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Day labourers going to their work place in a truck braving biting cold in the morning in -Star photo

Outgoing envoy calls on PM

Continued Chinese help for development assured

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said that Bangladesh would seek assistance and cooperation from its neighbours and the Asian nations for the advancement of the country, reports UNB. "The principle of our gov-

ernment is to maintain friendly relations with all its neighbours and work for the betterment of the society through mutual cooperation, Sheikh Hasina was talking

with the Chinese ambassador in Dhaka Zhang Xu Jiang when he made a farewell call on her at Gano Bhaban here yesterday. She said the Asian countries could attain quick economic

progress and alleviate poverty if they work together through proper utilisation of existing resources. Describing China as a good

friend of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina said that her father Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had visited China. The bonds of friendship between the two countries has been increasing since then

The Prime Minister conveved her best wishes to the Chinese President, Prime Minister. Government and the people of that country and recalled the warm hospitality extended to her during her recent visit to China.

RU goes on vacation

From RU Correspondent PAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY. Jan 23: The Ramadan vacation of Rajshahi University begins tomorrow.

The All-Party Students Unity (APSU) and the Rajshahi University Teachers' Association (RUTA) enforced a strike on the campus during the last 16 days demanding the removal of the Vice Chancellor Prof M Yousuf Ali and protesting the alleged attack on teachers by the activists of the Islamic Chhatra Shibir.

on February 17.

tor was seen displaying the

spectacles and papers left by the

Rahman rose on a point of or-

der to tell Deputy Speaker Ab-

dul Hamid," My chair is bro-

ruling party MP Kader Siddiqi-

led committee for security of

the Sangsad Bhaban, the BNP

lawmakers, in lighter vein.

commented," I don't know if

excessive movement (on the

chair)," a prompt Deputy

Tasmima Hossain drew the at-

tention of the Health Minister

while reading her notice on

Speaker remarked, "I see, you

are not drawing the attention of

the Communications Minister

(the husband of Tasmima Hos-

it better whether the issue of di-

abetic patients comes under the

purview of the Communica-

said "It seems you have no

communication with the Com-

munications Minister."

The Chair, in a lighter vain,

In reply, Tasmima retorted,

Tasmima replied "You know

treatment of diabetic patients.

"It may be because of your

Jatiya Party lawmaker

Interrupting her, the Deputy

it's an act of sabotage."

Speaker responded.

sain)".

tions Minister.'

ken. All its screws are open.'

BNP whip A Y M Khalilur

Citing the formation of the

Jamaat MP on his desk.

before UP polls By Staff Correspondent She hoped that China would

continue its assistance and cooperation to Bangladesh in its development efforts. In reply, Zhang Xu-Jiang said Bangladesh is considered as a close friend of China.

and prosperity of Bangladesh. He assured that China would continue its help and support to Bangladesh in its development endeavours and welfare of peo-

China always wanted progress

The Chinese envoy, who stayed here for four years, said China wants to maintain good relations with all countries, particularly with the South Asian nations.

He said China wanted to see that SAARC would be more dynamic.

Ashuganj power plant resumes normal production The generation of electricity

at Ashuganj power plant returned to normal at around 8:36 pm Wednesday after the fifth unit resumed production following repairs, reports BSS.

Four out of five units of the Ashuganj power plant tripped one after another on January 21 causing massive power failure leading to unprecedented load-shedding throughout the country, an official handout said vesterday. It said that on that day the

power system was maintained through load-shedding of 674 mega watt.

Body of young man found

By Staff Correspondent The body of an unidentified

young man was recovered from near the Jahanara Garden under Teigaon thana in the city vesterday evening. Police said the man aged

about 26, had marks of bullet injuries in his head and chest. Tejgaon police found the body lying near the road at Jahanara Garden, near the Green Super Market, at about 7:30 PM.

Responding to the noises in

the House, the JP lawmaker

said, "Please, listen to my no-

tice, you may also be affected by

The Deputy Speaker con-

Asked if there was any gov-

ernment plan to build flyovers,

LGRD Minister Zillur Rahman

was issuing a lengthy statement

on the construction of over-

with his reply despite the ques-

tioner's objections, Deputy

Speaker Abdul Hamid inter-

rupted him saying, "The hon-

ourable member has wanted to

know about flyovers, over

Taken a back by the correc-

tion, the minister then said the

government also had plans to

As soon as Speaker Hu-

mayun Rashid Choudhury re-

placed his deputy in the chair,

Maj (Retd) Akhtaruzzaman

sought the floor on a point of

BNP lawmaker, the Speaker

said, "I came to know that the

Deputy Speaker entertained all

the points of order. What

prompted you to wait for me?"

Before giving the floor to the

As the minister was going on

cluded by saying. We're yet to be

attacked by this disease ... but it

The university will reopen

matter.

may happen."

bridges in the city.

which buses can ply.'

build flyovers.

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Voters ID cards not possible

Voters' identity cards can not be provided to all voters of the country before the coming Union Parishad elections

Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister. Abdul Matin Khasru, said this while replying to a question of a Treasury Bench MP, Md Rafiqui Anwar, in the Jatiya Sangsad yester-

The minister said that the process of preparation and distribution of ID cards had been kept pending as the Voters ID Card Project of the Election Commission was undergoing a revision as per the decision of the ECNEC The field-level work of the

project would resume after the revision, but it would not be possible to provide all the cards before the upcoming Union Parishad election, he said. Abdul Matin Khasru in-

formed the House that ID cards for 1.88,22,253 (32 per cent) out of a total 5,68,00,000 voters had already been prepared, of which, cards were distributed among 1.38,33,152 voters (24 per cent of the totall. Replying to a question from

Abul Kalam Azad (AL-Jamalpur), he said that a total of 2,574 candidates participated in the last parliamentary elections. Of them, only 182 candidates representing 7 per cent of the total, had not submitted their return of election expendi-

He said cases are being filed against the defaulters under Section 74 of the People's Representation Order, 1972.

Kibria From Page 1

Khan, Habibur Rahman Mollah and A K M Shamim Osman and secretaries of the ministries

concerned were present. The meeting, held at the state guest house Padma with Kibria in the chair, was addressed, among others, by labour leader Abul Bashar, Abdus Salam Khan, Shahidullah Chowdhury, Rehanuddin, Lutfar Rahman, Z A Kamrul Alam,

Badrul Alam and Serajul Haq. Preliminary discussions were held on the prevailing situation in the jute and textiles sector. The reasons for the present state of affairs in the sector and future course of action were

JCD: Gunshots

failed to recover arms. Meanwhile, according to

sources in the JCD, an urgent meeting of the JCD central committee was being held last night to discuss the situation.

From Page 1

Haq, BGMEA president Anisur Rahman Sinha, BTMA President ASF Rahman, BKMEA President Monzurul Haq, other members of the garments and textile sectors and government officials attended the meeting.

Historic mosque From Page 1 least 1,000 yards away to save

When contacted, an official of the Roads and Highways Department told The Daily Star that his office had just instructed the relevant personnel to take immediate measures to protect the historical site. "We have received several communication from the local people as well as the Department of

The highway is being built under the Road Rehabilitation and Maintenance Project which handle cross-border trades in-

Meanwhile, several officials of the Department of Archeology and Roads and Highways expressed their concern over the lack of coordination between government departments while preparing a development

Killers of Bangabandhu must be tried: PM

KOTALIPARA (Gopalganj) Jan 23: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today said the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman must be tried and the process of trial has started, reports UNB.

Addressing a big public meeting at Kotalipara Lutfar Rahman College ground, she said that the black indemnity ordinance was scrapped by the present parliament clearing the way for trial of the killers and a case of murder has been filed with the court of law.

"The law which indemnified the killers cannot be law in a civilised society." the Prime Minister said, adding those who have protected the killers so long have virtually violated human rights.

Hasina said her government has launched a new war against poverty and hunger which she identified as the main enemy of the country.

Explaining her government's programme to eradicate poverty and hunger, the Prime Minister said spread of education is the first step to remove poverty from society.

She said the government has already initiated programmes to eradicate illiteracy within

next 10 years. The Prime Minister said a committee has been constituted to formulate a realistic and people-oriented national educa tion policy by updating the Qudrat-e-Khuda Commission Besides, she said various

self-employment programmes have been undertaken for the benefit of unemployed youths and women in the rural areas.

Rehana receives Netaji Award for Bangabandhu

CALCUTTA, Jan 23: Sheikh Rehana received Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Award which was conferred posthumously to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by the Netaji Birthday Celebration Central Committee at a colourful function at Red Road here today, reports BSS. Chief Minister of West Ben-

gal Jyoti Basu handed over the award to Sheikh Rehana. daughter of the Bangabandhu, at the inaugural function of the year-long celebration marking the birth centenary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. West Bengal Governor K B

Raghunathan and Col. G S Dhillon, who was a member of Netaji's Indian National Army (INA), were present on the occa-

Audit objections

From Page 1 ising the audit reports of 1987-

88 fiscal year. The committee vesterday found that two executive engineers had failed to follow certain rules in dealing with some contractors. The PAC has asked the authorities concerned to draw departmental proceedings against the said engineers, an MP attending the meeting said.

The PAC examined five reports the day before and suggested some punitive measures against two superintending engineers of the PWD for negligence of duties.

PAC chief S M Akram chaired vesterday's meeting attended by Colonel (retd) Showkat Ali, Abul Kalam Azad Mustafizur Rahman, A H M Mustafa Kamal, Khandaker Asaduzzaman, Abdus Shahid and Engineer Mosharraf Hossain of the Awami League, M K Anwar, Abdul Mannan and Hafizuddin Ahmed of the BNP and H M Ershad of the Jatiya

party voting for BNP today, the

latter would not have any con-

tention about the former's sta-

tus as an opposition party." He

also contested a claim of Deputy

Leader of the Opposition Prof

Badruddoza Chowdhury that

the Jamaat MP had voted for

BNP. But it was later proved in

the House that the Jamaat

lawmaker had supported the

rejected Sengupta's observation

on the JP status and said that

the party could earn the status

of an Opposition party only af-

from the cabinet.

Prime Minister.

ment with BNP.

ter withdrawing its member

that Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina had "gradually taken

Ershad from jail to the floor of

the Parliament on the advice of

Sengupta, who is the parlia-

mentary affairs adviser to the

Commerce Minister Tofael

Ahmed said: "We did not release

Ershad. He was rather released

through judicial procedure." He

also observed that Prof Chowd-

hury's remark amounted to a

the BNP, Tofael Ahmed accused

the party of trying to forge an

unholy alliance with Ershad

against the Awami League.

While in power, the BNP had il-

legally opened the jail gate in

the darkness of night and met

Ershad with a proposal for tak-

ing part in forming a govern-

the second time to say that Prof

Chowdhury's remarks were

"contemptuous against the judi-

Sengupta took the floor for

Calling upon the Deputy

Leader of the Opposition to play

In a counter-attack against

clear contempt of court.

At this point, Industries and

The BNP leader also claimed

However, Prof Chowdhury

The Prime Minister said a national-level rural development academy, styled as "Bangabandhu Poverty Alleviation Training Centre" will be set up at Kotalipara. The centre with hostel and other facilities will provide

training to 200 unemployed Presided over by thana Awami League president He-

manta Kumar Adhikari, the meeting was addressed by Communications Minister Anwar Hossain. State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Syed Abul Hosain, Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim MP, local leaders Mohammad Ali Khan and Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah. Earlier, Sheikh Hasina of-

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Tungipara. The Prime Minister laid the loundation stone of Ghaghor bridge at Kotalipara. The proposed 330-feet long bridge over

fered fateha at the mazar of

the river Ghaghor will connect Kotalipara and Gopalganj. Officials said the bridge will be constructed at a cost of Tk 4.50 crore within next two

Hasina also distributed loan among 10 youths for self-employment activities. The Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries has launched a Tk 25 crore project styled "Poverty Alleviation Project" in 61 thanas of 61 districts. Under the project, some 20,000 people will be benefited

She also distributed another interest-free loan, a project of the Social Welfare Department, among 10 youths.

911 held From Page 1 pur, Kushtia, Magura, Narail,

Rajbari, Pirojpur, Barisal Khulna, Bagherhat and Satkhira.

The extremist groups use sophisticated weapons but the police so far could recover only home-made crude guns, said the Deputy Inspector General of Police. The cadres of the extremist groups went into hiding as the news of the special drive spread across the area, the DIG added. He also pointed out that they have shortage of manpower for such drives.

Judgement From Page 1

Apart from the pleaders of the petitioners and the government the court also heard six eminent constitutional experts as amici curiae in the petition.

Col (rtd) Shahrier Rashid Khan and Mahmuda Rahman, mother of Col(rtd) Farook Rahman, separately filed the two writ petitions challenging the Indemnity (Repeal) Act, 1996 passed in the last sessions of Parliament repealing the Indemnity Ordinance '75. The Indemnity Ordinance

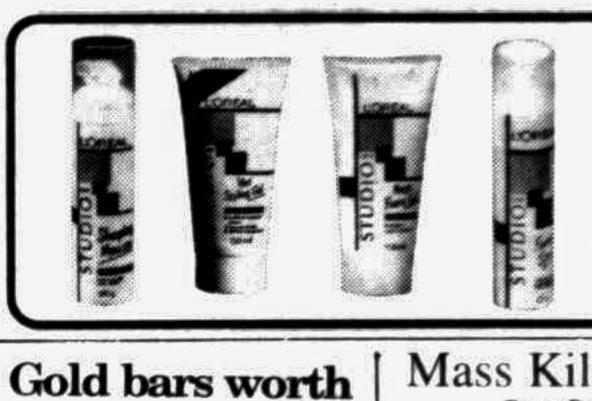
purportedly protected the persons, who were involved in the 15 August '75 incidents including the killings of the then president, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and others, against any trial before any The HC on December 2 in the

writ petitions issued rule nisi upon the government to show cause as to why the Indemnity (Repeal) Act. 1996 should not be declared void, illegal, ultra vires of the Constitution and of no legal effect. The court also asked Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed

Khondker Mahbubuddin Ahmed Dr Kamal Hossain, Barrister Rafiqul Huq and Barrister Amir-ul Islam for assistance as amici curiae in hearing of the cases Subsequently, M Nurullah,

former Attorney General, was also appointed as amicus cu-On behalf of the petitioners

Barrister Qurban Ali moved the



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Mass Killing day From Page 1

By Staff Correspondent A customs surveillance team

Tk 8 lakh

seized at ZIA

at Zia International Airport (ZIA) seized gold bars worth about Tk 8.3 lakh from a passenger early yesterday. The passenger who arrived

in Dhaka from Singapore by a Biman flight late Wednesday was intercepted by the customs men when he tried to pass 17 gold bars that weighed 10 tolas each, showing a tax payment receipt which he had earlier used for the same quantity of gold bars, airport sources said.

Verifying the serial number of the receipt, the customs officials confirmed that the passenger after arrival had paid tax for 170 tolas of gold bars. He later showed the same receipt for passing another 170 tolas. A departmental case was

40-member SAARC non-governmental

team to monitor Pak elections

By Staff Correspondent

A 40-member SAARC nongovernment observation mission will monitor the 'electoral process' of the general elections in Pakistan scheduled to be held on February 3.

The mission will include ten

leading citizens from Bangladesh and ten each from India Nepal and Sri Lanka. Former head of the caretaker government in Bangladesh and retired Chief Justice Habibur

Rahman will lead the SAARC

observation team.

Besides Justice Habibur Rahman, the group from Bangladesh will consist of former Chief Justice, Kemaluddin Hossain, former Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed, former VC and Education adviser, Prof. Zillur Rahman Siddiqui, Editor of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam. Editor of Bhorer Kago Matiur Rahman, Secretary General of FEMA Firoz M Hasan, Dhaka University teacher Dr Imtiaz Ahmed, social worker Dr Zobaida Hannan and Advocate of High Court Ms Sarah Hossain.

The Bangladesh team is due to leave for Pakistan on January 29. Talking to The Daily Star.

the Chairman of FEMA and a member of the SAARC observation group, Fakhruddin Ahmed said, the SAARC team will be divided into different groups for observing the general election in Pakistan. The SAARC non-govern-

mental teams had gone on similar missions to Pakistan in 1988, 1990 and 1993, A SAARC non-governmental group also observed the national elections in Bangladesh in 1991 and The SAARC mission is being

sponsored by the Colombo based International Centre for Ethnic Studies.

Woman mugged in Ctg From Staff Correspondent

gers snatched a gold chain from a woman at 2 pm today from in front of Mimi Super Market in the city, police said.

Different political parties. socio-cultural and professional organisations have drawn up elaborate programmes to mark the day. The programme includes placing of wreaths at the memorial erected in front of the court building.

Special prayers will also be held at all places of worship

UNB adds: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid tribute to the heroic pro-democracy activists who laid down their lives at Laldighi Maidan for establishing democracy.

JC reviews From Page 1

The members of the Joint Committee (JC) will later hold a meeting in Dhaka, it was

A Technical Inspection Mee-ting (TIM) of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Committee to review monitoring at the three Indian points - Farakka, the Navigation Lock and the Feeder Canal - is due to be held in the Indian state of West Bengal next month, it was learnt.

KAFCO From Page 1

housing colony and deployed 40

policemen to safeguard the fer-

tilizer plant and personnel. For the last two months, the company has not been exporting any urea and diverting its entire production of 1,800 tons per day to BCIC for distribution within Bangladesh to assist the government in overcoming the current fertilizer shortages, the press release said.

PCJSS

From Page 1

cial talks was made by Hansdhaj Chakma, a tribal leader who maintained liaison between the authorities and the PCJSS since truce was declared in the troubled hills in August Two rounds of talks between

the PCJSS and the newly-appointed National Committee, consisting of parliament members and led by Chief Whip of the Jatiya Sangsad Abul Hasnat Abdullah was held on November 21 and November 24 at Khagrachhari last year. Earlier, since a ceasefire went into effect, the then BNP

government held seven round of talks with the PCJSS at Khagrachhari. Saturday's talks are likely to be held at a state guest house in

Dhaka, preferably at Padma,

the sources said over telephone. The peace talks were accelerated when Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina sent a personal letter inviting the PCJSS lead ers to come to Dhaka for talks with the government. The letter, dated January 7 reached the

The PCJSS replay reached Hansdhaj Chakma on January 18 which was sent to Dhaka by a courier on January 19. Accordingly the date and venue was fixed. The talks are likely

PCJSS high command via

Hansdhai Chakma.

to continue for several days. Shantu Larma is expected to avail medical facilities in Dhaka to treat a number of ailments including peptic ulcer. the sources said.

Among others, Rupayan Dewan, the second-in-command of the PCJSS. Gautam Kumar Chakma, Sudha Sindhu Khisa and Rakta Utpal Tripura are accompanying their leader to Dhaka.

But Hansdhaj Chakma may not be able to attend the meet-Instead, a four-member team

Committee that maintained communications between the government and the PCJSS is likely to participate in the talks. The team is likely to include Biswajit Chakma, Kechang Marmah, Shaktipada Tripura and Ashish Chakma.

Mugger killed

reached the road in front of Shahid Industries at Luxmi-

The muggers at this stage police who then opened fire in

Two of the muggers fled the the muggers, Mosharraf Hos-

Later, the angry people set fire to the autorickshaw.

ger was sent to the Mitford Hospital morgue for autopsy. Four cases were lodged with the

* If Pierce wins the final, she will become the second unseeded Grand Slam singles champion in the Open era. The only other unseeded Grand Slam singles champion in the open era was Chris O'Neil, who won the Australian Open in 1978. There have been no unseeded champions at the French Open. Wimbledon or US Open.

* Pierce is one of only three women to win the Ford Australian Open title in the 1990's winning the crown in 1995. Steffi Graf won in 1990-and '94 and Monica Seles won in 1991-93 and 1996. It has been 10 years since a

woman other than Pierce, Graf or Seles has won this tournament. In 1987, Hana Mandlikova defeated Martina Navratilova for the title.

Whether she wins or loses

the final, Martina Hingis will rise to a career-high world No. 2 in the COREL WTA TOUR rankings to be released on Monday, January 27. Mary Pierce will move up to No. 12 if she wins the final, No 14 if she loses.

moves down to No 3, Conchita Martinez will be No 4, Jana Novotna is No 5, Monica Seles moves to No 6, Iva Majoli No 7, Anke Huber No 8, Lindsay Davenport is No 9 and Irina Spirlea remains at No. 10. 11. If Pierce loses the final

Amanda Coetzer will be No. 12. Mary Joe Fernandez will be No. 13 and Pierce will be 14. If Pierce wins, she will be 12, Coetzer will be 13 and Fernandez Judiciary

From Page 1

does not have the required strength in the House. In the 330-member Jatiya Sangsad, by-elections to two

328 MPs, the strength of the rul-

Both Jatiya Party and the JSD extended their support to Awami League in formation of

Akhteruzzaman

From Page 1

Sangsad when he got the floor to table his bill, the Code of Criminal Procedure (amendment) Bill, 1996, on the Private Members' Day yesterday. Akhtaruzzaman also assured the Speaker that such in-

therefore, the Speaker should look at the matter with forgive-

During the first session of

the seventh parliament, Akh-

taruzzaman had abused the

Speaker using the microphone

carried out" Responding to a supplementary from BNP legislator Abu Nasr Md Ehsanul Haq Milon. he said that the BNP government had left the Prime Minister's Relief Fund empty and it was the subsequent caretaker government that gradually

during the question-answer session when some lawmakers from the Opposition bench raised questions on alleged 'political involvement of some Non-government Organisations (NGOs) operating in the country. Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alam-

ning, who is also in charge of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), answered some question relating to the PMO.

Replying to a question from Jainal Abedin Hazari of AL the State Minister said that there were 318 officers and employees at the PMO and Tk 1.87.40.825 was spent for their salaries and allowances in the last financial year. He also informed the House that in fiscal 1995-96. Tk 44,325 was spent from the miscellaneous fund of the PMO for entertainment purpose. Standing on a supplementary, ruling party lawmaker

Muhibur Rahman Manik claimed that in the past, money was wasted at the PMO. He wanted to know whether the present government would slash the expenditure under entertainment head. Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alam-

gir said less expenditures is being made now and 92 vacant posts at the PMO will not be filled up if no dire necessity

When a BNP lawmaker, Moshiur Rahman, wanted to know whether expenditures for political meetings and Iftar parties at the PMO were being met from government fund, the state minister said that no political meeting was held at the PMO after AL came to power.

Rather, some Tk 22 lakh. spent over the last five years to entertain people belonging to the then ruling party, yet to be paid up", he said Replying to question from

Jatiya Party (JP) lawmaker Barrister Rabeya Bhuiyan, the minister said that an additional secretary posted at the PMO was a woman. The JP leg islator wanted to know how many women officers and emplovees were working at the

Sangsad tidbits AL, BNP accuse each other also discussed in the meeting. The next meeting of the committee will be held on Feb-"The information minister can a more responsible role, Sengive the information on the At that time, a BNP legislafloor to say: "With the Jatiya

From Page 1 Police then conducted raids in the JCD-dominated Zia hall, Bangabandhu hall, Jasimuddin hall and Suryasen halls but

GSP certificates

the historic site. Archeology," the official said.

volving heavy vehicles.

project.

gupta said: "The legislators can speak freely about anything in the House, but such comments. if made outside the House would definitely amount to contempt of court, and making such aspersions on the judi-

ciary would eventually affect the rule of law." Reacting to these remarks, Prof Chowdhury said he did not make any aspersion on the judiciary. "I have spoken against the government, not against judiciary," Chowdhury said adding that the government did not oppose adequately against the bail petition of Ershad Even the Attorney General reportedly did not go to the court

to oppose the last bail prayer, Referring to newspaper reports, Prof Chowdhury further said that Ershad was rather provided with the opportunity of talking with a minister over cellular prione while the latter was in sub-jail.

bail prayer of Ershad went unopposed by the government. He said that if allowed one week's time he was ready to place in the House the court proceedings relating to the trial of Ershad. M K Alam Chowdhury of the Jatiya Party told the Speaker,

ground that it was sub-judice. He went on to claim that Ershad had appeared to be the balance of power. "The JP can make and unmake a government in the country," he added. Foreign Minister Abdus

Law Minister Abdul Matin took the floor to claim that no plenty of opportunity to oppose the bill. The minister accepted

at this point, that he should not allow the House to discuss anyof the BNP. thing relating to the under-trial cases against Ershad on the bling and consuming wine could not be introduced as Delwar Hossain Sayeedi of Jamaat the proposed mover of the bill,

Samad Azad stood to protest against the remark of the JP 4:00 pm to resume again at 11 legislator, saying: " It is none but Allah who can make and am on Sunday.

unmake a government." Then Opposition Chief Whip Khandaker Delwar Hossain

The Opposition leader also claimed that the AL had been maintaining an unholy alliance with Ershad from the time President Ziaur Rahman was killed.

Apparently unwilling to en-

ter into another, sensitive de-

bate. Speaker Humayun Rashid

Ershad be produced in the

Chowdhury switched off Delwar Hossain's microphone. Earlier, Salauddin Quader Chowdhury of BNP introduced a bill seeking amendment to the Special Powers Act, 1974 with a view to, what he said, stop abuse of certain provisions of the law.

Ready to oppose the intro-duction of the bill, the Law Minister could not get the floor as the Speaker, apparently by mistake, did not call 'anyone willing to oppose the introduction." Later, the Speaker told the Law Minister that he would get

Another bill, seeking an amendment to the Administrative Tribunal Act, was introduced unopposed by M K Anwar A bill seeking ban on gam-

the Chair's argument.

was absent from the House. The Speaker deferred the introduction of the bill to the next private members' day. The House was adjourned at

CHITTAGONG, Jan 23: Mug-

ing because of indisposition. of his assistants in the Liaison took the floor to accept the challenge of the Law Minister and demanded that all the court proceedings of the cases against

PM's Relief Fund

From Page 1

raised the fund again. A debate also sparked off

gir said no NGO was involved in politics and the rules and regulations for NGO operations do not give any scope for political involvement. The State Minister for Plan-

bazar, witnesses said.

started throwing bombs at the

which one mugger was killed. scene leaving behind the autorickshaw Police caught one of

The body of the alleged mug-

Sutrapur thana.

Match notes From Page 1

Wimbledon in 1887 when she was 15 years. 10 moths.

Ranking Projections

No matter the outcome of the final, Steffi Graf will stay at No l. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario

Karina Habsudova will be No

ing Awami League is 175, BNP 113, Jatiya Party 33, Jamaat 3, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal, Rab (JSD) 1, Islamic Oikya Jote (IOJ) 1 and Independent 2.

constituencies are due. Of the

the government and also joined the cabinet.

ness." he said in the Jatiya

cidents would not be repeated. The BNP MP said the House is now running in a democratic and congenial atmosphere and,

of a fellow parliament member.