

Hillary Clinton awed by Taj Mahal

AGRA, Mar 30: Awed by an enduring monument to love, Hillary Rodham Clinton explored the shimmering Taj Mahal Thursday and declared wistfully, "I think I'll just stay right here."

"I don't think I want to leave," she said. "This place is just haunting," reports AP.

The 17th century pearl-white tomb was built by the Mogul Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife, Mumtaz Mahal, who died giving birth to their 14th child. Its graceful domes and spires are known around the world and visited by 3 million tourists a year.

Mrs. Clinton's 15-year-old daughter, Chelsea, said the building has always been "the embodiment of the fairy tale palace for me."

"I would see pictures of it and I would dream I was a princess or whatever, and now that I am here it's spectacular," she said.

After strolling the manicured grounds and marbled pavilions, mother and daughter slipped into purple and brown booties, respectively, and ventured inside to view the inlaid marble tombs encircled by filigreed screens of marble.

"This just takes your breath away," Mrs. Clinton said. "It's gorgeous."

The Clintons' guide, Kuldeep Narain, told them the monument "celebrates the death of a queen. It gives pleasure though it's a place of burial."

Quoting the Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore, Narain called the building, "A teardrop on the cheek of time."



Hillary Clinton (R) and her daughter Chelsea take a break to visit the Taj Mahal yesterday during the US first Lady's tour of India. — AFP/UNB photo

Remuneration of MPs

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withheld even when the Speaker had rejected the resignations and authorised the payments.

One Opposition MP, when contacted yesterday, confirmed that he was told by the accounts official concerned at the Parliament that the CAG was withholding the pay packages and was seeking clarifications.

According to the sources, the CAG is learnt to have noted that authorising the payments to the Opposition MPs was a "difficult" decision from a "audit point of view" and argued that legally the Opposition MPs are still members of Parliament while, in reality they are not, as they continue to abstain from the Jatiya Sangsad.

He reportedly even observed that a Supreme Court ruling should be sought on the matter, the sources added.

An MP is entitled to draw Tk 14,200 as salary and allowances, which includes remuneration, constituency allowance, office allowance, and BTV compere denies charge

By Staff Correspondent

TV programme compere Mohammad Naqibuddin yesterday denied reports of his involvement in a controversial interview telecast by BTV in the last Eid special programme, "Ananda Mela."

The interview and exhibition of the personal effects of Bangladeshi businessman Musa Bin Shamsir in the TV programme caused widespread controversy among the viewers and other quarters.

Later, the authorities took punitive action, including transfer of the programme producer, Sheikh Reazuddin Badsha to the NIMCO and a one-year ban on Naqibuddin to conduct any TV programme.

At a news conference at the Jatiya Press Club, Naqibuddin claimed the original script of the "Ananda Mela" programme did not contain the controversial interview which according to him, was inserted in the script without his consent during final editing of the recorded programme.

He said, "the contentious portion was recorded after the preview of the programme by the DDG and the GM of the BTV."

In reply to a question, Naqibuddin denied he had received financial benefits in exchange for the interview and display of personal goods of a businessman.

He demanded a proper enquiry into the matter.

entertainment, medical and telephone allowances.

Some 147 Opposition MPs had resigned en bloc on December 28 last year following an eight month boycott of Parliament demanding a caretaker government to supervise the next general elections.

But the Speaker, in a ruling on February 23, rejected the resignations saying that en masse resignations are not acceptable as these are contrary to the spirit of the Constitution and democratic norms.

The Speaker's ruling came on the same day the High Court rejected two writ petitions—one challenging the en masse resignations and the other against the Speaker for withholding his decision on the resignation letters.

Cox's Bazar

From Page One

the women were passing in a jeep through the Maricha Palong BDR camp.

Retired naval officer Abdur Rouf was a co-accused in the historic Agartala Conspiracy Case.

On hearing the incident, several thousand people of Ukha thana rushed to Maricha Palong and gheraoed the BDR camp demanding immediate release of the two ladies.

The ladies were released immediately.

But the agitating people barricaded the Cox's Bazar-Teknaf road demanding closure of the Maricha Palong BDR camp.

Commanding Officer of 24 BDR Battalion Major Mohiuddin said additional BDR personnel were sent to the troubled camp as tension was mounting there.

Court order

From Page One

District Magistrate to look into the matter, the source added.

Advocate Ali Asgar Swapan moved the petition.

Col Rahman, one of the three suspects arrested so far in connection with the alleged murder of Maj Gen Abul Manzur 1981, was now in Tangail Jail.

A member of Col Rahman's family said that for the last two days they tried to see him in jail but they were not allowed by the jail authorities.

Meanwhile, Criminal Investigation Department (CID) investigators continued their probe.

No fresh arrest was made yesterday but there were rumours that another retired army official was detained for interrogation.

CID officials did not confirm this.

WB criticises govt

From Page One

reforms to gain competitiveness.

The World Bank official listed some key constraints, including slow privatisation, restriction on private investments in utilities, bureaucratic hassles and weak legal structure that, he said, had been obstructing foreign investment in Bangladesh.

"For all these reasons, Bangladesh has been falling behind in the race to attract foreign investment," he said while pointing out that the country has received a "pathetic" five million US dollar in 1994 in foreign direct investment.

Earlier, welcoming Landell-Mills, FICCI President Mahubul Jamil advocated continuation of the tax holiday facility until an alternative arrangement is made available.

The World Bank has been insisting on the government to do away with tax holiday and complement it by further reducing the corporate tax.

Jamil also called for removal of discrimination against foreign companies.

The FICCI chief stressed that power and telecommunication should be opened to the private sector "in real sense of the term and not in the pages of policy books only."

Barisal poure commissioners meet Khaleda

The newly elected commissioners of Barisal Municipality led by its Chairman Ahsan Habib Kamal called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday evening, reports BSS.

Congratulating the newly elected representatives, the Prime Minister asked them to properly discharge the responsibilities entrusted to them by the people and to work unitedly on the question of development and implementation of pro-people programmes.

Begum Zia said that in democratic politics there might be differences of opinion but on the broad national and development issues every one should work unitedly keeping aside their personal political views.

She also gave a patient hearing to different problems of the 124-year old Barisal Municipality and assured the elected representatives of looking into those problems.

All 30 commissioners representing different political parties were present.

Nor'wester

From Page One

storm damaged over 600 houses, uprooted trees and tubewells in Sarkarpara and Bepariara areas of the thana in the morning.

Of the injured, two were admitted to Sadar Hospital.

The district administration sanctioned Tk 15,000 and three metric tons of rice for the affected families.

CCB to stage demonstration tomorrow

From Page One

Conscious Citizens of Bangladesh has planned a peaceful demonstration in the city to drive home the group's message that US toxic fertiliser, Norplant contraceptive and Harkins Bill badly affect the Bangladeshis.

They have planned the campaign a day before the arrival of US First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in Dhaka on Sunday on a two-day visit.

The demonstration would be staged near the Sonargaon Hotel and the Jatiya Press Club Saturday because of security reasons, organisers said.

Speaking at a press conference at the Press Club yesterday, members of the group welcomed Hillary's visit but said issues like US-exported toxic fertiliser or the Harkins Bill that bar employment of children in the garment factories were important to be taken note of.

Meanwhile the court ordered that proceedings in the JP office case and further hearing and order in the matter of bail petition of Ershad in this case will be held on April 12.

JP office case

From Page One

refurbishing an abandoned house in the city for the use of the JP as its central office.

Zinat Ara, Additional Sessions and District Judge (First Court), Dhaka was the presiding judge.

Yesterday was earlier fixed for the three accused persons to make statements under Section 342 CrP but because of a prayer for Khandakar Mahubul Hossain, defence counsel of Ershad, the matter was deferred.

Meanwhile the court ordered that proceedings in the JP office case and further hearing and order in the matter of bail petition of Ershad in this case will be held on April 12.

Mahubul Rahman, a defence counsel for Ershad's bail said that co-accused of his client in this case are free on bail, while he remained in jail. He said Ershad is entitled to have the same facilities as permitted under law.

Referring to Article 27 of the Constitution, which states equality in the eyes of law, Rahman, a former minister, said his client, like Haider and Rouf, be placed on the footing.

The counsel mentioned a number of decisions of the higher court in this regard and added that as per Article 111 of the Constitution decisions of the higher courts are binding upon the sub-ordinate courts of the country.

Meanwhile the judge on a prayer from the defence ordered that an exclusive consultation meeting between Ershad and his two lawyers Mahubul Rahman and Khandakar Mahubul Hossain be arranged before April 12 at the Dhaka Central Jail.

MBBS admission test results soon

By DMCH Correspondent

The results of the written test for admission to the first year MBBS course will be announced within three or four days, officials said yesterday.

The test was held on March 17.

In all, 22,450 students appeared in the admission test for 1450 seats at the 13 government medical colleges.

Last year, about 16 thousand students sat for the written test.

This year, the authorities changed some of the rules for the test. According to the new rules, the total marks were 190 instead of 140.

Out of this, 150 marks were for the written test, 20 for the viva voce and one per cent of the total marks secured by the candidates in the SSC and HSC examinations.

In the written part of the test, there were 45 marks each for Physics, Chemistry and Biology and 15 marks for English.

The students got one and a half hours for completing their answers.

Last year, the students got one hour and 20 minutes to answer 100 marks.

Diploma engineers demand end to water crisis

By Staff Correspondent

The diploma engineers of the water and sewerage authority (WASA) yesterday brought out a procession and held a rally at office premises demanding an end to the water crisis in the city.

The engineers gathered in front of the office of WASA chairman in the morning at the call of Dhaka WASA Diploma Engineers' Association. The Chairman, however, was not present.

They, then, held a rally there with association president Abdul Hamid in the chair, while general secretary Fazul Haq and former general secretary Belayet Hossain addressed it.

SC Bar polls

From Page One

candidate Khandakar Mahubul Hossain had polled 117 votes.

The results of other posts were not available at the time of filing this report late last night.

According to the election commission sources, the counting was likely to continue till early this morning.

The final results for all the 14 posts — president, secretary, two vice presidents, treasurer, two assistant secretaries, and seven executive committee members — will be known until this morning.

Husband kills wife, daughter

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Mar 30: A man reportedly killed his wife and his three-month-old daughter at Muradpur residential area under Panchlaish thana of the city Wednesday night.

Police recovered the bodies of Kamrunnahar Begum, 27, and her only daughter Kohinoor and sent those to the hospital for post mortem examinations.

The husband, Anubol Kalam, reportedly an unemployed man, fled early this morning from the house where the incident took place at Hosna Mansion at Muradpur, police said.

Kalam, who was a house tutor of Kamrunnahar, married her three years ago and used to live in his father-in-law's residence, police said.

BTUC confce begins

The two-day 6th national conference of the Bangladesh Trade Union Centre (BTUC) began at Ramna Batamul in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

Founder President of the BTUC and former parliament member Chowdhury Harun-or-Rashid inaugurated the conference.

JU Syndicate by-polls results

By JU Correspondent

The by-elections for the teachers' representatives from Associate Professor and Lecturer categories to the Syndicate of the Jahangirnagar University were held yesterday.

According to the unofficial results released by the university authorities, Md Nurul Alam of Physics and Md. Khaled Hossain of Bengali won the elections from Associate Professor and Lecturer categories respectively.

Both of them contested the polls from the panel led by Prof Mustahidur Rahman.

The other panel was led by Prof Mesbaul Salehin and Aisar Ahmed.

Young man stabbed to death in city

By DMCH Correspondent

A young man was killed at Mirpur in the city yesterday.

Khokon, 18, a ticket seller in Sony Cinema Hall, in Mirpur 2 was seriously stabbed in his back by a group of people in the hall premises at about 5pm.

Khokon succumbed to his injuries on way to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). The reason behind the killing was not known.

Apr 10 hartal

From Page One

EC officials will, however, go to Tongi today to hold a meeting with the election steering committee. It is a pre-scheduled meeting. But the meeting is likely to work out a strategy to face the situation," one official said.

A 56-member steering committee has been formed comprising representatives of different political parties and local elite, to help conduct the elections.

The EC official hinted that the local units of political parties may ask their respective central bodies to exclude Tongi from the purview of the hartal so that the elections could be held smoothly.

The elections generated enthusiasm among the local people and the issue has become the talk of town, the EC official said.

The EC is going to hold the Tongi elections after having completed a fresh registration of each and every voter and providing majority to them with identity cards.

Earlier, the EC held such model polls in the Dapunia union of Mymensingh district on April 30 last year.

The Tongi Paurashabha elections could not be held on time along with that in the other paurashabhas in the country due to disputes over the delimitation of constituencies. Later the industrial town was selected as the urban site for polls using modern methods.

Meanwhile, the EC yesterday held a meeting with the DIG (rang) of Police, Dhaka District Election Commissioner, The Deputy Commissioner of Gazipur (who is also the returning officer for Tongi polls) and the Superintendent of Police in Gazipur.

The meeting, also attended by high EC officials, discussed different measures to ensure smooth holding of Tongi polls.

DU female students demand withdrawal of showcase notices

By Staff Correspondent

The students of the Bangladesh-Kuwait Moitree Hall (a women's hall of Dhaka University) have demanded immediate withdrawal of the showcase notices issued to eleven resident students.

The students brought out a procession and held a rally on the DU campus yesterday morning.

The university authorities had issued showcase notices to 11 students on March 24.

Journalist dead

A K M Mujibul Haque, an Assistant Editor of the Daily Independent died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital last night, family sources said, reports BSS.

He was 65.

Haque was a bachelor. He started his career in journalism in 1962 in the then Pakistan Observer. He was News Editor of the Bangladesh Observer. Haque also worked in the Daily Furbakun in Chittagong, the Morning Sun and the New Nation in different capacities.

Hartal

From Page One

Gojamanik village home today.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Commissioner of Jamalpur, Ashter Hossain Khan has announced a grant of Taka 50,000 for the family of the late Kabir Hossain and Tk 5000 for each of the 25 injured persons.

Police arrested some persons for the attack on the TNO office.

Our Barisal Correspondent says, a dawn-to-dusk hartal called by the student fronts of the opposition parties was observed at Jhalakathi town today demanding fertiliser at fair price and arrest of the persons responsible for the fertiliser crisis in the district.

The office of the District Sports Association and several shops were ransacked during the hartal.

Chandrika leaves

From Page One

velop and strengthen further the long-standing ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

The visit was also viewed as an opportunity to strengthen the personal rapport, mutual trust and confidence between the two South Asian leaders.

During their extensive talks, the two leaders were able to reinforce with commonality of viewpoints which had been evident at their first meeting in Colombo and to inform each other of significant development of their respective countries.

The statement also mentioned Kumaratunga's meeting with her Bangladesh counterpart President Abdur Rahman Biswas and her address on "Sri Lanka Today" at a seminar at the BIIS.

President Kumaratunga appreciated the warm hospitality extended to her and members of her delegation during the visit.

Seismic survey

From Page One

first week of February.

However, sources informed The Daily Star that the government may clear the deal by the third week of April.

The agreement between this Dutch-Scottish consortium and the government would also allow the companies to set up a 40 megawatt power station in the Chittagong Hill Tracts using natural gas from the Semutang Gas Field. Exploration Block 15, as defined by the Energy Ministry, covers the greater Chittagong region.

The Midnight File

Dalai Lama visits Hiroshima

TOKYO, Mar 30: Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, toured Hiroshima today and prayed for peace at monuments commemorating the 1945 atomic bombing of the city on the second day of a nine-day visit to Japan, reports AFP.

60 killed as Somali clans clash

DJIBOUTI, Mar 30: An estimated 60 gunmen were killed in battles between rival clans on Tuesday in a town in northwestern Somalia, residents said today. Speaking to Reuters in Djibouti by radio, the residents said 50 of the dead in Burao town were fighters of the Garhajis clan alliance and 10 were loyal to Mohamed Ibrahim Egal, leader of the breakaway republic of Somalia and in the northwest.

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DHAMECSU

From Page One

Alim Emu of BCLIS-P) got 357 votes Khasru bagged 397 votes and his rival Nurul Anwar of BCL got 374 votes.

Six secretarial posts were won by Azad Alamgir Kabir, Rafiqul Islam Rafiq, Rashed Reza, Tareq Abdullah Pial, Bakhtiaruddin Jewel and Ashraful Alam Nipu.

The elected members are: Arifuzzaman Palash, Emrul Hossain, Rezaul Karim, Nesar Uddin, Latiful Kabir, Sanu, KT Talata, Swikrit, Manzur Rashid, Titu Khandakar, Ali Kawsar, Anwar Sadat, Golam Nariul, Shaamul Haq and Nasim Binte Nazim Jaha.

A four member election commission headed by Prof FA Azim of the Department of Pathology conducted the elections.

Hasina

From Page One

'killed at least 12 farmers' for demanding supply of fertiliser.

She said corruption and politicisation by the government, smuggling and flaws in the distribution system were responsible for the acute fertiliser crisis in the country.

The farmers submitted memoranda, brought out processions and went to the doors of DCs, TNOs, MPs and ministers. But the government did not pay any heed to their demand," the AL chief said.

As all their efforts went in vain, the peasants launched spontaneous movements but the government took repressive measures to stop this movement, Hasina said.

"They (BNP) would not be able to cling to power by arresting and killing the farmers," the AL chief said and demanded release of those arrested during the farmers' agitations.

Hasina also called upon the people to intensify the on-going movement to unseat the present "autocratic" government.

SC Bar polls

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এসএসসি পরীক্ষা ১৯৯৫

১৯৯৫ইং সালের মাধ্যমিক স্কুল সার্টিফিকেট পরীক্ষা সারাদেশব্যাপী আগামী ২০ এপ্রিল, ১৯৯৫ ইং তারিখ হতে ৮ই মে, ১৯৯৫ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

১৯৯৪ সাল হতে এসএসসি পরীক্ষার উত্তরপত্র কেডিং এবং ফলাফল প্রক্রিয়াকরণ কম্পিউটারের মাধ্যমে করা হচ্ছে। পরীক্ষার্থীদের কম্পিউটারায়ন সম্পর্কে কোন তথ্য জানার সরকার হলে তাকে তার নিজ নিজ স্কুলের প্রধান শিক্ষকের সাথে যোগাযোগ করার জন্য পরামর্শ দেয়া হচ্ছে। কোন প্রধান শিক্ষকের পক্ষে কোন ছাত্রকে কোন তথ্য পূরণ সম্বন্ধ না হলে তাকে অনুগ্রহ করে সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ শিক্ষা বোর্ডের নিম্নোক্ত টেলিফোন নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করার জন্য পরামর্শ দেয়া হচ্ছেঃ

মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা বোর্ড, ঢাকা, ফোন নম্বর-(০২) ৫০৮৯৯৬

মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা বোর্ড, কুমিল্লা, ফোন নম্বর-(০৮১) ৬১৭২

মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা বোর্ড, যশোর, ফোন নম্বর-(০৪২১) ৬৮৩৭

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কক পরিদর্শক, হল সুপার এবং কেন্দ্র সচিবদের করণীয় সম্পর্কে বিস্তারিত নির্দেশনা বোর্ডসমূহ প্রধান শিক্ষকের নিকট প্রেরণ করেছে।

নকলক সমর্পন ও সহায়তা প্রদান একটি আত্মমতামূলক ও দক্ষনীয় অপরাধ। অবিলম্বে ইহা বর্জন করুন।

নকল পুরা শিক্ষার্থীর জীবনে চরম অবফয়ের সূচনা করে। এই অপরাধপ্রবণতা তাদের দলিত ক্ষেত্রের মুখে দলে দেয়।

নকল করে জ্ঞান অর্জন করা যায় না। নকলে পৌরব নেই। আছে শুধু আত্মবঞ্চনা ও বার্থতার আত্মগুণি। নকল করা দণ্ডনীয় অপরাধ।

নকল করা থেকে বিরত থাকুন। নকল করার অপরাধে ৪ (চার) বৎসর পর্যন্ত বহিষ্কারের বিধান আছে।

কেন্দ্র ও বিদ্যালয় কর্তৃক, বিদ্যালয়ের শিক্ষক/শিক্ষিকা বা অন্য যে কোন ব্যক্তির কাছের পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্রে সূচী পরীক্ষা পরিচালনা বিষয় হলে কেন্দ্র বাতিল, সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ ব্যক্তিকে চাকরিচ্যুত এবং বিদ্যালয়ের বীজ্যিক বাতিল করা হবে।

পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্রে আইন-শৃঙ্খলা উন্নয়নকারী যে কোন ব্যক্তি বা ব্যক্তিবর্গকে পাবলিক পরীক্ষা অপরাধ আইননামে তৎক্ষণিকভাবে বিচার করে কারাদন্ড অথবা অর্থদন্ড অথবা উভয় প্রকার দন্ড প্রদানের ব্যবস্থা করা হবে।

পরীক্ষা হলে/কেন্দ্র প্রবেশের পূর্বে পরীক্ষার্থীর দেহ তদ্রূপী করা হবে। পরীক্ষার হলে কোন পরীক্ষার্থীর অস্থিত কাপড়পরা/বই-পুস্তক পাওয়া গেলে তাকে বহিষ্কার করা হবে।

এসএসসি পরীক্ষা ১৯৯৫ইং-এর সূচী ও সূচনাক্রমে পরিচালনার জন্য সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ সরকারি সহায়ক সহযোগিতা কামনা করা যাচ্ছে।

ডিএফপি-৭০১৫-২৭/৩
জি-৪৮১

শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়
বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা।