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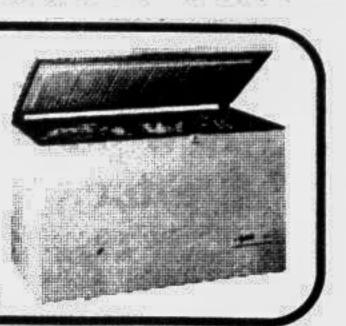
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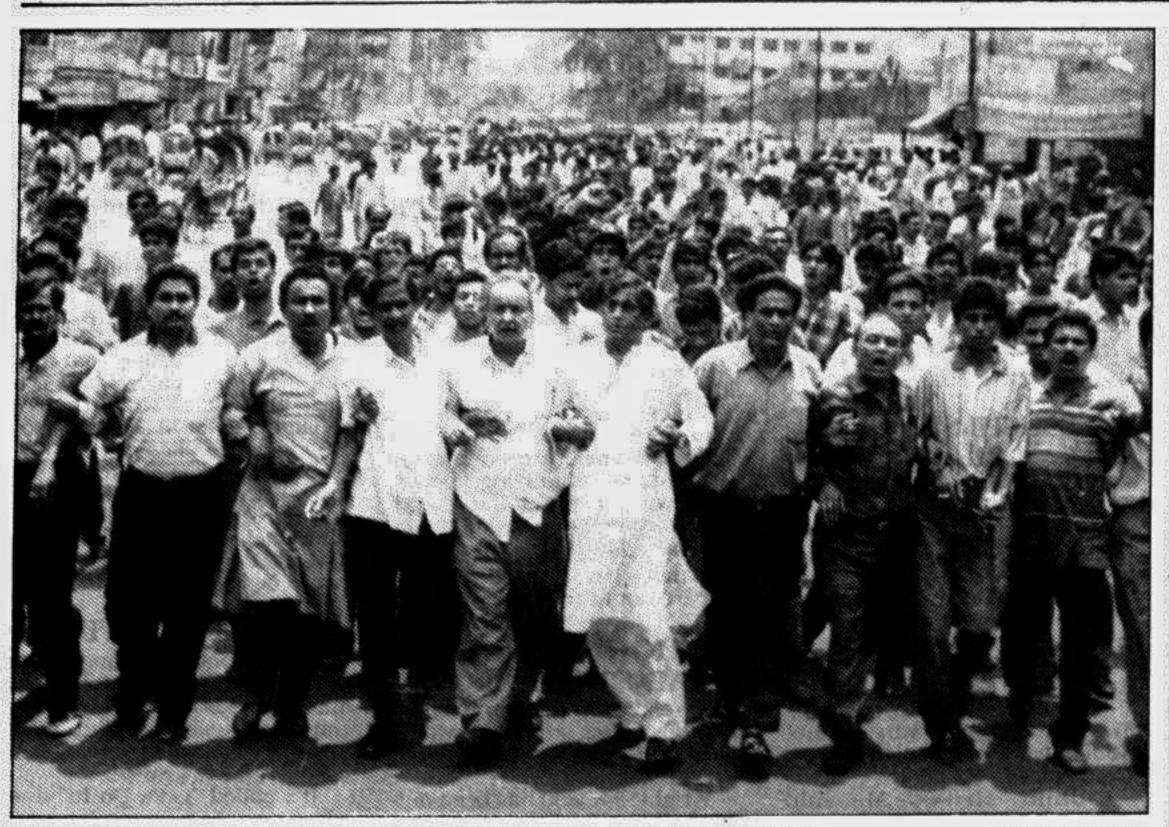
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It was learnt that 'many'

plots allotted during the rule of

Ershad and BNP still remained

to be handed over due to such

complications. Officials said

they received 1,350 prayers re-

cently for plots in Gulshan area

after Rajuk invited applica-

that if Rajuk has to go ahead

with this plan for further allo-

cation, it has to fill up the lake

and make plots. Rajuk has no

Prime Minister's recent order

which forbid any construction

or encroachment on lakes.

canals, parks, playgrounds,

low-lying areas and open space.

the lake with this order, but as

soon as these people go to court

our stand becomes weak," said a

top Rajuk official." We immedi-

ately need a legislation in this

quired 2,760 acres between 1958

and 1964 in Gulshan area. But,

directed by successive govern-

ments, it had to de-requisition

Sectt employees'

team calls on PM

Sachibalava employees called

on Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina at her Jatiya Sangsad

office yesterday afternoon, re-

The delegation members ap-

She gave them a patient

The delegation was led by

prised the Prime Minister of

hearing and said she would

Habibur Rahman Habib, Ataur

Rahman, Araz Ali and Zafar

One arrested for

raping minor

girl in Mirpur

By Staff Correspondent

arrested a young man on

charges of raping a three-year-

old girl inside a bathroom of a

school at North Bishil in the

Oliur Rahman Sharif, 18

son of Imanuddin Sharif and a

neighbour of the little girl, was

arrested from near his house.

treatment at Razarbagh Police

he violated the little girl. Police

are likely to produce Oliur be-

fore the CMM's Court today and

pray for a five-day remand for

pass the HSC examination last

Credit scheme

From Page 1

ble savings and credit scheme.

money," said Angur Beyoa, "I

will be able to repay the loan af-

ter selling eggs," hoped Beyoa, a

widow who planned a poultry

business at her house in

Prasadpur union under Manda

oped the pilot scheme after they

took note of several shortcom-

ings found through research on

micro-credit programmes in

the country in recent years. One

of those showed that the "mod-

erate poor and the vulnerable

non-poor people had benefited

most from the credit pro-

grammes, leaving out the ex-

IFADEP-1 planners devel-

"I can save a good amount of

The alleged rapist failed to

The victim is now under

Oliur confessed to police that

city's Mirpur area on April 6.

CID investigators yesterday

their problems and demands.

look into their problems.

A delegation of Bangladesh

1.385 acres.

ports BSS.

Ahmed.

police said.

Hospital

interrogation.

year, police added.

Rajuk had originally ac-

"We can temporarily save

Rajuk officials quoted the

other choice," said the official.

"Now the situation is such

An anti-hartal procession by Awami League in the city yesterday.

- Star photo

### 'Owners' grabbing land

From Page grabbed 6.92 acres of the lakeside green land at Road-15 at Section-1. The 'occupier' immediately set up a slum on the land and 'rented' it to people whom he can use to protect and guard the land against any bid to recover, an on-the-spot investigation revealed.

After 'strong lobbying' with Rajuk by the 'occupier', the matter was raised in the 8th Board Meeting of Rajuk recently. The Chairman immediately asked for a review of the

But at Road-16 in the same area, things were not like this. In one case, an individual grabbed some portion of the lake, filled it up and turned 'his territory' into a 'freehold plot'. Then he went on to get a plan approved from Rajuk for a 16storied building. Rajuk sources revealed that for approving this plan no clearance was sought from the Planning or the Land sections.

From Road-16 several signboards were seen inside the lake claiming ownership. Rajuk officials said when they saw this they filed a general diary with the Gulshan thana but to no ef-

Investigation further revealed that between 1994 and 1995 Rajuk filled up the lake near the American Club in Gulshan North between Road-62 and Road-63 and extracted 17 plots. The land-filling work cost Rajuk Tk 2 crore.

But no sooner had Rajuk handed over 'some plots' in that area, a developer moved in, encircled the area with walls, set up security posts and put up a huge signboard. The developer claimed that he was the 'original owner' of that land, Rajuk sources said.

#### Aid Group meet

tion, progress of reform programmes and successes achieved so far in various sec-

The issue of aid pledge will not come up in the meeting as the aid flow in the near future is not likely to be hampered, said an official handout yesterday. The main issue of the meet-

ing will be the present status of the steps undertaken by the government for achieving intended economic goals.

The decision to hold the mid-term consultative meeting was taken in the previous meeting held in the city on Novem-

ber 4-5 last year. It was also decided that the next full fledged meeting of the group will be held in Paris next

year. Besides, the meeting renamed Bangladesh Aid Group

as Bangladesh Development Forum, the handout added.

### Biman

From Page runway while landing at Chittagong in June last year has rejoined the fleet early this week after repair.

Biman plans to add at least two F-28's to replace the ATPs. An F-28 carries 84 passengers against 70 passengers by the

Meanwhile, negotiations are going on with three foreign companies to procure one DC-10-30 and an F-28 aircraft, the official said.

He said with the procurement of the DC-10-30 aircraft Biman would operate two weekly flights to Manchester,

It currently operates flights to 25 international destinations with four DC-10-30's and two Airbus A-310, occasionally using F-28's on regional routes.

### BUETTA

their administrative posts. Students and officers of the

the teacher's strike According to BUET sources, some officials from the Prime Minister's Office visited the

university on Wednesday and collected the names of senior teachers and other teaching

also collected by them. remarks by Education Minister

A S H K Sadek, the BUETTA president said, "The minister's utterances have forced us to review our decision regarding a meeting with him. The question of a meeting with him at this stage does not arise." Prof Akand further said

The education minister had called me twice on May 4, while we were conducting the general meeting of the Association. When I called him back after the meeting, he requested me to visit him along with the members of the executive committee of BUETTA. I told the minister that I would meet him, taking the opinion of the executive

"The executive committee, at a meeting on May 5, decided to see the minister at his convenient time," he said, adding that they were planning to seek an appointment with him ves-

ances at the press conference have hurt the teachers". "The BUET teachers have now suggested us not to visit him as his comments are not only objectionable but also venomous," he

#### Shibir

continued for about an hour.

ployed on the campus following the trouble on April 28 when Shibir activists were allegedly ousted from the halls by Chhatra League activists.

Another contingent of more than 100 policemen, led by SP Abdur Rouf, rushed to the spot

#### Shazneen murder

From Page 1 at Rahman's residence under a contract. The three - Hasan, Badal and Shoni Ram — were remanded for two days on Tues-

Our Staff Correspondent adds from Chittagong: A CID team led by ASP Mujibur Rah-

Kotwali thana where Shahid surrendered. ASP Mujibur Rahman talked to Sub-Inspector Nihar Ronjan Nath who was the duty officer at Kotwali thana when Shahid had sur-

rendered Later, the CID team along with Shahid went to Chittagong railway station and stayed there for 15 minutes, police

dress, two teams of mobile police from Kotwali thana, led by SI Abdur Rauf and SI Mizanur Rahman Bhuiya, escorted the CID personnel to the railway

respondent, said that Shahid showed the team the place at platform No 4 where he had passed his nights.

Shahid also showed the overbridge at the Station Road where he had asked passers-by to know the location of Kotwali thana, SI Rauf said.

any red-brick building which he mentioned during his surrender to Kotwali police, Rauf added. CID team then left for Dhaka the same night, Rauf said.

### Plane carrying Occidental workers crashes in Amazon: 74 killed

LIMA, May 6: A Peruvian air force Boeing 737 chartered by US-based Occidental Petroleum Corp. crashed in an Amazon jungle late on Tuesday, killing 74 of the 87 people on board, Occidental said today, reports Reuters.

"The first reports from the scene indicate that there are 13 survivors, who are being attended by medical personnel," Occidental said in a news re-Occidental gave no further

information about the identities of those abroad, but US media reported that there appeared to be no Americans on The jet, carrying 79 Occiden-tal workers and oil subcontrac-

tors as well as eight crew. crashed at about 9:30 pm on Tuesday as it was coming into land at Andoas, Occidental's main base camp in jungle near the border with Ecuador in northern Peru.

"Occidental is coordinating the rescue work with the air force and the relevant authorities. A helicopter is trying to evacuate the wounded, but the bad weather in the area has im-

peded the rescue up to now," the company said.

It said that three rescue teams were dispatched to the site three miles (5-km) north of Andoas and arrived early to-

The jet had taken off from the Amazon city of Iquitos. about 630 miles northeast of the capital Lima, for the 190mile flight west to Andoas.

A source in the Peruvian military, who asked not to be identified, said the Boeing 737 was one of the newest in service with the air force and was just three or four years old. "Communications are diffi-

cult. The aircraft left Iquitos for Andoas and disappeared off the radar screens before arriving. It was marked down as lost at 2115 (0115 gmt). All communication was lost," he said.

"They've asked us for 80 body bags," the source said.

The accident site appeared to be rocky terrain, without much tree cover to absorb the impact of the crash, he added.

Los Angeles-based Occidental was Peru's largest oil pro-

## Regional Council Bill

From Page 1 concerned. The original provi-

sion in the bill had said that the government would have to consult the RC or the hill district council concerned in such cases.

The JP lawmakers' amend-

ment proposals, which were rejected by voice-vote, include renaming the Regional Council as Development Council. The Speaker allowed an un-

specified time to the JP lawmakers to speak on their amendments. Each of them got 13 minutes on an average against the practised time of one minute to two minutes in such cases. Winding up the debate on the

bill, Law Minister Abdul Matin Khasru said the proposed Regional Council is neither a parallel government nor a local government. "It's just a coordinating body."

Refuting Opposition charges, he said the Regional Council will coordinate the three hill district councils as a public

#### JCD activists From Page 1 238 were ousted.

Meanwhile, the DU Syndicate, at an emergency meeting

yesterday, prohibited all kinds of rallies, processions and slogans on the campus during the rehabilitation process. The Syndicate requested the

Vice Chancellor of university to take a decision, after consulting the student organisations. whether processions and rallies on the campus could be banned for some days to maintain law and order.

UNB adds: Dhaka University Teachers' Association yesterday called for taking steps so that all genuine students of the university can stay at their respective dormitories without disturbance.

The association made the call at its general meeting held with its President A F M Yusuf

Haider in the chair. Taking stock of the overall campus situation, the meeting

appealed to all concerned, including the students organisations, to refrain from terrorist acts on the campus. It also condemned police at-

tack on general students at Jasimuddin Hall on April 23 and demanded exemplary punishment to those involved in the incident.

From Page 1

banking system vulnerable

through influencing the offi-

cials at policy and operational

are being resolved through

sharing of advantage by the

'actors' including union and de-

cision makers while the stake-

holders remain at bay hoping

for eventual bail out by the gov-

the robust presence of the

stakeholders, transparent ini-

tiation and agenda building as

well as information processing

and accountable decision-mak-

decision makers are rarely neu-

tral and professionals are

rarely votaries of ethical con-

confidence in a bank deposit

their money there and such de-

posit is a sacred trust. "But, if

this trust is broken or people's

confidence in the bank is oth-

erwise shaken, the banking sys-

the finance sector has come un-

der pressure from certain actors

in the game in the developing

countries, and the banking sec-

tor has been subjected to struc-

President Shahabuddin said

tem will collapse.

"Unfortunately, the current

He said people having full

This can only be avoided by

ernment.

ing, he said.

duct.

As a result, he said, conflicts

statutory body and in no way it will hamper the unitary character of the government.

"The government has the full authority to dissolve it." Khasru said adding that the Council will have no legislative author-

Citing relevant Constitutional provisions, he said the government has the power to form such public statutory body like the proposed Council. Criticising BNP's stand on

the Regional Council bill, the Law Minister said they are making statements dishing out falsehood to confuse the people. The proposed Regional

Council will supervise and coordinate all development activities under the three hill district councils

#### President assents to two bills

President Shahabuddin Ahmed on Tuesday assented to two bills passed by parliament in its current session, reports

The bills are the Employment Bank Bill 1998 and the Bangladesh Folklore and Crafts Foundation Bill 1998, said a press release of the Parliament Secretariat.

#### Dhaka-Calcutta

From Page 1 borty. The Express said, the bus service between Calcutta and Dhaka may begin on May 26 as a "token" even if the centre's approval for the regular service

did not come by that day. Three buses would leave Calcutta on that day, carrying the first batch of passengers, including journalists. The Express said.

Subash could not, however, say if he expected the Vajpayee government's approval to come by that time. "We are mounting pressure on Delhi to clear it soon," the minister was quoted as saying.

Meanwhile, when contacted, a Bangladeshi official said they had no knowledge about the reported bus service between Calcutta and Dhaka from May 26. There are still some points

which are expected to be settled at a subsequent meeting between the two governments," he

# President: Banking sector

countless depositors whose interests, if threatened, will bring the economy to a halt.

cials, directors and loan takers

This underscores the heightin banking and related institution, the President said. The President expressed

t's strong worded commitments to take to task the loan defaulters, to punish the offending bank officials, to free the banks from undesirable union pressures and allow the banking sector to function professionally within a supportive legal framework.

"But, people are still awaiting implementation of these commitments," he said. Speaking on the occasion,

Finance Minister SAMS Kibria said the government is committed to bring the defaulters to the book. "People responsible for laundering money from the banks will not get away .... Sooner or later we will get them.

slow in this regard. Bangladesh Bank Governor Lutfor Rahman Sarkar said the

Central Bank and the finance ministry are working hard to restore discipline in the banking sector.



## Sporadic clashes mark hartal

From Page 1 rupted as pickets detained a train at Bogra station at 7 pm. They also put up barricade at Kahalu and Bonpara stations near Bogra station.

In the city, pro-hartal activists set tyres on fire in various areas. They also damaged some vehicles in Naya Paltan. Mahakhali and Gabtali areas and set at least two rickshaws on fire at Nayabazar and Bijoynagar.

A BNP procession started from party office at Tanti Bazar under Kotwali thana at about 11:30 am. The processionists were confronted by anti-hartal activists, with the support of police, at Dholaikhal.

At one stage, some of the processionists hurled brickbats and crackers at police, in which Harez Talukder, a sub-inspector of police was injured. The chase and counter-chase

tire Nayabazar area and clashes lasted about two hours. During the clashes, police picked up five of the processionists and the others fled. But they

later retaliated with gunshots

between the rivals spread to en-

at police. Police responded with at least eleven rounds of gunshots. said police sources. Two police constables, identified as Mohammad Ali and Nuruzzaman. suffered bullet wounds during

the two-hour long battle. Rashid Talukder, a photojournalist of the Ittefage, was injured when chased by pickets at Tantibazar. He was given

first aid. Police lobbed about 50 rounds of tear gas shells to disperse the pro-hartal activists.

Clashes between pro and anti hartal activists broke out at Motifheel when a BNP procession led by Sadek Hossain Khoka and Shahjahan Siraj came face to face with an-anti hartal procession of Freedom Fighters Rehabilitation Society near the Dhaka Stock Exchange at about 9:30 am.

Chase and counter-chase between the two sides spread to the whole area from Shapla Chattar to the Ittefaque Crossing. Both the groups fired shots and hurled crackers that left four persons wounded. \*The bullet-hit were identi-

fied as: Kala Mia (50) and Ismail Mollah (45). Police lobbed at least 10

rounds of tear gas shells to bring back normalcy in the

The activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and Jagpa attacked some buses and tempos in Navapaltan area. Crackers were exploded there: A tempo driver was injured in the area, DMCH sources said.

Rahmatullah, MP of Awami League, who was leading an anti-hartal procession on the Airport Road at Mahakhali told this correspondent "the decision to bring out anti-hartal procession today was taken at a

city Awami League meeting yesterday." A BNP procession led by

Salam Talukder and Khurshid Jahan MP and an anti-hartal procession led by Rahmat Ali passed through the Airport Road at Mohakhali in the morning. No clashes took place. Another anti-hartal proces-

sion, led by Haji Selim MP went

through Chawkbazar, Lalbagh

and Chankharpul areas. According to a police press release, the picketers damaged a truck in front of the BNP city unit office in the morning. They also damaged a minibus and a microbus at Jatrabari and Mir-

pur areas in the city. Two persons identified as Kamal and Shahid were bullethit at Ittefaque Crossing when they came under attack by prohartal activists.

Bomb explosions left Tanvir Ahmed injured at Jatrabari and a rickshawpuller at Bijoynagar, Mobarak at Kawranbazar. Amir and Tuhin at Tikatuli. The pro-hartal pickets also

clashed with police at various places in the city. Alam Mollah. AC of Kotwali Zone and Monwar Hossain, OC of the thana along with three police constables were injured in bomb and brickbat attacks, the police press release said.

At Nawab Yousuf Market, a police constable was bullet-hit near the BNP city unit office, it added Some witnesses said two

white microbuses with 'passen-

gers carrying guns' were seen BNP condemns 'armed attacks' on processions

during hartal BNP blamed the ruling party and police for armed attacks' on processions during the half-day hartal yesterday, reports UNB. Addressing a post-hartal

Convenor Sadek Hossain Khoka said the ruling party let loose its armed terrorists during hartal hours. He accused the police of helping the armed terrorists and

condemned the attacks on pro-

hartal activists in different

press conference, City BNP

parts of the country. Khoka said more than 500 people were injured, some with bullets, during the hartal across the country. He said the complete picture was not yet available from all the districts.

He reaffirmed BNP's stand to thwart implementation of the 'black' CHT accord

In the capital, he said ruling party activists and its hired goons equipped with arms and aided by police attacked BNP processions led by its central leaders at Motijheel, Ittefaque crossing, Paltan, Farmgate, Mirpur, Dhanmondi, Mo-

hakhali, Jatrabari and Demra.

moving in Bijoynagar area under police protection at about 11:00 am. The microbuses had stickers reading "newspaper" on their rear windshield.

At one stage, the vehicles started moving towards the Jativa Press Club. When contacted, police

sources said that the passengers in those microbuses were 'plain clothes' police personnel. They, however, could not explain why the vehicles were using stickers reading 'newspaper'. According to sources in the

were picked up from their residences in the early hours of yesterday. Police sources confirmed that at least 133 people were picked up from various areas in the city from the early hours till the end of the hartal yesterday. Some of those people were

BNP, many of their activists

picked up from their residences under section 54 and on specific charges, police said, adding only 37 were detained in the thanas concerned.

#### Khaleda

From Page 1

the present government has been isolated from the people," she said.

Begum Zia also accused the

ruling party of making attack on the peaceful processions of BNP by its armed terrorists during the hartal hours across the country.

"Several hundred BNP activists were injured in the attacks. Police also arrested a good number of BNP supporters yesterday," she said.

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Published by the Editor from City Publishing House Ltd., 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 866772-4, Commercial: 866771, Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Internet edition address: http://www.dailystarnews.com and Email address: dstar@bangla.net

**Editor: Mahfuz Anam** 

From Page 1 nite strike against the backdrop of the resignation of Prof lubal Mahmud from the post of vice chancellor on Monday. Following Prof Mahmud's resignation. 71 BUET teachers resigned from

university have also supported

A copy of the appointment rules for BUET teachers was Condemning the reported

committee", he noted.

"But the minister's utter-

From Page 1

Police also opened fire on the attackers, exchange of fire Some 350 police were de-

### tonight to quell the situation.

man came here from Dhaka at 10 pm Tuesday night along with The team at first visited

Said As the CID came in civil

station. SI Rouf, talking to this cor-

But Shahid could not locate

tural scrutiny. "At the same time, the behavioural norms of bank offihave been put under examination because banks deal with ened need for promoting ethics

happiness over the governmen-

He, however, acknowledged that the government was a bit

> প্রকাশ তারিখে চোখ রাখুন ৯৬/৯৭ নিউ ইশ্বাটন রোড, ঢাকা-১০০০