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### Friday's storms

### 12 killed in 4 dists

At least 12 people were killed, 54 missing and over 100 injured as nor westers lashed Ramgati thana in Laximpur district, Bakerganj, Bhola and Patuakhali on Friday, reports

Of them, eight people were killed in Ramgati, two in Bakerganj and one each in Bhola and Patuakhali.

In Ramgati, eight people were killed and over 100 injured as nor'wester lashed different parts of the thana on Friday.

Official and local sources, said yesterday that 54 others were still missing in different char areas while 24 fishing boats with fishermen remained

out of trace. Ramgati Thana Nirbahi Officer Arun Kumar Malakar confirmed five dead and 65 wounded during the storm that

struck at about 2:45 pm. The dead were identified as Rawshan Akter, 9, Jasimuddin, 22, Yusuf, 13, Nizamuddin, 12, See Page 12 Col 8

#### Two stabbed to death in city

By Staff Correspondent Two persons were stabbed to death by a gang of assailants in Amin Bazar area under Savar

thana late Friday night. The dead were identified as Mujibul Huq Kajal, 34, son of Shamsul Huq and Khan Nasiruddin Shafi, 30, son of Aktar Hossain. Both were from Bardeshi in Savar thana, police and hospital sources said.

According to police, the two were killed as a sequel to previous enmity. None, however, was arrested in connection with the double murder till last night. The sources said, a gang of

about 12 local hoodlums called the two out of their residences at about 10:30 pm and took them beside the river at Amin Bazar.

They stabbed the victims indiscriminately and fled the scene leaving the two dead on the spot.

Savar police recovered the bodies yesterday morning and sent them to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for

Mosharraf Hossain, brother of Shafi, filed a murder case accusing 13 people with Savar thana yesterday.

#### Meherpur by-polls Prof Mannan

AL candidate Prof Abdul Mannan has been nominated as Awami League candidate for the upcoming by-election in Meherpur-1

constituency, reports UNB. A meeting of the Awami League Parliamentary Board with its president and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave the nomination on Friday, said a press release.

Earlier, the board took interview of nine nomination seekers and selected Mannan unanimously for the May 4

#### The Shifting Sands of Iran's Revolutionary **Politics**

by Brig (Rtd) M Abdul Hafiz Page 4

#### Law and Our Rights

perspective; and Dissolving the DB: The need of the hour Page 5

#### Business

Khulna Shipyard salvation hinges on red

Chinese PM blames US for trade talks failure DSE, CSE price quotations

#### Pages 8, 9 & 10 Prayer Timings

April 11		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-30	5-35
Zohr	12-45	1-20
Asr	4-30	4-35
Maghrib	6-20	6-23
Esha	7-30	7-35
Source: Is		oundation

DHAKA SUNDAY APRIL 11, 1999

## 20 injured as police, mob clash

# War in Old City over worst water, power crises

By Staff Correspondent

At least 20 people were injured, two of them critically, in the Old City areas yesterday as police used rubber bullets and tear gas to disperse angry demonstrators protesting power and water disruptions.

The demonstrators blocked roads at many places and attacked at least one power sta-

tion in Raishaheb Bazar. They also stopped a train coming from Narayanganj to Dhaka near the Saidabad rail crossing at around 10am.

In the Old City, thousands of people gave vent to their anger storming the offices of Dhaka Electricity Supply Authority (DESA) and WASA, and clashed

with police at several places. The three people were hurt in Raishaheb Bazar power station incident. One had injuries in one of his eyes when police fired

on the mob. A witness said people from Nayabazar, Goalnagar, English Road, Kalta Bazar, Laxini Bazar, Dholaikhal, Bongshal

and Sadarghat got together and launched an attack on the entrance gate of the Raishaheb Bazar DESA office. They also set fire to two tem-

pos, one pickup and a motor bike at around noon during the angry outburst. A branch of Agrani Bank in the DESA office premises was also ransacked. Several road barricades were

put up near Saidabad over bridge, Dayaganj and Jatrabari crossing at about noon yesterday keeping thousands of vehicles stranded on both sides of the road. DESA officials said a break-

down in the Siddhirganj grid power station on Thursday midnight caused the power supply disruptions in the city areas. The breakdown was attributed to storm and lightning Thursday night. Meanwhile, the sufferers de-

scribed it as the worst water crisis. Since Thursday midnight, there had been no water supply in many parts of the city, particularly in WASA's two key zones, zone -1 and 2.

The Zone -1 comprises Motijheel, Gendaria, Goran, Arambagh, Mughda and Jatrabari, while the Zone -2 covers Lalbagh. Nawabpur. Hazaribagh. Bongshal, Islampur, BDR camp and Chawk Bazar. The two zones were the worst

affected areas out of the six as 33 and 25 water pumps did not operate in the these zones respectively due to power failures and low voltage. In some places, high voltage forced some of the pumps to shut down as well. "One hundred and sixteen

water pumps out of a total of 250 were kept shut in WASA's six zones due to power failure and low voltage since Thursday night," a senior official of WASA told the Daily Star yes-"On an average we supply

about 100 crore litres of water in the city everyday from our six zones, but due to power failure and abnormal low voltage, supply of water has fallen by at least 30 per cent (30 crore litre short fall per day)." The break up of the shut down (116) water pumps are:

-16, zone 4 -13, zone 5 -14and zone 6 - 25. Water crisis in the areas forced many people to move out of their residences fearing that water supply may not resume

zone 1 —33, zone 2 — 15, zone 3

before at least three days. WASA lorries supplied water at roadside points at Goran, Jatrabari, Lalbagh, Nawabpur, Mugdapara and Saidabad where

> See Page 12 Col 2 See Page 12 Col 5

# Li Peng arrives in city tomorrow

# Dhaka, Beijing to look for further trade, investment

By M Anwarul Haq

Expansion of trade and investment cooperation between Bangladesh and China will be emphasised during the forthcoming visit of a top Chinese leader.

Chairman of the National People's Congress of China Li Peng arrives in Dhaka tomorrow on a two-day official visit at the head of a 120-member delegation.

Li Peng is one of the most influential Chinese Communist Party leaders, who was Prime Minister twice and now holds the second position in the Chinese leadership after President Jiang Zemin. In his present capacity, he presides over the sessions of Chinese Parliament as its Speaker.

This would be his second visit to Bangladesh, the first being in 1989 as Prime Minister. Li Peng also received Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina when she went to China on an official visit in September, 1996.

A top foreign ministry official said that although Li Peng's visit was being termed a "goodwill visit," it would con-

tribute to "revitalising the trade, economic and cultural cooperation between the two friendly countries."

The itinerary of Li Peng includes official talks with the Bangladesh Prime Minister. visits to the National Memorial at Savar and the Bangabandhu Museum and laying of founda-tion stone of Bangabandhu International Conference Centre

at Osmany Uddyan in the city. Li Peng, who would be given a state welcome, and would be

lodged at the Sonargaon Hotel. After he arrives by a special plane at 2.30 pm tomorrow, he will be received by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury. He will be driven straight to the National Memorial from the airport.

Official talks between Sheikh Hasina and the visiting leader will be held at the Bangabhaban at 7 pm tomor-

After the talks, Li Peng will be given a state banquet by Sheikh Hasina at the Bangab-

The visiting dignitary will pay a courtesy call on President Shahabuddin Ahmed and will hold a meeting with Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury.

At the official talks, the Bangladesh side led by Sheikh Hasina is likely to urge the Chinese leader and the business community to make use of the investment opportunities in Bangladesh and emphasise joint sector investment in medium scale projects. Hasina is also likely to urge that Chinese trade delegations visit Bangladesh to explore the market for purchase of more Bangladeshi products. Dhaka shall also stress the need for reducing the yawning trade imbalance between the two countries, which is against Bangla-

Dhaka exported goods worth around 50 million US dollars in 1997 while Beijing's exports were worth over 500 million dollars. Dhaka will stress diversifying its exports which mainly comprise jute, jute goods, leather and tea. Tortoise See Page 12 Col 6

## Atrai murders: BNP MP arrested

By Staff Correspondent

BNP lawmaker Alamgir Kabir was arrested in the city by Special Branch (SB) police yesterday morning in connection with the killing of two ruling party leaders at Atrai in Naoga on March 30.

According to police, the BNP MP from Atrai was arrested from Monipuri Para while he was going by an autorickshaw at about 10 am.

A SB team challenged the MP and asked him to report to

#### A political vendetta: Khaleda

By Staff Correspondent BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia has strongly protested the arrest of party MP Alamgir Kabir and termed it 'a political vendetta.' In a press statement yesterday, she demanded immediate and unconditional release of

Otherwise, the government

Tejgaon police station. When he refused, the SB men pulled him down from the auto-rickshaw and took him to the Tejgaon thana. Later in the afternoon, OC of

Naogaon Sadar thana Wahidul Hoque reached Tejgaon police station with a warrant of arrest against him. He was then produced before the CMM's court which sent

him to the Central Jail, refusing a bail prayer. While at Tejgaon thana,

Alamgir Kabir told some newsmen that he was going to the BNP central office when some plainclothes men tried to arrest him without giving their identity. When he challenged them, they pulled him down from the vehicle and arrested

The Opposition lawmaker said he was not involved in the murder. Local Awami League leaders have implicated him in the murder case, he claimed . Earlier, nine people were ar-

rested in connection with the killing of Atrai thana Awami league leaders Siddiqur Rahman Raza and Arun Kumar Sarker. They were slaughtered.

### Shafi murder: SB's probe report today

By Staff Correspondent DB canteen man Anwar was again placed on a three-day CID remand yesterday in connection with the killing of Jalal Ahmed Shafi. CID arrested five persons in-

cluding four DB men in connection with the murder. The decomposed body of

Shafi was found in the rooftop water tank at the DB office at Mintoo Road in the city on March 25 and it was identified on March 31. Meanwhile, the five-member

probe committee headed by DIG of Special Branch Abul Kashem Hawladar is likely to submit its report to the Inspector General of Police today. Besdies, CID was interrogat-

ing the four remanded DB men -- Inspector Zia, SI Shajahan, Habilder Belal and constable Rob -- at the CID office till last

According to sources close to the investigators, they are going to interrogate AC Humayun today and helper of Shafi' motor vehicle, Kabir, in a couple of Besides, CID officials were

preparing to interrogate 'the sources of DB' who used to provide DB with information on gold, heroin and other smuggled In its report, the probe

committee is likely to suggest reforms in the DB, sources said .The committee detected "serious irregularities in the activities of DB", sources close to the committee said.

#### Train crash kills 25 in Egypt

CAIRO, Apr 10: Two trains collided in northern Egypt Saturday evening, killing at least 25 people, police said, reports

About 25 people were wounded in the crash, which occurred in Shirbin, 130 kilometres (80 miles) northeast of Cairo, police said.

Shirbin is a town on the main line between Cairo and Damietta, at the northeastern edge of the Nile Delta.

Egypt has a history of train accidents with heavy casualties. In November, 47 people were killed when a train jumped its tracks near Kafr-el-Dawar, a delta town 30 kilometres (20 miles) southeast of the

#### CID likely to interrogate Manik today

By Staff Correspondent CID is likely to interrogate Muhibur Rahman Manik MP at Chhatak today following permission from the Home Ministry yesterday, according

to official sources. Huge explosives were recovered from the Chhatak residence of Manik, a ruling party MP, on March 24.

# held in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Apr 10: Three Indian nationals were arrested at Shaheb Bazar in the city yesterday noon.

Shahan Shah, 36 — were taken to custody as they failed to produce any valid document, police

The arrested were from West Bengal, police added.

#### Kushtia killings: One held after 7 weeks From Our Correspondent KUSHTIA, Apr 10: Police Aref and four others were

have arrested one Islam, aged about 30, in connection with the killing of JSD central leader Kazi Aref Ahmed and four others. Mohammed Anwar Hossain,

premises.

SP of Kushtia, said Islam, reportedly a member of outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party, was arrested from a village under Mirpur thana Thursday night

7 outlaws held in Magura MAGURA, Apr 10: Police arrested seven members of out-

thana in the district Friday night, reports UNB. The arrested were identified as Khokon, 35, Subhas, 30, Paresh, 35, Imdadul, 38, Nitya Gopal, 22, Sujan, 20, and Pari-

lawed Sarbahara Party from

different parts of Shalikha

gunned down at a public meeting at Kalidaspur Primary School ground under Daulatpur

(Top) Demonstrators protesting shortage of water, some with empty pitchers, stopped a

Dhaka-bound train from Narayanganj near Saidabad yesterday morning. (Bottom) The

damaged electric supply office at English Road in the Old City after protestors attacked the

thana on February 19. Islam may be produced before the court tomorrow for remand, police sources said. The OC of Daulatrur thana was replaced after the killings.

But law and order situation deteriorated further in Khulna Division which led to the change of the Home Minister.

The new Home Minister, Mohammad Nasim held a meeting at Jessore recently with all , the DCs and SPs in the region. The DCs and SPs admitted that the police force was inadequate and their arms were of

old model whereas the outlawed

extremists were equipped with

modern arms, allegedly bought

from Indian arms traders. They

also looted arms from security guards in banks, passenger coaches and launches. See Page 12 Col 5

#### BNP calls 8-hr hartal at Ctg today

- Star photos by Amran Hossain

From Our Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Apr 10: City BNP and its front organisations

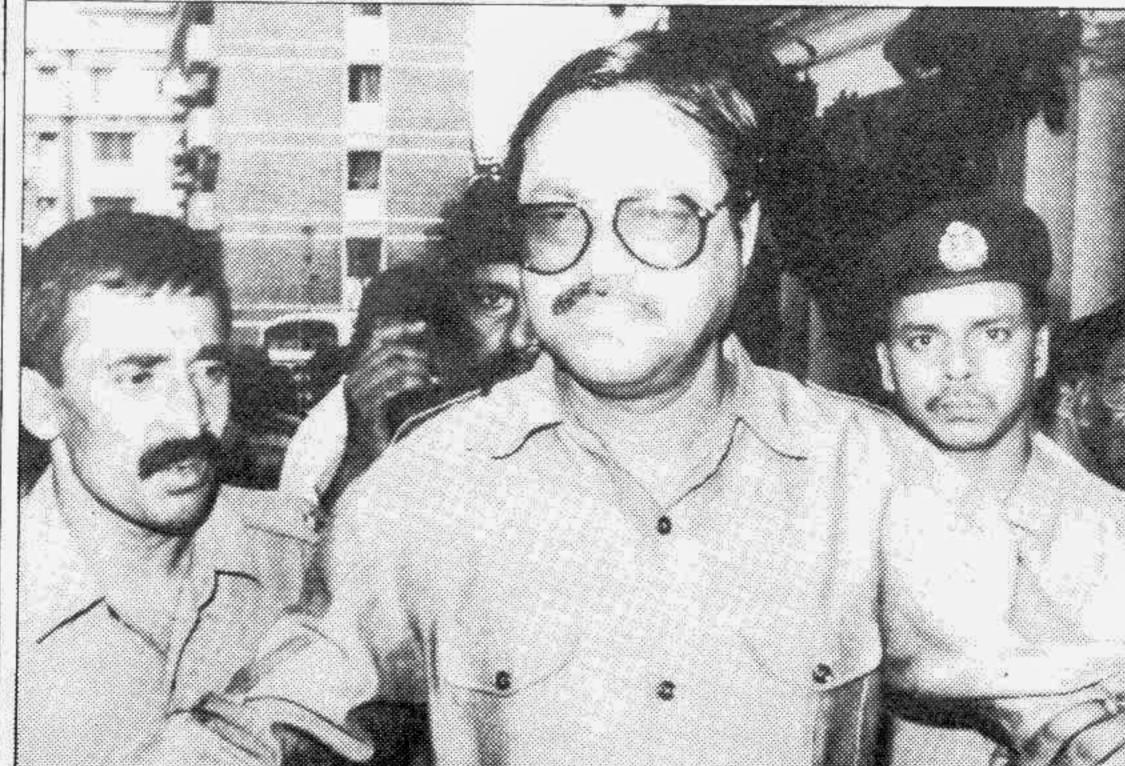
have called for an 8-hour hartal in the port city tomorrow. The hartal was called today at a meeting to protest loadshedding, acute water crisis, price hike of essentials, deterioration of law and order, Saleha killing inside Kotwali thana and oppression on opposition leaders and activists.

Later, BNP city unit and its front organisations held a rally at Laldighi Crossing to drum up support for the hartal. The rally was presided over

by City BNP president Mir Md

Nasiruddin. The rally was followed by a torch procession which paraded different city streets. At the rally, Mir Nasir called upon all to make the 6am-2pm

hartal a success. When the procession reached near Darul Fazal Market, 8 BNP activists were hurt in a clash with the rivals.



BNP MP Alamgir Kabir elected from Naogaon, Atrai was arrested by police yesterday.

# Gap between people's hopes & realities

## Corruption by bureaucrats and failure of politicians blamed

By Staff Correspondent

The speakers said that expectation of the great majority

political situation in the country have resulted from the lack of consensus on national issues. Since the independence, the leadership has all along failed to build such consensus, they pointed out.

and disunity among the politi-

at the discussion. Maj Gen (Retd) Muhammad Ibrahim presented a paper on "The new di-

eign aid is also increasing rapidly due to weak leadership Three papers were presented

independence, politicians, bureaucrats, police, businessmen and other vested groups started minister for having accepted a race to reach the top, using my resignation", according to See Page 12 Col 2 the NNI.

### Pak minister resigns over power theft

Technology, an official statement said here, reports Xinhua. The statement said that the minister tendered resignation

accepted," the statement added. Syeda Abida Hussain, reportedly facing charges of power theft, met Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif at the prime minister's house and tendered her resignation. Official sources told the

Abida Hussain after the news of her alleged power theft pub-When contacted, Abida said "I am grateful to the prime

### Tale of a tokai-turned terrorist at DU By Abul Kalam Azad

He started negotiating with university. The owner of the

economics of existence at the tender age of seven. When for a favourably disposed child of his age the toughest challenge of life is getting up early to go to school, he began his quest for a life secured enough to ensure two meals a day and a place to

the Dhaka University campus in search of a job. Now, Mizan is in the bad books of police, at had contemplated. Born in a poor family of

Chandpur, Mizan's first job on the campus was at the British

help him grab the job as an attendant of the dining hall. It was the beginning of an end to innocence for Mizan. The year 1996 was the turning point. Early that year, a terrorist group of the then opposi-Ten years ago, he landed on tion-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League led by Shamim

canteen, being a resident of

Chandpur, was kind enough to

- Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Ahmed stormed into the hall of residence and took over control and the unholy nexus began. Teenaged Mizan was at the beck and call of Shamim and his men, doing their regular chores like washing clothes, buying cigarettes, so on and so forth. Meanwhile, Pichchi Shamim, as he is popularly known, grew in power, capturing Zahurul Haq, Sir AF Rah-

man. Mohsin and Surya Sen

halls one after another. Mizan proved his worth to the BCL ac-See Page 12 Col 1

3 Indian nationals From Our Correspondent

The Indians — Shamsuzzaman, 36, Abu Tayeb, 42, and

Salar thana of Murshidabad in

# Inside Today— Article

Column: Perspectives

Violence against women in Bangladesh: A 1998

Speakers at a round-table tapism discussion in the city yesterday observed that hopes and aspirations of the people were not fulfilled even 28 years after independence due to corruption of

> people were deprived and exploited as a small vested group started grabbing everything since the independence, they The round-table on "Bangladesh's Independence: .Hopes and Realities" was organ-

ised by the newly floated Centre

for Strategic and Peace Studies

**Executive Director of CSPS** 

(CSPS) at CIRDAP auditorium.

Maj Gen (Retd) Muhammad

Ibrahim moderated the discus-

civil-military bureaucracy and

The overwhelming majority

failure of politicians.

of people was to get rid of repression, discrimination and deprivation of the Pakistan era and to achieve social, economic and political freedom. But all facilities and opportunities were grabbed by a handful of people. The miserable socio-economic condition and unhealthy

The gap between people's expectations and realities is widening day by day due to gross failure of the politicians. Moreover, dependence on for-

mension of national security in our national life and national thinking since independence". Prof Salahuddin Ahmed of North South University on "Economy of Bangladesh since independence" and Prof Ataur Rahman of Dhaka University on "Politics and society in Bangladesh". The speakers said that after

#### ISLAMABAD. Apr 10: Syeda Abida Hussain resigned today as federal minister for Population Welfare and Science and

with the request to relieve her of the ministerial responsibilities for personal reasons. "The resignation has been

News Network International (NNI) that the prime minister had sought resignation from

#### least 20 cases, including murder and kidnapping, lodged against him. Life is secured – he has the backing of an influential leader of the ruling Awami League not quite the one he may have

Council. Several months later came the big break. He got the job of a waiter at the canteen of Salimullah Muslim Hall of the