NEW DELHI, Aug 10: The

United States has assured In-

dia that it will not be punished

with sanctions if it refuses to

sign a global treaty banning

nuclear test blasts, diplomats

nicated to the Indian govern

ment in a letter from Secre-

tary of State Warren Christo-

pher, was aimed at persuading

Delhi to drop a threat to block

the test ban pact being negoti-

Washington has urged Delhi

Christopher's letter, deliv-

not to veto the treaty even if it

decided it could not sign the

ered on Friday to Foreign Min

ister IK Gujral by the US Am

bassador to India, Frank Wis-

ner, addressed India's con-

cerns that it might suffer

sign the proposed accord be-

cause it would not commit the

five declared nuclear powers -

Britain, China, France, Russia

and the United States — to a

pronounced the words "Two

and two make four" every time

tion lawmakers who moved

two proposals each on the bills

speak for two minutes on each

proposal, the Chair allowed

one MP, who moved two sepa-

rate proposals, to speak for

Matia Chowdhury had an ex-

change of pinching words in

light mood while the minister

was placing several bills in the

developed expertise simulta-

neously in the fields of jute.

livestock and fisheries". Maj

(retd) Akhtaruzzaman of the

BNP said while speaking on

the Bangladesh Fisheries Re-

search Institute (Amendment)

also introduced two other bills.

one on the Jute Research In-

stitute and the other on the

Livestock Research Institute

seeking amendment to some

Kidnappers free

jeweller in Ctg

From Staff Correspondent

weller Milon Kanti Dhar who

was abducted by masked gun-

men vesterday from his village

home Enayetpur under Hat-

hazari thana was released at 1

by the continuous raid con-

ducted by police at different

places of Hathazari, Raozan and

His release was prompted

Police said one of the al-

leged abductor Abul Kalam was

Husband kills wife

in Jhenidah

From Our Correspondent

housewife was killed allegedly

by her husband at the village of

Napa under Moheshpur thana

in the district this morning.

Ayesha Khatun, 35, wife of

scythe in a nearest field when

she and her husband got

locked into a brawl. At one

stage, her husband slaughtered

The victim was identified as

She was cutting grass with a

A case was filed with Mo-

Meanwhile, the husband of

heshpur thana and the body

was sent to Jhenidah district

Ayesha Khatun has gone into

hiding, just after the incident.

JS body

From page 1

(Amendment) Bill 1996 and

the Representation of the Peo-

mended that the Bangladesh

Sugarcane Research Institute

purpose Bridge Authority

(Amendment) Bill 1996 should

be passed with certain amend-

committee recommended that

the Representation of the Peo-

ple (Amendment) Bill 1996 is

approved by the House as it

was placed in the Parliament.

In its third report, the

Bill 1996 and Jamuna Multi-

The committee recom-

ple (Amendment) Bill 1996.

police sources said.

Afazuddin.

her on the spot.

hospital morgue.

police said.

ments.

JHENIDAH, Aug 10: A

pm today, police said.

Fatikchhari thanas.

arrested today.

CHITTAGONG, Aug 10: Je-

The Agriculture Minister

"She (Matia Chowdhury) has

Agriculture Minister Begum

As one MP is entitled to

passed vesterday.

four minutes together.

afternoon sitting.

Bill. 1996.

he gave floor to those Opposi-

to ratify the treaty

punitive measures if it refused

India has said it will not

ated in Geneva, they said.

accord.

The US assurance, commu-

said today, reports Reuter.



US urges India not

to veto CTBT

tional law

sovereignty.

process.

Parliament tidbits

Delhi also objects to a pro-

vision which would require

those five nations, as well as

the three nuclear "threshold"

states - India, Israel and Pak-

istan — to ratify the treaty be-

India claims the clause.

called the entry-into-force

provision, would infringe on its

The treaty provides for the

convening of a conference if.

after three years, the pact has

not been ratified by enough

countries to bring it into force.

cide by consensus "what mea

sures, consistent with interna

tional law, may be undertaken

to accelerate the ratification

could include economic sanc

force it into signing the docu-

allay Delhi's concerns.

tions or other steps meant to

The United States tried to

In reply, Matiya Chowdhury

said that the Opposition law

maker had studied a lot on

edge on it. "But I regret that

the BNP lawmaker did not

utilise his expertise while his

party was in power." A smiling

Matiya also told Maj. (retd)

Akhtaruzzaman, "You cannot

expect that your punching

words would not be replied

Deputy Speaker mentioned the

words "within bracket Obo

(Retd)" while mentioning

Akhtaruzzaman's name to give

him the floor. Responding to

the Chair, Akhtar said, "Mr

Speaker, I was "Obo" but I've

Later, the Agriculture Min-

ister also mentioned the word

"Obo" (Rtd) while responding

Rahman, while speaking on

the Bangladesh Agriculture Re-

search Council Bill, 1996.

protested the provision for

composition of the council's

governing body and alleged

that it would create the scope

to include ruling party men in

said that her government

ernment did. "We won't follow

to strengthen

police matters

would not do as the past gov-

Responding to this, Matiya

BNP lawmaker Mashiur

now become an MP.

to the BNP legislator.

the body

'ideal farmer."

ports BSS.

SAARC countries.

29. Inspector General of Police

M Azizul Huq led a three-

member Bangladesh delegation

to the conference, which was

inaugurated by Sri Lankan

Deputy Minister for Defence

SAARC countries also stressed

the need for mutual exchange

of information and training

facilities and enactment of en-

abling legislation among the

be placed before the SAARC

on cooperation in police mat-

ters will be held in 1997 in

JPPP meets today

Party Parliamentary Party will

be held today at the party's

parliamentary office at the

Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban. JP

Whip Advocate Fazle Rabbi has

requested all party members

to be present in the meeting at

3 pm, said a press release

yesterday, reports UNB.

A meeting of the Jatiya

The recommendations will

The next SAARC conference

member countries.

standing committee.

the Maldives.

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88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA.

Delegates from the seven

General Anuruddha Ratwatte.

Like on other days, the

livestock and acquired knowl-

India fears the "measures

The conference could de-

fore it would become interna

The World on Time

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from dustbin

By Staff Correspondent

Khilgaon Chowdhury Para area

under Shabujbagh thana in the

police recovered the idols of

Radha and Krishna and the al-

tar from the trash behind the

government primary school at

the Chowdhury Para at about

ganised gang kept the valuable

statues in the pile of garbage in

been requested to contact the

DB office of the Dhaka Metro-

politan Police, said a press re-

Trader kidnapped

in Khulna

From Our Correspondent

trader was kidnapped on Fri-

day midnight by some uni-

dentified miscreants from his

house at Koira thana in the

kidnapped Parimal Saha. 30.

as he did not pay one lakh taka

the kidnappers demanded

board a trawler at gunpoint

Faridpur Medical

College students

call off strike

students of the Faridpur Medi-

cal College(FMC), who went on

a non-stop strike on July 24 to

press for a 5-point demand, at

tended their classes today

after a tripartite negotiation

lege authorities and the Health

the students' demand, the au-

thorities have agreed to ap-

point required number of

teachers, including the Regis-

trar, within 14 days, provide a

52-seat bus for the students

within 45 days and arrange ac-

commodation for women stu-

dents in a rented house within

the students were: Construc-

tion of the college campus and

upgrading the existing 250-

bed hospital to a 500-bed one.

The other two demands of

A college source said as per

among the students, the col-

The strike was called off

after 17 days, reports UNB.

FARIDPUR, Aug 10: The

and left for the Sundarbans,

Police said the miscreants

The miscreants forced him

district

from him earlier.

police added

Ministry

seven days

KHULNA, Aug 10: A fish

lease of the police last night.

The owner of the idols has

the dustbin for smuggling.

Police suspected that an or-

11:15 pm. police said.

The Detective Branch (DB)

city late Friday.



Police recovered idols of 'Radha' and 'Krishna' and an altar from a dustbin in the city yesterday. Star photo

Peaceful atmosphere must for fair by-polls: CEC

Chief Election Commissioner Muhammad Abu Hena yesterday stressed the importance on holding the coming by-elections in a peaceful atmosphere and with complete neutrality and transparency. reports BSS.

Maintenance of peaceful atmosphere is the prerequisite for holding neutral and fair elections. Hena told a meeting held at his office to discuss the overall law and order situation in the light of the by-elections to be held on September 5.

Hena said it was important to ensure congenial atmo sphere and security in the polling centres so that voters could exercise their right to franchise without any fear

2 held for selling medicines stolen from DMCH

By Staff Correspondent The Detective Branch (DB) police arrested two persons from Chankharpul area yester

day on charges of selling medicines stolen from the Dhaka Medical College Hospi tal (DMCH). During a raid in Fatema Pharmacy in Chankharpul area near the DMCH vesterday alternoon, police recovered

some stolen medicines and seductive liquid drugs in two bottles, and arrested the owner of the shop identified as Azam Khan and Sohel, police Police added that the words Property of the Government of

Bangladesh' and 'DMCH' were printed on the foil of the medicines. The DB suspected that an organised gang was involved in

stealing medicines from the DMCH and selling those to different pharmacies in the Legal action has been taken

police said.

against the arrested persons.

He said to achieve that objective, the members of the law enforcing agencies should recover illegal arms from all irrespective of their party affiliations and arrest the arms holders identify terrorists and offenders of law in a neutral manner. Directives have been given for ensuring security in the polling centres, he said.

The Home Secretary informed the meeting that nec essary measures had been taken to hold the elections in a free, fair and transparent manner. He assured the meet ing that following the direc tives of the Chief Election Commissioner measures will

be further strengthened The meeting was attended by Election Commissioners Abidur Rahman and Mustaque Ahmed Chowdhury, Inspector General of Police M Azizul Haq and Additional Secretary of Election Commission Secretariat MA Mannan.

Trader falls sick at HBFC office, dies in hospital

By DMC Correspondent A trader, Abdur Rashid, who fell sick at the House Building Finance Corporation (HBFC) office in the city died at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday after-

Rashid, 37, owner of a garments shop in Moghbazar area, had gone to the HBFC head office in the morning for some work regarding house building loan. He suddenly collapsed on the floor of an office room. He was immediately taken to the DMCH where doctors declared him dead, DMCH sources said. The body was sent to the DMCH morgue her autopsy.

The cause of the death could not be known immediately. Police at the Ramna and Motifheel thanas said they knew nothing about the inci-

visited the state and distributed appeals to villagers to help trace the Westerners who were kidnapped on July 4 last There has been no direct contact with the kidnappers

since last November. Muslim militants have been fighting since 1989 for inde-

pendence for Kashmir, the only Muslim-majority state in Hindu-dominated India.

No alternative to Islamic revolution, says Nizami

Maulana Motiur Rahman Nizami, the secretary general of the Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh, yesterday said that there was no alternative to Islamic revolution to rid the society of all sorts of unrest, injustice, cruelty, terrorism and deprivation, reports BSS.

Maulana Nizami was speaking as chief guest at a Rokon (members) conference organised by City Jamaat at a community centre at Dhanmandi. City Ameer ATM Azharul Islam presided over the conference.

The Jamaat Secretary General urged all Rokons to be imbued with the teachings of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SM) to prepare themselves to build up an Islamic society. He also asked them to reach the correct invitation of Islam to each and every household. The workers of Jamaat, along with acquiring knowledge, should also devote themselves in building up their character, he

Maulana Nizami adminis tered the oath of ATM Azharul Islam as the Ameer of Dhaka City Jamaat-e-Islami for the year 1995-96.

In his presidential address, Azharul Islam sought blessing of Allah and cooperation of all in discharging his duties.

BNP threatens

From page 1 General stated, "but in the name of arresting terrorists the government is making the

list of leaders and workers of the BNP and its front organisa He claimed that so far 1.500 workers of his party had

been harassed under the present government's repressive policies. Presided over by district BNP president Begum Rabeya Chowdhury, the conference was also addressed by BNP leaders Mir Shawkat Ali, Haris

Chowdhury. Abul Kashem.

ATM Alamgir, Shamsuddin

Ahmed, AKM Abu Taher and

Aminur Rashid Yasin.

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The new Philishave

For a closer shave

From page 1 and employees and absence of

BNP Feni, Tangail

convening

bodies formed

convening committees of

Bangladesh Nationalist Party

(BNP) have been formed after

expiry of the tenure of the

district committees, a press

Both the convening com-

constitute full fledged commit

tee of the district through

council within next two

months as per party constitu-

order against Bagerhat district

BNP leader Shamsul Alam

Talukder has been withdrawn.

4 western hostages

seen in Kashmir!

Western hostages kidnapped

by Kashmiri separatists more

than one year ago were seen

last week by villagers in the in

surgency-wracked northern

state, a news agency reported

Saturday quoting the state's

area of Jammu-Kashmir had

reported seeing all the four

hostages who appeared to be

in good health, Gov. Krishna

Rao was quoted as saying by

southwest of Srinagar, the

capital of Jammu-Kashmir

state and the main theater of

the hostages increased after a

captured guerilla told police

interrogators three months

ago that the Westerners were

it is still searching for Donald

Hutchings, 43 of Spokane,

Washington, Keith Mangan, 34

of Middlesborough, England;

Paul Wells, 24, of London; and

Dirk Hasert, 27, of Erfurt,

Germany, who were kidnapped

A Norwegian, Hans Chris-

tian Ostro, was killed and de-

capitated last August. Another

American, John Childs, 41, of

Simsbury, Connecticut

escaped from Al-Faran soon

wife of Hutchings, and Julie

Mangan, wife of Keith Mangan,

On August 3, Jane Schelley

after the kidnappings began.

The Indian government says

executed in December.

by the Al-Faran group.

Concern about the safety of

The area is 125 kilometers

Villagers in the Kishtwar

governor, reports AP.

United News of India

insurgency

NEW DELHI. Aug 10: Four

Meanwhile, the expulsion

tion, the press release added.

Tangail BNP

Feni and Tangail district

Transcom Electronics Limited

performance-oriented func-It is necessary to run the Dhaka WASA commercially and make the authority efficient and effective to meet the

growing demand for water and

ensure a sound system of

release said, reports BSS.

Mosharraf Hossain MP has sewerage in the capital, it said. been made convenor of the 16-But, the bill said, the premember convening committee sent ordinance is not suitable of Feni BNP while Major Gen for making the Dhaka WASA a (retd) Mahmudul Hasan made commercially run establishconvenor of the 30-member ment through performance-

oriented functioning. For this, the Cabinet had almittees have been asked to ready approved a proposal for amending the WASA Ordinance 1963 and enacting WASA Act 1996 for the enhancement of overall efficiency of the management in order to convert Dhaka WASA to a commercially-run establishment.

Lecturer murder

From page 1

complicated one

Nargis was found dead at her flat in the third floor of Nouratan Colony in Bailey Road Friday afternoon. Mother of two sons and wife of an engineer, Fazlur Rahman, Nargis came to Dhaka for a visit from Chicago, USA, about two months ago, police sources said adding that she had been in USA with her family for a long time

Meanwhile, some senior police officials said last night that they were considering some issues including property related matters that could help find out the avenues to unearth the real motive behind the brutal killing. The passport of Nargis could not be recovered till last night, police said adding that they did not find anything stolen from the flat.

The case was handed over to the Detective Branch from Ramna thana yesterday. The DB investigators questioned more than 15 people including relatives in connection with the case.

Police suspected that Nargis succumbed to her injuries after being hit by heavy objects in her head and face sometime between 5pm to 7pm on Thursday.

> Makbul Ahmed new PIO

Mohammad Makbul Ahmed yesterday joined the Press Information Department (PID) under the Information Ministry as Principal Information Officer (PIO). Prior to this appointment, Ahmed was the Director General of Bangladesh Film Archives under the same ministry, reports UNB.

Father hands over son to police

From Our Correspondent JHENIDAH. Aug 10: A father today handed over his der inged son to the Jhenidah police along with a pipe gun. police said.

Shohrab Hussain, 26, who had been allegedly involved with an outlawed party for long, returned home at Kashimpur village under the

Sadar thana yesterday with an

illegal pipe gun. His father, Mohammad Waliullah persuaded him to deposit the pipe gun yesterday but he refund. Following repeated persuasion. Shohrab became furious and allegedly attacked his father today.

Waliullah then caught Shohrab with the help of local people and handed him over to

Flag meet with India begins COMILLA, Aug 10: A two-day

flag meeting between Bangladesh and India began here today, reports BSS.

Both the sides discussed on repairing and re-construction of border-pillar to prevent smuggling and maintaining law and order in the border areas.

An agreement will be signed in this regard tomor-

Aid Club From page 1

and textile sectors will remain unchanged. The government has already constituted a tax force to recommend privatisa-

About the energy sector. the government is expected to apprise the donors about the recent initiatives including new energy policy focusing on private investment in power and gas sectors. It would also inform the donors of the amendment to the BTTB ordinance providing for separation of control and service and participation of private sector.

On privatisation, the government will detail its efforts to strengthen the privatisation

Bangladesh, at the Paris

Club Meet on April 24-25 last year, sought disbursement of aid to the tune of 1850 million dollars for the last fiscal year.

The government, however substantially revised the disbursement level to 1585 mil-

lion dollars. Last year's foreign aid pledge was 1.95 billion dollars.

WASAs to be restructured With the replacement of the

present ordinance by the new

legislation the present bodies

of Dhaka and Chittagong

WASAs will be dissolved and

Let's make

things better

new ones be established. A special parliamentary committee comprising members from both the Treasury and the Opposition benches scrutinised the bills before they were placed in the House for passage. The BNP members of the committee, however, did not attend the meeting of the parliamentary body since no decision was yet taken as regards the party's contention about its representation. The bills were adopted by voice

The two sittings of the House yesterday, were presided over by Deputy Speaker Advocate Abdul Hamid. The morning sitting witnessed disposal of three call attention notices, while the Chair allowed two minutes each to 13 legislators on various issues relating to their respective constituencies

The Chair adjourned the session at 8:40 pm for resumption at 10:30 this morning.

India to host Miss World contest in Nov NEW DELHI, Aug 10: India

will host the Miss World beauty contest for the first time in November in the southern city of Bangalore, which is to replace South Africa's Sun City as the event's home site, an official said today, reports AFP. Ravi Shankar, general man-

ager of the Amitabh Bachchan Corp Ltd (ABCL), a leading Indian entertainment conglomerate, said his company acquired the seven-million-dollar contract to stage and market

the November pageant "ABCL has already finalised the deal with the UK-based Miss World Jersey Global Company, owned by Eric and

Julia Morley, to organise the show for the current year," he "However, we are planning

to stage if for couple of more Apart from holding the

pageant, ABCL will fund various charity organisations associated with the contest during the one-year period. The com pany is owned by Indian film legend Amitabh Bachchan.

Miss World Jersey Global Co. started he contest in 1551 as part of a British festival. The show was presented in London until 1989, when it moved to

Sun City. Bombay-based model Aishwarya Rai won the Miss World title in 1994, the same year her compatriot Sushmita Sen was crowned Miss Universe. Rai's title came some three

decades after Indian model Reita Faria was named Miss World.

Time-limit From page 1

police or DC offices across the

country in 24 hours till 10pm

last night, police sources said. With this deposit, the number of total surrendered arms rose to 261 and of ammunition to 313.

Water accord

From page 1

treaty would make the provision of a tribunal comprising three members, one from Bangladesh, one from India and the third, who will be the chairperson, from outside the region and acceptable to both

countries. The tribunal will arbitrate on disputes or issues not resolved by the river commission, the paper said, adding there might be a provision for a review after 30 years to adapt various man-made changes in

the ecosystem. The paper attached importance on non-governmental negotiation and discussions organised during last several years by various research and academic organisations includ-

ing BUP in Bangladesh, Centre for Policy Research (CPR) in India and Institute for Integrated Development Studies IIDS) in Nepal Negotiations between the governments should be aided

by technical experts, and Nepal, the co-riparian, should also be involved at this phase If necessary, a third party might be enlisted in facilitat ing the talks, the paper suggested. They proposed UNDP as a

facilitator in conflict resolution, similar in nature and structure of that the UNDP had done in helping work out the Mekong River Agreement among Thailand. Vietnam Cambodia and Laos.

Among others. Waliur Rahman, Barrister HK Morshed. Dr Aninun Nishat, Prof M Shahjahan, Touhidur Rahman. Rafigul Islam took part in the open discussion.

The discussants emphasised political commitment towards resolving the crisis. working out mechanism for involving Nepal in the negotiation process, creating a positive climate for it and fixing a specified timeframe.



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (R) welcomes Palestinian President Yasser Arafat who arrived in Cairo yesterday for talks to advance the stalled peace process with Israel. - AFP/UNB photo

14 die of food poisoning in India

BOMBAY, Aug 10: At least 14 people died of food poisoning after eating in a restaurant in western India, news reports and doctors said Saturday, reports AP.

More than 100 people were hospitalized on Wednesday after eating at a restaurant in Bhiwandi town, 125 kilometers (80 miles) north of Bombay. India's financial capital, The Asian Age newspaper said. Among the sick was the owner of the restaurant.

Seven deaths occurred in three Bombay hospitals on Saturday, doctors said. Seven others had died since Wednesday.

At least 19 of the sick are still in a serious condition and have been put on the respiratory support system, doctors

The victims were poor laborers who complained of giddiness and stomach ache after eating rice, vegetable curries and lentils, the newspaper said.

notices accepted

Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid accepted three out of the 35 call attention notices submitted by the members in parliament yesterday, reports

The three call notices, accepted by the chair, were submitted by Shahjahan Khan of Awami League, Ziaul Haq Zia of BNP and Golam Hossain of Jatiya Party.

However, the deputy speaker sanctioned the MPs. whose call notices were not accepted, a total of half an hour or two minutes each under Article 71 of the Rules of Procedure to speak on their respective notices.

Fifteen MPs spoke on their rejected call notices in the morning sitting. They were Prof Mohammad

Ali, Kazi Sekandar Ali and Abdul Latif Mirza of Awami League: Syed Mehedi Ahmed Rumi, Shahidul Islam, Prof. Shahidul Islam, Mojahar Hossain, Mashiur Rahman, Abul Kalam Azad, Advocate M Ruhul

Kazi Shamsur Rahman of Jamaat-e-Islami. Prof Shahidul Islam (BNP-

Kushtia), in his speech, drew the Foreign Minister's attention about the push back of Bangladeshi nationals, who were sent back to Pakistan on August 6, as they had no valid documents and necessary pa-

The BNP lawmaker wanted to know the condition of the Bangladeshis now staying in Pakistan.

Dr Rustam Ali Farazi (JP-Pirojpur) said thousands of Bangladeshis were facing immense sufferings in detention camps in Malaysia as they had been sent there by "fake" recruiting agencies promising

Quddus Talukder, Shah Mohammad Abul Hossain, Alamgir Mohammad Mahfuzullah Farid and Mohammad Nurul Amin Talukder of BNP; Dr Rustam Ali Farazi of Jatiya Party and

3 out of 25 call attention