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offer for dialogue

with Khaleda

blamed the previous BNP government for giving transit to India and current power crisis in the country, reports UNB.

Addressing a public meeting at Altafunnesa playground in the afternoon, she said late President Ziaur Rahman gave India in 1980 while former and Oli Ahmed signed the pa-

"The BNP is now resorting to hartal when the present government is trying to implement allegation against her govern-

her offer for dialogue with Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia on television and said: "I don't tell a lie . . . I do open politics."

Ministries asked of expenses

It said the government took a number of decisions after reviewing the overall economic

It said the ministries concerned would take steps to ensure repayment of debt service liabilities of all autonomous organisations.

The ministries concerned, the handout said, would take steps to increase realisation from land development tax. telephone revenue, railway earning, registration stamp duty, passport and visa fees. earning of post offices, vehiclesrelated earning." betar and television licence fees, earning See Page 12 Col 3

Inside Today

Jubilee Celebrations of Inde-

Column: Currents and Crosscurrents by M M Rezaul Karim

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ssive market economy Page 5

team to come soon

Share market scam: Police hunt begins

Warrants for arrest of 39 as SEC files cases

By Special Correspondent

sain and Co. SES Company Ltd,

Premium Securities Ltd, HMMS

and Associates, Securities Con-

sultants Ltd and First Capital

eight listed companies against

whom cases have been filed are:

Sohel F Rahman and Salman F

The owners and directors of

The committee interviewed a

good number of people directly

or indirectly related to share

market operations. Almost all

expressed their opinion that at

the peak period some major

shareholders, some associates

having large shares and some

sales department employees of

the group and a few brokers op-

erated directly and indirectly in

a big way in the sale of Shine

Pukur share and some other

shares of the group namely Bex-

imco Ltd., Beximco Fisheries

from an analysis it appears

that the management of the

company was pursuing a policy

of inducing public interest in

Shine Pukur share through

making news in the press which

came in the form of announce-

See Page 12 Col 1

gional satraps from the United

Front as its own electoral al-

lies. The BJP knows that would

A senior BJP official said

be disastrous for its own sur-

yesterday that his party would

prefer to face elections, which

many analysts believe will

come soon irrespective of the

outcome of the test vote, under

Deve Gowda rather than

Congress president Sitaram

Gowda as interim prime minis

Gowda lost the test vote, Presi-

dent Sharma could ask Kesri to

excellent ties with defence

minister Mulayam Singh Ya-

day, a former chief minister of

Uttar Pradesh, could prompt

the two to forge an alliance in

See Page 12 Col 3

leader said yesterday.

form a new government.

ter than Kesri," a senior BJP

The BJP feared that if Deve

Congress leaders said Kesri's

"We would rather have Deve

The committee report said

and Padma Textiles.

Securities Ltd.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), regulator of the country's capital market. has filed criminal cases against 42 persons of 15 listed companies and brokerage firms on charges of manipulating share prices through 'fraudulent' means during a bull run last

Attorney General K S Nabi and Dr M Žahir, counsel for the SEC, filed the cases with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court yesterday at 2:30 pm on the basis of a report by a committee that probed the biggest ever share market scam in the country.

The companies are Shine

The enquiry committee on

the stock market has identified

a number of irregularities by at

least 45 members/brokers and

listed companies operating in

The 11 members/brokers

identified are: Imtiyaz Husain

(proprietor of Imtiyaz Husain &

Co., First Capital Securities

Ltd., SES Company. Premium

Securities. IMMS and Associ-

ates. Securities Consultants

Ltd. Doha Securities, Shakil

Rizvi, Kazi Enayetur Rahman,

Khurshid Alam, and Rakibur

cific allegations against 12

listed companies which are

Shine Pukur Ltd.. Beximco

Pharmaceuticals. Olympic In-

dustries. Chittagong Cement

Clinker and Grinding Company

The committee brought spe-

the Dhaka Stock Exchange.

reports agencies.

Rahman.

Pukur Holdings Ltd. Beximco Pharmaceuticals, Olympic Industries Ltd. Chittagong Cement Clinker Grinding Co Ltd. Amam Sea Food Industries Ltd, Rupon Oil and Feeds Ltd, Chic Tex Ltd and Apex Foods Ltd.

The dealers/brokers are: Doha Securities. Imtiaz Hos-

Probe report: Irregularities by

45 members/brokers, listed cos

Ltd., Apex Tannery Ltd., Amam

Sea Foods Ltd., Rupon Oil and

Feeds Ltd., Singer (Bangladesh)

Ltd., Chic Tex Ltd., Apex Foods

Ltd., Mark Shilpa and Engi-

neering Ltd. and Excelsion

ited appears to be one of the

companies having large volume

in trading. The company has a

paid up capital of Taka 252

crore with 2.52 crore share of

Taka 100 each, the committee

the book value per share was

Taka 103 while the market

price per share was Taka 73 on

June 30, 1996. The highest

market price per share was

Taka 754 on November 28,

1996. There has been no trading

of this issue in DSE for about

two months, the report noted.

The committee found that

Shine Pukur Holdings Lim-

Shoes Ltd.

Police said late last night that they had sent teams to arrest the persons sued by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for manipulation as well as fraudulent and unethical acts in securities trade that led to the recent crash in the capital market of Dhaka. Motijheel police said that they received 20 warrants and despatched teams accordingly to arrest the accused from their respective residences. In all, 39 warrants were issued by a metropolitan magistrate's court, with which the SEC filed the cases, for arresting the accused,, reports BSS.

Rahman, AB Siddiqur Rahman of Shine Pukur Holdings, Sohel F Rahman, Salman F Rahman and D H Khan of Beximco Pharmaceuticals, Zafar Ahmed and Zahir Ahmed of Amam Sea Food, Zafar Ahmed and Zahir Ahmed of Apex Food, Moham-mad Bhai and Aziz Mohammad Bhai of Olympic Industries, A S Shahidul Huq Bulbul, Mohammad Raquibur Rahman and Abu Tayeb of Chittagong Cement, Mohammad Maqsudur Rahman and Iftekher Mohammad of Chic Textiles and Mohammad Nurunnabi of Rupon

Oil and Feeds Ltd. The broker/dealers against

See Page 12 Col 4

Feni killings Police yet to nab any of the accused

From Nazmul Ashraf

FENI, April 2: in a midnight hunt for the accused in killing of two BNP activists here, police

raided residences of all the 48. Four special police squads in a combined operation, however, failed to nab any of the accused named in the cases. But, brothers of two accused were picked up for interrogation.

Tushar, local unit leader of JCD and Nasir, a leader of Jubo Dal, were killed on March 27 and 29 respectively. The later was killed during a half-day hartal, enforced by BNP, to protest the former's killing.

In the early hours of today police also raided house of Nantu, a friend of Tushar who was beside him on the night of killing. But, sisters of Nantu told police that he was not at See Page 12 Col 2

Corruption case

Court rejects petition of Eskander, Tarek A court in Dhaka yesterday

rejected a petition of Major (retd) Saveed Eskander and Tarek Rahman to dispense with personal attendance in court in a corruption case and permit their lawyers to appear and conduct the case, reports UNB.

The accused petitioners who are directors of Dandy Dying Ltd were enlarged on ad-interim anticipatory bail by the High Court Division. The bail has been extended for four months.

It was stated before the Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate M Habibur Rahman that the petitioners' absence from the workplace would seriously hamper the normal See Page 12 Col 8

Sub-regional cooperation discussed in Kathmandu

Four SAARC nations made a step forward to form a subregional grouping as their Foreign Secretaries yesterday made recommendations for their government to take the deci-

The FSs of Bangladesh, India, Bhutan and Nepal met in Kathmandu to move ahead with the concept of subregional cooperation in the Eastern Hi-

malayan zone. "It's a preliminary discussion on the possible areas of cooperation." Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan told UNB when reached by telephone after the meeting.

He said the meeting decided See Page 12 Col 6

BJP may abstain from vote of confidence set for Apr 11 would win over powerful rebefore a confidence vote.

NEW DELHI, Apr 2: India's parliament will meet on April 11 to consider a vote of confidence in the ruling United Front coalition which lost vital support this week. Parliamen-

tary Affairs Minister Srikanta Jena said today. "The session is on the 11th. The vote of confidence will be

on that day," Jena told Reuters by telephone. On Monday. President Shankar Dayal Sharma asked Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda

to call a vote of confidence by Jena confirmed that the vote, required because the

Congress Party had withdrawn support for Deve Gowda, would take place on the 11th. He said that for the moment,

the trust vote was the only item on the agenda of the lower house of parliament, the Lok Sabha, on April 11. Political parties, however, were considering putting the 1997/98 (April-March) budget to a vote

Deve Gowda, whose 15-party United Front coalition controls 180 votes in the 545-seat Lok Sabha, would have to win a simple majority to survive the trust vote. Another report says: Deve

Gowda might win a helping hand in a vote of confidence next week from an unlikely ally, the Hindu Nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), politicians said today.

The main opposition party opposes Deve Gowda's 15-party United Front coalition. But it could abstain from the trust vote set for April 11, ensuring victory for the prime minister. because it does not want to propel the Congress Party into power, they said.

"The BJP is truly terrified of elections under a Congress government," a leader of the ruling United Front alliance told the news agency

"It assessment, a correct one

I believe, is that the Congress

Eyes of city Jubo League worker gouged out

were gouged out and tendon of his left leg cut off by miscreants at Jurain in Demra thana in the

The injured activist of the ruling party's youth front, Amir Hossain, 23, was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospi

Earlier, a local Awami Leashot dead on Thursday.

in Sherpur

aged woman was killed and 20 people were injured when a vio lent storm lashed four unions in Sadar thana early today, re

Witnesses said an unidentified woman aged about 45 died on the spot as she was trapped under her collapsed house at Char Sherpur village in the af-

gue leader. Abdus Salam, was houses, including two primary See Page 12 Col 3

Storm kills one

SHERPUR, Apr 2: A middle-

Several hundred thatched

45pc of food items tested by IPH are adulterated

By Staff Correspondent

The number of adulterated food items in the market is rising and officials of the Institute of Public Health (IPH) warn that unless laws against food adulteration are amended, the situation is sure to deteriorate.

The Public Health Laboratory of the IPH in its current report stated that more than 45 per cent of the food items tested ast month was found to be adulterated. The percentage was less in

the previous months, an official of IPH said. Samples of food items from across the country are routinely tested in the IPH laboratory. Test results are sent to the Ministry of Health for action, the official

The adulterated food items mainly include milk products, powder milk, condensed milk, sweetmeats, oil and oil products, spices and various cereals.

rial review meetings since 1987, the Bangladesh Pure Food Ordinance 1959 was revised and was retitled Bangladesh Pure Food Ordinance, 1994 and placed in parliament for approval. The Bangladesh Pure Food Rules 1967 is also awaiting the amendment and approval, the official said.

Another IPH official, requesting anonymity, said that the 1959 Ordinance and the 1967 Rules which are currently in force, only identify 107 food

items whereas the number of items have now increased manifold over the years. Moreover, in the existing laws there is no mention of artificial food colouring or additives, he said.

additives are found in many food items," the official said.

amended and there must be a powerful central committee comprising different ministries and departments to check adulteration of food," he said. At present, a number of departments and ministries are involved in the job separately, without any coordination, he pointed out.

2 gunned down inside PWD office in city

By Staff Correspondent

An unidentified gang gunned down two young men inside an office of Public Works Department (PWD) at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city yesterday

The victims were identified as Sohrab Hossain alias Shamim, 32, of Shewrapara and Khaled Hossain alias Mamun, 22, of West Agargaon, Both the victims were working for contractors, according to police.

The motive behind the killing could not be known immediately. A senior police official, however, said they suspect that internal clash of a terrorist group active in Agargaon and adjoining areas and conflict over tender-related issue

were the main reasons behind the killings.

Shamim and Mamun came under attack when they were talking with a Sub-Divisional Engineer at his first floor office in the PWD complex at about 12:30 pm. The armed gang entered the office and fired on them from a close range from

behind, police said quoting the

engineer. The engineer, however, ducked under his table as soon as the firing started and escaped unhurt. The attackers fled the scene after about a threeminute shooting, a police official said.

Shamim was hit in his head See Page 12 Col 7

NAM meet to focus on restructuring of UN

By M Anwarul Haq

Representatives of 113 countries of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) will meet in New Delhi from April 4 to 8 to deliberate on ways to make the loosely structured platform of the least developed and developing nations more cohesive and make a forceful plea to restructure the United Nations to make it more effective, according to

diplomatic sources. A resolution is also likely to be adopted for expansion of the UN Security Council for a more broad-based representation to create scope for a greater participatory role for the Non-

Aligned nations. The meeting of senior officials of the NAM countries begins at the Viggyan Bhaban in the Indian capital tomorrow to draw up the final agenda for the two-day 12th meeting of the foreign ministers. The foreign

April 7 and 8. Around 50 foreign ministers are expected to attend the meet while other member-countries are likely to be represented by

senior officials.

ministers' meet will be held on

Bangladesh Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad is scheduled to reach New Delhi on April 6 to represent the country. The same day he is due to be present at a 'special meeting' of four South Asian foreign ministers to discuss the recommendations of the Kathmandu meeting of foreign secretaries on the concept of sub-regional cooperation held on April 2. Besides Samad Azad, the meet ing will be attended by the foreign ministers of India, Nepal and Bhutan.

The senior officials' meeting would be drawing up a more de-See Page 12 Col 3

Probe into fire incident begins

CID seizes documents from N'ganj jute co

From Ehsanul Haque

NARAYANGANJ. Apr 2: The nine-member enquiry committee headed by an Additional District Magistrate to probe into the fire in the godowns of a raw jute exporting company on Monday, interviewed a wide section of people today.

A devastating fire, originating from an unknown source. destroyed nine godowns in the Popular Jute Exchange Pvt Limited premises by the river Sita lakhya under Narayanganj Sadar Thana. With 28 large godowns and other facilities. the company is the largest raw jute exporting house in the country. The fire also partially gutted three jute godowns of the adjacent Janata Jute Company. Suspecting a sabotage, the

government formed the enquiry committee yesterday and it is due to submit its initial finding report by tomorrow. Several other departments including the CID, the bank and the insurance company concerned are also conducting their own investigation.

A source involved in the investigation process said that See Page 12 Col 1

ICC TROPHY



Bangladesh's fate hangs in balance

Rain forced Bangladesh to share points with Ireland in their second Group F match of the ICC Trophy in Kuala Lumpur yesterday, reports UNB. The result, left second seeds Bangladesh needing victory in their final match against World Cuppers Holland on Friday, to be assured of a semifinal berth. Batting first, Ireland were

all out for 129 in 49.1 overs In reply. Bangladesh were 24 for no loss in 6.4 overs when the heavens opened. When the match resumed

two hours later, the target required was 40 runs in 13.5 overs. But after just three balls the umpires abandoned the game due unplayable ground condition. Bangladesh and Ireland

have collected three points from two matches while Holland and Hong Kong have one from as many outings. (Details on page 10)

Businessman commits suicide

By Staff Correspondent Mohammad Hossain, a

younger brother of Gono Forum leader Mostafa Mohsin Montu, reportedly committed suicide at his Elephant Road residence in the city yesterday afternoon, police said. Mohammad Hossain had

shot himself on the right side of his head with a pistol at around 2:00 pm. according to police. The incident was reported to Dhantion di thana at around 4:30 pm, by Montu, the brother See Page 12 Col 6

Police raid DU hall: 4 held, arms recovered

By DU Correspondent

Police arrested four young men and recovered arms and ammunition during a raid on a residential hall of the Dhaka University early hours yester-A special team of police con-

ducted the raid on Shahidullah Hall at about 2:30 am and arrested four outsiders identified as Hafez Md Borhanuddin. Sheikh Badrul Alam, Babul Kumar Das and Nobo Kishore Chakma, police said. During about a half an hour

raid, police recovered on sawedoff rifle and 36 bullets.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (Medical Education Section)

Caution Notice

It is hereby notified for general information that a number of private individuals/organisations have started or are operating medical education programmes by establishing medical/dental college/medical education institute on private initiative without prior permission of Government and Bangladesh Medical & Dental Council and have given or are giving advertisement in various media including newspapers for admission of students (male/female). According to provisions of Bangladesh Medical & Dental Council Act 1980 (Act 16 of 1980), operating medical education course or training and offering any kind of degree, diploma, licence or certificate to that effect without the approval of Government/Bangladesh Medical & Dental Council is prohibited and is a punishable offence. There is provision of imprisonment up to 2 (two) years & fine for such offence. As such, all concerned are sternly cautioned not to start/operate medical educat on course and offer any kind of degree, diploma, licence or certificate to that effect in violation of the provisions of the said Act. In this context it is further notified for general information that all concerned were cautioned earlier through notification in newspapers by Bangladesh Medical & Dental Council on various occasions to refrain from such undesirable & illegal activities. In spite of that such activities are continuing which must stop in public interest. Hence the proper authority has been instructed by the Government to take necessary legal action under Clause 31 of Bangladesh Medical & Dental Council Act & Section 420 of Penal Code against the offenders concerned for the offence of such undesirable & punishable acts as starting so-called medical college & course without approval for giving advertisement to that effect & admitting students.

All are also cautioned so that no one is deceived by getting admitted to such so-called medical education institutes without Government approval & recognition. Any one who may have got himself/herself admitted or get admitted to such so-called educational institution will do so in his/her own responsibility and the government or the authorities concerned will bear no responsibility in taking his/her examination or offering any degree. The government will not give any recognition to any degree/diploma/licence/certificate obtained through these unapproved institutions and the incumbents concerned will not be considered eligible for registration by the Bangladesh Medical & Dental Council. Under the circumstance all are specially cautioned so that no one falls victim to deception or unwanted situation in the name of medical education.

Any one seeking to know about proper Govt recognition/approval of private medical education institution may contact the Directorate of Health or Bangladesh Medical & Dental Council.

> by order of the authority Sakiun Nahar Begum

কোন : ৯৫৬৩৬৬৭, ৯৫৬৩৬৬৮, ৮১৯৩৭৯ (দিবা রাত্র) পিএবিএক ৮১২১৩৫-৪২

OF DIFFERENT TYPES. NIRMAN INTERNATIONAL LTD. 199, TEJGAON 1/A, DHAKA. VOL. VII NO. 74 REGD. NO. DA 781

Hasina renews

BOGRA Apr 2: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today

air, water and land transit to ministers Mostafizur Rahman

their agreements," she said in reply to the opposition party's The Prime Minister renewed

See Page 12 Col 8

to avoid increase The government has asked

all ministries to avoid increase of expenses of revenue budget in the current year, an official handout said yesterday, reports

situation.

Article

pendence: Viewed in Retrospect

Foundations of progre-

Focus

Business

Moscow eager to help Dhaka in power generation High-powered DSE index continues to rise Pages 6,7

ত গত ৮ই মার্চ ১৯৯৭ থেকে সকল খেলাপী গ্রাহকের গ্যাস লাইন বিচ্ছিনুকরণের বিশেষ অভিযান ওক্ন হয়েছে। একই সাথে অবৈধ গ্যাস সংযোগ বিজ্ঞিন কার্যক্রমও চলছে।

(थटक ए अपना विभिन्न गाम मश्र्यांग বিচ্ছিন্তকারী দলের নিকট কোম্পানীর পরিচয় পত্র সন্মানিত পত্রধারী জ্গপের পরিচিতি নিশ্চি কোন বিষয়ে কোন প্ৰকাৰ যোগাযোগ নারচারি गाएमब **अश्र्या**

Eyes of a Jubo League activist city yesterday, reports UNB.

After several inter-ministe-

"As a result, indiscriminate use of hazardous colouring and

"Existing laws have to be

DFP-7400-27/3

Assistant Secretary