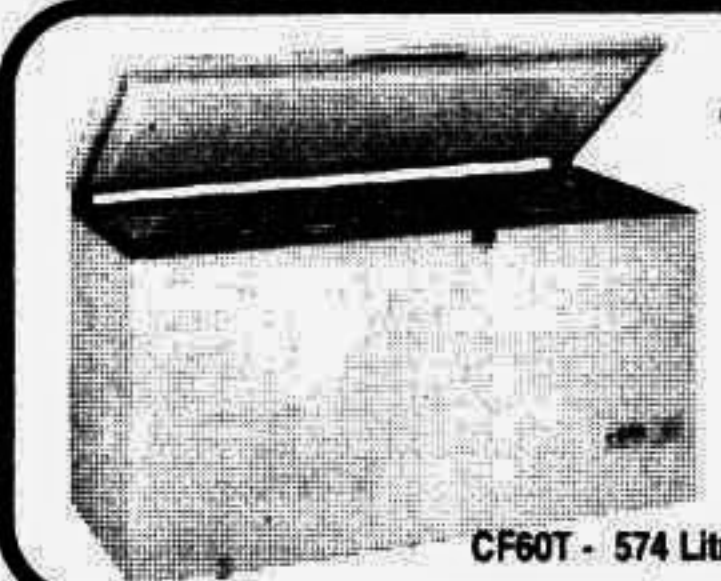


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West Indies 431 for 9

By Lenin Gani
West Indies were 431 for nine in their first innings, a lead of 175, at lunch on the third day of the second Test against Australia at Sabina Park in Kingston, Jamaica yesterday.
The home side added only one run to their overnight 377 for four when beleaguered skipper Brian Lara was caught by Ian Healy off Glenn McGrath for 213 thus ending a record 322-run fifth-wicket stand with Jimmy Adams.
Twenty runs later local hero Adams fell agonisingly six runs short of what would have been a well-deserved hundred. The left-hander was taken by Matthew Elliott in the gully off the bowling of McGrath. Wick-keeper Ridley Jacobs, while on 25, went for an extravagant shot off leg-spinner Shane Warne only to be snapped up by a diving Jason Gillespie near the gully region. Seven runs later, Pedro Collins, who retired hurt after making 10 on Day Two, offered slip practice to Mark Waugh off Stuart MacGill. The last wicket to fall before the interval was Curtly Ambrose (3), clean bowled also by MacGill.
Debutant Nehemiah Perry was at the other end while veteran Courtney Walsh was waiting to bat.

Asian Test

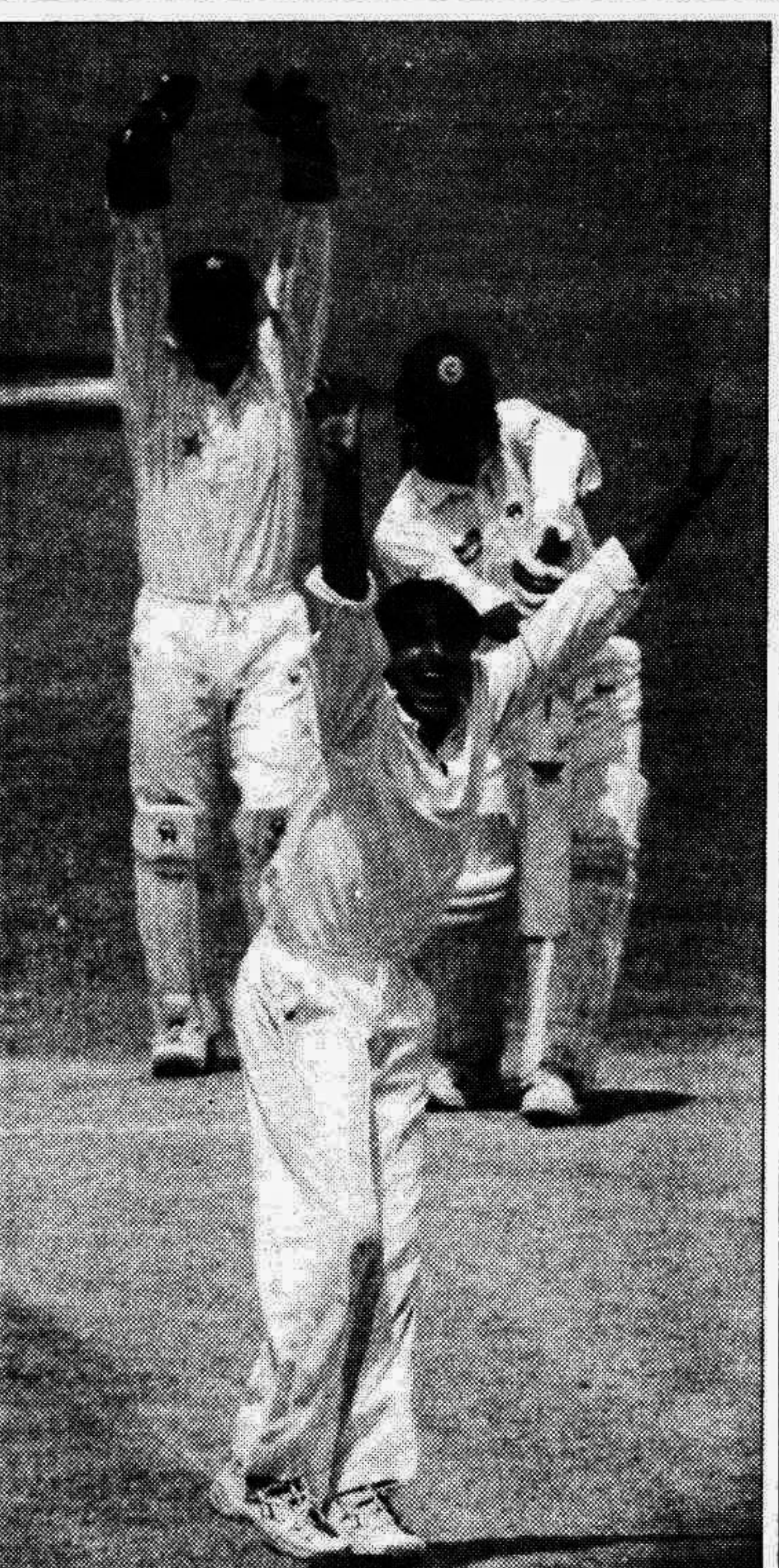
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board. The left-arm turner came up with a seven-ball burst in the second innings that earned him the fabulous feat of taking a hat-trick of wickets in successive Test matches.
The all-time great left-arm fast bowler, who took his first Test hat-trick against the same side at Lahore nine days ago, was later declared the man-of-the-championship by match adjudicator Cammie Smith of West Indies. His cash award amounted to 10,000 US dollars.
Pakistan received a lucrative winners' purse of 100,000 US dollars. Sri Lanka received 60,000 US dollars and third-placed India 20,000 US dollars.
Pakistan's experienced right-hand batsman Ijaz Ahmed, who scored a career-best 211, won the man-of-the-final award of 5,000 dollars ahead of compatriot Inzamam-ul-Haq who hammered an unbeaten 200.

TUs at Cig

From Page 1
tion in port area on March 21 and 22.
The rally also called for resolving the issues of pay scale of semi-skilled employees, incentive bonus, joint seniority and time scale.
Presided by Mahfuzur Rahman Khan, president of port CBA, the rally was addressed, among others, by Nurullah Bahar, Abu Jafar Azad and Shamsul Huq Shaif.

Bus service

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culta bus service. The Indian authorities are sending two specially built buses to Calcutta from Bangalore while the West Bengal State Government, the report said, has kept two buses ready for the trial run. The Indian buses will have wireless sets to give advance information about their arrival. The journey each way is likely to take seven to eight hours.
The waiting hall at Salt Lake will have immigration counters, communication centre and other facilities.
Bangladesh side is also going to press into service air-conditioned luxury coaches. Private operators have already lined up several 52-seater buses remodelled to accommodate only 36 passengers to make the journey comfortable.
Sources concerned said that the Dhaka-Calcutta one-way bus fare would be around Tk 400 per passenger. This would mean roughly one taka for every kilometre the distance between the two cities being around 350 kilometres. Another Tk 50 per passenger would be added with the bus fare for the Aricha-Daulatdia ferry service. Only air-conditioned buses which are not more than four-year old would be allowed to operate.
The Indian government is learnt to be taking steps to improve 80 km of road on the Indian side from Benapole to Calcutta. The 277 km road on the Bangladesh side is in a better condition.
According to an estimate by the communications ministry, over five lakh people from Bangladesh including students, patients, pilgrims and tourists would visit India by bus every year. The flow of tourists into Bangladesh is likely to increase by about 200 per cent in the next two years.
Earlier, an eight-member official delegation led by Karar Mahmudul Hasan, Joint Secretary in the communications ministry, met his Indian counterpart R R Bhattacharya on February 16 and 17 to finalise the draft of the "Bangladesh-India Passenger Bus Movement Agreement."



Shaheed Afridi exhilarates in dismissing tail-ender Upul Chandana. — Star photo

Resist killers, call 11 parties

By Staff Correspondent
Eleven political parties in a joint statement yesterday expressed their firm determination to "resist killers hiding in the society and put an end to politics of killing through mass resistance."
Expressing grave concern and resentment at the killing of Kazi Aref Ahmed and his fellows and the Jessore killings, the parties in a statement said people who resort to killing merely because of political and ideological differences are not only killers but also the ones who destabilise the country's democracy.
The statement was issued by the parties after a tete-a-tete with the cultural activists in the city yesterday.
Leaders from Awami League, Bangladesh Workers' Party, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal, Bangladesh Communist Party, Gano Forum, Samik Krishak Samajbadi Dal, National Awami Party, Ganatantry Party, Communist Kendra, Samityawadi Dal and Gano Azadi League signed the statement.

Verdict

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that The Daily Star report had nothing to do with the court "if it at all created any controversy".
"Why should the case be transferred based on controversy in which the court has no role. Besides, the Star report was published on March 4 whereas the Chief Justice had sent the case to court number six on March 7, and they were trying to have the case transferred from February 28."
"This shows that the application was filed to delay the proceedings of this case and not from any fear. This kind of transfer application has become their usual practice. Even yesterday (Sunday) they made a similar move in connection with the share scam case in the Metropolitan Sessions Judge Court." Barrister Rokunuddin Mahmud said.
He concluded by saying that the application was not maintainable since the court transfer did not depend on "sweet will and fancy of the petitioners."
"There is nothing to fear because it's a bunch case. They are one of the 36 directors who have no fear. And the apprehensions of the petitioners are fictitious."
Earlier, Barrister Rafique-Ul-Haq submitted supplementary affidavit annexing the defence petition which was submitted for transfer of the case from court number 23 to court number 6.
Huq also cited two decisions reported in the Dhaka Law Report (DLR) in support of his application for case transfer.

BNP ignores Speaker's assurance, walks out

By Staff Correspondent
Opposition BNP members staged a stormy walkout in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday ignoring repeated assurances from the Chair that they would be given enough time to talk on four city corporations bills.
Both Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury and Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid sat in the Chair in quick succession to urge the BNP lawmakers to participate in discussion on the important bills before their passage yesterday.
Abdul Hamid had been presiding over the day's sitting but, amidst furore over BNP's walk-out, Chowdhury stepped in for a few minutes and adjourned the House twice -- for two minutes every time -- and urged BNP men to come back and participate. But they did not.
"I want full participation, if it is possible", said the Speaker and repeated his deputy's assurance of giving each opposition MP two minutes to discuss amendments they suggested to the four bills.
Chowdhury even stopped Deputy Leader of the House Zillur Rahman, who moved the bills, while he was making statement and said he wanted the opposition's participation in the important business.
But, all efforts went in vain as BNP lawmakers, who had earlier walked out of the House at 7:55 pm on the pretext that the Chair was allocating too little time for them to deliberate on their amendment proposals.
A desperate Abdul Hamid pronounced time and again, "I'm giving you two minutes each". Earlier he gave each of them one and half minutes.
Earlier, he had said that on previous occasions lawmakers were given one or one minute and a quarter but he would give one and half minutes each.
But, Mashiur Rahman of BNP was not convinced and led his party colleagues to walk out of the House. However, many in the Opposition Bench were caught off guard by the sudden announcement for staging the walkout by Mashiur.
Apparently puzzled by such an announcement from someone from middle of the opposition rows, members from BNP front benches packed up their files and papers on the desk quickly and joined the more enthusiastic backbenchers.
As Hamid's calls fell on deaf ears, Speaker Chowdhury entered the House suddenly and Hamid went out. Chowdhury adjourned the House twice to let BNP legislatures come back.
The Speaker's calls went unheeded as well. Apparently unhappy, he soon went out quietly.
Hamid re-appeared to continue with the session till the passage of the bills and adjourned at 8:35 last night to sit at 4:30 pm on April 4 again. The Eid-ul Azha and SAARC Speakers' meeting in Dhaka were reasons behind the long recess.

Bodies of two women recovered

By Staff Correspondent
Bodies of two unidentified women were recovered in the city yesterday morning.
The body of an unidentified teenage girl was found in a sack at Sector No. 12 under Uttara thana. Police recovered the body from the spot at about 10 am yesterday.
Police said the face of the victim was burnt by acid and there were several marks of cigarette burns on her body.
None claimed the body. Police said she might have been killed two days ago. The body was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsies.
A murder case has been lodged with Uttara thana.
Meanwhile, Dharmapur police recovered the body of a woman, aged about 32, from near the Matuail Shishu Hospital in the city yesterday morning.
She was raped before murder. Police could not ascertain the reason behind her killing, police said. Another source said she might have been killed in road accident.

Khaleda

From Page 1
The WB Vice President, who came to Bangladesh to attend a seminar on administrative reforms, during the meeting with the opposition leaders observed that a conducive atmosphere is a must for economic development, progress and foreign investment in the country.
He said he had exchanged views with the Prime Minister, opposition leaders and others concerned separately besides the resource persons who attended the seminar.
Begum Zia informed the World Bank official about the unhappy condition of the country's economy, the deteriorating law and order situation, and the miseries of the people due to price-hike of essentials.
World Bank Chief Economist and South Asian Region Advisor John Williamson and country Director Frederick T Temple attended the meeting.
Former Finance Minister Saifur Rahman said other BNP leaders M Moshed Khan MP, M K Anwar MP and M M Rezaul Karim were present.

Seminar: Corruption

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discussion in the two sessions included former Indian commerce secretary N R Rangathan, Prof Mofazzel Ahmed, former secretary Al Hossainy, FBCCI president Abdul Awal Minto, Sir Kenneth Stowe of UK, Al Amin Chowdhury, Quamrul Islam Siddiqui, Tasmina Hossain MP, Tariq Siddiqi of Pakistan and M Hafizuddin.
Prof Mohabbat Khan in his paper said "Decentralisation increases effectiveness of the administration, reduces the discrimination between rural and urban people, facilitates efficient delivery of public services, enhances civic consciousness and contributes to political maturity."
Concluding the civil service, Prof Khan said "Accountability system in the civil service is not effective, internal mechanism, hierarchy, rules and regulations do not serve the intended purpose and external mechanism like ministerial supervision, parliamentary committees, press have not worked well."
"Transparency still remains alien to bureaucratic culture, decision-making process is kept out of purview of clients and anything of significance is marked secret and guarded closely."
Prof Rehman Sobhan said "A model administration was established during the years 1972-74 where the heads of all the corporations were accountable to the minister directly, instead of the ministry."
Underlining the need for restoration of that model, Rehman Sobhan said that the corporations and government agencies should be empowered to function smoothly.
Munth said "The entire bureaucracy should be transferred to the district level."
Only the Upazila system can produce the desired results of decentralisation of administration, he stressed.
Ziaur Rahman MP said Upazila system is going to create a conflict between the member of parliament concerned and the elected Upazila chairman because both would work in the same field.
Mujibul Haque said that Upazila system "without hiring and firing authority" would not produce any positive result.
He, however, favoured establishing an elected Zila Parishad system.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina meets with the new Emir of Bahrain, Shaikh Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa, during her visit to the Middle Eastern nation. — PID photo

JS snippets

By Nazmul Ashraf
Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid and Home Minister Mohammad Nasim yesterday shared the agonies they have to suffer due to their inability to satisfy lawmakers from both sides in the Jatiya Sangsad.
The opportunity came for them when Awami League MP Shahjahan Mia, allowed to raise his question for the home minister, spoke at length about what his constituency lacked. Interrupting, a smiling Deputy Speaker commented, "I can see that you yourself have absolutely nothing. And of course I have nothing either. But let's see, how much of your demands are met by the minister."
In his bid to appease the minister, the AL lawmaker showed great alacrity to remind the Chair that Minister Nasim, also with the T & T portfolio, set up new telephone lines in his area and thanked the minister for the service.
"Have you got the point, honourable minister? Only giving can earn you thanks. It is a thankless job when you fail," Abdul Hamid told Nasim.
"It's equally true for you too, Mr. Speaker. You are never appreciated when you disallow someone to speak," Nasim reminded the Chair who is often blasted by members in both benches for his failure to give the floor.
Agreeing with the minister, the Deputy Speaker ventilated his agony. "I'm thanked for giving the floor. But I am robbed of the happiness that comes with gratitude when I see the awful faces of those deprived."
"Well said, Mr. Speaker," commented Nasim with a hearty laugh.

Opposition greets Nasim in JS

Instead of facing any hostile questions on volatile law and order situation, Home Minister Mohammad Nasim was rather greeted yesterday with congratulations from both the treasury and opposition benches on his new assignment, reports UNB.
It was the first day for Nasim to answer questions in Parliament on Home Affairs since he took charge of the Ministry on Sunday in addition to Telecommunications a week after the Jessore bomb blasts.
But no member from either side put up any question about the much talked Jessore incident, the killing of JSD leader DCCI.
From Page 1
case against MK Anwar MP while police assaulted a retired general and BNP leader during the recent hartal.
Referring to the four-point demand of the opposition parties, she said the government could discuss the issues prior to municipal elections, but it didn't. Instead, it is now trying to hold city corporation and Upazila polls.
On the demand for resignation of the CEC, she said Justice Nurul Islam, Justice Rouf and Justice Sadeq had earlier resigned when opposition parties expressed their no-confidence in them.
The present CEC is also willing to step down, but the government is forcing him to stay on so that the ruling party can manipulate the polls.
On public holidays, she said a developing nation like Bangladesh cannot afford so many holidays, including a two-day weekend and holidays on birth and death anniversaries of a leader. She, however, did not name the leader.
About the removal of Rafiqul Islam as home minister and the SP of Jessore, Khaleda said, "How could they perform their duties neutrally if the prime minister directly gave instructions."
The opposition leader asked the DCCI team to urge the government to check terrorism. The law and order in the country would improve if the ruling party gives up terrorist activities, she observed.
The business leaders said economic advancement is being seriously hampered due to power crisis and deteriorating law and order.
They said hartals and militant programmes are affecting the investment climate in the country.
BNP leaders M Saifur Rahman, Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, M Moshed Khan, M Shamsul Islam and MK Anwar were present on the occasion.

2 killed

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them declined to say anything about the explosion. A team of experts from Jalalabad Cantonment is expected to reach the place of occurrence sometime tonight, an official said.
Meanwhile, Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Humayun Rashid Chowdhury has expressed deep concern at the "bomb attack" in the house of ruling party MP Muhiur Rahman Manik. In a faxed message sent to the press in Sylhet, the Speaker said that the culprits should be arrested and punished immediately. He also prayed for salvation of the departed souls.

Share scam cases

From Page 1
Court. The judge who had earlier heard the arguments on charge framing in the three cases, now sits at the second metro court.
If the cases were ordered transferred to the second court, then hearing will not resume in the third court today.
Charges against SES Company Ltd
"Your company has transacted 13,98,800 shares of Beximco Pharmaceuticals through foreign delivery versus payment (DVP) whereas the DSE records show that you have settled only 9,08,200 shares, settled 3,92,370 shares of ACI against transactions of 4,42,370 and settled 34,450 shares of Olympic Industries against transaction of 48,450 through foreign DVP," according to the charge sheet.
"Many of your transactions made through foreign DVP have not been recorded in DSE trading. Of the sold shares, many remained unused which artificially influenced the share prices."
"Violating laws, you have acted on orders over telephone and manipulated the share market by showing fictitious deals."
"You have also manipulated the share market by not carrying out the duties of broker and dealer which were stated in the SEC laws."
"These activities show that you have unlawfully induced share prices creating a over priced market which is a violation of Section 17 (E) (II) (V) of the Securities and Exchange Ordinance 1969 and punishable under section 24. You have therefore been charged with these offences."
Charges against First Capital
"DVP records show that you have transacted some shares worth 110.46 crore on Dhaka Stock Exchange alone whereas the DSE records show that you have not settled transactions worth 5.61 crore. This unsettled transactions show that you have unlawfully influenced share prices by showing fictitious transactions."
"Since you have violated laws in accepting share transaction orders and showed fictitious transactions which were not settled and did not comply with the laws of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)."
"These activities show that you have unlawfully induced share prices creating a over priced market which is a violation of Section 17 (E) (II) (V) of the Securities and Exchange Ordinance 1969 and punishable under Section 24. You have therefore been charged with these offences."