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Today's Focus

Special report
on abduction of
Kalpana Chakma



The Daily Star Staff
Correspondent Moshar
Ali Khan back from
Rangamati gives
eyewitness reports on
mysterious abduction
and non-recovery of a
young women's rights
activist of Chittagong Hill
Tracts.

See Focus on Page 5

Inside Today

Article

Recipe for a
Finance Minister
Column: Beneath the
Surface

by Abdul Bayes

Page 4

International

"Repetition of killing
in Chechnya
disturbing"
Tribunal issues international arrest
warrants for
Karadzic, Mladic

Page 8

Business

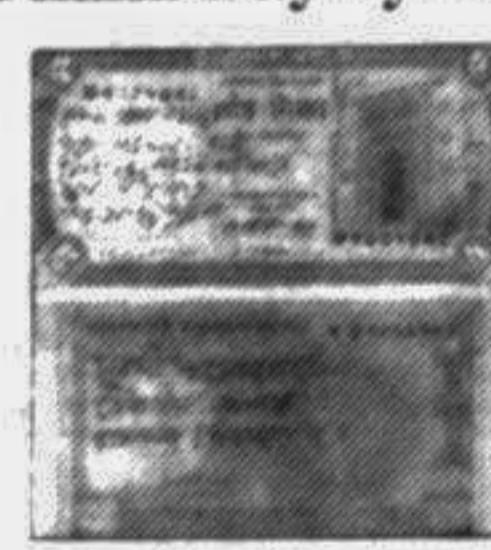
Steps suggested for
import of phosphate,
potassium fertiliser

China, Taiwan sign
pact to jointly explore
oil

Pages 6, 7

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Supply of Money and
Circulation of a Bad
Habit

Page 3

Announcement

Today's National Page
contains profiles of the
Prime Minister and her
cabinet members on Page 9.

NEWS BRIEFS

Hasina visits
party office

Prime Minister and Awami
League President Sheikh
Hasina, who returned home
yesterday ending a state visit
to Saudi Arabia, went to the
party's central office at
Bangabandhu Avenue in the
evening. Hasina stayed at the
party office for about half an
hour and talked with the party
leaders about her first state
visit abroad, during which she
performed holy Umrah.

Khaleda to visit N
dists from July 22

Bangladesh Zia is likely to begin
tour of northern districts from
July 22. A source close to
Bequm Zia, Leader of the
Opposition, told UNB that she
would go to Bogra as part of
her visit to the constituencies
from where she was elected in
June 12 parliamentary polls.

BNPPP meets
today

By Staff Correspondent
The meeting of the parlia-
mentary party of the
Bangladesh Nationalist Party
(BNP) is scheduled to be held
at 7:30 pm today at the Jatiya
Sangsad Bhaban, according to a
party press release. Bequm
Khaleda Zia, the chairperson of
the BNP, will preside over the
meeting, the press release added.

Impact of reforms limited: WB Banking sector still fragile, inefficient

By R M Titumir and Inam Ahmed

Although some critical
reforms were initiated under the
Financial Sector Reform Pro-
gramme (FSRP), implementation
of some of those are yet to
produce the desired results,
leaving the banking sector
still fragile and inefficient,"
according to a recent World
Bank assessment.

In view of the "mixed" out-
come of the FSRP, which was
completed last month, the
government is finalising its
technical assistance project
proposal (TAPP) to prepare the
biggest ever scheme in the
financial sector — Financial
Sector Development Project
(FSDP), official sources said.

The World Bank has obtained
a 986,000 US dollar

Japanese grant for the gov-
ernment to conduct preparatory
study on a bank restructuring
project under its Com-
mercial Banks Restructuring
Credit, they added.

Assessing the outcome of
the FSRP, the World Bank said,
"The impact of the reforms has
been limited, so far, and the
banking sector is still characterised as fragile and inefficient."

Commenting on the out-
come of the FSRP, the Deputy
Governor of Bangladesh Bank
Mahbubur Rahman Khan said,

"As a result of modernising the
accounting system, we can
now get the real idea about the
actual health of the banks. The
banks used to show their ap-

proved income which did not
reflect their actual position.
The Nationalised Commercial
Banks (NCBs) had been laden
with government loans and later the government had to
recapitalise them taking responsibility of these loans."

The programme has been
able to set some reforms in the
financial sector, but most of
the pertinent issues relating to
the quality of loan and the fi-
nancial health of the banks still
remain unattended, noted a
banking sector expert.

Following the completion of
reports by the Government's
Commission on Money, Banking
and Credit in 1986, headed by Prof M N Huda and
See Page 12 Col 1

We won't follow
donors' advice
by every dot,
says Kibria

By Reaz Ahmad

Finance Minister Shah A M
S Kibria yesterday said the
agriculture sector needs gov-
ernment support for at least a
certain period for develop-
ment.

"We are not going to follow
donors' prescriptions by every
dot, comma and semi-colon.
We will not compromise on
our national interest and the
interest of our farmers," the
Finance Minister said while
talking to some newsmen at the
Zia International Airport when his attention was drawn to
donors' reported reservation
about subsidy. Kibria was
at the airport to receive the
Prime Minister upon her return
from a Saudi visit.

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and Credit in 1986, headed by Prof M N Huda and
See Page 12 Col 1

7th JS goes into first session tomorrow

The first session of the Sev-
enth Jatiya Sangsad begins to-
morrow with the Awami
League sitting in the treasury
bench for the first time after a
gap of twenty-one years, report
agencies.

The business of the inaugu-
ral session will be marked by
the election of Speaker, Deputy
Speaker, panel of chairmen, address by Presi-
dent Abdur Rahman Biswas and
adoption of Obituary refer-
ence.

The outgoing Speaker
Shakil Razzak Ali will preside
over the opening session until
the election of a new Speaker.

Fourteen to fifteen ordi-
nances will be placed in the
House for approval in the
opening session.

After the address of the
President the House is likely
to be adjourned for two days.

Awami League emerged as
the largest party in the Sev-
enth Parliament through the

opening session.

BNP Chairperson and the
Leader of the Opposition Begum
Khaleda Zia has said that her
party would play positive
role and introduce a new trend
of Opposition in the Sangsad.

The 330-member parlia-
ment is expected to witness
the strongest ever opposition
with a total of 110 members so
far. Awami League formed the
government with 169 MP, in-
cluding 27 women members.

Former president and Jatiya
Party Chairman HM Ershad is
likely to be released from jail
on parole today to enable him
to attend the Sangsad session.

Jatiya Party with its 30
MPs, including three women
members elected from the re-
served seats, and Jatiya Sam-
antrik Dal (JSD-Rob) with its
one member lent support to
Awami League to form the Cab-
inet. Both JP and JSD (Rob)
have one member each in the
cabinet.

It is for the second time
that both the Leader of the
House and the Leader of the
Opposition are women.

Break-up of partywise rep-
See Page 12 col 7

Rallies, carrying of arms banned, in & around JS

The authorities have banned
carrying of firearms and ex-
plosives in the Sangsad Bhaban
and its adjacent areas from
midnight tonight to ensure
peace and order during the
first session of 7th parliament
which begins tomorrow, re-
ports UNB.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police
Commissioner Mohammad
Salam also prohibited holding
of rallies and processions in
the areas until the end of the
first session of parliament, said
a DMP press release yesterday.

The areas are: From Old
Airport of Mymensingh Road
to Bangla Motor crossing, from
Western part of Bangla Motor
link road to SARC fountain
crossing on Sonargaon Road,
from Shyamoli Cinema hall at
Mirpur Road to Dhanmondi-16
(old-27) link road, from Aga-
ganj link road to Rokeya
Sarani link road through
Shiebu-Melaj (run), Rokeya
Sarani to Bejoy Sarani crossing
through Ninth Division (Old)
crossing, from eastern part of
Indira Road to western part of
Manik Mia Avenue and the re-
stricted areas of the Jatiya
Sangsad Bhaban and roads and
lanes within the areas.

Ershad may be granted
parole today

By Staff Correspondent

The Law Ministry has given
favourable opinion on the re-
lease of jailed Jatiya Party chief
and former president H M
Ershad today on parole, for at-
tending the first session of the
Seventh Jatiya Sangsad, ac-
cording to officials concerned.

The Ministry gave its opin-
ion under Section 401 of the
Code of Criminal Procedure
(CrPC). According to officials of the
Ministry, Ershad may be
granted parole with certain re-
strictions.

Ershad had returned from
all the five constituencies he
contested in the June 12 par-
liamentary election. He also re-
turned from five seats in the
1991 elections.

The JP had requested the
Home Ministry for the release
of Ershad on parole today to
enable him to attend the par-
liament session. The Home
Ministry sent the prayer to the
Law Ministry for scrutiny.

Five kill in
city incidents

By DMCH Correspondent
At least five persons were
killed in separate incidents in
the city yesterday.

A motor bike rider was se-
riously injured when a speed-
ing tempo knocked his vehicle
at Jatrabari crossing early
yesterday.

The victim, identified as
Mizan, 17, died after admis-
sion to the Dhaka Medical col-
lege Hospital (DMCH).

In another road accident, a
pedestrian was run over by a
speeding truck near the Kazla
petrol pump at about 8 am
yesterday.

The victim Jewel, 16, was
seriously injured and admitted
See Page 12 col 5

35 hurt as bus
owners, workers
clash in N'ganj

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, July 12: At
least 35 people were injured,
nine of them bullet-hit in a
three-hour gun battle between
bus owners and transport
workers at Hajiganj in the dis-
trict Thursday night.

Over hundred cocktails
were blasted and at least 40
shots fired during the clashes
witnesses said.

See Page 12 col 7



Mother, wife and son of Raza burst into tears after getting the news of his death yesterday.

— Star photo

Murder at marriage ceremony

By Staff Correspondent

One young man was shot
dead by some unidentified
youths during the marriage
ceremony of his younger sister
at Kawranbazar in the city yes-
terday, police said.

Amir Hossain alias Rana, 25,
of West Tejtrai Bazar at Tej-
gaon, shot in the head and chest,
died on way to the Dhaka
Medical College Hospital. The
youths, numbering about five,
germane Rana, fired shots and
fled away when the bridal party
reached the venue of the mar-
riage ceremony near a local
hotel, police said. The body
was sent to the DMCH morgue
for autopsy.

Police said they suspected
that the killing was sequel to a
conflict between two groups of
youths in Tejgaon area.

Rana worked for a whole-
sale trading house in Kawran
Bazar.

Rana's father filed a case
with Tejgaon thana in connec-
tion with the killing. None was
See Page 12 Col 8

'Trip to Saudi Arabia successful' Hasina again seeks BNP's cooperation

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Sheikh
Hasina has reiterated her call
to the opposition Bangladesh
Nationalist Party (BNP) to ex-
tend cooperation for smooth
running of the country.

"Play a constructive role for
realising peoples' aspirations
for building an exploitation-
free society and economically
strong country," Hasina urged
BNP while talking to newsmen
at the VVIP Lounge at Zia In-
ternational Airport (ZIA) on
her return from Saudi Arabia
early yesterday afternoon.

She flew back by a special
flight of Saudia at 12:45 pm via
Karachi in Pakistan, on conclu-
sion of her first foreign visit as
Prime Minister.

"My trip is very successful.
King Fahd assured Bangladesh
of all sorts of cooperation. I
also sent a goodwill message to
See Page 12 Col 4



Charles and Diana pose for photographs after their en-
gagement on February 24, 1981.

— AFP file photo

The 'fairy-tale marriage' will be over Aug 28

LONDON, July 12: Britain's
Prince Charles and Princess
Diana today agreed the terms
of their divorce, ending a 15-
year royal marriage that once
thrilled the world but which
has ended in bitter public
wrangling, reports Reuter.

Lawyers for the Prince and
Princess said divorce proceed-
ings would begin on Monday
and the marriage would finally
be over on August 28.

The Prince and Princess of
Wales have concluded settle-
ment terms for their divorce,
lawyers Farrer and Co and
Mishcon De Reya said.