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The Daily Star

City Edition

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RANGS GROUP

Oil tanker blast kills 16 in Sitakundu

50 hurt: Death toll may rise

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, May 31: At least 12 workers were killed and 50 others injured in the country's worst oil tanker explosion at Shitalpur ship-breaking ground in Sitakundu today.

Police said 10 of the victims died on the spot while two succumbed to their injuries at Chittagong Medical College

treatment at the hospital and the condition of two of them was "critical." The rest were taken to private clinics.

Police and shipyard sources said some 200 workers were involved in scrapping when the tanker, T.T. Dena that carried Iranian flag, went up in flames at 11 a.m.

The death toll in the oil tanker blast at Shitalpur rose to 16, a UNB report said late last night

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SAARC Secy-Gen tells The Daily Star Nothing can be done unless all agree to hold summit

By M Anwarul Haq

Despite delay in holding the SAARC Summit, the informal system of consultation among its members as a matter of routine and tradition shows that they now recognise its growing importance as an institution and apex regional body, SAARC Secretary General Nihal Rodriguez has said.

SAARC foreign ministers had informal consultations before the start of the United Nations General Assembly in the last two years. They also met on the sidelines and discussed many issues during the recent NAM meeting at Cartagena. Their foreign secretaries also met during the South

Summit in Havana.

He said initiatives by civil societies in different sectors are promoting people-to-people contact and creating conditions for greater cooperation among South Asian countries in different sectors.

Several chamber bodies

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Beefy: A marauding Akram Khan cracks a Ganguly delivery over mid-wicket region for six on his way to a whirlwind 64 off 52 balls during yesterday's Pepsi Asia Cup match at the Bangabandhu Stadium.

—Star photo

View from the Gully

Unimaginative leadership

Tawfiq Aziz Khan

If the Bangladesh captain thought that he had a match against a strong batting lineup of India with 250 as the target, and that too on a perfect batting wicket and an indisciplined, toothless attack at his disposal, he must have been living in a fool's paradise.

A team that has a couple of top spinners in their ranks can have the luxury of relishing the challenge while defending such a healthy total. But can a team like Bangladesh feel relaxed when they were up against one of the strongest batting lineup in the game today?

See page 11 col 7

Today's match

India vs Sri Lanka (2:30 pm)

I LOVE



It comes naturally!

Death of MP: Speaker orders inquiry

Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury yesterday gave directive for inquiry into alleged negligence in treatment of MP Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and punitive action against those responsible, reports UNB.

In a letter to Dr Kazi Abu Yusuf, chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health Ministry, the Speaker gave the directive for inquiry by the Committee itself or by forming a sub-committee.

The Speaker also noted with "deep concern" the press reports that Bhutto died due to negligence of duty by doctors at the National Institute of Cardio-vascular Diseases and Hospital.

Meanwhile, the hospital authorities yesterday conducted a preliminary inquiry into the allegation, but were waiting for a written complaint for a detail investigation.

"I personally checked the papers relating to his treatment. We can't have a full-fledged inquiry without a written complaint," Prof Akhtaruzzaman, Director of the NICDH, told UNB.

But Bhutto's party colleagues declined to lodge any written complaint, saying that the authorities themselves should voluntarily institute inquiry as the deceased was an elected public

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RANGS TOSHIBA TV-FRIDGE-VCD-AC

Beyond the Boundary

Alas, Poor Yorick...

By Shakil Kasem

India finally put an end to the two-day ODI(?) with a thumping win over Bangladesh. In what was essentially not a battle of wills but of mediocre bowling, the Indians gratefully romped past the winning post because the Big Mean Batting Machine switched on the afterburners just when it mattered.

Carrying on from where they had left off before yesterday (damn right, day before yester-

See page 11 col 7



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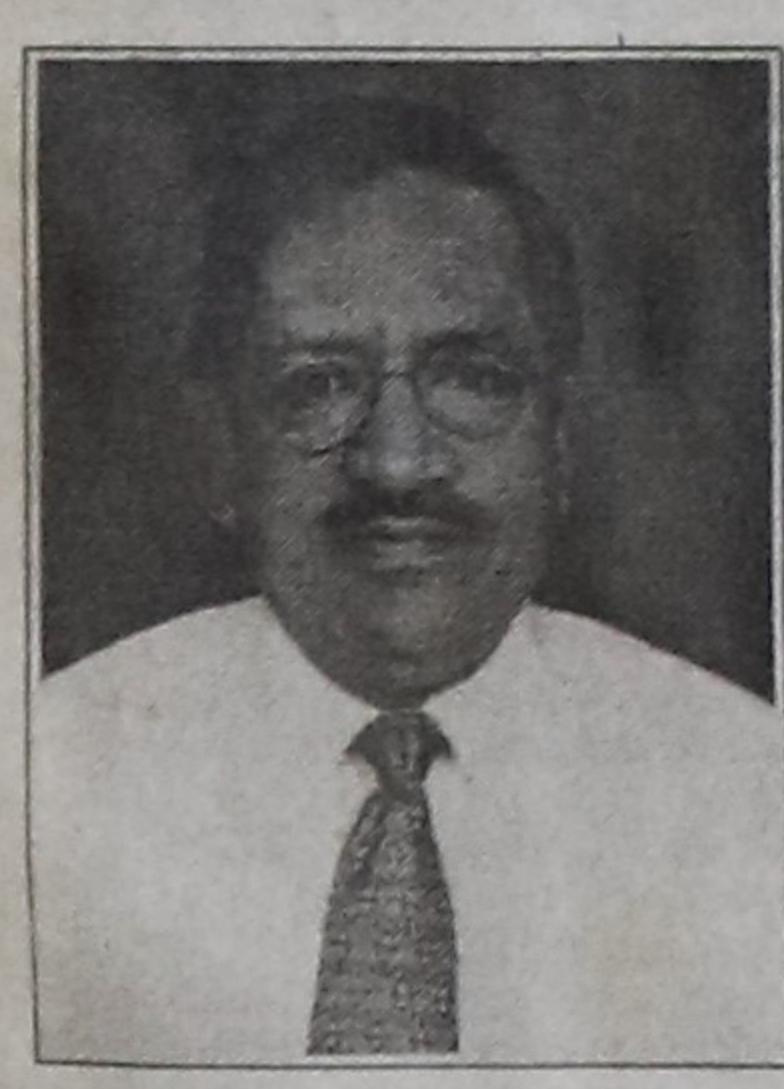
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WE MOURN

Mr. Shahjahan Kabir, founder Chairman, Export Import Bank of Bangladesh Ltd. passed away at Mount Elizabeth Hospital Singapore on May 31, 2000 at 9:54 AM BST (Innalillah....)

Rajeeun). He was 58. We are deeply shocked at his sad demise. We pray to Almighty Allah to grant him eternal peace in Heaven and

provide enough strength to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss-Ameen.

His mortal remains will be kept in front of Bank's Head Office, 5, Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka, from 11:30 AM on Friday June 02, 2000 to have the last glimpse. Thereafter, his Namaz-e-Janaza will be held after Jumma prayer at Baitul Mokarram National Mosque. He will be buried at Banani graveyard on the same day.

EXIM BANK

Directors & all employees of Export Import Bank of Bangladesh Ltd.