## Ultimatum for Benazir to enforce Islamic law

LAHORE, Mar 9: Around 35 religious and political parties have set a 10-day ultimatum for Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto to enforce Islamic law or face a protest movement. reports AFP.

At a conference here, the groups forged an alliance for the enforcement of the shariat (Islamic law). The conference also warned the government against amending Pakistan's controversial blasphemy law the groups announced in a statement today.4

The groups set March 18 as the deadline for Bhutto to announce an Islamic system or face a protest movement with a nationwide strike on march

28. The Prime Minister is on a visit to Singapore.

The conference of religious groups and institutions was also attended by representatives of fundamentalist parties. including Jamaat-i-Islami (JI) and the main opposition Pakistan Muslim League (PML) of former premier Nawaz

Wednesday's meeting criticised last month's acquittal of two Christians who were ac cused and initially sentenced to death for blasphemy against Prophet Mohammad, it urged the government to bring them back from Germany for their re-trial at the Lahore High Court (LHC)

## Gen Manzur's murder

From Page One the investigating officials only

eight days.

Our Staff Correspondent quoting informed sources said Kazi Emdad, a Captain at the time, had received General Manzur and his family members from the custody of Fatikchhari police after proper paper work in the presence of senior police officials in the evening of June 1, 1981. The general, who had led an abortive coup in which President Ziaur Rahman was killed on the night of May 30, was arrested from a tea garden along with his wife and two children as he tried to flee. Manzur was reportedly shot and killed at the cantonment immediately after being taken

Police sources said that the CID officers were trying to be sure under what circumstances Manzur was killed and by whom or on whose orders.

Informed sources also said that the police have already gathered enough information from the main suspect Kazi Emdad. CID officials have also questioned several other people, mostly retired army offi-

Sources said that the then Circle Inspector of Hathazari, Raozan, Rangunia and Fatikchhari, Mostofa Golam Quddus arrested Manzur and three of family members from Paindong, a tea garden deep inside the forest, about 36 miles from Hathazari.

At the time of his arrest Manzur was in uniform but without the insignia and epaulette. Though he was armed he surrendered without any resistance after a special team of about 50 policemen led by Golam Quddus cornered

The source recalled that General Manzur along with his wife, a son and a daughter were brought to the Hathazari police station in the afternoon.

Thousands of curious people, some of them agitated, thronged the police station. Soon after learning over wireless that Manzur had been arrested and taken to the thana. the then Senior Police Super of Chittagong Sheikh Maruful Huq and DIG Chittagong Range A S M Shajahan, who is now the Inspector General, rushed to the thana and took charge of the situation.

The source, an eye-witness recalled that Manzur took refreshments at the thana. At around 9:30 pm some troops in two army jeeps, led by Embad, went to the thana to receive custody of Manzur and his family. While Manzur travelled in one jeep also carrying Emdad, his family members went in other.

According to the media reports at the time, Manzur was killed immediately after being taken to the Chittagong cantonment. It was also reported then that some agitated soldiers had killed the general out of emotion.

held at the Danish capital.

Hasina

From Page One

ment's failure to resolve the

Farakka problem, vital to sur-

vival of the people of eight

voted to power Awami League

will not extend the Indo-

Bangladesh friendship treaty.

She also reiterated that if

Hasina noted with concern

that our local market had been

totally captured by Indian

products. She said it is all due

Sheikh Hasina addressing

She also accused the gov-

ernment of destroying the

agriculture sector by failing to

arrest the price-hike of fer-

resignation of the Opposition

from Parliament the Awami

League leader complained that

the BNP parliamentary party

used to over-rule all sugges-

tions put forward by the oppo-

sition parties. They rejected all

pro-people move simply by

criticised the Speaker for his

ignation, which she claimed he

had been given to protect the

government and as well as Par-

liament had lost their legal va-

lidity following resignations

tendered by the opposition

sign before the national elec-

tions conceding the opposition

demand for polls under a neu-

tral non-party caretaker gov-

ernment, she said adding, we

have demanded it to stabilise

democracy and to establish a

sound. flawless electoral sys-

The government must re-

Hasina reiterated that the

interest of the ruling BNP.

members.

ruling on the opposition res-

In this connection Hasina

their sheer majority, she said.

Dwelling on the en masse

convention yesterday.

tiliser and rice.

to weak government policy.

north-western districts.

She pointed at the govern-

Since then the incident of Manzur's death had remained a mystery. But after a long silence of nearly 14 years the issue has again resurfaced with the filing of a case by Barrister Abul Mansur, elder brother of Manzur. In his FIR Mansur stated that the filing of the case was not possible earlier for delay in getting a copy of autopsy report from concerned quarters.

Following the abortive coup several associates of Manzur were found guilty by a general court martial and either hanged or given stiff sentences.

The filing of the case has revived doubts in certain quarters that former president HM Ershad, who was the Chief of Army Staff at the time, may have had a role in the whole af-

#### 45 hurt in Barisal road mishap

BARISAL, Mar 9: At least 45 passengers were injured, six of them critically, in a road accident on the outskirts of the town today (Thursday), reports

Police said a Barisal-bound bus from Banaripara rammed a roadside tree at Kashipur

#### Bane or Boon? From Page One

"Of course it's a defeat, Qader said.

initiatives to fight female illiteracy and unemployment might help. But for developing countries like Bangladesh, the whole reason for making the expensive trip to Copenhagen was to get something tangible in return from wealthy coun-

"It isn't anybody's fault in particular," Qader said, "But there is an expression in Western philosophy: Noblesse oblige. They have an obligation to help."

Per capita income in Bangladesh two years ago was 220 dollars. It was about 100 times higher in the United States - 23,300 dollars. Officially, Bangladesh has

45 delegates at the World Summit for Social Development. Back home, there are 120 million others who need more than hopeful words of support, Qader said. "You can ask for many

things. But," he added, "it's easier said than done.'



From Page One promote workers' rights might

A mother with her child in a pram walks past a pile of garbage with a globe symbolising the

industrialised nations' consumer society set up in front of Copenhagen's City Hall

(background) yesterday. The UN-sponsored World Summit on Social Development is being

also emerge at the meeting. They informed that an intense negotiation on the language of the final document of the summit bogged down late last night over the question of sovereignty of nations and the

right to development. The delegates left the talks to resume discussion today to wrap up things by midnight tonight.

AFP adds: A proposal by Third World countries for a new development fund to finance recommendations from the UN summit remains the major obstacle in completing negotiation here today, officials

The demand for an interna tional bank for social development was placed on the open ing day of the conference by Cielito Habito of the Philippines on behalf of 131 developing countries known by their original name as the Group of 77. The proposed bank would

be an alternative to the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, which have been attacked here for imposing severe conditions on finance for the Third World.

Habito, secretary of the National Economic and

## 1400 tons of fertiliser seized

SAVAR, Mar 9: Police seized 1,400 tons of Urea fertiliser from four trawlers at Turag river ghat at Aminbazar on Wednesday night and arrested five people, reports UNB.

The fertiliser worth about Tk 1.5 crore was recovered from MV Hasan, MV Sonar Harin, MV Barkat and MV

Sonali Hansh. The arrested persons are: Jalil of Kaliakoir, Waresh and Swapan of Tangail, Baki Billah of Pabna and Kashem Ali of

Dohar. They told police that they had purchased the Urea at a cost of Tk 330 per bag from fertiliser traders Pagla and Bangshi Badan Shaha of Savar.

The arrested traders said the seized fertiliser was brought from Ghorashal Fertiliser Factory for distribution among farmers at fixed price.

Development Authority, also called on rich countries to cancel the crippling debt of Third World nations.

The US delegation stressed today it is in favour of debt cancellation, but African nations said they were afraid they would go home empty-handed

The rich countries are watering down the document so much "that they will leave enough flexibility to allow countries to do whatever they want," said a representative of a non-governmental delegation from Senegal.

Hundreds of NGOs are hold ing a conference at Copenhagen's disused Holmen naval base simultaneously with the week-long summit here.

the US delegation and Undersecretary of State for Global Affairs, said the United States was pressuring for debt cancellation, but admitted that technical and legal changes were required before it could implement such a promise.

He cited as an example the fact that some countries' debt was in nominal terms far greater than its value in real market terms, saying "your debt might be worth one dollar on paper but one cent in real-

#### PM in Copenhagen From Page One

Begum Zia is also expected to call for working out a social agenda to make mankind's journey through the 21st century more fulfilling and meaningful. The Prime Minister will

highlight the new development perspective of Bangladesh which gives priority to sustainable social and economic development and integration of women in the mainstream of development.

Mostafizur Rahman, State Minister for Planning Dr A Moyeen Khan, State Minister for Social Welfare Fazlur Rahman, Rosy Kabir MP, and senior officials of the ministries dealing with social progress accompanied the Prime Minis-

On way back home the in London.

#### benefit two million borrowers, 94 per cent of them women. Timothy Wirth, the head of **US** Congress

honours Suu Kyi WASHINGTON, Mar 9: This year International Women's Day in the United States was dedicated to Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi during a special event at the US Capitol, says a USIS press release

Members of Congressional Human Rights Caucus and the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues held a meeting to pay tribute to the 1991 Nobel Peace Laureate.

Aung San Suu Kyi has been held under house arrest by Myanmar's ruling military regime since 1989 when she won the presidency in free and open elections with a landslide 82 per cent of the vote. Myanmar's State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) refused to recognise the victory.

## Princess Anne ends visit

for Colombo yesterday concluding her four-day visit to Bangladesh, reports UNB.

The British Princess Royal was seen off at Zia International Airport by Agriculture. Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Minister Majid-ul Haq and his wife. During her stay here.

Princess Anne, who is the President of Save the Children Fund (SCF), Britain's largest humanitarian global organisation, visited British aided projects and SCF's programmes in Dhaka, Jessore, Khulna and Dinajpur.

BSS adds: Earlier on the day Princess Anne, visited a children's nutrition unit in the city run by Save the Children's Fund UK. She saw a home based re-

habilitation programme for malnourished children in the city run by the SCF. Later, Princess Anne saw a rehabilitation programme at a

Khilgaon slum. Chakma leader

#### dies in India \* From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Mar 9: Bhai-

gva Chandra Chakma, president of the Tripura-based **Humanity Protection Forum** (HPF), reportedly a subsidiary of the Parbattya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) the parent organisation of the rebel Shantibahini - has died, reportedly under mysterious circumstânces, reports trickling in from across the border said. Bhaigya Chandra, who was also known as a prominent li-

aison man between the PCJSS and other international organizations, died in Tripura on March 6. The cause of death was not yet known. Sources hinted that his

death might cause a setback and loss for the PCJSS. The HPF used to provide

patronage to the PCJSS by maintaining liaison with different circles in and outside the country, sources said, adding that he had played a key role in rebel Chakma affairs.

# The Midnight Kile

BELFAST, Mar 9: Queen Elizabeth arrived in Belfast this morning for a one-day visit to northern Ireland. This is her first visit to the province since the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and loyalist paramilitaries declared a cease-fire last au-

a visa for Sum Fein leader Gerry Adams to enter the United States and raise funds for his organization, the White House said today, reports Reuter.

# New private banks

Investment Bank, the Dutch-Bangla Bank, the Al-Arafat Bank, a joint venture with Saudi Arabia, and the Trust

According to sources, the Prime Bank has already rented commencing business.

rented an office at the city's Dilkusha Commercial Area. The first meeting of the bank's 13-member Board of Directors is scheduled for March 16.

tors of the bank. Lutfar Rahman Sarker, the

Managing Director of Prime very beginning.

Automated Teller Machines (ATM) besides computerised payment and receipt systems from the start.

more on commission earning rather than interest on loans by introducing separate divisions for stocks and the leasing business." Sarker said.

go for partnership with entrepreneurs, giving priority to university-passed students and the people of the low income group possessing entrepreneurial skills, he said. Since the bank would have its representatives in those enterprises, entrepreneurs would not require to furnish

ing rates, which are considered too high for the borrowers, the Prime Bank MD said the bank would follow the

## From Page One

Saturday when two giants of domestic cricket - Abahani and Mohammedan Sporting Club — clash in the prestigious league match at the Dhaka Stadium. The former Pakistan skip-

# BNP Dhaka Div

will attend the conference as the chief guest while party secretary general Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder and other central leaders will also be present. Barings From Page One

other creditors," ING chairman Aad Jacobs said in a statement. Some unsecured bond holders complained they did

not get enough of a repayment but Jacobs said ING was more generous than necessary under the circumstances. ING initially paid them 7.5 per cent of their investment. Hartal in Ctg

#### From Page One

the activists by resorting to baton charge.

Police said, some agitators threw stones and cocktails at them but they escaped unhurt.

Besides, cocktails were exploded at various places amid picketing while some rick shaws were damaged, police and witnesses said.

alleged that about 100 BCL ac tivists were injured and 50 others picked up during the police attack on them when they were preparing to hold rallies.

market in determining the interest rate, but would offer rebates to good borrowers.

About the low rate of deposits and savings instruments, he said. "Our deposit rate will be attractive. We will also introduce savings schemes like the Deposit Pension Scheme.

Although most of the banks are withdrawing such schemes because of their inability to pay the huge amount of interest by using those deposits profitably, we will go ahead with such schemes because utilisation of funds would not be a problem for us," he added. The bank would also offer

in phases, agriculture and rural sector credits and also for selfemployment generation, he To recall, as managing director of Sonali Bank, Sarker had introduced the "Bikalpa"

project for university students in the early '80s. M A Quashem of Southeast Bank said. "Besides normal banking, our bank will have consultancy services for industrial project preparation and other related technical mat-

He said new entrepreneurs are often not well aware of the feasibility of their planned project, and also if and how the projects can be made feasible. The bank will help them take the right decisions by providing technical services, he added

We will gradually computerise the payment and receipt systems and introduce stateof-the-art banking in Bangladesh," the former FBCCI chief said.

"We shall take care of the small investors and rationalise the collateral system," he added.

## Boarding bridges

From Page One

Civil Aviation officials said installation of the modern boarding facilities remarkably improved passenger handling and helped strengthen security system.

They said the government had plans to increase the number of boarding bridges in

The US made Aprondrive, three-tunnel, solid state boarding bridges, they said, could be used for Boeing-747s, DC-10s, Airbuses, MD-11s, Tristars and Boeing-737s as well as other wide-bodied and mid-haul air-

# JP: Raushan

From Page One

the special courts. Another

source, however, said that

Moudud would appear for Ershad before the Appellate Division. Yet another source, dismissing such speculation, said the former president was

smart enough and would han-

dle the matter carefully.

Acting party chief Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury was out of the city on a tour to Cox's Bazar and was unavailable for comment. He had earlier dismissed any talk of discord inside the party. Begum Ershad met her im-

prisoned husband on Eid day

and spent about an hour with him in the specially secured cell inside the Dhaka Central Details of their discussions were not known but one

source said that after meeting with Ershad, the former first lady went straight to the house of Shah Moazzem where she held talks with the former party secretary. When contacted over telephone last night, Shah

Moazzem admitted to having had talks with Raushan on Eid He declining to elaborate, he only said sarcastically:

"Reporters know all the inside stories of the party!" About the standing or rank of Raushan Ershad in the presidium, he said "All mem-

bers of the presidium are In reply to a question whether there was any directive from the jailed president

situation, Shah Moazzem said. "You better ask him." Shah Moazzem, who was precipitously relieved of his duties as secretary by Ershad

regarding the present political

two years ago, said as party chief Ershad regularly advises the leaders on different political matters. "But I cannot disclose all this to the press." Moazzem said.

#### SKOP for fresh action From Page One nator Dr Wazedul Islam Khan labour leaders are reluctant told The Daily Star that it was about seeking assurances of

support from the opposition political parties, commented one senior SKOP leader asking not to be named. The eight-point demand of the workers of the industrial

and other sectors include full implementation of the government's July 6, 1992 pacts with the trade unions in various areas, implementation of the National Wages Commission in the private sector industries, a stop to the government's denationalisation moves, fixation of a minimum wage of Taka 1600, a uniform salary structure for all types of workers, festival bonus equivalent to two months' salary. residential, transport, medicare, educational and other facilities, amendment of some of the labour laws, a halt to politicisation of trade unionism and harassment of workers for their role in anti-government agitations, release of labour leaders and withdrawal of cases filed against them under the Anti-Terrorism Act and establishment of a Labour Bank under the ownership of the employees and workers. Asked about their plan for

fresh agitation, SKOP coordi-

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regretful that the government had not yet implemented its agreements signed with them four times during 1993-94. "We have lost all confidence in the BNP government which has reneged on all its

elected government," he said. "The government has left no option for us but to take to the streets," he added.

promises. We never expected

such a conduct from an,

Referring to the series of dialogues held on several occasions between the government and the SKOP, Dr Khan said it had already been proved that mere discussions could not resolve the crisis in the industrial and other sectors. "Sincerity of the government can only resolve the matter."

Replying to a question, the SKOP coordinator said his organisation might sit for dialogue with the government provided such talks were held on a specific agenda - implementation of the previous accords. He, however, hastened to

add that should the government make an offer for fresh talks the SKOP would not reject it outright and would give it a serious thought.

#### SYLHET, Mar 9: A day-long hartal was observed in Jaintapur thana today demanding supply of gas, extension of rural electrification and na-

Vehicles were off the roads. Speakers at a rally hold at the thana headquarters called upon the government to accept the demands within two weeks. The Jaintapur Janadabi Parishad called the hartal.

tionalisation of Shahjalal and

Jaintapur colleges.

Hartal observed

at Jaintapur

From Staff Correspondent

## US offers \$2m reward for tip to arrest killers KARACHI, Mar 9: The US

two million dollar reward for information leading to the arrest of the killers of two American diplomats, reports AFP. US Ambassador John Monjo made the offer as Pakistan

tried to play down the impact

of the Karachi killings on rela-

tions between the two coun-

tries.

Wednesday night.

also received stab injuries while trying to protect his father from the sudden attack.

had an altercation with his uncle over family affairs and at one stage attacked and stabbed him severely.

#### death in Polash By DMCH Correspondent Mohammad Alauddin, 50,

One stabbed to

Princess Anne left Dhaka

Foreign Minister A S M

Prime Minister will attend the Commonwealth Day reception



March 12-13. -Star photo

# Karachi killing

government today offered a

Relatives alleged that the killer Mohammad Nuruzzaman

#### was stabbed to death by his nephew at Fulbaria village of Polash thana in Narsingdi Alauddin's daughter Shimu.

## DPRK to give fund for Rupsha Bridge

the Rupsha Bridge in Khulna

Officials said a high pow

ered delegation of North Korea

had offered the Bangladesh

government a turnkey package

including finance, design and

construction of the bridge. It

also visited the site of the pro-

posed bridge over the Rupsha

tion led by Ri Song Dai.

Chairman of the North Korean

External Economic Commi-

vesterday ending its four-day

International Airport prior to

his departure for home, Ri

Song Dai said that a congenial

investment climate was exist

Int'l dialogue at

Grameen Bank

begins today

begins at the Grameen Bank

head office today to examine

first-hand a non-traditional

banking model that offers

loans mainly to the poorest

Forty-four participants from

USA, UK, Japan and Canada

arrived here at their own ex-

penses to attend the February

10-20 programme. Grameen

Bank and US-based RESULT

Educational Fund have jointly

of Grameen Bank Khaled

Shams will inaugurate the pro-

Grameen Bank projects that

Deputy Managing Director

They will visit some 25

organised the programme.

gramme at 9:00 am.

women, reports UNB

An international dialogue

Talking to newsmen at Zia

visit to Bangladesh.

ing in Bangladesh.

The seven-member delega-

left the capital

reports UNB

#### North Korea has shown Queen Elizabeth in Belfast keen interest in providing fi nancial and technical assistance for the construction of

From Page One

the Bangladesh Social

an office on Rajuk Avenue in Motifheel and selected another in Khatunganj in Chittagong for The Southeast Bank headed by M A Quashem has also

FBCCI member Yusuf Harun, Managing Director of Chittagong Cement Clinker Factory, Abu Tayeb, Ragib Ali of Sylhet, Azimuddin Ahmed Mashiur Rahman, Jalalur Rahman and some other expatriate Bangladeshis are direc-

Bank, who once headed Sonali Bank, the country's largest, said. "We want to start an exceptional banking in Bangladesh with a new outlook and using the most modern banking technologies from the He said his bank would have

"We would concentrate

The Prime Bank would also

collateral, he added. Regarding the current lend-

Wasim Akram

Zimbabwe, would make his Dhaka league debut

per, who was forced to step down amidst growing dissatisfaction among the players, will be accompanied by his wife, Humayra.

# confce Mar 29

The Dhaka Divisional representatives' conference of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) will be held on March 29 in the capital, a party press release said here last night, reports BSS. BNP chairperson and Prime

Minister Begum Khaleda Zia

deposits are safe and we believe it is also fair in relation to

The BCL in a press release

## tumn, reports AFP. Clinton okays visa for Adams WASHINGTON Mar 9: President Bill Clinton has approved