Manzur murder hearing adjourned till Sept 9

framing against deposed Hussain president Muhammad Ershad and four other retired army officers in the case relating to the mur der of Major General Abul Manzur could not be held yesterday because of several petitions submitted by the defence seeking adjournment, reports BSS.

Abdus Salam, District and Sessions Judge, Dhaka adjourned the hearing after he heard all sides and fixed September 9 as the new date to take up the charge hear-

Besides Ershad, the principal accused in this case, the four other accused are Major General (retd) Abdul Latif, Lt. Col (retd) Shamsur Rahman Shams, Lt. Col (retd) Mostafa Kamaluddin Bhuiyan and Major (retd) Kazi Emdadul Haq.

Meanwhile, a criminal revision prayer was filed before the High Court division of the Supreme Court Sunday on behalf of Ershad challenging some portion of the order of the Sessions Court on August

Public Prosecutor (PP) Abdur Razzak Khan who strongly objected to the adjournment prayed by the defence, also objected to the submissions made on behalf of Lt. Col (retd) Shamsur Rahman and Lt. Col (retd) Kamaluddin Bhuiyan to discharge them from the case as "they were not involved and that their names were not in the FIR". At one stage, the principal

accused stood up and requested the chair to adjourn the proceedings since his

The hearing on charge chief counsel Khandakar Mahbub Hossain remained busy in the High Court with the hearing of revisional

> Khan said the prosecution had no objection to allow any number of defence counsels subject to accommodation of the court and clearance from concerned agencies. He. however, mentioned that the two sides during the previous day of the proceedings agreed on the number of lawyers to be allowed and therefore, it was not fair to raise the issue again.

As for the complaints made on behalf of Ershad. the PP said none turned up to see the principal accused. Major (retd) Kazi Emdad

Hossain at one stage of the two hours hearing stood up and told the court that he was kept in a most inhuman condition in solitary con finement. "I am about to be come mad and might commit suicide." he said adding. "I am being maltreated after refusing to become an approver.

PP strongly objected to the utterances of the accused and said. "This is outright false statement.

The judge in response to the prayers of the accused persons ordered that jail authorities will follow jail code regarding facilities to be provided to each of them in general and Kazi Emdad in par-Judge Salam cautioned

journalists against misreport ing and referred to a report Islam. appeared in a local daily about the proceedings on August 16.

HC judgement today

From Page 1

The division bench of the High Court Division comprising Justice Mohammad Mozammel Hoque and Justice Mohammad Nurul Islam after hearing both the parties yesterday fixed today for judgement.

Senior Advocate Khandoker Mahbub Hossain, chief the certified copies of the counsel for Ershad, submitted that the Sessions Judge. Dhaka held the court onside the prosecution will use it the Dhaka Judge Court premises in a building in front of it. the Dhaka Central Jail without any Gazette Notification, which is violative to the specific provisions of Section 9(2) of the Code of Criminal

Procedure. He submitted that the Sessions Judge by fixing the number of lawyers who can appear for the accuseds also violated the principal of fair

and impartial trial. "The order is also a flagrant violation of the fundamental rights of the accuseds guaranteed under Articles 27 and 33 of the Constitution and it is contrary to the provision of Section 352 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. he argued.

Attorney General, discarding the submission of the defence lawyer argued that the government has got order from the President to set a

M Shamsul Alam, Deputy

special Ejlash out side the Dhaka Judge Court premises.

In regard to fixation the number of defence lawyers he submitted that it is a fair order, in view of limited accommodation.

He also submitted that at this stage of the case the accuseds are not entitled to get confessional statements and other documents, but when the accuseds would then get

After submission of the chargesheet the case was transferred from Chittagong to Dhaka Sessions Judge by a notification on August 3 last.

The Sessions Judge, Dha ka took cognizance of the offence under Section 302/109/201/34 of the Penal Code on August 16

The Sessions Judge on the same day also passed an order that only five lawyers for Ershad and three lawyers for each of the other ac-

cuseds can be engaged. By another order the Sessions Judge rejected the prayer of accuseds for certi fied copies of the statements

and some other documents. Barrister Rafigul Huq and Moudud Ahmed also appeared for Ershad.

3 JP MPs' seats vacated From Page 1 man Chowdhury, though the

presumption that they resigned from the party. "A man cannot be member of two parties, at the same

With the vacation of these three seats, the total number of vacant parliamentary seats now stands at 147. Earlier 142 seats of Opposition MPs were declared vacated as they remained absent from the House for 90 consecutive days, while the other seats fell vacant due to the death of two BNP MPs.

The EC had earlier asked the Bangladesh Television authorities to sent the video tape containing the news of Mahmudul Hasan's joining the BNP. The BTV authorities informed the EC that they failed to trace the tape.

Ruling party MP Advocate Abdur Rab Chowdhury attended the hearing on behalf of the three MPs, while Advocate Fazle Rabbi represented the JP. Manirul Haq Chowdhury of the JP informed the commission about the 'defection' of three party MPs and consequent activities of the party.

In his submission Abdur Rab Chowdhury said the JP failed to produce any evidence that the three MPs had resigned from the party. Even they could not present any primary evidence that they had joined the ruling party, he said. The petitioner was JP act-

ing chairman Mizanur Rah-

leader of JP parliamentary group was Barrister Moudud Ahmed, Rab Chowdhury said. adding, some newspapers were submitted to the commission, but the editors publishers or reporters were not summoned to justify the authenticity of the reports that the JP MPs had joined Referring to the newspa-

per reports, Fazle Rabbi said the news items were published in the Dainik Bangla, a paper owned by the government itself. The MPs did not issue any rejoinder to the news items till date and they even did not attend the commission to say on oath that the reports were false and motivated.

He said the three MPs deserted the JP and attended the Parliament session violating the party decision. And they did not lose their parliamentary seats for absence from the House for 90 consecutive days, as other JP MPs did.

The EC would convey the verdict to the Speaker shortly.

Manirul Haq Chowdhury later told newsmen that the EC, in this case, performed its duty impartially. The verdict would discourage such practice in future, he added.

Asked whether his clients would move the issue in higher court; Abdur Rab Chowdhury said that he had no such instruction.

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Minister M Shamsul Islam at Zia International Airport yesterday. - PID photo

Malian President leaves Dhaka

President of the Republic of Mali Alpha Oumar Konare left Dhaka yesterday morning concluding his four-day state visit to Bangladesh, report Agencies.

President Konare and Madam Konare were seen off at the Zia International Airport by Commerce and Information Minister Shamsul Islam and Begum Shamsul

President Konare was given a 21-gun salute and two little kids presented bouquets to him and Madam Konare before they embarked the plane.

JU teachers' representatives polls today

By JU Correspondent Election of teachers representatives to the Syndicate. the Academic Council and the Finance Committee of Jahangirnagar University will be held today.

Voting will continue from 9 am to 1 pm at the JU teachers club.

Two panels, one led by VC Prof. Amirul Islam Chowdhury and the other led by former president of the Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association (FBUTA) Prof Khandaker Mustahidur Rahman, are contesting the polls.

15 hurt as two trains collide in Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, Aug 28: At least 15 people were injured when an express train collided head on with a goods train near the outer signal of Raipur station here today, reports UNB.

Rail officials said the accident occurred as the Rajshahi-bound Padma Express. missing its main track entered a branch line where the goods train was waiting for clearance at about 5:40

The engines of the two trains were damaged and their drivers were seriously injured. Drivers AR Khan, 60 and MK Islam, 58, and three passengers were admitted to Raipur Health Complex.

The officials said the accident, caused by faulty points direction at the out signal, disrupted the rail communication, on the Sirajganj Ghat-Ishurdi route,

Crucial day

From Page 1

Meanwhile, the local girls' team are scheduled to play two matches today. In the morning session, they will face the mighty Indians at 9:30 am, while Great Britain await them at 6 pm. The Bengali girls need to win at least one of the encounters to be sure of a place in the final. Both the boys' and girls' finals are to take place to-

morrow. Child-lifting

From Page 1

phobia has now spread to remote areas of the district. In the city, at least ten persons are being reportedly beaten by mob in a week on suspicion of child-lifting. BSS adds: There is no ba-

sis behind the recent rumour and panic gripping the Chittagong metropolitan city over child-lifting.

After an extensive investigation launched by the Chiaccording to an official handout.

Joint Communique From Page 1 and Mali for promoting cooptrade agreement and an eration in economic, cultural

agreement on cultural cooperation between Bangladesh and Mali. At the official talks, it

said the two sides had wide ranging discussions on bilateral, regional and international issues.

The two sides, it said, discussed and reviewed all aspects of bilateral relations and ways and means of enhancing existing cooperation in political, economic, cultural, trade and other fields.

They agreed that there existed great potential for mutually beneficial cooperation in the fields of agriculture and manpower exchange.

The two sides also agreed said the communique, that the concerned ministries and agencies of the two countries should initiate action for expanding trade exchange as well as manpower cooperation between Bangladesh and

The two sides, it said, appreciated the proposal for studying the possibility of Bangladesh sending farmers for the development of agriculture sector in Mali and in this regard they agreed that a team of Bangladeshi experts would visit Mali on a factfinding mission in the near

future. The two sides expressed their keenness to exchange visits by leaders, officials and experts between Bangladesh

Photo-journalist assaulted in city

By Staff Correspondent

Some unidentified terrorists assaulted a photo-journalist of The Daily Star at the office of Bangladesh Photo Journalists' Association (BPJA) yesterday.

The miscreants came to BPJA office at around 2:30 pm and scolded the officepeon when he wanted to know their identities. When Anisur Rahman, The Daily Star photo-journalist approached them, the gun-totting terrorists punched him in the face and abdomen. When other photo-journalists and local people chased them, they fled away firing two shots, said a BPJA press release.

Dinajpur

From Page 1

travelling in a police van. Deputy Inspector General of Police of Rajshahi range, BDR Sector Commander and political leaders of the district attended the meeting.

The DIG informed the meeting that order for transfer of the Police Super had already been issued while that for the transfer of 29 police officers were underway.

The meeting also decided to constitute an enquiry commission to probe into the Sunday's violence in which some 100 people were also injured and some police outposts and newspaper offices in the town were ransacked and torched.

15 injured in Rajshahi

Our Correspondent from Rajshahi adds: Fifteen persons were injured in a clash between police and the workers of the Awami League and the Left Front here yesterday.

The Awami League and the Left Front workers brought out separate processions in the evening to protest the incidents in Dhaka and Dinajpur.

The clash began at the

damaged a jeep of Bangladesh Biman and three shops.

and technical fields, the joint communique said. In this context, it said

the ministers of primary education and health of Mali will visit Bangladesh. The two sides agreed to

encourage exchange of visits between the chambers of commerce and industry of the two countries, the communique said, adding, Bangladesh welcomed the Malian proposal to send Bangladeshi experts to visit the jute mill in Mali

Saddam's eldest son under house arrest? KUWAIT CITY, Aug 28

President Saddam Hussein has put his eldest son. Uday under house arrest in a bid to blame him for Iraq's deterioration, newspapers reported here today, reports AFP.

Saddam is also hoping the step will restore some of his credibility as a leader intent on uprooting corruption, the Arab Times and its sister newspaper As-Siyassa reporting, quoting Iraqi exiles in Jordan.

The report could not immediately be confirmed.

Iragi opposition sources have said that Uday's growing power and authority in Baghdad provoked the defection to Jordan of former industry minister Hussein Kamel Hassan, who is married to Saddam's eldest daughter, Raghad.

Hasina From Page 1

Sunday, the Awami League chief said the government should bear the responsibility of the killings of the innocent people.

On the killing of her party worker in the capital on Sunday, she alleged that BNP government has started using the goons of the Chhatra Dal and other terrorists as it totally failed to face the mass movement politically.

One arrested for beating wife for dowry From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Aug 28: Police arrested a man from his residence here late last night on charge of repression on his wife for dowry.

The victim is now fighting for her life at a clinic in Dhaka. The arrested husband

Jaharigir Kabir Chowdhury of Alam Khan Lane, along with two of his brothers and one sister mercilessly beat his wife Fahmida Halim Bithi, 24 on August 22 after her parents' failure to satisfy his dowry demand for Taka five lakh, police said. Later, Kabir took Bithi, who was unconscious to her relatives house at Kachhari Gali in the town and left her there.

Kabir was arrested under the Women and Children Repression Act while co-accused Alamgir Kabir Chowdhury, Humayun Kabir Chowdhury, and Selina - brothers and sister of the principal accused — were absconding. The arrested man had

been in Sweden since 1991 and returned home this month. He was putting pressure on Bithi for bringing Taka five lakh from her father as dowry before his re-

Six killed in road accidents

At least six people were killed in separate road accidents across the country yes-

Our Sylhet correspondent reports: Two persons were killed and 10 others injured when the tempo in which they were travelling was hit by a speeding minibus at llashpur on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway in the morning.

One of the dead was dentified as Akhter Miah. of village Hajipur of Narayanganj district.

UNB adds: In Savar, a minor boy and a teenaged girl were killed and eight others injured in two road mishaps. Witnesses said Dalia, 19.

was killed and eight men were injured when Manikganj-bound minibus from Dhaka plunged into a roadside ditch near Kalampur in Dhamrai on the Dhaka-Aricha highway at about 9 am.

In the other accident, Rafig. 8, was run over by another minibus near Balia in Dhamrai. In Sirajganj, two people

were killed in two road accidents on the Nagarbari-Bogra highway. Sher Ali, 47, of Sujapur

village in Raiganj thana died on the spot when a speedy truck ran over him on the highway In another accident on

the same highway near Sherandah in Shahjadpur thana, Rina, 9, died instantly when a Dhaka-bound truck knocked her. AL mourns death

From Page 1 after Asr prayers.

AL leaders Abdus Samad Azad, Abdur Razzak, Tofael Ahmed, Amir Hossain Amu, Zillur Rahman, Mohammad Nasim and leaders of some other parties attended the The mourning procession

ended at Sayedabad, where another Namaz-e-janaza was held. Later, Badruddin was buried at Jurain graveyard. **Programmes**

Meanwhile, AL chief

Sheikh Hasina, in a statement yesterday, announced a fresh programme to protest attack and repression on party leaders and workers and reiterated the demand for general elections under a caretaker government. The programme includes

rallies and processions in the 14 thanas of the city today, a countrywide 'protest day' on August 31 and a public meeting at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city on September 3.

- The AL, along with two other major opposition parties, had earlier called for a 32-hour countrywide hartal

College student

From Page 1

According to witnesses Rashed was gossiping with some of his friends in front of a laundry close to his house when the miscreants at tacked him at about 6:45 pm

Shabujbagh police are investigating the incident.

They succeeded

From Page 1 woman for 17 years can have a gender problems," said ana lyst Usha Nayyar. "But we in India have this gender schizophrenia, and that is the backing of a millennium of discrimination.

India says at least 7,300 women have been killed by their in-laws so far this year for bringing inadequate dowries — officially illegal. Some 11,600 were raped

in 1994. Female foeticide and

infanticide are common, and 40 per cent of women are illiterate. Indira Gandhi, daughter of

Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of Independent India, was the first leader to introduce equal wage legislation, but equality in the workplace remains an elusive dream for most Indian women. "Indira rode on the coat-

tails of her father," Nayyan "She and Benazir and

Khaleda — they are all suc-

cesses in a patriarchal society

because of their male rela-Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto took the reins of the Islamic nation in 1986 seven years after her father Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the coun-

try's former premier, was

Bangladesh's Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is the widow of former President Ziaur Rahman. Sri Lankan President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga's parents were former prime ministers Sirima and Solomon Bandaranaike. "In India, we have the

mother goddess Cult," said the West, it's unthinkable look at poor Hillary Clinton."

The Midnight Rife

China returning envoy to US

WASHINGTON, Aug 28: China is returning its ambassador to Washington, signifying improved relations as a controversial visit to Beijing by Hillary Rodham Clinton nears. Ambassador Li Daoyu was recalled in mid-June after President Clinton approved a visa for Lee Teng-hui, Taiwan's president to attend an Alumni gathering at a New York university, reports AP.

WB Vice President in city

World Bank Vice President Joseph Wood arrived here yesterday on a four-day visit, reports UNB

Economie Relations Division (ERD) Secretary Lutfullahil Majid received Wood at the airport.

The visiting World Bank executive will discuss state of aid utilisation and reform programmes, with government leaders and officials.

Import trade From Page 1

sector under back-to-back LC arrangement.

The value of LCs opened for importing rice aggregated Tk 1.725.47 crore, closely followed by capital machinery and crude petroleum oil. Value of LCs for capital machinery was worth. Tk 1.642.57 crore and for crude oil Tk 1,483 crore. According to a recent

publication of a chamber, the value of LCs opened for rice import during the first 11 months of 1993-94 (July 1993-May 1994) was only Tk 84.97 crore. Comparing the 1994-95

import figures with those of 11 months of the previous year (1993-94), import of all major importables, including capital machinery, cement, POL (petroleum, oil and lubricants), textile fabrics and edible oil saw a sharp rise. LCs opened for import of

textile fabrics on back-toback arrangement were worth Tk 6,337 crore in 1994-95 compared to Tk 4,349.31 crore during the 11 months of 1993-94.

JP programme From Page 1

Jatiya Party procession trying to enter the Central Jail area. A small JP procession tried to enter the jail area

from Nimtoli crossing at

around 11 am, but police re-

sisted it.

Half an hour later, a procession of some 300 JP activists led by Shamsuzzaman Mintu tried to break a police barricade at the Agha Sadeq Lane. The processionists hurled brick bats at police. The police lobbed three to four tear gas shells and the procession retreated.

None was injured in the incidents.

3 cops held

From Page 1

death toll at three in the Sunday's police firing at Dinajput town and said police were forced to open fire to control the violent mob. protect their own life and arms as well as government and private property.

A one-member judicial enquiry committee with the District and Sessions Judge of Dinajpur has been constituted Sunday to investigate into the incident. The committee has been asked to submit its report within 15 days.

The Deputy Commissioner of Dinajpur has constituted a three-member committee for fresh post-mortem of the girl, killed on August 24.

The Press Note said several thousand agitating people gheraoed Kotwali thana at about 11 pm on August 26 and threw brick bats demanding trial of the killing of the girl in the police van. Police, aided by BDR, dispersed the mob by using two rounds of tear gas shells

The next day, a section of people in Dinajpur town brought out a militant procession. The mob tried to destroy government and private property at different parts of the town. At one stage, they burned

down four police outposts and four police vehicles. They also set fire to the Special Branch office of the district and led attacks on Kotwali thana seven or eight times and threw brick-bate and cocktails on police. Ignoring repeated

requests from police, the mob continued the disruptive acts. To maintain law and order, police used batons and tear gas. Failing to control the mob, police fired 10 rounds of shot at the instruction of the magistrate on duty that left three people dead. Some 20 policemen were also injured in the incident.

people and restore law and order.

BNP's founding anniversary programmes

By Staff Correspondent

The ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) yesterday chalked out elaborate programmes to observe the party's 17th founding anniversary on September 1.

according to a press release. To mark the day, the BNP will hoist the National and the party flags and organise discussion meetings across the country.

In the capital, leaders of the BNP and its front organisations will visit the mazar of the late President Ziaur Rahman, the founder of the party, at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar at 9 in the morning. A public meeting will also be organised at Gulistan at 3 pm Prime Minister and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia is expected to address the meeting.

Besides, recorded speeches of Ziaur Rahman will be played throughout the city and elsewhere in the country.

Speaker leaves for US By Staff Correspondent

Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali left Dhaka for the United States last night to attend the UN-sponsored Inter-parliamentary Council Session in New York, sources in his office said.

The Parliament is scheduled to go into its 21 session on September 6. In the ab-

sence of the Speaker, Deputy

Speaker Humayun Khan

Panni will chair the session.

From Page 1

He is scheduled to return

Farhad

home on September 10.

mmad Nurul Islam acting on a Habeas corpus writ declared the detention of Mazhar illegal and issued an advance order for his release immediately.

After being released last

evening he met with journalists at the National Press Earlier on August 2 last, the HC issued a rule against the government to show

cause as to why the detention of Mazhar should not be declared illegal. ' The HC heard both parties and perused the record on Sunday last and yesterday

by a judgement made the rule

absolute. Barrister Md Amir-ul Islam, assisted by Barrister Tania Amir and Advocate Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury. moved for Mazhar, while Deputy Attorney General M Shamsul Alam appeared for

the state. Press Note: AL

From Page 1

When the procession reached the Farmgate area the indisciplined Awami League workers started indiscriminate throwing of stone and brickbats on the ICD meeting there and also resorted to firing and bomb blasting. At that time police dispersed the Awami League procession which divided into two parts and continued

frightened. Later, police found a person lying injured on the road. The injured person was taken to the hospital where

result the people there got

The Press Note said, as a

gun shots."

Note added.

he died. Four policemen on duty received severe injuries in the incident. The Press Note said two cases were filed with the police in connection with the incident, the Press

Beijing confee

ernment action, but on each

"There are 200 women

From Page 1 formal declaration and gov-

taking part from Pakistan. Many come from the grassroots, from villages. When they go home and share their information, that will have effect," said Nageen Malik, a representative of a Pakistani group called Bendari -Awakening - that offers legal, medical and financial

Meanwhile the Pakistan government said today it would not sign any document at the women's conference which contradicts Islamic teachings.

help for women.

turn to Sweden, police said. India's former minister for Ganakpara crossing when poitagong' Metropolitan Police, Bithi was first admitted to women Margaret Alva. "If a The district magistrate lice resorted to lathicharge it has been proved beyond Narayanganj General Hospital woman can emerge in the was forced to impose curfew and lobbed tear gas shells to any doubt that, in fact, there and was later shifted to a power structure, there is no in Dinajpur town to protect is no basis behind the rumour disperse the processionists. clinic in Dhaka on August 26 hostility towards her. But in life and property of the The angry people also and panic over child-lifting. as her condition turned criti-

cal.