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People's Right to Know

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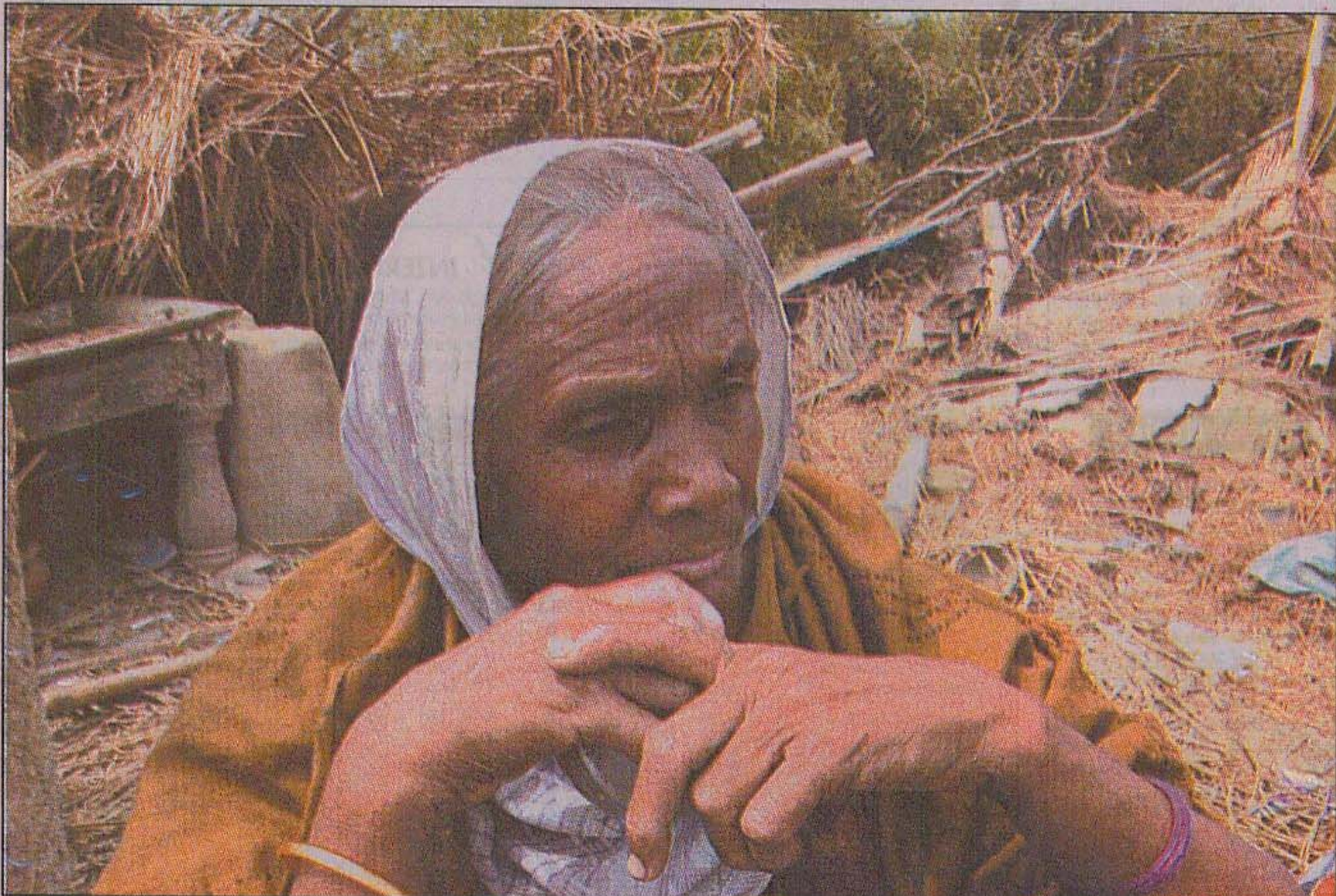


PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE: A pensive elderly woman ponders her future sitting on a pile of rubble what formed her home two days ago after a tornado cut a swathe through her Kanchanpur village in Netrakona on Wednesday. With nothing to eat and nowhere to go, she finds no way to break out of the misery.

## 2 outlaws lynched after bomb attack bid on Khulna police box

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

An angry mob lynched two armed cadres of the Janajuddho faction of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) at about 2:00pm yesterday after they were caught while trying to bomb the Gallamari Police Box under Sonadanga Police Station.

Police recovered three powerful bombs from the two men -- Akash alias Sourav, 30, and Asaduzzaman Murad, 28, -- before they were forcibly taken away and beaten to death by the mob.

Both men were wanted in connection with several murder cases, police said.

Eyewitnesses said plainclothes policemen caught the two men just as they were about to hurl bombs at four constables inside the police box. A third man in the extremist group escaped. Deputy Commissioner (South) Akbar Ali told The Daily Star.

Ali said all police outposts and

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## Cry for aid

Bodies of three more tornado victims found in Netrakona, Khaleda and Hasina visit distressed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two more people hit by a twister bled to death in hospital and rescuers pulled a child dead from debris in Netrakona yesterday as hundreds in two northern districts are waiting in the open for aid to arrive.

Twin tornadoes packing destructive winds ripped through Netrakona and Mymensingh on Wednesday, killing at least 66 people and injuring 2,000 others.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina visited the tornado-wrecked areas and hospitals, crammed with hundreds of people seeking treatment for injuries caused by flying debris.

Mangled tin and uprooted trees littered villages in Netrakona, 128 kilometres north of Dhaka. Villagers

cried in mourning outside their homes levelled by strong winds that raged overnight as most people went to bed after a day of Bangla New Year celebrations.

Many of the injured were hit by corrugated tin ripped off the roofs and many others suffered broken bones as the force of the storm hurled them through the air.

Some villagers were found half buried in swampy rice fields and cattle and pet birds were found dead in the twisted remains of homes, witnesses said.

Sultana, 20, and Alpana, 25, figure in the latest death count, according to dispatches sent by our correspondents from the affected districts.

Shahana Begum of Kanchanpur village in Netrakona, lost her son Latif in the tornado and her hus-

band Amir is now fighting for life in hospital. The 50-year-old woman waited the night out under open sky without food and in shock.

Several hundreds flocked to Bhawal village and scoured a pond yesterday morning for their loved ones reported missing or dead. Most of Kanchanpur, Munnashuti, Koirati and Uliati villages in Netrakona stand in ruins.

The government rushed relief to Haluaghat in Mymensingh, but the victims complained that the amount was not enough for them. But the prime minister's afternoon

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**Positive Bangladesh**  
See our special story titled 'the strength within' on page 12.

## Mujibnagar Day today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The historic Mujibnagar Day will be observed today commemorating the formation of Bangladesh's first government at Baidyanathola mango grove in Meherpur on this day in 1971.

Later, the place was renamed Mujibnagar in tribute to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who was declared president and supreme commander of the armed forces.

Syed Nazrul Islam was made acting president in the absence of Bangabandhu, who had been arrested by the Pakistani occupation forces on the night of March 25, 1971.

The government-in-exile with Tajuddin Ahmed as prime minister led the country's nine-month Liberation War that ended with the surrender of the occupation forces on December 16.

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## Police allow zealots to storm Ahmadiyya mosque

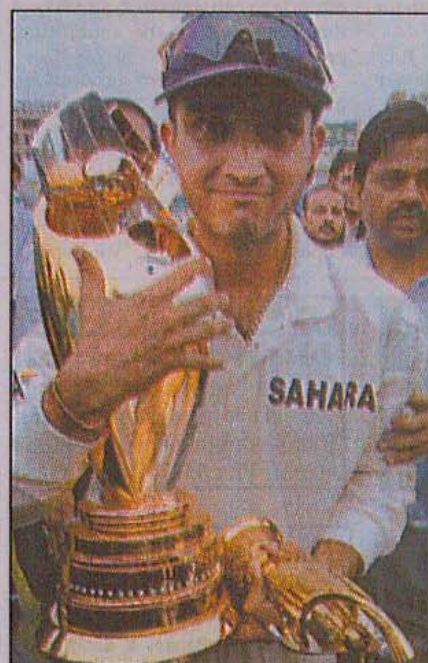
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Religious zealots stormed the Ahmadiyya Mosque in Nakhla para yesterday and seized the sect's books the government banned on January 8 apparently to calm anti-Ahmadiyya tempers.

Police accompanied five demonstrators of the anti-Ahmadiyya International Khatme Nabuwat Movement Bangladesh to the mosque after over 2,000 activists staged a protest procession, the latest in a series of anti-Ahmadiyya demonstrations against the Muslim

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## India's historic win



REUTERS, Rawalpindi

Leg-spinner Anil Kumble grabbed four quick wickets on Friday, bowling India to an historic maiden Test series win on Pakistani soil, their first in six attempts.

It was India's first series win against Pakistan since 1979-80. The victory margin, an innings and 131 runs, was their biggest against Pakistan beating the innings and 70-run win in their inaugural Test at New Delhi in 1952.

Seamer Lakshminarayanan Balaji did the initial damage on Friday, dismissing Kamran Akmal (23) and Inzamam-ul-Haq (9) to set the tone for India's first overseas series win since beating Sri Lanka 10 years ago.

Left-arm paceman Ashish Nehra added the scalp of Yasir Hameed (20), superbly caught behind down the leg-side by a diving Parthiv Patel.

Kumble then grabbed four wickets, including Yousuf Youhana for a resilient 48 and Shoaib Akhtar for a 14-ball 28, before Sachin Tendulkar finished things off, dismissing last-man Danish Kaneria to bowl out the hosts for 245.

Left-hander Asim Kamal was left stranded on a fighting 60. India, on their first full tour of Pakistan soil in more than 14 years, had won the first Multan Test by an innings and 52 runs but the hosts hit back with a nine-wicket win at Lahore.

The series was seen as a symbol of thawing relations between the two south Asian neighbours, who have fought three wars against each other since independence from Britain in 1947.

"It's a special moment for us," Indian captain Sourav Ganguly said.

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## Escap projects 5.7 pc GDP

Government's target of 5.5 percent dwarfed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (Escap) of the United Nations in a projection put Bangladesh's GDP growth for the current fiscal year at 5.7 percent, up from the government's own target of 5.5 percent.

Escap in its report, Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2004, said the higher growth

would be achieved because of better crop production and increased activities in export and domestic markets.

But it warned that inadequate power and gas supplies and low expansion of telecommunications, roads and port facilities would hinder the run of the success.

Poverty reduction through durable economic growth and equitable access to government services

needs emphasis, the report said.

"Participatory governance in Bangladesh serves to enhance the voice of the poor, thus helping to improve the quality of public health, education and social services delivery," the report added, placing emphasis on strengthening governance and establishing the anti-corruption commission.

Focussing on the inflation in

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## MBA for Executives' (IIUC Dhaka Campus)

Download admission form- [www.iiucdc.net](http://www.iiucdc.net)



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International Islamic University Chittagong (IIUC) Dhaka Campus offers 2-year duration (63 Credit Hours) MBA program for Executives' (Evening shift) for the coming semester.

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IIUC Dhaka Campus maintains international standard

of education, textbooks are provided to all the students. Separate and secure arrangements are also available for female students.

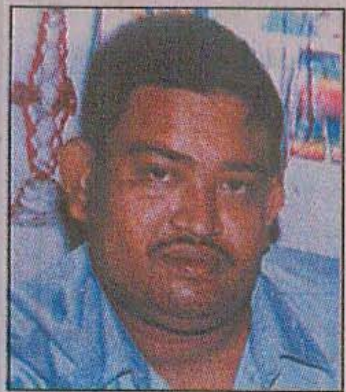
To improve the efficiency of English language of the MBA students "English for Professionals" course has been introduced.

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Admission forms can be downloaded from the website ([www.iiucdc.net](http://www.iiucdc.net)).

For details, please contact the Dhaka Campus of IIUC, House-23, Road-3, Dhanmondi, Dhaka call-9670220, 8629947, 9670193 Ext. 211, 228, or Chittagong City Campus 031-610085, 610308, 638657



Manik



Shipon

## One murdered, alleged killer lynched

Another shot dead in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man was lynched in Demra while fleeing a murder scene and a vegetable vendor was gunned down in another incident at the city's Mohammadpur area yesterday.

Sources said Shafiqul Islam Shipon, 30, was caught by a mob and beaten to death as he tried to escape after allegedly murdering Yaqub alias Manik, the brother-in-law of his elder brother Ripon.

Shipon went to Manik's house at Hajinagar in Demra late Thursday night. He spent the night there after Manik asked him to stay over since it was late.

Next morning, Manik's wife Yasmeen found Shipon with a

bloodstained knife in hand, sources quoted Yasmeen as saying.

Shipon fled immediately afterwards but night guards and neighbours caught him and beat him up severely. Manik's brother Farooq also joined the fray, Shipon's family alleged.

Police rescued Ripon from the mob and rushed him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where doctors declared him dead.

Police said the circumstances surrounding Shipon's death are mysterious and that they are keeping an eye on Yasmeen as she could not give satisfactory answer as to why she did not raise alarm after seeing Shipon fleeing with the knife.

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