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NEWS BRIEFS
Injured BCL worker dies
PABNA, Feb 17: A pro-Awami League BCL worker who was injured in pre-polls violence in Iswardi died here today, according to police and hospital sources. Md Azmal Hossain Pramanik, 20, of Estavillage in Iswardi thana, received head injuries in a clash between supporters and opponents of election in Iswardi on February 12. He died at Pabna Sadar Hospital this morning, reports UNB.

Pope meets Lebanese PM
VATICAN CITY, Feb 17: Pope John Paul II met today with Lebanon's prime minister, two months after Lebanese bishops meeting in the Vatican criticised their government. The pope received Rafik Hariri for about a half-hour in a private meeting. No details of their discussion were released, reports AP.

IRA claims responsibility
LONDON, Feb 17: The IRA said today it planted a bomb in London's Theatraland on Thursday which was defused by police. The guerrilla Irish Republican Army made the claim of responsibility in a telephone call to the BBC, acknowledging its second bomb in London within a week of abandoning its ceasefire, reports Reuter.

Shetri, Iftar timings

Ram	Feb	Shetri	Iftar
28	18	—	5:59
29	19	5:00	5:59
30	20	5:08	5:00

18 killed, 67 hurt in road accidents

By Staff Correspondent

At least 18 people were killed and 67 injured in three road accidents in Pabna, Narsingdi and Jhenidah yesterday. Thirteen passengers were killed and 40 injured when a bus plunged into a roadside ditch near Pundaria bridge in Santhia thana of Pabna district, reports our correspondent. The Kurigram-bound bus was packed with homebound passengers on the eve of Eid and met with the accident at about 7:30 pm when one of its front tyres burst. It fell 50 feet down into the ditch. Ten persons died on the spot while three others succumbed to their injuries at Ben Thana Health Complex. Four of the dead were identified as Chand Ali, 20, of Galbandha, Ismail, 50, and Amin, 37, of Niphamari, and Sukumar Das, 50, of Shahjapur, in Sirajganj.

Till the filing of this report at about midnight, police personnel were carrying rescue operation. Our Narsingdi correspondent reported: Three persons were killed and 20 injured when a Dhaka-bound bus from Narsingdi fell into a road-side ditch at Bolta in Narsingdi yesterday afternoon. Two persons died on the spot when the bus fell after one of its tyres burst. The bodies could not be identified. Another fatally injured person, Shah Newaj, 35, died on way to hospital. Of the injured, Joyal, 35, Shahidul, 38, and Awal were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). Others were taken to hospital at Narsingdi. Our correspondent from Jhenidah reports: Two persons including a woman were killed and seven injured when a microbus hit a horse carriage from behind at Amtola Bazar on the Jhenidah-Kushtha highway yesterday. The dead persons were identified as Shahin, 30, a bus driver and Anwara Salitana, a school teacher. The injured persons were taken to Jhenidah hospital.

Quake kills 7 in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Feb 17: At least seven people were killed and thousands of structures damaged in a massive earthquake in the easternmost province of Irian Jaya, officials in the Province's capital of Jayapura said today, report Agencies.

Polling officer succumbs to injuries

FARIDPUR, Feb 17: An assistant presiding officer, injured critically in an attack after voting in Thursday's contentious election, died here today, reports UNB. Family sources said Anil Kumar Biswas, 53, came under attack by anti-election activists in front of his home at village Chaphkando in Boalmari thana while returning after doing election duties. Anil Biswas, also an assistant teacher of Shaahasrall Public Pilot High School in the thana, was rushed to Faridpur General Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries at about 4 pm today (Saturday), doctors said. According to election office sources, Biswas completed his poll duties as an assistant presiding officer successfully at Shekher union parishad office centre in Boalmari thana. He left behind his wife, two sons and two daughters.

Partial repolling in two B'baria JS seats tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

Re-elections will be held tomorrow at different polling centres in the Brahmanbaria-2 and Brahmanbaria-3 constituencies where polling could not be held Thursday for various reasons, an Election Commission official said here yesterday. The decision was taken following formal requests by the returning officers concerned' the EC official said. The centres in these two constituencies are among the 2431 centres in the country where polling could not be held due to absence of polls officials and violence. Until yesterday, the EC did not receive election results from 12 other constituencies and could not ascertain the reason. Officials at the EC Secretariat were seen yesterday trying to contact Deputy Commissioners in those districts. Meanwhile, a scheduled meeting yesterday at the EC Secretariat to discuss the allegations of 'widespread rigging' during the polls was not held. Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Justice A K M Sadeq and Election Commissioner Justice Abdul Jalil came for the meeting in the morning hours. But other officials concerned did not turn up till 2:30 pm. The meeting has been rescheduled for today, another official said. A number of candidates, both from the BNP and smaller opposition parties were seen yesterday lodging complaints of irregularities including rigging with the EC office. The EC received their complaints.

Talks on Rohingya repatriation from Feb 25

From Abdul Monayem Khan COX'S BAZAR, Feb 17: The 20th meeting between Bangladesh and Myanmar on the repatriation of Rohingya refugees is likely to be held in Yangon on February 25-28. According to official sources, Bangladesh will seek clearance for the repatriation of 35,000 Rohingyas. The 10-member Bangladesh delegation to the meeting will be headed by Divisional Commissioner of Chittagong Md Shafiqul Islam and the Myanmar delegation, also comprising 10 members, will be led by Director General of Manpower and Immigration Department U Maung Aung. No such meeting was held in the last five months. Meanwhile, eight members of two Rohingyas families returned to Myanmar on February 6 with this, the number of Rohingyas repatriated so far stood at 1,96,841 while 54,036 more are awaiting repatriation. The repatriation process has become slow due to lack of See Page 12 col 8

Muggers stab shop owner, snatch Tk 10,000

By DMCH Correspondent

Muggers stabbed a grocery shop owner and snatching Tk 10,000 from him at Laksmbazar in the city yesterday. Idris Mondol, 50, received stab injuries in his head as he resisted the muggers. Idris was going to Moulvibazar to purchase goods for his shop. He was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). In another incident, a group of extortionists stabbed a tailor Ismail, 28, in West Nakhhalpara, as he resisted their attempt to collect toll from a shop. He was also admitted to the DMCH. Meanwhile, local people beat up three alleged muggers who tried to snatch money from a person at Nilhet yesterday morning. The muggers, identified as Nameir, 18, Korban Ali, 22, and Yasin Ali, 25, were admitted to the DMCH hospital, sources said.

Post-poll clashes in S'ganj: 63 hurt

SIRAJGANJ, Feb 17: At least 63 persons were injured in post-election clashes in Sirajganj district today, reports UNB. About 40 people were injured, four with bullet, in a fierce fighting between opposition and ruling party supporters at Hossainpur in the town today. Police and local people said clash between the two sides continued for the third day in a sequel to Thursday's fighting between pro and anti-election activists. BNP men allegedly set fire to the house of local Jatiya Party leader Iqbal Hassan Mahmud Tuku during the violence and ransacked four other houses in the area. The four with bullet injuries were admitted to General Hospital and Eye Hospital here. Witnesses said, at least 15 gunshots were fired and some 25 bombs exploded during the five-hour-long encounter till 2 pm. Opposition Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami alleged that the BNP activists triggered the trouble. Police resorted to lathicharge to calm the belligerents and picked up 10 from the spot. Tension was prevailing in and around the area of the troubled town. At Raiganj and Chowhali thanas, 23 people were injured in post-election clashes today. Witnesses said 15 people were injured when Awami League and Jamaat-e-Islami activists clashed with BNP supporters at Salanga bazar in Raiganj thana at about 11 am. Of the injured, three were admitted to the local clinic, two sent to Dhaka and three to Bogra Mohammed Ali Hospital. See Page 12 Col 7

Indo-Nepal power accord

BOMBAY, Feb 17: India and Nepal signed a power agreement here today which would allow the land-locked Himalayan kingdom to provide more electricity to its giant neighbour, officials said, reports AFP. The agreement was signed by Indian Power Secretary P Abraham and Nepalese Water Resources Secretary Fashu-patinath Dhungel at a luncheon meeting organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry, they said. Abraham said the "umbrella agreement" would facilitate the purchase of power from Nepal. "India can also sell power to Nepal under the agreement," he said. The agreement would also open up Nepal to private Indian investors, who could set up power generation facilities and sell the energy to India, the Indian official said. He said Nepal's hydroelectric potential was about 80,000 megawatts and its total installed capacity only a fraction of that.



Inhabitants of Lalbagh in the city brought out a procession yesterday protesting terrorism and extortion in the area. — Star photo

Mastaan beaten to death in city

By DMCH Correspondent

A young man, Musa, alleged ring leader of a local group of mastaans was beaten to death and 10 people were injured in a clash with some residents at Jagannath Shah Road in the old part of the city yesterday. Police said Musa, 28, was locally known as 'Musha' and was the ring leader of a group known as 'Musha Bahini', engaged in mugging and extortion. In another incident, some unidentified young men entered the house of one Abul Bashar Malu at Pallabi, Mirpur and shot him dead at about 5:30 pm yesterday. The Lalbagh incident ensued when a group of about five young men, allegedly belonging to the 'Musha Bahini' as saulted a young man in front of the residence of one Abdul Khaleque, a local businessman, at about 3:30 Friday night. Khaleque resisted the youths. The youths then brought in their other associates and attacked the house of Khaleque with crackers at about 5:30 am. Local people, coming out from mosques after the Fajr prayers caught them including Musa and beat them up. Seven persons were injured in the incident. Musa, along with another associate, Idris was taken to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where doctors declared Musa dead. Idris was admitted to the hospital and was kept under police custody. Police arrested four persons from the spot at the time, police said. The arrested were Mayna, 19, Kamal, 30, Babu, 25, and Hasan, 20. They were later produced before the court. After the incident, the gang members once again clashed with the locals at around 9:00 am leaving at least three persons injured. Three different cases have been filed with Lalbagh thana in this connection, police said. At Pallabi, the unidentified young man came in an autorickshaw, entered Malu's house shot him in the head and chest and fled away, police said quoting family members. He died on way to hospital. Police could say nothing about the reason of the killing.

100m people homeless!

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 17: More than 100 million people are homeless. In London, the homeless die an average of 25 years earlier than their fellow Britons, reports AP. For the past two weeks, hundreds of delegates have met to discuss the chronic problems of the world's cities: homelessness, inadequate housing and dirty water. The programme of action that they have drafted calls on local governments to cooperate with national leaders and private enterprise to work toward solving these problems. The plan is to be adopted at the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements or Habitat II, set for June 3-14 in Istanbul, Turkey. But the plan is vague and a call for international organizations and richer countries to contribute toward easing urban problems in the developing world was left unresolved. "We are viewing this conference not as a pledging conference but a conference to set out goals," said James P. Rubin, spokesman for the US mission. "It is not a conference to create." See Page 12 Col 4

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS AND STUDENTS OF AMA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF BANGLADESH (AIUB)

This is to announce the termination of MS. CARMEN LAMAGNA as employee of AMACCP effective 17 February 1996. In view thereof, the public is notified that any statement or action she may do on behalf of AMACCP is unauthorized and not binding on AMACCP and any transaction entered with her effective the date of this announcement shall not be honored by AMACCP.

AMACCP also reiterates its NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL as a major partner from the operation of AIUB. As previously advised, the students are for warned of the following.

1. The university will cease to be known as AMA as AMA Computer College of the Philippines owns the proprietary right over the name.
2. AMACCP will withdraw the course syllabi and other course materials from the university.
3. The withdrawal of AMACCP automatically terminates the accreditation of the university with the American League of Colleges and Universities. The termination also withdraws all privileges for reciprocal credits with the United States.
4. AMACCP has moved for the dissolution of the partnership. Hence it will likewise dissolve AIUB as the ownership will now be in question.
5. The university will be prevented from recruiting faculty members from AMA Computer College of the Philippines.

Until the issues confronting the partners are resolved, students are advised to refrain from enrolling at AIUB and undertake any transaction with any of AIUB's officers and employees.

The public is notified that THERE IS NO ON-GOING TALK/NEGOTIATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES and warned not to be misled by any act or statement by any of the members of the family of Dr. Anwarul Abedin.



India take on Kenya today

Sports Reporter
Hosts India kick-off their campaign to regain the World Cup, when they take on newcomers Kenya in their first Wills World Cup encounter in the eastern Indian city of Cuttack today. The determined Indians will look to get off on the right foot by inflicting a probable heavy defeat on the inexperienced Kenyans who are making their first appearance at the premier competition of limited-overs cricket. All eyes will be set on star batsman Sachin Tendulkar and leg-spinner Anil Kumble with the prospect of the two setting ablaze the 30,000-strong stadium in the offing. However, Kumble is a doubtful starter because of a viral attack. In the other match of the day, England will try to shake off the disappointment of losing their opening game to New Zealand when they take on See Page 12 col 8



COMPREHENSIVE! Kiwi paceman Robert Kennedy breaks the middle stump of Holland's Roland Lefebvre in two pieces during yesterday's World Cup Group B fixture in Baroda, India. The New Zealanders recorded a consummate 119-run win over the minnows. (Details on Page 10, 11) —AFP/UNB photo