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- ALCWC

June.

late leader.

occasion

From Page 1

Meeting over, the newly

elected leaders led by the re-

elected party President placed

wreath at the portrait of Banga-

bandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rah-

man. They stood silent for one

minute to show respect to the

elected working committee

leaders would visit Tungipara

on May 30 to offer fateha at the

mazar of Mujib. A milad mahfil

will also be held there on the

At the outset, the meeting

adopted a condolence resolu-

tion in memory of Banga-

bandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rah-

man and other leaders and

workers who have died since

JP jt meet

tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

sidium members and the vice

chairmen of the Jatiya Party

with the party chief H M Ershad

has been fixed tomorrow, said a

man Chowdhury, one of the

three rebels in the party, is

learnt to have disassociated

himself from the other two -

close to the rebel camp.

Kazi Zafar Ahmed and Shah

Moazzam Hossain, said sources

night acknowledged they were

trying to isolate Mizan Chowd-

also claimed that talks were

progressing to ensure his par-

meetings along with Ershad.

ments in the regard.

ticipation at various party

tacted last night for his com-

B Chowdhury

From Page 1

leader thanked the parliament

employees and officers, jour-

nalists, members of radio and

television for their untiring

service and informing people of

attention of the Chair that

bonus had not yet been given to

the parliament employees as

per his proposal in the last ses-

sion, which had also been en

dorsed by the Leader of the

House, and requested him to see

Chowdhury informed him that

the Finance Minister had as-

sured him about placing the

From Page 1

general discussion that ended at

11:15 pm included Commerce

and Industries Minister Tofael

Ahmed, Water Resources Minis-

ter Abdur Razzak, Post and

Telecommunications Minister

Mohammed Nasim, Suranjit

Sengupta, State Minister for

Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan

Ahmed, Shamsul Islam, M K

Anwar, Obaidur Rahman, Ab-

dul Halim, Major (retd)

Hafizuddin Ahmed, Moshiur

Rahman, Alamgir Kabir and

Shamsuzzaman Dudu of BNP.

Advocate Fazle Rabbi, N K Alam

Chowdhury and T I M Fazle

Rabbi of JP and Moulana Del-

war Hussain Saidee of Jamaat.

politics, there has been a new

wave of cooperation" among

different countries for their

economic development, Azad

told the House opening the de-

bate on the contentious issues.

among the regional countries,

Azad said Indo-Bangladesh

trade agreement signed in 1980

during the late President Zia's

time and SAPTA agreement

signed during ex-premier Be-

gum Zia provided for mutual

use of road, water and airways

for commerce and passage of

goods from one place to another

Joining the debate BNP

member Moshiur Rahman said:

"India cannot be trusted, they

are an aggressive force and they

want to form a greater India

through another country.

Defending the cooperation

reports UNB.

"With the changes of world

of AL, Col. (retd) Oli

Chowdhury and Akhtaruzza-

Speaker Humayun Rashid

Prof B Chowdhury drew the

the House proceedings.

that it was paid

fund for this purpose.

The Opposition deputy

Chowdhury could not be con-

hury from the other two. They

Sources close to Ershad last

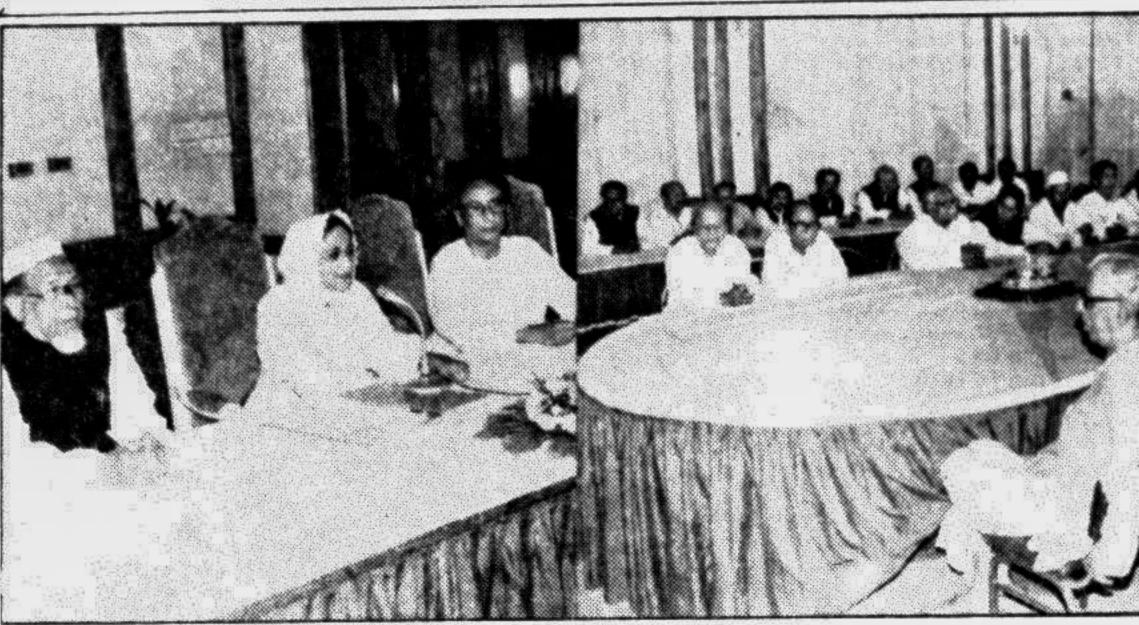
Meanwhile, Mizanur Rah-

party press release last night.

A joint meeting of the pre-

Language Movement till date.

It also decided that the newly



Awami League President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addressing the first meeting of the newly elected central working committee of the party at the Ganabhaban yesterday.

its election manifesto. Hasina

narrated in detail how her gov-

ernment was implementing its

said her government took steps

to make the parliament ac-

countable, improve law and or-

der and file cases against cor-

manifesto, the government has

given subsidy to agriculture sec-

tor, set up commissions to sepa-

rate the judiciary from the ex-

ecutive and formulate guide-

lines for local body elections,

the report of which will be

placed in the next session, she

to the signing of the Ganges wa-

ter treaty and said Bangladesh

established her rightful share

on the Ganges flow through the

Tracts, she said progress had

been made in the talks with

tribal leaders. "And we will

soon restore peace in the hill

true to its pre-election com-

mitment, did not renew the 25-

year Indo-Bangladesh Friend-

Hasina said, Bangladesh's im-

age abroad has been enhanced

and Bangladesh won election to

people. We speak less but do

unparliamentary gesture by

BNP MPs during this session.

the Leader of the House said

hurling abuses at the Speaker is

of chairs, tearing up files and

uprooting microphones by

some BNP members, saying

that these are people's property

the Opposition in building the

country as a self-reliant nation,

the Prime Minister assured

that her government would ac-

cept any constructive criticism

from the Opposition in the in-

JS snippets

From Page 1

Like the state minister, the BN

MP also made a lengthy state-

ment while raising his ques-

remarked, "Oh God, this is

ister was seen bending on his

desk to listen to the questioner

through the microphone on his

table. The move generated

laughter in the House and the

state minister was provided

with a folded paper cone by his

party colleague sitting next to

him, A S M Firoz, to listen to

lem with the next questioner,

Mozammel Haq who also sub-

mitted notice on the alleged ir-

regularities in the Hajj man-

Hamid mistakenly mentioned

Zohr prayers while adjourning

the House for Asr prayers but

got himself corrected shortly

after the Asr prayers, Com-

merce and Industries Minister

Tofael Ahmed committed a

similar mistake by calling the

Asr prayers' recess as Maghreb

prayers.' The Deputy Speaker

was prompt enough to correct

session of the present parlia-

ment, dozens of members from

both the sides were seen busy

lobbying with the ministers,

particularly the telecommuni-

cations minister, education

minister and the home minis-

On the last day of the fourth

As the day's sitting resumed

Deputy Speaker Abdul

The Speaker had same prob

At this, an annoyed Speaker

At this stage, the state min-

terest of the people.

called a question!"

the microphone.

Seeking cooperation from

and none should damage it.

She condemned the breaking

"We don't want to bluff the

Expressing her concern over

three UN bodies so far.

more. This is our policy.

Awami League government

After return to power,

About the Chittagong Hill

30-year treaty.

tracts."

ship Treaty.

a shame.

The Prime Minister referred

In line with party's election

After assuming power, she

election pledges.

SAGQ to ensure growth

From Page 1

made it clear that the party (AL) which fought the war of liberation and wrest independence cannot trade it.

Awami League, she said, has got responsibility for the people of this country and is working relentlessly for their well-be-

Criticising, what she called, BNP's double-standard policy, Hasina said while in power BNP did not utter a single word against India, nor did it say anything about the issue of transit, but after losing power they were clamouring against India only to bluff the people.

"Love for India while in power, protest against India after losing power - this is BNP policy," she told the House amidst thumping of desks by treasury benchers.

As the Prime Minister was delivering her speech till midnight, most of the BNP members left the House. Only six — Deputy Leader of the Opposition Badruddoza Chowdhury, Col (Retd) Oli Ahmed, Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and two others were seen on the BNP side.

Responding to BNP members' criticism that the Awami League has drifted away from

Protest continues

Evicted inmates want to return to Kandupatti

Evicted inmates of Kandupatti brothel yesterday staged a demonstration in the city demanding their rehabilitation at the same place, reports UNB.

"We don't believe anyone will rehabilitate us in a new place or give us new job. We did not find one person to help us when we were evicted illegally," said Momataz, one of their leaders. Some 50 of the evicted in-

mates joined the sit-in in front of the Jatiya Press Club.

Talking to UNB, Mamtaz termed the eviction illegal and called it 'an attack' on the earnings of 600 women and their family members. She said their kids will face a tough time if they were not allowed to continue their profession at that

She blamed the local ward commissioner for the eviction and demanded punishment for the responsible. She alleged that the commissioner was trying to grab the land by evicting

BNP to accord reception to its 4 leaders Tuesday

BNP will accord a grand reception Tuesday to its four leaders, who were released from jail recently, reports UNB.

The reception will be held in front of the Jatiya Press Club at 3 pm, said a party press release yesterday.

BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, reception committee convenor Abdullah Al Noman and joint convenor Sadek Hossain Khoka MP have asked the party leaders and workers to make the reception a

DU teacher From Page 1

formed to probe into the appointment of Jalaluddin, a DU press release said yesterday.

The VC also ordered issuance of a show cause notice on the official concerned in the office of the Controller of Examinations of DU for publishing "wrong" results.

Jalaluddin passed the subsidiary examination in 1989 but it was published that he passed in 1988.

Earlier, a Syndicate committee had recommended his appointment as a lecturer and accordingly the Syndicate appointed him.

the minister.

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One-third of govt medicine for hospitals pilfered & sold

Nearly one-third of annual medicine and surgical supplies worth about Tk 40 crore for government hospitals and clinics is pilfered and sold in the open market, reports Probe news agency.

Sources at the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of Police said most of these medicines, chemicals and equipment are pilfered during transportation of the supply and through manipulation of stock registers.

The CID during a raid last week recovered government supply of medicine worth about Tk 2 crore from a private godown in Mitford area.

Such recoveries in small quantities are made time to time and the recovered supplies are marked by government seals and "not for sale" stamps on them, the sources said.

An exclusive wholesale market of government medicines and surgical supplies exists in Mitford area. Different private clinics are the buyers of most of these pil-

sources in the investigating team told the agency.
In 1996-97 fiscal year, the government allocated Tk 110 crore, figuring nearly 51 per cent of the national health bud-

get, for medicine, chemicals

fered government medicines,

Security guard murdered at **New Eskaton**

By Staff Correspondent A security guard of a trading house at Dilu Road, New Eskaton in the city was found dead inside the office yesterday Abdul Barek, 35, an em-

ployee of Falcon Security, was deputed to work with the Fair Trading Ltd at Dilu Road. Son of one Abdus Sobhan Akhand of Mirzaganj in Patu-

akhali, Barek came to the office

for duty at around 6:00 pm Wednesday. Police suspected that a group of unknown assailants murdered him due to enmity. The assailants killed him and tied his body with a chair by rope inside the office room of the trading company. They also

fice from outside. The manager of the Fair Trading Ltd Sharafat Hossain lodged a case with the Ramna thana. Police said adding none was arrested in this connection. Ramna police sent the body

to the Dhaka Medical College

locked the main gate of the of-

Shibir extends strike programme at RU

Hospital for autopsy.

From RU Correspondent RAJSHAHI, May 15: The Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS), Raishahi University unit, has extended its ongoing strike on the campus by 16 days from tomorrow. The ICS started the strike protesting the new admission system. The university campus has remained paralysed since April 26 following a clash between the ICS and police. Almost all official work remained suspended during the strike. Most of the departments postponed the examinations.

Chhatra League factions clash in Sirajganj

SIRAJGANL, May 15: Ten people were injured in a clash between two rival groups of pro-Awami League Chhatra League in the town today, reports UNB. Police said the clash ensued

at 11 am following an internal conflict of the ruling party's student wing.

The injured were treated at Sirajganj General Hospital and a clinic in the town.

(with the countries of this re-

had been seeking transit from

India to transport its goods to

Nepal, India had not yet given

transit agreement a conspiracy

and suggested that there should

be a referendum to elicit public

opinion on this important is-

regional grouping he said it is a

unique idea but it must be seen

how far it would be possible,

considering the reality in

eign Affairs said SAARC decla-

ration in Male endorsed the

ation for the overall develop-

ment in the region. He said sub-

regional grouping is also envis-

aged in articles 7 and 10 of the

point that the SAARC charter

allows sub-regional grouping,

M K Anwar said the provision is

only aimed at implementing

specific projects among three or

more countries within the

He also expressed his reser-

vation about the transit, saying

that India has never imple-

mented any agreement signed

ter Mohammad Nasim termed

the proposed sub-regional coop-

eration a positive initiative for

Telecommunications Minis-

previously with Bangladesh.

seven member forum.

the country.

Contradicting Chowdhury's

concept of sub-regional cooper-

The State Minister for For-

Bangladesh.

SAARC charter.

He said although Bangladesh

Major (retd) Hafiz called the

About the formation of sub-

and surgical equipment.
Sources at the office of Director General of the Health Department pointed out that the Health Ministry provided only Tk 68 crore to the DG's office under the Medicine and Surgical Requisition (MSR) head. The rest was kept with the ministry

for special sanctions. Referring to the manipulation in stock registers of different hospitals, the CID sources stated that in 90 per cent cases the outdoor patients are given only two third of the medicine written on the slip prescribed by the doctor.

In many cases attendants of the under-treatment patients are asked to purchase the medicines from outside while those are shown as supplied by the hospital.

Police camp loot 4 arrested in Raozan

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, May 15: Police today arrested four persons wanted in connection with the Raozan Noapara police camp looting case.

The main accused, Fazal Huq, received bullet wounds in his leg when police fired on him as he allegedly tried to escape by snatching the revolver of a police officer during a raid at Chandgao this morning.

He was admitted to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital. The three others arrested are Nazim Uddin, Md Aziz and Roksan Ahmed.

Tk 18 lakh in foreign currency seized from passenger at ZIA

Main opposition BNP will observe the historic "Farakka By Staff Correspondent Day" today throughout the country, reports UNB

yesterday.

BNP to observe

'Farakka Day'

today

To mark the "Farakka-Long-

March", which was led by

Moulana Abdul Hamid Khan

Bashani in 1976, BNP has

taken up elaborate programme-

s, including rally, discussion

grammes, BNP Chairperson

and Leader of the Opposition

Begum Khaleda Zia will address

a public meeting at Rajshahi

BNP Secretary General Ab-

Madrassah Maidan today.

As part of the day's pro-

and public meetings.

A Customs surveillance team at Zia International Airport (ZIA) seized money, US dollar, travellers cheques (TC) and Saudi Riyal worth about Tk 18 lakh from a passenger yesterday afternoon.

The Customs team, on suspicion, challenged the Singapore bound passenger o Bangladesh Biman near the boarding bridge at about 6:30 pm and took him back to the Customs hall. Later, searching his body and hand bag Customs officials found TCs worth 40.55 thousand US dollar, cash 500 dollar and 300 Saudi Riyal, airport sources said. An airport Customs officer

said, the passenger failed to show any valid document for the amount he was carrying.

4 killed in city road accidents By DMC Correspondent

Four persons were killed and four others injured in separate road accidents in the city yesterday.

Amal Kumar Shil, 30, was killed when a police jeep collided head on with an autorickshaw near the Palashi Crossing under Lalbagh thana at about 7:30 am. Police said Amal, who was travelling in the autorickshaw, died on the spot. Four others — the driver of

the jeep and three passengers of the autorickshaw - were also injured in the accident. The injured police man, Jahangir, was admitted to the Police Hospital while the three others identified as Pankaj Kumar, Nanda Lal and Mohadev were under treatment at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). Lalbagh police said a case has been filed.

Meanwhile, a 60-year-old man identified as Md Ashraf was killed as a running truck crushed a rickshaw in which he was travelling through Postagola at about 7 am.

Besides, hospital sources said two unidentified youths aged between 15 and 22 were killed in Mirpur Shealbari and at Airport Road early yesterday.

JS: Sub-regional cooperation K M Obaidur Rahman of BNF said: "We want a good working

relationship with India. But we

cannot accept such an agree-

ment as can make the country

into a province of another

He called upon the govern-

ment to ensure implementation

of the water-sharing treaty

first, and then think about

signing another agreement with

ruled out any security threat be-

cause of transit and said one

who has economic prosperity

has also security. "Sub-regional

cooperation is an alliance of

protecting the interest of the

sign any agreement with India

regarding transit except for the

renewal of the 1974's agreement

giving only riverine transit to

minister said during BNP

regime, Bangladesh had pro-

posed Benapole-Dhaka-Cox's

ESCAP official named Rah-

route through Tamabil.

parts of today's world.

Bazar-Myanmar route, but an

Commerce Minister Tofael

Ahmed said BNP government

of Indian goods by reducing tar-

iff unilaterally and withdraw-

cept of sub-regional coopera-

tion, he cited various instances

of such cooperation in different

Strongly supporting the con-

ing quantitative restriction.

The former communications

Oli Ahmed said BNP did not

Suranjit Sengupta of AL

country.

people.

BUET students of 1990 batch brought out a colourful rag day procession on the campus One beaten to

THAKURGAON, May 15: A suspected child-lifter was beaten to death and another injured seriously at Ghonimah-

Abdur Razzak, 42, and the injured as Rahimuddin, 38, of Narsingdi district. Local people caught Razzak and Rahimuddin at about 12:30

pm suspecting them as childlifters as they were strangers in the village. Later, the villagers beat

dul Mannan Bhuiyan has in-Minister tells JS structed all the district units of the BNP and its front organisations to observe the day. Dhaka city unit of BNP will

organise a discussion at 4 pm BNP Secretary General Ab-

dul Mannan Bhuiyan will address the meeting as chief guest while city BNP convenor Sadek Hossain Khoka MP will preside.

DCC to set up more bus, truck terminals

Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) will set up more bus and truck terminals on the basis of availability of lands to ease traffic congestion in the city, reports UNB. Steps have been taken up to

construct Mohammadpur Truck Stand for implementation of this objective, said DCC Mayor Mohammad Hanif. He was addressing as chief guest at the foundation stone

laying ceremony of inter-district truck terminal in the city's Amin Bazar area yesterday. The under-construction terminal, at the cost of Tk 5

crore, on six acres of land is expected to be completed by the end of 1997-98 fiscal year.

PM: spain From Page 1

los-I of Spain, said the announcement. Bangladesh will underscore

the importance of having increased market access for its exports to Spain. The two countries will try to forge close economic cooperation. Bangladesh will endeavour

to enhance the existing cooperation and seek foreign direct investment from Spain. Sheikh Hasina is scheduled

to address meetings of the leading investors and businessmen to be organised by the Spanish Confederation of Employers' Organisation and the Chambers of Commerce and In dustries in Madrid and Barcelona.

Discord From Page 1

death of her husband, but her attempt was foiled at one stage, leading to a rivalry with Shantu Larma. The Priti faction, which is

almost inactive now, has also severed relations with Shantu Larma, the sources said. As a result of the internal rivalry, one of the groups includ-

ing Pankajini may be forced to stay back even after signing of an agreement with the government.

Madhyapara

From Page 1 on the 371-metre-deep 'skipshaft' from which rock will eventually be extracted and sold.

matullah working in favour of India proposed to divert the Three underground railway tracts will also be build for movement of locomotive trolleys and mining cars which will made Bangladesh into a market transport the rocks.

Some 270 Korean and 53 Petrobangla officials and staff members are presently working in the MHRMP area. When completed, 16 lakh tons of rock will be extracted annually from the project and 787 people will be employed.

death in

Thakurgaon

espur village in sadar thana today, reports UNB. The dead was identified as

them up leaving Razzak dead on the spot.

Manpower export accords with 2

countries only

State Minister for Labour and Manpower M A Mannan told Parliament yesterday that at present, Bangladesh has agreements for manpower export with only two countries — Kuwait and Qatar, reports BSS. Replying to a question, he

said from 1990 to April 1997, Bangladesh has sent 13,37,274 people abroad for employment. The state minister also informed the House that the man-

power export agreement with Iraq has remained suspended due to the UN ban on Iraq after the Gulf War in 1991

Trade marks From Page 1

chandise Marks Act, 1889, the Trade Marks Act 1940 and some provisions of the Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Sea Customs Act. The existing laws are now

found to be insufficient to meet the needs of a modern developing country, the LC sources noted. A working paper on the pro-

posed comprehensive trade marks act has already been drafted and it will be circulated among the chambers of commerce and bar councils and given to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry before the finalisation of the report.

The working paper has been prepared taking into consideration the practical problems and the necessity of enhancing the scope of registration of trade marks.

ADB willing From Page 1

the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna river basin, an ERD official said and added the bank was interested mainly to pro-

the project. "A window of opportunity has been created to promote cooperative approaches for planning with a shared vision for sustainable regional development and poverty alleviation after reaching consensus on initiating sub-regional coop-

vide technical assistance for

eration," said the official. The official said flooding, water storage and hydropower generation are the three interrelated issues in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna river basin which call for an integrated river basin management. The four countries of the

Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna river basin - Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Bhutan - have agreed to initiate the sub-regional cooperation on economic development issues.

Depression From Page 1

50 kph in gust or squall. Maritime ports of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Mongla have been advised to hoist distant cautionary signal number

All fishing boats and trawlers over north Bay and deep sea have been advised to come close to the coast and proceed with caution till further notice.

JP to take part in Manikganj by-polls Jatiya Party will take part

- Star photo

in the parliamentary by-polls for Manikganj-3 seat which fell vacant after the death of BNP MP Nizam Uddin Khan, reports The decision was taken at an

extended meeting of Manikganj district unit of Jatiya Party, said a press release yesterday. The meeting criticised Col (retd) Abdul Malek, who was a

probably JP candidate, for joining the Awami League. The meeting observed that the party's unity in Manikganj would not be affected as no major leader or worker quit the

Accord likely From Page 1

party with Malek.

when they alighted from the helicopter, our Chittagong Bureau Chief Nurul Alam reports quoting correspondents from Khagrachhari. But the PCJSS leader, contrary to past practices, did not make a statement nor addressed the supporters. He also told newsmen there to leave the area.

Earlier, in Dhaka, there had been a brief discussion yesterday morning at state guest house Padma where the PCJSS delegation had been staying, giving a final touch to the issues they agreed on to make the ceasefire permanent, in force

since August, 1992.

The PCJSS leaders left Padma at 2 pm and reached their temporary headquarters at 4:50 pm. They are expected to leave for their sanctuary across the border sometime Friday morning, according to sources from Khagrachhari.

The 13 security and border out posts along the frontier hamlet of Dudukchhara in Panchhari thana, which were either rolled back or neutralised five days before the talks began on May 11 to facilitate arrival of the PCJSS high command, would be reactivated three days after their departure.

From Page transparency while dealing with the matter Bangladesh. He said that he also asked

them to even agree, if necessary, for a joint inspection by experts from both the countries. Speaker P A Sangma said that the establishment of the forum was a real expression of

India's desire to strengthen the

friendly relations with Bangladesh. Dr Najma Heptulla said if the representatives of the people — the parliamentarians — of the two countries come together

this could lead to closer ties. Bangladesh high commissioner Shafi Sami said the forum would open a new chapter of relations between the two countries, as members of par-

liament had a unique opportunity to shape public opinion. The high commissioner expressed the hope that a similar forum would be established by

the parliamentarians in Bangladesh to coordinate with the organisation here.

JCD walks out

From Page 1 manded immediate dissolution of DUCSU and holding of fresh election while GCO urged the VC to take initiatives for DUCSU election in September or Octo-

The VC, at the meeting, said that decision about DUCSU would be taken after holding talks with all student organisations and on the basis of consensus. The DU Syndicate in a meet-

ing on April 28 decided to dissolve the DUCSU committee for a fresh election. JCD is opposing the idea of

dissolving the DUCSU committee while all other student bodies welcomed the decision.

held in June 6, 1990 in which

The last DUCSU election was JCD won all the seats.