

For Documents Door to Door delivery To 248 Destinations in INDIA

# BLUE DART EXPRESS LIMITED

PLEASE CONTACT Bangladesh Air Express Int'l Ltd.  
For more information call-Dhaka, Tel: 9565114, 9883927, 9130647, 894213, DEPZ 9338931  
Chittagong, Tel: (031) 712127, CEPZ (031) 740108 Khulna, Tel: (041) 725008, N'Ganj, Tel: 9714336

Backed by Guarantee

Let's make things better

## PHILIPS

Official licensee of Philips Electronics N.V. for lighting products, radio and TV sets

Dhaka : 815307-10, 819625-9 Ctg. : 716353, 723578  
Khulna : 720304, Bogra : 6215

Sandwich maker Toaster - 2 Slices



President Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina stand in solemn silence after placing wreaths at the Jatiya Smritisoudha at Savar on the Independence Day. — Star photo

## Independence Day

From Page 1

cultural, political and professional organisations also celebrated the day through elaborate programmes.

National dailies brought out special supplements and Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Betar aired special programmes highlighting the significance of the day.

President Shahabuddin Ahmed and Begum Shahabuddin hosted a reception at Bangabhaban in the afternoon. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Chief Justice ATM Aizal, former presidents Mohammadullah and Justice AFM Ahsanuddin Chowdhury attended the reception.

Ministers, MPs, judges, political leaders, diplomats, vice-chancellors of universities and noted educationists, editors of national dailies and news agencies, chiefs of the three services, senior officials, freedom fighters, senior journalists, senior lawyers, leaders of the business community, and elite of the city also attended the reception.

After offering wreaths at the National Memorial, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina drove to Bangabandhu Bhaban at Dhanmondi and placed wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Later, the Prime Minister also attended a grand children's rally at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. She was received there by Home Minister Rafiqul Islam. Children from different educational institutions and children's organisations presented a parade and attractive displays.

Special diets were offered at jails, orphanages and hospitals. Special prayers were offered in mosques and other places of worship seeking divine blessings for continuous peace and prosperity of the country.

Army, Navy, Air Force, BDR, Police and Ansar-VDP played bands at different points in the city. Ships of Bangladesh Navy remained open for visit by people at Chittagong and Mongla seaports and at BIWTC terminals at Sadarghat, Narayanganj, Barisal and Khulna.

In the city, Bangla Academy, Shishu Academy, Islamic Foundation, National Museum and some other organisations organised separate programmes marking the Independence Day.

The day was also observed in a befitting manner in divisional headquarters and district towns through various programmes organised by the government and socio-cultural organisations, reports reaching here said.

Different political parties including Awami League, BNP and Jatiya Party also organised separate programmes.

Diplomatic missions abroad also observed the day through



BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia placing wreaths at the Jatiya Smritisoudha at Savar on the Independence Day. — Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Our weekly feature 'Down to Earth' could not be published today due to space constraint. Inconvenience to the readers regretted.

### 4 persons of fake manpower recruiting agency held

By Staff Correspondent

Four persons of a fake manpower recruiting agency were arrested from the city's Malibagh area yesterday morning on charge of forgery, police said.

Ramna police arrested Golam Haider, owner of the fake agency, Siddiqur Rahman, its employee and two other persons — Delwar Hossain and Babul Mia — from its so-called office.

They were arrested when some young people who had gathered at the office of the agency to face a viva test complained about its genuineness. About 200 youths had gathered there for the so-called viva. The agency earlier took Tk 200 from each of the candidates, police said.

The candidates became suspicious and angry observing the mismanagement in the process of conducting the viva.

Police then intervened and asked for papers but the agency men failed to produce any document to prove its genuineness, police said.

## Muktijoddha Mela opens Help materialise dreams of FFs: PM

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged all pro-independence forces to join hands to implement the objectives of the 1971 liberation war, reports UNB.

"Let us not forget the dreams of our freedom fighters who laid down their lives to liberate the country," she said inaugurating the Muktijoddha Mela (Fair on Liberation War) on Shishu Academy premises.

The fair, first of its kind in the capital, is designed to let the people know about the true history of the liberation war.

Making a caution against evil designs of anti-liberation elements, Hasina said: "We should also not forget that our enemies are not weak as they were in power for long time. They will be active to destroy the spirit of the liberation war."

"If we are united and work for causes of the general people we will be able to fulfill the dreams of the freedom fighters," she said.

The Prime Minister said: "The people have given us an opportunity to materialise the dreams of freedom fighters and their aspirations. We will have to fulfill that."

Hasina urged all to join the nation-building effort of the present government.

The Prime Minister said: "We will be a successful nation only if we could drive away poverty and hunger from the country." She said her government was working hard to achieve the target.

She hoped that the fair would help the countrymen to know the true history.

Presided over by Professor Kabir Chowdhury, the opening function of the week-long fair was addressed by Air Vice Marshall (ret'd) A K Khondhoker, Shamoly Nasreen Chowdhury, a member of the Mela Ujjapan Committee, read out the declaration of the fair.

### 15 teachers

From Page 1

essary steps to set up the independent institute of Architectural Studies as soon as possible."

They "appreciated" the initiative of the PM in solving the problem.

When contacted over telephone last night, Vice-Chancellor of BUET Prof Iqbal Mahmud, however, expressed his ignorance about the withdrawal of resignation.

### ADP money

From Page 1

for the president, the Prime Minister and the Speaker, they pointed out.

"The Deputy Speaker's status is the same as that of a cabinet minister, so his two-storied residence would be built on an area of 1.7 acres. This is the maximum official land allocation in this category," said a PWD official.

At present the Speaker resides in his own house and while the Deputy Speaker in an official residence in the locality where ministers have their official residences.

The under-construction residences are likely to be completed by December this year.

Some PWD sources referred to the original design of the Sangsad Bhaban complex by renowned architect Louis Kahn in 1963 and claimed that in the original plan, there were provisions for both these structures.

"As per original plan, a presidential palace, ministers' residences and many other components should be built," said one source.

He alleged that 85 acres of Sangsad Bhaban land on the northern side of the International Trade Fair venue was illegally occupied by the Agriculture Institute (AI).

"In 1963, while acquiring land for the Sangsad Bhaban complex, the government had given the institute a massive chunk of land in Gazipur as compensation for this land," he said. But despite several ministerial orders in the past, the institute did not move out.

He said that the institute needed large chunk of arable land for agricultural research

## Prepare for long march towards CHT: Khaleda

NETRAKONA, Mar 27: Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia today renewed her call for all-out preparation for the planned long march towards CHT to save the country's territorial integrity, reports UNB.

The BNP Chairperson accused the government of hatching the CHT to India-backed Shantibahini through a conspiracy.

"The schedule of the long march to Chittagong Hill Tracts will be announced after Eid-ul Azha," she told a big public meeting at the local Moktarpura ground.

The opposition leader said this "worthless government" has also been creating artificial power crisis with the aim to buy power from India.

Begum Zia alleged that the government is conspiring to close down mills and factories by creating crisis of power, water and gas to create a market for Indian goods.

"This government has not set up any new industry, it is rather closing down hundreds of mills and factories."

"During our time, we gave loans of Tk 400 to 500 crore to save the leather sector and let it flourish. But the present government has given only Tk 29 crore," she said.

Begum Zia said Bangladeshi leather is being smuggled to India which is earning huge for-

## BJP faces vote of confidence today

NEW DELHI, Mar 27: India's new parliament was adjourned amid uproar today as opposition parties accused the Hindu nationalist's fragile coalition of offering bribes to try to win an upcoming confidence vote, reports AFP.

See also page 8

Opposition members alleged that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which heads the dozen-party coalition, had tried to bribe minor parties to secure a majority before the Friday-Saturday motion.

When the Speaker intervened a full row blew up, leading to the adjournment.

Vajpayee today sought a vote of confidence in his government in the Lok Sabha as directed by President K R Narayanan and made a strong appeal for consensus to end political instability.

Voting on the motion is slated for tomorrow after two days of discussion.

### Girl raped

From Page 1

sion Act the same day accusing three persons.

Labagh police took the girl under their custody on Thursday but none was arrested in connection with the case till last night.

The girl's statement was recorded before a metropolitan magistrate yesterday. Police are likely to send her for medical test today.

# BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO BANGLADESH

The symbol of change. A new identity. One which reflects not only our heritage and traditional strengths, but also signals our confidence in the future of the company and the industry.

An identity that is respected around the world as the international sign of quality.