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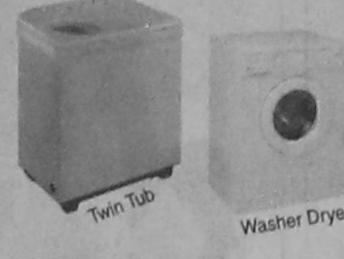
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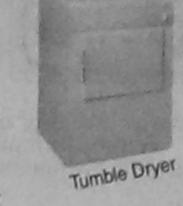
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Khaleda urges

college teachers

to join anti-govt

movement

Zia has urged the college teach-

ers to participate in the current

movement from their respec-

tive positions for establishing a

people's government, reports

elected leaders of Bangladesh

Principal Parishad and leaders

of Bangladesh College Teachers

Association when they called

on her at 29 Minto Road yester-

teachers informed Khaleda of

an anarchic situation prevail-

ing in educational institutions.

Principals and college

The leaders included Princi-

pal Mohammad Ishaq, Prof.

Harun-or-Rashid Pathan, Prof

Mohammad Siddigur Rahman.

Prof Dilruba Jalil and Prof

Khaleda said education is

the backbone of a nation and its

importance in a developing

country like ours is immense.

but anarchic situation is pre-

vailing in the academic arena

during the rule of this govern-

government backed terrorists

are carrying out their activities

on the campus and forcibly oc-

to take initiative to restore con-

genial atmosphere in educa-

Terrorism

All-party meet in

Sylhet backs

police to take

tough action

From Staff Correspondent

an all-party meeting today ex-

tended their support to the po-

lice administration to take

tougher measures against ter-

rorists and extortionists im-

lice to discharge their duties ig-

noring all sorts of political in-

at the meeting called by district

police administration to ex-

change views with leaders of po-

They also called upon the po-

They extended their support

The meeting was addressed

mediately.

SYLHET, July 21: Leaders at

cupying student dormitories.

tional institutions.

The opposition leader said

She called upon the teachers

day evening.

Harun-or-Rashid.

She was talking to the newly

Opposition leader Khaleda

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Down to Earth

Railway Level Crossings and Traffic Jams

By AS M Nurunnabi

It is a sad feature of our city coming trains use the Kamalalife that there are as many as 18 railway level crossings criss 26 are inter-city trains, 20 are crossing the city's road net- mail trains and six are passenwork. When Fulbaria railway station in old Dhaka was 40 trains operate between the shifted to Kamalapur decades hours from 8 am to 10 pm. ago, it was felt that the new During this period, traffic jams railway alignment at that time are mainly created on the roads would reduce the number of railway crossings in the city Analysts have estimated that at ensuring unhindered flow of city's road traffic. That expec- for giving every train its pastation was ill-founded as the sage at a level crossing, creating city began to grow in all direc- traffic convergence at both ends tions necessitating the opening of the gate, with its fall-out efof so many railway level cross-

crossings create traffic jams on both sides of the rail gates with total each day, traffic is stuck total duration ranging from up on two sides of the railway three to four hours each day. Such traffic jams inevitably tion in the city's many road incause loss of work hours with its implications of financial loss. Traffic jams in the city constitute one of the greatest problems of the metropolis. The suspension of traffic by the closure of rail gates only serves to compound the prevailing traffic chaos.

the main part of the Dhaka city. On the stretch of the track, starting from the Dhaka ternative directions at different (Kamalapur) Railway Station to the expanded length upto Tongi, the number of level crossings, big and small, is more than 18. Of these, ten level crossings are said to be located in important areas. The dwellers of the city waiting for a train to pass for the minimum period neceswho have lived here for a considerable period are well acquainted with the location of each level crossing. What is more important to note is that every day 52 outgoing and in-

pur railway terminal. Of these ger trains. Of the total 52 trains, on either side of level crossing. least 10 minutes are required fects spreading all over the city. It has also been estimated by Now we see that these rail analysts that on these accounts for about three to four hours in crossings. Similar is the situater-sections, where, say at Sonargaon road crossing for example, long waits are in-

evitable to give clearance to one side of the traffic flow, while the other side of the traffic remains staked for long spells. This is obviously due to the The railway tracks run over high volume of vehicular traffic using roads causing long delays for road traffic moving in alroad intersections of the city. This is one aspect of the road traffic jams at city's road intersections, apart the similar picture on both sides of rail gates when road traffic is stalled

> through a level crossing. Keen observers note that such traffic jams can be avoided if fly-overs are built at important city points. Govt has already decided to build a fly-over train

at Khilgaon, construction of which is due to begin next year Two other fly-overs, one at Mohakhali and the other at Jatrabari, have been planned with World Bank financing.

Since communications facility is vital in the interest of the city commuters, rail tracks of necessity will have to run through the city. Since in other developed cities of the world railway tracks are positioned either below or over fly-overs. traffic is not affected. For example, in Bangkok, be horrendous traffic jams were a regular feature until they managed better by building fly-overs in strategic areas. In Calcutta, observers say the position has significantly improved with the introduction of underground railway, which serves as mass transit system.

Among the factors responsible for the present traffic chaos in the city, research analysts have cited important fac tors as the inadequacy of road space in relation to the burgeoning number of vehicles on the road, the inordinate number of rickshaws, the large number of railway level crossings impeding the free flow of

As for the railway level crossings, the only remedy at this stage, in the absence of adequate number of fly-overs, seems to be to ensure that the closing of the rail gates is done sary so that traffic movement is resumed the moment a train passes the crossing, keeping in view the security considerations in respect of the passing

DCC drive to eradicate Aedes mosquito

The Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) has launched a massive

All DCC commissioners, imams of different mosques and local elite have been involved in the drive to motivate people in this regard, a DCC

of the health department of the corporation are spraying insec-

cooperation from the city dwellers to make the drive a success. It also urged the city people to keep clean the flower tubs, broken bottles, polythene bags, rejected drums, and remove stagnant water under air conditioners and other pots inside the houses.

the DCC field workers so that they can spray insecticides in

mad Hanif has instructed the health department officers to step up the mosquito control ac-

Journalist murder

Another alleged terrorist held at Jessore

day arrested another alleged terrorist in connection with the killing of journalist Shamsur Rahman, reports UNB.

Abdus Sukkur, son of Hazrat Mandol, was arrested from his Jail Road house at about 4 am He and two others arrested earlier - Benzin Khan and Zahangir - were sent to Dhaka for interrogation, police said.

A CID source said the investigators hoped to find out the motive behind the killing soon. They are mainly conducting the investigation on four groups - smuggling syndicate, Sharbahara Party, Sramajibi Mukti Andolon and professional

Meanwhile, journalists of all the local dailies observed a pen-down strike today protesting the killing of their colleague. No local daily will be

their seven-day programme will observe a token hunger strike at Daratana Square from 8 am to 4 pm tomorrow.

five in Cox's Bazar

reports UNB.

identity.

Rival groups collection at Karwan Bazar

injuries when two groups o miscreants exploded several the city yesterday.

kitchen market at about 7:30 pm, hospital sources said quoting the witnesses.

chased each other and exploded at least 12 crackers over control of collection in the area. He was sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital

JCD factional clash at DU dies

By Staff Correspondent

ployee of a garment factory who was injured in a clash between two factions of JCD on Dhaka University campus on July 2, succumbed to his injuries at Dhaka Medical College Hospi-

tal yesterday. Earlier, Jahid, 20, another outsider, was killed when a bomb he was carrying in his pocket exploded during the chase and counter-chase be-

Six others including two female students and an employee of the university were injured in the clash.



Japanese Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori (C) chats with US President Bill Clinton (L) and French President Jacques Chirac before a working dinner with leaders of the Group of Eight at the Bankokushinryo Kan Hall in Nago, Okinawa yesterday.

- AFP photo

Thackeray case adjourned for 6 weeks

NEW DELHI, July 21: India's highest court today adjourned for six weeks its hearing of a ease in which a Hindu rightwing leader is accused of a key role in religious riots that killed thousands of people in 1993, reports Reuters.

"We adjourn the matter for six weeks," Supreme Court Chief Justice AS Anand said on behalf of a three-member bench of judges hearing a public interest petition. The court said it sought more details on the federal government's position on the issue involving Bal Thackeray, leader of India's Hindu Shiv Sena party.

The public interest petition before the court sought action on a report by a commission of inquiry into riots in Bombay between Hindus and Muslims in 1992 and 1993.

Jamaat walking a tightrope

Allies refuse to back its stand on Ctg killing

By Rezaul Karim

a tight rope following the recent killing of eight people including five BCL workers in Chittagong allegedly by the activists of its student front and the subsequent massive manhunt to arrest the activists.

The latest developments have put on hold its preparation for the upcoming parliamentary polls. Instead, the party is struggling to get on with the usual party activity.

The police drive across the country in last one week saw more than 200 activists of Jamaat and Islami Chhatra Shibir, party's student wing, arrested. However, the prime suspects of the Chittagong killing are still at large.

The ruling Awami League has blamed the Jamaat and Shibir for the carnage. It also launched a massive campaign against the fundamentalist forces, which appears to have had a deep impact both on the political front and on the pub-

Jamaat denies the charges saving that intra-party feud in Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) led to the killings. A Jamaat leader said the AL has

Jamaat-e-Islami is walking manipulated the whole event to create a situation to ban the

But what upsets Jamaat most is that BNP and Jatiya Party, its closest allies, are refusing to stand by its side and See page 11 col 6

20 hurt: AL office ransacked as BCL, JCD clash in Rajshahi From Our Correspondent

upazila yesterday.

upazila unit president Shariful Islam and JCD leader Amirul Islam were admitted to Bagha upazila Health Complex in critical condition. The rest were given first aid in the health See page 11 col 5

RAJSHAHI, July 21: At least litical parties and members of 20 people were injured, two of the press. them, seriously in a clash between the activists of by the Sylhet Pourasava Bangladesh Chhatra League Chairman Badar Uddin Kam-(BCL) and Jatiyatabadi Chhatran, district president of tra Dal (JCD) on Bagha Shah Awami League Syed Abu Nosor. Dowla College campus in Bagha district BNP president M A

Haque and general secretary Of the injured, BCL Bagha Ariful Haque Chowdhury, district (North) Jamaat president Moulana Habibur Rahman and city secretary Hafiz Abdul Hai Haron, district JSD president Professor Mohammad Shafique and general secretary Lokman Ahmed, divisional coordinator of Khelafat Majlish Moulana Nizam Uddin, district CPB secretary Advocate Be-

> others. Sylhet Press Club president Muktabis-Un-Noor and general secretary Iqbal Siddique also spoke. The speakers also called for a police operation to recover illegal arms immediately.

dananda Bhattacharjee, district

NAP president M A Haque and

Police super M A Hanif in his address sought cooperation from all in curbing crimes and terrorist activities.

Seven arrested for ransacking shops, damaging vehicles in Sylhet town

From Staff Correspondent SYLHET, July 21: Seven people were arrested for their alleged involvement in ransacking shops, a newspaper office and damaging a number of vehicles in Ambarkhana area in the town last night.

Police said that a group of unruly youths went on the rampage in the area last night following arrest of a JCD activist, Shahed Ahmed Iman, who was wanted in a number of cases.

They damaged seven minibuses, four private cars, four microbuses, three trucks and two ambulances while a JCD procession was passing the Ambarkhana area, police said. The JCD activists also ran-

sacked daily Manchitra office and shops in the area, police added.

Attack on N'ganj BNP

office NARAYANGANJ, July 21 Awami League workers allegedly attacked the BNP office

on Bangabandhu Road in the

town today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the BNP office came under attack when a ruling party procession led by Shamim Osman MP was passing by at about 10 pm, protesting the "attempt on the life" of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Lin Gopalganj.

Taiwan commissions warships to counter Chinese threat ened to use force to reclaim craft guns, could play a vital

TSOYING, Taiwan, July 21: Taiwan's new leader commissioned a US-built landing vessel and three missile ships today, weapons crucial to countering the threat from rival China's naval buildup, reports

Wearing a blue navy cap, President Chen Shui-bian warned 5,000 sailors, officers and marines standing on the deck of the new landing ship that China is expanding its navy and striving to gain more control over the region's waters.

But Chen emphasised that the main purpose of Taiwan's new ships was to protect the island, which split from China amid civil war 51 years ago. China has repeatedly threat-

destructive, and our primary task is to deter a war," Chen said. "A strong combat power is key to fulfilling this task. Chen, who spoke at the Tsoying port in southern Taiwan.

was surrounded by about 20 vessels, including French-built Lafayette frigates, US built Knox-and Perry-class frigates. one Dutch-built submarine and two smaller submarines. The 8,500-ton Anchorage-

class amphibious landing ship arrived from the United States last month. It was built in 1969 and last used in the Gulf War in Military officials said the

ship, equipped with anti-air-

role in transporting troops to "Modern warfare can be very Taiwan's many outlying is-

lands during a war. The first ship of its type in Taiwan, it can carry four antisub helicopters on its deck and three tanks inside its hull.

Also put into service were three missile patrol ships, the last of the 13 built in Taiwan with US-made hulls. They are equipped with anti-aircraft guns, surface-to-surface missiles and long-range search

Earlier this year, China received a Sovremenny-class guided-missile destroyer, one of two such ships the Chinese have ordered from Russia. The second one has yet to be delivered.



Miss Universe Lara Dutta (L) smiles to photographers during her meeting with Indian opposition leader Sonia Gandhi in New Delhi yesterday. Dutta, who was crowned Miss Universe in May, said she would do her utmost to help the nation's poor. - AFP photo

Bushra murder Hajipara residents demand proper investigation

By Staff Correspondent Residents of Hajipara in the city yesterday brought out a procession demanding proper

The procession started from Hajipara and reached infront of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday evening where the processionists held a rally

investigation into Bushra mur-

Rushdania Bushra Islam Phool, 18, a college student and only daughter of a retired police officer, was killed in her bedroom at their Hajipara residence on the night of July 1. Five people, including Abdul

Awami League were arrested in connection with Bushra murder Of the arrested, housemaid Sufia, and Kaniz Fatema Hena, sister-in-law of Kader, were

secretary of city unit of rulling

taken on a two-day fresh remand by the CID on Thursday. Kader, the main suspect in the murder case, was sent to Dhaka Central Jail after being produced before the CMM's court on July 10, the second day of his four-day remand. The

case was transferred to the CID on the same day. Kader, his brother-in-law Ruhul and a local cable operator Minto are now at the Dhaka

Central Jail. According to CID officials they are yet to make any headway in investigating the mur-

firms at HR Bhaban

By Staff Correspondent cash and valuables worth about Tk 9.5 lakh from offices of several business firms at HR Bhaban in the city's Kakrail area

Residents of Hajipara in the city took to the streets yesterday demanding proper investi-

Thursday night. Kalam Talukder and Kalu Mian of the building located at 26/1 Kakrail were found lying unconscious on the road near the building at about 6:30 a.m. yesterday

Golam Nabi, Assistant Manager, Administration, of Karnaphuli Ltd. said the robbers many offices at the building looted cash, gold and other could not report on the damage Kader, relief and social welfare valuables worth Tk. 9.47 lakh from several floors of the build-

sent to the hospital, police said, arrested till writing of this readding their conditions were critical.

According to police, the robbers entered the building cutting the grills and breaking glasses beside the guard's room on the basement. Robbers went into every office except the ones on the first floor. The band tried to enter the first floor by breaking open the door but

failed, police said. But they made their way into the second floor by breaking open the door of Regent Line Ltd. from where they took away Tk 87,000, it was alleged.

They then climbed onto the third floor and entered the office of Motordrive Ltd. and also

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gation into the killing of college student Rushdania Bushra. - Star photo Robbers loot business

Two guards found unconscious

Robbers allegedly looted looted valuables from there, The dacoits went into the of fice of Karnaphuli Engineering Ltd. on the fourth floor and allegedly looted Tk 37,000 in cash, 13 tola of gold ornaments The two on-duty guards Abul worth about Tk. 78,000. They

took away Tk. 45,000 from another office on the same floor. Then the gang entered the office of BAHF (Bangladesh) Ltd. and allegedly took away Tk

Police said the amount of looting could be higher since since they were closed on weekly holidays. A case was filed with Motifheel thana in The two guards were later this regard but none could be

port last night.

AL activist stabbed to death at Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent SIRAJGANJ, July 21: An AL activist was stabbed to death by his rivals in the town's Malshapara area this afternoon.

Police said Babu Islam, 42, was stabbed by Abdul Hamid and Pasan on the New Dhaka road at about 3:30 pm. Babu died on the spot. The incident was a sequel to

Hazrat Ali, brother of the victim, lodged a case with police accusing the two. Babu's body was sent to Sirajganj General Hospital for au-

a previous enmity between

Babul and the accused.

drive by fogging and spraying larvicides in different city areas as part of its mosquito control programme, specially to eradicate the dengue fever carrier Aedes mosquitoes, reports

press release said yesterday. A total of 700 field workers

ticides by 1,000 hand-spray and fogging machines to check mosquitoes as part of the drive. The DCC has sought all-out

They also urged them to help

side houses. Dhaka City Mayor Moham-

JESSORE, July 21: Police to-

killers of Khulna.

published tomorrow. The journalists as part of

Landslide kills

COX'S BAZAR, July 21: Five eople were killed in a landslide following heavy rainfall at Himchhari Saikat Par in Ramu upazila early Thursday,

Local people said the five victims belonged to the same family but could not give their

clash over toll

By Staff Correspondent A young man received burn

crackers during a clash at Karwan Bazar kitchen market in The injured Nayan, 15, an employee of wholesale fish market at the bazar, was hurt while playing carom at the

Both the groups clashed

Another victim of

Abul Hossain, 25, an em-

tween the two rival groups.