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**PHILIPS**

**We will build a secure future for children: PM**

TUNGIPARA, Mar 18: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Tuesday called for making sacrifices to ensure a bright future for the next generation of the country, reports UNB.  
"The government is committed to building a new society where the children could be grown up as worthy citizens of the country," she said while addressing a children's rally at Tungipara G T High School ground.  
Hasina reached her ancestral home in the morning to attend the national programme in observance of the 78th birth anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.  
"We'll build up a sound and secure future for our next generation, we'll build up our children as worthy citizens," she said, calling upon all to work together for achieving the goal.  
The Cultural Affairs Ministry organised the children's rally at Tungipara as part of the national programme.  
A huge number of boys and girls in colourful dresses joined the rally carrying national flags and coloured festoons and banners.  
Ministers, MPs, diplomats, party leaders and workers and a huge number of children attended the function.  
The birthday of Bangabandhu was earlier declared as the National Children's Day.  
The Prime Minister said her government is taking all possible steps so that not a single child remains illiterate and suffers from malnutrition and deprivation.  
Later, the Prime Minister distributed prizes among the children who took part in various competitions — song, dance, essay writing and painting.



Polythene sheets being washed in the Buriganga river at Kamrangirchar for reuse. — Star photo

**Pakistan survive close call**

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe, Mar 18: A stubborn fifth-wicket century stand between Yousaf Youhana and Moin Khan helped Pakistan survive defeat and salvage a draw against Zimbabwe on the final day of the first cricket Test today, reports AFP.  
The two put on 110 in five minutes short of three hours to finish on 258-6 in their second innings.  
With Zimbabwe needing four wickets and Pakistan another 113 runs to win with only 7.3 overs remaining, the two captains agreed to call the match off early.  
Acting on a tip-off, police clubbed off the Huang Boyieba in the area at about 3:30 pm and arrested them while they were holding a meeting there.

**2 PCP leaders held in CHT**

KHAGRACHHARI, Mar 18: Two leaders of Pahari Chhatra Parishad were arrested from a club in the town today, reports UNB.  
Police said they arrested Sanjoy Chakma, 32, and Dhruva Jyoti Chakma, 26, leaders of Prosid-Sanjoy group, from a Shambirbar area on charges of anti-CHT accord activities.

**LPG shortage**

It is alleged that some officials in the depot are distributing quotas of the dealers irregularly. The dealers are allegedly selling the quotas to mafians who create artificial crisis.  
A card system was introduced for the consumers two years back but it is alleged that they are not getting LPG cylinders against their cards.  
A section of officials of the three distribution agencies — Padma, Meghna, and Jamuna — are allegedly involved in the irregularities.

**2 guards killed**

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be involved in the killings. Gulshan police arrested a young man, Faruk, as a suspect in the incident.  
A gang of three on board a pick-up van stopped on the road beside a house on Road-6 in block-C of Banani at about 3 am. As they jumped over the boundary wall of the house and entered inside, Zahir got out of the guard room and had an altercation with them. At one stage, the gang members stabbed Zahir indiscriminately, police said quoting witnesses.  
The assailants then entered the next house in a similar way, fatally stabbed Jamal and left the spot in their vehicle. They attacked Jamal as he saw them stabbing Zahir, police said.  
Bodies of both the persons were sent to DMCH morgue for autopsy.  
A case was lodged with Gulshan thana in this connection.

**2 burnt alive**

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come groups. Many stranded Pakistanis known as Biharis also lived in the slum which is also called School Camp.  
Fire fighters recovered the bodies after the fire was put out. The bodies were handed over to Pallabi police.  
Relatives of the dead took the bodies from police yesterday. However, the extent of damage could not be known.

**Mugger beaten to death in Ctg**

From Staff Correspondent  
CHITTAGONG, Mar 18: An alleged mugger was beaten to death and two others were injured by a mob while they were snatching money from a hawker at Baluchhara under Panchalaish thana yesterday evening, police said.  
The dead was identified as Abdul Karim.  
The injured were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

**Minor girl raped in Ctg ward commissioner's office**

CHITTAGONG, Mar 18: A minor girl was allegedly raped by one Jahangir in a room of Enayetbazar ward commissioner's office here today, reports BSS.  
According to Kotwali police and local people, Jahangir, a peon of the ward commissioner, took nine-year-old Papiya Chakravorty to his room in the name of getting his clothes washed by her.  
As soon as Papiya, a poor girl, entered the room of Jahangir, she was violated by Jahangir.  
On hearing the scream of the victim, local people rushed to the spot, rescued her and nabbed Jahangir.  
Jahangir was taken to police custody, along with Papiya, police said, adding that a case was filed with Kotwali police in this connection.

**Kibria**

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possible areas of bilateral trade between the two countries, which figured only 12 million US dollars in 1996-97 fiscal year.  
At the end of the JEC meet on Tuesday, the two countries signed an agreed minutes to promote bilateral economic co-operation.  
The possibilities of joint ventures have also been explored. Agreements have been signed for two joint venture banks — Nabil Bank and Nepal-Bangladesh Bank — and one insurance, both in the private sector.  
The JEC meeting decided to hold its next meeting in Dhaka in 1999.  
Boulders and stones, which are now being imported from India for Bangabandhu bridge, can also be imported from Nepal without any delay, Kibria said.  
Nepal wants duty free trade which they enjoy with India. Since Bangladesh-India trade is not duty free, Bangladesh is not in a position to extend such concession to Nepal, he added.  
Nepal expressed its deep interest in importing natural gas from Bangladesh. "But we haven't given any commitment," he said.  
The Ganges water issue also come up for discussion. But, he said, the responsibility of ensuring the flow in the Ganges lies with India following the signing of the water accord with Bangladesh.  
For augmenting the flow of the Ganges, Nepal can develop storage of water in its part of the Ganges. But Nepal is to assess its own benefit, he added.

**No alternative to agri development: President**

President Shahabuddin Ahmed Tuesday distributed the "Bangabandhu Award-1403" among 28 people, most are farmers, for their contributions to the development of agriculture, fisheries and livestock, reports UNB.  
Of the recipients, two farmers got gold medals, nine received silver and 17 bronze. The President distributed the awards at a ceremony at Osmany Memorial Auditorium.  
The award recipients are: Gold medal—Md Ebadul Huq and Abdul Majid Munshi; Silver medal—Anil Chandra Tangchong, Mosamat Hachena Begum, Abdul Kader, Abul Kalam, Enayetur Rahman (Kabyl), Shahjahan Ali (Badsha), Kamruzzaman Khilji, Munshi Zahed Alam and Abdur Rashid. Bronze medal—M H S Suhrawardy, Ansar Ali, Ekramul Huq, Mohammad Ali, Abdur Rashid, Abdul Karim, Abul Kashem, Humayun Kabir, Harun-ur-Rashid, Jahangir Alam, Majid Mollah, Shahana Ferdous, Rowshan Ara Haider, Subhas Chandra Mallik, Enamul Huq, Hamidur Rahman and Afaz Uddin.  
He said the change in the agri-policy is inevitable to give a boost through proper utilization of limited resources and creating employment opportunity in the agriculture sector.  
President Shahabuddin Ahmed said both the government and the private sector had a complementary role in maintaining agri-production stable in the country.  
The award recipients are: Gold medal—Md Ebadul Huq and Abdul Majid Munshi; Silver medal—Anil Chandra Tangchong, Mosamat Hachena Begum, Abdul Kader, Abul Kalam, Enayetur Rahman (Kabyl), Shahjahan Ali (Badsha), Kamruzzaman Khilji, Munshi Zahed Alam and Abdur Rashid. Bronze medal—M H S Suhrawardy, Ansar Ali, Ekramul Huq, Mohammad Ali, Abdur Rashid, Abdul Karim, Abul Kashem, Humayun Kabir, Harun-ur-Rashid, Jahangir Alam, Majid Mollah, Shahana Ferdous, Rowshan Ara Haider, Subhas Chandra Mallik, Enamul Huq, Hamidur Rahman and Afaz Uddin.

**Talks with Unocal**

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cleared but progress is slow because of some legal complexities and its disagreement with the Petrobangla over a Gas Purchase Sales Agreement (GPSA) and with the BPDB over a fuel supply agreement.  
Unocal signed a PSC with the government in the middle of last year for development of the Shahbazpur Gas Field, setting up a pipeline from Bhoila to Kushtia and building power plants having 360 MW generation capacity.  
Petrobangla has been disagreeing over the proposed WRIP agreement because, according to its calculation, the "costly" WRIP will hurt Bangladesh's interest. Petrobangla experts said that the country will lose 2 to 3 billion US dollars in 35 years if the deal is signed.

**Tk 20 lakh worth of gold chains seized at ZIA**

From Staff Correspondent  
Customs personnel at Zia International Airport seized gold chains worth about Tk 20 lakh from three passengers of a domestic flight of Bangladesh Biman Tuesday afternoon.  
According to airport sources, three passengers of the BG-046 flight from Dubai via Chittagong, that landed at ZIA at about 1:30 pm, were carrying the gold chains in the pockets of their trousers. These were concealed in paper packets.  
A passenger from Dubai handed over the chains to the three young men, who boarded the plane at Chittagong, the sources added.  
But the passenger concerned could not be identified immediately.

**BJP**

From Page 1  
He said the new government would take steps for the economic and educational development of the minorities.  
Vajpayee said his government would appoint a commission to review the Indian Constitution in the light of the experience of the past 50 years and to make suitable recommendations.  
He will set up a national judicial commission which will recommend judicial appointments in high courts and supreme courts and draw up a code of ethics for the judiciary," he added.  
Vajpayee said the new government would enact the Lok Pal Bill with adequate powers to deal with corruption charges against anyone, including the prime minister.

**Naziur made JP Secy Gen**

Chairman of the Jatiya Party H M Ershad yesterday nominated president member and additional secretary general Naziur Rahman Manjur as the secretary general of the party, reports BSS.  
The nomination was made under the sub-section 2 of section 20 of the party constitution with effect from yesterday morning, said a JP press release.

**BCL leader killed in Comilla**

COMILLA, Mar 18: A local Chhatra League leader was killed allegedly by his friends at Doulatpur near the town on Monday night.  
The body of Jalal Uddin Chowdhury, 24, nephew of Afzal Khan, district Awami League general secretary, was recovered from a pond on Tuesday.  
Police arrested two BCL workers, Ehsan Mahmud and Golam Samdani, on Tuesday night after a case was filed against them with Kotwali thana by Jalal's brother Kamal Chowdhury.  
Kamal alleged that Jalal was called out of their house and killed at Doulatpur by his close friends Mahmud and Samdani.  
Police said Jalal had 12 cases filed against him. He was wanted in the Kalu murder case of February 10 and an award of Tk 5,000 was declared for helping the police to nab Jalal.  
District Awami League held a rally and submitted a memorandum to the DC protesting the killing of Jalal.

**Rumour of women trafficking**

**Slum dwellers storm garments buying house**

By Staff Correspondent  
At least five persons including a policeman were injured when more than one hundred slum dwellers attacked a garments buying house at Banani in the city yesterday, alleging that it was involved in women and child trafficking.  
The slum dwellers demonstrated in front of Macev Bangladesh on Road No. 2A throughout the day, pelted stones and at one stage stormed it, creating panic in the posh residential area.  
Police later arrested the owner of "Macev Bangladesh", Mahfuz Chowdhury, on charges of alleged sexual abuse and torture of female workers of the factory.  
Police said Mahfuz was arrested after five female workers of his factory brought the allegations to the Cantonment thana against him.  
The incident ensued after four minor girls who were workers of a garments finishing unit located in the same building escaped early yesterday.  
Talking to this correspondent, some female workers including their supervisor said all of them came from different places in Bogra. The supervisor said they have been working in 786 Garments Ltd in Bogra and in its finishing unit in Dhaka for quite some time. They did not have any such problem in working with their employer, she said.  
The four girls were under Gulshan thana custody till last night. Police were yet to file any case in this regard. A senior police official said they will produce the girls in the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court today.

**Suspected rapist**

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room, the sources said.  
Maria was now improving at the CMH in the city.  
"We are convinced after a primary investigation that the arrested man raped the minor girl," said a senior CID official last night. Maria's description of the rapist matched with Obayedul's appearance, he added.  
Obayedul, whose wife resided at Narayanpur, was once caught red handed by local people earlier when he allegedly tried to sexually harass a young girl in the same court area, CID sources said.  
Our court correspondent adds: Obayedul was produced before Metropolitan Magistrate Shawkat Nabi yesterday. CID prayed for seven days' remand to further interrogate him. The court, however, granted a three-day remand.  
Additional CMM Habibur Rahman, who is heading a magisterial probe into the incident, interrogated Obayedul in the court.  
Obayedul was absconding since the incident of rape.  
CID sources said he had lured Maria offering her money and took her to the toilet in the police control room.

**BNP**

From Page 1  
creasing support to BNP."  
Turning to law and order, she said the situation is getting worse with every passing day.  
The government is giving shelter to the offenders and police in many cases are being forced to refrain from nabbing the culprits, Begum Zia alleged.  
Those present on the occasion included M Morsheed Khan MP, Salahuddin Kader Chowdhury MP, Jafrul Islam Chowdhury MP, Shahjahan Chowdhury MP, Mirza Abbas and Sadek Hossain Khoka MP.

**Legal process delays**

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from July 2 till August 13, 1997. This was subsequently extended till March 8, 1998. Meanwhile, about two and a half years have passed since the notice was served by the BB.  
Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury of UCBL who got notice on August 23, 1995, also filed civil petition before the Appellate Division which allowed stay order from July 7, 1997 till August 13, 1997. He also had his stay order extended till March 8, 1998. His case is pending for more than two years.  
K Z Mahmood of NCCBL, Habibur Rahman of Pubali Bank, Md Yakub of Pubali Bank, Bazal Ahmed of UCBL, and Abdul Alim of National Bank Ltd (NBL) have all obtained stay orders from the HC and their cases have been pending before the Appellate Division for more than two years and four months.  
Moazzem Hossain of NBL obtained stay order and his case is pending for over two years and three months.  
The case of Abdul Hadi of City Bank has been pending for over two years and eight months.  
M A Hashem of the same

**Bangabandhu's birth anniversary**

From Page 1  
Newspaper and news agency offices remained closed to mark the birthday of the greatest son of the soil.  
Television and Radio put up special programmes while newspapers brought out supplements on the life and contribution of the greatest hero of the Bengali nation.  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina garlanded the portrait of Sheikh Mujib at Bangabandhu Bhaban at Dhanmondi in the morning.  
Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury, ministers, leaders of Awami League and its front organisations, MuktiJoddha Sangsad, MuktiJoddha Sanghati Parishad, Ghatak-Dalal Nirmul Committee and Bangabandhu Parishad placed wreaths at the portrait.  
Besides, thousands of people, including women and school children, placed wreaths at the portrait of the Father of the Nation.  
The main attraction of the day was Tungipara, where Bangabandhu was born on this day in 1920.  
President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visited the remote village and placed wreaths at the mazar of Father of the Nation.  
A milad mahfil and a dis-

**Bangabandhu's birth anniversary**

From Page 1  
gorganised elaborate programmes.  
At Tungipara, President Shahabuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and foreign dignitaries were among the distinguished visitors who came to the ancestral home of Bangabandhu to pay their homage to the great leader.  
The President was the first to place a wreath at the mazar of Father of the Nation at about 10:35 am and stood in solemn silence for a few moments.  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina followed the President and placed a wreath at the mazar.  
As the army bugle played, a smart contingent of three services gave the salute.  
Ministers, MPs, diplomats, chiefs of three services, political leaders, and high military and civil officials were present.  
Some 52 foreign dignitaries were present at this state function, organised by the Cultural Affairs Ministry.  
A huge crowd waited outside the mazar premises to pay their respect to their beloved leader Sheikh Mujib.  
A munajat was offered at the mazar of Bangabandhu seeking divine blessing for him, his parents, the martyrs of liberation war and all democratic movements, and for peace and progress of the country.

**OBITUARY**

Begum Jaynab Nessa, wife of Late Hassanuddin Sinha breathed her last on Monday, March 16, 1998, (Inna lilla he... ). A Kulkhwani will be held today Thursday, March 19, 1998 after Asr prayer at Road No 12/A, House No 69, Dhanmondi and tomorrow Friday, March 20, 1998 at Vill: Dohori, Thana: Lawhajang, Dist: Munshiganj.  
All relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to participate in the Milad Mahfil and pray for the departed soul.  
Sons & Daughters of Late Begum Jaynab Nessa D-118

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