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AN APOLOGY TO SPORTING SPIRIT : Officiating a game in our sports arena is no doubt the most thankless job; but it was never been so troublesome and horrifying for the men in uniforms before. Mir Monwarul Islam (grounded), one of the two umpires in the second semifinal of the Karnaphuli Garden City Club Cup hockey tournament between Abahani Krira Chakra and Mariner Young's Club, pleading for mercy in the face of sanguinary swooping of players. (Detail on page 11) — Star photo

25 heads of state, govt to attend OIC summit

ISLAMABAD, Mar 17: Some 25 heads of state and government are to take part in a summit of Muslim leaders opening here on Sunday. Although some key figures will be missing, officials and diplomatic sources said today, reports AFP.

"We are receiving messages daily and the process continues" to compile the list of delegates planning to attend the 52-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) meeting a senior Foreign Ministry official said.

But the seat of Afghanistan claimed by both the Taliban militia and the ousted government of President Burhanuddin Rabbani will stay vacant, sources here said.

The one-day conference on March 28, coinciding with the golden jubilee celebrations of Pakistan's independence, will be attended by all Arab states.

Officials said Saudi Arabia will be represented by Crown Prince Abdullah while President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani will head the Iranian delegation.

King Hassan of Morocco is also expected along with the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Ahmed Al-Sabah and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Turkish President Suleman Demirel has confirmed his participation while Jordan will be represented by Crown Prince Hassan Ibn Talal if King Hussein himself cannot make it to Islamabad, they added.

Among those not expected in Islamabad are Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, Libyan Leader Moammer Gaddafi, Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Algerian President Liamine Zeroul.

Press reports said several heads of state withheld their decision to take part for security reasons following recent acts of terrorism claiming several lives in Pakistan.

Death of Anwar Yusuf: UD case lodged

By Staff Correspondent

An unnatural death case was lodged with the Motijheel Police Station in connection with the death of Anwar Yusuf, the director of the ERBA group of companies.

The case was lodged by the executives of the ERBA group, police said adding they were waiting for the autopsy report before starting an investigation into the incident.

Anwar Yusuf, one of the leading industrialists of the country, died when he fell on the ground from the 12th floor of the Bangladesh Scout Building at Kakrail Sunday morning.

It could not be confirmed whether he committed suicide by jumping from the 12th floor or someone pushed him out in a motive to kill him. The family members of the deceased were not available for comments last night.

SSC examinations

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valuable time behind the fake questions.

It appears that an evil clique is engaged in circulating such fake questions to earn money and thus creating panic among the examinees as well as their guardians," the press release said.

UNB adds: The SSC examinations on two papers was held yesterday as the hunt for source of the pilferage continued.

"We didn't find any similarity between the main question papers of Home Economics and Agriculture with the leaked question papers," an official of Dhaka Board told the agency.

Official sources said they examined at least four leaked question papers — three published in newspapers and another received from a daily — with the board question papers.

Referring to the fake question papers which were not similar with the main question papers, officials said besides the culprits responsible for the pilferage, another group was trying to sell their self-made questionnaires.

Meanwhile, the Criminal Investigation Department picked up one Abdul Awal, an employee of the National Tubes, yesterday and later released him.

His nephew, Shahjahan, who was arrested on Friday night was brought under CID custody on a two-day remand. Shahjahan is the brother of Akbar, the owner of coaching centre at Uttara. Akbar has been absconding.

Intelligence agency sources suspected that a section of

Banking sector

From Page 1

programme in the banking sector for a healthy and efficient system in the field, Kibria told the Bank team.

WB Resident Mission Chief Pierre Landell-Mills, Division Chief of Private Sector Development and Finance Marilou Uly, Senior Adviser at Banking Sector Lajos Bokoros, Manager of Private Sector Development and Finance Owaiss Saadat and Financial Analyst Abd Hasan were in the World Bank team.

Former adviser Prof Wahiduddin Mahmood, Finance Secretary Dr Akbar Ali Khan, ERD Secretary Dr Masihur Rahman, Banking Secretary Syed Amir-ul Mulk, National Board of Revenue Chairman Shah Abdul Hannan, Bangladesh Bank Governor Lutfar Rahman Sarker and Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Dr Harun-ur Rashid were present in the meeting.

UNDP Regional Director in city

UN Assistant Secretary General and UNDP Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific Nay Htun arrived in Dhaka yesterday on a two-day official visit, reports UNB.

During his stay here, Nay Htun will discuss the UNDP programmes in Bangladesh undertaken for next three years and finalise the commitments for a number of major projects in the areas of community empowerment, poverty alleviation, good governance and nonformal employment.

He will seek the views of the government on the global role of UNDP as Bangladesh is currently a member of its Executive Board, said a press release.

Sylhet dist AL confce tomorrow

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Mar 17: The triennial conference of the Sylhet district unit of the Awami League will be held on Wednesday.

The inaugural session of the conference will begin at 10 am at the Registry Maidan. The party's central president member and Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad will be present as chief guest.

Govt flexing

From Page 1

of the government towards India," he said.

The BNP Secretary General said people are living an insecure life as the government has created a reign of terror in the country.

Among others, convenor of Rangpur District BNP Rahimuddin Bharsba, party leader Sirajul Islam Selim, Akhtaruzzaman and Anwarul Huq were present.

Farmers worried

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the PDB issued a public apology using a mobile van with public address system explaining the crisis to calm the citizens. But a rickshaw van carrying a loudspeaker was damaged.

Altogether there had been power for about two hours in the town on Saturday and Sunday, most available resources were diverted to the military bases and other vital installations. The power shortage had also affected the patients at Jessore General Hospital and the Telephone Exchange.

Business leaders said last year the frozen food sector suffered an estimated Tk 25 crore loss due to loadshedding. The state-run jute mills added about Tk 20 crore loss in their burgeoning inventory of subsidies.

"Now, we are apprehending more losses for the industry in the region," one businessman said.

Abdur Razzak Khan, President of Jessore Chamber of Commerce and Industries (JCCI), citing plights of an edible oil refinery and a bakery, said their productions had to be drastically cut. The refinery had to produce half tonne instead of two tonne daily. As production declined there had been labour trouble too, he said.

He said in the past there had been trouble but not to the extent of this year. He feared that it would affect the productions in mills and factories and disrupt businesses.

As we talked the telephone line went dead when power snapped at 9:20 pm after about 20 minutes of supply in the Ghope area in central Jessore.

Although the situation is likely to improve further when the repair of the fallen pylons are completed, there is no immediate relief for the north and south-western parts of the country.

Bangabandhu's 77th birthday observed

The 77th birth anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was observed yesterday, reports BSS.

This is for the first time after 1975, the day was observed officially as the government declared the day as the National Children's Day.

The day's programmes included the hoisting of the national flag atop all public and private buildings.

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid homage to the Father of the Nation by placing wreaths at his mazar at Tungipara.

A murgat was also offered, seeking divine blessings for the peace of the departed souls.

Different socio-cultural and political organisations placed wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu at the "Bangabandhu Museum" in the city yesterday marking the birth anniversary.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad and other central leaders placed wreaths on behalf of Awami League. Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation Mohammad Yaminif also placed wreath at the portrait while thousands of people from all walks of life visited the Bangabandhu Museum.

The heads of 31 foreign missions including the dean of the diplomatic corps also attended the ceremony at Tungipara. Ministers, MPs and chiefs of the three services were also present.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina earlier received the "eternal independence flame" which reached Tungipara today and handed it over to another group to continue its cross-country journey.

As the day was declared as the National Children's Day, it was marked by rallies and processions of children both in Dhaka and in other parts of the country.

Speakers at a discussion, organised by the Bangla Academy, observed that the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman is inseparably linked with the Entity of Bangladesh.

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and Shishu Academy have also observed the day with various programmes.

Bangladesh Betar and Bangladesh Television put up special programmes, while national dailies brought out special supplements, highlighting the life and works of the Father of the Nation.

In Chittagong glowing tributes were paid to the Bangabandhu.

Different socio political bodies garlanded the portrait of the Father of the Nation. Discussion meetings, qurankhawani, mlid mahfil and cultural function were highlights of the day.

As part of the city programmes of AL, a grand rally of the children was held at Mukti-juddher Chetana Manch at Laidighi Maidan.

Chittagong city Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury inaugurated the rally as chief guest.

BSF uncovers tunnel on Punjab border

NEW DELHI, Mar 17: Indian border guards for the first time have uncovered a tunnel running from Pakistan into the northern Indian state of Punjab, an official said today, reports AFP.

Subhash Chandra Ganguly, of the Border Security Force (BSF), said the 34-metre tunnel near the town of Ajnala was the first underground passage discovered on the Indo-Pakistani border.

"Our men have found underground pipes and things like that earlier," he said. "This is the first time we have stumbled across a tunnel."

The tunnel was discovered on Friday when a tractor fell into it while border security men were clearing grass. Ganguly said it was apparently constructed by smugglers with help from Pakistan's inter-services intelligence agency.

One arrested on charge of raping garments worker

Police arrested a youngman from his Basabo residence in the city on Sunday on charge of violating a teenage girl, reports UNB.

Police said one Mohammad Hossain, son of Kalai Chand of Sonargaon village in Daudkandi thana of Comilla district, was nabbed for raping Shahida Begum, 13, a garment worker, in a house at Fakir-e-pool here on March 5.

As Shahida went to their house to complain to his father the following day, Hossain raped her again.

Later, Shahida informed the Human Rights Commission about the incidents and it filed a case with Motijheel thana under the Women and Children Repression Act on Friday against Hossain.

3 killed, 40 hurt in bus accident

PABNA, Mar 17: Three people were killed and 40 injured when a passenger bus fell into a roadside ditch near Natakholia ferry ghat late Sunday night, reports UNB.

Police and witnesses said the Panchagar-bound night coach from Dhaka skidded off the road at about 2.45 am as the driver lost control.

The deceased were identified as Abdul Rahman, 45, of Atoari, Panchagar, Nasim Mandal, 55, of Mohammadpur, Panchagar, and Jamshed Ali of Peerganj in Rangpur.

Six of the injured were admitted to the Pabna Sadar Hospital and 20 to Bera Thana Health Complex. The rest were given first aid.

Economy shattered

From Page 1

garment industry which has been considered as a non-formal sector, but has a major contribution in the economy.

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), however, said the production loss only in the readymade garment sector, the highest foreign exchange earner, is over Tk 50 crore a day.

"We are the worst victim of the widespread power interruption and power failure," BGMEA President Mostafa Golam Qudus told UNB yesterday, explaining the situation of the garment industry.

The garment factories are heavily dependent on electricity, and frequent loadshedding means the exporters will fail to meet the shipment deadline for exporting finished goods, creating stock-lots, he said.

"Many of the garment exporters have informed us that orders worth thousands of dollars were cancelled by foreign buyers due to failure in timely shipment, which is caused by production delay," Qudus said.

DCCI had carried out a study in 1994 to ascertain the losses and found that from July 1993 to June 1994, the industrial sector alone suffered a loss of Tk 1650 crore because of power disruption.

Both DCCI and MCCI think that the production loss would now be much higher as the range of load-shedding increased significantly compared to the previous years when the problem was not that acute.

A S M Quasem said the industry is facing power failure for three to four hours a day. The service sector and the agriculture — the two other major sectors of the economy — are also being affected by the power shortage.

The service sector's contribution to the country's gross domestic product (GDP) was 51.8 per cent in 1995-96 fiscal year, followed by agriculture (30.8 per cent) and industry (17.4 per cent).

Recent exemption of import duty and value added tax (VAT) by the government on importing power generators for private use is seen as an appreciative step towards facing the huge shortage of electricity and frequent load-shedding.

But the MCCI pointed out that such self-generation facility has been subjected to fiscal, infrastructural and other discrimination as the stand-by generation requires payment of electricity duty at 15 paise per unit under the Bengal Electricity Duty Act of 1935.

It said this penal requirement should be dropped and self-generation of electricity encouraged in view of the prevailing situation.

The BGMEA chief said the banks should come forward to respect the official decision on duty-free import of generators, and open letters of credit (L/Cs) at 10 per cent margin in order to help the garment manufacturers.

He also urged the Bangladesh Bank to pursue the commercial bank for extending soft but long-term loan to garment manufacturers for importing stand-by generators.

The MCCI mentioned its meeting with the energy minister last September when the leading chamber had requested the minister to take steps to help the manufacturers to avoid unannounced load-shedding.

It also urged the ministry to issue a comprehensive paper giving details of its plans to meet the energy requirements of the industry in the next 10 years as a step to reassure the investors.

The DCCI urged the government to face the future demand of power following the model of the Philippines where the authorities selected the interested power companies and gave them contract straightly to set up plants.

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Former Indian minister jailed for harbouring terrorists

NEW DELHI, Mar 17: A former central minister of India Kalpanathi Rai was sentenced by a court here today to suffer ten years imprisonment for harbouring terrorists, reports BSS.

The Terrorist and Disrupting Activities Act (TADA) court also fined the former minister a sum of Rupees ten lakh.

The designated TADA judge, SM Dhirga, sentenced three members of the Dawood Ibrahim gang, who fled to Delhi after a shootout in a hospital in Bombay earlier, to life imprisonment and a fine of Rupees ten lakh each. The three — Subhash Sinha Thakur, Jyandendra Thakur and Shyam Singh — were ordered to undergo a further two years imprisonment if they fail to pay up the fine.

Teacher robbed of Tk 6.8 lakh in city

Gunmen snatched Tk 6.8 lakh from a teacher at Zindabahr crossing in old part of the city yesterday, reports UNB.

Prof Zakir Hossain came under attack as he reached the crossing after drawing the amount from Islampur branch of United Commercial Bank Ltd at about 3 pm.

The snatchers blasted several handmade bombs while leaving the scene. A case was filed with Kotwali thana.

JU: 3 arrested

From Page 1

BCL (S-P), Mahfuz Ahmed of the instance of the former Organising Secretary of the organisation, Mojibur Rahman Kajol, hall sources said.

The outsiders had been living in the hall for the last couple of months under the care of the group led by Kajol and Mohammad Mohibullah, president of the JU BCL. The other group is led by General Secretary, Duranta Biplob, sources in BCL said.

The three outsiders are: Mamun, 23, Deloar, 22, and Faruq, 22. A pipe gun, a cut rifle and a revolver were recovered from their possession.

Police took them to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital. But they were not seen at the hospital in the evening. When contacted, Savar thana police said, one of them has been sent to the Pangu Hospital while they took another to Savar thana.

ঢাকা বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ কর্তৃপক্ষ (ডেসা)

নিয়মিত বিদ্যুৎ বিল পরিশোধ করুন

জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সন্মানিত বিদ্যুৎ গ্রাহকবৃন্দের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, উৎপাদন স্বত্ত্বাভেদে বৃহত্তর ঢাকা এলাকায় লোডশেডিং এর মাধ্যমে বিদ্যুৎ ব্যবস্থা চালু রাখা হইতেছে। ডেসা এলাকায় আগামী ১৫ (পনের) দিন দৈনিক প্রায় ১৩০ মেঃ ওঃ লোডশেডিং অব্যাহত থাকিবে। ইহার ফলে বিভিন্ন বিভাগের এলাকায় লোডশেডিং মাত্রা নিম্নরূপ থাকিবে।

বিভাগের নাম	লোডশেডিং পরিমাণ	বিভাগীয় নিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্মকের টেলিফোন নম্বর
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, কমলাপুর	৫ মেঃ ওঃ	৪১৩১৩২
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, বিলাপাও	১০ মেঃ ওঃ	৪১০৩০৩
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, লালবাগ	১০ মেঃ ওঃ	৯৫৬২৩৫০
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, পোস্তগোলা	১০ মেঃ ওঃ	২৪৭৭৮৯
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, সিদ্ধিরগঞ্জ	১০ মেঃ ওঃ	৯/২৭১৭
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, নরসিংদী	১২ মেঃ ওঃ	০৬২১/২০২৩
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, নারায়ণগঞ্জ	১২ মেঃ ওঃ	৯/২০১০, ৯/৭৫২৩৫
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, মুন্সীগঞ্জ	১১ মেঃ ওঃ	০৬৯১/৩৩৩৩, ০৬৯১/২০১৯
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, সাতমসজিদ	১৬ মেঃ ওঃ	৯১১৯৩৮১, ৯১১৯৮৯০
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, তেজগাঁও	৯ মেঃ ওঃ	৬০৫৩৪৫, ৬০৫২২৯
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, মিরপুর	১৪ মেঃ ওঃ	৯০০১১৯
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, মানিকগঞ্জ	৯ মেঃ ওঃ	০৬৫১/২২৪
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, গাজীপুর	৭ মেঃ ওঃ	০৬৮১/২০৬০
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, টংগী	৫ মেঃ ওঃ	৬৯১০৮০
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, উত্তরা	৫ মেঃ ওঃ	৮৯৪২৬৫
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, গুলশান	১৪ মেঃ ওঃ	৬০১১৩৪, ৬০৫২৬৫
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, কালিগঞ্জ	১ মেঃ ওঃ	কালিগঞ্জ-১৯

উপরোক্ত লোডশেডিং বিভিন্ন এলাকায় নির্ধারিত সময় (ফিক্সড টাইম) ভিত্তিক হইবে, যাহা স্বশিষ্ট এলাকায় বিভাগীয় নিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্মকর্তা হইতে জানা যাইবে। সাধারণভাবে কোন এলাকায় পর্যায়ক্রমে এলাকাভিত্তিক কম-বেশী ১ (এক) ঘণ্টা লোড শেডিং বলবৎ থাকিবে। বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন অবস্থা উন্নতি/অবনতির উপর লোডশেডিং এর মাত্রা কম-বেশী হইবে। বিদ্যুৎ গ্রাহক তথা সর্বসাধারণের যে কোন প্রয়োজনে উপরোক্ত স্ব-স্ব বিভাগীয় নিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্মকে যোগাযোগ করিবার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হইল।

সার্বিক পরিস্থিতি মোকাবেলার জন্য দুই জন কর্মকর্তা দানমন্ডি ও উত্তর নিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্মকে সার্বিক দৈনিক-রাত) দায়িত্বে নিয়োজিত আছেন।

সন্মানিত গ্রাহকদের এই অসুবিধার জন্য ডেসা আন্তরিকভাবে দুঃখিত।

ঢাকা বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ কর্তৃপক্ষ (ডেসা)

ডি-৩১৮

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