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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.

Eye-witnesses 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 died 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-

Mujibnagar  
Day today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The historic Mujibnagar Day will be observed today commemorating the formation of Bangladesh's first government at Baidyanaththola 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

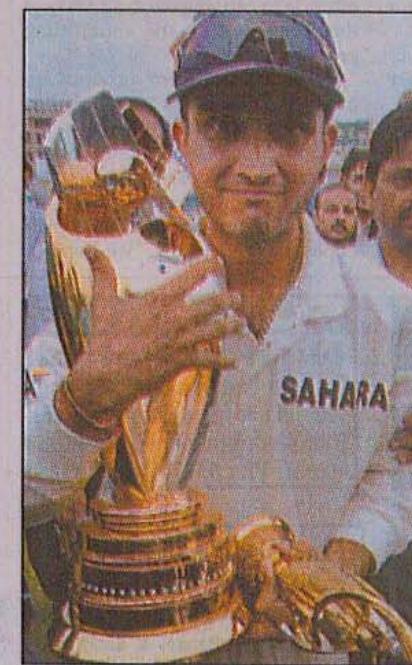
Religious zealots stormed the Ahmadiyya Mosque in Nakhalpara yesterday and seized the sect's books the government banned on January 8 apparently to calm anti-Ahmadiyya tempers.

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



Indian Captain Sourav Ganguly holds the winning trophy after his team's victory over Pakistan at Rawalpindi cricket stadium yesterday.

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

It was India's first series win against Pakistan since 1978-80. 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 Lakshmi Pathiy Balaji did the initial damage on Friday, dismissing Kamran Akmal (23) and Inzamamul 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 Younus 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 (Ecap) 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.

Focus on the inflation in

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## One murdered, alleged killer lynched

Another shot dead in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

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.

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

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