## SAVE DHAKA



Three days after Eid-ul-Azha piles of garbage and rotting animal waste lie uncollected on - Star photo most city streets.

# Croatian troops still in UN buffer zone

ZAGREB, Croatia, May 14: Croatian troops remained in a UN-patrolled buffer zone in southern Croatia on Sunday despite a promise to pull out of the sensitive area, UN officials said, reports AP.

The heavily armed Croatian and Serb troops facing off inside the buffer zones rendered the 13,000-strong UN force for Croatia largely powerless and raised questions about its viability, said UN chief spokesman Fred Eckhard.

Croatia had promised to withdraw its soldiers from the southern buffer zone by Sunday and to abandon other demilitarised areas set up to separate Croat and Serb fighters within

a 'reasonable time. But as of Sunday evening, Croatian troops had removed only about half their 1,200 troops from the southern sector and none from two other UN buffer zones, said Eckhard, adding he didn't expect a

change by day's end. The United Nations created the buffer areas and placed UN observation posts inside them beginning in early 1992 after a war in which Serb rebels captured roughly one-third of

### Kumaratunga

From Page television stations and the headquarters of the three armed forces, police sources/

Police have taken immediate measures to tighten security for all the potential tar-

Meanwhile, a massive dragnet is out to trace all the LTTE operatives involved in the network of the hit squads, the sources said.

### Imran's fiancee

From Page 1 game after leading Pakistan to

victory in the 1992 World Cup in Australia to devote his time to raising money for a cancer hospital he has had built in Lahore.

His public statements and articles in recent months on politics and national affairs sparked speculation that the former cricketer was contemplating a political career.

But he denied any political ambitions while vowing to form a pressure group to serve as a check against political and

administrative ills. Last March, Imran said he was considering coming out of retirement for the 1996 World Cup which will be jointly held

by Pakistan, India and Sri Recently he spoke to the

press about marriage, "at my age it's about finding the right sort of woman with the same ambitions. She doesn't have to be the same race but is would help if she was Muslim. I have been with some very beautiful women and admit that I had a reputation as a playboy. But my efforts are being concentrated here in Pakistan.

Imran, embroiled in years of controversy over allegations of tampering with cricket balls, has also earned himself a reputation as a sex symbol.

In Saturday's statement Imran Khan said: "I'm extremely happy to announce that I have found someone who

shares my ideals in life. . Having studied the religion, Jemima has converted to Islam through her own convictions.

As far as I am concerned, in Islam there are no boundaries of race or nationality. It is a universal religion, both our families approve and are extremely happy about the

### COLOMBO. May 14: Soldiers have killed at least 43 sepa ratist rebels in several clashes,

Lankan troops

kill 43 Tigers

handing guerillas their largest

defeat since they seized the

initiative in Sri Lanka's civil

war last month, military offi-

More than 75 rebels also

were wounded in separate

clashes as hundreds of soldiers

searched eastern jungles, the

Eight soldiers also were re-

The military report could

Troops Saturday overran

many rebel bases and killed 28

guerillas inside Kaburupiddi

jungles, in Trincomalee, 240

kilometers (150 miles) east of

killed on the same day in the

dense jungles of Kirymich-

chaiodai Kulam north of Pun-

ani, 200 kilometers (125

miles) east of Colombo, the

Tajik officials

in Kabul for

talks with rebels

KABUL, May 14: A delega-

tion of Tajik government offi-

cials has arrived in the Afghan

capital Kabul for talks with

rebel leaders. Afghan govern-

ment sources said today, re-

try sources said the delegation

met the deputy leader of the

bar Turanjonzoda and Afghan

They were preparing for a

officials at Kabul's Hotel In-

meeting expected later today

with the leader of the Tajik

Islamic Opposition in exile,

Sayid Abdullo Nuri, the sources

opposed to the Tajik govern-

ment and its Russian military

as expected. Nuri will meet

Tajik President Imomali Rakh

monov on Wednesday in a bid

to resolve the three-year-old

If that meeting goes ahead

it would be the first between a

Tajik head of state and the

leader of the armed opposition.

Titan 4 rocket

blasts off

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida.

May 14: A Titan 4 rocket

blasted off from Florida today.

carrying to earth orbit a mys-

terious cargo for the Depart-

ment of Defence, reports

Officials at Cape Canaveral

Air Station refused to identify

the payload, citing national se-

curity reasons, but they said

the mission appeared to have

quoted civilian space observers

who said the classified cargo

may be a 1.5 billion dollar ad

vanced jumpseat signals intel-

ligence satellite that is capable

of eavesdropping on military

and civilian communications

PM-Hasina talks

party to concede the demand

for setting up a caretaker gov-

ernment before any dialogue.

Daily Star last night that the

BNP's acceptance of the care-

taker formula alone can solve

ing member of the ruling

party posed: "Is there any

need for a dialogue if we must

accept the demand for a care-

taker administration before-

hand as a precondition for

talks? We feel we should first

sit across the table to find out

ways and means to resolve the

One AL leader told The

On the other hand, a lead-

From Page 1

Recent news reports

Reuter.

been a success.

around the world.

the problem.

crisis." he said.

civil war, the sources said.

Nuri commands guerillas

If the preliminary talks go

tercontinental this morning.

Tajik Islamic Opposition, Ak-

The Afghan Foreign Minis-

Another 15 guerillas were

ported killed and 15 wounded

in ongoing military operations.

not be independently con-

military said.

firmed.

Colombo.

military said.

ports Reuter.

cials said Sunday, reports AP.

newly independent Croatia, After Croatia's army launched a successful drive to recapture a Serb-held area in central Croatia on May 1, Serb and Croat troops pushed into the zones in the other areas. creating the threat of all-out

Saturday night, hundreds of Croatian soldiers withdrew from the buffer zone at Otocac, 170 kilometers (105 miles) south of Zagreb, but 200 others had dug into positions at Medak, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) further south, said Col Andrew Leslie.

"We're still dissatisfied with the pullout," said Leslie from his post in Knin, capital of the Serbs self-proclaimed republic in Croatia. Leslie, a Canadian, is chief of staff for UN troops in the area. Knin lies southeast of

Fog. rain, heavy forests and minefields obstruct the movement and sight of the 76 UN observer posts in the southern sector, where Serb fighters also have infiltrated into the

While the United Nations sought to keep the front lines in Croatia calm, intense fighting over a crucial Serb corridor in northern Bosnia intensified for a second day, with 2.000 explosions recorded in a three-hour period Saturday

### Malaria

From Page 1 trying to control the situation

by setting up eight temporary camps and fielding 76 medical teams throughout the district. However, local people al

leged that the medical teams were working without doctors The CS office said they found malarial parasites in the

blood of 5,546 people out of 15,536 they have tested during last couple of weeks.

Meanwhile, 58 posts of doctors have been vacant in the district for a long time.

# From Page 1

"They (BNP) did not allow us to speak for the commonman in the Sangsad. They turned down all our pro-people Bills and proposals by dint of their majority." On the assassination of

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members. Hasina said late President Ziaur Rahman had blocked the trial of the killers through the Fifth amendment to the Constitution.

"I am a citizen of the country. Why then shall I not have the right to seek justice for the brutal killings?" she asked

Hasina said that Bangabandhu had sacrificed his life for establishing the rights of the people, "And if necessary. I shall lay down my life for the people.

Presided over by Dhirendra Nath Shambhu, the meeting was also addressed by Tofae Ahmed, Shah Alam, M Hamid, Mosharraf Hossain. Khitish Mandal, Afzal Hossain S M Mosharraf, Jahangir Kabir Eshak Ali Khan Panna and Masud Reza Chowdhury.

Tofael Ahmed said that party government cannot ensure free and fair elections in the country, as "the Magura byelection had demonstrated.'

So, a neutral caretaker administration is a must for holding the next elections, he

Earlier, on way to Barguna from Tungipara, Hasina addressed a number of meetings and wayside rallies at Bhandaria, Betagi and Kakchira)

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# Israel reaffirms decision to seize land in Jerusalem

JERUSALEM. May 14: Israel reaffirmed today its decision to seize land in Arab east derusalem, further angering its Palestinian peace partner, re-

ports Reuter. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's cabinet rejected at its weekly meeting a Leftist Party's proposal to freeze the order to confiscate 131 acres (53 hectares) to build housing. mostly for Jews, and a police

"It is not a violation of international resolutions but also a flagrant violation of the peace accord between the government of Israel and the PLO." said Marwan Kanafani, an adviser to PLO leader Yasser

But the Israeli government said in a statement it "had no intention of carrying out further confiscations for the purpose of housing in Jerusalem. The UN Security Council.

which met on Friday to discuss the land grab, is due to reconvene on Monday. Jerusalem is at the heart of Israeli-PLO negotiations due to begin in a

The Palestinian authority, meeting in Gaza today, said it would insist on continuing with the UN debate on the is-

"There is a serious and continuing attempt to swallow Jerusalem land piece by piece, and this threatens the whole peace process," said senior PLO official Nabil Shaath. Shaath said Arab states

would refuse further normalisation with Israel unless it respected Palestinian rights in the city.

Palestinians want east Jerusalem, which Israel cap-

tured in the 1967 Middle East war, for the capital of a future state. Israel views both sides of the city as its capital.

Kanafani said the decision to uphold the Jerusalem land seizure announced on April 27 could "lead to an explosion in the whole area.

But Israeli ministers said they hoped the apparent suspension of future seizures would quell international furore over the issue. Leftist education minister Amnon Rubinstein told reporters the decision "ought to remove fears and anxieties that the Israeli government is biting into Arab rights in Jerusalem.

Three leading Israelf authors demonstrated outside the prime minister's office during the cabinet meeting. calling on the government to reverse the seizure order.

# Fertiliser distribution

From Page 1

From July last year till April 2. 1995 the fertilizer factories had kept pending private dealers' orders for delivery of over three lakh tones of urea worth Tk 112 crore. At the same time, till March last, the shortfall of urea in the domestic market was estimated at 48,000 metric tons.

According to BCIC sources presently the fertilizer factories have nearly 75,000 MT of urea in their stock. During the May-August period the local demand for urea is at its low-

The involvement of DCs in the distribution system from January last however failed to yield desired results because excessive exports last year had left a very low buffer stock of urea at the factory level to meet the huge demand for the Boro cultivation. In addition clashes over scarce fertilizer between farmers and police left at least 17 peasants dead and many others injured during this period. The crisis climaxed in the resignation of Industries Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan on April 4.

According to sources, although the fertilizer crisis was created by an export of 4.34 lakh tonnes of urea by the Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC), nearly 1.36 lakh tonnes more than that of the previous year. the authorities blamed the private dealers for the shortfall and even filed cases against many of them. Many dealers were arrested while others ha-

The Bangladesh Fertilizer Association (BFA) has, meanwhile, made several recom-

States is considering establish- tive.

ing a new fleet in the Gulf. a

move that will not increase US

naval presence but underlines

long-term military commit-

ment to the region, a US navy

spokesman said today, reports

said the idea of reviving the

Fifth Fleet, that was disbanded

after World War II, in the oil-

rich region was "currently un

der review by the department

of defence and other federal

posal has been made," he said.

This process will also include

consultation with regional-gov-

"No decision on the pro-

Commander T. McCreary

mendations to the BCIC, which owns the factories, for the future strategy of fertilizer marketing in the country. These include a tighter but flexible demand assessment of fertil izer in the country.

The recommendations say that the actual demand for fer tilizer should be reviewed before each major crop season instead of the present once-ayear projection.

The BFA feels the fertilizer factories should supply their products on a "first paymentfirst service basis". Permit traders and speculators should not be given any scope to ma nipulate the market in the name of allotment letters.

Also, special arrangements should be made for businessmen living in areas far from the factories, the BFA said adding that the activities of musclemen around the factories should be completely curbed.

Supplies should be ensured in line with seasonal demand and exports should remain suspended during the peak demand season. The association insisted that a free, open and competitive marketing system should be maintained

The maximum retail price (MRP) should be decided by market forces because fixation of any MRP by the government would restrict easy availability of fertilizer at the farm level the association pointed out.

Since there is no institutional arrangement to monitor the fertilizer market, the BFA has proposed the establishment of a fertilizer information centre for collection, analysis and dissemination of fertilizerrelated information.

if approved by Washington

would "have no impact on

the size or character of nava

forces assigned to the central

command region, but will ac

curately reflect the continuing

importance placed on nava-

lorward presence in this criti

cal part of the world," he said

name, but we had a fleet in

force structure. Now we are

just bringing the name and the

organisation in line with the

force structure, recognising

that it is a long term commit-

ment which reflects the con-

tinuing importance of naval

presence in this critical part of

"We did not have a fleet in

US plans new Gulf fleet

DUBAL May 14: The United would be largely administra-

# returning

People who left the capital to celebrate the Eid-ul-Azha with their kins have started returning to the city to join their respective jobs after an

Bus terminals, launch ghats and raflway stations in Dhaka were seen busy with the returnees from different parts of the country

Normal work in government, non-government and private offices is expected to resume today after the vacation of the Eid-ul-Azha and the Buddha Purnima.

After a 3-day Eid holiday. government offices, banks and other institutions were opened on Saturday, but the attendance was slim. Most serviceholders enjoyed Saturday as optional leave as Sunday was a public holiday for Buddha Purnima.

capital still wore a deserted look as most shops and business centres kept their shutters downed

mess, was also less chaotic. There were few pedestrians on sidewalks. Buses, usually crammed, actually had seats for passengers. Movement of rickshaws was less than normal but the three-wheelers were easily available yesterday.

### Chiracs declare assets

PARIS, May 14: French president-elect Jacques Chirac and his wife Bernadette have assets worth more than 8.3 million francs (1.62 million US dollars) according to a statement required by law and published today in the official state

of Chirac, a conservative who takes office on Wednesday, and his wife are a chateau and a farm in central France and a flat in Paris.

Chirac, like other presiden

## People start to capital

extended leave, reports UNB.

Meanwhile, the sprawling

City traffic, usually in a

gazette, reports Reuter.

tial candidates, had already disclosed the value of his assets in answer to questions from the newspaper Le Monde during the presidential cam-

Outgoing president Francois Mitterrand declared his assets in the gazette last week as being worth nearly 9.6 million francs (1.87 million US dollars), about the same figure as when he took office 14 years

Among the declared assets

# the world."

smoldering debris of the ancient shrine.

An Indian army spokesman said troops found the body of another 'foreign mercenary' today in Charar-e-Sharif and came under sniper fire during mopping up operations in the ravaged town.

"Our operation is fading out, there is hardly any resistance, the spokesman said.

But rioting continued, as a Muslim separatist group issued a statement saying Mast Gul. the leader of the insurrection at the shrine, had slipped past the troops and was in hiding. The all-party Hurriyat

(Freedom) conference, an umbrella forum of 27 Muslim militant and political groups, urged the Islamic world, meanwhile, to cut ties with India for the destruction of the shrine to Kashmir's patron

"We urge Iran and other Muslim countries to severe all ties with India," said Abbas Ansar, a leader of the conference which advocates Kashmir's freedom from Indian

"It is the religious and moral obligation of all Muslim states to realise our pain inflicted by Indian troops by burning down our most beloved shrine," added Ansari. Secretary-General

Hamid Algabid today "Strongly condemned the brutal Indian peaceful residents of Charar-escale killings, criminal attacks tural heritage and torching

tailed briefing today to ambassadors in Islamabad on the situation in Charar-e-Sharif. Ambassadors from the

Muslim world and other countries including the United States, Germany, Britain, Japan, France and Russia at tended the briefing. They were informed that

statements by the Indian lead-

ership threatening to impose a

war on Pakistan are heighten ing tension in the region. Indo Pak relations have hit a dangerous low since the razing of the 650-year-old

"Pakistan cannot but take seriously the repeated threats of war" made by India's minister of state for security Rajesh Pilot, Pakistani foreign minister Sardar Aseff Ahmed Ali said Saturday.

sponsible statement has 'vitiated' the political and security environment in the region, Ali said.

Accusing Pakistan of interference, the Indian min-

ister warned on Friday that his country had not given up claim to the northern third of the Kashmir state administered by

fairs of our country, we shall have no option but to accomplish the unfinished task. Pilot Rejecting India's threats Ali said "Whenever the calculations of Indian leaders fail.

knee-jerk reaction." He vowed Pakistan and the armed forces would stand like a 'rock' to face any Indian aggression. Ali had earlier war ned that Pakistan had "courage, potential and will" to stand up to India.

Indian Home Minister Shankarrao Chava and Finance Minister Manmohan Singh meanwhile, met with Kashmir governor K V Krishna Rao today for talks on Charar-e-Sharif, officials said here.

Chavan and Manmohan Singh, architects of India's economic reforms, flew over Charar-e-Sharif and promised financial aid to rebuild damaged houses and the wrecked shrine, they said.

in the afternoon. priest of Kashmir.

# DAMASCUS, May 14: Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq al-

Shara left for Washington today for talks with US leaders on how to push forward the stalled Syrian-Israeli peace talks. officials said. They said Shara, visiting the United States at the invitation of Secretary of State Warren Christopher, would meet President Bill Clinton as well as Christopher, reports

The Midnight Eile

Syrian FM leaves for US

### Afghan forces capture Nimroz province

ISLAMABAD. May 14: Afghan government forces captured the Nimroz province capital of Zaranj in the southwest of the country today, driving out opposition Taliban student militia. the official Kabul radio said. Forces loyal to President Burhanuddin Rabbani launched an offensive against the city this morning and captured it in the afternoon, said the broadcast monitored in the Pakistani capital of Islamabad. reports Reuter.

# Demonstration against US bases in Japan

TOKYO, May 14: More than people protested against US military bases in Okinawa by forming a 14-kilometer (8.8 mile) human chain around one of them today, police said, reports AP,

It was the third time protesters had formed a human chain around a US base on the southern Japanese island. They encircled a different base in 1987 and 1990.

The demonstrators tried three times to join hands all the way around the Futenma US Air Base — for five minutes each time - and succeeded once, said Hideo Kinjo of the Okinawa Prefectural (state) for the first two human chain

There was no trouble be-News analysis

From Page 1 the CEC's office on May 21 to

register its protest. On the other hands, the Jamaat-e-Islami is vet to announce any such protest programme.

However, given the party's current common dause with the AL and the JP, the Jamaat is unlikely to keep quiet on the Leaders in the opposition

camp clearly stated that they

were more concerned about the process of appointing the CEC than the person appointed. It is true that the government has no legal obligation to consult the parties regarding the appointment of the CEC. but considering the prevailing political situation, it was the

BNP's moral duty to consult

the major parties in order to keep the office of the CEC above all controversy," said a central leader of the AL. The professed thrust of the opposition parties agitation that began in March last year with a boycott of Parliament in the ensuring of a framework for holding fair elections. And. undoubtedly, the CEC is the

person who will play the key

role in the smooth conduct of

those elections. According to observers here was one good opportunity for the ruling party to project its goodwill by inviting the Opposition for consultations about the selection of the new CEC. Such a gesture would certainly have brightened the image of the party and pushed the ball to Opposition's court for a reciprocal good gesture. Such a consultation could also have created an atmosphere for initiating fresh efforts for a much-needed dialogue between the opposing camps to resolve the lingering political

impasse. Willingly or unwillingly, the BNP appears to have passed up yet another opportunity of seizing the initiative. And unfortunately for the country, this may only further prolong the unhealthy political stand-

### Khulna Newsprint

From Page 1 to maintain supply because of an alarming rise in the salinity of almost all the rivers of the greater Khulna region.

The rising salt content in river water threatens almost all industries in the greater Khulna region, one source said

### Road accidents From Page 1

court. Abul Khair, his wife and daughter - were admitted to the Magura Sadar Hospital. The driver managed to

the accident. In Sirajganj, two people were killed and five injured in two road accidents yesterday.

escape with his vehicle after

A seven-year-old boy, Adal. was killed when a town-bound auto-rickshaw hit an electric pole at the Kazipur crossing on the New Bogra Road in the

police said.

person was run over by a loaded truck in the Sholomali area on the Bogra-Nagarbari road in the morning.

tween protesters and US troops. Kinjo said the US military refrained from trying to move vehicles in or out of the base during the one-hour demonstration.

The protest was sponsored by the Okinawa Peace Movement Centre, backed by labor unions affiliated with Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama's Socialist party, said Zenshu Arakaki, a Socialist prefectural assemblyman. Arakaki said 3,000 of the

demonstrators reached the base in a three-day walk from various places on Okinawa . and others came by bus. Some protesters were late

caused by rain, he added. Arakaki said the Futenma base is in the middle of Ginowan, a city of 78,000 people, and there are seven

the base would be returned to Japan as the first step in removing about 40 US military bases and facilities from

He said the centre hoped

the US bases at once," Arakaki He said about 75 per cent of the land used by US bases in

Japan is in Okinawa. Of the nearly 47,000 troops stationed in Japan, 29,000 are on the southern island, site of some of the bloodiest fighting of World War II. After the war, the United States kept Okinawa under military control for 27 years before returning it to Japanese rule in

1972.

From Page 1 maintain integrity of the basic

President Abdur Rahman

Biswas will inaugurate the function of the day at the Osmani Memorial Hall State Minister for Planning

Mouchiron will attend the function as special guests. State Minister for Social Welfare Fazlur Rahman will

### Welfare. WHO faces crisis

From Page 1

"Dr Nakajima is an excellent scientist and has a lot of political savvy. Above all, he is not a racist," he said.

central mission is, how it will pursue its goals and how

"We need to return to the central mission of WHO which is to bring basic health care to everyone. We have to focus on our highest priorities," he said

# Calcutta daily

From Page 1 daily said, adding that since then there was no water sharing agreement between the two countries.

getting water from the Farakka Barrage the river Padma in Bangladesh was drying up greater Pabna. Kushtia and a large part of Rajshahi district. The paper said quoting an

account received from Bangladesh that Bangladesh got 22,000 cusec of water from Farakka in 1990 which came down to only 9000 cusec in 1993. As a result of this, the Hardinge Bridge, once built on the mighty Padma, is not coming to any use to link the northern and southern Bangladesh. Vehicles like trucks and lorries are crossing the river plying through its dried bed

## McCreary said the move OiC condemns Kashmir killings

From Page 1 ing for bodies of rebels in the

military operations against the Sharif, who have been subjected to a long siege, large against their religious and culthousands of Kashmir homes."
Pakistan's ministry of foreign affairs conducted a de-

Pilot's latest and 'most irre-

Islamabad. "If Pakistan does not stop interference in the internal af-

they begin to threaten Pakistan in what has become a chronic

But Kashmiri leaders rejected their offer. "We will not accept any money from the government of India," said Omer Farooq, the Muslim head

# attempts because their buses were delayed in traffic jams

schools nearby.

Okinawa. "It isn't possible to remove

# Day of Families

unit of society. Different socio-cultural organisations have drawn up elaborate programmes to observe the International Day of

Dr A Moyeen Khan and Country Director of UNDP Eline P

## chair the function, organised by the Ministry of Social

He defended Nakajima, who has two years left to his term. from charges of poor leader-

Piel said the agency had tried to be too many things to too many people and had tried to dictate health policies instead of working with people to help them help themselves. It is now reviewing what its

progress is evaluated.

It said that because of not

The injured were released after first aid. in another accident, one

The victim, Abdur Rahman 47. succumbed to his injuries at the Rajganj health complex