The Pally Star

UNB, Dhaka

Met Office said.

am tomorrow.

City/Town

Chittagong

Cox's Bazar

AFP, Washington

against Iraq.

Senate floor.

the United States.

of mass destruction

University Radio.

US Senator Arlen Specter Thursday

was not the decision of just one

man, even though he is President of

Powell said there was "considerable

support" for the President George W

at his disposal to oust Iraqi

President Saddam Hussein, whom

he accuses of developing weapons

"We have a right to defend our-selves and defend our friends from

the kinds of weapons that he is

developing that could cause thou-

Bush's policy toward Iraq.

Earlier, Secretary of State Colin

Bush has vowed to use all tools

Rajshahi

Khulna

Barisal

Sylhet

Dhaka

WEATHER C

_____ D

Moderate rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary

gusty wind is likely at many places over the country with moderately

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged during the period,

Yesterday's highest temperature of 34.5 degree Celsius was

The sun sets in the capital at 6.47 pm today and rises at 5:23

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in

26.5

27.2

26.4

26.3

25.9

25.6

recorded at Rajshahi and the lowest of 24.9 degree Celsius at Feni.

Temperature in Celsius

31.5 25.3

Max

29.5

34.5

30.0

30.2

32.4

32.4

vote before strike

heavy falls at places during the next 12 hours till 6pm today.

some major cities and towns yesterday were:

implemented as early as possible.

The repression of women is alarm-

ing and they are being raped even at

gious edicts), Justice Sobhan said.

We read in newspapers every day

that fatwa is being thrust upon

women. Fatwa is actually a tool of

repression on women in the name of

Barrister Amirul Islam, vice-

chairman of Bangladesh Bar

Council, underscored the immedi-

ate introduction of an uniformed

marriage registration because, he

Strongly criticising 'fatwa' (reli-

Govt urged to approve **UFC draft law**

their homes."

religion."

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a workshop yesterday urged the government to immediately implement the draft law on the Uniform Family Code (UFC) enabling women, irrespective of religions, races and castes, to enjoy equal rights and dignity.

Advocate Masuda Rehana Begum of Legal Aid Sub-Committee of the Bangladesh Mahila Parishad (BMP) read the keynote paper at the workshop titled "Reforms of Existing Family Laws and Uniform Family Code Affairs", organised by the BMP at the CIRDAP auditorium in the city.

Former chief justice Kamaluddin Hossain in his speech as chief guest said, "Equal rights of men and women will be established in the society with the implementation of the law.'

He suggested that cues from the Testamentary Law, the Gift and Trust Law, the Family Settlement Law and Foreign Marriage Law be taken to finalise the draft law.

He also suggested that the law be titled "Bangladesh Family Code" instead of "Uniform Family Code". The existing draft law of UFC, ity'

> "There are some people in the ruling alliance, who will oppose the draft UFC, but we have to carry our campaign forward."

Dr Hamida Hossain and Advocate Sultana Kamal of Ain O Salish Kendro, Dr Kazi Akther Hamid, Advocate Zead-Al- Malum, among others, attended the work-

said, its absence is creating a lot of problems. Earlier, in her welcome address. BMP General Secretary Avsha

Khanum said the main characteristic of a democratic society should be equality of men and women To reach the goal, she thinks, the

proposed UFC should be implemented in the spirit of international slogans -- 'women's rights are human rights' and 'violence against women is violence against human-

already placed before the BNP BMP President Hena Das said, government (1991-96) and the Awami League government (1996-2001), includes the Uniform Marriage and Divorce Act. the Maintenance Act. the Guardianship

shop.

Shipman killed 215

FROM PAGE 12 "No one reading this report can fail

to be shocked by the enormity of the crimes committed by Shipman and to feel, as I do,the deepest sympathy for his victims and their families," career Smithsaid

"His activities have brought tragedy upon them and also upon the communities in which he practiced and which gave him their

For more than 20 years Shipman was a respected member of the medical system.

community in Hyde, a working-class Manchester in northwest England. In 1992 he set up a busy one-man practice in the town. Between then and 1998 he killed 143 people, Smith concluded in her

Its final report is due late next

In March 1998 another doctor, who had been asked by Shipman to year. cosign some cremation certificates,

"He has shown previously that

Prof Mahfuzul Hug made

member of UGC **CU CORRESPONDENT**

Prof Mahfuzul Huq, Chairman of Economics Department of Chittagong University, has been appointed member of the University Grants Commission (UGC) for a four-vear term.

Mahfuzul Hug passed BA (Hons) and MA from Dhaka University. He obtained post graduate diploma in agriculture economics from Oxford University and Ph. D degree from London University.

He was involved in many research works.

22 more killed in Kashmir violence

REUTERS, Jammu

Twenty-two people including seven soldiers and 11 separatists were killed in separate shootouts in the past 24 hours in India's revoltracked Kashmir region, police said vesterday.

Security forces killed three separatists sheltered in a house near a mosque in Banihal, midway between the state's summer and winter capitals, Srinagar and Jammu, police said.

Police said earlier it appeared the separatists were hiding inside the mosque.

"The militants were hiding in a house close to an old mosque. They were responding to fire in all directions, which gave an impression that some of them might have been hiding in the mosque," a police official told Reuters in Jammu.

Documents recovered from the slain militants established their identities, he said, adding nine Indian soldiers and three policemen

had been wounded. Muslim guerillas have been fighting Indian rule in Kashmir since 1989

North of Srinagar, three Indian soldiers were killed in an ambush by separatists on Wednesday night police said In another incident, a soldier and

three rebels from Kashmir's main militant group, Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, died in a clash in the neighbouring area of Sopore on Wednesday night A security official and two mili-

conference on Islam and education "The quarrel is with Saddam

sands upon thousands of casual-"Because they cannot, you ties." Powell said on American

nity that this is a real and present danger requiring political, diplomatic and perhaps military action to resolve."

power of Congress to declare war and calling for a debate and vote by Congress prior to any military action 'There is a need for the American public to understand the issues involved in the use of military force vesterdav. against Iraq," Specter said on the

"If congressional consideration was followed by the authorisation for the use of force ... the international community might well be by suspected Islamic militants. reassured that the US military action

> speculation of possible US attacks on Iraq to oust President Saddam Hussein, which he said would spur anger towards America among

> "We would certainly consider this as a very negative thing to do which would provoke a greater hatred, even, among people in Malaysia for what the US does," he said in reply to a question from the floor at a

Hussein. You say he is a dictator but it's up to the people of Iraq to change eirleader

cannot punish them," he said, replying to a question by a US "You punish people who have no

persuade the international commu-

introduced a resolution affirming the

show the moderate face of Islam,' said Mahathir, a Muslim leader courted by the United States since September 11's suicide hijackings

Malaysians.

means of changing their condition,

that is not justice," he added.

Humidity in

Evening

83

83

85

97

92

92

percentage

Morning

76

85

84

97

86

80

92

Reuters adds: A US strike against Irag would hurt efforts by moderate Muslims to calm the anger of their fellow religionists towards the United States, Malaysia's Mahathir Mohamad said

"It will make it difficult for us to

Mahathir spoke amid mounting

of Srinagar

against Iraq

US senator demands

Residents of ward 85 (Dhalpur-Saidabad area) brought out a demonstration yesterday protesting extortion, drug addiction and other criminal activities in the area.

A day at day-care centres FROM PAGE 12 will not deprive you of the expected sight of their frolicking.

Usually, crèches are furnished with cots, cradles, cushions, small chairs and other necessary things for toddlers. These centres accommodate 15 to 30 children to provide

ample space for movement. The children are also provided with toys, games, puzzles, storybooks, crayons and other materials to enjoy their time. Moreover, they love to stay with their friends at the crèche. "I get bored at home because there is nobody to play with," said Tazrin, a six-year old attending Chander Bhubon Day

Care Centre since she was three. Even the attendants who look after the tots feel emotionally bonded to them. "I cannot even think of not coming to the crèche just for one day," said Sheuli, an attendant at the BRAC crèche.

Infants, mostly aged between six months and six years, are brought to crèches. "We categorise the children into three groups," said Mahfuza Khatun, Day Care Officer of the Directorate of Women Affairs at Eskaton. "Infants from six months to two years belong to the crèche group while those two-to-four-year olds stay in the play group and fourto-six-year olds are placed in the pre-school group," she described.

The centres have become a second home for these children who come in the morning and stav until tants were killed in another oun evening. The attendants take care battle in Poonch district southwest of everything from showers to afternoon naps. Most day care Elsewhere two security force centres prepare special food for personnel, three militants and four small children consisting of vegetacivilians have been killed in sepables, fish, chicken, rice and pulses -a nutritionally balanced diet for the

authorities.

Medical facilities are also available at most crèches. There is a fulltime health assistant in the government day care centre at the Directorate of Women affairs in Eskaton. Other private centres are said to have contracts with doctors for emergencies.

4 50 6

NEWS

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Although most children stay as regular members at crèches, some centres offer short-term stays. "Mothers can leave their children with us for one or two hours while going out," said Khaleda Akter of the Chander Bhubon. "In such cases. we charge by the hour whereas regular members make monthly payments," she added.

There are several organisations like the Secretariat, UNICEF, ICDDR,B, CARE, BRAC and different garment factories which offer crèches to their staffs.

It eases tension for working mothers and allows them to concentrate more on their job. "Our objective in setting up the crèche was to ensure breast-feeding to babies,' said Laoha Mafuz Rosy, who is in charge of the Gender Resource Centre, BRAC. "It is because of the crèche that our staffers are not seeking leave after the end of their

maternity leave." she added. 'The crèche has given me relief from the anxiety that I would have suffered, if I had to leave my baby with a 'Bua' (domestic help)," said Rubina Yasmin, mother of one-year old Alisha and a BRAC staff. "Now I can check on her twice between work schedules." she added.

Several developmental organisations working for the poor have been offering day care facilities. Aparajeya Bangladesh, an NGO,

Mohammadpur and Azimpur. The working parents of the slums can keep their children here on a monthly fee of Tk 20.

HOTO: STAF

At most private day care centres, the monthly fee is around Tk 1,000 to 1,500, while the government and developmental organisations charge around Tk 300 a month. However, it can be much less for the

Although working mothers are mostly seen keeping their children at crèches, infants from split families are at times sent by their fathers. Moreover, there are some toddlers who come to the centres to 'socialise'

"I bring my child to the centre because he doesn't speak much.' said Ruksana Hossain, a housewife and mother of a one-year old boy.

Day care centres are still on the early stage of popularity, but their growth indicates its rising importance. Parents find it convenient to keep children at the centres, since it assures them of their children's security.

Some feel that keeping a child at day care centres and depriving it of its mother's company may cause unfavourable psychological effects.

However, it is not the quantity but the quality of time a mother spends with her child that matters, said Dr Nighat Ara, a psychiatrist.

"A child's mental growth won't be blocked or its relationship with its mother hampered if the mother is 2,000-page report. caring and affectionate to her child when she spends time with the child." she explained.

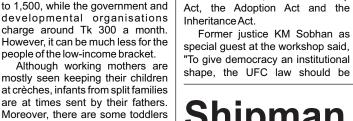
Crèches and day care centres

A government-commissioned report found last year that Shipman had 297 more deaths among his patients than would be expected during a normal 24-year medical

Prosecutors have ruled out further trials for Shipman, who is already serving 15 life sentences with no possibility of parole.

The Shipman case has shaken Britain's medical establishment and undermined Britons' faith in their

The inquiry will now consider how Shipman was able to escape detection for so long. Smith said it would attempt to come up with improved safeguards "so as to ensure such a terrible betraval of trust by a family doctor can never happen again.



trust.

town of 22,000 just outside

he would use such weapons against his neighbours and against his friends. And what we have to do is

Student bodies

FROM PAGE 1

JSD leader Inu said, "It is a gross violation of the Constitution, which has ensured people's right to do politics"

He said, "Educational institutions are not cantonments which can be ruled through such regulation. Bangladesh is a country where the Constitution ensures people's right to do politics"

He said this is the first expert committee which dared to recommend such an unconstitutional step. But surprisingly, the committee did not try to investigate the causes behind reckless exercise of politics, which are to be blamed for campus violence.

He said political high-ups are behind every killing on the campus and dispute over tender dropping. The criminals are always being protected and patronised by top politicians in power.

Prof AAMS Arefin Sidiqque of Mass Communication and Journalism Department of Dhaka University said there is no scope to link campus terrorism with student politics.

There are many people who can't differentiate between student politics and campus violence, he noted

Student politics has a glorious past in the country's history. In the past, the masses were not conscious about their rights. This created an opportunity for students to lead the nation, he said

Similarly, the 1973 University Act has created the scope for teachers to be involved in politics. It ensures teachers' democratic rights.

During 1975-1991 when there was no democracy, authorities of public universities followed the Act and ran their administrations democratically and upholding values, he noted.

Autocrat governments in the past planned to ban student politics but could not do it in the face of widespread protests

The Expert Committee on Education Reform Thursday submitted its report to

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia with recommendation for comprehensive reforms in the sector and ban on politics by students and teachers on the campus.

The committee comprising vicechancellors of all public universities recommended keeping educational institutions totally free from politics.

Involvement of teachers and stu dents in politics should be declared 'illegal', it said. Teachers' involvement in politics has increased their political polarisation at educational stitutions

The report also suggested some amendments to the University Act of 1973 which ensures autonomy for public universities.

The 81-page report also recommended changes in the system of appointment of university vicechancellors, syndicate members and deans of different faculties.

Girl falls from roof. dies

A 15-year-old girl who fell off the roof of her residence at Khilgaon in the city succumbed to her injuries at the DMCH vesterday, says a press release.

Sabrina Shafiq Mitul, daughter of Shafiqur Rahman, Deputy general Manager of Bangladesh Shilpa Bank, sustained severe injuries in the fall at around 4.30pm on Thursday. She was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College

Hospital (DMCH) where she died.

Anti-US rallies FROM PAGE F12

Major General Yahya Rahim Safavi, Information Minister Hoiatoleslam Ali Yunesi, Chief of the Joint Staff Major General Hassan Firuzabadi, parliamentarians, war veterans, teachers, students and state employees took part in the demonstrations. The rallies in the capital culminated in Tehran University, where weekly Friday prayers were

held under the leadership of Rafsaniani. The US flag and Bush's effigy had been set ablaze in the rallies.

The anti-US demonstrations were in response to Bush's written statement on July 12 which called for removal of existing obstacles hindering reforms in Iran.

rate shootouts in the region since Wednesday evening, police said.

PBCP

FROM PAGE 1

death for unknown reasons, said his brother-in-law Arifuzzaman, the complainant in the murder case The case was transferred from the Fakirhat Police Station to the

Bagherhat Sadar Police Station for security reasons.

Kalam FROM PAGE 12

Laxmi Sahgal, he said "I don't have any rival. They are my friends, they are all nationalists, they all want India to develop." To a question, whether he would be a neutral President. he said " a

President is a President. There is nothing like a neutral President." In a message to media, he said "media is a powerful resource of the nation and you should present the

success stories of rural people also." "I was travelling and meeting people from all walks of life for the last three years," Kalam said adding he saw a tremendous enthusiam

and spirit to win. "Ignited minds unleased the

power of India. I realise India can do it," he pointed out.

He said his two books 'Vision India - 2020' and 'Ignited Minds' are his plan of action and road map to country's development.

Visa advice

FROM PAGE 12 the vears, he said

Arifur alleged that MAH Salim, president of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agents (BAIRA), was spreading "mislead-

ing" information regarding him. "As a business partner we had a contract long ago that we would do business with fifty-fifty share. But Salim breached the agreement and did not give me my due share of business done in sending workers to

South Korea," he said. When contacted, BAIRA President M A H Salim MP denied the allegation and said there was no such business agreement with Arifur.

Around 1.50 lakh Bangladeshis go to Saudi Arabia every year for job and almost half of the country's remittance earnings comes from there

has been running day care centres Children can bring food from and schools for slum people since home if they wish, said most crèche 1982. They have their centres at

contribute significantly to enhancing women's empowerment and helping working women enjoy her moth-Rayer Bazar, Pallabi, erhood at the same time

and eventually to Shipman's trial and conviction

Armed soldiers, deployed to contain any unrest within the recently closed down Adamjee Jute Mills, march through a road in the mill area yesterday.

Palestinian state

FROM PAGE 12

"In all fairness to the president, we didn't ask him to use his influence with Israel. He volunteered to do

The two Mideast attacks, which killed 12, triggered new jitters and frustration in Israel, whose troops have occupied most major towns in the West Bank and clamped down stifling curfews since the last suicide bombings a month ago.

violence shatter his vision for regional peace.

time we have a high-level meeting and something happens it is not coincidental," Bush said ahead of his meeting with the ministers.

"I think the enemies against peace try to derail peace and try to discourage us. And one of the things I'm going to tell the leaders today is beaun.

we refuse to be discouraged." As for the role of Palestinian

leader Yasser Arafat, the issue "is bigger than any single person," Bush said. "Our discussions will center on how to have institutions in place that will truly represent the will

of the Palestinian people.' Moasher said the Arabs had presented to Powell and later gave Bush their ideas on creating at least a temporary Palestinian state by January 2003 -- in line with the president's goal of achieving

Palestinian sovereignty within three vears Prince Saud said Bush "con-

firmed the time frame that he had established, three years, and he said the time is ticking, it has

Tutor trap FROM PAGE 1 Kendro are to name just a few in the

city's Nilkhet, Azimpur, Mouchak and Malibagh areas.

PHOTO: STAR

Asked about the complaints, the Panja Tuition Information Centre at Nilkhet said, "We are busy doing our business. We don't have enough time to talk.

> The Fare International located in the same area said, "Fifty per cent of the members will not get any appointment...they will suffer all the year round.

Another centre named Tatthva Kendro at Kazipara said, "We are providing jobs to tutors, not harassing.

. But M Jasimuddin, vicepresident of the Bakhusha Market Committee at Nilkhet said. "We drove away some providers from the market to keep our goodwill up."

Treasurer of the committee Sheikh Asaduzzman said that every month the committee had to press the providers to pay the members back their fees on complaints of fraudulence. "In some cases, we had to beat them up."

of deaths. Police concluded there wasn't enough evidence to pursue charges.

Jury found that he deliberately

expressed concern at the number

The investigation was reopened months later after the daughter of an 81-year-old widow discovered that her mother apparently had changed her will to leave everything to Shipman. That led to exhumations

Surprisingly, the SI did not raid the houses of BCP ringleaders

Meanwhile, leaders of the BNP, the Awami League and other political parties held a meeting in protest against police excesses in the name

panic among the people of Dumuria.

FROM PAGE 1

deaths.

Cunningham explained, "Pressure exerted on an active burn tissue by a custom made pressure garment causes collagen fibres to assume the predominantly parallel pattern characteristic of normal skin. When applied early and used continuously, the pressure garment offers a significant non-surgical approach to help minimise hypertrophic scars during the scars maturation process.'

She also said, "It is important that burn patients begin wearing pressure garments while the scar is active and immature. Scar tissue is highly responsive in the early stages so an early application of the pressure garment is essential."

Pressure garments should be worn for 23 hours a day, removing them only for bathing and when cleaning the garment. Most patients will need to wear it for 12 to 18 months.

A continuous use of the pressure garment will prevent the thickening, twisting, and the nodular formation of the skin, seen in hypertrophic scars. A soft pliable elastic scar develops which allows for normal joint movements.

External pressure applied by the garment decreases the inflammatory response and the amount of blood in the scar. This also reduces itching and prevents collagen from synthesising. Additionally, the garment also provides protection against further injuries to the area.

"Pressure garments have many advantages. Its biggest merit is, it needs no surgery that usually costs between Tk 50,000 and Tk 1 lakh," said Dr Samanta Lal Sen, a noted plastic surgeon who is also the chief

SI on rampage

FROM PAGE 1

Sohrab alleged that Enamul was drunken when he was carrving out raids on Shovna, Gutudia, Shaijarha and Ula villages.

Mrinal and Shailen, Sohrab said.

injected heroin into 15 elderly women - many in good health during routine checkups in their homes or at his office. falsifving of combing operation. computer records to create fictitious symptoms to explain their The rampage sent a wave of

Burn patients

of the 50-bed Burn and Plastic Surgery Department of the Dhaka Medical College Hospital

"The important thing is to make the garment available for the poor. We must remember the majority of burn patients in Bangladesh are poor and they must be able to afford it," he said.

Haripur project

FROM PAGE 1 April to open proposals of three bidders for the expansion project. But it hid the fact that there were many objections -- including the one that the project's design was too old The bid, floated in August 8, 1999, remains suspended because of disagreements among PDB, ERD and the Japanese financier.

A Japanese study titled 'SAPI report' earlier said that instead of undertaking the expansion scheme, it would be much more cost effective to set up a new power plant with the same cost. The ERD also supported the view and suggested PDB last year to pursue an alternative plan for conversion into a Combined Cycle Plant.

Earlier a PDB tender committee on evaluation of the three bidders --Marubeni, Mitsubishi and Mitsui -observed that the project's consultant Mott MacDonald had taken the side of Marubeni and technically disqualified Mitsui though both had the same qualification.

The local agent of Mitsubishi is also the agent of Mott MacDonald.

The existing Haripur plant has an installed capacity to produce 100 MW power

that," Prince Saud said.

Bush refused to let the increased

"I'm beginning to think that every