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None can put out Shikha

From Page 1
world leaders, invited to attend the closing ceremony of the Silver Jubilee of Independence, recalled the contribution of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and felicitated the people of the country on this occasion.

The two-hour function, also attended by ministers, MPs, freedom fighters, politicians, diplomats, journalists, intellectuals and other distinguished guests and thousands of people, were telecast live by the Bangladesh Television. The venue was packed with jubilant audience, many of whom were seen on the trees.

The Shikha Chirantan, carried by a four-member freedom fighters' team, returned to the spot of origin at the Suhrawardy Uddyan at 11:12 am, ending a cross-country journey. During its 20-day journey, the Shikha touched 29 districts. It was warmly received by cross sections of people everywhere.

The PM took back the flame, she torched at the same spot on March 7 last, from two freedom fighters — Ahad Choudhury and Taramon Bibi — and put it at its permanent venue at 11:26 am. Shortly afterwards, the President took the National Flag from two other freedom fighters in the team — Mofazzal Hossain Choudhury Maya MP, and Maj (ret'd) Waker Hassan — and hoisted it with the playing of the National Anthem.

Mandela, Arafat and Demirel, on the dais stood up at the time, along with all others present. Earlier, President Shahabuddin and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina warmly welcomed the three world leaders who reached the venue one after another.

The function began at 11:15 pm with recitations from the Quran, the Geeta, the Tripitok and the Bible. The distinguished guests then enjoyed a musical session presented by singers of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra and other noted singers.

Mandela
Addressing the function amid slogans and cheers from jubilant audience, Nelson Mandela said: "We've come to Bangladesh to pay homage to a people that knows what it is to fight for freedom... The people of South Africa, indeed the en-

WP activist killed in Meherpur
MEHERPUR, Mar 27: A Workers Party activist was killed by armed miscreants at a village in Sadar Thana of the district on Wednesday night, police said, reports UNB.

Kerb marketmen
From Page 1
yesterday. "We will try our best to keep the market always open," he said.

The benchmark DSE All Share Price Index rose by 83.23 points yesterday closing at 1157.59 points from Tuesday's 1074.36 points. Its Market Capitalisation also increased by Tk 541.89 crore and closed at Tk 8,991.73 crore from Tuesday's Tk 8,349.89 crore.

Shahabuddin
From Page 1
new challenges and materialise the hopes and aspirations of people by mobilising human resources.

President Shahabuddin highly commended the great statesmanship of South African President Mandela in building up a new nation on the basis of reconciliation and unity among all sections of his people — black, white and Afrikaans.

He also lauded President Suleyman Demirel saying he deserves the "highest of our admiration." Under his pragmatic leadership, the modern Turkey has, in spite of many odds, adhered to the principles of democracy and secularism, serving as a beacon for the Muslim world, he added.

FREE CONSULTATION FOR PATIENTS WITH BLOOD DISORDERS
Dr. Anwarul Islam, M.B.B.S. (Dhaka), Ph.D. (London), MRCPath (UK), M.D. (New York) Associate Professor of Medicine, State University of New York at Buffalo and Honorary Consultant Haematologist, IPGMR, Dhaka, will be seeing patients at 66, Laboratory Road, South Dhanmondi, Dhaka from 28 March to 6 April 1997. Please contact 863926 (between 3-5 p.m.) for Appointment.

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tire African continent, join you in this hard-earned celebration as every people who has emerged from the jaws of colonialism and oppression knows the road to independence is never easy."

Calling Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as the leader of Bangladesh's independence movement, Mandela, the 79-year-old living legend in freedom struggle said, "I had great regards for Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Bangabandhu, a friend of Bengal. Standing here today I too would like to be a friend of Bengal as part of the partnership we're forging with the people of this sub-continent."

Mandela said, "Bangladesh today celebrates the 25 years of its independence while South Africa's democracy is still in infancy and while we are still crawling from the darkness of apartheid into the sunshine of freedom."

Appreciating Bangladesh's relentless support to the struggle for freedom in South Africa, the anti-apartheid leader said, "The long distance between our countries did not make you careless for our need. You know that none can be free until all are free."

The South African President said both the countries would take the opportunity to explore ways for closer cooperation in political, economic and cultural fields.

Arafat
In his speech, Yasser Arafat recalled his personal friendship with Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and said this would help strengthen relations between the peoples of Bangladesh and Palestine.

Amid cheers, Arafat said the Palestinians would remain ever grateful to the people of Bangladesh for their unflinching support to the cause of Palestine. He added, "Being present in your fine country, I never feel I am a guest. I always feel I am one of you... I feel your joy is my joy, your freedom is our freedom because the people of both the countries have got similar problems and similar feelings."

The Palestinian leader congratulated President Shahabuddin, his "respected sister" Sheikh Hasina, and the people of Bangladesh on the happy occasion.

Ittefaq didn't appear on Mar 26
By Staff Correspondent
The Ittefaq group of publications could not publish The Daily Ittefaq due to a conflict between the executive directors of the board on March 26, according to sources.

Jubo League
From Page 1
attacked when he was going to attend a party rally near Ananda Cinema Hall in Farmgate area, police said.

Mandela
From Page 1
cooperation with each other... cultural bonds that exist between our two nations given concrete meaning by the Bengali community that is part of the South African rainbow nation," he said.

Mentioning his country's efforts towards democracy and economic advancement, Mandela said: "South Africa have lost no time in using the freedom which they have won. In the first year of democratic government, we've laid a solid foundation for a better life, and we're working with increasing effect towards that goal."

Mandela: Wise words
From Page 1
his printed speech and added the following words.

Before we started negotiating with the enemy we made the following three decisions:
a) That from our negotiations NEITHER WE NOR OUR ENEMIES WILL EMERGE VICTORIOUS, ONLY THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD EMERGE VICTORIOUS. (emphasis mine). We decided that from our work, and from our struggle PEOPLE MUST WIN and NOT ONE POLITICAL PARTY.

b) That there are good people in all communities - black, white, Afrikaans, coloured, Indians, etc. Not only that, we went one step further and said that there are good people in all political parties and not only in the ANC.

c) That smaller parties joining our government will be heard and their views will be given due importance. There was to be a government of 27 in which there will be 18 from ANC, 6 from the second largest party (de Klerk's) and three from the smallest party

Demirel
Turkish President Suleyman Demirel said, "I wish Bangladesh's every success in establishing Sonar Bangla, the golden Bengal, the dream of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman."

He also assured that his country would stand by Bangladesh in all its efforts for national development. Paying tribute to Bangabandhu, Demirel said, "He was a man of great wisdom and charisma who had changed the course of history and built up the platform of future Bangladesh."

He also disclosed to the cheering audience that an avenue in the Turkish capital had already been named after Bangabandhu.

"I've come here to convey the heartfelt greetings of 65 million Turkish brothers who also fought against occupation forces for freedom under the prudent leadership of Kemal Ataturk," he said. He recalled the unnamed heroes of the liberation struggle of Bangladesh and all the successive heads of state and government of Bangladesh who had striven for the development of the country in the last 26 years.

Hasina
Sheikh Hasina expressed her gratitude and that of the people of Bangladesh to the three celebrated leaders for attending the celebration.

Their presence has not only glorified and graded our auspicious occasion but also made us self-confident in our endeavour to move ahead. We're thankful and gratified having the great leaders amidst us today," she noted.

"We the four nations — the Bangali, the South African, the Palestinian and the Turkish — have a glorious history and great tradition of long struggle for independence, self-determination and self-dignity. We're fortunate that our struggle for independence had been led by the world-acclaimed leaders...," she said naming the founding fathers of the four nations.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Obaidul Kader presented Independence Day crests to the presidents of South Africa, Palestine and Turkey.

Co-ordinated move
From Page 1
Termining the day a unique one for the people of the country, the President expressed his delight at the presence of the three celebrated world leaders. He also expressed his heartfelt greetings to them. "The presence of the three Presidents has inspired us with new hopes and aspirations. Their sacrifice and relentless efforts for the welfare of the people will be remembered by the oppressed people all over the world," said President Shahabuddin.

He regretted that even after the 25 years of independence, basic necessities of the people were yet to be fulfilled. Identifying education as key to development, Justice Shahabuddin said, "Unfortunately the country could not be freed from the curse of illiteracy. The turbulent environment in the educational institutions has made the future of students uncertain."

He made a fervent appeal to all leaders of political parties to keep the educational institutions free from violence and terrorism.

"Population control programme should be given priority side by side making positive steps to transform the population into human resources as skilled manpower," he said.

The President paid tributes to Sher-e-Bangla A K Fazlul Haq, Shaheed Suhrawardy, Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani, Gen M A G Osmani, Syed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmed, Capt Mansur Ali, Quamruzzaman, Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman and the freedom fighters who made supreme sacrifices in the Liberation War.

3 world leaders given hearty send-off
The three world leaders who graced the silver jubilee celebration of the country's independence left Dhaka, reports UNB.

President Nelson Mandela of South Africa left for home yesterday morning. Turkish President Suleyman Demirel, who flew to Chittagong yesterday morning, also left the port city for home in the afternoon.

The two leaders were given hearty send-off at the Zia International Airport. President Shahabuddin Ahmed, and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina saw them off at the VIP lounge of ZIA.



BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia along with party leaders and workers placing wreaths at the National Memorial at Savar on Wednesday. —Star photo

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Road accident victim dies
By Staff Correspondent
A pregnant woman died in a city hospital yesterday from injuries she had received after being hit by a car driven by a novice.

Police said Soma Islam, 20, was injured when the car hit her in Gendaria Fire Service area while going to her paternal house on foot along with her husband on Monday.

She was first admitted to the General Hospital and later shifted to Holy Family Hospital where her baby was removed as her kidneys were severely damaged.

Indo-Pak talks begin today
NEW DELHI, Mar 26: India and Pakistan will open peace talks for the first time in three years on Friday amid continuing sabre-rattling over Kashmir, reports AFP.

Indian Foreign Secretary Salman Haider and his Pakistani counterpart Shamshad Ahmed will discuss a variety of issues for four days hoping to pave the way for later talks by their leaders.

Chinese leader
From Page 1
Yuan interest-free loan to Bangladesh and an agreement to this end will be signed during the visit.

The Vice Premier, besides holding official talks with the Foreign Minister, will call on President Shahabuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Finance Minister SAMS Kibria.

Lua Gan will be the first Chinese leader to visit Bangladesh since the Awami League government took office last June. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visited China on September.

Lua Gan will also visit some other Asian countries, including Cambodia, Thailand and Singapore.

SSC examinee kidnapped in city
By Staff Correspondent
An SSC examinee was allegedly kidnapped by an unidentified gang from Maddhya Bashabo under Shabubagh thana in the city Wednesday evening.

AKM Zakir alias Rozen, 16, son of one Abdul Majid Minu, was kidnapped soon after he out of his house at Maddhya Bashabo at about 6 pm. Since then, he has been missing and could not appear at the Islamiat examination yesterday, said his father in the FIR lodged with Shabubagh thana.

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Forged share certificates recovered
Police yesterday recovered forged share certificates of different companies worth about Taka 50 lakh from a house in Pallabi area and arrested two persons, reports BSS.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Detective Branch of police raided the house of Mohammad Liaquat Ali in the afternoon and recovered forged share certificates of Ashraf Textiles, Sea Tex, Dynamic Textiles, Apex Tannery, Eastern Housing, Shine Fukur, Beximco Pharmaceuticals, and Jheed Bangla Sugar Mills. They also recovered printing machine, seal, pad, papers, and type writers.

Share scam
From Page 1
tee held a DSE leader responsible for manipulating prices of PRAN and ACI of which he was director.

It has also identified two companies, which manipulated their share prices by employing illegal traders in the kerb market to propagate rumours.

The committee also alleged that some of these brokers had been de facto operators of the kerb market and that the purchase of shares by these brokers as reflected in the hawla sheets did not tally with their much higher bank statements which showed that they had bought shares from the floor and sold them in the kerb market.

It has also identified a number of securities houses including SES owned by Runa Alam of peregrin who had made delivery versus payment deals to attract small investors into the market and to hike prices.

The committee had also investigated into a number of newly floated companies and found major discrepancy in assets of Marks Engineer, Wonderland Toys and BD Luggage as shown in their prospectus.

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SSC examinee kidnapped in city

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The family members of Rozen received a telephone call from their residence in home town Sirajganj at about 9 pm Wednesday that Rozen was being kept hostage somewhere in Dhaka. The kidnapers would release Rozen if his father gave up politics, said Abdul Majid in the FIR.

A case under Section 365 has been filed, police said.

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100 injured as villagers clash in N'ganj

From Our Correspondent
NARAYANGANJ, Mar 27: At least 100 people, including eight police personnel, women and children, were injured during a clash between the villagers of Farazkanda and Beparipara under Bandar thana Wednesday night, according to police and witnesses.

During the three-hour long clash beginning 10 pm, three houses and four shops were ransacked and looted, police said. Two houses were also set on fire.

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PM distributes cheques among 17 shooters
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday congratulated the shooters who brought home laurel by taking part in the second South-Asian shooting championship in New Delhi and assured them all help for greater glory in future, reports UNB.

"I am very happy. I am proud of you who have brightened the image of the country," she told them.

A total of 17 shooters taking part in 11 events of the competition bagged 23 medals including nine golds, the highest performance shown in any international sports so far by the sportsmen of the country.

Hasina accorded a reception to the shooters who came to meet her at Ganobhaban in the evening. She presented a bouquet and distributed cheques awarded by National Sports Council to each of the 17 shooters.

Fresh vow
From Page 1
Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed hosted a reception at the Bangabhaban on the occasion of Independence Day. The three visiting presidents as well as ministers, MPs, freedom fighters, diplomats, intellectuals and the elite of the city attended the reception.

Earlier in the morning, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addressed a children and juvenile rally held at the National Stadium-1.

The day was a public holiday. Political parties including the ruling Awami League and opposition BNP, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami arranged programmes. Newspapers brought out special supplements and Bangladesh Betar and BTV aired special programmes.

কেন এই বিদ্যুৎ সংকট

প্রিয় দেশবাসী,

এই দেশ আমার, আপনার, আমাদের সবার।
দেশের সমস্যা ও সাফল্যে আপনিও সমান অংশীদার।
তাই আপনাকে জানাতে চাই - কেন এই বিদ্যুৎ সংকট।

বিগত বছরগুলোতে ক্রমবর্ধমান চাহিদার সাথে সঙ্গতি রেখে
বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন এবং গ্যাস সরবরাহ বৃদ্ধি করা হয়নি।
যার ফলে আজ সারা দেশে লোড শেডিং হচ্ছে।

এই সংকট মোকাবেলায় বর্তমান সরকার সর্বাঙ্গিক চেষ্টা চালাচ্ছে

এপ্রিল মাসের মধ্যে ৫৮ কিলোমিটার দীর্ঘ আশুগঞ্জ-বাখরাবাদ গ্যাস পাইপ
লাইনের কাজ সমাপ্ত হচ্ছে। এর ফলে দেশের উত্তর - পূর্বাঞ্চলের গ্যাস চট্টগ্রাম
অঞ্চলে সরবরাহ সম্ভব হবে এবং গ্যাস চালিত বন্ধ বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্রগুলো পুনরায়
চালু হবে। ফলশ্রুতিতে মে মাসে বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন উল্লেখযোগ্যভাবে বৃদ্ধি পাবে।

মনোহরদী-নরসিংদী এবং মেঘনা-বাখরাবাদ এই দুইটি গ্যাস
পাইপ লাইনের নির্মাণ কাজ দ্রুত সমাপ্তির পথে। কৈলাশটিলার
একটি নতুন কূপের গ্যাস শীঘ্রই সরবরাহের আওতাভুক্ত হবে।
ফলে গ্যাস চালিত বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র সমূহের উৎপাদন বৃদ্ধি পাবে।

এ বছরের জুলাই মাসে রাউজান-এর নতুন দ্বিতীয় বিদ্যুৎ
উৎপাদন কেন্দ্র চালু এবং বেশ কয়েকটি বিদ্যুৎ
উৎপাদন কেন্দ্রের পুনর্বাসন সমাপ্ত হলে শীঘ্রই
আরো অতিরিক্ত বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহ সম্ভব হবে।

এছাড়া সরকারী এবং বেসরকারী উদ্যোগে বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন ও গ্যাস
সরবরাহ বৃদ্ধির লক্ষ্যে ব্যাপক কর্মসূচী হাতে নেওয়া হয়েছে।

বিদ্যুতের এই সংকটকালে কৃষ্ণতা সাধন করুন, বিদ্যুতের অপচয় বন্ধ করুন
এবং আমাদের সহযোগিতা করুন।

এ সংকট কাটবেই

বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড ■ ঢাকা বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ কর্তৃপক্ষ ■ পল্লী বিদ্যুতায়ন বোর্ড