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The Daily Star

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 Chowdogram High School centre today, reports UNB.

Official's 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 Chowdogram 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.

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Dakhil examinees
agitate: Three
policemen hurt

From Our Correspondent

SHERPUR, Mar 13: Three police men including the Officer-in-Charge of Sherpur thana, were injured when angry students threw bricks bats at them here today.

According to police, the students started agitating when a magistrate expelled three Dakhil examinees from the Idia Madrasa Centre. The students, led by one Monwar Hossain, attacked police on

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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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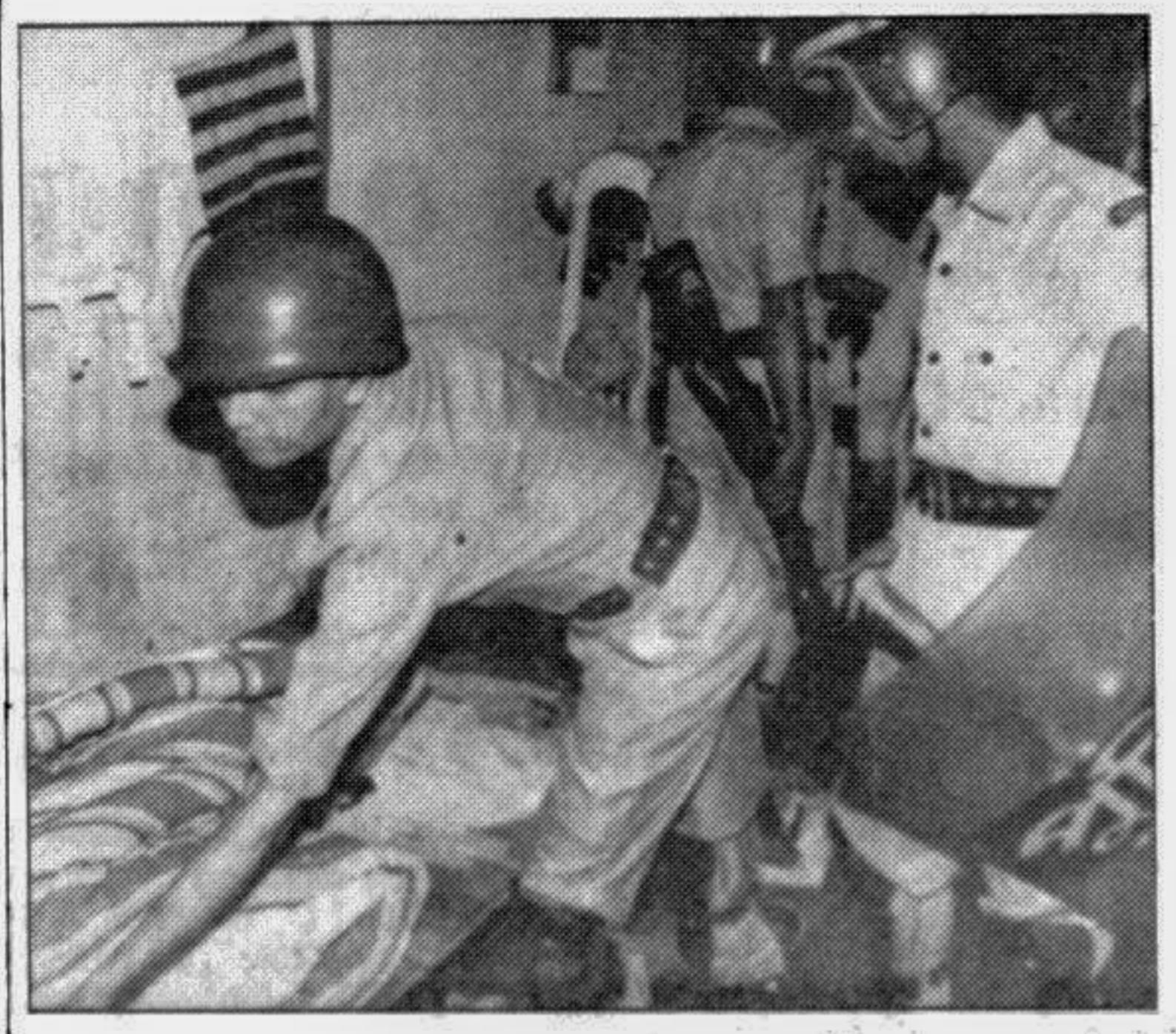
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Case against 22: Police raid halls
DU student gunned down



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

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-Pakistani 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-

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**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

—AFP Photo

Accord showing positive results, says UNICEF chief

NEW YORK, Mar 13: UNICEF's Executive Director Carol Bellamy has cited an initiative by Bangladesh's garment owners on reducing child labour in the country's expanding garments sector as an example of practical agreement and partnership building, reports UNB.

In a letter to Wednesday's daily New York Post, Bellamy says that the initiative, taken following an agreement reached in July 1995 between the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), UNICEF and ILO, seeks to remove all under-age workers from the garments sector. At the same time, it provides schooling and financial compensation for lost wage.

Saying that any comprehensive attack on child labour must advance on several fronts, she defends programmes that aim to release children immediately from the dangerous and

The agreement has already

Elimination of child labour from Bangladesh

shown positive results. According to the UNICEF chief, to date the agreement has placed over 4,000 children in 135 new schoolrooms and offered the vacated positions to adult family members.

In her letter, Bellamy argued that child labour is not a simple issue and it defies simplistic solutions. She cautions against imposing sanctions or using boycotts against countries where child labour is prevalent.

Saying that any comprehensive attack on child labour must advance on several fronts, she defends programmes that aim to release children immediately from the dangerous and

The report recalls that the introduction of the Harkin Bill in the US Senate, prohibiting import of goods made using child labour, resulted in the dismissal of an estimated

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 parishes.

There was a lot of chance to

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**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 parishes.

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, Palestine President Yasser Arafat and Turkish President Suleiman 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 3.50 lakh after stabbing him at Tiktatuli 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 Tiktatuli 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 Avishar Cinema Hall.

The muggers stabbed Mostafa and snatched Tk five thousand, a bank draft of Tk 2.5 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.

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

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CHEHLOM



Chehlo 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 Chehlo and pray for salvation of the departed soul.

**Anwari Kabir
Ajmal Kabir
Sonia Imran
Elthem Kabir
Mishal Kabir**