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## First 6 months 76 pc of ADP expenditure target achieved

An amount of Tk 4,227 crore was spent under the Annual Development Programme (ADP) during the first six months of the current fiscal year (1996-97), reports UNB.

The amount is 34 per cent of the total size of the ADP of Tk 12,500 crore and 76 per cent of expenditure targeted for the first six months.

This was disclosed at a review meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) at its conference room yesterday.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presided over the meeting, said an official handout.

It was explained in the course of the discussion that be-

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## 2 bills passed to bolster SEC

Parliament yesterday passed two bills to bolster the Securities and Exchange Commission to protect investors' interest effectively and efficiently, reports UNB.

Finance Minister Shah A M S Kibria piloted both the bills — the Securities and Exchange (Amendment) Bill 1997 and the Securities and Exchange (Amendment) Bill 1997.

The House was half-empty when the first Bill, the Securities and Exchange (Amendment) Bill 1997.

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## Announcement

Results of the Banking Diploma Examinations (first and second part), held in October '96 are on Page-9

# Deng passes away



**BELJING, Feb 19:** Deng Xiaoping passed away because of illness in Beijing at 21:08 today at the age of 93, it was announced here tonight, reports Xinhua.

The announcement was made by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China, the State Council of the PRC, the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), and the Central Military Commissions of the CPC and the PRC.

The announcement was contained in a letter to the whole party, the whole army and the people of various ethnic groups throughout the country.

The letter says, "these organs proclaim with profound grief to the whole party, the whole army and the people of all ethnic groups throughout the country that our beloved comrade Deng Xiaoping who had suffered the advanced stage of parkinsons disease with complications of lung infections passed away because of the failure of the respiration circulating functions after failing to emergency treatment, in Beijing at 21:08 on February 19, 1997, at the age of 93.

The letter says that comrade Deng Xiaoping was an outstanding leader enjoying high prestige acknowledged by the party, the army and the people of all ethnic groups throughout China, a great Marxist, a great proletarian

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## BNP returns to House

# Speaker's appeal to 'uphold JS dignity

By Staff Correspondent

Speaker Humayun Rashid Choudhury has appealed to all members of the Jatiya Sangsad to uphold the sanctity and image of the House by maintaining courtesy.

"It's very natural that differences of opinion in politics will exist. But it will not be wise to integrate the political differences with personal relations or do something harmful to the nation," the Speaker said in a written observation, made just before adjourning the session at 9.48 last night.

The Speaker read his observation after Deputy Leader of the Opposition Prof Badruddoza Choudhury told the House that his party did not reject Tuesday's ruling by the Chair (recognising Bangabandhu

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as Father of the Nation).

"We did not show disrespect to you or the Chair, but none should curb our right as lawmakers to express our difference on a ruling," Prof Chowdhury said after his party returned to the House at 8:15 pm. The BNP lawmakers had walked out of the House the day before protesting the Speaker's ruling that the Constitution still uphold Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as Father of the Nation.

Referring to a recent ruling which the Deputy Speaker had agreed to review following a protest from the BNP MPs, Prof Chowdhury said, "the Deputy Speaker did not take the protest

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## Telecom minister owes Tk 2.59 lakh to T&T

By Staff Correspondent

Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim told the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday that the government was expecting to realise soon outstanding telephone bills from 400 former MPs.

The amount of unpaid telephone bills of some members of the third, fourth and fifth parliaments stands at over Tk five crore four lakh.

The minister himself, as a former member of the fifth Parliament, owes Tk 2,58,654 to the T&T Board, according to the list of defaulters provided by the minister in his reply to a question from Jatiya Party MP Md Rustam Ali Farazi.

Mohammad Nasim said, various ministries and government departments owed Tk 117,28,96,773 to the T&T Board from till June 30, 1996.

Nasim informed the House that the Telephone Revenue Officer of the T&T Board and the

See Page 12 Col 3

## Hearing of Bangabandhu murder case resumes today

Star Report

Hearing of the Bangabandhu murder case is scheduled to resume at the Court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) today.

The six arrested accused chargedsheeted in the case, may be produced before the court today. The CMM may also commit the accused to the court of the District and Sessions Judge if all necessary formalities in connection with the case are completed.

A total of 24 persons were chargedsheeted in the case. Six of them were arrested, while 14 were absconding and four others were not sent up for trial as they were dead.

The six arrested accused are: Lt Col (dismissed) Syed Farookur Rahman; Lt Col (relieved) Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan; Taheruddin Thakur, former minister of state for information; Lt Col Mohiuddin Ahmed, Acting Director, BNCC, Dhaka; Capt Hon. Abdul Wahab Jarder, and Begum Zobaida Rashid, wife of Lt Col (dismissed) A Rashid Khan-daker.

## Businessman stabbed to death in N'ganj

From Our Correspondent

**NARAYANGANJ, Feb 19:** A 55-year-old man was stabbed to death at Ailpara under Shid-dhirganj thana this morning.

Azizur Rahman, a businessman was attacked when he went out of his house for morning walk at about 6:45 am. The armed gang stabbed him repeatedly. He died on the spot, police said.

The motive behind the killing could not be known immediately. However, police said, the murder was the result of a previous rivalry.

The Awami League, Narayanganj town unit claimed that Azizur was a leader of the Godanil unit of the party.

Meanwhile, the people of Ailpara and adjoining localities protesting the killing put up barricades on the Narayanganj-See Page 12 Col 1

## Yasmin murder Depositions of 5 recorded

From Our Correspondent

**RANGPUR, Feb 19:** The hearing of the sensational Yasmin rape and murder case resumed in the court of the district and sessions judge, Rangpur today. The court recorded the depositions of five prosecution witnesses including the mother of Yasmin.

The other witnesses examined and cross-examined in the court today included Nurul Huda, a shop owner of 'Daash Mile', Abdul Hares, a businessman, Tabibar Rahman, a resident of Daash Mile and Abdus Sobhan, an employee of Dinajpur Anjuman-e-Mafidul Islam.

Abdus Sobhan told the court that he buried Yasmin, first on August 24, 1995. Later the body was exhumed for another autopsy after which he buried her again on August 28.

Earlier on Feb 3 and 4 seven witnesses including the investigating officer Md Afzal Hossain testified in the court.

## BCL sets up 80 stalls outside Bangla Academy

Star Report

Some activists of the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), the student wing of the ruling Awami League, have set up some 80 stalls outside the Academy premises, violating the code of conduct adopted at a joint meeting of the student and cultural organisations with the Bangla Academy, sources at the

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Bangladesh Mohila Parishad organised a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday protesting repression on women. — Star photo

## Nari Samaj for amendments to '95 Act

# Severe punishment for attempted crime, police negligence suggested

By Staff Correspondent

Sammilitiya Nari Samaj, a Combine of women's organisation yesterday suggested a draft of the Women and Children Repression Amendment (special provision) Act, 1995, in order to prevent rape and murder of women under custody of law and police by removing its existing loopholes.

The draft will be given to the Law Minister for consideration and placing of it in the Jatiya Sangsad for discussion and approval.

The Nari Samaj discussed its draft of the amendment at a workshop at the WVA auditorium in the city. It was participated by the Samaj leaders, women members of parliament, lawyers, leaders of other women's organisations and journalists. Barrister Amirul Islam was the key resource person at

the workshop.

As per the Nari Samaj proposal, this act will be known as Women and Children Repression (Special Provision) Act, 1997.

The draft contains a new section under which one convicted of an 'attempted' crime (punishable under it) would be subject to 10 years of imprisonment. The present act does not have any provision for punishment in case of 'attempted' crimes.

Another new section has been added to protect women and children from crimes committed by police while in custody. It says that if a woman or a child, kept in the custody of police or jail, is raped or killed, the persons responsible for keeping them in custody will be responsible for negligence and

failure to play their role and they would be subject to rigorous imprisonment for a maximum of 10 years and a fine of Tk 10,000. In default of payment of the fine, the persons would suffer further two years of rigorous imprisonment. The money realised as fine would be given to the family of the victims.

"Under this newly added section, the officer in charge of a police station who might deny his responsibility for rapes committed by some constables, under the current law will be tried for their failure to ensure safety of victims under his custody," said Barrister Amirul Islam.

Chaired by Khushi Kabir of the Nari Samaj, the workshop was participated by among others

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# MORHUMA RAZIA SATTAR'S CHEHLAM TODAY



Chehlam of the Late Begum Razia Sattar, wife of Late Alhaj A. Sattar former Chairman of Hotel Purbani Internaional and Managing Director of Pharmadesh Laboratories Ltd., will be held today (Thursday) 20th February'97.

On this occasion a Milad Mahfil will be held after Asar prayer today at 5.00 p.m. at the residence of the deceased at House No. 8, Road No. 34, Gulshan, Dhaka.

All relatives and well-wishers of the deceased are requested to attend the Milad Mahfil and pray for salvation of the departed soul of Morhuma Razia Sattar.

FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE DECEASED

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**TOO LATE BROTHER:** Pakistan A skipper Asif Mujtaba seems to say to a grounded Khaled Masud, the Bangladesh wicketkeeper who whipped the bails off in a bid to stump the left-hander off slow left-arm Enamul Haq's bowling in the inaugural match of the third SAARC cricket tournament at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Man-of-the-match Mujtaba scored a half century as the Pakistan side chalked up a convincing six-wicket victory over the hosts. (Story on Page 10) — Star photo

## Sub-regional cooperation 'Distrust, suspicions have to be removed'

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at a 'Dialogue on Interactions with Indian Bordering States' in the city yesterday observed that past suspicions and inhibitions continue to mystify and hinder the prospects of sub-regional cooperation and stressed the need for a change in the mindset of the people in order to forge closer links with neighbouring

areas for greater economic co-operation and prosperity.

They felt that distrust and suspicion, which were 'baggage of the past' had to be removed to pave the way for greater sub-regional cooperation among Bangladesh, the adjoining states of north eastern India, Bhutan and Nepal.

The two-day dialogue spread over four sessions organised by the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS), which began at its auditorium yesterday, was inaugurated by Finance Minister S A M S Kibria. It was addressed by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, Former Foreign Secretary A K H Morshed and Acting Director of BISS Brigadier Shahedul Anam Khan.

The Finance Minister said that the historic water-sharing treaty signed in December between Bangladesh and India was a manifestation of a new spirit of cooperation and it had

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## Rule Nisi on govt for showcase on BB official

By Staff Correspondent

A Division Bench of the High Court comprising Justice Mainur Reza Choudhury and Justice M A Aziz issued a Rule Nisi on the government to show cause within two weeks why a showcase notice served by the Finance Ministry on Mahbubur Rahman Khan, deputy governor of Bangladesh Bank,

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