The Vicinight life

US embargo on Cuba tightened

law today a bill tightening the US embargo on Cuba, saying that it will advance the "cause of freedom" on the Communistruled island. Clinton, flanked by a group of members of Congress, linked the measure to the shootdown on February

24 of two US planes by Cuban fighter jets and paid homage to the four men that died in the attack, reports AFP.

1000 pc growth in FDI

WASHINGTON, Mar 12: President Bill Clinton signed into

Mohiuddin's 5-day deadline

Pree Opposition activists, stop terrorism in Ctg'

CHITTACHENG Mar 12-Ma was not destructionary they come mation Ritty and Awara tor prince describes Michaelitation & torn officer having threatened to stro the control of the control of the the port city from what Salutinas 15 time of seed AL worker's were not beleased and differences not taken to stop what he said acts of terriorism 6, ruling party or tivista.

The ACC mayor reached here this afternion after his Erlease Sunday troug Higha central jail and addressed a monmetti public meditig orgaussed to the At Party Action Contain at Lablight marchan.

Cluttagonp will see massive resistance if any infuister moves here with hooligans in their vehicles, lets loose a regio of terror to suppress our therein rath there are not and our workers arrested by police are not released within Satirday." Mohndein announced.

"There will be an outburst here in such a way that even

JCD-BCL clash

in Ctg: 10 hurt

From Staff Correspondent

and Lovelane areas between

the artists of the FCI and

arms and blasted cocktails du-

hig the clash leading 19 per

both civer groups freded guar-

Road, the clashes occurred in

the evening when some pro-

cessionists opened fire and

huited carktails at BNP office.

have of existing the forced the

control when police rushed to

city remained paralysed while

andennete in and the Hons

secutive day today, part sour-

All activities at the com-

mercial centres of Agrabad and

Khatungani remained stalled

while shops, markets banks

and the state of the surfere

are the same of models and Phili-

Opposition

hant would be installed for

the specific purpose of holding

the election and should have a

council of advisors with mini-

mum number of persons, he

opposition patties in a joint

meeting last night resolved

that there was no scope of re-

solving the political crisis

League ... Mativa Farty and

famuat e Island was held at

the residence of AL presidium

member Abdus Samad Azad,

Businesses leaders

From Page 1

the country where thousands

of people are employed They

espressed the hope that the

exemption of ports, infancial

wattutions and the transports

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Offering their grantude to

the government and the oppo-

dion budges by their month to

about the political statemate

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of the business community

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says a faxed release.

the joint meeting of Awami

through the sixth parliament.

Meanwhile there major

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The situation came under

Meanwhile, life in the port

At Lovelane and Nur Ahmed

the and exploded bombs.

Witnesses said.

Both the groups used fire

eitt it m eit .5 fritt

From Staff Correspondent police, BDR or fire brigade may ind be able to extinguish it." he Un'estened, "But'I will let you buow through a press conference next Friday, in which places the outburst will occur.

Mointuddin said.

"Alter my arrest Chittagong was in flames and this situation would continue after the deadline if any suppression or repression on oppositions takes place," be added.

I will never how down to any pressure from any quar-

He alleged fliat some armed terrorists equipped with sophisticated weapons had taken shelter at the Circuit House and frequently move around by microbuses having no number

rest those identified armed terrorists .. "Otherwise, we know how to retake those arms." he said and warned pohee not to arrest any opposition activists is any further

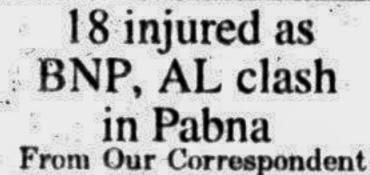
He also announced that

cargo handling at Chittagong port and delivery of goods from the port outside Chitta gong would remain suspended

authority to withdraw the showrause notices and other penal action taken against the port employees for their participation in the non-coopera

would be given to the families of those who were killed during the opposition movement

Presided over by M / rraf Hossain, Md. Idris.



CHITTAGONG, Mar 12, At PABNA, Mar 12: Eighteen least 10 persons were injured Awami League and BNP acin sporadic gunfights and bo tivists were injured during a mb blasts which rocked the three hour-long gunfight be port, city for the fourth con tween the two groups in Bera secutive day today of the Oppo sition launched non coopera-Potuashaba area Monday night The three AL activists tion movement, witnesses said Saiful Islam, Ratan and Arif They were rushed to local who sustained bullet injuries medical college hospital and were admitted to the Pabna private clinics. Folice and wit general hospital. Their condinesses said gunfights erupted tion was said to be critical. in Nastrahad, New Alamed Road

The clash was a sequel to earlier clashes between the BNP and AL activists on Saturday and Sunday, according to

The clashes were related to non cooperation; movement Some Its shope will a chiefe half were set on the by both the groups on previous two days, sources added.

JCD-BCL clash in Jhenidah

From Our Correspondent JHENIDAH, Mar 12: At least seven people were injured in a clash between the activists of the Awami League backed Chhatra League and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) at Shamkur in Mohespur thana of the dis-

Of the injured, three were admitted to Jhenidah Sadar lump at and Moheshkhali thana health complex. They are, Towhidul, 32. Mokhlesh, 23, and Momin 25. The rest were released after first aid.

BGMEA

From Page 1: avert a total disaster for the

They also met AL chief Sheikh Hasina yesterday mornmg and briefed her about the plight of the garment sector. said Anisur Rahman Sinha, executive member of the BGMEA

They also urged her to exempt the garments sector and the ports from non-cooperation programme.

BGMEA has also a plan to meet BNP top leaders as soon as possible.

I wo murdered

From Page 1

College Hospital (DMCH) for

In another incident, one lobal Hossain, 28, received fatal injuries when local bullies al Bakslu Bazar under Lalbagh thana severely assaulted him on Monday evening. He died at Mittord Hospital early yester-

An unidentified gang called lubal; son of Abdul Goni of Khaza Dewan hist lane, out of his house at around 6:30 pm, took him to Bakshi Bazar and assaulted him, according to

Gasoline;

From Page 1. litres of diesel oil a day free of

After showing a slip given

by the police, these drivers were getting the free fuel from the filling station.

In another petrol pump Polwell near Malibagh Morh, only the police vehicles were given tuel. Even an ambulance was refused oil. The manager of the Polwell station said they had a contract with the police to give them priority in emergency situations.

Miandad

From Page 1 Admit Sobati

"It was a very crucial match and I think I should have been asked to captain the side." Miandad complained.

He will continue to play domestic ericket for his emplayer then! bank and said the engletal is and has the potential to be one of the top teams in international cricket.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

had a Political Sy A. S. Mahmud, Managing Director, on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd. 52, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, from City "Whiching House Ltd, 99 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, 500092-4 Commercial: 500091 (Direct) Fax No

ters, the mayor said.

He urged the police to ar-

summit in

El-Sheikh tomorrow, reports

in its peak season.

Frogmen are expected to search the seabed for explosives, while tourists have been moved out of town to other

and security chiefs on Sanday to order heavy surveillance at the borders and tourist resorts ahead of the summit, convened after a spate of Islamic suicide bombings in Israel.

Hasina

From Page 1

their votes and change the government through ballots. "Those trying to arrange sitting of this illegal parliament formed in a so-called election are virtually pushing the country towards darkness and confrontation.

those who stole people's votes have committed a heinous crime and are offenders to the nation. "Legitimacy cannot be gained through illegal means." She said as many as 90

people had sacrificed their lives to resist the "farcical voting it'll be a sheer disrespect to the martyrs to give legitimacy to this so-called parlia-

Hasina thanked BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia for accepting the neutral nonparty caretaker government and election in May 'in the face of people's blood-stained movement.

From Page 1

the present circumstances re-

signs, this would help in re-

solving the problem. The Pres-

ident in such circumstances

without altering or repealing

any provision of the Constitu-

tion could promulgate an ordi-

nance providing for formation

Council could be deemed as

the person exercising the

power of the Prime Minister

till the successor could enter

into office. The successor

Prime Minister would be one

who would hold the confi

dence of the majority in the

Parliament, to be elected

through a fair and free elec-

tions conducted under the

government consisting of the

"Such an ordinance as en-

visaged shall act as part of the

constitutional continuity and

will require no amendment to

the Constitution nor any alter-

ation or repeal," Barrister Is-

said: "In the final analysis, the

President is not only the

constitutional head but also the

Head of the Republic. Gener-

ally he acts on the advice of

the Prime Minister and this

advice is a privileged one and

shall not be enquired into any

court of law. The President has

now been advised by the Prime

Minister to resolve the present

problem and the President has

acted upon in performance of

Coupled with the Presi-

dent's inherent and residual

powers as the head of the Re-

public. this advice of the Prime

Minister not only makes him

competent to exercise this but

it becomes imperative on him

Dwelling on the promulga-

tion of the ordinance. Barrister

Rational Hay said. "Before pro-

intigation of such ordinance.

the Prime Minister must give a

declaration that she will resign

front the post of the Prime

Minister and no member of

BNP for a rotwintle fifth Par-

and the second to

to solve the crists, he added.

Barrister Lutfor Rahman

President and the Advisory

Council," he added.

lam pointed out.

this function."

"The chief of the said

of an advisory council."

The Bangladesh Garments Exporters and Manufacturers Association (BGMEA) yesterday gave a 72-hour ultimatum to

the authorities to resolve the political impasse which, they said, nearly destroyed the garments sector, and threatened to take up programmes against both the government and the opposition.

An emergency meeting of the BGMEA held in the city vesterday failed to reach a consensus on all the resolutions as the president of the association, Redwan Ahmed, left the meeting before it ended.

for parliamentary election.

The apex body of the gar ments sector which represents some 2300 owners employing some 14 lakh workers and earns over US dollars 2 billion annually, will stage joint rally of owners and workers at the Manik Mia Avenue on Salvaday to annouse a sanormations if the a

latted to resolve the it. . The meeting which comes

ued alter the departure of Redwatt, also demanded resignation of the government after 72 hours if it failed to resolve the crisis by then.

Earlier, the BGMEA members criticised both the ruling and the opposition parties and politicians for their failure to ensure security of the people. transport movement and resist terrorism. The BGMEA resolved that if

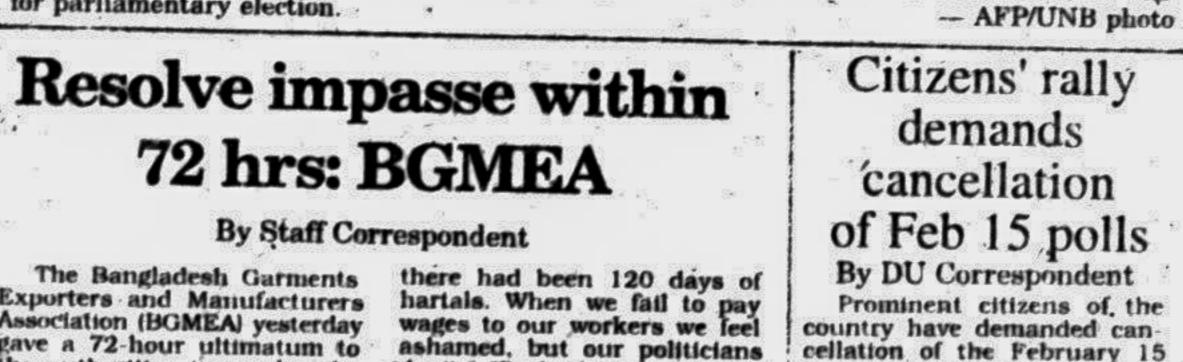
the politicians did not consider the sufferings of the people or the economy, the BGMEA would be compelled to build resistance against them The meeting demanded exemption of the Chittagong port, garments factories and

ansports carrying their goods from the purview of the noncooperation programme. At the meeting, about a thousand factory owners ex-

pressed their anger against the country's politicians. "We are already pushed against the wall," said Mamunur Rashid Sinha, a factory owner. "The opposition must

shun hartals within 24 hours and the government must quit for failing to protect our rights to do business."

Montruzzaman, another entrepreneur said. "In two years,



Kuwaiti women, supported by Kuwaiti men, hold a silent protest in front of the Kuwaiti

national assembly demanding their political rights. Kuwaiti women still cannot vote or rup

don't." "Both the government

and the opposition should bear

the moral responsibility for

destroying the garments sec-

the president to set up a care-

taker government, if necessary

by promulgating an ordinance.

adding that, otherwise, the

garments owners and workers

would gheroo Bangabhaban and

the residences of the Prime

Minister and the Opposition

garments owners will open by

force, if necessary the port to

clear goods and run the facto-

the politicians is able to pro-

the character to a language

BGMEA meet

ends in fiasco

By Staff Correspondent

ladesh Garments Manufactures

and Exporters Association

(BGMEA). Redwan Ahmed

came under fire from the

association members at the

emergency meeting yesterday

for taking soft line regarding

actions to salvage the sector

and he had to leave the meet-

ing leaving the resolutions un-

a tense mood ended in chaps

when Redwan was reading out

the resolutions which frus-

trated a section of the mem-

bers at the meeting included

demand for resignation of the

government if it fails to solve

the political crisis within 48

hours and launching a move-

ment to save the garments

sector in conformity with the

adopt these two demands

which enraged the supporters

But Redwan refused to

FBCCI's programme.

of the demands.

Suggestions from the mem-

The meeting that started in

The president of the Bang-

Enamul Haque said none of

Tariqui Islam said, the

Lutfar Rahman requested

tor." he added.

ries at any cost.

caretaker government:

The rally condemned the

position inovement.

ment could not be stopped by oppression and arrest The rally urged the government employees not to co-

government, Chowdhury, Sayed Shamsu Haq, Kalim Sharafi, Zillur Rahman Siddique. Sayed Hasar

DAG Hasan Arif resigns

In the resignation letter sponsibility of the office."

He also indicated that it was a great honour to work for the Republic.

Attorney General in 1985.

Citizens' rally demands cancellation of Feb 15 polls By DU Correspondent

izens' rally at the Central Shahid Minar Square yester day. The rally, presided over by Prof Kabir Chowdhury, also presented a five-point declara-

ple who were killed during anti-election movement and agitation against the "illegal" government of Khaleda Zia as national heroes. They urged the people to extend their help for those injured during

and ISDR to supplies the

and said the on-going move-

operate with the 'autocratic'

lmam and principal Ahad Chowdhury addressed the

By SC Correspondent

addressed to the President he said: "My health does not permit to carry on the onerous re-

appointed Assistant Attorney General in April, 1982 and was elevated to the post of Deputy

Prominent citizens of the country have demanded cancellation of the February 15 'farcical' elections and urged the Prime Minister to resign for holding sixth parliamentary elections under a neutral

The rally demanded to mediate release of those ar rested during the movement

Aly Zaker, Iqbal-Sobhan

Deputy Attorney General AF Hasan Arif yesterday resigned from his office.

Advocate AF Hasan Arif was

They were speaking at a cit-

The rally declared 90 peo-

the IDB in Jeddah yesterday. . According to a message Bangladesh ambassador to Saudi Arabia Mir Mohammed Nasiruddin and acting President of the IDB Enam Ahmed Chowdhury signed the agreement on behalf of their capital reflected a global trend among the developing coun-

port forecast an even brighter

prospect for private flows to

the region, it cautioned of a

dwindling flow of the official

development assistance. Flow

of official development assis-

tance to the developing coun-

tries in 1995 - 33 billion

dollars in grants and 14 billion

dollars in concessional loans -

was much the same as in 1994

Bank, after growing for a num-

ber of years, concessional as-

sistance to developing coun-

tries from official sources

peaked in the early 1990s and

countries are cutting their aid

Dhaka to receive

Tk 700 cr

from IDB

seven million Islamic dinner

equivalent to about Taka 700

crore from the Islamic

Development Bank (IDB), re-

was signed between the

Government of Bangladesh and

An agreement to this effect

ports BSS

Bangladesh is to receive

Almost all major donor

has been declining since.

According to the World

respective sides. The signing ceremony held at the IDB headquarters was also attended by Bangladesh Consul General Mohsin Al Khan, Economic Counsellor Sved Shah Alam and senior of-

funds of the 1DB the amount will be utilised a construction of Feeder Roads under phase three in the eastern region of Bangla-

BNP call-From Page 1

official spokesman. During the briefing that took place at his Bailey Road residence at 9 pm. Mannan Bhuiyan was attending a meeting of the senior BNP leaders

with the Prime Minister.

"We'll try to mobilise public opinion through peaceful rallies against the adverse affect of the Oppositions' programmes on public life and the national economy." Khan said.

Replying to a question, he said. BNP would convey their suggestions on the modalities of the proposed non-party caretaker government to the President soon after his letter on the matter was received.

About the FBCCI's 48-hour ultimatum to all the major political parties. Khan contradicted press reports on the issue saying, "So far, we've come to know that no such decision was taken in Monday's emergency meeting of the FBCCI. He also referred to some anonymous chamber leaders who, he said, expressed their surprise on such reports ap-

pearing in Tuesday's newspa-

The BNP leader also denied the Awami League chief Sheikh Hasma's allegation that the Prime Minister was blocking the solution to the political crisis by putting pre-conditions. "The PM did not put any pre condition. Rather, Sheikh Hasma was doing so by demanding the cancellation of the February 15 polls."

as a share of their GNP and. in some cases, in absolute terms, Of the 2 billion of FDI in South Asia, the report estimated, roughly two-thirds of the 2 billions went to India. which is one of only two lowincome countries, the other being China, that are significant recipients of private capi-

Attracting more than 1.2 billion dollars in FDI in 1995. India emerged as the "principal host and source" in the region since the introduc-

tion of its economic reform programme and liberalisation of its FDI regime in 1991. Continuing much at the year, FDI reached slightly over 400 million dollars in 1995 in

Pakistan, and 200 million in Sri Lanka Sound economic fundamentals and continuing structural reforms are essential if the South Asia region is to take

full advantage of the enormous

potential for further sustained

growth in private capital flows to the region," the report quoted Joseph Wood, World Bank Vice President for South Asia, to have said. However, net aggregate resource flows to South Asia declined by an estimated 10 per cent in 1995 to 12.4 billion dollars, attributable entirely to a sharp drop in portfolio flows. The slowdown in portfolio

tries in the aftermath of the bourse crash in Mexico. Although net private flows declined last year, they were still much higher than the

Promotions

HC issues rule on BPC

By SC Correspondent The High Court Division directed the government to show cause as to why the promotion of six assistant executive officers of Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation to the post of executive officers superseding Mizanur Rahman alias Delwar Hossain, a war-wounded freedom fighter, should not be declared without lawful authority

and is of no legal effect. A division bench of the HC comprising Justice BB Roy Chowdhury and Justice MA Mannan upon a writ petition filed by Mizanur Rahman alias Delwar Hossain issued the rule

nisi on March 5 last. Advocate Altaf Hossain Khan, counsel for the petitioner, submitted that the petitioner had been superseded only for the reason that he is a freedom fighter.

It was stated in the petition that the petitioner's name was written in the Freedom Fighters' Certificate as Delwar Hossain and as per his academic certificate his name is Mizanur Rahman which he informed the authority at the time of his

appointment. "But now the authority made the promotion of his junior officers, superseding him on the excuse of confusion over his name which is malafide and motivated." the counsel submitted.

Mizanur Rahman alias Delwar Hossain, fighting in the under Sector Commander Major (Rtd) M-A Jalil, received bullet wounds on his right hand which was damaged.

Non-cooperation

other areas. however, were seen opening their shops from late afternoon. Rickshaws, which re-

mained outside the purview of the programme, were plying as usual, while police and BDR

toward incident was reported from there. No train left the stations of Chittagong and Dhaka vesterday, according to railway officials. Rail communication, ac-

of the people," he added. Our Staff Correspondent from Sylhet reports: At least 15 persons were injured in a clash between the activists of BNP and the opposition parties in Habigani today.

erty but also threatening lives

under control.

processions of both the groups met each other at a place near the old Collectorate building area at about 11 am. Several crackers were blasted when both the groups engaged in a clash, which continued for an TIOLIF.

In Sylhet town, government and private offices, banks and other autonomous bodies did not function and inter-thana road communication remained suspended. Our Correspondent from

were injured in gunfights and sporadic bomb blasts at Khalishpur yesterday. Witnesses and police said. one of the injured named Pannu Mian, a rickshawpuller,

Khulna reports: Four persons

was admitted to the hospital with bullet wounds. The rest are vet to be identified. The gunfight between rival labour activists of BNP and AL lasted over half hour. Panic spread in the entire Industrial

belt disrupting production in all jute mills, the newsprint mill and the hardboard mills. Police fired several blank shots and lobbed tear gas

shells to diffuse the tense situation Our Correspondent from Moulvibazar adds: After withdrawal of Section 144 from Moulvibazar town processions

and rallies were brought out by Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat. The AL processionist protested the attack on district AL president Azizur Rahman allegedly by JCD men. Agitated people also dam-

aged two bank branches at Westmarket area UNB adds from Jhalakathi: At least 12 passengers of a

injured when opposition activists attacked it at Jhalakati ghat yesterday. Witnesses said the opposition activists also ransacked

during the ongoing movement. Mohituddin urged the port

tion movement He said compensation

Mannan, president of the city unit of Awami League, the meeting was addressed by former mayor of CCC and JP leader Mahmudul Islam Chowdhury, Jamaat Amir here Moulana Abu Taher and other AL leaders including Mosleuddin. Ataur Rahman Kaisar, Mosha-

Anti-terrorism Egypt today

CAIRO, Mar 12: Egypt has mounted a huge security operation to protect world leaders at the anti-terrorism summit in its Red Sea resort of Sharm

Egyptian authorities, faced by their own Islamic militants in a conflict which has claimed almost 1,000 lives since 1992 have ordered a state of alert at the popular diving resort now

and Manter Havan A! Att. a topolical line top addes

The opposition leader said

Presidential ordn can help resolve crisis form the cabinet by the Prest dent as provided in Article 56 (4). In such situation a vacuum will be created in running the country and only to fill in such vacuum, the President can

He, however, added that

this interim cabinet shall per-

pass an ordinance."

form only day to day business of the state and no policy decision including prosecution of any Ministers for alleged acts of corruption and all other important matters should be left for the next government. "The suggestion of the Prime Minister to amend the Constitution for holding next few general elections under non-party government should

be made in a Parliament which

well represented. The BNP can

is properly constituted and

not and should not take such responsibilities on themselves. should be left to the next government," the former at torney general observed. Barrister Rafigul Haq and Barrister Amirul Islam also said the Sixth Parliament has not been legally constituted as provided in Article 65 of the Constitution and the PM's offer

Parliament. Barrister Haq said: "Under this article, Parliament shall consists of 300 members and 30 women members. Unless. the election of 300 members are completed, there is no Parliament in the eye of the Parliament can be sum-

moned by Article 72 (2) after

declaration of all results.

"Since the Sixth Parliament

has not been legally consti-

tuted, the offer of the Prine

could not be realised in that

Minister to amend the Consti tution for non-party government is another bluff to the ci tizens of Bangladesh." he observed. Barrister Islam said: " Election to 300 seats could not be held within 90 days. i. e. 21st February, which was claimed by the Election Commissioner. as well as the last date for holding the election. Also, Par-

liament can not be ushered

mid experies without

me with a being elected in

cordance with law. So, the Sixth Parliament is not yet in existence either in fact or in law." Article 65 (2) reads: Parliament shall consists of three hundred members to be elected in accordance with law from single territorial constituencies ...' Article 72 (2) says:

"Notwithstanding the provi-

sions of cause (1) parliament

shall be summoned to meet

within thirty days after the declaration of results of polling at any general election of members of Parliament." "The question therefore follows whether the Prime Minister who is holding over as interim head of the government should continue even though she has been enable to fulfil the mandate of the Constitution i. e. the constituting a Parliament within 90 days," said Islam adding. "The Prime Min-

ister is now neither represen-

tative of the people nor has any base from elected Parliament. Referring to the controversy that has arisen out of the recent event when the PM was declared elected from an additional seat, after she took oath 'as an MP from another constituency, the former Attorney General viewed that the Prime Minister has ceased to be member of the Sixth Parliament in view of Article 71. read with Section 13 (A) of the Representatives of the

"Article 71 is very clear. She has violated the said Article and lost all her seats in the Parliament including the one for which she gave declaration to be retained by her. he added Article 71 reads: "(a) Within thirty days after his last elec-

tion the person elected shall

People Order, 1972.

deliver to the Chief Election Commissioner a signed declaration specifying the constituency which he wishes to represent, and the seats of the other constituencies for which he was elected shall thereupon fall vacant: (B) if the person elected fails to comply with sub-clause (a) all the seats - the la va it ad strail elected shall not make or subscribe the oath or affirmation of a member of Parliament until the foregoing provisions of this clause, so far as applicable. have been complied with." According to Barrister Is-

lam, an election would neces

sarily imply rights of the elec-

torate to choose from alterna-

tives while one party election

does not give choice for electorate, he said. "Article 11 postulates the democracy to be such in which effective participation by the people through their elected representatives in administration at all levels'. The question therefore would be as to whether those members declared elected through gazette notification following the 15th February exercise can be termed as elected representatives of the people. Can the effective participation by

the people in the administra-

tion at all levels be ensured

through them?" he questioned "Evidently, a very low per centage of voters turned up festimated between 2 to 10 per cent) on the polling day. We are told that in many of the constituencies election could not be held in the majority centres. This exercise, therefore, can not be termed as an election," Barrister Islam observed. On the President's power to promulgate an ordinance.

"He has the power to promulgate ordinances when the Parliament is dissolved or not in session and by implications he may refer the matter for national referendum to resolve the deadlock. Finally, he may " refer the backage solution for the consideration of the Appellate Division of the Supreme

Barrister Lutfor Rahman said:

Rahman, the President has 'immense' power to redeem the situation as the savior and protector of the basic human rights of the people for the rehabilitation of the institution of the electoral choice. "Otherwise, the civil society will

witch wine to be a

According to Barrister

Court."

contingents were seen patrolling on the streets. The situation in Mirpur remained tensed tollowing Monday's violence, but no un-

cording to them, had virtually come to a total halt across the country. "If the number of passengers increased only then they could take initiative to operate the trains," said one official. Moreover, we are facing violent mobs and they are not only destroying public prop-

· Police lobbed tear gas shells to bring the situation.

The incident began when

Both the groups held sepa rate rallies for and against the non cooperation movement. and to its imposition is

Khulna-bound steamer were

the steamer, MV "Shela", as it anchored at the ghat at about 8:30am. The steamer hurriedly left the terminal following the