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From Page 1

of the AB Bank, had been served

with removal notices under

The plaintiffs, all directors

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were our director till

Bangladesh Bank made laws

baring legal adviser to be a di-

rector. It is very natural that

you will represent us in any le-

gal proceeding including de-

fending any notice under sec-

tion 17 as issued by us. We are

very much perturbed by the in-

formation. We request you to

please refrain from appearing

against us in the said writ peti-

petitioners may have annexed a

letter dated 4.2.98 of

Bangladesh Bank addressed to

us which was not copied to any-

one else. We gave you a copy of

this letter to you as our retained

legal adviser, and it forms part

of our legal professional com-

munication with you. We trust

and expect that the copy so an-

nexed was not obtained from

"We also understand that the

tion challenging our notice.

Let's make things better.

(Guarantee)

Tribute 'Ahmed Sharif was a lone crusader'

By Staff Correspondent naming a road after him and scrapping the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution to show respect to the late intellec-

The National Committee at a condolence meeting at the Central Shaheed Minar yesterday made the call for "realising the causes of the uncompromising scholar who devoted his life to fight against religious fanaticism, superstition and parochialism.

Chaired by Lt Col Kazi Nu-

hury described Dr Sharif as a man of rare species who never surrendered to or compromised with the ruling class in the face of pressure or for any privilege.

Poet Shamsur Rahman termed Dr Sharif as a lone crusader against custom and recalled his efforts to change the

Litterateur Ahmed Sofa him his due honour.

Recalling Dr Sharif's commitment to Bangalee nationalism and socialist idealism. Kamal Lohani said he died at a time when he started to organise a platform for left-leaning intellectuals.

Rashed Khan Menon said Dr Sharif was a sharp contrast to our mainstream intellectuals who cannot think of their existence without flattery of the people in power.

Umar, Bashir Al-Helal, Fayez Ahmed, Nirmal Sen, Abul Kashem Fazlul Haq, Dr Lalit Mohan Nath and Ahmed Sharif's son Dr Nehal Karim spoke at the condolence meeting.

see the natural beauty of that its big natural lake surrounded by hills with lush green.

district town, the Pakistan Prime Minister enjoyed a cultural presentation by the tribal artistes.

The Pakistan premier will return to Dhaka this morning and is scheduled to leave for home before noon, official sources said.

group of BCL, polytechnic unit and both the groups backed by local Awami League leaders, were locked in a feud for a long time over control of the campus and hostel of the institute, police said.

M Nasir

janaza in the city.

of violence.

tivists of Sera Akbar group in connection with the killing.

tivists belonging to Taher group demonstrated in the premises of Chittagong Medical College Hospital last night after the death ... Kader, witnesses said,

From Page 1'

want security in food supply better communications facilities and electricity. "Rural people are deprived for long of their basic demands, specially of electricity."

Tofail said the country got huge gas reserves, which is being utilised for power generation to give more value-added benefits to the people. He told the WB team that the

government was trying to make power sector efficient by reducing system loss and improving overall management. He hoped that the proposed

reform programme would help the efforts.

Secretary to power division GM Mandal, WB resident representative Frederick T Temple, WB energy and infrastructure team leader in Bangladesh Arun Banerjee and senior financial analyst of the WB S Vijay lyer also took part in the discussion.

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Next FS

From Page 1 and was later absorbed in the

foreign service while Ali is an

year and was reappointed on

contract as high commissioner

in Delhi, a position he has been

holding since April, 1995. He

had previously served as high

commissioner to Pakistan and

ambassador to China and Saudi

Arabia. He was also chief coor-

dinator of the first SAARC

diplomat, had earlier served as

ambassador to Germany, Nepal

belonging to the 1967 PFS batch

and Muazzem Ali of the 1968

batch are also being considered

nior most diplomats. Kazi An-

war Masud and Mustafa Faruk

Mahmud ,are due to retire this

Mohiuddin Ahmed is tipped to

become the country's new envoy

to Russia, the sources said.

Acting foreign secretary

Ali, also an experienced

Anwarul Karim Chowdhury

Meanwhile. Two other se-

summit in Dhaka in 1985.

Sami retired earlier this

ex-PFS officer.

and Bhutan.

for appointment.

The National Committee for Paying Tribute to Dr Ahmed Sharif yesterday called for publishing his complete works and biography from Bangla Academy, establishing "Sharif Chair" at the Bangla Department of Dhaka University,

ruzzaman, the condolence meeting was attended by people from all walks of life to pay tell ute to Dr Ahmed Sharif who died at the age of 78 on February

Prof Serajul Islam Chowd-

Describing Dr Sharif as an emblem of courage and honesty, Prof Humayun Azad said his teacher, Ahmed Sharif, lodged the strongest protest against religion by donating his body for education of students.

society.

called for showing due respect to one of the best sons of the soil and regretted that Bangla Department at DU and the Bangla Academy had failed to accord

Among others, Badruddin

Hasina-Sharif

From Page 1

the hill district of Rangamati to Rangamati is famous for During his stay in the hill

Ctg polytech

From Page 1

Kader belonged to Taher Sera Akbar group is report-

edly backed by AL leaders Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury and mayor Mohiuddin Chowdhury while Taher group is backed by another AL leader A J The body of Kader was sent

to his village home today after A large number of police

were deployed in and around the institute to foil any attempt Police today arrested two ac-

bilateral matters and the A large number of BCL ac-

WB ban goes

cused him of accumulating all powers in his hand and of being a "democratic autocrat," Sharif, in his usual composed and relaxed manner, said "If anyone had less power, it was the prime minister of Pakistan. Only the normal democratic powers of the institution of premier have been restored

amendments. Without naming any one, he said his critics should look at their own faces in the mirror and remember that it is they who had abused power while in

Responding to a question, he replied, " I had always campaigned for free market economy, deregulation and private enterprise. And these are having positive results. Those who criticise me should see what I have done and evaluate what they have done."

Khaleda pledges peaceful life if returned to power

BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a public meeting at Madhabpur stadium

MADHABPUR, Habigonj, educational institutions. Mar 3: BNP chairperson Begum "We will try to develop all Khaleda Zia has pledged to the sectors of the economy if you nation that her party would engive verdict in favour of BNP to sure basic needs of the people run the country," said Begum and a peaceful life if it returned Zia keeping in view the next to power, reports UNB. general election scheduled in "Allah has endowed us with human and natural resources.

in Habiganj yesterday.

If we can make their proper use,

Inshallah we will be able to

bring about a change and im-

prove the fate of the common-

man," she told a public meeting

at Madhabpur stadium in the

would ensure food for all, peace

and prosperity of the nation

and congenial atmosphere in

Khaleda

From Page 1

Bangladeshi leader of the recent

currency and consequential

economic difficulties suffered

by Malaysia and other ASEAN

overcome these difficulties

principally because of the fact

that it has not been dependent

upon foreign capital for eco-

nomic progress, unlike many

other developing nations," the

Malaysian premier was quoted

He informed her that

to have told the BNP chairper-

Malaysia has a favourable bal-

ance of trade, huge foreign ex-

change reserves and is laying

greater emphasis on sophisti-

cated and high-tech industries

like automobile and light air-

expressed his wish that

Bangladesh should be able to

expert more commodities and

in greater volumes to balance

going repatriation of surplus

expatriate workers and said re-

duction in jobs in labour-inten-

sive enterprises in his country

sides should further encourage

exchange of economic and

business delegations and also

hold and participate in trade

fairs in each other's country to

promote investment, trade and

Begum Zia stated that both

He explained reasons for on-

its trade with Malaysia.

prompted the measure.

joint ventures.

The distinguished visitor

"Malaysia could successfully

Khaleda said her party

afternoon.

countries.

She said: "Awami League means famine, repression, oppression and corruption." Begum Zia said the rate of electricity, gas, water and other civic amenities have been increased several times during the

last three years. "This government has to be removed," she said and asked the audience to join the movement against it. She said the next course of action against the government will be an-

nounced shortly. "Our leaders and workers have sacrificed their lives. Their sacrifice for the rights of the people and their welfare would not go in vain," she

Begum Zia told the audience that the days of this government are numbered. People are fed up with the ruling party for its misdeeds, repression and oppression. It wants to cling to power by annihilating the opponents.

"It has held unilateral polls to municipalities without participation of the opposition in a bid of reintroduce one-party rule in the country," she said.

The former state minister Syed Mohammad Kauser joined BNP at the public meeting.

Corrigendum

The Industries Minister, Tofail Ahmed, has called a meeting of Kafco shareholders on March 7 apparently to discuss the issues after the government's refusal to approve the plant acceptance deal under a so-called commercial settlement proposed by the general contractor. A Builty Star report yesterday said it would be a meeting between the finance minister and the shareholders.

The March 7 meeting will take place at the industries ministry conference at 11:00am, the ministry sources said.

- Star photo JS session to continue till first week

Advisory Committee yesterday discussed progress of the current session of the Jatiya

members of the 15-member committee attended the meeting, chaired by Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury.

The committee decided to continue the current session of Parliament till the first week of April with recess for the Independence Day celebration and the Eid vacation. Leader of the House and

lur Rahman, Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed, Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid, Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah and Rahmat Ali attended the

RANGAMATI, Mar 3: At least 38 houses were gutted in a fire in Debashish Nagar area of the town Tuesday night, reports

and soon engulfed the entire

of April

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Deputy Leader of the House Zil-

meeting. in Rangamati

fire originated from a kitchen

A meeting of the Business Sangsad, reports UNB.

None of the six opposition

Fire Service sources said the

But Barrister Rokonuddin Mahmud on behalf of AB Bank said since this case was also listed with court 6, it should be delisted from court 23. He argued that if all other similar cases could be handled by court 6, then why this single case be heard at a different court. The BB lawyer Barrister Tania

HC judge, defence lawyers view and added that since the bank directors' cases were in the process of being heard, the hearing by court 6 will ensure

early disposal as desired by the section 17 of the Bank Companies Act, 1991. Unless they repaid their default loans to AB Bank within two months of the notice, they would face the reit was under his jurisdiction. moval. But the plaintiff filed a

case with the HC and obtained a stay order on February 16, All bank directors' cases were listed with the court number 6 of Justice Kazi Ebadul Hoque on February 17 this year and the hearings started on February 22 and on February 23. Feburary 23 being a hartal day, the hearing was not held despite objections.

and the next hearing was scheduled for February 28. On February 28, AB Bank lawyer Barrister Rokonuddin Mahmud mentioned in the court 6 two more cases of bank directors to be included along with other such cases for hearing. These two cases included one by the four AB Bank directors - Salman and Sohel Rahman, MA Quashem and Iqbal

Ahmed. Accordingly, this case appeared in the court 6 list on March 1 for hearing along with other cases of bank directors.

On this day, Barrister Rafique-Ul Huq prayed for the matter to be taken out of list of court 6 citing that the case was also in the list of court 23. But the judge refused to do so

since all other similar cases were being heard at court 6 as it was a senior court. On March 2, Barrister Hug made a written petition to delist

the case from court 6. But the judge once again refused to do so and said since court 23 is a junior bench, it can not raise any objection against a senior court.

It may be mentioned that the case was not listed with court 23 on both March 1 and 2. However, the case file for unknown reasons was not in court 6 despite the case being on its list. which many experts said was It transpired that the case

file was retained in court 23. The case was finally listed with court 23 yesterday and Barrister Huq requested the bench to give priority to the case since the Bangladesh Bank was also wanting a quick disposal of the case.

Ameer also expressed the same

AB Bank managing director, A Rahim Chowdhury, said in a letter to Hug. "You have been our retained lawyer since inception. You

But the Justice Fazlul Hoque insisted on hearing the case as

At this point, Barrister Mahmud said he and his client had objections to the hearing of the case at court 23 and also expressed the fear that AB Bank may not get a fair hearing. He also argued that he and his client are all the more apprehensive about the hearing because of the insistence of judge Fazlul Hoque to hear the case

He also wondered why all Beximco cases are being held at court 23 and Beximco lawyer prefers this court to any other court for hearing of the case.

He drew the attention of the court to the list which included a few Beximco cases.

The junior judge Justice MA Matin at this point observed that since the defense lawyers wanted not to hold hearing of the case at court 23, this should be delisted and should not be heard over their objections. But he was overruled by the senior presiding judge.

The defense lawyers then wanted an order rejecting their plea for delisting the case. But this was also turned down by Justice Fazlul Hoque.

The defense lawyers then said that they would be compelled to file a written petition not to have the hearing held in court 23. According to sources, such a

petition might be filed today. "We are surprised to learn that you are appearing as the senior counsel in a writ petition filed by Messrs. A S F Rahman, Salman F Rahman, Iqbal Ahmed and M A Quashem challenging the legality of our no-

tices to them under Section 17

of the Bank Company Act," the

Arrested stranded Pakistanis placed on remand By Staff Correspondent

Fifteen stranded Pakistanis, who were arrested for attempting to commit suicide in front of Hotel Sheraton Tuesday. were placed on a seven-day remand yesterday.

Police produced them before the CMM's Court and prayed for a 10-day remand for interrogation, but the court granted a seven-day remand.

tended the Saarc summit.

gion.

He also requested the BNP

lawmakers to rise above all po-

litical differences and take part

in the planned discussion on

the resolution for the greater

interest of the nation and re-

Joynal Abedin Faruk was given

the floor. His comment that a

Hindu (indicating Sengupta)

has moved the resolution on a

summit of the Muslim countries

sparked off uproar in the

Treasury bench. The Chair also

ing about the February 23-25

municipal elections but the

be brought up at that point.

his finger at the Chair.

Then Faruk started speak-

protested the comment.

After the 12-minute debate.

Ten killed, 75 hurt in 3 road accidents By Staff Correspondent Ten people were killed and

75 others injured in separate road accidents yesterday. Of them, six were killed in

Natore, three in Savar and the rest was killed in the city. Our Correspondent from Natore writes: Six people were killed and 25 injured, 10 of them seriously, when a Pabna

bound bus collided with a local

passenger bus at Haibatpur on

the Dhaka-Natore road around 7 pm yesterday. The dead were identified as Zakaria, 50, Abdul Hamid, 50, Osman Ali, 40, Intaz, 27 and Ibrahim 27. Another 28-yearold man could not be identified

immediately. The injured were rushed to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital, Natore Sadar Hospital, and Natore Mission Hospital. UNB adds: At least three

people were killed and 50 in-

jured when a bus skidded off the

road and fell into a ditch at

Hemayetpur on Dhaka-Aricha

highway yesterday. Of the injured, condition of ten was stated to be critical. Three passengers who were on roof of the coach died instantly.

Dacoits tie up journalist, loot cash & valuables By Staff Correspondent

A dacoity was committed at the residence of a journalist at Sher Shah Suri Road under Mohammadpur thana in the city yesterday. Police said a gang of about seven dacoits entered the resi-

dence of Kikobad Milan, a senior Sub-editor of The Daily Ittefaq, at about 11:45 am. They tied up Milan at gunpoint and took away Tk 25 thousand in cash and valuables worth about Tk 1.27 lakh.

According to the FIR lodged with Mohammadpur thana, Milan was alone in the house while his domestic help went to the market at the time of inci-

One was identified as Hablu. 20. son of Abdul Quddus of Sadullapur in Gaibandha district while the two others could not be identified.

Savar police reached the spot at about 7:30 pm and sent the bodies to hospital for autopsy. A case was filed. One person was killed in a

road accident at Neelkhet in the city yesterday. Sources at Dhaka Medical College Hospital said an unidentified pedestrian aged about 50 was crushed in between a car and a passenger bus when the two vehicles collided at Neelkhet crossing in the af-

The attending doctors declared the victim dead when he was brought to the DMCH.

ternoon.

Parvez

From Page 1 reasons for increasing the pa-

tient's unconsciousness." He went on, "Parvez suffered rupture of his brain membrane. This is one aspect we are looking at and this has improved following a surgery Friday. But what is more serious is that since Sunday, he is not responding to 'vocal command' which is an indication of the patient's critical condition."

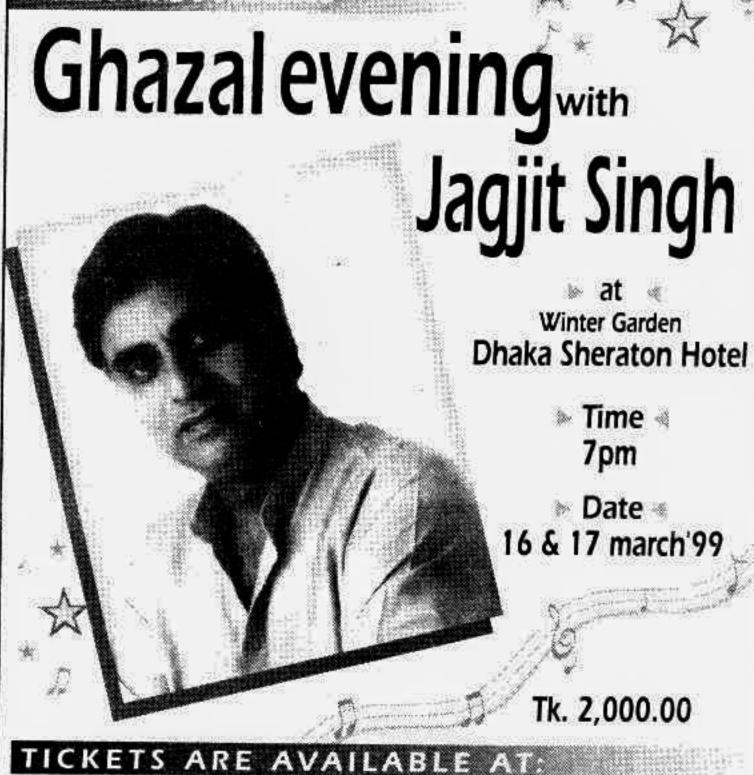
At about three yesterday afternoon, realising that Parvez's condition deteriorated further. doctors decided that he must have more medical investiga-But the DMCH lacks facili-

ties for sophisticated investigations like CT Scan. All head injury patients requiring CT Scan are referred to private diagnostic centres from DMCH. On being requested by this

correspondent, a private diag-

nostic centre . Medinova Medical Services Ltd, did the job free of cost for Parvez. The investigations would have normally cost the patient Tk 4600. The Computed Tomography (CT Scan) investigation done at

the diagnostic centre at around 4 pm yesterday revealed that Parvez had almost the same When contacted last night. clots he had prior to his operathe duty officer at the Mohamtion on Friday. He may need a madpur thana said none was second surgery to remove the arrested in this connection. oedema and clots. Shetubondha



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- Star photo pated," the minister said and blamed her for asking BNP leaders not to go to the summit. In this regard. Tofail reminded that during the BNP rule, the then Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina, showing greater magnanimity, had at-

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saying that the issue could not Subsequently, the BNP lawmakers walked out angrily in protest. While departing Faruk was seen shouting and pointing

She wished the people of Malaysia further progress and prosperity. Nawaz Sharif: Biharis From Page 1 cussed. Karachi, Sharif said the ac "During our recent talks (in

Lahore), my Indian counterpart expressed his desire that besides our discussions, we will more secure. try to find a solution to the Kashmir problem. concrete measures to increase The Lahore talks, the Pakistan prime minister said, have laid the framework for future discussions between us (Pakistan-India) on taking up confidence building measures

Kashmir issue. The talks will lead to a fresh resumption of Secretary-level meetings. He emphasised "Kashmir is the core issue of conflict between our two countries. The issue must be resolved to ease tension and restore normalcy."

and for discussions on the other

When told that his critics acthrough constitutional

office or holding official positions.

hours. not met.

tions taken by his government have brought peace in Karachi. The people in Karachi now feel

bilateral trade between Bangladesh and Pakistan. "We hope both sides will identify more specific areas for expanding commercial cooperation." Asked why he was visiting Rangamati during his current tour, he said, "I have been told that there are no facilities for

like the scenic spot." istan Foreign Minister Sartaj Aziz and Foreign Secretary Shamshad Ahmed were pre-

overnight stay in the Sunder-

AJM leaders' ultimatum to BJMC

Leaders of Adamjee Jute Mills today gave an ultimatum to the Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) to accept their demands within the next 72 They threatened to put up barricade on Dhaka-Chittagong

to the chairman of the BJMC. The demands include payment of all arrear salaries and

Regarding terrorism in He stressed the need for more

bans, Besides, I am sure, I would During the interview, Pak-

From Our Correspondent NARAYANGANJ, Mar 3:

Highway, if their demands were Rehan Uddin, president of CBA of Adamjee Jute Mills handed over the memorandum

festival bonus for coming Eidadded. ul Azha.

38 houses gutted

Police looking for arms yesterday near Mohsin Hall and A F Rahman Hall of Dhaka University following a confessional statement by an alleged terrorist arrested from city's

Opposition walks out of JS

of moving such a resolution,

saying "this is well understood

that the host country will au-

tomatically become the new

sury benchers. Choudhury fur-

ther said, "You don't need to be

so boisterous in your celebra-

tion... We did not do so when

former prime minister Khaleda

Zia became the Saarc chairper-

leader also announced that his

party would not participate in

the discussion on the "illegal"

argument, Commerce and In-

dustries Minister Tofail Ahmed

said the resolution is based on a

specific idea that is holding of

the second D-8 summit in

Dhaka. "Therefore, article 147

has not been violated in any

faction over the successful

summit, but castigated Leader

Tofail expressed his satis-

Before concluding, the BNP

Contradicting Choudhury's

Blasting the shouting Trea-

From Page 1 the resolution was illegal as only one idea could be covered by the said article. The one

moved by the Treasury bench

dealt with at least three ideas,

Kalabagan area.

he argued.

Elaborating on his argument, he said the resolution congratulated the PM on her election as the new D-8 chairperson, expressed the hope for a better socio-economic condition of the member states and praised the PM's role in hosting the summit. B Choudhury sharply reacted to the comments passed

from the Treasury bench during his deliberation. "As a lawmaker. I'm speaking on laws and I'm not here to be disturbed," an angry Choudhury said. But the Chair, allowing him to speak, said that the opposition deputy leader was not disturbed. Choudhury also said "there is nothing new in the resolution, except congratulation for

He also opposed the very idea

the prime minister". All other of the Opposition Khaleda Zia issues had meantime been disand her party leaders for their cussed about by the ministers absence in the event. (on different occasions), he "Bangladesh's image could be further improved had the Opposition leader partici-

way."

resolution.