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CU convocation
amid tight
security today

From CU Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, Mar 12: The second convocation of Chittagong University will be held tomorrow.

Prime Minister and Chancellor of the University Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the convocation and distribute certificates among the graduates from 1984 to 1992. M Phil and Ph.D degree holders up to December 1998. Education Minister AHSK Sadek will be present as special guest.

Sheikh Hasina will also take part in the convocation rally on the campus at 11.15 am.

However, BNP and Jamaat backed White Panel teachers, Jatiyatobadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) have decided to boycott the convocation.

They said the present acting Vice-Chancellor (VC) has no legal right to arrange this programme as the decision of the convocation was not approved by the academic council of the University.

The first convocation held in 1994 was presided over by Begum Khaleda Zia, former Chancellor of the University and Awami League backed Pink Panel teachers had boycotted the convocation.

The University authorities have formed eight sub-committees, including a 17-member central organising committee headed by professor Zahurul Alam, registrar of the University to oversee the whole arrangement.

Professor Abdul Mannan, VC of the university urged all concerned to make the convocation a success.

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AJM polls: BDR, armed police to be deployed

From Our Correspondent
NARAYANGANJ, Mar 12: High police officials from Dhaka today visited Adamjee Jute Mills (AJM) to see security measures for CBA elections scheduled to be held on March 14.

"We are examining all possible security measures to avoid violence," one visiting police official told The Daily Star.

The Collective Bargaining Agent (CBA) elections are to be held in AJM after a lapse of nine years.

Deputy inspector general (DIG) of Police, Dhaka Range, Matiur Rahman, Additional DIG Abdul Hannan and officials of district police administration discussed with the mills authorities the security measures on the election day.

It was decided that two companies of BDR personnel, two armed police battalion and 2,000 police personnel would be deployed to ensure a peaceful polling.

"However, the number of security personnel might be increased if needed," another police official said.

The police officials visited the AJM following a report in The Daily Star that a tense situation was prevailing at the jute mills ahead of the elections.

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Prayer Timings

March 13		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-30	5-35
Zohr	12-45	1-30
Asr	4-30	4-35
Maghrib	6-20	6-23
Esha	7-30	7-35

Source: Islamic Foundation

Arshad Khan bags five wickets Pakistan bundle out Sri Lanka for 231

By Al-Amin

Arshad Khan came from nowhere to return with a career-best haul of five wickets to give Pakistan an edge over Sri Lanka on the first day of the inaugural Asian Test Championship final that began at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The tall right-arm off-spinner from Peshawar, playing only his third Test, took five wickets for 38 runs as Sri Lanka, batting first after winning the toss in the morning, were bundled out for 231 runs.

In reply, Pakistan were 33 for no loss at stumps with the left-right combination of Saeed Anwar and Wajahatullah Wasti watchfully encountering the torrid ten overs in the last 45 minutes.

Although Pakistan ruled the day, it was the spectacular Test venue with a legacy of a glorious past, which for an unprettish time won the heart of the cricketing world by offering a full 90 overs of an absorbing battle despite a light drizzle before tea.

The wicket was harmonious to both bowlers and batsmen, the outfield was fantastic to say the least.

A regular visitor to the very

ground, Arshad, who played for Surjo Tarun in Dhaka's Premier league this season, was rewarded for maintaining a good line and length on a wicket that produced lively bounce.

The 28-year-old Pathan more than justified his inclusion as a third spinner when he went to create a personal record. He erased his previous best bowling figures of 3 for 73, that against Australia in the third Test at Karachi last September.

Although Arshad, who can hardly turn the ball, stole the limelight on an eventful day, Pakistani speedster Shoaib Akhter returned to action in style by uprooting the off-stump of Sri Lankan opener Russel Arnold. It was, however, none but captain Wasim Akram, who inflicted an early Sri Lankan collapse, claiming two wickets in successive deliveries.

But there was little respite

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business with the shiny ball. Akram took little time to vindicate his counterpart Aravinda's decision to bat on a gloomy morning when the left-arm seamer struck in the third over of the innings.

Bowling only his second over from the Pavilion End, Akram had opener Aviska Jayawardene caught by Wasti in second slip with an outswinger. He then returned down the wicket to Maheen Jayawardene for a first-ball duck. The young Sri Lankan right-hander was undone by yet another outswinger from the left-handed Akram that cut back sharply on to him.

Akram, who scored a hat trick in Lahore, was however deprived of an unique double in successive Tests when Atapattu safely negotiated the fourth delivery after the third one was declared 'no' by the umpire.

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"OFF STUMP AIRWAYS' TAKES OFF!"

A super-fast Shoaib Akhter delivery sends Sri Lankan Russel Arnold's off stump flying during the opening day of the Asian Test Championship final at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

— Star photo by AKM Mohsin

Big stretch of Banani Lake sold out to developers

By Staff Correspondent

The entire stretch of the city's Banani Lake between Makhali Road and Kemal Ataturk Avenue in the north has been sold out to developers violating the Prime Minister's order.

Many of these developers have already started filling up the lake. The remaining stretch of the lake is now full of demarcation pillars with signboards naming the owners. Trucks carrying earth to fill up the lake kept rolling day and night, residents of the area said.

The prime minister said most of the occupiers were producing Jute clearance before demarcating their boundaries.

At Road -16 on the Gulshan side of the lake, several people were injured recently when two groups fought over occupation of a part of the lake. One group arrived at the spot to put their

claim on a stretch of the lake which had already been demarcated by an influential person. At one stage, the group clashed with the other group protecting the demarcated portion, local people said. Gulshan police, however, denied any knowledge of the incident.

At the same spot, this correspondent found about two-thirds of the lake covering an area of more than 20 acres have been demarcated. Truckloads of earth were being dumped into the lake. Several young men who were guarding the site said the area belonged to one Akhteruzzaman Babu of Chittagong.

At Road -28, a few hundred yards from Road -16 in front of the residence of State Minister for Jute Faizul Haque, one Sikim Ali also said the lake

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