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President Alberto Fujimori of Peru stands in solemn silence after placing wreaths at the National Memorial at Savar yesterday. — PID photo

## Two accords signed

From Page 1

He referred that his visit was in response to Sheikh Hasina's invitation on the sidelines of the Washington Micro-Credit Summit early this year. Fujimori also extended an invitation to Sheikh Hasina to visit his country and the Bangladesh Prime Minister accepted the invitation. Farooq Sobhan said.

President Fujimori praised Bangladesh's success in various fields, particularly in the agriculture sector. He said, though, Peru is 10 times bigger in size, it produces six million MT of foodgrains compared to Bangladesh's 20 million MT.

Sheikh Hasina said in the talks that she had written letters to leaders of G-7 countries seeking duty free entry of products of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and debt relief for them. The G-7 summit is due in Colorado on June 19.

Letters have been sent to Presidents of USA, France, Italy, Prime Ministers of UK, Canada, Japan, and Chancellor of Germany.

Sheikh Hasina told Fujimori that her government was committed to good governance, flourishing of democracy, and freedom of press. She also mentioned investment opportunities offered by Bangladesh, formation of the SAFTA by year 2001 and Bangladesh's "pragmatic relations" with India.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina appreciated the rapid economic growth that Peru achieved over the last 7 years since Fujimori took over. She also offered to export manpower to Peru. Farooq Sobhan said.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Education Minister ASHK Sadek, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, State Minister for Planning Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, Principal Secretary to Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary, Science and Technology Secretary and FBCCI President, were, among others in the Bangladesh side. Fujimori was assisted in the talks by his daughter and First Lady Keiko Sofia Fujimori, others officials

and leaders of his country's chamber body.

Under the agreement on technical and scientific cooperation, the two countries will form a Joint Commission which will meet periodically for exchange of experts and scientific and technical information and undertaking joint ventures, specially in the field of fishing industry and canned fish. The agreement was signed by Fazlur Rahman, Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology, and Victory Arimoto, Peru's Ambassador to Japan.

The 'Protocol of Cooperation' between the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) and the Lima Chamber of Commerce (LCC) was signed by FBCCI President Yusuf Abdullah Harun and his Peruvian counterpart Juan A Forsyth. Under the agreement, the chamber bodies will exchange market information and trade missions foster economic and industrial cooperation, organise meetings of their representatives, inform each other about national and international affairs and specialised exhibitions and promote their participation in those events.

Farooq Sobhan said that the 'Protocol of Cooperation' between the chamber bodies is expected to lead to launching of joint ventures in near future.

## Keiko's birthday

From Page 1

on Saturday as a member of her father's entourage.

A fresh graduate from Boston University, Keiko celebrated her birthday at Hotel Sheraton with gifts sent to her by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The Prime Minister sent Keiko a bouquet and a birthday cake.

As she joined her father at the official talks at the International Conference Centre in the Prime Minister's Office yesterday, her brother, five years younger than Keiko, passed a leisurely day visiting the Mirpur Zoo.

## Standard of edn

From Page 1

mended for appointment.

Among them only five candidates got 65 per cent marks in their BCS examinations although 13 had got the same percentage of marks in their last university examinations.

Seventy five candidates got 60-65 per cent marks in the 15th BCS examinations while 48 candidates had scored the same percentage of marks in their university examinations.

Among the rest, 205 candidates got 55-60 per cent, 58 scored 50-55 per cent and 11 obtained 45-50 per cent marks.

When contacted, Vice-Chancellor of the Dhaka University Prof Abul Kalam Azad Chowdhury said that the observation made by the BCS was partly true. He said the overall situation in the country have some impact on the university education.

Defending the universities, the VC said that the observation might not be totally correct.

"You also have to consider the standard of the people who have made the assessment regarding the standard of education in the universities," he added.

"However, we are trying to improve the standard of education, at least in our university," the VC said urging all concerned to help maintaining a peaceful academic atmosphere on the campus.

## Still a mystery

From Page 1

The death was second such incident in the world.

A card identified him as Mamun, a worker of Techno Milan Garments at house number 22, road number 5 of Sector 5 at Uttara in Dhaka. But it was later revealed that there is no garments factory at the address.

The fake identity of the young man made the incident more mysterious frustrating all the 16 airlines operating in Dhaka as well as other civil aviation authorities all over the world.

Although Bangladesh Biman and Civil Aviation Authorities formed separate enquiry committees, there was no official version till 11 pm yesterday.

The Biman committee has been asked to submit its report by office time tomorrow. The committees will enquire how the young man was able to reach the flight and board as well as overall security measures at ZIA.

Meanwhile, the post mortem of Mamun was performed in Riyadh yesterday, but his photograph could not be taken due to Islamic rule. It is also not confirmed whether his body would be sent to Dhaka or not.

## UP election

From Page 1

to make recommendations about the structure and power of local bodies.

The report suggested a four-tier local government units — Village Council, Union Council, Upazila and District Council. These will be run by the elected representatives.

Replying to a question, Zillur said if the proposed Village Council is accepted, voting to the Village Council will also be held simultaneously with the Union Parishad.

## Low-cost housing

From Page 1

clone-hit areas, of whom 12 died in Noakhali, six in Lakshmipur, four in Chittagong and one in Cox's Bazar.

He said the Saudi government had sent relief by two aircraft yesterday and the day before, while an Indian government aircraft carrying relief was due to arrive late last night. The Saudi relief goods include, 804 packets of tents and 800 packets of foodstuff.

Karim said the government has distributed and sanctioned relief in cash and kind worth Tk 46.35.16,000. Besides, medicines worth Tk 30 lakh and six lakh water purifying tablets were also distributed, he said adding that 581 medical teams, including five army medical units and three navy medical units, were deployed in the cyclone-hit areas.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday received a total of Tk 31.16,470 in donations to the PM's Relief Fund from various organisations and members of the public. Over the last four days, a total of Tk 79,82,378 was received by the Prime Minister, he said.

## Fujimori visits Bangabandhu museum

From Page 1

Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori visited the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Memorial Museum in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

He placed a wreath at the stairs of the museum to pay respect to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

President Fujimori visited each room in the museum and wanted to know more about Bangabandhu and his family members.

The Peruvian President was accompanied by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, Curator Syed Siddiqur Rahman and Museum Trustee Board member Sheikh Hafizur Rahman.

## Fujimori leaves for Delhi

From Page 1

President Alberto Fujimori of Peru left Dhaka last night for New Delhi after a two-day official visit to Bangladesh, reports UNB.

He was seen off by President Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Zia International Airport at 8:40 pm.

## 2 PSC members take oath

From Page 1

Prof Dr Mujibur Rahman Biswas of Mymensingh Agricultural University and Dr Khandaker Bazul Huq of Dhaka University were sworn in as members of the Bangladesh Public Service Commission on Saturday, reports BSS.

Chief Justice Abu Taher Mohammad Afzal conducted the swearing-in ceremony in an informal function at the Supreme Court Bhaban, a press release of the Commission said yesterday.

The function was attended, among others, by the Chairman of Public Service Commission Prof Dr S M A Fayez, members of the commission, acting secretary of the commission's secretariat and other officials.

## Kushtia truckers on strike

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, May 25: Truck and Truck Lorry Sramik Union of Kushtia Zilla went on an indefinite strike from today in protest against what they said unlawful activities and atrocities perpetrated on them by Kushtia Zilla Motor Sramik Union in connection with Karmarkhal Goral Ferry Ghat.

Trucks and truck lorries in all routes including Kushtia district did not ply today.

## UP election

From Page 1

to Bangladesh and imported Bangladesh semi-industrial goods.

He hoped his visit would encourage expansion of trade ties in sectors like cotton, fisheries and pulp.

On the fighting in Peru, which continued for the past 30 years, Fujimori said he was confident the recent successful operation against Tupac Amaru had largely eliminated terrorist threat.

"We have been able to show that we can deal strongly with terrorists and we are optimistic that in the future we will have a peaceful country. Democracy will now, and must always, stand firm against terrorism."

Asked if the rebels in his country had outside support, Fujimori said, "They are not rebels. They do not have a cause. We are sure all the terrors of Tupac Amaru are now eliminated. They have some support and financing from some European countries, but I am hopeful

## Govt relief work limited to propaganda on TV: BNP

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday accused the government of unleashing torture on the opposition and carrying out its "failure, inefficiency and subservient policy," reports UNB.

He was addressing a joint meeting of the leaders of BNP and its front organisations from Rangpur, Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha, Kurigram and Saidpur organisational districts at Rangpur Town Hall yesterday morning, said a party press release.

Bhuiyan alleged that soon after taking over, the government was out to destroy the BNP. But he said, the government is only inviting a disaster for it as the popularity of BNP is increasing day by day.

Referring to the cyclone victims, the BNP blamed the government for failure to reach relief to the distressed people even after a week of the calamity. He said the government relief operation was limited to the propaganda of television.

"During our period, we reached relief to the affected areas within six hours," he claimed adding that the former BNP government had successfully tackled several natural disasters including flood, cyclone and tidal surge.

Bhuiyan said the government has opened the border to facilitate Indian goods to capture local market. It has also planned to hand over power sector to India by importing electricity from that country, he added.

The BNP Secretary General alleged that the government had made the country a target of the guerrillas active in south-eastern Indian states by extending assistance to the Indian

## HC orders

From Page 1

vision.

Earlier on May 4, the High Court division asked the government to show cause as to why the detention of the five leaders would not be declared illegal and ultra vires.

But the Home Ministry on May 7 extended their detention by three months without giving any reply to the court order.

After hearing the applicants' counsel the court issued the order yesterday. BNP Central Legal Aid Committee member Advocate Humayun Kabir Bulbul submitted the prayers on behalf of the detained leaders.

## One gets life-term for killing stepmother

From Page 1

KISHOREGANJ, May 25: A young man was sentenced today to rigorous imprisonment for life for killing his stepmother about four years back, reports UNB.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Majnunul Ahsan gave the verdict against Liton Mia, 27, son of Shahajahan Mia, for murdering his stepmother Mehra Khatun. The judge also fined him Tk 5,000, in default, to suffer another six months RI.

According to the prosecution, Mehra Khatun was stabbed by her stepson Liton at about 1.30 pm on August 5, 1993. She was returning by a rickshaw to her husband's house at village Noagaon in Kuliarchar thana from her father's house.

She died on way to Bhairab Chandibher hospital.

## Transport strike in southern dists continues

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, May 25: Traffic movements in southern districts and other parts of the country remained suspended for the second day today due to transport strike.

The strike was called by the Federation of Transport Owners Association and Employees Union on Saturday protesting harassment of transport workers by extortionists in Jhenedah.

The transport workers put barricades at Rajbari, Kamarkhali and Takerhat crossings.

Road communications between Khulna and Dhaka via Faridpur were badly affected following the transport strike.

## Shibir stages sit-in in Rajshahi

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, May 25: Activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) staged a sit-in in front of the office of the principal of Rajshahi Government College today and submitted a memorandum protesting what they called, forcible occupation of eight rooms of New Muslim Hostel of the college by Chhatra League activists.

They also submitted two separate memoranda to the Deputy Commissioner and the Metropolitan Police Commissioner.

They demanded removal of the Chhatra League activists from the hostel.

Meanwhile, sources at the college said that a tense situation was prevailing on the campus.

## Lankan breaks record of standing on one foot

From Page 1

COLOMBO, May 25: A 28-year-old man from war-shattered northern Sri Lanka entered the Guinness book of world records for the second time Sunday by standing continuously on one foot, reports AP.

Arulanantham Suresh Joachim stood on his left foot for three days and four hours, which was four hours and twenty minutes longer than the previous record held by Aresh Kumar of India, according to a panel of judges of Sri Lanka's sports ministry.

The judges would later report to Guinness book officials in London.

A small crowd of curious on-lookers cheered when it was announced that Joachim, a personnel officer in a local company, had broken the previous mark, set in September 1995.

"It is mainly a mental effort, not physical. You have to learn to cope with the pain. That's all," Joachim said after breaking the record.

A member of the minority Tamil community in the north, who fled to the capital eight years back to escape the hardships of the civil war between government troops and Tamil guerrillas, he holds the record for running continuously for 1,000 hours.

He plans to attempt 15 more records in the next five years, including walking backwards walking from one end of Britain to the other, clapping, running backwards and a run through 180 countries to raise dirrs 1 billion for children's charities.

## UP election

From Page 1

that after the rescue operation this will fade out."

Fujimori passionately said, "They do not have any support among the masses. They do not have followers. They are just terrorists — they thrive on extortion and intimidation. They are involved in "macro-terrorism."

"Both the groups are now disorganised and 95 per cent of the leaders are in jail," he added.

Asked whether some of the commandos who seized the embassy were intentionally killed although they wanted to surrender — as a section of the press claimed — Fujimori replied, "It is not correct. There was no order to kill in cold blood. The troops who carried out the operation were given orders to act as the situation demanded to save the lives of the hostages."

On the fate of Abumel Guzman, Fujimori said, "He was one of the ring-leaders of the terrorist world. He was respon-

## Fujimori: Partners in progress

From Page 1

sible for the death of 35,000 people. He destroyed the infrastructure of Peru, causing 25 billion dollars of damage."


Guzman was enjoying all the rights provided by international laws, he said.

Asked if it was true that Guzman's relatives were not being allowed to visit him, Fujimori said there was provision for relatives to visit him once a month. He, however, added that his (Guzman) brother, who lived in a distant town, was not interested in visiting Guzman.

Fujimori, whose family migrated to Peru from Japan in 1934, said he was proud to have oriental ties and that oriental values like hard work, sincerity and dedication helped him lead his country.

Asked how he saw his own future, a visibly relaxed Fujimori replied, "I will be a strong leader of my country."

In reply to a question, he said "when I am out of office, I will look for a new job in my country or any country that would offer one."



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## Nor'wester kills 2 in Magura

From Page 1

MAGURA, May 25: Two persons were killed and 50 others injured as Nor'wester lashed the district on Saturday night, reports UNB.

The dead were identified as Hashem Ali, 18, of Shirisdia village in Sadar thana and Azad, 50, of a village in Sripur thana of the district. They died in wall-collapse.

Among the injured, 10 were rushed to Magura Sadar Hospital while the rest were given first aid.

The worst-hit thanas are Sripur and Magura sadar.

The nor'wester that began at about 8 pm, lasted for half an hour and damaged nearly 500 kutchas houses, several hundred trees and standing crops in the fields.

Telecommunications and power supply in the affected thanas were disrupted.

## Indo-Pak foreign secy level talks from June 19

From Page 1

ISLAMABAD, May 25: Pakistan and India have scheduled a second round of foreign secretary level talks to continue a newly opened dialogue to improve ties, Foreign Minister Gohar Ayub Khan said today, reports AFP.

The talks will be held here on June 19 to 22, Khan said.

The first session between the two foreign secretaries was held in New Delhi in March, marking the resumption of a normalisation dialogue between the South Asian rivals after a gap of more than three years.

The four-day talks in New Delhi had paved the way for a meeting between Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and Indian Premier Inder Kumar Gujral in the Maldives capital Male on May 12 at the sidelines of a summit of south Asian leaders.

The two premiers in Male talks agreed to release civilian prisoners establish a hotline between them and set up joint working groups to thrash out outstanding issues including the thorny dispute over Kashmir.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars, two of them over the lingering dispute over Kashmir claimed by both.

## 4-hr token strike in newspapers, news agencies today

From Page 1

A four-hour token work stoppage will be observed in all newspapers and news agencies from 11 am today, reports UNB.

The Central Coordination Committee of three federations of newspaper industry and Dhaka Union of Journalists announced the programme demanding announcement of the 5th Wage Board Award.

It will also hold a grand rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club at 11 am, from where a greater action programme will be announced to press the demand.

Earlier on May 14, the committee submitted memorandum to the Prime Minister and Speaker demanding announcement of the 5th Wage Board Award.

Meanwhile, a joint meeting of the Central Coordination Committee, Central Action Committee, various units and employees unions was held at the Jatiya Press Club auditorium with coordination committee convenor Fazle Inam in the chair.

Among others, Amanullah Kabir, Zahurul Huq, Mosharraf Hosain, Bazul Rahman Milon, Quamruzzaman Khan, Mahtab Uddin Khan, Ruhul Amin Gazi and MA Aziz addressed the meeting.

## Yasmin murder

From Page 1

Prosecution witness Selina Shahadat in her deposition said that she made perfect inquest and conducted proper autopsy and identification of Yasmin's body. Selina told the court that Yasmin was raped and later murdered which was easily detected during investigations.

She refuted defence lawyer's charges that she was influenced by NGO's in preparing her enquiry reports on Yasmin murder case.

Former SP of Dinajpur Abdul Mutalib, seven other police personnel and a doctor of Dinajpur General Hospital are facing trial in the case.

## Shibir leaders

From Page 1

cases were filed with the Boalia police station in this connection.

Meanwhile, the central leaders of Gonatantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO) in a meeting here this evening strongly condemned the long standing "Shibir-terrorism" on the campus of Rajshahi University and called on the government to take drastic action against the terrorist to ensure congenial academic atmosphere on the campus.

Addressing the meeting organised by the local unit of GCO at Shahabazar Square in the city, the leaders said that both the academic and administrative function of the university remained totally paralysed during last two months due to terrorist activities of the ICS activists. They alleged that ICS have already destroyed the fame of the largest university of the northern region. Asrafu Hoq, a local (GCO) leader, presided over the meeting.

## Coup attempt in Sierra Leone

From Page 1

FREETOWN, May 25: Soldiers of Sierra Leone's Army have ousted the civilian government and President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah has fled, a military spokesman said in a radio broadcast today, reports Reuters.

Other ranks in the Sierra Leone Army are now in control of the state," Corporal Gborie said in his second broadcast since heavy shooting broke out in the impoverished West African state's capital in the early hours.

Gborie, who identified himself as a spokesman for the soldiers, called for the return to Sierra Leone of Foday Sankoh, leader of the rebel Revolutionary United Front, and of captain Solomon Musa, a former deputy military leader linked to coup allegations in 1993.

Heavy gunfire broke out soon after 5 am (0500 GMT) from the direction of the government offices at state house and the military headquarters, with troops using automatic machineguns, mortars and rocket-propelled grenades.

Soldiers broke into compounds of United Nations staff and Lebanese businessmen, taking cars and fuel and in some cases looting houses.

AP adds: The radio announced a dusk-to-dawn curfew. Witnesses described heavy exchanges of fire in the capital at the legislature building between the mutinous troops and Nigerian troops assigned to defend Sierra Leone from rebel attacks.

Four people have died, including a woman and a teenager, said officials at Connaught hospital in central Freetown, and 21 were wounded. Casualty figures were still coming in.

The coup attempt, launched at dawn with a massive prison break, comes weeks after a rebel war appeared to have restarted in this West African country. A fragile peace accord last year ended the civil war that ravaged the country and created hundreds of thousands of refugees.

## 20-storey IDB Bhaban inaugurated

From Page 1

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed the hope that the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) would come forward to render assistance in poverty alleviation and socio-economic development programmes and extending religious activities in Bangladesh, reports agencies.

Inaugurating the newly constructed 20-storey IDB Bhaban at Agargaon in the city, she said her government had identified poverty as the main problem and education as the only solution to it.

The Prime Minister said her government had taken steps for the development of human resources attaching priority to education, health and social development programmes.

Finance Minister and Mutawalli Committee Chairman Shah AMS Kibria, IDB Executive Director Faisal Abdul Aziz Al Zamil, ERD secretary Dr Mashur Rahman and Religious Affairs Secretary ABM Abdus Saqur also addressed the function.

The 20-storey building having a modern architectural design has been jointly constructed by Islamic Development Bank and the government of Bangladesh. IDB provided 13.85 million US dollars while the government two acres of land.

This building, to be used as office and commercial shopping complex, belongs to IDB and Bangladesh Islamic Solidarity Education Wakf.

## 2 accomplices

From Page 1

Staff Quarters at Agargaon. Two cases were lodged with Motijheel and Mohammadpur thanas.

"Sweden" Aslam, branded the 'most wanted criminal', was arrested along with eight accomplices from his old DOHS house last week. The authorities had previously offered a Tk 50,000 reward for his arrest.

## N'ganj phones

From Page 1

has been installed jointly by Italtel of Italy and Totaltel of Bangladesh, with local funding.

With the opening of the digital exchange, Narayanganj will come under the Dhaka metropolitan telephone system which will also replace Narayanganj's old area code of 0671 by 02 and enable the subscribers to dial a number in the capital without using any code.

The old subscribers are not being charged for the conversion which also offer them some extra facilities under the new system. These include call check, auto-lock, triangular conference-call, device to stop unwanted calls and short dialling method.

The old F-1 model telephone exchange at Narayanganj was set up on May 9, 1954 with a capacity of 600 lines, which gradually rose to 5,000 lines till 1992.

## Budget session

From Page 1

and spendings for the next budget.

The JP parliamentarians stressed the need for accelerating government's revenue-collection activities. Some of them emphasised that the denationalisation of the losing public-sector industries should be continued.

Describing the background of the pre-budget meetings, the Finance Minister said the present government believes in transparency and accountability.

"The government, in formulating the national budget, has taken step to get the opinion of businessmen, industrialists, professional bodies and mainstream political parties to ensure people's welfare," he said.

Kibria said there may be differences of ideologies among the political parties, but a consensus in economic matters is a must to serve the people best.

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