IDB to provide \$25m



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The World on Time

Director apprehends

Vested quarters

instigating

nurses at PG

of Post Graduate Medicine and

Research (IPGMR) vesterday ex-

pressed his concern that vested

quarters might be active in cre-

ating a deadlock in the PG

Tahir told a press conference at

the hospital conference room

that there is no reason to con-

tinue the nurses' strike follow-

ing the government assurance

that their jobs will not be at

stake after the IPGMR is turned

been prevailing in the PG

Hospital since the government

announced on July 31 that the

institute would be turned into

"Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib

nurses along with class three

and four employees went on a

strike on August 12 apprehend-

ing that they might lose their

jobs once the institute became a

meetings with the striking

nurses and employees several

times, but failed to break the

and family welfare minister.

the health secretary and he held

a long discussion with the

nurses and employees and gave

the assurance that their jobs

Despite all assurances.

section of nurses continued

non-stop strike, which is

40 thatched

houses gutted

Firefighters saved a metal

industry from a fire that broke

out at a slum in Tejgaon indus-

trial area gutting some 40

thatched houses yesterday, re-

a candle, broke out at Rahim

Metal Slum adjacent to the

Rahim Metal Industry at about

8:45 pm and raged through the

kucha houses during power

from Tejgaon station rushed to

the spot and brought the flame

under control after half an hour

Bus service

From Page 1

of the injured union workers

were admitted into Puthia

a quarrel between an Awami

League leader and workers of a

Bogra-bound minibus, the wit-

Mahfuzul Haq and superinten-

dent of police Abul Hashem,

along with a few Awami League

leaders, today visited Puthia to

resolve the problem. But they

could not make any headway

due to resistance by Awami

League supporters, sources

groups chased and counter-

chased one another this noon.

A tense situation was prevailing

in the area till the writing of

Naga rebel

From Page 1

During interrogation he in-

He also informed police that

Police said a photograph of

shaw at around 6:30 pm today

formed police that he had come

here for treatment at Sitakundu

he had arrived in the city today

from Alikadam under Ban-

derban hill district where he

Nagatu carrying arms was

Armed workers of both

The clash erupted following

Meanwhile, ADC (General)

Thana Health Complex.

nesses added.

this report.

at Station Road.

came three days ago.

found with him.

T B Hospital.

On information, firefighters

The blaze, originating from

ports UNB.

failure in the area.

of hectic efforts.

would not be affected.

morally illegal, he said.

Prof Tahir said the health

He said the authorities held

The IPGMR Director said the

He said the deadlock has

Hospital, reports UNB.

into a university.

Medical University."

university.

deadlock

The Director of the Institute

Director Prof Mohammad



Islamic Institute of Technology in Gazipur yesterday.

PM at IIT convocation

From Page 1 reputed international institution, she added.

The Prime Minister said the member states have nominated a large number of qualified students for the IIT, but due to limited seats it could only take a small number of eligible candi-

She appealled to all the member states for contributing to the budget of the IIT. The Institute has submitted a proposal to IDB for the devel-

opment of facilities, which in-

clude a second academic building and a second dormitory. On completion of the project, IIT will be able to accommodate at least 960 students and intro-

duce new and rare technologies like information and computer-aided design, she said. The Prime Minister assured

all government support for the development of the institute and requested the IDB president to see that this project gets early approval and is quickly implemented for the benefit of the Muslim Coman.

Secretary General of Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Dr Azeddine Laraki stressed the need for cooperation of the Muslims in the filed of culture, science and knowledge.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presenting certificate to a student at the convocation of

He said cooperation and coordination in the fields of economy and development, culture and education, will no doubt be a key factor in promoting rapprochement and harmony among Islamic states and

ÎDB president Dr Ahmed Mohammad Ali said the Bank is providing US dollar 770 million to Bangladesh in the sectors of education, agriculture, health, communication, rural development and other development sectors.

The Bank has great interest in the Islamic Institute of Technology, he said, adding that it will continue its assistance and support for the improvement of the institute.

Earlier, the Prime Minister led the academic procession and distributed diploma certifi cates to the successful students.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria. State Minister for Labour and Manpower MA Mannan, vice chancellors of different universities, and diplomats attended the func-

conducted through intercom

system while the 'netting'

among tanks is done through

nal number is given for every

tank which is used to locate any

tanks near the Farmgate. One of

tion, the PW-14 said that the

destination of his tank was

fixed but he was not aware

whether the destinations for

lawyer which was kept pending

on Tuesday for disposal vester-

day was rejected and kept on

record. The judge observed that

the petition was rejected since it

was in continuation of an ear-

lier petition filed under Section

526(8) of the Code of Criminal

Procedure. The prayer was re-

Monday, the lawyer had prayed

for adjournment of the hearing,

alleging that the judge had met

a diplomat who came to observe

the hearing. The lawyer had

cited newspaper reports in sup-

port of his prayer. The judge de-

nied the reports and rejected the

5 Iranians

From Page 1

In Iran, deputy foreign min-

In a meeting with Pakistan's

ambassador in Tehran, Khalid

Mehmood, Aminzadeh also

the attack from the Pakistani

government, the official Is-

lamic Republic News Agency re-

Shujaat Hussein, said he was

confident the killings would

brotherly Muslim country and

we are sorry for their killings.

not affect relations with Iran.

Pakistan's interior minister,

"They were our guests from a

ister Mohsen Aminzadeh called for swift arrest and punishment

his injuries were not serious.

of the killers.

ported.

he said.

In the petition filed on

jected.

The petition of Farook's

others were fixed or not.

those followed us."

"During movement, 'call sig-

"I had noticed eight or ten

Answering another ques-

Bangabandhu Murder Case

From Page

instructions of my commanding officer. I had the idea that the tanks were brought out for an operation," the PW-14 said answering a question from Khan Saifur Rahman, lawyer of accused in custody Lt Col (dismissed) Farook Rahman. He also told the court that there were 32 tanks under the Unit at that time. "Under the orders of the tank

commander, we took over the control of Radio Station," he said answering questions from Abdul Wahed, lawyer of absconding accused Lt Col (relieved) Shariful Huq Dalim. When asked how the armed sentries at the Radio Station were disarmed, he said, "I do not know.

Khandaker Mushtaque came to the Radio Station accompanied by Maj Khandaker Abdur Rashid in an army jeep," he said replying to a question from Gazi Zillur Rahman, lawyer of absconding accused Lt Col (dismissed) Khandaker Abdur Rahid.

"I was in the Headquarter Squadron of the First Bengal Lancer Unit," the PW-14 said replying to a question of the lawyer of absconding accused Maj (relieved) Ahmed Shariful

"The Headquarter Squadron generally maintained two tanks, one for the commanding officer and the other for the second-in-command and the rest were distributed among the remaining three other squadrons in the unit," he said replying to another question from the lawyer.

The lawyer of absconding called for an official account of accused Maj (retd) A K M Mohiuddin asked him why they did not take shells for the tank. The PW-14 said, "There were no shells for tanks in the

Regiment. 'It takes almost an hour to prepare a tank before taking it

out for exercise," he said replying to a question from the lawyer of accused Farook. The tanks which were brought out on that night were prepared by the forces of the

three squadrons. "Heavy Machine Gun, Medium Machine Gun and Radio Communication System have to be installed in a tank before they are brought out for

an exercise. "The tanks brought out on that night were T-54s. Communication on board a tank is

From Page 1

German envoy

thought all to be Ukrainians, said a senior Western diplomat, insisting on anonymity.

The senior Western diplomat said that Wagner was one of five people from Westendorp's office on board the helicopter.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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Bank (IDB), pledging more assistance to Bangladesh in coming years, will provide a total of 25 million US dollars under three loan agreements signed here yesterday, reports UNB. IDB President Dr Ahmad

Mohamed Ali, who arrived in the city on an official visit, informed Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria that his agency would lend another 100 million dollars as import trade financ-

In all, the financial institution of the Muslim world is giving Bangladesh a total of 110 million dollars as import bal-ance financing. Of the amount, the accord for the first installment of 10 million dollars was signed yesterday.

The Bank has already sent message to the government to disburse another amount of 27 million dollars in the second phase under the credit line and agreement to this effect is expected shortly, Kibria said.

would be utilised as commodity aid for import of petroleum products by the state-run Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC)

The other two agreements included 5 million dollars for

IDB to provide \$13.50m for 2nd wakf bldg in Ctg

velopment Bank Dr Ahmed Mohammad Ali called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office yesterday, reports

lion US dollars for constructing the second wakf building in Chittagong. He expressed happiness see-

Institute of Technology which was visited by the Prime Minister twice. "The Institute is playing a

dating the Islamic Ummah." Dr Mandatory contribution of some member states remained outstanding, the Prime Minister said and assured that

people. Glorious past

From Page 1 Union, who was killed while leading an anti-terrorism pro-

procession was inaugurated by Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof A K Azad Chowdhury. Presided over by the VC, the ceremony was also addressed by, among others, Raju's mother Khodeja Begum, Dr Harun-ur Rashid of DU, Atauddin Khan, who provided funds for building the sculpture

The former chief adviser said everybody has the right to do politics. But if people do politics for their personal interests, if student leaders do not uphold lofty ideals and the next generation follows them, student poli-

"Paying tribute to Moin Hossain Raju," he said, "Raju had sacrificed his life to fight against terrorism and for bringing peace on the campus."

Khodeja Begum urged the students to be united against terrorists for establishing a congenial academic atmosphere on the campus. The campus is for the students and not for terrorists, she added.

The students should under stand that they are being misguided by a few 'godfathers' for their own interests and they should identify these elements,

she said. rounded off with a cultural unction.

in project aid, \$100m for import financing the Greater Khulna Poverty Alleviation project and the 10 million dollars for the Rural

Electrification project in Gopalganj and Rajbari dis-

Kibria and Dr Ali initialled the accords on behalf of their respective sides. BPC Chairman M Fazlul Hoq and Bangladesh Bank General Manager MAM Kazemi signed the agreements on behalf of their respective organisations.

Bangladesh Bank Governor Lutfar Rahman Sarkar, Additional Secretary at the Economic Relations Division Suhel Ahmed Chowdhury and senior officials were present at the signing ceremony at the NEC Bhaban.

At present, a total of 13 projects in different sectors are being implemented with IDB assistance. The Bank's lending to these projects amounted to 83.50 million dollars.

The IDB, whose lending to Bangladesh totalled 800 million dollar, equivalent to about Tk 3,600 crore, also indicated its willingness to channel more economic assistance to Bangladesh.

During talks with the finance minister earlier yesterday, the IDB chief praised the government's performance in economic management and said IDB's assistance would mark rise with proper utilisation of the aid.

Dr Ali expressed his keen interest to strengthen bilateral relations between the IDB and the Bangladesh government.

In response, Kibria informed him about the economic situation in the country and said the economy is performing well with foreign exchange reserve level remained stable. The IDB president, who came

to Bangladesh in connection with the Convocation of Islamic Institute of Technology (IIT), is due to leave the city tonight (Wednesday night).

AL govt's From Page 1

cratic acts in the future. Criticising the government for using the police in antipeople acts, the BNP leader

unconstitutional and undemo-

viewed such practices would damage the image of the police. Prof Choudhury accused the government of retorting to repression on all sections of peo-

ple just to cling to power. "As a doctor, I understand the condition of the government is not good and that's why it is now giving the last bite." Saying that the present government is worse than an auto-

cratic regime, the BNP leader alleged that the '72-'75 character of the AL had been exposed He claimed that all sections

of the society including the women folk had lost their confidence in the government and called upon all to rise against its tyranny.

Sramik Dal president Abdullah Al Noman and other leaders of the organisation including Nazrul Islam Khan. Zafrul Hasan and Abul Quashem also addressed the

Later, a procession was brought out and the police followed it in its march to and from the Jativa Press Club. Meanwhile, BNP secretary

general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, MP, in a statement strongly condemned foiling of the Sramik Dal rally and the police attack on its procession. Mannan Bhuiyan warned the government of dire conse-

quences for denying the democratic rights of its opponents. "We're prepared and capable of resisting any blow on our democratic rights", he said. asking the government to re-

frain from such practices in the future. "Don't dream of ruling the country in the BKSAL-style People did not forgive any autocrat nor will they forgive you," the BNP leader noted.

Besides, other front organisations of the BNP also issued similar statements condemning the police action.

Draft CHT accord sician, were flown to the city

From Page 1

some 43,000 tribal refugees when they return to the CHT from their camps in Tripura, India. They have been staying there since 1986. The settlers will be resettled on khas lands in the CHT. The government will help build houses for the returnees who are homeless and the settlers. The members of the Shantibahini will be resettled when they lay down their arms.

The CHT Development Board and other organisations will provide jobs to them and the refugees. Different international relief organisations will be urged to help resettlement of the refugees.

But, one source said, the issue of authority of the Regional Council was still to be settled. The PCJSS agreed on the structure of the council but had reservations on the authority of the council to levy taxes, run the administration and police. They want it as an autonomous body. The government package offered to them provides authority to appoint police officials up to the level of sub-inspectors.

Abdullah offered any chance to newsmen seeking details of the draft accord. Larma and his six-member delegation, including his phy-

Neither Larma

by a military helicopter on Sunday. They are returning sometime

this morning to their temporary headquarters at Dudukchhara, a tiny frontier hamlet in Khagrachhari near the border with Tripura. According to reports reach-

ing Dhaka, hundreds of tribal people had been gathering there to meet the insurgents who camped there prior to arrival of the PCJSS high command. Larma is likely to address

the gathering when he reaches there today, giving a summary of the draft. He goes back to his headquarters, believed to be in Bishnupur in southern Tripura sometime Friday. The security forces camps

will be reactivated three days after departure of the PCJSS high command and their security personnel from the Shantibahini. The talks that ended yesterday were the sixth round in the

current series of negotiations since the Awami League-led government reconstituted the NCCHT in October last year and invited the PCJSS for resumption of talks. The talks this time were the

25th in the series since formal negotiations began in October,



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PHILIPS

Dhaka elected chairman of UN Fifth Committee

Permanent representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations ambassador Anwarul Karim was elected chairman of the administrative and budgetary committee of the General Assembly on Tuesday, reports

With the election of Anwarul Karim, the important UN committee, popularly known as the Fifth Committee, will be chaired for the first time by a representative of South Asia and South East Asia regions. During the last 52 years of the General Assembly sessions. Asia had chaired the Fifth Committee only on four occasions — twice by Japan and Iran and Syria for one occasion each, said a message received from New York.

The Fifth Committee has been playing a high profile role in the operations of the whole UN system. This year it will perform a crucial role in view of the wide-ranging reform proposals submitted by Secretary General Kofi Annan as well as the 1998-99 biennium budget for the world body and the US proposal for reduction of its share of contribution in the new UN scale of assessments.

BR, Grameen Phone sign lease accord

A 20-year agreement between Bangladesh Railway and Grameen Phone Ltd was signed yesterday for commercial leasing of Railway's optical fibre telecommunication network. reports UNB.

The Grameen Phone Ltd will use the optical fibre of Railway to set up its GSM cellular network for extending telephone connection to urban and rural areas.

Bangladesh Railway Director General M A Munaf and Grameen Phone Managing Director Inga Skor signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organisations. Under the agreement

Grameen Phone Limited has already paid Tk 12 crore to the Railway as up front payment. It will pay Tk two crore as rent for the first vear. It will bear the maintenance

cost, and all other related expenditures of the Railway's telecom network, said a press release yesterday.

5 BCL activists arrested at IU

JHENIDAH, Sept 17: Police arrested five activists of the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) in the last two days in a bid to restore peaceful atmosphere on the Islamic University campus, reports UNB.

Official sources said with the reopening of the varsity after the unscheduled 73-day closure, the peaceful campus situation was being disrupted following the factional clashes of BCL.

Police said they arrested the five activists on Monday and Tuesday at the directives of the varsity authorities. A case was filed with the po-

lice against them. Fax-phone service

traders clash with T&T staff

By Staff Correspondent At least five people were injured as a section of people reportedly the fax-phone service traders clashed with some staff of the Bangladesh Telegraph & Telephone Board (BTTB) a Paribagh in the city yesterday. Ramna police arrested two

persons identified as Abdur Rahim, 40, and Raziur Rahman alias Babu, 31.

The scuffle began when a group of about 30 people forcibly tried to enter the room of some officers at BTTB's head office at about 2:30 pm, police said. They also locked in a clash with some security guards.

At least five people sustained injuries. Of them, Abdul Barek was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment. Mossaraf Hossain, the security officer of that office, filed a case with Ramna thana.

Bid to hold rally

From Page 1

of Pay Commission Report and tiffin allowance. They reportedly belonged to the Zafar-Ataur group of Secretariat employees. A demonstration led by

Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (Kabir-Zahir) and DUJ (Saleh-Gazi) was stopped by police at the Purana Paltan crossing on their way to Dainik Bangla. They then tried to go to Dainik Bangla through another route but were stopped by police at the GPO crossing. Police said they were stopped because a ban on demonstrations in and around Baitul Mukarram National Mosque remained in force.

Chinese communists for crucial economic reforms

BEIJING, Sept 17: Delegates to a major Chinese Communist Party congress are uniting behind crucial economic reforms and ideological changes underpinning the policies, the offi-cial Xinhua News Agency said today, reports AP.

The communist faithful are enthused by proposed capitalist-style cures for sluggish state industries and plans to enshrine economic pragmatism as party doctrine, Xinhua said.

Their consensus has constituted the most important achievement of the congress,' the news agency said.

Xinhua's account of unanimity comes the day before the weeklong congress ends. Delegates — more than 2,000 senior leaders, revolutionary elders, provincial power-brokers and a few model workers - are expected tomorrow to approve General Secretary Jiang Zemin's platform and choose a new policy-setting Central Committee.

The presidium, 217 of the congress' most influential

Two die in city incidents A young housewife died mys-

teriously in Lalbagh area, and

police recovered the body of a teenaged boy from Mohammadpur in the city yesterday. reports UNB. Police said 22-year-old Maksuda Moni was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospi-

am. She died soon after admis-Lalbagh police detained her husband Mizan following verbal complaints made by Maksuda's parents that she was killed. A case was under pro-

tal as she feel sick at her Lal-

bagh residence at about 2:30

In the other incident, police recovered a body from Mohammadpur cross-dam in the early hours of yesterday.

The dead was identified as

Jasim Uddin, 18. He was missing since Monday evening. His father Zahed Mia in case filed with Mohammadpur than alleged that Sikim Ali. Alam, Rufiul Amin and several

others took Jasim out of his

house on Monday evening. Khaleda

From Page 1

"We have said time and again that it will not be fair to withdraw the Army camps from the CHT. I want to say it emphatically again that people will never accept any decision on withdrawal of the Army from the sensitive region as Bangladesh will then lose its control over the area," she said.

The Leader of the Opposition in Jatiya Sangsad further said that when her party was in power and also now it consistently said CHT problems should be resolved within the constitutional framework and that people will not accept any attempt to impose any other solution.

"We have repeatedly said that one-tenth of the country's land area will disappear if certain demands of the 'Shantibahini' are accepted. Our Constitution does not permit demarcation of an area of the country for some people,"

Begum Zia said.

She said that talks with the 'Shantibahini' had been conducted in secrecy. "This is not a good sign and does not reflect transparency of the government. People have the right to know what had been discussed. Keeping them in total darkness. any agreement that does not serve their interest will not help anyone. I am warning everyone to remember that," she

members, met today and, with a show of hands, approved a list of candidates for the Central Committee and other posts. Xinhua said in a separate report.

The list was drawn up after "comprehensive discussions" by delegations to the congress. Xinhua added. Central Committee members

will meet Friday to select a

Politburo, some two dozen of

the most powerful party members, and its standing committee, the elite of the elite. Party sources, diplomats and the Hong Kong media have said divisions remain among key groups over filling crucial posts. Jiang is under fire for

trying to pack the leadership with allies from Shanghai, his power base. Jiang's performance at the congress is seen as a gauge of his power. The meeting, held every five years, is his first without his mentor, Deng Xiaoping, the senior leader and pioneer of

died in February. Trying to claim Deng's mantle. Jiang has proposed inserting the elder's pragmatic approach to economic reform in the party constitution. Deng's concept that China is in the "primary stage of socialism" - a phrase justifying capitalist policies in a communist country - is a prominent part of Jiang's platform.

China's market reforms who

Hasina

From Page 1

decisions, particularly in the

banking sector. "The govern-

ment will stick to its decisions and not allow default culture." She said the government would go ahead with privatisation and had decided to give priority to the labourers of a factory if they want to take and

Responding to queries on the Chittagong Hill Tracts peace process, Hasina said the government is taking all possible steps to restore peace there.

But the opposition party, she said, is opposing the process and orchestrating evil propaganda against the government initiative. They did not take any initiative and is now trying to disturb it. The columnists in the meet-

ing hailed the decision of the government for selecting some seven spots for holding political meeting and suggested to take strict action to stop holding meeting on the streets which create sufferings of the The columnists suggested in-

troduction of laws against communalism, violence and strict action on some more issues, which disrupt the growth of democracy. They also suggested speedy trial of the killers of Bangabandhu. Shawkat Osman, Obaidul

Huq, Prof Kabir Chowdhury, A B M Musa, Santash Gupta, Aziz Misir, Shahriar Kabir, Shahed Latif, Nirmalendu Goon, Prof Momtazuddin Ahmed, Haroon Habib, Abed Khan, Abdul Qaium, Prof Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, Kamal Haidar, Habibur Rahman Milon, Anwara Syed Hug and Syed Mudasser Ali took part in discussion.

Gujral-Sharif

From Page 1 weeks, accusing them of espi-

onage. During the talks, officials hope to set up committees of experts to discuss several issues, such as the dispute over the northern state of Kashmir, which is divided between the

two nations. Other disputes relate to the sea boundary in the west and over sharing of water.

Severe loadshedding

From Page 1 under Greater Barisal.

vere loadshedding.

Our Chuadanga correspondent Quamrul Arefin reported that a big public meeting was held at the local Bara Bazar yesterday afternoon protesting se-

The meeting was addressed by among others Mozammel Hoque MP, who is also president of the Chuadanga unit of Bangladesh Shilpo-o-Banik Samity, advocates Quamrul Arefin, Selimuddin Khan, Aksidul Islam Ratan, JSD leader Touhid Hossain, Fotay Ali, secretary, Chuadanga Shop Owners Association, Mrs Waliul Islam Bablu, M Abdullah, Hamidul Hoque Netaji, Ramjan Ali, journalist M Alauddin and

Dr Nazmul Hoque. The speakers strongly demanded stopping loadshedding immediately.

The meeting, organised by the local shop owners association, was presided over by its president Ashiruddin.

UNB adds from Meherpur: Nearly 50 people, including local leaders of ruling Awami League and opposition BNP. lawyers and journalists began the hunger strike in front of the

DC office at 6 am. The condition of three strikers, including Pourasava Chair-

man Montasim Billah, deteriorated in the evening. DC Shamsul Haq visited the strikers and urged them to break the strike. The strikers alleged that the

PDB officials of Jhenidah. Chuadanga and Jessore districts were responsible for frequent loadshedding in Meher-They also demanded that the

ternative power line from Kushtia power station to Meherpur PDB sub-station, which remained incomplete for a long time, be completed immedia-PDB officials here said the persisting loadshedding in

Meherpur would come down to a

work on the two-mile long al-

large extent if the work on the project was completed. The DC, however, informed that the Energy and Mineral Resources Minister instructed the PDB and Palli Biddut

necessary steps to complete the two-mile long power line. Normal life in the district

Samity (PBS) chairmen to take

has been paralysed due to 6-7 hours loadshedding everyday. On Tuesday, it experienced loadshedding for about 10



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The Islamic Development

The first phase amount

President of Islamic De-

The IDB President agreed in principle to provide 13.50 mil-

ing the development of Islamic

very important role in consoli-

the necessary government support would continue in this re-

Referring to the government steps undertaken for the welfare of the elderly poor, Hasina said the government has introduced pension for the elderly

cession near the TSC on March The sculpture depicting a

and Shyamol Chowdhury.

tics will be jeopardised soon, he

The inaugural ceremony was