SAVE DHAKA

Health care

Clinics, labs mushrooming

By Reaz Ahmad and Manirul Islam Khan

booming in the city but the standard some necessary tailorings. of service is not improving. In the recent period, Dhaka has seen mushvirtually under no guidelines.

Only a very small section of the rendered by different clinics. people of this city of 89 lakh can afpend on the health service rendered sary equipment. by the government hospitals.

tions against the private clinics and pathological laboratories and these are — exorbitant service charges. non-professionalism, employing government doctors, doing business without registration and becoming business-oriented instead of being service-oriented.

A Health Directorate source said that charges for different services had been fixed in The Medical Practice, Private Clinics and Laboratories Regulation Ordinance of 1982 but none followed that as the rates no

In the absence of proper imple-drafted some five months back. The mentation of the government policy, draft was returned to the directorate business on medicare service is last month by the Health Ministry for

Dr Md Maniruzzaman Bhuiyan, general secretary of the Bangladesh rooming of private clinics and Private Clinics Association (BPCA), pathological laboratories, operating told The Daily Star there is no consistency in charges for various services

He said there are some 300 priford the service of these clinics while vate clinics in the city, of which half the overwhelming majority has to de- have no registration and lack neces-

When approached, a high official There are some common allega- of the Health Directorate said that they were handicapped by lack of manpower and vehicles for which routine surveillance on the functioning of clinics was not being possible. He, however, said steps would be taken against unregistered health centres.

Dr Quazi Shahidul Alam, secretary general of the Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA), said a pro-people health policy and appropriate policy for private clinics are two prerequisites for improving health care in the

Dr Badiuzzaman Bhuiyan, a more matched the present market member of the Bangladesh Private Medical Practitioners Association He, however, said that a new set (BPMPA), said that to ensure health of regulations fixing the charges was for all by the year 2000, more doctors

should be recruited in the private sector and they should be imparted in-

service training through short courses. An estimate said a good number of government doctors is linked with private clinics. At present there is no bar on government doctors' private practice. Only a few days back, 41 doctors of different Railway hospitals were fired for not attending their duty as they were reportedly busy in private practice.

A private clinic owner admitted that many clinics were making money just by selling the names of eminent doctors of government hospitals when a large number of fresh medical graduates remained unemployed or under-employed.

The general secretary of the BPCA, however, claimed that they had employed 1,000 doctors and some 20,000 nurses and other staff in the city's clinics.

When approached, some government doctors said that they found nothing wrong in private practice as there is no bar on it.

Asked about striking differences in results of pathological tests at various laboratories, Dr Maniruzzaman Bhuiyan said, "it should not be so" and added, "there might be marginal difference but not a far contrast."



A veiled Muslim woman sporting black gloves casts her vote Tuesday in Zarka, some 25 km north east of Amman, during the first general municipal elections in the history of modern Jordan. Fundamentalists suffered a major setback in the polls winning only eight out of 257 municipalities whereas pro-government candidates made a strong showing, giving a boost to Jordan's peace deal with Israel. - AFP/UNB photo

Court told during hearing of writ

Constitution can't be rewritten for Rouf

The constitution cannot be rewritten to accommodate Justice Md Abdur Rouf in the Appellate Division, Barrister Amirul Islam told the court yesterday, reports UNB.

"If the court say that judges' offices are not in the service of the Republic, we will have to rewrite the Constitution", he said while making his submission on the writ challenging under what authority Justice Rouf is holding the office of a judge in the

Appellate Division. He argued that if the concept of government is defined in a narrow sense to accommodate Justice Rouf "we are just turning down the Constitution and destroying the sep-

aration of judiciary." "The Constitution can be accepted if it comforts me, but if it pinches me I will also pinch the Constitution", he said referring to the

argument of the defence lawyers. Justice Rouf is a defacto judge and the Article 96 of the Constitution is not applicable unless he is a dejure judge, Islam said. Article 96 of the Constitution defines the tenure of office of judges and procedure of

their removal and resignation. Barrister Islam made this submission as the court wanted to know if relief can be guaranteed under Article 102 of the Constitution. Article 102 deals with the powers of

the High Court division to issue certain orders and direction. The writ petition was filed by

Convenor of the Coordination Council for Lawvers Advocate Shamsul Huq Chowdhury on June 11 and the hearing continued in the HC Division bench comprising Justice Habibur Rahman Khan and Justice M M Ruhul Amin.

The petitioner's lawyer contended that Justice Rouf is a defacto judge performing the function of a judge and is holding the office without any lawful authority.

"He cannot be removed by applying the Article 96 as it relates to the question whether the judge is lawfully appointed. Unconstitutional appointment can be challenged."

Barrister Islam further said that there are four categories of offices under the government service in the republic, judicial and quasi judicial office, defence service and civil ser-

But, according to the Constitution, there are other services created by law and there are different provisions about services, he added. Everyone, including the

President, holds office subject to the constitutional provision, he said adding even the President can be removed. Doctrine of pleasure cannot be applied here, he said. "No office is sovereign, but they

exercise sovereign power and the concept of the government is related with authority." Islam argued that although

sovereign power is distributed in the executive, legislature and judiciary, authority is being exercised by the executive and judiciary.

Judiciary cannot be excluded from the government, whoever is exercising the authority is the government and the government includes executive and judiciary, he said. "Executive and judiciary exercise authority, so they are the government. Legislature does not exercise authority, it creates law."

"Life and liberty can only be taken by the authority exercised by the Supreme Court and by no other authority," he said in a bid to prove that service of a judge is in the service of the Republic.

The Supreme Court and the lower courts are part of the judiciary and offices of judges of the courts are in the service of the republic. "If one part of judiciary is in the service of the republic why the other part is

not," the lawyer argued. He said before the amendment of the Article 99 of the Constitution by a Martial Law order allowing the judges to take jobs in judicial or quasi-judicial offices, it was not possible to appoint a judge anywhere. Except this provision, he said, office of a judge is still in the service of the

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By Morshed Ali Khan

Alaya Begum is still unsure whether she could see the face of her husband, an immigrant worker in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia who died there of a heart attack about a month

untraced

Alaya Begum along with her teenage eldest son, Babu, a first division footballer by profession in Dhaka, has been frantically trying to bring the body of their beloved one from the kingdom.

"We have done everything possible to bring our father's body," said Babu, "but till now we do not know anything because all our faxes, letters, calls, went unanswered." Alaya with her five children is now

passing her days in total uncertainty and mental agony. Her husband had gone to the kingdom as a driver with legal work permit only a year ago. On June 15, Alaya Begum, mother of five from Shankar, West

Dhanmondi, received the dreadful news she never wanted to hear. Her husband Kazi Badiul Alam, about 45, an immigrant driver in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, had just died of a heart attack.

A colleague of Badiul, an employee of Al-Falah Rent-a-Car and Taxi in Dammam, Saudi Arabia telephoned the family and said that Badiul had died of a heart attack at a local hospital.

Since then, the family has sent several faxes to the employer to arrange for the repatriation of the body. The Bangladesh Embassy at Rivadh was also notified by a letter about fifteen days back. The Saudi Arabian embassy in Dhaka was sent a letter in which Alaya appealed to the ambassador to intervene. But all their effort to bring back the body was in

When contacted an official of the Saudi embassy said that the matter should be dealt by the Bangladesh Embassy in Rivadh.

"We have nothing to do," he said. An official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Dhaka said that with around a million Bangladeshis working in the kingdom this kind of delay in repatriating bodies has become frequent. She cited a recent incident where relatives had to wait for nearly two months to receive the body of their deceased father.

"This is firstly due to tracing the body," she added. "Sometime the relatives come up with wrong information and this misleads the investigative officer there."

Secondly, she said that a lot of bureaucratic tangle delays the procedure of repatriation.

An official of the Manpower Directorate alleged that very often the employers, in a bid to avoid the repatriation and compensation costs keep silent about the death.

"We have even experienced people being buried there without the consent of the relatives," he said.

Meanwhile, Alaya Begum and her children wait to see their beloved husband and father for the last time.

17 more Lions Club members interrogated

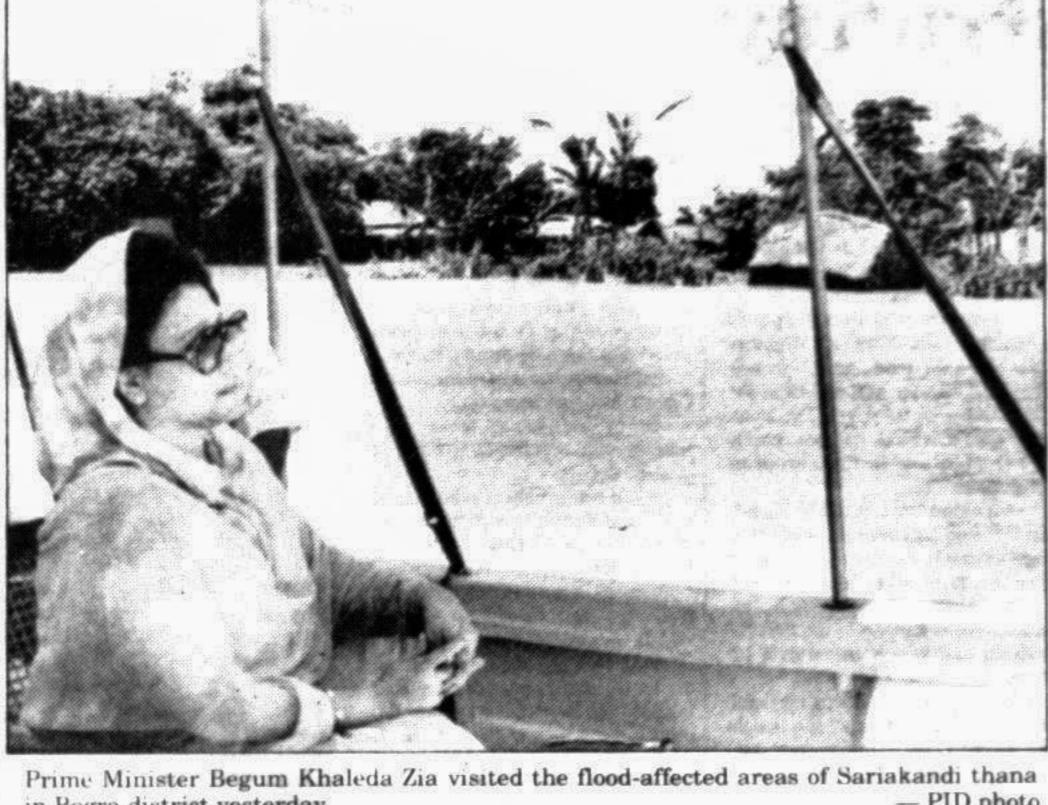
By Staff Correspondent

The immigration authorities interrogated another 17 Lions Club members at the Zia International Airport soon after their arrival from South Korea yesterday.

Of them, three were kept for further interrogation till last night, while the others were released, sources

Some 207 persons, who had gone to Seoul reportedly to attend an international Lions convention, were deported early this month.

A senior official of the Special Branch, however, said the 17 Lions were only questioned to help the investigation into the affair.



- PID photo in Bogra district yesterday.

Diploma engrs asked to help attain development

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia vesterday said her government would be able to steer the country to its cherished destination in next five years if all quarters continued their cooperation, reports UNB.

Speaking at the 10th national convention of the Institute of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh, she said the challenge of the coming century is the challenge of developing technology to live through a tough competition.

"We will have to step forward through competition in the 21st century in all sectors - science and technology, merit and skill, production and marketing."

The Prime Minister urged the diploma engineers to help attain speedy development by putting in their merit and initiative, labour and innovative power.

Praising the convention's theme Water is for Life and Development' - as timely, Begum Zia said Bangladesh is now a victim of flood and desertification because of construction of dams withdrawing waters from the upstream of major

She said the government had initiated allout steps to mobilise public opinion at home and abroad for a remedy.

The Prime Minister stressed the need for technical education along side the general education. Since as suming power, she said, the BNP government has attached importance to education sector, increasing the literacy rate by more than 10 per cent.

Referring to problems of diploma engineers, Begum Zia said the gov ernment was aware of their profes-

Boats plying on a rail track in flood-hit Sirajganj.

ple in 19 unions in the char areas are

now faced with a new threat -

Narayangani reports: Four more

unions in Rupgani thana of this dis-

trict were inundated yesterday raising

the number of affected unions in the

by the district reached its danger

level at eight last night, said BIWTA

houses in the four newly-affected

unions - Daudpur, Bholaba, Kaiyet

para and Golakandail - were dam-

aged by the rolling waters.

damaged in the thana.

inundated any time.

Shibpur yesterday.

The Shitalakkhya river that flows

Some ten percent thatched

About 9,000 hectares of crop land

in the district were submerged. The

Thana Nirbahi Officer (TNO) of

Sonargaon told this correspondent

that crops on 1,305 hectares of land

worth about Taka 6.36 crore were

Dhaka-Chittagong highway may be

from flooding, the mills authorities

Gaibandha reports: The flood situa-

tion in the district worsened further

with the collapse of a 1,000-foot

stretch of Korotoa Embankment at

Brahmaputra Flood Control em-

A 300-foot stretch of the

took some steps yesterday.

The Bandar thana stretch of

To protect the Adamjee Jute Mills

Our correspondent from

district to 22.

Our correspondent from

Road link snapped

bankment, built under FAP project,

was also washed away by flood wa-

a stampede during relief distribution

in Shundargani thana yesterday while

one Panchan, 37, was gunned down

by pirates near Bhati Godail char.

Two people, Shakhi, 15, and Ekabbar

Ali, 60, were killed in lightning and

some more bodies were seen floating

Leaders of the district units of

Awami League, NAP and Ganatantri

Party at a joint press conference in

Gaibandha town yesterday de-

manded of the government to declare

the district a 'disaster zone'. They

also criticized government's alleged

negligence to the flood affected

In Munshiganj district the flood

In Manikgani district, more areas

situation turned critical with more ar-

eas of Sreenagar thana going under

of Shibalaya, Harirampur and Daulat-

pur thanas went under water yester-

day following further swelling of the

Jamuna. A minor girl, Tania, drowned

falling from the rooftop of her par-

tially submerged house in Shibalaya

Our Sherpur correspondent re-

ports: Thousands of flood-affected

people in the district were facing

shortage of food, medicine and

drinking water. All the 52 unions in

this district are inundated.

on a raft on river Ghaghot.

One Paniruddin, 65, was killed in

sional problems and assured that those would be resolved gradually. The function was also addressed by Diploma Engineers' Association

president Shafiuddin Sarkar and general secretary A K M A Hamid. JU teachers Prime Minister Begum Khaleda

Zia last night underlined the need for maintaining peaceful atmosphere on the university campuses.

Exchanging views with a number of teachers and Senate members of the Jahangirnagar University at the International Conference Centre (ICC), the Prime Minister said her government had been continuing its efforts to further improve the standard of education in the country.

The university teachers and Senate members led by President of Jahangirnagar University Teachers Association Prof Enamul Huq Khan and Chairman of Economics Department Prof Mustahidur Rahman expressed their full confidence in the leadership of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

PM returns

From Page 1

The educational institutions in Chandanbaisha were badly damaged by the flood.

The Prime Minister distributed some relief materials among the distressed people.

Earlier, Begum Zia addressed a spontaneous gathering of flood victims at Goshaibari Hat in Dhunat thana. She distributed sarees and lungis among the people at Bhandarbari Ghat.

Dhaka condemns Serb aggression

cally condemned the latest Bosnian Serb aggression in Srebrenica, reports

It sets back all efforts made so achieve the cessation of hostilities

Bangladesh feels that the new challenge clearly demands firm, resolute and bold action by the interna tional community. "Why is needed is a substantially re-enforced UNPRO FOR, both in terms of mandate and equipment," the press release said and added "the United Nations must not permit its authority to be flouted: Nor can it afford to permit the aggression committed by the Bosnian Serbs to go unchallenged."

bility of the United Nations has been called into question and said the rapid reaction force must be made operational without further delay. "The international community, in particular the permanent members of the Security Council, must take firm steps to ensure the security of the safe havens and that of the supply routes for humanitarian assistance, as an immediate step in Bosnia," the press release said.

-Star photo by Enamul Haq

Lankan troops

near Jaffna

town

COLOMBO, July 12: Tamil gueril-

las fighting the Sri Lankan army in the

northern Jaffna peninsula blew up a

spokesman said, reports Reuter.

(3.7 miles) from Jaffna town,

bring the entire northern province un-

der government control but we can't

Twin brothers

From Page 1

baths," said their house tutor Masudu

of a sudden found them in the pond

and rushed them to the Dhaka

Medical College Hospital at around

The bodies were handed over to the

relatives without autopsy as a magis-

friends, relatives and well-wishers,

particularly from the film industry,

gathered at the residence of Razib.

"After some time, local people all

The doctors declared them dead.

As the death news spread,

give a time frame."

Islam Neel.

11 am," he said

Bangladesh yesterday unequivo

far by the international community to and raises new apprehensions of grave consequences in Bosnia, a Foreign Office press release said. Bangladesh cannot but view with

contempt the attitude of the Bosnian Serbs to continue to defy the United Nations and to flout every initiative of the international community to bring peace to that country, said the press release adding "the latest aggression once again demonstrates that even UN-protected safe havens are now high in the Bosnian Serb's list of targets in Bosnia."

Dhaka feels that the very credi-

Yangon University, Suu Kyi held her second news conference since her re-She also advised the student leaders to build up themselves with 'I'd like to take this opportunity

tions had grown too high over her abilities to bring Myanmar back to democracy quickly. I think there is still a long way ahead, and the way is not going to be

she added. Peace Prize in 1991, said expectations that are too high always lead to

'If I mention a certain time period then people would latch on to that and I don't think it's healthy,' she

since her unconditional release, Suu Kvi did not venture outside her

She said: 'It all depends on the people, and if the people are brave. patient and persevering we can achieve our goals,' one woman said after emerging from a 10-minute

Council (SLORC).

OIC seeks NATO airstrikes against Serbs

lamic Conference (OIC) grouping nore than 50 Islamic states, also urged the western powers to "warn the Serb forces of massive retaliation" if they attack other safe areas. Contempt rules

upon Works Secretary

terday issued two separate contempt rules upon Works Secretary Hasinur Rahman for violating court orders, reports UNB.

bridge today to delay the army's thrust into their stronghold, a military "Troops are now about six km Brigadier Sarath Munasinghe told a new conference. Our aim is to liberate the Jaffna people from the clutches of the LTTE. We plan to

From Page 1

1.16 crore in the previous year.

ticularly in the last quarter of the fiscal (April-June 1995) when the daily average increased to Tk 2.23 crore from about Tk 1.44 crore during the previous quarter. Market capitalization in 1994-95

Wasimul Bari Razib, clutching his plunged below 700 at one stage from only surviving three-year old child the all-time high 892 in late Novestared blankly at the people around mber. The Index, however, again rose to 777 at the end of June.

YANGON, July 12: Newly freed opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyl said today democracy was on its way

silly if I let myself get surprised." Speaking through a megaphone from behind her front gate, Suu Kyi thanked about 200 supporters waiting outside her home, saying she was grateful for their support and encour-

The crowd cheered 'long live Aung San Suu Kyi' several times after her brief impromptu speech. Myanmar's military government revoked an order on Monday that had

confined her to the compound of her house for the last six years. The crowd, which steadily grew throughout the day, quitely dispersed after Suu Kyi's speech in which she also urged them to leave and clear the

road for traffic 'as a good omen for Earlier today, inside her ramshackle lakeside home near

to warn everybody not to expect too much too quickly, she said when asked if she was worried expecta-

all that smooth. But as long as we have a will and as long as we go about it intelligently I think we'll get there,' Suu Kvi, who won the Nobel

disappointment, and refused to set a time frame for democracy.

For the second successive day

Early today she met small groups of supporters inside her compound.

cent of the cases. Around 29,463 cases for recovery meeting with Sun Kyi. Tonight there had still been no of-

ficial announcement of her release by the state Law and Order Restoration

JEDDAH, July 12: Islamic states

oday urged the United Nations to authorise NATO airstrikes against the Serb military command to force a withdrawal from the Srebrenica safe area in Bosnia, reports AFP. Hamid al Gabid, the Secretary

General of the Organisation of the Is-

A High Court Division bench yes-

The bench comprising Justice Naimuddin Ahmed and Justice Md Ruhul Amin directed the Works Secretary to show cause within two weeks as to why he should not be committed for contempt of court for willfully disobeying orders of the

DSE upturn

about 96 per cent. Total trading amounted to Tk 470 crore in 1994-95 as against Tk 240 crore in 1993-94. A total of 2.59 crore securities were There was a boom in trading par-

rose to Tk 5,000 crore from Tk 3,000 crore in 1993-94.

trate certified them, medical sources The market, however, experienced significant fluctuations in prices, specially in the latter part of the fiscal year.

The DSE All Share Price Index

businesses in Karachi every Friday and Saturday in a bid to undermine

The talks, which were due to be-

ing the violence in Karachi. But few here expect they will be able to resolve ethnic hostilities that have simmered for decades.

The Midnight-Rile

Indian troops reduce search for hostages in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, July 12: Soldiers scaled back their search today for five Westerners held hostage in Kashmir by separatists who have threatened to kill their captives if the hunt continues. Five human lives are involved and we are aware of the threat, so we have reduced the search," said a Jammu-Kashmir state government official, who cannot be identified under briefing rules, reports AP.

India's missile programme fuels tension: Leghari

ISLAMABAD, July 12: India's missile programme is fuelling tensions in the region. Pakistani President Farooq Ahmad Leghari said today in a meeting with outgoing Indian Ambassador S K Lambah, according to an official statement. Leghari told the diplomat who made a farewell call on him, that the missile programme 'multiplies tensions in the region and increases threat perceptions in Pakistan," the statement said, reports AFP.

Don't expect too much too quickly: Suu Kyi Suu Kyi said she was not surprised

her release had not been announced in the Myanmar media, 'nothing surprised me. After what I've gone to Burma but appealed to her supthrough the last six years I'd be very porters to be patient, reports Reuter.

> Suu Kyi said she was meeting prodemocracy colleagues, and had not yet decided what her next steps I think it will probably be another

week or two before I can say any-

thing definite, because it takes time.

We have to organise ... and in the

next week or two we'll know how

things are working out." Suu Kyi said she had no plan for public rallies or meetings until she had further consultations with colleagues.

Hasina From Page 1

Congratulating the elected student leaders, the AL chief hoped their victory would help intensify the current anti-government agitation for people's rights to vote and food.

proper education and work for peace, progress and national prosper-Turning to campus situation, Hasina said, "I want terrorism-free campuses." She called for unity of the

student community to achieve the Chhatra League president Enamul Haq Shamim and general secretary Ishaq Ali Panna also spoke on the occasion while the AL central leaders Prof Abu Sayeed and Mamataz

The newly-elected student leaders included Hassan Murad Biplob, vicepresident and Mahbubur Rahman, general secretary of the Chittagong Government Commerce College Students Union and Khurshid Alam, VP and Hossain Kabir, GS of the Chittagng Law College Students

Hossain were present.

Bankers

From Page 1 recovery claims in 1993, while the Adalat could settle only 25.98 per

of Tk 2335.20 crore were under trial in the Adalat in 1993. In 1991, 20,294 cases for recovery of Tk 1133.25 crore were under trial. Speakers at the seminar called for reduction of costs for law suits in the

such courts and suggested that orders should be made for repayment of the total amount claimed. The defaulters should be barred from contesting national elections and also from being members of the

Adalat, and increasing the number of

executive boards of banks, they further suggested. General Manager of Sonali Bank A Masudul Haque Ahmed, in his paper, said that banks should be authorised to issue 'warrants of recovery' in respect of small loans and suggested involvement of the chambers of com-

In another paper, Deputy General Manager of Bangladesh Krishi Bank Nurul Huda Chowdhury, suggested setting up of 'summary court to re-duce default culture.'

merce and industries in the process of

Zia murder From Page 1

1981, came up for hearing for 56 times so far. The Kotwali police failed to sub-

Zia was killed in Chittagong circuit house, now Zia museum, in an abortive coup by some army man when he came on a visit to this port

mit the enquiry report despite re-

peated instructions from the CMM

CHT ceasefire

Kumar Tripura and Dipti Shanti Chakma. Sontu Larma denied the allegation

of abducting two bank officials and killing one person in the area recently, but admitted some untoward incidents and attacks by the insurgents.

Talks with MQM From Page 1 gunmen have forced a shutdown of all

Benazir's government. Dehlvi said the MQM would continue the shutdowns unless the government suspended attacks on suspected militant strongholds, The

gin last week but were postponed twice, are considered crucial for end-