

## Expulsion of 74 SSC examinees sparks violence, student killed in police firing

COMILLA, Mar 13: A student was killed when police fired on a mob who went on rampage after the expulsion of SSC candidates at Chowddagram High School centre today, reports UNB.

Officials and witnesses said some 30 people including 13 policemen were also injured in the clash. Five of them sustained bullet wounds in the police firing.

Witnesses said Shah Alam, a Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinee of Chowddagram Government College, died on the spot.

Police said they had to fire 20 teargas shells and 40 bullets to tame the crowd who went berserk setting fire to public property and damaging vehicles after barricading the Dhaka-Chittagong highway.

The trouble ensued at about 11 am after seven magistrates. See Page 12 Col 4

## Dakhil examinees agitate: Three policemen hurt

From Our Correspondent  
SHERPUR, Mar 13: Three policemen including the Officer-in-Charge of Sherpur thana, were injured when angry students threw brick bats at them here today.

According to police, the students started agitating when a magistrate expelled three Dakhil examinees from the Idishia Madrasha Centre. The students, led by one Monwar Hossain, attacked police on See Page 12 Col 6

## Objective exam of DB SSC Eng 2nd paper postponed

The objective examination of English second paper of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) to be held on March 15 has been postponed due to unavoidable reasons, reports BSS.

The narrative part of the same paper will be held as per schedule, a press release of the Dhaka Board said here last night.

The time table for the postponed examination will be announced later on.

## HSC exams from May 8

The Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinations 1997 under five education boards of the country will begin on May 8, reports UNB.

Details of the examination schedule will be announced from the concerned boards in due time, said an official announcement yesterday.

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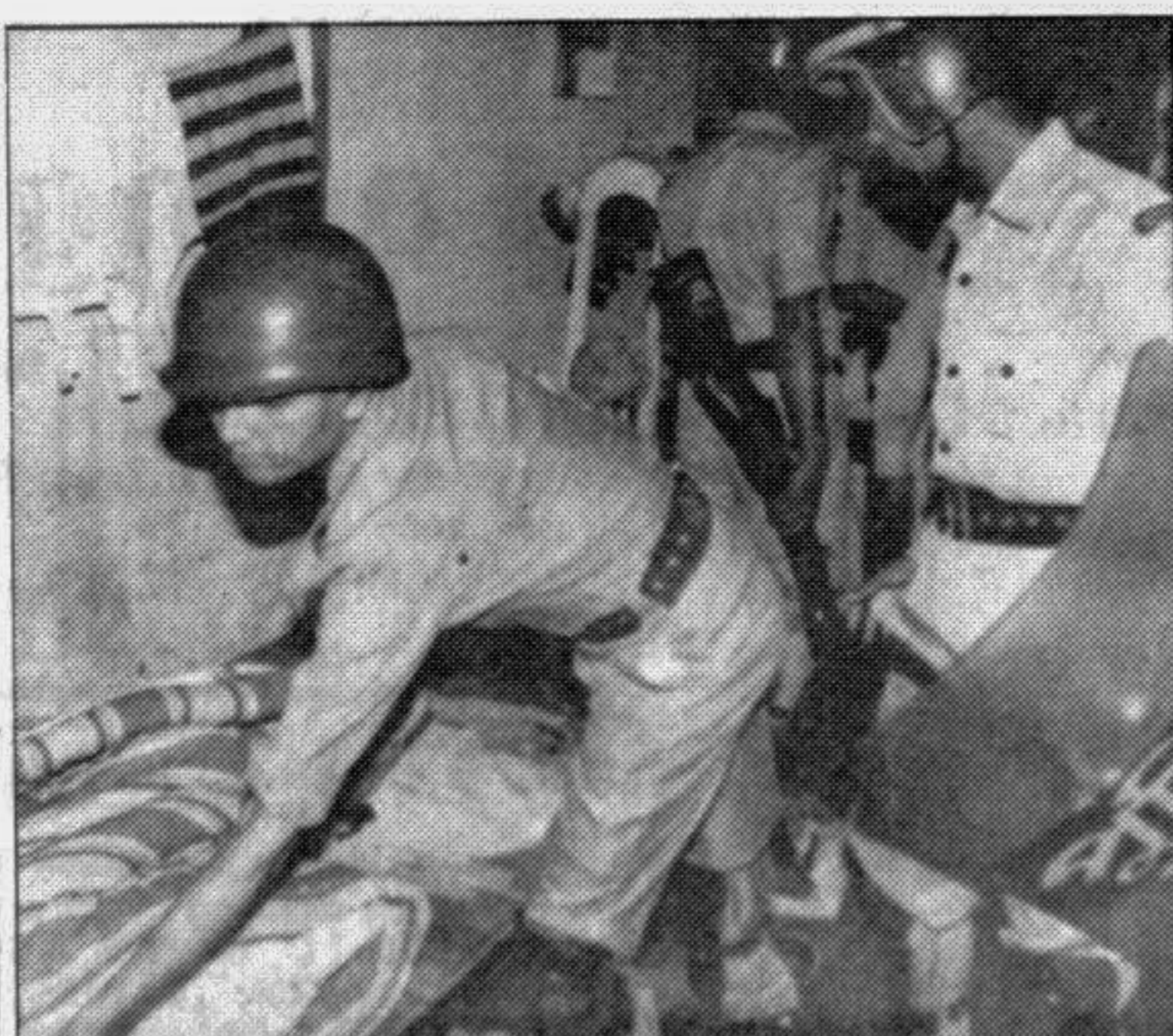
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## Case against 22: Police raid halls DU student gunned down



Grief-stricken relatives of a DU student who was killed yesterday.

—Star photo



Police searching a room in a Dhaka University hall after a student was killed yesterday.

—Star photo

By DU Correspondent

A student of Dhaka University was gunned down by a group of armed men, allegedly belonging to a faction of pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall on the campus early yesterday morning.

Arif Hossain Taj, a third year student of Bangla Department, was bullet-hit in his chest and shoulder and died on the spot. He hailed from Surdia in Chuadanga, according to residents of the hall.

Besides, at least five others including three students of the university were injured in the incident.

A group of JCD activists of a rival faction attacked Bangabandhu Hall in a bid to 'capture' it at about 5:30 am, said some resident students.

The three injured students were identified as Shamsul, Biplob and Liton. The two others injured in the attack are Mezbahuddin Sujon and Shabbir Mezbahuddin Sujon was admitted to a hospital.

See Page 12 Col 3

## Help for Ganges Barrage sought Dhaka, Delhi agree to restore train services

Bangladesh and India have agreed to restore rail services between the two countries and also decided to examine restoration of other cross-border linkages to give a boost to bilateral cooperation, reports UNB.

The traffic Communications were disrupted following the Indo-Pakistan war in 1965.

An agreement to this effect was reached at the 5th meeting of the India-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission that concluded in New Delhi on Wednesday.

The meeting, held in a cor-

dial atmosphere, had taken several decisions to expand cooperation between the two countries, particularly in trade and economic fields. Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad told newsmen in the city yesterday.

Azad, who led the Bangladesh side to the three-day meeting, returned to Dhaka yesterday afternoon. The host team was led by Indian Foreign Minister I K Gujral.

The copies of the agreed minutes initiated by the two foreign ministers were supplied See Page 12 Col 1

## Pakistan supports sub-regional grouping: FM

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad said Pakistan supports the planned sub-regional cooperation in the eastern Himalayan region, reports UNB.

"Foreign Minister of the last caretaker government of Pakistan Shahabzada Yakub Khan has endorsed it," Azad told a questioner while talking to newsmen at the airport upon his return from New Delhi yesterday afternoon.

The Bangladesh Foreign Minister forwarded the proposal of the planned sub-regional cooperation within the SAARC to the latest meeting of the SAARC Council of Ministers.

Held in New Delhi last December, the meeting was attended by Yakub Khan.

The proposed sub-regional cooperation groups Bangladesh, See Page 12 Col 2



Sister Nirmala who has replaced Mother Teresa as the head of the Missionaries of Charity order yesterday. (Sroty on Page 5)

—AFP Photo

## Yasmin murder Special PP for punishment to 3 accused

From Our Correspondent  
RANGPUR, Mar 13: The arguments in the sensational Yasmin rape and murder case resumed in the special court here today.

The judge of the special court Abdul Matin, who is also the District and Sessions Judge, Rangpur heard the arguments.

Barrister Aminul Islam, Gazir Rahman PP and Azizur Rahman Mostafiz, Special PP, concluded their arguments in the case today.

While submitting his arguments, Amirul Islam described the facts of the case and appended See Page 12 Col 8

## Sadhapur killings Partex chairman, sons granted ad interim bail

By SC Correspondent

M Abul Hashem, chairman of the Partex Group of Industries along with his two sons Rubel alias Ashraf Aziz and Rassel alias Showkat Aziz, has been granted ad interim bail in the Sadhapur, Savar murder case.

The division bench of the High Court Division comprising Justice A M Mahmudur Rahman and Justice Iftekhar Rasul granted them bail till hearing of the petition for anticipatory bail.

It was stated in the FIR that on February 28 four persons were shot dead by the Ansars and others during a confrontation regarding taking possession of land.

See Page 12 Col 2

## Opposition's cooperation sought Let's be partners in development: PM

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina last night appealed to the opposition to help build a self-reliant economy by shunning the path of destruction, reports UNB.

"We don't want to take credit alone. We want to run this country on consensus and sound policies. Extend your cooperation and let's be partners of all developmental works," she said in Parliament.

Winding up a nearly 22-hour discussion on the President's address, the Prime Minister urged her political opponents to play a constructive role to win the confidence of the people.

"Don't get your heart numb with the pains of electoral defeat. Next elections will be held under a neutral caretaker government and it is people

who will judge you if you could play a constructive role," Hasina said.

In her 40-minute speech, punctuated with cheers and thumping of desks by treasury benches, the Prime Minister touched on various steps and achievements of her eight-month-old government.

Giving a resume of her government's activities in last eight months, Hasina said Administrative Reforms Commission, Local Government Commission, Law Reforms Commission and Pay Commission were set up to prepare reports for smooth and efficient running of the country.

Besides, she said, committees on education, health, industries, power, women and children had been working to

formulate policies for development in these sectors. The committee for radio and TV autonomy is expected to submit its report shortly.

Hasina said prices of fertiliser and essential commodities remained static and law and order had improved.

Refuting the Opposition allegation of political repression, she said after assuming power, Awami League set a unique example by forming a government of consensus.

Unlike in the past, Hasina said, the present government did neither arrest any leader of the previous government nor put anybody to harassment with the changes in the state power.

There was a lot of chance to See Page 12 col 5

## Opposition blasts Kibria for alleged share market scam

By Staff Correspondent

Jatiya Sangsad yesterday witnessed a two-hour long lively 'general discussion' on the recent upheavals in the country's share market.

The Treasury Bench members told the House that the present situation of the country's capital market was better than that of the one it had inherited from the preceding government.

On the other hand, the BNP legislators asserted that the government, by its failure to nurse a growing capital market left by the previous regime, had eventually destroyed a potential environment for attracting both domestic and foreign investment in the country. In this regard, some BNP MPs urged the prime minister to "immediately sack the Finance Minister" for the sake of national interest.

A Jatiya Party legislator See Page 12 col 7

## Debate on Ganges water-sharing India's interest served: BNP It is an historic accord: AL

By Staff Correspondent

Lawmakers belonging to BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday denounced the 30-year Ganges water-sharing treaty signed between Bangladesh and India.

They were taking part in a two-hour general discussion in the Jatiya Sangsad on the treaty signed in New Delhi on December 12 last year. As many as 13 MPs representing the four parties including three ministers took part in the lively discussion.

All of the discussants from BNP including the deputy Leader of the Opposition said that government did not consult BNP, the biggest-ever opposition party in parliament,

prior to the signing of the treaty. A BNP legislator also alleged that government had signed the treaty 'hastily and secretly'.

Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak, however, made it clear that the government had tried its best to consult the Opposition before signing the accord and brushed aside the allegation of striking out the treaty in secret.

"Mannan Bhuiyan or Saifur Rahman, I know you are not going to deny the fact now that we even invited your party's representatives to go along with us to the treaty signing ceremony. But you could not make it as your leader (Begum Khaleda Zia) had forbidden you," Razzak said.

Rising on a personal explanation, BNP general secretary Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan admitted See Page 12 Col 4

## CHT truce extended upto June 30 Next round of talks April 30

By Special Correspondent

The two-day talks between the National Committee on Chittagong Hill Tracts (NCCHT) and leaders of the Parbatyia Chattagram Janasanghati Samity (PCJSS) ended inconclusively in the capital yesterday.

"We had cordial talks and agreed to extend the ceasefire until June 30 and meet for another round of dialogue on April 30," Chief Whip of the Jatiya Sangsad Abul Hasnat Abdullah, leader of the NCCHT team, told reporters yesterday evening.

Jyotindriyo Bodhipriyo Larma, leader of the PCJSS, po-

litical wing of the Shan-tibahini, who led his side for the fourth round of talks with the present government, stood beside the Chief Whip at the press briefing after the day-long negotiations.

Securitymen pushed away newsmen when they pressed for getting close to the briefing without microphone by Abul Hasnat Abdullah, who wheeled around sharp and left without further words, announcing the end of the talks, accord on extending the ceasefire which expires on March 31 and further talks on April 30.

Larma remained tightlipped

when pressed for details. Dipankar Talukder, a ruling party MP, placed his fingers on his lips in a gesture of silence when journalists chased him.

Officials also declined to say anything.

Some sources, however, said the PCJSS leaders, who were flown to Dhaka for the second time by a military helicopter from their temporary headquarters at Dudukchhara in Khagrachhari district for the talks are leaving this morning. The same helicopter will fly them back.

Earlier they arrived there from their sanctuary, believed to be across the frontier, on Tuesday. As it had been customary earlier preceding the peace talks, 13 security camps and border posts were either neutralised or rolled down See Page 12 Col 1



Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah along with PCJSS chief Shantu Larma briefing newsmen after the talks yesterday.

—Star photo

## JS session prorogued

The long winter session of the Jatiya Sangsad was prorogued yesterday after transacting business for 31 working days, reports UNB.

Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury read out the prorogation order from President Shahabuddin Ahmed at 11:15 pm.

The House began its winter session, the third of the 7th parliament, on January 15 when the President delivered his new year's speech.

During yesterday's sitting, parliament members held deliberations on two national issues — the Indo-Bangladesh Ganges Water Treaty and the share market debacle.

Parliament, in its legislative business, passed as many as 13 bills, including the Union Parishad (Amendment) Bill, the Artha Rin Adalat (Amendment) Bill, and the Bankruptcy Bill.

The Union Parishad (Amendment) Bill empowered the government to withhold elections indefinitely after the expiry of the tenure of the union parishads.

Parliament Secretariat See Page 12 col 6

## Arafat, Mandela, Demirel to join Mar 26 programme

Several heads of state and government, including South African President Nelson Mandela, Palestinian President Yasser Arafat and Turkish President Suleman Demirel will come to Bangladesh to attend the silver jubilee of the independence, reports UNB.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina disclosed this in Parliament last night. "We have received confirmation from them that they are coming to join the ceremony of March 26," she said during her concluding speech on the President's address.

## One robbed, stabbed

By Staff Correspondent

Muggers robbed one person of gold ornaments, a bank draft, and valuables worth about Tk 50 lakh after stabbing him at Tikatuli in the city yesterday morning.

The victim, Golam Mostafa, 30, was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) with deep injuries in his left thigh, hospital sources said.

According to Sutrapur police, Mostafa was attacked when he along with his cousin, was passing Tikatuli area in an auto-rickshaw at about 9:30 am. A gang of four muggers attacked them when the auto-rickshaw was caught in a traffic jam near Aviskar Cinema Hall.

The muggers stabbed Mostafa and snatched Tk five thousand, a bank draft of Tk 2.55 lakh, gold ornaments and other valuables, police said.

Police arrested two persons — Arif and Sayed — in this connection.

## WASA office attacked in city

By Staff Correspondent

Police arrested two persons on charges of damaging an office of WASA at Maddhya Pirerbagh in Mirpur yesterday.

The local people attacked the WASA office protesting shortage of water in the area.

## CHEHLUM



Chehlum of Mr. Khairul Kabir who died of lung cancer at the age of 76 will be held today, Friday, March 14 at 4 PM at his residence — House No. 1A, Road No. 4, Gulshan.

All his friends, relatives and well-wishers are requested to attend the Chehlum and pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Anwari Kabir  
Ajmal Kabir  
Sonia Imran  
Elthem Kabir  
Mishal Kabir