruling and the PM's renewed offer for talks last

The government yesterday lims in Bangladesh. The government has also banned the book, reports BSS.

government for destitutes. Govt, Opposition deny knowledge

Meanwhile, the JP seems to

Many opposition leaders. however, said they would entertain any offer of fresh dialogue if the ruling party agrees in principle to form a caretaker government to conduct the next elections and placed such an offer to them in writ-

Some of them also observed that the opposition parties should either resolve the crisis through a dialogue or should start an all-out agitation to force the government to accept their demand. "Dialogue and agitation cannot go side by side," one AL

leader said, adding that the

Opposition would suffer politi-

It is because of this that the main opposition AL has decided to start an all-out agitation following the Eid holidays. The three major opposition parties have already called a 48-hour hartal on March 12-13.

week, a section of the press speculated that Commonwealth Secretary General Emeka Anyaoku would come again to initiate and facilitate another round of talks between the two sides. The news of Chief Emeka's expected arrival in mid-March

was not confirmed by either

the Foreign Office or the PM's Office or any opposition Acting Foreign Secretary Mohiuddin Ahmed told The Daily Star last night that he had no knowledge about any possibility of a visit by the

General. "At least, I should have been informed as acting foreign secretary if there had been any correspondence to this ef fect. he said.

The Prime Minister's pri-

vate secretary Sabihuddin

Ahmed said, "I checked the

Commonwealth Secretary

information but the PM's Office is not at all informed of the Political adviser to the AL chief, SAMS Kibria. also expressed his ignorance about any possible visit by Chief

Emeka.

party chief has not yet been communicated any such a message," he told The Daily He said he had received several phone calls from dif-

"Not just myself, even my

ferent newspapers and crosschecked the information with the party chief who expressed her ignorance.

From Page One to survive the poisonous gas emitted from the burning coal, he said.

kilometers east of Quetta.

Pakistan, officials said.

From Page One

offered to mediate.

মুব্দিগঞ্জ সড়ক বিভাগ, মুব্দিগঞ্জ।