METROPOLITAN/NEWS

INT'L CONFCE ON AFGHANISTAN

Strengthening democratic instts help bring stability

Says Dipu Moni

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni said strengthening the democratic institutions in Afghanistan would help bring stability in that country.

She also strongly condemned the misuse and abuse of any particular religion or belief for the purpose of terrorism and extremism.

Addressing the 'International Conference on Afghanistan' in the Netherlands on Tuesday, Dipu Moni underscored the necessity of education to repel the menaces of terrorism and violence, according to a message received in Dhakayesterday.

assured Afghanistan of allout cooperation in strengthening the institutions of the warravaged South Asian country and said Brac, a Bangladeshi NGO, had been working relentlessly in Afghanistan to

BDR MASSACRE

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK)

yesterday expressed concern

as confusion has been created

in the public mind over the

enquiry into the Pilkhana

carnage, identifying the per-

sons responsible and interro-

gation of the arrested BDR

rights body advocate Sultana

expressed concern for the

of BDR jawans in custody and

proper explanation of the

issue and the trial of the inci-

enquiry committee formed to

investigate into the incident

has been extended by 30 more

required for proper investiga-

tion into the incident. But

DHAKA

ODAY

days on the fourth time.

personnel.

alleviate poverty through reconstruction of Afghanimicro-credit programme and stan. spreading education.

building activities such as of the Netherlands Jan Peter eradicating poverty, spreading education and empowering General Ban Ki-moon and women that Brac had undertaken would help bring social ber of countries, including the stability there.

South Asia tremendously Italy, Spain, New Zealand, benefited from historical Norway, Finland, Belgium, regional cooperation and efforts and now it is again the time to seize the regional opportunities for the welfare and the prosperity of Afghanistan and the people of the whole region, she added.

She hoped that the forthcoming presidential election The foreign minister on August 20 and the parliamentary election next year Hillary, Dipu Moni invited her in the import basket. would pave the way for further stability in Afghanistan.

initiative of US President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for the both the governments.

Confusion created in public

expression that those who are

taking decision in this regard

are either not giving enough

attention to it or are failing to

comprehend the matter prop-

said the news of 11 BDR

jawans have been known so

far. In none of the cases,

reasons of their deaths was

and increase of suicidal inci-

start of the 'Operation Rebel

by whom the arrestees are

being interrogated. It has not

been clearly known how many

BDR jawans have joined their

staying at Pilkhana.

She said adequate time is jobs and how many are now these families and the stu-

Hunt' are of grave concerns.

unnatural deaths of a number BDR jawans in heart attacks at different hospitals.

The ASK executive director

extension of time may give the many BDR jawans were

Moreover, the deaths of jawans undergoing treatment

Sultana Kamal said it making arrangement for

mind over probe: ASK

Executive Director of the proper explanation on the

Kamal in a statement also available from the authorities.

the authorities are not giving dents by the jawans after the

She mentioned that the should be clearly informed

tenure of the government where, in which process and

She said the nation- Hamid Karzai, Prime Minister Balkenende, UN Secretary foreign ministers from a num-US, UK, Russia, France, Traditionally, the people of Australia, Pakistan, Germany, Canada, Greece, Japan, Portugal, Sweden and Turkey

took part in the discussion. On the sidelines of the conference, Dipu Moni had important meetings with a number foreign ministers, including US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

to visit Bangladesh.

Accepting the invitation, Dipu Moni also lauded the Hillary said that the visit could be arranged in future at a mutually convenient time for

arrested in the operation are

not being given. Information

from different sources said

those who have joined their

jobs are under a type of deten-

think that the human rights

organisations, including the

National Human Rights

Commission, should be

allowed to visit inside the

Pilkhana and talk to the BDR

The families living inside

Pilkhana have been ordered to

leave their residences. As the

order has been given without

alternative housing, they are

give quick attention to arrange

continuation of academic

activities of the children of

dents of education institu-

The government should

in dire problems.

The ASK chief said, "We

During another meeting with Dutch Development President of Afghanistan Cooperation Minister Bert Koenders, Dipu Moni appreciated the Dutch government for launching the 'Development-related Infrastructure Facility (ORIO)' programme in Bangladesh.

The Dutch minister assured her that the programme would be more flexible than Developmentrelated Export Transactions (ORET) programme and it would be more pro-poor and would help the developing countries to finance its priority sectors.

Dipu Moni requested the Dutch minister to diversify and include Bangladeshi During the meeting with ceramic and pharmaceuticals

Dipu Moni also had meetings with her Afghan, Australian and Turkish counterparts and discussed various bilateral and multilateral issues of mutual importance.

Provost of DU Shamsunnahar Hall resigns

yesterday.

Prof Dr UAB Razia Akhter Banu told The Daily Star that she handed her resignation letter to Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique in the evening, citing personal rea-

Hall sources, however, said Prof Razia submitted the resignation letter in the wake of a clash between two factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leaders and activists on Monday. quite total

of BCL men, who were involved in Monday's clash, was demonstrating on the hall premises since the incident demanding her resignation.

Call to form Information

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Right to Information Forum has hailed the government for passing the Right to Information bill in parlia-

ple receive information easily, the forum said and hoped that the government will form an independent and strong Information Commission immediately to fulfil the people's aspirations.

The decision of the government to pass the bill is a milestone, Convenor of the forum Shaheen Anam said in a statement on Monday.

The forum thinks that making it compulsory for all government organisations and the non-government organisations funded by the government and foreign donors to provide information is a main positive point, said the statement.

would assist the government at all levels of the implementation of the law.

Dhaka College students clash with hawkers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some students of Dhaka College blocked Mirpur Road in front of the college following a string of clashes with hawkers in the area over buying a CD last night.

The agitating students blocked the road for over one

Officer-in-charge of New Market Police Station told The Daily Star that the clash erupted when a student of the college was beaten by the hawkers at New Market over bargaining for the CD at

Few minutes later, the students equipped with sticks attacked the hawkers and also

The attackers also hurled answer, the leader of the house reached the spot, police said. However, police brought situation under control at

9:30pm.

carrying out political activities staying at the house, and head Khaleda Zia," Hasina said. office of Dandy dyeing was set The PM said the former up there, Khasru claimed. The prime minister [Khaleda] has AL lawmaker asked whether now crores of taka and is no with necessary fuel and a the government will cancel the more insolvent and should lease on grounds of violation of leave the house. driver. conditions. Referring to the wealth The premier said it's true statement submitted to the the cantonment authorities Anti-Corruption Commission

cannot allocate the house, by Khaleda, the PM also menwhich was allocated for tionedherwealth. "We heard Ziaur Rahman

"Her [Khaleda Zia] family left nothing for her family took loan mortgaging the members. But the wealth house to bank, which is also statement submitted to ACC violation of the condition of the shows Ziaur Rahman purchased land in Savar and

During the question- Uttarkhanin Uttara. "Why will you live in the leader Rajib laid to rest RU CORRESPONDENT

Slain BCL

The slain general secretary of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) of Dhaka Medical College (DMC) unit Abul Kalam Asad Rajib was buried at the Hatem Khan Graveyard in Rajshahi city yesterday.

said the body reached his residence from Dhaka in an ambulance at 7:15am.

father, mother, two brothers and a host of relatives. His father Reaz Uddin

Mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton attended the namaz-e-

janaza at Hatem Khan Graveyard. Rajib was killed following a

series of clashes between two factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) at Dhaka Medical College on Tuesday.

Robbers loot 200 tolas of gold in Ctg

Robbers looted valuables including around 200 tolas of gold ornaments and cash around Tk 7 lakh from an apartment at Panchlaish in Chittagong yesterday.

numbering 7 to 8, introducing themselves as guests entered into the house of one Md Ayub, a businessman, at Sugandha Residential Area at around 2:00pm. Then they looted valuables and cash keeping the inmates hostage at gunpoint in a room and ran away.

Obituary

UNB, Dhaka

the age of 54.

He left behind his wife and only daughter and a host of

Army Graveyard.

The bank authorities



social worker and a member of the advisory committee of Jatiya

due to old-age ailments at his residence at Bharthokhola in the cityyesterdayattheage of 76.

mourn his death.

He was buried at his family graveyard at Bharthokhola

after the Maghrib prayers.

METRO DESK



Qulkhwani of Anwara Ahmad will be held at House # 32, Road # 5, Dhanmandi R/A after Asr

says a press release. All are requested to attend

the doa and pray for salvation ofher departed soul.

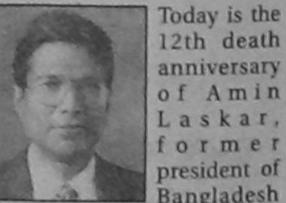
Anwara Ahmad, wife of Taslim Ahmad, first home secretary of Bangladesh,

passed away on March 26. She left behind her hus-

band, one son, one daughter and a host of friends and relatives to mourn her death.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Laskar, former president of Bangladesh Chemist and Druggist

Association and founder member of Saarc Chamber of Commerce and Industry, says a press release.

mahfil will be held at DOHS mosque at Baridhara in the

SEC asked to form expert body to tackle

Proper statistics of how tions inside Pilkhana.

Discussion Society for the Welfare of Autistic

Children organises a discussion marking the World Autism Awareness Day. Venue: Social Service Department auditorium. Time: 3:00pm.

Seminar

Centre for Health, Population and Development at IUB organises a seminar on 'Within marriage sexual violence in Bangladesh' Venue: Library building, IUB. Time: 10:30am. Fashion exposition

The inaugural ceremony of the 13-

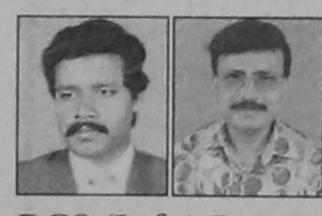
day fashion exposition will be held Nogordola organises the event Venue: Banani branch of Nogordola (House-3G, Road-11) Time: 11:00am.

Publication ceremony

The publication ceremony of five books translated by Prof Kabir Chowdhury will be held. Venue: Public Library seminar room. Time: 5:00pm.

Redtimesbd.com

The launching ceremony of the online news service REDTIMESBD.COM will be held. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 10:30am.



BCS (Info) Betar Officers' Welfare Assoc executives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Md Nazrul Islam, deputy press secretary to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, and Salahuddin Ahmed, director of Bangladesh Betar, were elected president and general secretary of the BCS (Information) Betar Officers Welfare Association, says a press release.

global recession

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), capital market regulator, to form an expert committee comprising businessmen, economists and share market experts to tackle the ongoing global

meltdown. It also asked the respective companies to remain cautious from persons who are respon-

sible for unstable share market. "We have instructed the comprising economists, themeeting.

UNB, Dhaka

businessmen and share marker experts and to take Parliamentary Standing preparation in advance in line Committee on Public with the advice of the expert Undertaking at a meeting body to tackle the global yesterday instructed the recession," Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir told reporters after

the meeting. Alamgir said, "We have also asked the SEC to keep close contact with regulatory body of different countries, including the US that look after share

market." The committee discussed the recent unstable trend of country's share market.

TIM Fazle Rabbi, Moinuddin Khan Badal, Biren SEC to form a three to five Shikder and Khaledur member expert committee Rahman Tito were present at



Rise in temperature likely

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Day temperature may rise slightly over the country, Met office said. The sun sets in the capital at 6:15pm today and rises at

5:49am tomorrow. Country's highest temperature 34.8 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 17.6 degrees Celsius at Srimongal. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded

in some major cities and towns yesterday were: City/Town Temperature in **Humidity** in Celsius percentage

	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.5	20.4	68	54
Chittagong	31.0	18.8	58	72
Rajshahi	33.8	20.6	79	38
Khulna	33.7	21.0	69	72
Barisal	32.2	19.0	70	62
Sylhet	31.0	18.7	69	58
Cox's Bazar	33.2	19.0	52	65
	NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.		Name of Street, or other Designation of the Owner, where the Parket of the Owner, where the Owner, which is the Owner, where the Owner, which is the Own	1

DU CORRESPONDENT

The provost of Shamsunnahar Hall at Dhaka University submitted her resignation letter to the vice chancellor

Hall sources said a faction

Commission

The law will help the peo-

The forum also said it

hour at 8:30pm.

around 8:00pm.

pelted brickbats at them lease," the premier said, creating tension in the area. brickbats at police when they

house to the army.

ger sister Sheikh Rehana would also give to the martyrs' families the one-bigha land in Dhanmondi which she was allocated in 2001 at the fag-end

Workers of a garment factory block a busy road in Chittagong yesterday following a rumour that the

End gender discrimination

Association (BGMEA) and

UNFPA jointly organised the

discussion and a rally to cele-

Salam Murshedy at his speech

as the chief guest said 85 per-

cent of the garment workers are

PM distributes cheques

minister, as a mother also I do

assure you that my doors will

remain always open for you.

Whenever you face any prob-

lem, please come to me; I will

do everything for your better-

not possible to give you (the

families) back what you have

lost in the carnage. But I

myself and the government

will do everything possible so

that none of you face any

vided so that every member of

the families can become self-

reliant by attaining higher

the families, she said that, if

necessary, the kids would be

sent abroad for special mod-

With emotion-chocked

can feel the pain of losing kith

and kin as her father, mother,

brothers and almost all close

relatives were killed on August

care of us after the killing of my

relatives. But it will be ensured

that you do not face the ordeals

free the donations being

session of the function, the

prime minister took up the

received by the army families.

The PM asked the authori-

Later, in the refreshment

newborn baby of martyred attended the function.

we had to suffer," she said.

"But there was none to take

ern treatment.

15, 1975.

should be meted out exem- voice, Hasina said she herself

Thanking the bankers for ties concerned to make tax-

About the ailing children of

education, she assured them.

All assistance will be pro-

difficulty in the future.

She went on saying, "It is

ment," Hasina said.

to establish their rights.

BGMEA President Abdus Mamunul Islam of Ministry of

women and garment factories Ahmed of Bangladesh Women

"Not only as the prime Maj Maksumul Hakim on her

role in empowering women and Industry were also present.

BGMEA Director Nahid

Hasan, UNFPA Deputy

Country Representative

Panchai Suchita, Syed

Labour and Employment,

Shafiul Islam Mohiuddin and

Siddiqur Rahman, Selima

Chamber of Commerce and

lap and patted her with moth-

erly affection. She talked to the

bereaved widows and

enquired about their condi-

Among the BAB-member

banks, Exim Bank will provide

Dutch-Bangla Bank to five

families each, Islami Bank to

four, Jamuna Bank, Mutual

Trust Bank, Standard Bank,

Shahjalal Islami Bank, Dhaka

Bank, Prime Bank, Trust Bank

and Mercantile Bank to two

families each, The City Bank,

United Commercial Bank,

NCC Bank, Al-Arafah Islami

Bank, Social Investment Bank,

Brac Bank, First Security

Islami Bank, AB Bank, Eastern

requested the families to open

account with their respective

donor banks to receive the

Finance Minister Abul Mal

Abdul Muhith, Adviser to the

Prime Minister Major General

(rtd) Tarique Ahmed Siddique,

State Minister for Liberation

War Affairs Captain (rtd) A.B.

Tajul Islam, PM's Office

Secretary Mollah

Wahiduzzaman and Press

Secretary Abul Kalam Azad

Bank, Uttara Bank, Premier

family each.

money.

authorities are closing down the factory without paying their salaries.

terday said it is important to brate the International

Bangladesh Garment have been playing an important

Women's Day.

Speakers tell discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yes-

eliminate discrimination

between men and women to

move towards economic and

social independence, and all

should work together to

Manufacturers and Exporters

members of the slain army

officers as well as chiefs of the

three services were present in

officers -- General Officer

Commanding of 55 Infantry

Division and Jessore Area

Commander Maj General

Rafigul Islam and pilot Lt Col

Md Shahidul Islam--died in

last month's helicopter crash

in Tangail district will also be

given the same amount of

financial assistance by the

the slain BDR Director

General, Maj. General Shakil

Ahmed, and Maj Mijanur

Rahman will be delivered later

Sheikh Hasina told the

function that the killers of the

army officers inside the

Pilkhana headquarters of BDR

plary punishment so that no

one ever dares to repeat such a

The BAB announced that it

will arrange jobs for the eligi-

ble members of the families

while initiatives will be taken

so that their wards can take

higher education free of cost

at the country's reputed edu-

coming forward with the

generous help for the grief-

stricken families, the premier

said she herself would stand

by the families at times of their

said she checked the minutes

of the cabinet meeting held on

June 12, 1981. The cabinet did

not allocate the 6 Mainul Road

house for Khaleda; rather it

allocated a house for her in

the Mainul Road house. But she

took the property in her name

in addition to allocation of a

house in Gulshan," the premier

law minister Abdul Matin

Khasru drew the premier's

attention that the house was

leased for 99 years for Khaleda

under some conditions includ-

ing restriction on political

condition as she has been

activities from the house.

Khaleda violating laws.

Gulshan, Hasina added.

weal and woe all her life.

FROM PAGE 1

added.

cational institutions.

heinous incident.

Cheques for the families of

Families of the two army

achieve the target.

FROM PAGE 16

the function.

bankers.

"We will construct apartments there and give some of "She was supposed to leave the martyr families," Hasina The past BNP government cancelled the allocation of land

of the then AL government.

for Rehana and established Dhanmondi police station AL lawmaker and former In reply to a query of Jatiya Party lawmaker Hafizuddin Ahmed, the premier said if anybody is to be responsible for allocation of the Mainul Road house for Khaleda, for-

But Khaleda violated the should be responsible. "Violating the law, Ershad allocated the house for

mer president HM Ershad

several times asked the leader cantonment being a political of the opposition to return the leader? You were allocated another house on one-and-a-Hasina also said her youn- half-bigha land in Gulshan, were also not met.

then why will you keep the army's land?" Hasina asked.

"If you [Khaleda] now leave the house for the martyrs' families, the people will respect you more," the premier said. She said she had a meeting with bankers, who have agreed

to provide Tk 40,000 per month for each of the families of army officers, who were killed in BDR mutiny, for ten years. In a scripted reply, the premier informed the House about the facilities given to Khaleda and her two sons

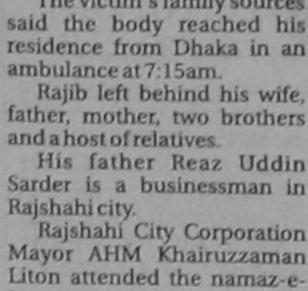
following the assassination of

former president Ziaur Rahman. As per her reply, Khaleda was allocated two houses, one in Gulshan and another in cantonment, Tk 10 lakh was donated to her and her two sons, Tk 1,500 a month as stipend for her sons for their studies in home and abroad until 1986, and one vehicle

The premier said Khaleda is now living at the cantonment residence and rented the Gulshan house and is enjoying all other facilities.

"But me and my sister did not take any state facilities,' Hasina asserted. The premier also men-

tioned that the past BNP gov ernment cancelled allocation of the two houses, which were allocated for her and her sister. Besides, the other facilities the then AL government gave to daughters of Bangabandhu



STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cig.

Police said a group of robbers

Filing of a case in the con-

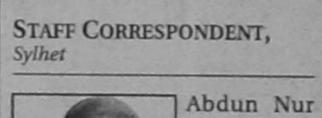
nection was under process when this report was filed at 8:00pm yesterday.

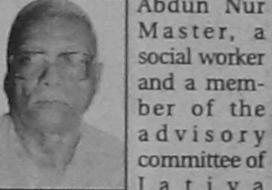
financial assistance to eight families, Southeast Bank to seven, National Bank and

Maj (retd) Ashraful Haq Khan, managing director (Public Relation) of Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA), passed away due to cancer at Combined Military Hospital (CMH) in the city yesterday at

relatives to mourn his death. He was buried at Banani

Bank and Bank Asia to one Abdun Nur Master





Samajtantrik Dal, passed away

He left behind his wife, son, two daughters and a host of relatives and admirers to

Khaleda's cantonment house

Qulkhwani



prayers tomorrow (April 3),



On the occasion, a milad

city after Maghrib prayers.

The victim's family sources

Rajib left behind his wife,

Rajshahi City Corporation