## SAVE DHAKA



This picture, taken in the city's Azimpur area, shows a common sight: Repair workers leaving bricks, sand and stones piled up by the roadside, often blocking footpaths and constricting the roads. Lack of coordination among the various ultility agencies as well inadequate supervision and monitoring are usually the main causes behind such civic -- Star photo

The youths fired at least 30

Five youths were admitted

Some others were taken to

In Palpara area under the

Sadar thana, clashes between

two groups of youths from

Palpara and Nandipara left at

son was stabbed by a group of

youths near the DIT market in

Laldighi Maidan in the city. Al.

chief Sheikh Hasina and een-

tral leaders of her party ad-

Hasina said, if voted to

Anis-ud-Dowla said that the

labour leaders should "shun

politics in labour movement"

and tocus on the workers' in-

terests only. "Politics in labour

movement may serve the in-

terests of the labour leaders

of Journalists (BFUJ) leaders at

a seminar at the Jatiya Press

Club urged the government to

immediately constitute the

fifth wage board for the jour-

nalists and other employees of

Ershad's trials

adjourned

By Staff Correspondent

dent HM Ershad in the case

involving the illegal purchase

of TV equipment and thereby

causing loss to the exchequer

was adjourned yet again yes-

said he was yet to receive.

Earlier, the same court,

trying Ershad and a former

government official in a sepa-

rate corruption case, ad-

journed the hearing till June 3.

gally reinstating one Sultan

Ahmed Mullick- the co-ac-

cused in the case \_\_ in gov-

ernment service nearly ten

years after his dismissal on

disciplinary grounds. Mullick

was the superintendent of the

dock, but didn't speak to each

Both the accused sat in the

message

city's Suhrawardy Hospital.

Ershad is accused of ille-

the trial.

Do You Know?

(Health Message)

Blood vomiting & black stool (malena) is a medical emergency. If

not treated properly-death rate is high & sometimes surgery is

also risky. Thanks to the modern innovative endoscopic methods

Why don't you take same hi-tech treatment in the country,

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

GASTRO LIVER CLINIC LTD.

Road-24 House-77 Guishan-1

Dhaka. Phone -888062-3

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which are saving many lives in the developed world.

The trial of deposed presi-

the newspaper industry.

Bangladesh Federal Union

power, Awami League would

create alternative job opportu-

nities for the workers instead

In another clash, one per-

Dhaka Medical College

to 40 rounds and exploded

Hospital (DMCH) with bullet

Narayangani General Hospital

about 50 cocktails.

and bomb injuries.

with bullet injuries.

least 10 injured.

dressed the rally.

of retrenching them.

only," he added.

the town.

May Day observed

### 41 hurt in N'ganj clashes

From Our Correspondent NARAYANGANJ, May 2: At Chashara and Sabujbagh in the port town.

least 41 persons were injured in three clashes in Fatulla thana and Naravangani town

Two rival groups of youths clashed over purchase of garments' factory wastage in Chanmari area under Fatulla thana in the morning. At least 30 persons were injured in the

Of the injured 12 including a child and a woman were admitted to different hospitals in Dhaka and Narayanganj.

The sporadic clash began at about 9:30 am and continued for about three hours. Of the two rival groups, one was from Maurapanti area of Fatulla thana and the other from North

From Page 1

ments highlighting the signifi

cance of the day while Radio

Bangladesh and Bangladesh

Television put up special pro-

torate of Labour organised a

discussion at the Shilpakala

Academy premises which

stressed the need for

increasing productivity and

improving the employer-em-

initiatives to update the exist-

ing labour laws." Labour and

Manpower Secretary Dr M

Harunur-Rashid said at the the

discussion meeting. The labour

law reform committee has

prepared a report with the

consensus of all the concerned

parties and report has been

submitted to the government,

included ILO Director Paul J

Baely, president of the Metro-

politan Chamber of Commerce

and Industry (MCCI) M Anis-

ud-Dowla. National Trade

Union Federation president

Mosharraf Hossain, Labour

Director M Habib Ullah and

(BNP) held a discussion on

May Day at the party's central

Taking part in the discus-

sion. Works Minister Rafigul

Islam Mia expressed the firm

commitment of the present

government to improving the

lot of the workers since it be-

lieved that its polities of de-

velopment could not be mate-

rialised without betterment of

Food Minister M A Mannan.

State Minister for Finance

Majibur Rahman and State

Minister for Planning Dr Moin

Khan also spoke on the occa-

The May Day was observed

The Divisional Labour

through various programmes

in the port city of Chittagong.

Directorate held a discussion

on the "Spirit of May Day and

Boosting Productivity" in the

port city, which was attended

by Minister for Fisheries and

Jativa Sramik League held a

workers rally on the day at the

Livestock Abdullah al Noman.

which is available now?

Bangladesh Nationalist Party

Participants in discussion

"The government has taken

In the capital, the Direc-

grammes.

ployee relations.

he added.

others.

office.

the workers.

### Jahanara Imam's birthday today

By Staff Correspondent The 66th birth anniversary of late Jahanara Imam will be

observed today. Different socio-cultural organisations have taken up elaborate programmes to mark the occasion. The programmes include laying wreaths at her mazar at Mirpur, discussion meeting, processions and cul-

tural functions. The Nirmul Committee will observe the birth anniversary of former convener of the committee Jahanara Imam. who was popularly known as Shaheed Janani, the commit tee will award poet Sufia Kamal and Sanmililtya Sangskritik Jote with the Jahanara Imam Gold Medal 1995 at the TSC auditorium of the Dhaka Uni-

versity at 4 pm Saturday. UNB adds: The Samannaya Committee, a body of 70 political parties, including the Awami League, will bring out a procession from the Central Shaheed Minar at 4 pm and hold a discussion in front of the Jatiya Press Club.

### Chandrika cuts short Delhi tour

NEW DELHI. May 2: Sri Lanka's President Chandrika Kumaratunga will leave halfway through a summit meeting of seven South Asian nations in New Delhi to tackle the civil war back home, an Indian official said Tuesday, reports AP.

Kumaratunga, who arrived here Tuesday for the three-day meeting, will leave Wednesday morning and will not be present when the South Asian leaders meet at a retreat and at the concluding session on Thursday, said India's Foreign

Secretary Salman Haider. On Tuesday, she met with Indian Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao for nearly 30 minutes but did not ask India for military help in fighting the rebels, Haider said.

## SAARC goal

From Page 1

terday following a defence benefit of the vast multitude living in the populous Asian Ershad's counsel prayed for the deferment on the ground region. The summit began with

that he could not file the ap-Bangladesh Prime Minister plication for a criminal reviand outgoing Chairperson of sion against the framing of the SAARC Begum Khaleda Zia charges against his client for conducting the opening seslack of a proper vokalatnama ( sion at the imposing Vigyan power of attorney) which he Bhavan' which had been the venue of several international Special Divisional Judge. summits like the Non-Aligned Dhaka. M Ansaruddin Sikder and the Commonwealth heads set June 3 as the next date for of government conference.

The leaders, who are meeting after a gap of two years, described the SAARC as an important mechanism of bringing more than one billion people living in South Asia closer and vowed to further consolidate it.

Begum Zia was flanked in the dais by host nation India's Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao and King of Bhutan Jigme Singhe Wangchuk while in her extreme right was Pakistan President Farouk Ahmad Khan Leghari and in the extreme left Sri Lankan President Chan-

drika Kumaratunga.

Begum Zia opened the session by inviting Rao to deliver his inaugural address, in which the Indian Prime Minister expressed his deep appreciation at the Bangladesh Prime Minister's vision in steering the SAARC for the last two years. Rao said he greatly valued the commitment of Begum Zia to the cause of the SAARC.

After the address of the Indian Prime Minister, the outgoing chairperson took up the agenda of the summit and proposed the name of Narasimha Rao as the chairman of the eighth summit which was accepted by acclamation by all the leaders.

The Indian Prime Minister then took over as the new chairman of the SAARC, thanking the leaders for choosing him for the task till the next summit takes place.

Khaleda: Strengthen bonds | The Witchight High

forces can be properly intewell as its failures. grated with action pro-Referring to the successes grammes on poverty alleviaof the SAARC the Prime Minister said that the regional "Our goal of reaching daal forum had addressed the probbhat to every South Asian lems of women, the children, household is no longer beyond the disabled and the disadvan-

tion," she said.

realisation," Begum Zia said.

SAARC member states, have

big reservoirs of both renew-

able and non-renewable energy

which are yet to be tapped

range is a major source of hy-

dro-electricity, the Prime

Minister said and emphasised

the need for sharing this re-

source for the benefit of all

people of this historic city of

Delhi for their warm welcome

and the Indian Government for

excellent arrangements for the

Welcoming Pakistani Presi

dent Farooq Ahmad Khan Leg-

hari, Sri Lankan President

Chandrika Bandaranaike Ku-

maratunga and Nepalese Prime

Minister Man Mohan Adhikari

as new entrants to SAARC

Begum Zia said their sagacity

chairman of SAARC Prime

Minister P V Narasimha Rao of

India, Begum Zia assured him

Minister recalled the outstand-

ing contributions of her pre-

decessor, late Sri Lankan

President Ranasinghe Prema-

dasa as the chairman of SAARC.

SAARC Secretary General Y K

Silwal. Begum Zia said that the

SAARC would soon complete

She also felicitated the new

Congratulating the new

The Bangladesh Prime

would guide the forum.

of every cooperation.

Begum Zia thanked the

the people of this region.

summit.

Underlining the need for the hungry. finding new areas of regional The SAARC, she said, had cooperation, Begum Zia said initiated people-to-people conenergy was perhaps an area tacts in the region and set up which could deserve attention. some linkages with other in-She said some of the

stock-taking of the perfor-

mances and achievements as

taged, the aged, the poor and

ternational bodies. Emphasising the need for broadening the capabilities of the SAARC Secretariat, Begum Zia said all member countries profitably. The Himalayan should make it more effective and stronger. "We must invest it with greater capacity to respond to the increasing demands put upon it," she added. On the collective efforts of

the member states at all international fora, the Prime Minister said "Our nations are now formulating collective positions in every major international conference."

on poverty alleviation at the World Social Summit in Copenhagen. The SAARC member sates. she said, must harmonise their

ticulated the position of SAARC

Begum Zia had recently ar-

individual positions as much as possible at the forthcoming conference on the condition of women to be held in Beijing in September. The Prime Minister also

proposed the holding of a SAARC ministerial meeting on the problems of women in the South Asian region in Dhaka before the Beijing conference.

On education, the Prime Minister said new programmes must be devised in South Asia to attract the children to schools "We must have an educated population," she added.

tion," free primary education. stipend for the girls students at the secondary level. Begum Zia said modest investment in education would give the

nation much in return. Begum Zia dismayed that trafficking in women and children in the SAARC countries had reached intolerable proportions and said, there is a need to evolve a SAARC convention against trafficking in women and children to curb this beinous trade.

She also proposed the introduction of conventions similar to those which were devised to fight terrorism and drug abuse.

The outgoing SAARC chairperson thanked all the heads of the state and government for their unflinching support to her endeavours.

She expressed her satisfaction that the vision of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman was now closer to re-

The nations of South Asia. Begum Zia said, were now broadly agreed that collective interests must replace narrow parochialism. "We are more aware of our common destiny ... a beginning has been made Let us build on it," she said.

### SC Bar From Page 1

"If we fail to perform our respective duties, none of us will be spared from the current spell of violence and terrorism the society is experiencing," warned Justice A T M Afzal, sworn in as the Chief Justice on Monday.

He sought cooperation of all in solving the problems now facing the judiciary.

Former chief justice M H Rahman, Attorney General Barrister Aminul Hug, past presidents of the Association -Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed. Khandaker Mahbubuddin Ahmed and M Hafizullah, se mor advocate Serajul Huq and the Association Secretary S N Munir also spoke on the ocea-Justice T H Khan, President

of the Supreme Court Bar Association, chaired the function

in his farewell speech. former chief justice M H Rahman said he was appalled to see numerous problems of the courts outside the capital. He said those courts were lacking minimum facilities, which was hindering proper judicial activities.

He laid stress on proper 'court management' to resolve the problems of the court and to ensure quick disposal of pending cases.

### Press Freedom Day

From Page 1

will hold a discussion meeting on Democracy. Human Rights and the Mass Media" at the Jatiya Press Club at 4 pm.

### Seven killed

From Page 1

lice station Monday morning. The victim Mohammad Mohitur Rahman, 7, was fatally injured and died on way to the DMCH. An unnatural death (UD)

case was filed with Gulshan police station in this connec-A house wife reportedly

committed suicide at her residence at Shahid Nagar, Killar More under Lalbagh police station Monday morning. The house wife Hosne Ara.

18. fell sick by taking poison and was sent to the DMCH where the attending doctors declared her dead. Another house wife al-

legedly killed herself by taking toxin at her residence at Rupgani, Narayangani Monday.

Dilruba aged about, 25, wife of one Saydur Rahman was sent to the DMCH where he

died Monday night. A 22-year-old Mohammad Din Islam reportedly commit-

ted suicide at Ershad Nagar. Tongi early yesterday. Din Islam took poison at his residence and was sent to the DMCH where he died early

yesterday. Meanwhile, police recovered body of a businessman. Mohammad Ikbal Zakaria, 48.

from a guest house at Gulshan Monday afternoon. Zakaria was living in the guest house, Pacific Inn, since

December last. An UD case was lodged with Gulshan police station in this regard.

All the bodies were sent to the DMCH morgue for autopsy. One Zamal, 35, was stabbed in his back by a group of muggers at Lalbagh at about

The victim alleged that the

muggers stabbed him and snatched his ring when he refused to give them money. Zamal was admitted to the DMCH.

4:15 pm yesterday.

### Afzal From Page 1

Former President Justice A M Sayem, ministers, Chief Whip, Chief Election Commissioner, judges, secretaries, concerned chiefs of three defence services and senior civil and military officials were also present.

### EU ignores US trade embargo against Iran

BRUSSELS. May 2: The European Union will not join in the United States trade and investment embargo on Iran, a spokesman for the EU's executive agency, the Commission, said today

The position of the union is to maintain a critical dialogue with Iran and leave it to our businessmen to make their decisions on the basis of business or commercial considerations." reports AFP.

### US will grant asylum to Cuban refugees

WASHINGTON, May 2: In an abrupt about face, the Clinton administration will allow thousands of Cuban refugees held at the Guantanamo bay to migrate to the United States - something the White House once insisted would never happen. Officials 'said the new policy would be announced today as part of an agreement with Cuba, reports AP.

## Accord on SAPTA

From Page 1

nuclear-capable country in the

Leghari also called for using the SAARC to help resolve problems among member states, even though discussion of bilateral issues goes against the charter of the 10-year-old organisation.

That, too, appeared directed at India which has rejected outside involvement in the India-Pakistan dispute over the territory of Kashmire

Our association has not taken off, said Leghari. Economies cannot grow without peace, he said. We cannot wish our troubles away by simply turning a blind eye to our disputes.

Opening the summit. Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao of India avoided contentious issues and called on the seven countries to join the global trend of regional trade systems. South Asia cannot afford to fall back.' he said, adding that the new trade regime should be operational by the end of this year.

In Bangladesh today, 200 demonstrators in Dhaka burned an effigy of Rao in a protest over a longtime dispute over sharing the waters of the Ganges river. It is just one of the dozens of bilateral problems that have prevented closer regional coordination.

Imbalance among the region's economies is another obstacle to the free-trade area.

India's economy is so much larger and more prosperous than those of its smaller neighbours that some of them have long resisted opening their markets to Indian ex-But during yesterday's mee-

ting, India offered its market as a lure and led the way in offering tariff reductions.

India offered 106 items for duty concessions, three times more than offered by Pakistan. The Times said political

### DU Senate polls

By Staff Correspondent

The second phase of the 25 registered graduates' election to the Dhaka University Senate will be held on the campus this morning. The elections will be held

at the Teachers'-Students Centre (TSC) from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

The first phase of the polls was held in 12 centres outside Dhaka Sunday last

As many as 6336 registered graduates from across the country will elect their representatives to the DU Senate. the highest decision making body of the university.

animosity, rather than a lack of any economic potential, was holding South Asian intra-regional trade to 3.0 billion US

Smaller states are worried by India's imposing presence. India is 50 times the size of Sri Lanka, 1,000 times richer than Bhutan and has 4,000 times as many people as the Maldives.

Diplomats said progress on the trading arrangements would depend on Pakistan's attitude to it.

The agreement, which aims to increase South Asia's annual trade, must be ratified by the nations' parliaments before it can be implemented.

### Rohingyas from Page 1

who had fled to Bangladesh from Myanmar in 1991 and 1992, were registered with the authorities here. The refugees, who had crossed into Bangladesh territory to escape persecution by the Burmese military, were sheltered in 20 makeshift camps in Cox's Bazar and Bandarban districts. With the assistance of the

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) repatriation of the refugees began in September 1992 and until Sunday's head count, 190713 returned home. Earlier, it was reported that

several thousand refugees, who were unwilling to go back to Myanmar, had left the camps and mingled with the local people. Such reports prompted the authorities to go for the head count to ascertain the actual number of remaining refugees.

### Companies profits

From Page 1 ommended that it be placed before the cabinet, according to the source.

As Parliament is not in session, the President is expected to promulgate an ordinance to this effect after the Cabinet approves it.

### CEC firm

From Page turned to his old job. The new CEC took oath on April 27.

The appoint of Justice Sadeque came under criticism from the Opposition. Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina rejected his appointment.

When his attention was drawn to this the new CEC said, "I have no comment. It is a political matter. I should remain neutral".

He, however, said that he had no hand in his own appointment. There is no constitutional compulsion to consult the Opposition in appointing CEC," he added.

# न्गामनान नार्यः- এর ১০ বছর পূর্তি

দেশের বেসরকারী বীমা জগতে ন্যাশনাল লাইফ ইনস্যুরেল কোম্পানী লিঃ এখন একটি বলিষ্ঠ নাম

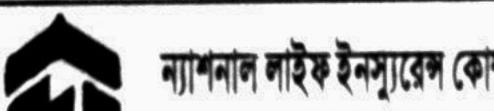
> ন্যাশনাল লাইফ অর্থনৈতিক ক্ষেত্রে ও জনসেবায় এপ্রিল-'৯৫-এ দশ বছরে পদার্পন করেছে

ইতোমধ্যে আমাদের লাইফ ফাভ ১২ কোটি টাকা 

ছাড়িয়ে গেছে আমাদের জীবন বীমা তহবিল (লাইফ ফাড) 

আপনার আর্থিক নিরাপত্তার নির্ভরযোগ্য নিষ্ঠিত আস্থার মানদভ একটি পলিসি নিয়ে আমাদের অব্যাহত অগ্রযাত্রায়

আপনিও শরিক হোন ১০ বংসর পূর্তি উপলক্ষে সংশ্রিষ্ট সকলকে জানাই ওভেছো





ন্যাশনাল লাইফ ইনস্যুরেন্স কোম্পানী লিঃ ৭৯, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা।

### Manzur murder trial From Page presiding judge.

called to order at 12:05 pm, with only Gen Latif in the dock, the defence lawyers of Col Shams and Maj Emdad

"I want to withdraw the statement which I was forced to give under mental coercion and pressure," a glum-faced Latif, attired in a stripped fullsleeve shirt told the court. He later signed his retraction petition, which was put on

clients' intentions. Accordingly, the CMM sent magistrate Shamsul Kibria Chowdhury to find out. Chowdhury corroborated the AC (Prosecution)'s version and the lawyers were pacified. However, the CMM reprimanded advocate Shah Alam, appearing for Col. Shams for his indecorous behaviour and barred him from appearing in his court in future in connection with this particular case. Alam had reportedly cast aspersions on the integrity of the

> Two idols recovered KHULNA, May 2: Two idols

of Radha and Krishna made of there.

The CMM also rejected the prayers of the defence lawyers requesting permission to consult their clients in court. However, he ordered the au-

thorities to permit such consultations inside the respective jails as per the Jail Code. The court also granted permission to the wife and daughter of Maj Emdad to visit

him in the Comilla jail. Later, the accused were transported back to the respective prisons.

The courtroom was jampacked with lawyers, pressmen and policemen who were mobilised in large numbers to ensure security.

### Star photographer stabbed

By Staff Correspondent Some unidentified miscre-

ants stabbed a photographer of The Daily Star when he tried to resist them from stealing his motorbike in Faridabad area under Sutrapur thana in the city Monday night. Photographer Amran Hos-

sain had parked his motor cycle in front of his residence at about 8:30 pm at IG Gate of Bangladesh Bank Colony in Faridabad area, Four or five youths immediately came to the spot, broke the lock of the motorbike and tried to take it Amran could not first notice

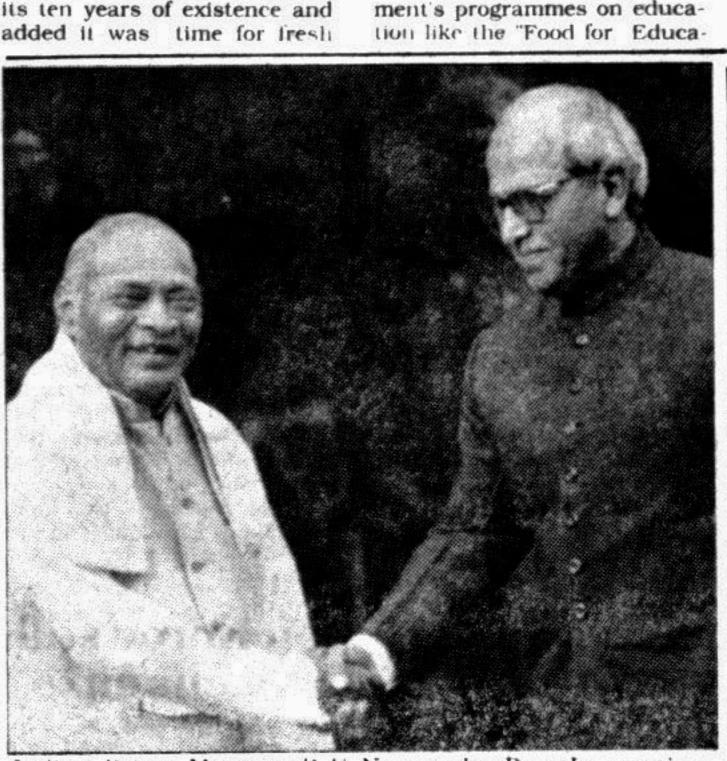
this since the area was blanketed by darkness due to power load shedding at that time. Suddenly he saw that the gang was trying to get away with his motorbike and he challenged them. The elements instantly attacked Amran with knives and

stabbed him in his left arm and back and fled away, leaving behind the motor cycle. Amran was taken to the Mitford Hospital and treated

A case has been filed with

the Sutrapur thana in this connection.

Referring to her government's programmes on educa



Indian Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao (L) greeting Pakistan President Farooq Ahmed Leghari at the Vigyan Bhaban in New Delhi for the inaugural session of the eighth South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation -- AFP/UNB photo (SAARC) summit yesterday.

protested the absence of their

clients inside the courtroom. Only Gen Latif agreed to take the dock while his two co-accused declined to make their court appearances, preferring to remain in the safety and seclusion of court lock-up. Gen Latif used the opportunity to move for retraction of his confessional statement, made

before a magistrate earlier in

record. The court witnessed a noisy scene when the defence counsels, unconvinced when the AC (Prosecution) told the court that the other two accused preferred not to appear in person, demanded that a magistrate be sent to the court lock-up to ascertain their

touchstone, which are believed to be about a thousand-yearold, were recovered by Khulna Customs here today.