tion parties - Awami League,

Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-

Islami - at separate public

meetings in the city yester-

day warned that they would

announce fresh programmes,

including continued hartals.

on August 16 to compel the

Awami League leaders yes-

terday warned of massive agi-

tations including continuous

hartals to realise the demand

for dissolution of Parliament

and holding of general elec-

tions under a non-party

city they also said the AL will

not participate in election

under the present Chief

Election Commissioner be-

cause he has lost his

party organised the rally at

the Bangabandhu Avenue as

part of the Opposition's

countrywide demonstration

programme to protest the

Election Commission's defer-

al of by elections in vacant

Awami League central

parliamentary sents.

The Dhaka city unit of the

Addressing a rally in the

caretaker government.

credibility"

RABIUL AWAL 15, 1416 HIJRI

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BOTTICINO, INDIAN KESSWARI GREEN, MALAYSIAN AND PAKISTANI MARBLE

OF DIFFERENT TYPES.

The Story of a Dead Cow

Article

Column: On the Record by ASM Kibria Page 4

#### **Focus**

How free is free trade?; learnt to have adopted a "wait Man's quest for space; and see" policy to confront and Grounding quails to the challenge, until it gains momentum. boost output The three major opposi-

#### International

Page 5

Clinton endorses total ban on nuclear testing US, Russia to coordinate latest bid to solve Yslav crisis

#### **Business**

Page 8

Country's foreign exchange reserve sufficient, says Saifur

Jordanian traders expect strong economic ties with Iraq

Pages 6, 7 STOCK MARKET

#### 786.70 (-0.37%) DSE price index 48.72 billion

Market capital Tk Transactions in volume

#### ransactions in value Tk 40.15 million

**NEWS BRIEFS** 

#### SPGRC plans self-immolation

As many as 11 stranded embark on self-immelation infront of the Pakistan Embassy in Dhaka tomorrow, the Independence Day of Pakistan, in support of their demand of early repatriation. To encourage the volunteers, the Stranded Pakistanis General Repairiation Committee (SPGRC-Ejaz) will bring out a procession from Mirpur Section 11. The processionists will then march towards the Pakistan Embassy in Gulshan at 10 am, reports

#### SAARC standing body meet Aug 25-26

A meeting of the SAARC Standing Committee will be held in New Delhi August 25-26. official sources said in Dhaka yesterday. The special session of the Committee. comprising foreign secretaries of the member countries, will mainly discuss institutional mechanism of the SAARC, the role of its secretariat and SAARC Youth Awards Scheme, reports

#### **EMS** with Nepal from Aug 15

The Express Mail Service (EMS) between Bangladesh and Nepal will begin on Aug 15. The service will be avail able in Dhaka, Khulna. Rajshahi, Chittagong and other big cities. Letters. business documents and marchandise items weighing upto 10 kg may be sent through this service, reports

#### Hartal observed in Chandpur

From Our Correspondent CHANDPUR, Aug 12: A half-day hartal was observed today at Chandpur and Haimchar in protest against govt failure to save Chandpur from erosion by the river Meghna. The hartal was called by the Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (BSD). A protest meeting was also held at Baitul Amin square.

## Transport strike

threatened FARIDPUR, Aug 12: Motor transport owners of 21 southern districts have threatened a 48-hour strike from August 19 to press their demands including fare hike. Leaders of the associations relating to bus, minibus. truck, tank lorry and autotempo decided at an emergency meeting here Thursday that they would go for the transport strike if the government does not meet their demands by August 18, reports UNB.

# Inside Today BNP's 'wait and see' policy to confront Opposition

By Staff Correspondent

government to concede to As the major opposition their demands for dissolving parties prepare to launch allthe 'illegal' Parliament and out agitations to press for declaring fresh polls under a immediate dissolution of non-party caretaker adminis-Parliament to pave the way for general elections under a The three parties organnon-party caretaker government, the ruling BNP is

AL threatens

By Staff Correspondent

ised the rallies in observance of 'demonstration day' against the Election Commission's announcement deferring the by-polls to the 144 vacant parliament seats on grounds of floods. The decision to observe the programme was taken at a joint meeting of the parties on Wednesday.

On the other hand, the ruling party, apparently in a comfortable position following deferral of the by-elec-

leaders Abdus Samad Azad.

Abdul Mannan, Abdur Razzak

Tofael Ahmed, Abdul Jalil,

Mohammad Nasim, Suranjit

Sengupta and Matia

Chowdhury addressed the

rally presided over by AL city

unit president Mayor

"the government must quit to

pave the way for formation of

a caretaker administration

for holding general elections.

Not only hartal, if necessary,

we will cripple the govern-

ment if it fails to concede to

Samad said the Opposition

the people's demand," he

MPs had resigned from the

parliament but the Speaker

"illegally" rejected the resig-

nations "at the will of the

See Page 12 Col 1

Abdus Samad Azad said

Mohammad Hanif.

tions, is now closely watching the Opposition move before deciding its own strategy to face the situation, a senior BNP leader, seeking anonymity, told The Daily Star last night.

DHAKA SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 1995

The leader, a member of the party's highest decisionmaking body — the standing committee - further said they were also planning to mobilise the party activists across the country in view of the Opposition threat to topple the BNP government. "The move is also part of our preparations for the upcoming general elections," he added.

See Page 12 Col 4

#### Foil BNP tactics to cling to non-stop hartals power: Hasina

From Staff Correspondent KOTALIPARA (Gopalganj), Aug 12: Awami League chief

Sheikh Hasina today urged the party workers to foil what she called the ruling BNP's tactics to cling to power by violating the Constitution. "The BNP has established

one-party rule in the country and has resorted to atrocities, anarchy and misrule." said Hasina while addressing a party workers' rally here.

The AL president is now in Gopalgang on a three-day visit in connection with the observance of August 15 by her party, commemorating Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib's assassination. AL general secretary Zillur Rahman also addressed the rally, presided over by Hemonto Kumar Adhikary, Kotalipara thana AL

> The parliament has lost its Sec Page 12 Col 1



Awann League procession in the city yesterday protesting Election Commission's deferral - Star photo

### Son-in-law calls for Saddam's ouster

AMMAN, Aug 12: The defector holding Saddam Hussein's military secrets emerged from his wellguarded Jordanian sanctuary today to call for the overthrow of the Iraqi President, reports Reuter.

"We will work seriously to change the regime in Iraq," Lieutenant-General Hussein Kamel Hassan told a news conference on the heavilyprotected grounds of King Hussein's Raghdan Palace.

Hussein Kamel, Saddam's son-in-law, escaped last Tuesday along with his brother, the head of Saddam's presidential guards - and also a son-in-law of the president. They brought their families, including Saddam's

two daughters.

After an opening statement saying he defected because of the failure of his ef forts to create change and reverse the country's decline from inside the ruling circle, he appealed for Iragis to support efforts to end the

long rule of Saddam. Hussein Kamel, who su pervised Iraq's military buildup to the invasion of Kuwait in 1990, said he had found Iragis inside and out side the country understood the need for change.

"We will continue our work." said the man who had masterminded Iraq's secret military programmes. He noted he had built the See Page 12 Col 4

#### Polls under interim govt only way to resolve crisis, says Dr Kamal

Gano Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday stressed the need for national consensus to evolve an "acceptable solution" to the staggering political crisis, reports UNB.

"Political parties and conscious citizens could reach an understanding on the modal ity of election through dialogue and then it could be implemented under a legal framework," he said at a press briefing at his office

The GF leader emphasised that congenial environment should be created for the polls, good people be identified for competing the

See Page 12 Col 3

# Police yet to start drive to arrest Fakri's abductors

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Aug 12: Police is yet to go for a drive to round up the armed goons and their alleged backers responsible for the sensational abduction of millionaire Taher Ali Fakri.

Though the abductiondrama ended on Tuesday with the release of Fakri, a business man of the Bohra community here and managing director of Fakri and Sons, after four days of his hostage-life, police is yet to

find out the dens of those armed elements and to catch hold of them. Meanwhile, all information about their identity and movement reportedly reached the police authorities.

A senior official of the Metropolitan Police, however, told The Daily Star, "We are planning to launch a combing operation soon against the abductors and terrorists to stop recurrence of such incidents."

the city," he added.

Some sources, however, said that a combing operation might be launched against those abductors and terrorists only if a 'greensignal' was received from the upper circle as those armed goons

"Besides, we are contemplating formation of separate police vigilance team which could swing into quick action in case of such abductions and other major crimes in

See Page 12 Col 6

### PM leaves for **Beijing Sept 3**

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is expected to leave for Beijing on September 3 to attend the muchpublicised fourth World Conference on Women, reports

The 12-day meet will begin in the Chinese capital on September 4 to discuss a 362-point agenda, covering multifarious problems facing the women-folk across the planet.

Begum Zia, as a special guest, will address the international women's congregation, to be attended by some 20,000 delegates from 180 countries, UN agencies and NGOs.

United Nations, the sponsor of the conference, and the host country, China, both have invited the Bangladesh Prime Minister.

She is expected to return home on September 6.

#### Stern action against illegal export of manpower

The government will take strict measures against illegal manpower export particularly to Malaysia to sustain the flow of foreign currency-earning from there through legal means, reports BSS.

This was decided at a high-level inter-ministerial meeting held at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday with Labour and Manpower Minister Mir Shawkat Ali in the chair.

In addition to steps to restrict illegal emigration of Bangladeshi workers to Malaysia, the meeting also discussed other ways to cut down cost of immigration, to ensure certainty and security of jobs. Another high-level inter-

ministerial meeting was also held earlier yesterday at the See Page 12 Col 7

#### JP blasts BNP 'contrivance' to prolong power

Jatiya Party leaders yesterday blasted BNP "contrivance to prolong its power and reiterated the party's demand for immediate resignation of the government and dissolution of the "non-existent" parliament, reports UNB.

"No tricks will work ... resign immediately and hand over power to a neutral caretaker government for fresh general elections," said Moudud Ahmed, Jatiya Party's senior vice-chairman, at a rally in the city.

The party organised the ally amidst rains at the south gate of Baitul Mukarram mosque to protest what it See Page 12 Col 6

#### Fair polls not possible under present EC: Jamaat

Jamaat-e-Islami secretary general Matiur Rahman Nizami yesterday said free and fair election is not possi ble under the existing Election Commission, re ports UNB.

"The Election Commission has been turned into an institution to serve the interest of the ruling BNP," Nizami told a protest rally at the north gate of Baitul Mukarram Mosque. Dismissing the EC's ex-

cuse of 'an act of God', he accused the government of influencing the Commission to defer the by-elections to prolong its rule. The Jamaat leader de-

See Page 12 Col 3

### FC accounts in Deutsche mark, yen allowed

Bangladesh Bank has authorised the commercial banks to maintain foreign currency (FC) accounts of the Bangladesh nationals working abroad in Deutsche Mark and Yen, reports UNB. Currently, these accounts

can be maintained only in US dollar and British poundsterling. Some other categories of

people or firms who are currently authorised to maintain foreign currency accounts like Non-Resident Foreign Currency Deposit (NFCD) ac-See Page 12 Col 8



The Bangladesh Railway is failing to attract passengers due to poor services coupled with increased competition from inter-district coach services. In the picture a first class compartment of the Ekata inter-city train which runs between Dhaka and Jagannathganj is seen almost empty while two attendants (R) are making good use of the comfortable - Star photo

### Eight killed, 129 hurt in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

At least eight persons were killed and 129 others injured in road accidents in Narsingdi, Savar and Chittagong yesterday.

Our Narayanganj correspondent says, at least four people were killed and 25 injured in two accidents on the Dhaka-Chittagong high-

Three passengers were killed on the spot when a Narsingdi bound bus from Dhaka collided head-on with a Dhaka bound bus from Narsingdi at Karnagop village under the Rupganj thana.

The dead were identified as Zakir, Ashraf and Kabir. The bodies were sent to Narayangani General Hospital for autopsy. Of the 25 injured passengers 14 were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

In another accident Aminul Hossain, 8, was killed when a Noakhali-bound passenger bus hit him at Morgapara under Sonargaon thana. He was crossing the road along with his father at the time of the accident. The bus fled the scene.

Our DMCH correspondent adds: At least three persons were killed and about 100 others were injured in an accident on Dhaka-Narsingdi highway yesterday afternoon.

The accident occurred when two passenger buses collided head on at Gausia, Bhutta area near Narsingdi at about 1:30 pm.

The identity of the victims aged over 30 could not be known immediately.

See Page 12 Col 1

### Ershad formally charged in radar purchase case

Deposed president Hussain Muhammad Ershad was formally charge yesterday in another case of corruption and misuse of official position as he procured radars for the Bangladesh Air Force (BAF) that caused the state to sustain a financial loss of Taka 64.04.42.918.10, reports

Besides Ershad, two former chiefs of BAF and a businessman were charged in the special Case No 155 of 1994, better known as the radar purchase case. Air Vice Marshal (retd) Sultan Mahmud and Air Vice Marshal (retd) Momtazuddin Ahmed, ex chiefs of BAF, were co-accused with Ershad.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Md Safiuddin, who read out the charge, said Ershad, Sultan Mahmud and Momtazuddin in collusion with one another and by resorting to corrupt practices, and misusing official position endeavoured to derive financial benefit amounting Taka 64.04.42.918.10 either for themselves or for others. The accused by their activities committed offence under Section 409 of the Penal Code and Section 5 (1) D of the Prevention of Corruption Act of 1947 and are liable to be punished under Section 5 (2) of the said Act, he said.

A K M Musa, director of the United Traders, who is See Page 12 Col 7

#### room of Rail Bhaban with Communications Minister Oli Ahmed in the chair. The meeting discussed

Railway Authority

starts operation

from Sept 1

Bangladesh Railway Authority

(BRA) will start operation

from September 1 for more

commercialisation of railways

ensuring improved service,

cost effectiveness and overall

first meeting of the BRA held

yesterday in the conference

This was disclosed at the

efficiency, reports UNB.

The newly constituted

various administrative. financial, technical and operative aspects of railway. BRA, a nine-member poli-

cymaking body, will frame all the policies while BR see the operational side and supervise railway's day-to-day expenditure and earning.

In future, the Authority, and the Bangladesh Railway executives will sit together to chalk out development strat-

#### BSF kills 2 Bangladeshis

SATKHIRA, Aug 12: Two Bangladeshi fishermen were shot and killed by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) while fishing in a frontier river in the district Friday-Saturday, reports UNB.

The dead are Rabiul Islam, 45. of village Vadiri in Kolaroa thana and Gaffar Gain, 40, of village Kalanchi in Shyamnagar thana.

Rabiul succumbed to his bullet injuries at Sadar-Hospital at 10 am today, an hour after he was admitted to the hospital.

Police and hospital sources said the BSF men shot at him four rounds of bullet from other side of the river Sonai in Kolaroa thana

## Johnson completes historic double

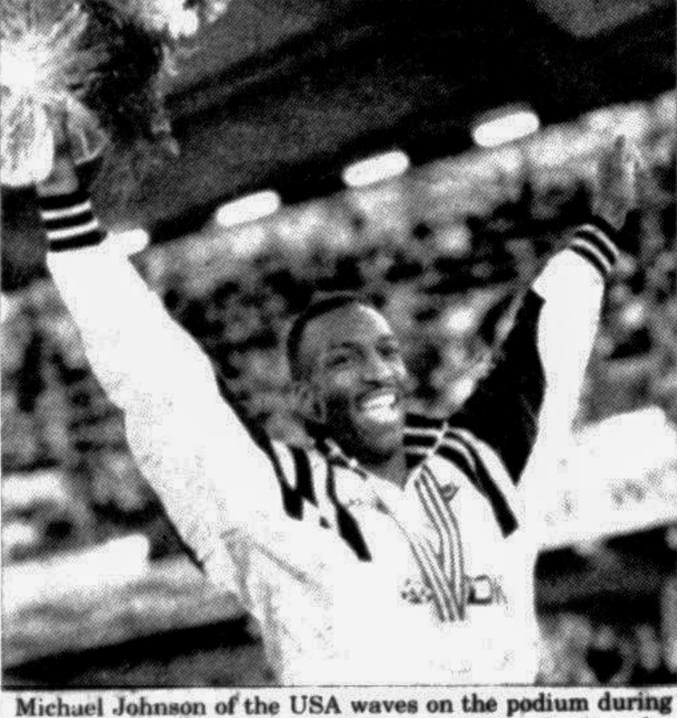
GOTHENBURG, Aug 12: With seemingly historical inevitability. Michael Johnson sped to the world 200 metres title on Friday and a dream he has nurtured, cherished and triumphantly fulfilled, reports Reuter.

No man has ever won both the 200 and 400 metres at a global championship before Johnson and no athlete can have been more conscious of

place in the history

The powerful Texan, with the instantly recognisable straight-backed style. clocked 19.79 seconds in Friday's final, the fifth fastest time in history.

It followed his 43.39 seconds in Wednesday's 400 final, the second fastest time ever, and represented the See Page 12 Col 8



the award giving ceremony for men's 200 m final at the World Championships in Athletics in Gothenburg, - AFP/UNB photo Sweden Friday.

#### while he was fishing there at See Page 12 Col 8 BCL calls strike in educational

instts today

By DU Correspondent The Chhatra League (S-P). student wing of the Awami League will observe a strike in all educational institutions in the country today to press its demand for trial of the killers of Bangabandhu

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The Chhatra League held a rally on the Dhaka University campus yesterday in support of the strike where the speakers said the nation demands the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu.

They also urged the authorities concerned to broadcast and telecast Sheikh Mujib's historic speech of 7th March and different aspects of his life. They also See Page 12 Col 3

#### Boat capsize in Meghna: 7

bodies recovered NARSINGDI, Aug 12: Bodies of the seven people who

drowned in the Meghna river Friday following a boat capsize near Alokbali in Sadar thana were recovered by local people today, reports UNB. They were identified as

Jobeda Khatun, 45, Dakterunesa, 55, Zakir Hossain, 15, Salam, 75, Marzina, 25, Falani Begum, 45, and Ohid Mia. 35. Police said an engine boat

carrying about 60 passengers capsized in the river at about 6 pm on Friday due to strong current. All but seven passengers swam ashore.