

Come to CHITTAGONG Come to
BANGKOK THAI RESTAURANT
 The only place for ORIGINAL THAI FOOD & SEAFOOD
 in CHITTAGONG (NO BRANCH). Please try us and you
 will love BANGKOK THAI RESTAURANT more than
 ever before.
 1443 ASIAN HIGHWAY, OPPOSITE Y. M. C. A. NASIRABAD.
 CHITTAGONG, TEL.: 226803, FAX: (880) (31) - 225258

VOL. III NO. 61 REGD. NO. DA 781

The Daily Star

CHAITRA 3, 1399 BS,

DHAKA WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1993

RAMADAN 22, 1413 HIJRI

NIRMAN TILES
 Broken Marble Tiles
 In More Shades
 Than The Rainbow
 Tel: 608987, 861988

12 PAGES; PRICE TAKA 4.00

Inside Today

Article

India is Not for Burning

Column: Between the Lines
 Page 4

International



Rabin offers withdrawal from part of Golan
 Page 5

Parliament round-up

Tangled business and frayed temper
 Page 8

Business

Bangladesh poised for major thrust
 Page 7

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



A Torch in a Dark Room
 Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

Former Algerian minister shot dead

ALGIERS, Mar 16: Gunmen killed former Algerian Education Minister Djilali Liabes today as he left his home in the Algiers suburb of Kouba, a Muslim fundamentalist bastion, the official news agency APS said. Liabes was hit by three bullets in the head, the agency said, quoting witnesses, reports Reuters.

Shri, Iftar Timings

Ram	Mar	Shri	Iftar
22	17	—	6.15 pm
23	18	4.45 am	6.15 pm

Committees to increase investments BOI okays Tk 1010 cr projects in 2 years

Board of Investment (BOI) approved 511 industrial projects involving investment of Tk 1010 crore in two years till December, 1992, reports UNB. Of the approved industrial units, 46 are being set up by foreign entrepreneurs with a total investment of Tk 221 crore. This was disclosed at a meeting of the BOI, chaired by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at the International Conference Centre in Dhaka on Tuesday. Addressing the first meeting of BOI since the present government took over, the Prime Minister asked the officials to take pragmatic steps

for attracting foreign investors. The government had adopted a liberal industrial policy to encourage foreign investment, she added. The meeting was told that 87 other foreign firms have shown keen interest in investing in Bangladesh and the BOI is in constant touch with them. Countries which are keen on investing in Bangladesh are Japan, United Kingdom, Germany, South Korea, Italy, Hong Kong, Singapore, Sri Lanka, India, Switzerland, Finland and Pakistan. The meeting decided to set up three permanent committees for attracting foreign investors, maintaining coordina-

tion among concerned agencies and promoting export oriented industries. The committees are: Standing Committee for Inter-Agency Coordination, Advisory Committee for Promotion of Export Oriented Industries and Advisory Committee for promotion of Foreign Direct Investment. The meeting co-opted four members of parliament — M. Akber Ali, Harunur Rashid Khan Monno, Wing Commander (Retd) Hamudullah Khan and Ataur Rahman Khan — as members of the investment board. Begum Zia said Chiefs of

"Tk 481 cr surplus liquid assets in public commercial banks not abnormal"

The Bangladesh Bank in a statement yesterday said that the public sector commercial banks together have a total surplus liquid asset of Taka 481 crore, reports BSS. After reviewing the latest situation in the commercial banks, the Central Bank described as "not at all objective" the reports published in a section of the press saying that "too much idle money remained unutilised with the public sector commercial banks". The Central Bank said that the nationalised commercial banks together have, as of now, a total liquid assets of Taka 5,763 crore while the Banking Company Act 1991 requires them to have a minimum liquid assets of Taka 5282 crore against deposits. "It leaves surplus liquid assets of Taka 481 crore only

SKOP strike ends with stray incidents

The second day of the 48-hour nationwide strike called by the Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad (SKOP), a body of 18 trade union federations, passed off peacefully barring some stray incidents. The strike, that began 6 am Monday concentrated mainly in the industrial belts, leaving most of the cities and district towns unaffected. In Dhaka, two minor incidents were reported. A procession, brought out by the striking workers at Tejgaon, was pelted with stones by a group opposing the strike near the Commander Soap Factory. Skirmishes took place when a procession by garments factory workers was blocked by police from going towards Gulistan. The non-stop strike was called by the agitating workers demanding immediate implementation of the Wages Commission award, announcement of a national minimum wage, stoppage to the denationalisation process of public sector industries and the release of all detained workers. Claiming complete success of its two-day shutdown, SKOP leaders congratulated the workers for their support to the strike. In a statement, the SKOP leaders also claimed that two persons were injured in the Tejgaon incident Tuesday while police arrested five persons supporting the strike in Jessore.



Bangabandhu's 73rd birthday today

The 73rd birth anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the architect of independent Bangladesh, will be observed today (Wednesday) throughout the country. Awami League, its front or-

Dhaka-Delhi water sharing talks in city Mar 30-31

Burying the hatchets, Bangladesh and India have agreed to hold the long-stalled meeting of the Joint Committee of Experts (JCE) on water sharing March 30 and 31. New Delhi's consent to the dates was communicated to Dhaka yesterday, said a senior diplomat at the Indian High Commission. Both sides had been holding consultations to fix the dates for the second meeting of the joint committee that should have met around December or January. In the course of consultations, the two sides had agreed that the JCE would meet "in any case before the SAARC summit" slated for April 10-11, said officials at the Foreign and Irrigation Ministries. Accordingly, Dhaka put forward suggested dates for New Delhi's consideration. But the meeting, crucial for Bangladesh, as well as all other bilateral issues went deep into freezer following exchange of recriminatory statements over discords borne out of the Babri Mosque incident and the successive postponements of the SAARC summit. But diplomatic contacts centering around the SAARC summit have helped melt the ice, an apt metaphor to describe the bilateral relations since the Ayodhya imbroglio. "We are off to a good start," said a senior Foreign Ministry Official speaking on the current state of relations and hoped that the forthcoming meeting would produce positive results.

BEA lauds govt for ignoring SKOP pressure

Bangladesh Employers Association (BEA) Tuesday appreciated the government for ignoring the pressure of Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad (SKOP) for immediate implementation of the recommendations of the Wages Commission. President of BEA, Anis-ud-Dowla in a statement also termed the government's attitude in this regard as "a historic one." "It (the decision) will not only save the country's manufacturing sector from a catastrophe but will also protect the



Police guarding the Dhaka Cotton Mills on the final day yesterday of the two-day SKOP strike. — Star photo

Brig Nuruzzaman dead

Brig A N M Nuruzzaman (Retd) Bir Uttam, a valiant freedom fighter and Sector-3 Commander, died of a massive heart attack Tuesday in Sweden where he was serving as Bangladesh ambassador. He was 54. Born on December 12, 1938 at village Saidabad under Raipura thana of Narsingdi, Brig Nuruzzaman, then a Mayor, succeeded the then Lt-Col K M Shafiqullah, in Sector-3 and served as Commander from September through the Liberation. In independent Bangladesh, he was founder chief of the Rakhi Bahini.

Commentary

Hasina's plea on diplomatic postings deserves consideration

The Government of Begum Khaleda Zia should respond positively to the plea of the Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina not to appoint, described by the AL leader, as "three self-confessed killers of August 15" as Bangladesh ambassadors abroad. The three controversial persons, identified in the statement of the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, are Major Ahmed Sharif Hossain, Major Nur Chowdhury and A K M Mohtuddin, who are tipped to head our missions in Oman, Vietnam and Uzbekistan respectively. Since no official announcement has been made about these appointments yet, the AL leader's information may still be tentative. However, her request should be given the fullest consideration. It is also to be noted that Hasina's plea is couched in moderate and dignified terms, more as an advice than as a strident demand. "It would be unwise to send such highly controversial persons as the envoys of Bangladesh to these friendly countries where the governments perhaps do not know their background," the statement said. It is well known in diplomatic circles — certainly in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs — Bangladesh had problems in mid-seventies in posting a few of these controversial diplomats, allegedly linked to the August 15 killings, in some of our missions in neighbouring countries, in western Europe and in socialist bloc nations. However, the Foreign Ministry went ahead in placing them in other countries, often causing strains within our own missions where these officers were posted. In this context, one would be surprised if Vietnam and Uzbekistan, two countries where Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was held in high esteem would welcome Bangladeshi ambassadors who were even remotely linked to the August 15 killing. Hence,

NOTICE FOR SALE OF PROPERTY

Few floors of Walsow Tower on 21-23 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue and the adjoining vacant land the schedule of which is mentioned below is for sale. The property is mortgaged with Janata Bank, Sheraton Hotel Branch, Dhaka. This notice is published with prior permission from the said mortgagee Bank. The entire sale proceeds shall be deposited towards the liquidation of liability with the said Bank. Vacant possession shall be delivered immediately. Any person interested to purchase the property may please contact the undersigned or the Manager, Janata Bank, Sheraton Hotel Branch, Dhaka for further information. The property is ready for sale immediately.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY
 Basement Floor, Ground Floor, First Floor and 18th Floor (Pent House) of Walsow Tower and vacant land adjoining to Walsow Tower on the main road of Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue being CS Plot No 34, CS Khatian No 17, Mouza Bagnoadda, PS Ramna, Holding Nos 21-23 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka with all rights and privileges attached thereto.
Managing Director
Walsow Limited

Americans warned not to travel to Delhi US bomb experts in Bombay

NEW DELHI, Mar 16: A team of US explosives experts arrived in Bombay today as police stepped up a hunt for two gangsters suspected of involvement in last week's serial bombings, reports AFP. The Press Trust of India (PTI) said the US team included forensic and explosives experts who would help Indian officials investigating the rash of bombings which killed nearly 300 people and injured 1,250 in Bombay Friday. The US Embassy here declined to confirm or deny whether a US team was in Bombay, India's commercial heart, to assist with the investigation. PTI said the team would help police in identifying building, commercial centres, three luxury hotel, a cinema, a bus and other targets in the worst-ever terrorist strike in India. The US government warned Americans meanwhile not to travel to New Delhi because of a potential terrorist threat in the Indian capital. "New information available to the US government suggests that there may be a heightened threat at this time of additional acts of terrorism centered in New Delhi," the US State Department said in a travel advisory.

A month after bloodbath—IV No killer tried nor any culprit punished

RAJSHAHI, Mar 16: At least 20 people have been killed and 2,000 injured on the Rajshahi University campus since independence but none of the killers have been tried nor the culprits punished, University sources said. Official inquiry committees were formed after every bloody incident but none of the com-

Bhabis Boutique

EXCLUSIVE EID COLLECTION DISPLAY AND SALE

DATE: 19th To 21st MARCH, FRIDAY TO SUNDAY

TIME: 10:30 AM to 8:30 PM

VENUE: HOUSE NO-275/G ROAD NO-27 (OLD) DHANMONDI R.A, DHAKA.

TELEPHONE NO. 816544

DU Senate elects VC panel today

The election to the three-member Vice Chancellor panel of the Dhaka University will be held today (Wednesday) at the Registrar Building of the DU. Acting VC Prof Emazuddin Ahmed has convened the special Senate session as per the Dhaka University Order 1973. The Senators will elect a three-member panel of Vice Chancellor candidates of the University at a 104-member