

Nirman Tiles

In Broken Marble Tiles Brighter Home At Lesser Price

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NEWS BRIEFS

PM's Eid greetings to heads of govt

Prime Minister, Begum Khaleda Zia has greeted the prime ministers of the Muslim countries on the occasion of holy Eid-ul-Fitr. The heads of government to whom she sent Eid greetings include Algeria, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bosnia, Brunei, Egypt, Iraq, Iran, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Maldives, Malaysia, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkey, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, UAE, Uzbekistan and Yemen.

Works Minister visits Star office

By Staff Correspondent Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia yesterday evening visited the office of The Daily Star and its news, and reporting sections. He met the working journalists and exchanged Eid greetings with them.

Rly probe body on Sitakunda mishap

The Railway Inspector will enquire into the causes of the March 12 train accident in Sitakunda on Saturday at Sitakunda station, said a press release yesterday. Passengers or witnesses of the accident knowing any information that will be helpful for the investigation have been requested to report to the Sitakunda station at 10 am on March 19, reports UNB.

Youngman stabbed to death

By DMCH Correspondent A youngman was stabbed to death reportedly by his friends in the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban area last night. Babu, 20, along with some of his friends went to the Sangsad Bhaban area for a stroll last evening where he was severely stabbed. The friends took fatally injured Babu to his 80, Lutfar Rahman Lane residence in the city from where he was shifted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) around 8:30 pm where the doctors declared him dead.

14 killed as train rams minibus in Comilla

By Staff Correspondent

A Chittagong-bound passenger train on Sunday rams a heavily-loaded minibus at the Poduabazar level-crossing near Mainamati railway station in Comilla leaving 14 people killed and many others injured.

Railway sources in Dhaka, however, have confirmed 13 deaths.

It was the second major train mishap in two days. An accident in Chittagong last Saturday killed six people and injured nearly a hundred others.

According to a Railway press release issued in Dhaka, the mishap occurred when the Chittagong-bound bus from

Dhaka entered the level-crossing from the wrong side despite a closed gate and collided with the train 162 Down from Bhalrab Bazar at about 10 in the morning.

The local train, passing through the level-crossing, rumbled in and hit the minibus with a loud bang. The engine and a carriage derailed and fell on the nearby road, disrupting train and road communications for nearly four hours.

Relief trains from Akhaura and Laksham rushed to the spot and conducted salvage operation for several hours. Communication resumed after the derailed engine and the compartment were moved aside at 3.15 pm.

The railway authorities have constituted a three-member enquiry committee which has been asked to submit its report in a week time.

According to local administration officials, ten persons died on the spot while three others at the Comilla Sadar Hospital. Twenty-six of the injured passengers were admitted to different hospitals of Comilla. One of them succumbed to his injuries at the Modern Hospital of the district town.

The identities of the victims could not be ascertained.

The Railway authorities have expressed their profound shock for those killed and sympathies to the injured.

Road accidents claim 12 lives in 3 days

By Staff Correspondent

A series of road accidents throughout the country during the three-day Eid holidays left at least 12 people killed and 81 injured.

Three members of a family were killed and six others injured in a head-on collision between a car and bus Tuesday at Kazirhat, five kms from Feni. Police said the accident occurred on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway. A wheel of the car came off and the vehicle collided with a bus coming from the opposite direction.

The victims were returning to Chittagong by the car after attending a marriage ceremony in Noakhali.

The dead were identified as Tarif Kanti Chowdhury (60), his son Sajal Kanti Chowdhury and grand-daughter Tina Barua (6).

The injured — Nina Barua, Lina Barua, Chandra Barua, Shourav Barua, Sagarika Barua and Sumishri Barua — were admitted to the Feni Sadar Hospital where the condition of Nina was stated to be critical.

Police seized both the vehicles and filed a case with Feni Sadar thana.

At last three persons were reportedly killed and 25 others injured yesterday at Sitakunda, 20 miles off Chittagong.

Police said the accident occurred when a Chittagong-bound truck from Luxmipur, loaded with worker who were returning after the Eid vacation, collided head on with another truck coming from the opposite direction at Keshabpur of Sitakunda.

Among the injured, 17 were

Tornado kills 2

At least two people were killed, several others injured and 500 families made homeless as a tornado hit several villages in Muradnagar and Debidwar thanas of Comilla district Sunday, reports UNB.

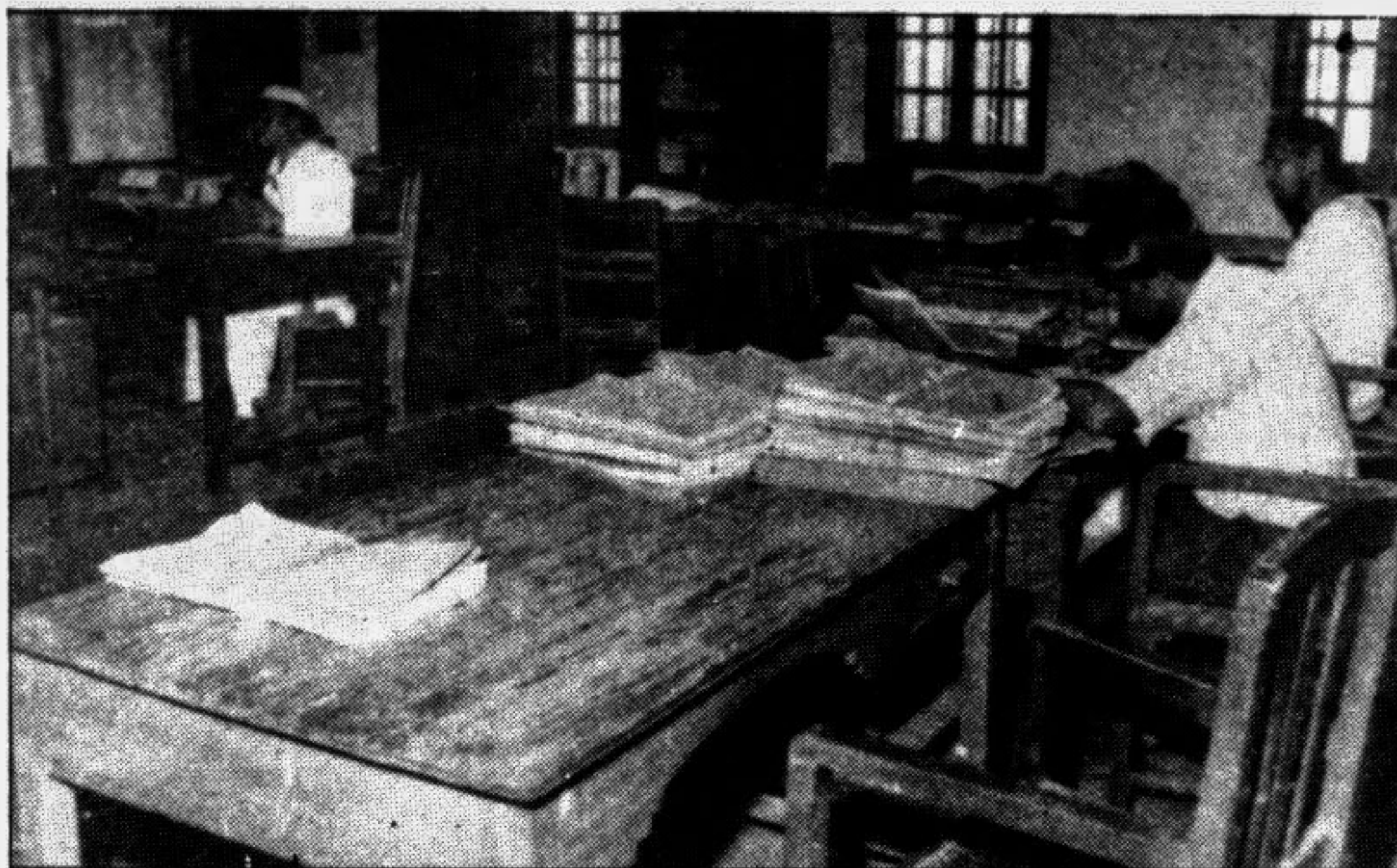
Housing and Public Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia visited the tornado affected areas Tuesday.

He talked to the affected people during his visit to Cronighar, Bossna and Purna villages and assured them of all possible help from the government, a PID handout yesterday said.

The district administration has already distributed Tk 12,000 among the affected families.

The government has also sanctioned 2,000 pieces of saarees for distribution among the distressed.

The local MP Manjural Ahsan Munsif distributed Tk 25,000 and 40 bundles of CI sheet among the affected families from his own fund, the handout added.



As usual, attendance in offices after a three day Eid-ul-Fitr holiday was thin yesterday.

— Star photo

Eid-ul-Fitr celebrated

By Staff Correspondent

The Eid-ul-Fitr, the greatest religious festival of the Muslim community was celebrated across the country Monday.

Eid prayers were offered seeking divine blessings to solidify the bond of brotherhood and friendship among the Muslim Ummah in the backdrop of the on-going repression on the Muslims in several parts of the world.

The main Eid congregation in the capital was held at the National Eidgah where President Abdur Rahman Biswas offered prayer along with citizens from all walks of life.

Members of the cabinet, judges of the Supreme Court, parliament members, mayor of the Dhaka city, political leaders, members of the diplomatic corps also offered their prayer

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Bangabandhu's 74th birthday today

By Staff Correspondent

The 74th birth anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, will be observed throughout the country today.

Bangladesh Awami League, its front organisations and various socio-cultural organisations have taken up elaborate programmes to observe the day.

The day's programmes include hoisting of national and party flags atop the Awami League central office and the Bangabandhu Bhaban, laying of wreaths at the grave of the late leader at Tungipara and discussion meetings.

The Bengali 1400 Year

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Sylhet BNP leader murdered

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Mar 16: A noted businessman and BNP leader Taskir Mia, 35, was stabbed to death Tuesday following a clash between rival groups.

Ten people were injured in the clash over a bullock fight at village Dakshinhati Changanon on Tuesday morning. The matter was settled immediately. But after half an hour of the incident, a group of fishermen from village Haripur, Kanaipur, Rajabag and Rajnagar armed with deadly weapons attacked the shop of Taskir Mia at the JK Road at thana headquarters. They stabbed him severely. He died after sometime in the hospital.

A big protest meeting was held at the Eidgah maidan yesterday afternoon with Khalilur Rahman Chowdhury MP in the chair. It was also addressed by ex-minister Dewan Farid Gazi, Ex-MCA Abdul Aziz, thana Awami League president Abdul Main Chowdhury, BNP president Abdul Hai.

A dawn-to-dusk hartal has been called at the Nabiganj Thana headquarters tomorrow (Thursday) in protest of the murder.

Police have arrested Abdur Rofiq Chowdhury, Chairman Sadar UP for his involvement in the killing.

Shantibahini man held in CHT

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Mar 16: Security personnel arrested one Shantibahini man after a two-hour gunbattle at Kaptai under Rangamati hill district on Tuesday morning.

The encounter, second in half-a-month time, began when a group of armed tribal rebels suddenly attacked a security patrol at Kandikal of Kaptai, official sources said.

The securitymen arrested one of the armed rebels but other fled into deep forest.

Another security patrol was attacked about 15 days ago at Matiranga of Khagrachhari hill district.

Wheat shortage cuts FFW programmes

By Special Correspondent

Due to shortage of wheat, the Food For Work (FFW) programmes under the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief have been reduced this year.

According to official sources, 204163 tonnes of wheat were distributed by the Directorate of Relief and Rehabilitation last fiscal 1992-93 for FFW programmes. But in the current fiscal 1993-94, the Directorate could allocate only 103000 tonnes downsizing the overall FFW programme substantially.

Some 6805 FFW schemes were implemented last year, but this year only about 5000 schemes have been approved which are now in the process of implementation.

Explaining the reason for the shortage of wheat for the FFW programme, a source in the Relief Ministry said it was

due to sudden withdrawal of 120,000 tonnes of wheat from this year's FFW budget by the US organisation, CARE. The government later sanctioned 50,000 tonnes more to meet the deficit, but it failed to fill up the total gap.

"So, we had to revise the budget and consequently the planned allocation for the schemes was slashed," said an official of the ministry.

Originally, 563,050 tonnes of wheat including the CARE's contribution, were allocated for various programmes under this fiscal year's FFW. But in the revised budget, the total allocation for the FFW programme stands at 512,050 tonnes.

In the revised budget, the allocation for the FFW schemes to be implemented through the local initiative at the thana

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PM's Japan tour a major thrust to attract fresh investment

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia's forthcoming state visit to Japan is being viewed as a major thrust by the government to attract fresh Japanese investment into the country.

The investment potential in Bangladesh will be highlighted by the Prime Minister and other ministers accompanying her to Tokyo during their talks with Japanese business leaders. A team of 28 leading businessmen will also accompany the Prime Minister. The business delegation will be headed by FBCCI President Mahbubur Rahman.

The major programme of the four-day tour that is being looked forward to with great interest by both Bangladeshi businessmen and Japanese entrepreneurs is the Investors' Forum, to be held in Tokyo on the afternoon of March 30. At the forum, leading Japanese

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60 Palestinians shot in Gaza, WB

HEBRON, Mar 16: Israeli troops shot and wounded at least 60 Palestinians in clashes in the occupied Gaza Strip and in the West Bank town of Hebron today, hospital officials and Palestinian sources said, reports Reuter.

In Hebron, Israeli soldiers fought street battles with demonstrators when the army briefly lifted a curfew imposed since February 25 when a Jewish settler massacred some 30 Muslims in a mosque there. One 20-year-old Palestinian was shot in the neck and seriously wounded, Palestinians said. About 30 people were wounded by rubber bullets and tear gas.

Palestinians said another 30 were wounded during day-long clashes in Gaza's Jabalya Refugee camp.



German Chancellor Helmut Kohl checks his watch while sitting alone at the cabinet's conference table in the Bonn Chancellery Tuesday, waiting for his ministers to arrive. The cabinet was to discuss the publication of the so-called 'Weissbuch', a government White Paper on the German Armed Forces.

— AFP photo

50 injured in Magura pre-polls violence

MAGURA, Mar 16: At least 50 people were injured, several shops looted and election camps ransacked in clashes between the supporters of rival candidates during electioneering in Magura-2 constituency in the last three days, reports UNB.

Campaigners of Awami League, BNP and Jatiya Party were reportedly involved in the pre-election clashes which occurred at Nawhata Bazar, Nagra Bazar, Laxmipur and Parlashir villages in Mohamadpur thana.

About 15 people were injured when supporters of BNP and Awami league clashed at

Nawhata Bazar this afternoon. An election office of Awami League was damaged and about 10 shops were looted during the trouble. Ten people were admitted to Magura Sadar and Mohamadpur hospitals.

In a separate incident of the day, 10 activists were injured when BNP and Awami League supporters clashed at Nagra Bazar. Of the injured, 5 were admitted to Mohamadpur hospital.

On Tuesday, workers of Awami League and BNP clashed at Laxmipur, while BNP and Jatiya Party at Rahatpur and Parlashir villages on Monday, leaving 23 wounded.

Resist rigging in Magura by-polls: Hasina

MAGURA, Mar 16: Awami League President Sheikh Hasina today called the BNP government "corrupt" and said that her party is determined to set up an honest administration for the welfare of the people, reports UNB.

"This corrupt government has no right to remain in power... they (BNP) have completely failed to run the country", she told an election rally at Mohamadpur High School ground this afternoon.

Hasina also criticised BNP for not fulfilling its election pledges and said price-hike, terrorism, unemployment and corruption have further in-

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Pakistan seeks fruitful dialogue with India

ISLAMABAD, Mar 16: Pakistan seeks a constructive dialogue with India on the Kashmir dispute. Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said here today, reports AFP.

"Internationalising the dispute does not mean that Pakistan has slammed the door of negotiations with India," Bhutto said in a speech to senior military officers at the National Defence College in nearby Rawalpindi.

Bhutto said Kashmir "is the jugular vein of Pakistan, an in-

ternationally recognised dispute, and a cornerstone of our policy."

"It is a core issue between Pakistan and India, and from it flow the full complexities of sub-continental tension points," she said, adding that it was also a cause of the regional arms race.

Bhutto's government dropped an anti-India resolution on Human rights in Kashmir at the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva earlier this

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Grand old man dies at 152

LALMONIRHAT, Mar 16: Johar Munshi, reportedly the oldest man of the sub-continent, died at the age of 152 at his village home at Paisey in Aditmari thana here on Sunday, reports UNB.

He left behind two sons who are in their 90s and several hundred grand and great-grandchildren upto seven generations. His three wives, seven sons and five daughters had died earlier.

Munshi, a witness to many

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RAJUK COMMERCIAL PLOT

Auction Notice

Most ideally located Residential-Cum-Commercial Plot Nos. 7 & 8 measuring more or less 334.62 Sqr. metre (5 kathas) each on Road 113A at Gulshan will be allotted for 99 years lease, on open auction.

Applications on prescribed form with terms and conditions to be obtained from Janata Bank, Rajuk Bhaban Branch, Dhaka Branch, Dhaka on payment of Tk-200/- (Taka two hundred) only in cash for each set (non-refundable) and will be received by the Deputy Director (Estates) from the intending bidders upto 2.00 PM on 28-3-94 for Plot No-7 and up to 2.00 PM on 30-3-94 for Plot No-8.

The auction will be held on 29-3-94 for Plot No-7 and on 31-3-94 for Plot No-8 in the conference room, 3rd floor of the Rajuk Bhaban, Dhaka at 10.00 AM.

Chairman
Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripkha
Dhaka.

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