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Jubo Dal activist

beaten to death

in Pabna

activist was beaten to death by

some youths at Shibrampur in

the town during the new year

celebration early today, reports

Kalu Mastan, 25, according to

attacked Kalu while he along-

with some of his friends were

celebrating the new year at Shi-

ishahi Medical College Hospital

on the night where he suc-

cumbed to his injuries in the

File submitted

From Page

ter S A M S Kibria has handed

over the file containing matters

relating to the removal of the

two members. Dr Shahbub

Alam and Alamgir Kabir to

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

in person, sources in the PM's

Prime Minister could have a

clear idea of the events that led

to the decision of the ministry,

without intervention from any

clearance from the PM, the re-

moval orders will be handed

over to the members of the SEC.

removal of the two members

was necessary to bring trans-

parency in the capital market

watchdog, the SEC, and to keep

the image of the Commission,

mained tight lipped about any

development in this regard.

particularly possible replace-

cicled to investigate into the ac-

tivities of the two members

through the newly formed probe

committee to find out the rea-

sons for alleged manipulations

and insider trading in the stock

exchanges, according to

ministry wants to probe are: is

there any involvement of the

two members with any securi-

ties company or with members

of the Dhaka Stock Exchange

(DSE), whether they acted in

collusion with certain powerful

business groups to manipulate

the market, whether they had

favoured any company in float-

ing initial public offerings

(IPOs) or willfully delayed float-

ing offerings, or whether they

had any hand in distributing

IPOs to any particular person or

1000 Bangladeshis

From Page 1

Affairs Abul Hasan Chow-

dhury, when contacted last

night said, "We are still hopeful

about the extension of the

Foreign Ministry nor those of

the Labour Ministry could pro-

vide the number of Bangla-

deshis staying there with legal

employer took all the respon-

'yellow card' have to procure a

passport within six months to

Malaysian government an-

nounced in July last that those

who had entered the country by

July 10 and were illegals should

apply for temporary work per-

mit. They were given an

amnesty deadline till December

foreign workers in Malaysia,

the bulk of whom are from

Indonesia. The other two coun-

tries having more than two

lakh workers each are the

Philippines and Bangladesh.

There are over two million

Those who are able to obtain

The crisis began when the

sibilities after paying a levy.

get themselves legalised.

State Minister for Foreign

Neither officials of the

companies of their choice.

camps last week.

amnesty deadline.

Some of the issues that the

ment of the two members.

The finance ministry re-

The ministry has also de-

the sources said.

sources.

As soon as the ministry gets

The ministry reasoned that

quarter, the sources said.

This was done so that the

Meanwhile, Finance Minis-

He was rushed to the Ra

police.

brampur.

morning.

Office said.

The dead was identified as

Police said a group of youths

PABNA, Jan 1: A Jubo Dal



BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Jatiya Sangsad Begum Khaleda Zia waving at party activists and supporters at a rally organised in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday, marking the 18th founding anniversary of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Star photo

Tough BNP programme

ever, added. "We are ready to have talks with ruling party to return to the House provided government releases our party leaders and workers, ensures equal television coverage of JS proceedings and allows the JS to function as per the Rules of Procedure.

Badruddoza and other front ranking leaders of the party also criticised the 6-month old Awami League government for what they called deteriorating law and order, fight of capital from the share market, wiping out of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman's name from the country's history dismal condition of the economy, vote rigging, politicising the administration and for cancellation of the pub-

lic holiday on November 7. Badruddoza claimed that hundreds of crores of taka were taken out of the country from the capital market. BNP city unit convener and MP. Sadek Hossain Khoka claimed that some 10,000 crore taka was siphoned by 'Maroaries' from the capital market. They converted the money and took the amount out of the country during the last couple of months, he alleged. They criticised the Finance Minister for this.

JCD leaders on the podium tore a calendar of 1997, printed by the government, to express their resentment against cancellation of the November 7 public holiday.

The BNP senior vice-chairman said that a greater movement programme would be launched after the successful completion of the party's threeday agitation programme, beginning on January 5. "Our JCD boys alone are enough to fight against the wrongdoings of present government'

Referring to Awami League leader Kader Siddiky's renouncing the gallantry award of 'Bir Uttam', he said, "An Intra-party feud has developed within the ruling party. Awami League's failure to hold its council sessions in 20 districts due to internal chaos points to a law and order situation. People in Tangail do not dare to come onto streets after dark for the last one month."

He oriticised alleged attempts by the government to wipe out Zia's name from Zia International Airport, Zia Uddyan in Dhaka, Zia Memorial Museum in Chittagong.

Moudud Ahmed said he joined BNP to assist Begum Khaleda Zia in her fight against what he called conspiracy against the independence and sovereignty of the country. He said he is writing a book which will reveal many untold events of the period between 1972 and

In his long speech, Abdul

IPS Rules '96 promulgated

The government has promulgated the Pre-Shipment Inspection (IPS) Rules '96, an of-

ficial handout said in Dhaka yesterday, reports BSS. The rules became effective from December 31, it said

With the promulgation of the rules unloading of imported goods would be accelerated and the proper monitoring of the IPS organisations would be en-

Malaysia From Page 1

caught face hefty fines.

crackdown, the illegal immigrants will be punished and then repatriated. Local employers who are

Under amendments to immigration laws that are awaiting royal assent, employers can be caned, jailed a maximum of five years and fined up to 30,000 ringgit (12,000 US dollars) for hiring illegal workers, officials warned.

Mannan threw a challenge to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for contesting an election against Begum Khaleda Zia from any constituency. "If t'ne

He alleged that the Awarni League has floated all its election pledges. It has succeeded in politicising the administration and failed in maintaining law and order and solving problems of peasants and workers Fertilizer is being smuggled to India while the government is importing fertilizer worth Taka 360 crore.

election is fair, BNP Chairper-

son will win.

Other leaders, who addressed the rally, included, Jubo Dal President Mirza Abbas Jatiyatabadi Mohila Dal president Khurshid Jahan Haq, MP, Amanullah Aman, MP, Krishak Dal Secretary Shamsuzzaman Dudu, JASAS president Rezabuddoula Chowdhury Nazimuddin Alam, MP, DUCSU general secretary Khairul Kabir Khokon, Habibur Rahman Habib, Fazlul Haq Milon, Bangladesh Chhatra Union president Aslam Khan, a former president of JCD Rizvi Ahmed, JCD DU unit president and secretary, Mosharraf Hossain and Monir Hossain respectively and some other JCD leaders. The rally, followed by a cultural function, was conducted by JCD general secretary Habibunnabi Sohel.

Former adviser Aminul Haq dead

Chowdhury A K M Aminul Haq, former labour and manpower adviser in the caretaker government of Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed died of heart failure yesterday morning family sources said. He was 62, reports BSS.

He left behind his wife, two daughters and a host of admirers to mourn his death.

President Shahabuddin Ahmed expressed his deep shock and profound grief at the death

of Aminul Haque. In a message of condolence, president Shahabuddin recalled his personal association with late Aminul Haque and said as an adviser of the interim government in 1991 headed by me, he served the nation with credible sincerity and devotion

President Shahabuddin conveyed his sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also expressed her deep shock at the death of Aminul

Engineering workshop looted in city

By DMC Correspondent Extortionists assaulted owner and employees of an engineering workshop and looted valuable goods at Madhya Badda under Gulshan thana in

the city yesterday afternoon. A gang of about ten people demanded toll from Engineer Mujibor Rahman, 32. They attacked and ransacked his workshop, damaged a car and assaulted him, his employees as they refused to pay the toll at about 3.30 pm.

The injured engineer and employees identified as Ramzan, 18, Malek, 45, Zahid, 32, and Zafar, 29 were taken to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), local people

and hospital sources said. Gulshan police said that they had heard about the incident. However, none was arrested and no case was lodged in this connection till last night.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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Sugandha now Foreign Service Academy

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday underscored the need for enhancing national image through pro-fessional excellence and called upon country's foreign service officials to work with devotion for national interest, international peace, progress and stability, reports BSS.

Inaugurating the 'Foreign Service Academy of Bangladesh' in the city, he said the task of protecting national interest in an ever changing world has necessitated suitable adjustments in country's attitude and added 'Our diplomats should be conscious of these changes and strive to uphold national interest through pragmatism. flexibility and commitment.

The former state guest house 'Sugandha' has been turned into the Foreign Service Academy which begins functioning from

the new year. Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan and Principal of the Institute Anwar Hashim spoke on the occasion.

Cabinet ministers, serving and former senior foreign service officials, diplomats attended the inaugural ceremony.

The President said diplomacy is a process by which the foreign policy of a country is implemented and the foreign service provides the required personnel to execute the foreign policy. It is therefore, he said, basic requirement that the foreign service officers be properly trained in the art of diplomacy. He said a separate institution for this purpose is deemed es-

sential President Shahabuddin referred to the contemporary diplomatic conditions and said

in the backdrop of far-reaching changes both at domestic and international levels, the essence of foreign policy focusing on the Economic diploma-cy is indeed timely and appropriate. He expressed his confi-dence that this thrust of eco-nomic diplomacy would not be missed in the training pro-

gramme of the academy. He stressed the need for the foreign service officials having adequate knowledge also about general administration of Bangladesh and suggested that for the purpose their training course should include, among other things, the district administration, particularly the land revenue management and tenancy rights.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, in his speech, said the turning of the new premise as the institute is a momentous occasion for the foreign service officials since it was the office of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as the prime minister of the country after the independence. He expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for this gesture, saying this government takes 'correct and timely decisions in the

The foreign minister said the new government has already demonstrated its success in the area of foreign policy and the resolution of the water issue with India is widely acclaimed as a big achievement in the area of foreign policy.

cadre officials to be efficient in one hand and humane on the other since they represent the people of the country. Azad thanked Finance Minister SAMS Kibria and other for help facilitate the setting up of the institute.

Hasina-Gowda talks

The data of joint monitoring that began vesterday making the treaty 'operational' would be reviewed by the two sides during the official talks.

Besides, the official talks will focus on the issue of sharing waters of the 53 other common rivers of the two countries. This would be a follow up of the water accord where it was mentioned that both countries are "desirous of sharing by mutual agreement the waters of the international rivers flowing through the territories of the two countries and of making optimum use of water resources of their region in the fields of flood management, irrigation, river basin development and generation of hydro-power for the mutual benefit of the two

Granting of further tariff concessions on commercial items bilaterally under the framework of SAPTA will also

Discussion on a likely date for holding the next meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission will take place. The last JEC meet was held in 1992.

Deve Gowda who is the current Chairman of SAARC, is likely to discuss the agenda for the forthcoming summit of the regional organisation, due to be held in the Maldives from May

The visiting premier's entourage is likely to include External Affairs Minister IK Guiral, and at least two other ministers and several top officials. He will also be accompanied by chamber leaders and a number of leading Indian businessmen. At least three dozen journalists are likely accompany him to

cover the visit. An advance team from India comprising representatives of protocol, security and the media arrived in the capital last week to work out details of the visit.

During his stay Deve Gowda will pay a courtesy call on Pres-

> Soccer From Page 1

In today's matches, Calcutta Mohammedan Sporting Club will take on Malaysian Blue at 4 pm while Cosmos Club of Russia will face Muktijoddha Sangsad in a Group D encounter at 6 pm. Both the matches will be held at the Dhaka Stadium. Details on sports pages

ident Shahabuddin Ahmed. The Foreign Minister, the Commerce Minister and the Water Resources minister, will pay courtesy calls on the visiting premier.

The Bangladesh Prime Minister will host a state banquet in honour of the visiting premier the day he arrives. Deve Gowda will visit the Jatiya Smriti Soudha at Savar on January 7 to pay homage to the Liberation War martyrs. He will address the members of the local business community the same day. The meeting is being organised by the FBCCL

The two premiers will hold a joint press conference at the airport prior to Gowda's departure in the late afternoon of January 7.

Ganges water

From Page 1

would be sending the data in 'confidential cover' through the Deputy High Commission in Calcutta. The figures for the first week are due to be available around January 8, he

Joint monitoring was started to give operational effect to the recently concluded Indo-Bangladesh water sharing accord. It is being done under the supervision of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Committee (JC) headed by Md Lutfur Rahman, Member of the Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) from the Bangladesh side and NVV Char, Member of the JRC from the Indian side

A team of Bangladesh engineers led by Azizul Hug is monitoring the water discharge at three points-below the Farakka Barrage and at the Feeder Canal and the Navigation Lock.

Bangladesh engineers are also monitoring the water level at Hardinge Bridge. An Indian team of monitors is due to arrive there shortly.

Officials said that both the governments, at the Joint Committee meeting, agreed to install automatic metres at the four monitoring points.

Meanwhile, the water level at Hardinge Bridge is learnt to be around 75,000 cusec for the last three days. An official, however, said although this a "satisfactory level," the exact quantum of discharge of water from the Farakka point, which is supposed to be 67,516 cusec for the first 10-day cycle beginning on January 1, could only be ascertained after the official data was received.

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fields concerned.

He urged foreign service



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Let's make things better **PHILIPS**



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina patting a school child at the function at Ganobhaban yesterday. — PID photo

PM: Children From Page 1

launching of a commemorative book entitled" 32 number: Chokher Aloy Dekhechilem. Twenty nine essays were compiled in the book. Chaired by eminent poet

Shamsur Rahman, the function was also addressed by poet Rabiul Hossain, poet Abu Hasan Shahriar, Lutfur Rahman Riton, Bazlul Haque Beg, prize winners Tanvir Rubaiyat and Priayanka Putul. In her brief speech the Prime

Minister said that it was a matter of great relief that true history of the country was being revealed now. She said truth shall prevail and nobody could distort history.

The Prime Minister said that the people now could know about the great leader and his contributions to the Liberation War and struggle. Referring to the essays by the

school students on the account of their visit to the Museum, she said, "many of the feelings are similar to mine, but I could not explain those as you did." "The depth of your feelings is much deeper than us," she said adding One who reads the book will be able to know about the house and the great leader."

The prime minister also lauded the efforts of the organisers in publishing such a good

The Prime Minister was surrounded by the frolicking children who were seen playing, dancing, telling tales and reciting and delivering speech spontaneously. She posed for snaps with those tiny guests and spared her valuable time to have the costly company of the charming children.

Some children, in their speech, mentioned the tragic death of Russel, characteristic features of Bangabandhu Museum and also demanded trial of the killers of Bangabandhu and others slain in the August 15 coup in 1975.

Five garments workers hurt in road accident

By DMC Correspondent At least five garments work-

ers were injured in a road accident at Kalabagan in the city vesterday morning.

The victims identified as Auzufa, 18. Hasna, 22, Anita, Rina, 25, and Monwara, 20 were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

According to police and local people, the workers of Bashundhara Garments Ltd. at Kalabagan were hit by a car while crossing the road at about 7:15 am.

JP can't back AL keeping Ershad in jail: Mizan

Acting chairman of the Jatiya Party Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury yesterday urged the government to take necessary steps for immediate release of party chairman Hussain Mohammad Ershad from jail, reports BSS.

Presiding over a discussion in celebration of the 11th founding anniversary of the Jatiya Party at Ramna Batamul in the city yesterday afternoon, Chowdhury referred to the JP support to the Awami League af-ter the June 12 general elections to form government and said now we could not continue our support to you keeping Ershad inside jail'.

Presidium member and former deputy prime minister Shah Moazzem Hossain, Secretary General and Communications Minister Anwar Hossain Manju, Col (retd) MA Malek, Naziur Rahman Manju Advocate Fazle Rabbi, MP Shah Mohammad Abu Zafar, Abdus Salam, Shafiullah Shafi, Iqbal Hossain Raju and Humayun Hossain Chowdhury also spoke on the occasion.

Chowdhury said that as a legal and democratic one, the present government had the responsibility of suing any person for corruption practices. In the similar way, the government has the right to withdraw the 'false cases' against the JP chairman and other leaders, filed by the past BNP government out of vindictiveness.

Mizan Chowdhury referred to the statement made by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina that law would take its own course and said. "We also want that and that is why we are demanding formation of an enquiry commission to probe the allega-

Motifheel fire One victim dies at DMCH By Staff Correspondent

A young man who sustained serious burn injuries at Motijheel Sweeper Colony on Tuesday night died at the Dhaka Medical College

Hospital (DMCH) early vester-

The deceased identified as Khokon Chandra Roy, 25, received injuries when he went to a playground near Motifheel T&T Colony at about 8:30 pm on Tuesday, police and DMCH sources said.

However, the details about the incident could not be known immediately

His brother in the FIR said Khokon met an unnatural death, police said.

Sea coaster

From Page 1

the lightering coaster loaded with 1200 tons of fertilizer capsized at the river mouth after being hit by the ship QC Toal the port officials said.

The QC Toal sailed from the port jetty carrying export cargo while the sea coaster was returning from the outer anchorage after lightering fertilizer from a mother vessel.

Chairman of Chittagong Port Captain Zahir Uddin Mahmud talking to this correspondent said the ship movement remained normal as the coaster sank outside the port channel.

BSS reports: Ministry of Shipping has constituted a three-member committee to investigate the incident of collision between a ship and a coaster at Patenga point, official sources said.

The committee headed by principal officer of Mercantile Marine Department Abdul Haq will submit its report by seven

Kader Siddiky

From Page 1 he compromised his principle. "I had to spend 16 years in exile only to protest the killing of Bangabandhu," he added.

The gallantry awards given to the freedom fighters following the Great War of Liberation now seem to have become easily available," he alleged, adding that similar awards are now even given to those who fight in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

He blamed the administration for harassing a freedom fighter of his stature by 'sieging' his house on the night of December 27.

Justifying his demand for dismissal of the home minister. Siddiky said that the minister had failed to curb terrorism across the country and particu-

larly in Tangail. "Incompetence of the home minister is evident from the revolts in prisons last month". and he had earlier failed to maintain law and order in Bogra and in some other areas as well, the ruling party lawmaker said. The minister is in the grip of anti-liberation forces, he alleged.

About the situation in Tangail he said that the administration was 'sponsoring ter rorism' there and corrupt officials were arresting only those who refused to grease their

tion against JP leaders including the party chairman, made, by the past BNP government."

He said if the Supreme Court convicted Ershad in case, we would not demand the release of Ershad. He pointed out, the former president got bail in 17

out of 18 cases. The JP acting chairman asked the government to take steps against the past BNP government on charges of corruption and mismanagement. He demanded a statement from the government on the cash and rice, distributed by the BNP government before handing over power to the care-taker government.

Paying tributes to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman for his contribution to the emancipation of the people and independence of the country. Chowdhury said had the Bangabandhu compromised a bit with the Pakistani forces. Bangladesh would not have been independent.

He recalled that in 1967 following the visit of Gauhar Ayub to the then East Pakistan, he along with the then Awami League leader Shah Moazzem Hossain had gone to Bangabandhu in the Dhaka Central Jail with a compromise formula on the question of six-point movement. Bangabandhu rejected that formula saying, "If we agree to this, the people of this part would get nothing."

Chowdhury strongly criticised the statement by a section of political leaders that the Awami League leaders had 'performed Hajj' in Calcutta during the War of Liberation and said had not Awami League leaders including 162 members of the then national assembly and 290 members of provincial assembly gone to India and created political impact on the Indian government, it would not have been possible to carrying out the Liberation War.

Shah Moazzem Hossain condemned the recent attack on the Bangla Academy by the supporters of a political party. He said Bangla Academy was one of the most sacred symbols of the historic Language Movement, and wanted to know as to what action the present government had taken against those responsible for damaging the property of the academy.

Paying tributes to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Shah Moazzem said: "We have faith in you, you are the daughter of the greatman of history. We have extended our support to you and would continue to do so in the future. But release JP chairman HM Ershad from

Communications Minister and JP Secretary General Anwar Hossain said former president Ershad would be set free from jail soon through legal process. He said the past BNP government did not allow Ershad to sit in parliament though he had won the elections from five seats. He thanked the present government for allowing Ershad to attend the JS ses-

Regional meet

From Page 1

top officials and leaders of chamber bodies and trade associations to work out the details of the conference, the sources

As a preparatory to the con-

ference, the BOI held a joint meeting with leaders of chamber bodies and different trade associations last month, the sources said. The meeting formed three separate committees - National Committee, Organising Committee and Functional Committee to make the conference a success. The first two committees are headed by the BOI Executive Chairman and the FBCCI president respectively.

Prior to the conference a national seminar will be held on FDI, the sources said. Representatives of ESCAP. JETRO resource persons from home and abroad leaders of chamber bodies and political leaders will take part in the seminar. The seminar is expected to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The conference will be divided into two phases. The first phase will be a workshop where a number of papers will be presented focusing on prospects and possibilities of foreign investment and relocation of industries. In the second phase, the first meeting of the proposed regional network of the boards

of investment will be held. According to BOI officials. the conference is very important for Bangladesh as the earlier two sub-regional conferences produced good results in attracting Foreign Direct Investment and influencing the developed countries to relocate their industrial enterprises to the developing countries.

At the conference, Bangladesh will persuade the participating countries to establish the proposed regional BOI Secretariat in Dhaka. The conference is considered

the biggest event in the country regarding foreign investment after the Euromoney Conference, held in 1995, the sources said

permits or without valid 50 cars damaged in city documents. Various sources, however, indicated that nearly one lakh Bangladeshi workers were try-The new year 1997 was wel-A gunfight took place in the but were refused as the bars had ing to obtain 'yellow card' comed in the city amidst funcapital's Sobbanbagh area over been packed since evening which would provide them the However, they could manage a blasting crackers. One youngfare, and frenzied revelling legal basis for their stay. A high official said that it man, Tamal, 20, suffered bullet can of beer or a bottle of liquour which led to clashes in which at wounds in his leg in the fight. was possible to obtain 'yellow least 25 people were injured, reat high price. card' provided a Malaysian

ports UNB. Police said, at least 50 cars were also damaged by late-night

revellers. Hundreds of jubilant youths came out onto the streets to hail the new year and to say adieu to 1996 as the clock chimed zero hours turning the leaf not only of a day but also an eventful

year of sorrows and joys. Blasting crackers and blowing horns of cars, they sang, danced and embraced each other while welcoming 1997 with new expectations and aspirations. In some cases, boozing

youths, both boys and girls, be-

came unruly resulting in sev-

eral clashes and other unto-

ward incidents in different

parts of the city.

A clash took place at Habibullah Bahar College at Shantinagar that led to the

25 late night revellers hurt,

ransacking of the institution. Another clash occurred at the Maghbazar crossing as a speeding car hit another. A number of such incidents took place in other parts of the city,

mainly in posh Gulshan,

Banani and Baridhara areas.

Minor clashes also took place in Malibagh, Bangla Motor Crossing, Mirpur, and Demra and in the old part of the A group of youths halted in-

ter-city trucks in front of the T&T College at Motijheel and extorted toll from the highway drivers. The revellers tried to enter different bars and restaurants

An effigy of the Jamaat-e-Islami chief Ghulam Azam was burnt in Mohakhali area. Uniformed and plainclothes

police intervened in many cases. They picked up at least 88 people under the Dhaka Metropolitan Police Act. Our Staff Correspondent

from Khulna reports: The city was in the grip of revellers on the eve of the New Year last night. They exploded thousands of crackers and bombs, damaged at least sixty motor vehicles, three-wheelers and motor bikes and looted money from shops and pedestrians.

The revellers, mostly youngmen, created public nuisance by dancing nakedly at the Royal hotel square and Moilap-ota intersection.