TO

RAPED

Sammilita Nari Samaj organ-

ised a rally in front of the

Jatiya Press Club yesterday

demanding trial of Shima's

Nari Samaj rally

Punishment to

killers of Yasmin,

Shima demanded

joint body of women's organisa

tions, yesterday alleged that the

women all over the country

were now falling victim to the

of the Jatiya Press Club in the

afternoon, the leaders of Nari

Samaj called upon the political

parties to consider the incidents

of rape and murder of Yasmin

"It's painful that the politi

cal parties are trying to gain

their own political interest

capitalising on the incidents

instead of playing their due role

in mounting pressure on the

government to bring the cul

prits to book," the press release

organised the rally demanding

exemplary punishment to those responsible for the rape and

killing of Yasmin and Shima in

The National Garments

They called upon the politi-

Workers Federation and Nari

Pakkha also expressed their

cal parties to refrain from using

the incidents of women repres-

sion as political issues. "You

can rather raise your voice for

trial of the culprits," the press

among others, by Maleka Be-

gum, Farida Akhter, Shabana

Habibunnesa. Shirin Akhter

The rally was addressed

'so-called' safe custody.

solidarity with the rally.

release said.

The Sammilita Nari Sama

and Shima as identical.

Addressing a rally in front

state repression, reports UNB.

Sammilita Nari Samaj, a

killers.

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Visitors at the Ekushey Book Fair at the Bangla Academy premises (L) and JCD procession —Star photo with black flags near the TSC(R) yesterday.

Bhasantek land

From Page

torate of the Works Ministry. It was handed over to the Handloom Board, a wing of the Textile Ministry, to develop Benarasi Palli', under an ambitious Tk 20 crore project to spur the cottage industry into a vibrant sector.

In December last year, after repeated reminders, the PWD assembled an inter-departmental meeting to clear the land for handing over to the Handloom Board. A highly-placed source said, the end-December meeting, attended by officials concerned as well as two ruling party MPs, Moqbul Ahmed and Rahmatullah, finalised arrangement for handing over the land to the board. Kamal Ahmed Majumder, MP from Mirpur, was unable to attend the meeting but reportedly gave

his approval, the sources added After necessary formalities. including notifying the occupiers of the public land, as part of a re-run of similar urgings the eviction process began on January 9. After about 35 per cent of clearing, the process was suspended before Ramadan, the

sources said. But everything went topsy turvey when work resumed Monday. In the evening at the Jatiya Sangsad, a group of locals, leaders of some NGOs, in cluding Dr Kazi Faruq Ahmed. the Chairman of ADAB lobbied with the Prime Minister. She despatched a team of MPs headed by Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah to investigate. The MPs were Rahmatullah. Ahsanullah Master and Akhteruzzaman, all ruling party MPs, the latter two from

Mr Khan's home district Gazipur When contacted Afsaruddin Ahmed Khan, younger brother of Tajuddin Ahmed, said he learnt about his 'sacking' from newspapers yesierday. At 12-45 pm Cabinet Secretary Ataul Hug telephoned him to convey that he was sending a letter of resignation, which arrived at his residence. "I signed my resignation letter at 1 p. m., Khan

He said the Bhashantek slum dwellers were not evicted forcibly. After they were asked through public address system to have, they voluntarily left

D-210

the place Sunday, he said.

Since the AL government led by Sheikh Hasina took charge in late June, at least 75 per cent of the 40 acres of Bhashantek were filled with earth at a cost of Tk 13 crore to dress it for the Benarasi Palli. The project, originally named as Rawshan Palli after Rawshan Ershad, was taken up during Ershad's

Asked if a dispute over a house in Luxibazar had anything to do with his departure, Khan said "that is my property and there is no dispute over it. It has no bearing on my resignation". He, however, declined to elaborate further.

A representative of the NGOs working in Bhashantek slum told The Daily Star that a delegation of the NGOs met the PM at her parliament office to apprise her of the 'harrowing tales' of eviction of the slum dwellers. He said three weeks ago the NGO delegation had met the PM who assured them that there would be no eviction till an alternative arrangement for their rehabilitation was made. He said riot police and bulldozers were used to demolish the slum, inhabited by about ten thousand people. The NGOs are ADAB, Proshika, Nijera Kori, Nari Progoti Sangha etc.

Satellite towns to be built up near EPZs

The government has decided to build satellite towns near export processing zones (EPZs) of the country in a planned way reports BSS

EPZs from now on will be built on 1500 acres instead of 1000 acres to facilitate the growing of satellite township.

The decision was taken yesterday in the 12th meeting of the board of governors of Bangladesh Export Processing Zone Authority (BEPZA) at the Prime Minister's Office with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

The board of governors also decided in principle to construct an EPZ near Mongla port

Book Fair opens

From Page 1

people to contribute in establishing Bangla in every sphere of national life with its due status and dignity.

"Could we fulfil our com mitments to the mother tongue even after 50 years of sacrifices in the Language Movement and two and a half decades of independence?" she said. She said on February 15

1971, father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman announced that "the day from which we will get self rule, we will take initiative to use Bangla in every sphere.' But, after the brutal killing

of Bangabandhu on August 15, 1975. a deep-rooted conspiracy was started against Bangalee and Bangla language to destroy the spirit of Liberation War and misinterpret nationalism, Hasina said.

As a result, she said, the steps taken by the father of the nation could not yield the desired result even after long 25

Hasina paid tributes to the martyrs of the language movement, including Salam, Jabbar Rafiq, Shafiuddin and Salaud-

She also recalled the role of Shaheed Dhirendra Nath Dutta, who raised the demand in the then Pakistan Gano Parishad for establishing Bangla as the state language and those who laid down their lives in independence movement, liberation war and other democratic movements of the country.

JCD protests

From Page 1 Sheikh Hasina's going to the campus for inaugurating the

Bangla Academy Wearing black badges, the leaders and workers of the JCD also tried to move towards the Bangla Academy but were stopped by police at the Hakim Chattar area near the university library. Later JCD held a rally there.

Ekushey Book Fair at the

Garments factory owner arrested

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Feb 18: Police arrested late Monday night the Managing Director and an employee of a garments factory for allegedly monitoring and tracking the frequency of the Foreign Ministry's wireless network with their walkie

afternoon. The council was formed two years ago, but no meeting was

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said national development will not be possible leaving the women, who constitute half of the country's population backward, reports

If the women remained illiterate and kept out of the development process, the fruit of democracy will not reach the people, she told the first meet-ing of National Women Devel-opment Council (NWDC) at the

Legal notice on 4 govt officers

four government officers yesterday challenging the practice of imprisoning women and girls in the name of 'safe cus-

Secretary, the Secretary of the Ministry of Law and Parliamentary Affairs, the Inspector General of Police and the Inspector General of Prisons, according to a press release issued by Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust.

on behalf of three human rights organisations. They are: Ain-O-Salish Kendro, National Legal Aid Network and Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust.

The notice called upon the government to issue directives to the police and the jail authorities to review the cases in which women and girls were in 'safe' custody and to arrange for orders of 'safe' custody to be vacated or withdrawn by February 23, failing which a writ petition would be filed before the High Court Division in the public interest, the press release added.

The human rights organisations said in their notice that imprisoning women and girls by placing them in 'safe' custody has no basis in law and is a violation of their fundamental rights as guaranteed by the Constitution of Bangladesh.

Meanwhile, the Coordina tion Council for Human Rights in Bangladesh (CCHRB) and the Bangladesh Mahila Parishad in separate statements vesterday expressed concern over the death of Shima Chowdhury while in 'safe' custody at the Chittagong jail.

hold a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club and bring out a procession in the city today protesting the 'rape and killing' of Shima.

Priyanka gets married

NEW DELHI, Feb 18: Privanprime minister Rajiv Gandhi powerful political dynasty, got married here today at a low-

There were almost as many elite paramilitary bodyguards around the venue as guests in-

Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda and President Shankar Dayal Sharma were invited to the ceremony.

tion over-limit cricket championship open in front of expectant full house crowd. The regional meet also includes Sri Lanka A and defending champions India A, who were the last among the three foreign teams to arrive in the capital yester-

cover all the seven matches live while Bangladesh Betar will provide ball by ball commentary of the proceedings from the Bangladesh, the only team

in the fray sans Test status, will be led by Akram Khan while string side of Pakistan.

Women's role in dev must to achieve 7pc growth rate: PM

Prime Minister's office in the

held during this period. Hasina, who is also the chairperson of the 42-member NWDC, lamented that no economic evaluation of women's contribution to the national development was made.

"If the women's labour are properly evaluated, the national income can be raised by 20 to 30 per cent," she said.

"We want to remove illiteracy within 10 years and raise the economic growth rate by seven per cent," she said. "But it is not possible to achieve the target leaving the women back-She added: "We believe fruit

of democracy and speedy economic development can only be achieved if we can involve women in every sphere of the The Prime Minister said working plan for the national

policy for women development has been taken up on the basis of political commitment and as pledged in the 1996 election manifesto. It will be incorporated in the 5th Five-Year Plan.

Yasmin murder trial resumes today

From Our Correspondent RANGPUR, Feb 18: Trial of all nine accused in the sensational Yasmin Murder and Rape Case will resume in the District and Sessions Judges Court, Rangpur tomorrow.

All the nine accused are facing trial under Section 201 (34).

Shibir calls strike at RU today

From RU Correspondent RAJSHAHI, Feb 18: The Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS), Rajshahi University unit has called a strike on the campus tomorrow protesting the removal of Prof M Yousuf Ali from the office of the Vice Chancellor.

The ICS is also demanding the cancellation of the order appointing Prof M Abdul Khaleque as Vice Chancellor.

PM: JS norms

From Page 1 Mujibur Rahman as 'Father of

the Nation.' The BNP MPs found the observation to be "unconstitutional and politically bi-The BNP MPs later told

newsmen outside the House that they went out of the House for the second time following the Speaker's refusal to give them scope to explain how his (Speaker's) stance on the issue was constitutionally wrong. Before making the appeal, the Prime Minister said that the BNP MPs had violated all

norms of parliamentary democracy by repeatedly protesting against a ruling of the Speaker. Quoting from the book Practice and Procedure of Parliament,' the Prime Minister

said that none could protest against a ruling of the Speaker except on a substantive motion. She also pointed out to the Chair that no MP had the right

to criticise the Speaker's ruling in and outside the House. "Any criticism of a ruling amounted to committing contempt of Parliament and Speaker", she added. The Leader of the House al-

leged that the BNP had violated the four-point agreement signed with the ruling party. She pointed out that one of the four points in the accord was that they (BNP) would help run the business of Parliament as per the Constitution and the Rules "They have not only violated

the norms of parliamentary democracy, they have also damaged the property of Par-liament including chairs, files and so on", Hasina said "People will not like these things," she

Youths go on rampage in city, vehicles damaged

By Staff Correspondent

About ten motor vehicles were damaged when a group of unidentified youths went on the rampage on Mirpur Road in front of Dhaka College yesterday evening.

The incident occurred when the youths reportedly the students of Dhaka College, brought out a procession demanding rescheduling of Honours part-3 examinations of 1996 under the National University, according to police and witnesses.

AL leader shot dead in Kushtia

From Our Correspondent KUSHTIA, Feb 18: An Awami League leader and Jhaudia union parishad Chairman Abdul Aziz was killed when gunmen opened fire on him at

Speaker vows

From Page 1

Sukhdevpur last night.

Siddiki said, all but some clauses of the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution were scraped in 1979. Sheikh Mujib is recognised as the Father of the Nation in the last two clauses of the amendment, Siddiki said promising that he would resign from this Parliament if he failed to prove and show it. Siddiki was yet to complete

his statement when he was interrupted by Humayun Rashid Chowdhury who was presiding over yesterday's stormy session. "I will also resign from the office of the Speaker, if I fail to show that Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman is still recognised by the Constitution as the Father of the Na-The Speaker earlier said it

was the constitutional obligation for all to accept Mujib as the Father of the Nation.

JATI Bill '95 passed

The Jatiya Sangsad yester-day unanimously passed the Judicial Administration Training Institute (JATI) Bill-1995 in amended form as returned to the House by the special committee after due examinations, reports BSS.

Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Abdul Matin Khashru moved the

judicial system independent the committee in its proposed amendment recommended that the Chief Justice would head the governing body of the institute.

ber Dr Rustom Ali Farazee and Advocate N K Alam Chowdhury moved amendments on the Bill which were rejected by the House by voice vote.

PM apologises

"I directed the minister

happened," said Hasina. Visibly moved by the plight of the evicted people, the Prime Minister said, "I seek your apology for this sad incident. I'm not only the Prime Minister. I'm the daughter of the father of the nation. Premiership is not precious to me, your love

Her father Bangabandhu

She said politics of Bangabandhu was to serve the people, give shelter to the distressed ones, and not to make them homeless. "I'm following that spirit of politics, the politics for

Rafiqul Islam, and Awami League leaders Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Advocate Shahara Khatoon, Momtaz Ahmed and

Facilities for RMG exporters

esources division, said.

told this correspondent that the NBR has agreed to provide a number of special facilities to the Readymade Garments (RMG) manufacturers and exporters in releasing goods from the cus-

the problems of the readymade garments manufacturers and exporters when a BGMEA delegation led by its president Anisur Rahman Sinha met him at his office on Monday. According to the decisions,

ately to minimise the lengthy and complex process of releasing the raw materials through green channel. Renewal of the special bond

licence for readymade garments will be made easier so that the licence can be renewed automatically by paying the re-

Necessary steps will be taken to simplify the process of re-exporting the imported raw materials declared defective.

The stiff rules regarding import of fabrics for making samples will be relaxed so that the exporters can import sample fabrics after entering those

cess in issuing short shipment certificate, the NBR has decided to consider only certified phominal receipt.

try of pass book. To remove the problems in determining the width of the

tended. A decision has been taken to issue four copies of the main utilisation declaration (UD) to the bond holder to minimise the problems in releasing goods from different customs points

প্রোজেকশন মিটিং বিসমিল্লাহির রাহ্মানির রাহিম

সম্মিলিত পরিষদ প্যানেল পরিচিতি

আছে ১৯শে ফেব্ৰুয়ারী ১৯৭ চট্টগ্রাম ২৩শে ফেব্ৰুয়ারী '১৭ জোন-১ ও পোশাক শিল্প মালিকদের সাথে মত বিনিময় সভা রয়েল গার্ডেন কমিউনিটি

> দল নেতা : মোন্তফা গোলাম কুদুছ ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, ড্রাগন গ্রুপ

মোহামদগুর জোমের সভা হোটেল সোমারগাঁও বদরুমে বিকেশ ৫টা। ২৪শে ফেব্রুয়ারী '৯৭ কেন্দ্রীয় গ্ৰোডোকশন সভা হোটেল লোনাবাণীও পুল সাইড বিকেল ৫টা।

কে এম জামান (রোমেল বাবস্থাপনা পরিচালক আশা গার্মেন্টস লি ्टागेट न**्.**ऽ३८

ভোটার লং-১১৪৮

মোঃ নাছির উদ্দিন ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, এন ক্ষেত্ত এন গার্মেন্টস লিঃ ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, ভ্যালিয়েন্ট গার্মেন্টস লিঃ

মাহবুব আলী

বেস্থাপনা পরিচালক স্যামারণ ফ্যাশন লিঃ

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সমস্থ্যকারী ও চেয়ারমান সমন্বয়কারী ও এম, ডি মেহের প্রদেশ

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Bill in the House for passage. He said in order to make the

Earlier, Jatiya Party mem-

From Page 1

were demolished by 10 bulldoz-

(Afsaruddin) not to evict the people before making alternative dwelling arrangements for them. But, unfortunately, it

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman gave the shelter to the rootless people who had been displaced by river erosion in the Bhasantek Basti in 1974.

he people. Home Minister Major (retd)

Kazi Faruque Ahmed of Proshika also addressed.

From Page 1

Sources in the BGMEA also

The NBR chairman discussed

the BGMEA members will be able to release their goods from the customs under a general bond declaration system throughout the year instead of the existing risk bond or duty bond against every consignment of imported raw materi-

Steps will be taken immedi-

Rahman, Nasrin Haq, advocate and advocate Sultana Akhter

on the pass book. To remove the lengthy pro-

tocopy of shipping bill or ter-The third copy of the shipping bill will also be included in the entry process to ease the en-

cloth, the width will be considered from niddlemark to niddlemark. The four months' time for importing raw materials without loan certificate will be ex-

on the basis of one UD copy.

২২শে ফেব্রুয়ারী '৯৭ মিরপুর-

গুলশান জোনের সভা হোটেগ

সোনারগাঁও বলরুমে বিকেল ৫টায়।

Test discard Asif Mujtaba will lead the star-studded second BNP walks out of JS

From Page 1 Following Mansur, another Treasury bencher Akhteruzzaman also rose to say that Bangabandhu's portraits were hung at the government offices as per a decision of the Cabinet. "Defying the Cabinet decision tantamounts to revolting against an elected government" he viewed.

jibur Rahman is the Father of the Nation as per the Constitution of the country." In his repeatedly announced ruling, the Speaker, maintained that Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was recognised by the Constitution as the Father of the Nation and no law

Speaker Humayun Rashid

Choudhury repeated his ruling that "Bangabandhu Sheikh Mu-

BNP's second walkout followed a half-an-hour pandemonium by the party lawmakers over the ruling. However, BNP lawmakers did not return to the House on the day. During the pandemonium, the angry BNP members passed

changing his status had vet

been enacted.

filthy words to the Chair, disrupted the proceedings through continuous hitting of desks with the files. Some of them were also seen throwing papers and exchanging remarks with the Treasury benchers. In his bid to restore normalcy in the House, the Speaker once stood up to repeat his ruling and charged some BNP members, still passing comments to the Chair, for violating the Constitution. "A ruling by the Chair can't

be questioned...doing so tantamounts to the violation of the JS Rules of Procedure...", said the Speaker urging the Opposition MPs to abide by the Constitution and the JS rules. During the debate, the Treasury bench members pointed

out that the fourth amendment to the Constitution recognised Bangabandhu as the Father of the Nation but the fifth amendment scrapping the previous one did not contain the last two clauses in the fourth amendment regarding Bangabandhu's status as the Father of the Nation. They also condemned non-inclusion of the two clauses in the post-fifth amendment editions of the Constitution and demanded immediate printing of the unscrapped parts of the Constitu-

As the Opposition MPs started a hue and cry, the Speaker told the House that any act of defamation of the Father of the Nation was violation of the Constitution. Later, Industries and Commerce Minister Tofael Ahmed.

Telecommunications Minister

Mohammad Nasim, Rahmat

Ali, Suranjit Sengupta and Kader Siddiki of the ruling party and Prof Badruddoza Choudhury, Abdul Mannan and Shamsuzzaman Dudu of the BNP also participated in the stormy debate. Besides, Dr Alauddin, Mashiur Rahman and Zafrul Hassan Choudhury of the BNP. given the floor to read their re-

jected notices, also spoke re-

questing the Chair to allow the Deputy Leader of the Opposition to deliberate further on the UNB adds: Later briefing newsmen BNP charged the Speaker with violating the constitution through his ruling recognising Sheikh Mujibur

Chowdhury said the Speaker cannot give ruling on a matter which has no existence in the Constitution. Talking with the journalists in his Parliament chamber shortly after BNP's second walkout, he said: Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury

Rahman as "father of the na-

tion Prof AQM Badrudozza

Deputy Leader of the Opposi-

and had been omitted long ago. Prof Chowdhury said Awami League, as they wish, could call Sheikh Mujib "father of the nation," but the Speaker cannot impose it on others.

foisted on us the ruling on a

term which has no existence



মোঃ নুকুল ইসলাম

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Shima's death

By Staff Correspondent A legal notice was served on

The officers are the Home

The legal notice was served

The Mahila Parishad will

ka Gandhi, daughter of former and a member of India's most key, private ceremony, reports

Around 120 guests, including

Cricket From Page 1

Bangladesh Television will

of Procedure.