## Foundation of NICD laid

# PM urges doctors to improve service

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday asked the physicians to improve their mentality to render better service to the suffering people, reports UNB.

"It's not a job only. Your profession involves selfless services ... Everybody expects a serving mentality form the Physicians," she said while laying the foundation stone of the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICD) at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the afternoon.

The 400-bed hospital will be set up at an estimated cost of Tk 75.90 crore of which Tk 62.90 crore will be provided from domestic resources and the rest will come from project assis-

The hospital will have four air conditioned operation theatres, four X-Ray rooms and a 30-bed emergency unit. Begum Zia said her government has undertaken

# US repeats call

From Page 1 Bangladesh itself."

He was replying to the question, already there are clashes and confrontation between the government and the opposition parties on this election. And unfortunately. Ambassador Merrill's office's very good efforts are now being questioned by the Opposition. So it is not fair to adjust to what you have just stated, just to avoid any further clashes that may occur before the elections.

Excuse me? What has it done?" the spokesman said replying to the question, "Nick, your recent statement on Bangladesh has evoked an uproar in Dhaka.'

The State Department spokesman asked the questioner, "What I said on Fri-

'We never try to create an

uproar in anything we say. Sometimes we do that unwittingly, or sometimes it's misinterpreted," said the State Department spokesman replying to the question whether he would comment on the reactions of the leader of the combined opposition, Sheikh Hasina, and the position of the United States that has been melted down through his good offices.

The questioner suggested that the Opposition in Bangladesh described the State Department spokesman's statement last Friday as one-sided which means helping the government of Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to go ahead with an election, already declared by the combined opposition, led by Sheikh Hasina, as a total farce.

The State Department spokesman said in reply. "Let me try - let me see if we can do better today, and, perhaps, try to calm down the

From Page 1

Then, the Finance Minister

said that a programme would

be taken to improve data es-

timation procedure for the

BBS. The Unicef Resident

Representative said although

good quality data are available

in the social sector, they are

not being used in fixing pri-

orities of the projects both by

the donors and the govern-

conceded the government's

inability to push forward the

reform agenda in many

fronts, particularly accelerat-

ing privatisation of state-

owned enterprises and a

stalled restructuring pro-

gramme in the ailing jute

sector, recipient of largest

that the reform agenda is to-

tally stalled and the govern-

ment has failed to undertake

public sector administrative

Minister told the meeting

that legal reform concerning

the financial sector is being

carried out, but he admitted

that the administrative re-

form process is moving at a

that a Legal Reform Commis-

He informed the meeting

in response, the Finance

reform and legal reform.

The donors pin-pointed

The Finance Minister

ment.

IDA credit.

necessary steps to ensure health for all by the year 2000 to face the challenge of the next century. A nation needs a skilled working force of healthy people to ensure her overall development, she

The Prime Minister said coordinated immunisation programmes for the children have been introduced to free the future generation from all kinds of diseases.

She said over 92 per cent of the people now drink safe water and health awareness among them have increased resulting in decrease of the rate of child mortality and population boom.

Begum Zia underscored the need for skilled physicians for ensuring health for all. This is why, she said, the government has allowed establishment of private medical college alongside state-run medical colleges.

"Heart patients are increasing in the country. It is urgent to create treatment facility for them and huge physicians are needed to ensure their treatment," she said and hoped the NICD would help produce more specialised physicians.

The function was addressed, among others, by Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, Deputy Health Minister Sirajul Hug and Director of NICD Prof M Akhtaruzzaman.

# Hartal observed in Banskhali

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Jan 30: A dawn-to-dusk hartal called by the major opposition was observed at Banskhali today to resist the election tour of Communications Minister Oli Ahmed.

Police said no untoward incident was reported during hartal hours.

Movement of most the vehicles was stopped today at Banskhali due to hartal while shops and markets also were closed

The hartal was called separately by Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Is-Supporters of hartal

groups held rallies and processions vowing to resist the election campaign. On the other hand, the

minister also addressed

election rallies at Banskhali. party sources said. A tight security was maintained there to avert any out-

break of violence.

campaign for his party candidate Jafrul Islam Chowdhury who is contesting for the Chittagong-15 parliamentary constituency.

edly informed the meeting

that he tried to persuade,

and would still do the same,

to reach an amicable solution

is learnt that Pierre Landell-

Mills. Resident Mission chief

of the World Bank, was highly

critical about the delay of the

formation of the Power Cell

and starting its activities.

which has slowed down the

private sector participation

the government's allocation

in the poverty alleviation

programme, some donors

suggested that a poverty plan

be formulated, with emphasis

on the health, education and

whole annual development

programme is aimed towards

disappointment regarding

the development in the

telecommunications sector

and said despite having good

scope for private sector par-

ticipation in the sector, this

a separate regulatory body for

the sector instead of the T

and T Board, which also pro-

top official, the meeting did

not witness any "uneasy" situ-

ation, as it was anticipated

earlier that the donors would

be highly critical of the gov-

ernment's performance be-

cause of its apparent failure

in driving forward the reform

agenda as agreed upon at the

American Ambassador in

Paris Aid Club meeting eight

Dhaka David N Merrill re-

ernment intervention in the

fertiliser distribution system

is harmful and advocated for

reinvigoration of the agricul-

- portedly said that the gov-

vides services.

months ago.

tural sector.

the government's inaction.

is not taking place because of

They suggested setting up

However, according to a

Saifur Rahman said the

The donors vented their

family planning sectors.

eliminating poverty.

Expressing concern over

About the power sector, it

to the political crisis.

in this sector.

Oli Ahmed went there to

Donors disappointed Defending the government efforts to avert the present political situation. the Finance Minister also report-

old age ailment. till January 31.



From Page 1.

market but the hooligans

pounced on every shop and

looted," said Newaz, another

of the Bangabazar market, the

shopowners were seen

searching through the debris

yesterday. Burnt corrugated

were seen strewn in soaked

apparent. Broken cash boxes

were seen in the debris.

shutters and locks of some

unburnt shops were also seen

breaking the main gates en-

tered not only the

Bangabazar, but also three

other markets," said another

shopowner adding. "the at-

tackers were looting one side

of the market while the other

stations in the city and from

Tongi, Demra and Narayan-

gani rushed to the spot. They

used a total of 13 water units.

ten towing vehicles, 12

pumps and three ambulances

gathered around the market

all day vesterday while police

cordoned off the area till the

cident at Bangabazar, fire

fighters' performance Mon-

day night was praised by both

the shopowners and local

not tell how the fire origi-

cials of the Fire Service and

Civil Defence held an emer-

quarters in the afternoon to

gency meeting at its head-

determine the cause of the

fire and extent of the dam-

said. Home Ministry has

Fire Service officials could

Meanwhile, senior offi-

Unlike in the last fire in-

Thousands of onlookers

Fire fighters from all the

side was burning."

to control the fire.

evening.

people.

nated.

"The armed young men,

Evidences of looting were

tin sheets and other articles

ashes.

broken.

Inside the burnt section

iftar party nearby fire brigade and informed them, he said. By Staff Correspondent Three activists of Jativatabadi Jubodal were injured when some cocktails were blasted in an iftar party in

front of the Jubodal office at Sheorapara Mirpur in the city yesterday, police said. At least six cocktails were blasted in the iftar party organised by the Jubodal, the

(Right).

youth

One Jashim, one of those who allegedly blasted the cocktails, was also injured when a cocktail exploded in his hand. All the injured persons were rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospi-

front of the ruling

Two separate cases have been registered with Mirpur Police in this connection. Goveshwar Roy, general secretary of Jubodal and Minister of State for Environment and Forest, when contacted. acknowledged the incident and said it was being investi-

#### Sirajganj hospital ransacked, doc assaulted

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 30: A group of youngsters attacked the Sirajganj General Hospital and assaulted an on-duty physician today, reports UNB

Hospital sources said the youngmen led by one Panna ransacked the hospital doors. window panes and its equipments after assaulting the doctor, Afigur Rahman.

Local people said the attack followed the death of a patient, Anwar Hossain Pasha, 55, at about 6:30 am.

Panna, son of the patient, alleged that his father died due to negligence of the onduty physicians. But the attending doctors denied the charge saying that he died of

Soon after the attack, the hospital doctors and staff held a press conference and called a two-hour token strike from 10 am everyday age. Fire Service sources

asked the Fire Service to submit an initial report on the incident immediately, the sources said.

- Star photo

No case was lodged in this connection till last night However, police said that detective police would take

Bangabazar Prime Minister Begum

Khaleda Zia yesterday visited the fire-affected Bangabazar Hawkers' Market here and talked to the shopowners and employees, reports BSS.

pressed her deep sorrow at the razing of the market once again. The affected shopowners told her that they were having a brisk business after the reopening of the market on January 15. But a vested quarter, they said, were not happy with the resumed activities.

UNB adds: Awami League President Sheikh Hasina yesterday visited Bangabazar to see the devastation of the market by fire.

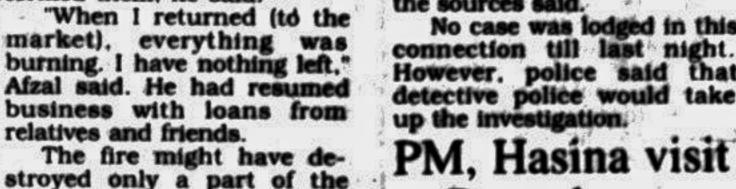
shopowners and consoled them who lost everything in the big fire.

# Greek, Turkish warships near

ATHENS, Jan 30: Greek

Defence Minister Gerassimos Arsenis said Greek forces warned a Turkish frigate today to leave Greek territorial waters near the disputed barren island of Imia off the Turkish coast.

"Imia is Greek," Arsenis said. "Our armed forces are responsible for, and are in a position to defend national



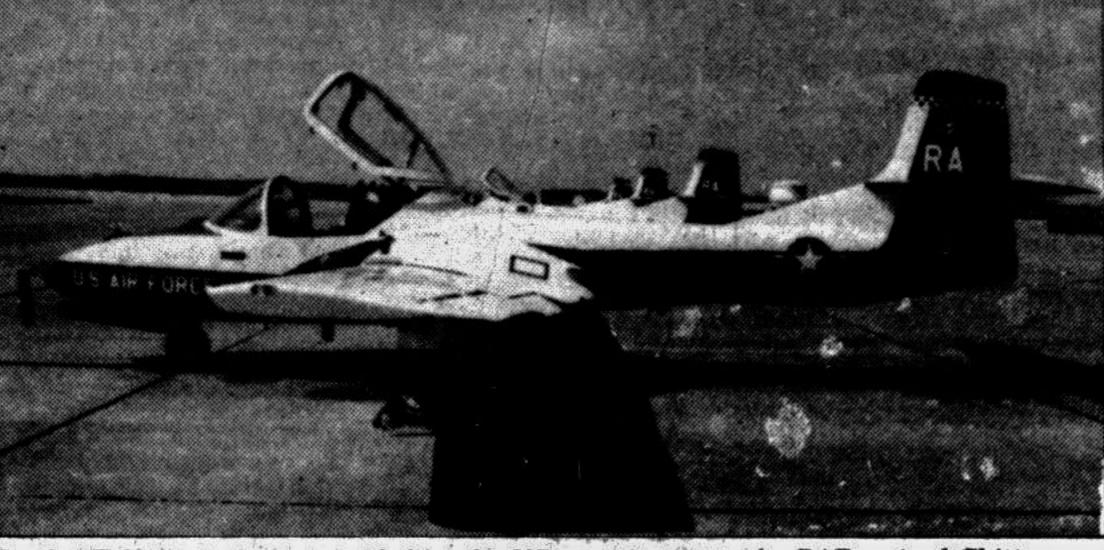
The Prime Minister ex-

Hasina talked to the

# Aegean islet

and Turkish warships took up positions near a disputed islet in the eastern Aegean today and tensions rose dramatically between the feuding NATO allies, reports Reuter.

sovereignty.



Twelve T-37 jet trainers provided by the US government to the BAF arrived Chittagong - USIS photo yesterday.

### US jet trainers for BAF

A consignment of 12 T-37B jet trainers arrived in the Chittagong Port yesterday provided by the United States to the Bangladesh Air Force (BAF), says a USIS

The T-37 "Tweet" is a twin-engine jet used for training pilot and navigator students in fundamentals of aircraft handling and instrument, formation, and night flying.

ing characteristics of the T-37 give student pilóts a feel for handling larger, faster jets. The instructor and student sit side by side for more effective training. The cockpit has dual controls, ejection seats, and a clamshell-type canopy that can be jettisoned.

Built by the Cessna Aircraft Company, T-37B jet trainers are 29 feet, 3 inches long; 9 feet, 2 inches tall; and have a wingspan of 33 feet, 8 inches. They can attain a speed of 315 miles per hour and fly to 35,000 feet. They have a range of 736 kilometers without refueling.

# From Page 1

hell-bent to destroy the sanctity of the occasion, the owners said and urged the authorities to ensure the full security of the stalls and the investments made.

When contacted, Ramna police confirmed the act of arson in some stalls in the book fair and said the police went to the site of occurrence for investigations.

Academy officials, however, could not be contacted for comment.

UNB adds: A section of intellectuals, including Dhaka University senators and teachers, called for cancellation of the Prime Minister's schedule for opening the Bangla Academy book fair tomorrow to avert a possible clash.

In separate statements 25 senators and 86 teachers of the university, and country's leading poets and artistes apprehended a bloody clash

the PM's programme was not

The senators include Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique, Prof Abdul Mannan Chowdhury. Advocate Syed Ahmed, Dr Harun-or-Rashid, M Habibur Rahman, Syed Rezaur Rahman. Dr TM Nurunnahar Khan, Mahfuza Khanam and Ishmat Kadir Gama.

Poet Suffa Kamal, Syed Shamsul Huq, MR Akhter Mukul, Shawkat Osman, Khaled Khan, Belal Chowdhury, Rafiq Azad, Mohan Raihan and Tarana Halim are among the poets and artistes who signed the statement.

Pro-Awami League Chhatra-League has threatened to foil the Prime Minister's planned visit to open the month-long Ekushey book fair at the Bangla Academy.

(JCD), the student wing of ruling BNP, taking up the Chhatra League challenge. vowed to resist any such move to foil the PM's visit.

## Prokrichi urges CEC not to give election duty

By Staff Correspondent Leaders of the Prokrichi-

**BCS** Central Action Council vesterday requested the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) not to give any election duty to their estimated 17,000 members.

In a memorandum to the CEC, the Council leaders said they would not accept election duties if the members of the BCS administration cadre were given the responsibilities of returning officers and assistant returning officers.

The leaders reminded the CEC of their December 15 meeting with him in which. they claimed they were assured that their grievances would be looked into.

"But since no step has yet been taken, it has become difficult for the Council members to carry out election duties properly and safely," pointed out the memorandum, jointly signed by Prokrichi President Dr M A Majed and Secretary General M A Hena.

### Polls results preset: Hasina

Sheikh Hasina yesterday renewed her call for all to resist the "farcical elections" under the BNP government saying that the results of the polis are preset, reports

The election results are already known to all, so there is no need of a mock vote for an eyewash," the opposition leader said while talking to the lawyers of Dhaka Bar at the Dhaka Bar Association auditorium.

"Power belongs to the people and they are the only source of power and the Prime Minister is violating Article 7 of the Constitution by refusing to return their power to them." Hasina told the lawyers. She said the Awami

League is struggling for establishing people's voting right and it will continue the movement until their rights can be guaranteed. People's franchise could

be ensured by realising the demand for elections under a neutral, non-party caretaker government, Hasina said calling upon the people to intensify the current movement for a caretaker government. Dhaka Ainjibi Samity

President Advocate Abu Sayeed Sagar presided over the meeting which was also addressed by former Dhaka Bar Association president Advocate Ramjan Alí. Awami League leaders Ab-

dus Samad Azad, Abdul Mannan. Abdul Momen, Zillur Rahman and Advocate Shahara Khatoon also spoke on the occasion.

# BNP expels

From Page 1.

mad Abdul Latif. president. Sujanagar thana committee. Mohammad Abdul Bari Sardar, vice president, Ishwardi thana committee. Anwarul Islam Ratan, member, Nagarpur thana committee. Mehammad Abdus Samad Panna, member, Baliadanga thana committee, Sheikh Habib, member, Tangail district committee. Mohammad Reaz Uddin, President Mirzapur thana committee and Raihan Nabi Badshah, exgeneral secretary. Bogra district committee.

### Gunshots

From Page 1 Police also found six used cartridges and an unexploded home-made device in the front garden of the residence.

A spokesman for the British High Commission confirmed the incident and said there were gun shots outside the Deputy High Commissioner's residence at 6-15 am. A police sentry was injured in the incident.

He said the British High Commission regrets injury to the policeman. The Deputy High Commissioner has asked the chief of police to convey wishes for his early recovery. The spokesman said po-

lice did not associate the incident with any specific targetting. "No reason to suspect one." Meanwhile, security was tightened in and around the

shan and Baridhara following the incident. The injured policeman has filed a case with the Gulshan Police Station and police was

diplomatic enclaves of Gul-

investigating the case. BSS adds: Security has been tightened to ensure safety of foreign diplomats based in Dhaka, police said

last night.

Steps have been taken following several gunshots were fired at the residence of the British Deputy High Commissioner at Gulshan yesterday morning. Police constable Alamgir

Hossain, who was on duty at the gate of the diplomat's residence was injured when unidentified gunmen fired several shots at the residence. Police said that a case was

an unexploded hand bomb

from the spot.

filed with the Gulshan police station and that the matter was under investigation. Police took six bullet shells, a used bullet cap, and

During the two-hour trou-

# The Midnight File

Silajdzic expelled from Bosnian ruling party

SARAJEVO, Jan 30: Outgoing Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic, due to be replaced today by Hasan Muratovic in a major government reshuffle, has been expelled from the country's ruling party. Silajdzic, 50, had served the Bosnian government throughout the country's 43month war, first as foreign minister and later as prime minister, reports Reuter.

# Poetry festival from tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

The 10th Jatiya Kabita Utsab '96 (national poetry festival) begins tomorrow on the Dhaka University campus. Scores of established and budding poets from across the country and a few from abroad are expected to participate in the two-day-event, which will include recitation

sessions, a seminar and an

exhibition, the organisers

told a press conference yes-

terday at the National Press

Organised by the Jatiya Kabita Parishad, the festival will be inaugurated by poet Begum Sufia Kamal at the TSC island in the afternoon.

The first day's pro grammes will begin at 2 pm with the laying of wreaths at the Central Shahid Minar and the mazar of Kazi Nazrul Islam. It will be followed by the inaugural ceremony at 2:30 pm. Two recitation sessions will be held at 4 pm and 8 om on the day.

A seminar on "poetry and humanity" will be held on the

#### Jubo League From Page 1

picked up from his Baraikaran village home at about 8 am in a combined drive and taken to the army camp at the Nalchiti thana headquarters. Witnesses said Ashraf was taken to the thana health

They said Ashraf, 30, was

conscious state. The attending physicians there declared him dead. When contacted, police failed to cite any reason for

complex at about 1 pm in un-

the arrest of Ashraf. An unnatural death case was filed with Nalchiti police station.

The supporters of the BNP and the opposition parties locked in a clash when the protest procession was passing by the office of the ruling party in the town's Kamarpatti area. The clash left seven people injured. Both the groups blamed

each other for the clash.

second day at 10 am. Muhammad Nurul Huda will present the keynote paper. The concluding session will begin at 3 pm with a recitation session. Nominees

for the national poetry award . will be declared at 7 pm. The award, which recognises contributions to Bangla poetry, will be presented at the next year's event, the organisers said.

Recitation by visiting foreign poets will be held at 7:30 pm. This year, two poets from Nepal, one from Sri Lanka, one from Mauritius and one from Costa Rica are expected to grace the festi-

All visiting poets will be offered accommodation, the organisers said, adding that festival costs will be around Taka 2 to 2.5 lakh.

The press conference was addressed by Mohan Rathan, Syed Shamsul Haq and other members of the Parishad.

# JP rally today

By Staff Correspondent The Jatiya Party will hold a public rally at the South gate of Baitul Mukarram today

# Shopkeepers

From Page 1

task force. Police resorted to

lathicharge to disperse them. Police also picked up the president of the market's shopowners association Idris Miah from the spot. The association leaders

alleged that police raided 15 shops of the market and charged batons indiscriminately violating the agreement signed with the administration three years back. According to the agree-

ment, they claimed, police can raid any market in the city along with its association leaders.

The market remained closed from 2 to 5 pm following the trouble.

# Sonargaon Hotel

From Page 1 volvement of outsiders and the beating up of officials.

The employees, chanting slogans against the management, took position in the lounge and demonstrated while the baffled occupants of the hotel looked on from a distance with fear, witnesses said.

One truck-load of riot police rushed to the spot and took position at the entrance, lounge and the first floor. The Civil Aviation and

Tourism Ministry, being informed of the situation, sent the Managing Director of the Hotel International Limited (HIL), the owning company of the hotel, M Mosharraf Ullah to the spot. After a long discussion

with the employees union,

Mosharraf came out and announced that "the termination letter issued to Ahsan Khan, executive housekeeper is hereby withdrawn." He also assured the employees that no departmental and punitive actions will

be taken against any employ-

ees of the hotel because of

the day's incident. "I praise your conduct today ... please go back to your work. All your demands will be taken up in due course," said the MD over loudspeaker

set up in the lounge. But when approached for his comments, the MD said. "I will not talk to the press Write whatever rubbish you

None of the management including the GM and the Public Relations Manager were available for official comments on the incident. The Public Relations Manager, when contacted, refused to make any official statement.

Meanwhile, sources said there has been serious pro and anti-management groupings among the employees which has seriously affected the functioning of the hotel. Allegations of corruption also exist, they added.

UNB reports: The outsiders showed firearms as employees stabbed and beat up the officials. Police at the entrance of the hotel remained silent spectators when officials asked for help. said Iskandar, Room Divisions Manger, at the Holy Family Hospital.

Iskandar and two others - Waliullah, Assistant Sales Manager, and Shafiqui Islam, Assistant Manager — were hospitalised with serious stab injuries.

The officials who were roughed up included Shahid Hamid, Munirul Islam. Ekramul Huq. Marshal Gomage. Rodrick and Abul Kalam Khan

ble, witnesses said, a few rooms of the officials and furniture at the hotel lobby

were ransacked. Sonargaon Hotel Sramik Karmachari Union sources denied any attack by the employees but said they staged a demonstration in front of the GM's room as the management refused to sit with the employees over the termination of the executive

housekeeper.

sources said.

Book fair

From Page 1 cultural function except on the opening day because of the Ramadan, academy

The programmes of the

academy include discussions,

painting competition for the

children, Amar Ekushey lecture series and distribution of Bangla Academy Award for Literature '95. There will be 474 stalls, of which, 270 have been set up inside the academy premises while the rest 204 would be along the road from

the TSC to Doel Chattar.

Mahfuzur Rahman, the convener of the fair told The Daily Star. Some 450 organisations are participating in the book fair this year, he added. There will be some 10 food stalls in the fair which would

be set up outside the academy premises. The rent for a single unit stall inside the academy has been fixed at Taka 3.000 while Taka 5,000 would be charged for double unit stalls. Taka 2000 has been fixed as rentals for the stalls outside

the academy premises. Last year 441 organisations took part in the fair setting up 603 stalls.

#### Villagers gherao navy camp, thana in Moheshkhali

COX'S BAZAR, Jan 30: Angry villagers gheraoed the naval camp and police station in Moheshkhali island after the arrest and beating of two brothers of a BNP leader today, reports UNB. Navy and policemen, led

by a magistrate, raided the house of Advocate Hamidul Haq at Putibila village on a tip-off this morning and ar rested his two brothers -Sarwar Azam and Jahiruddin - on charge of possessing ii legal arms. Hamidul Haq was also

taken to the camp along with his two brothers, who also are said to be the ruling party activists.

#### sion has been set up, but has not taken off yet. He added that it would be made functional in the near future. When the envoy of a western country raised the point that the government could

not muster the needed political consensus for reforms, the Finance Minister shot back by saying that even some western countries themselves like France is faltering in their privatisation programme as they also lacked political backing. The minister blamed the country's political situation as

a drag on the reform pro-

gramme and said that he had

discussed with the Prime

Minister yesterday, who en-

sured that her party would

seek mandate for reform in the ensuing parliamentary elections. **Editor: Mahfuz Anam** 

Printed & Published by A. S. Mahmud, Managing Director, on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, from City Publishing House Ltd, 90 Kakrail, Dhake-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 8, Dhanmandi B/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fax No. 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA.

press release.

The twin engines and fly-

### rescinded. tion and some quarters are

adjoining the campus. on the university campus if

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal