Sonia — an acid victim

back home after

treatment abroad

By Staff Correspondent

victim.

### Text of Clinton's address to nation

WASHINGTON, Aug 18: Text of President Clinton's address to the nation, as transcribed by the Federal Document Clearing

Good evening.

This afternoon in this room, from this chair, I testified before the Office of Independent Counsel and the grand jury.

I answered their questions truthfully, including questions about my private life, questions no American citizen would ever want to answer.

Still. I must take complete responsibility for all my actions, both public and private. And that is why.

I am speaking to you tonight. As you know, in a deposition in January, I was asked ques-tions about my relationship with Monica Lewinsky. While my answers were legally accurate. I did not volunteer infor-

mation. Indeed, I did have a relationship with Ms Lewinsky that was not appropriate. In fact, it was wrong. It constituted a critical lapse in judgement and a personal failure on my part for which I am solely and completely responsible.

But I told the grand jury today and I say to you now that at no time did I ask anyone to lie, to hide or destroy evidence or to take any other unlawful action.

I know that my public comments and my silence about this matter gave a false impression. I misled people, including even my wife. I deeply regret

that. I can only tell you I was motivated by many factors. First, by a desire to protect myself from the embarrassment of my own conduct.

I was also very concerned about protecting my family. The fact that these questions were being asked in a politically inspired lawsuit, which has since been dismissed, was a consideration, too.

From Page 1

the two people I love most — my

God," he added.

wife and our daughter — and our

critics weren't satisfied and

bridled at Clinton's attack on

Starr. Sources said Starr may

try to force the president to give

fuller answers in a second

mittee chairman, Senator Or-

rin Hatch, a Republican, ex-

pressed anger at the president's

you what a jerk. Hatch was

overheard saying Monday night

to his entourage as he left a

dent's expression of regret may

be enough to persuade lawmak-

ers to stop any possible im-

peachment inquiry unless

prosecutors find evidence of ob-

Hillary

From Page 1

role of family adviser, says the

first lady is still committed to

American people 'a false im-

pression'. But acknowledging he

had an inappropriate relation-

ship with a young woman, he

sounded more sorry for the pain

he had caused Hillary and their

me and the two people I love

most: My wife and our daughter

- and our God," Clinton said

Monday in a nationally tele-

"I must put it right and I am

It was clear he had some

The Rev Jesse Jackson,

speaking with reporters in

Chicago on Monday, said he

had met with both Mrs Clinton

Before he left, the three went

upstairs in the White House res-

idence and 'spent a few mo-

ments' with Clinton, who also

had been talking to Jackson

and the shame of it all on the

iation is coming on," Jackson

told reporters. "And yet they are

both mature enough and strong

enough to know that bonding

takes place in adversity, bond-

ing takes place when there are

head winds." When the president was first

accused in January of having

sex with former White House in-

tern Monica Lewinsky, Mrs

Clinton told reporters she didn't

it all as part of a 'vast right-

wing conspiracy' against the

Clinton presidency — a theme

she has pushed during Demo-

cratic fund-raisers as recently

doubtedly made for difficult

times in the Clinton household.

One Clinton confidant who has

seen the president and first lady

together in recent days de-

scribed the atmosphere as

husband went to church hold-

ing hands on Sunday, and Clin-

ton apparently entered the

support from her and Chelsea.

sion exists. But the first lady

remains "dedicated to her mar-

riage" and was an active partic-

ipant in Sunday's strategy ses-

sions with Clinton's lawyers

White House Map Room for his

testimony Monday with solid

Jackson, too, said some ten-

Still, Mrs Clinton and her

But the nature of it all un-

as last week.

and aides.

She combatively dismissed

think the stories were true.

one hand, and Hillary's humil-

"He feels the embarrassment

over the past week.

and Chelsea late into Sunday.

prepared to do whatever it takes

to do so. Nothing is more im-

portant to me personally."

"Now this matter is between

Clinton admitted giving the

Republican Barney Frank, a

Still, Hatch said the presi-

"Wasn't that pathetic? I tell

The Senate Judiciary Com-

grand jury appearance.

attacks on Starr.

television studio.

struction of justice.

her marriage.

daughter, Chelsea.

vised talk.

work to do.

But some congressional

"This matter is between me,

In addition, I had real and serious concerns about an independent counsel investigation that began with private business dealings 20 years ago -. dealings, I might add, about which an independent federal agency found no evidence of any wrongdoing by me or my wife over two years ago.

The independent counsel investigation moved on to my staff and friends, then into my private life. And now the investigation itself is under investigation.

This has gone on too long, cost too much and hurt too many innocent people.

Now, this matter is between me, the two people I love most —
my wife and our daughter — and our God. I must put it right, and I am prepared to do whatever it takes to do so.

Nothing is more important to me personally. But it is private, and I intend to reclaim my family life for my family. It's nobody's business but ours.

Even presidents have private lives. It is time to stop the pursuit of personal destruction and the prying into private lives and get on with our national

Our country has been distracted by this matter for too long, and I take my responsibility for my part in all of this. That is all I can do.

Now it is time — in fact, it is past time — to move on. We have important work to

do — real opportunities to seize. real problems to solve, real security matters to face. And so tonight, I ask you to turn away from the spectacle of

the past seven months, to repair the fabric of our national discourse, and to return our attention to all the challenges and all the promise of the next American century.

man's bus carrying the passengers who came from Dubai by a Thank you for watching. · And good night. — Source AP

Democratic member of the

House Judiciary Committee and

Clinton supporter, said the

president may have done

enough to stave off impeach-

ment. "No matter what he said

before, I cannot believe that

would rise under any definition

to perjury or impeachment," he

ily, meanwhile, were due to

leave this afternoon for a va-

cation at Martha's Vineyard in

and sitting in the same Map

Room where he had testified via

video camera hours earlier,

Clinton said in his TV address

"I told the grand jury today

and I say to you now that at no

time did I ask anyone to lie, to

hide or destroy evidence or to

take any other unlawful ac-

sky that was not appropriate.

In fact, it was wrong. It consti-

tuted a critical lapse in judge-

ment and a personal failure on

my part for which I am solely

White House thinking, speaking

on condition of anonymity,

said lawyers both inside and

outside the White House advis-

ing Clinton worried that Clin-

ton's insistence on his earlier

testimony was "legally accu-

rate" might become "an invita-

tion to Starr and Republicans to

hammer away at every word at

an alleged sexual relationship

with the president in her own

grand jury testimony, and she

has turned over a dress she told

prosecutors may have been

stained from sex with Clinton.

PM: By-polls

From Page 1

The Prime Minister blamed

BNP for trying to protect the

self-proclaimed killers of

Bangabandhu and said Begum

Zia's husband General Ziaur

Rahman rewarded the killers

by giving them jobs in the for-

is calling for movement to save

the killers from trial," Hasina

Urging the countrymen to remain alert against any such conspiracy, the Prime Minister

said: "Begum Zia is out to pro-

tect the killers of Banga-

acy against the government

from the day it had assumed the

power," the Prime Minister

destabilise the situation even

workers to be vigilant against

any conspiracy against Sheikh

Chowdhury's remark to stage

another 15 August and 7

November, Selim said: "They

should know that there is an-

at the Engineers' Institution was addressed by Whip Abdus

Shahid, Advocate Mujibur

Rahman, Dr Mizanur Rahman,

Zahangir Kabir Nanak and

The discussion meeting held

other day called May 31."

Shah Alam, MP.

Referring to Begum Zia and B

Hasina and her government.

by attacking the Speaker."

"BNP was hatching conspir-

"Now, the BNP chairperson

eign missions.

told the meeting.

bandhu."

Ms. Lewinsky has detailed

the deposition to disprove" it.

One source familiar with

and completely responsible."

that he disputed the most seri-

ous charges against him.

tion," the president said.

address.

Massachusetts.

The president and his fam-

Wearing a dark business suit

flight of Bangladesh Biman. The detained suspects were driver of the bus Abdul Halim and a passenger Md. Shahjahan. Police said during inter-Clinton: I misled poeple rogation, no new information could be gathered from them.

thana here, police said.

No other departments were so far engaged to step up investigation, police sources said.

Ctg gold haul

Investigation

moving at a

snail's pace

From Staff Correspondent

investigation into the smuggled

gold haul incident that took

place at the Chittagong airport

on August 4, is moving at a

Consequently, there has

been no headway in detecting

the kingpins linked with the

The two suspects arrested in

connection with the hauling of

1600 tolas of smuggled gold

from Chittagong airport, were

already sent to the custody after

two day's of remand at port

one crore was seized from a Bi-

The gold worth about Taka

snail's pace, sources said.

gold haul incident.

CHITTAGONG, Aug 18: The

#### Landslide kills 178 in India

NEW DELHI, Aug 18: At least 178 people were killed when a landslide wiped out a village today in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, a senior police official said, reports

Police official Udyan Parmar, speaking from the nearby city of Bareilly, said that the, latest toll was received in a radio message sent by a surviving

See also Page 9

wireless operator at the disaster

Earlier reports had placed Seven months ago, in the the toll from the landslide in Paula Jones lawsuit, Clinton the district of Pithoraagarh at denied having sexual relations

with Ms. Lewinsky. "My an-Parmar told AFP by teleswers were legally accurate, phone that the landslide oc-Clinton said in Monday's TV curred in the mountainous district bordering Nepal and China But now he says he "did have at 3:00 am (2130 GMT Monday). a relationship with Ms. Lewin-

According to the official, an entire team of 60 Hindu Pilgrims were among those killed.

#### Over 100 drown in Sierra Leone

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone, Aug 18: More than 100 people who had been kidnapped from their villages by rebels in Sierra Leone drowned with their captors over the weekend when the boat taking them away struck a rock and sank. police said today, reports AP.

Since President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah was restored to power earlier this year by a West African intervention force, members of Sierra Leone's ousted junta and their rebels allies have been killing, maiming and kidnapping thousands of civilians in remote ar-

Efforts by the regional force, known as ECOMOG, have been unsuccessful in wiping out the

The kidnap victims drowned in a river accident about 80 miles (130 kilometres) north of Freetown, police said.

them were assassinated, he

one of the best citizens of the

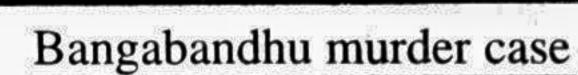
describing him as a great

From Page 1 restaurants she has frequented in recent months.

In fact, family friends would California, was in Washington.

In Los Angeles, the lights were on late Monday inside the like days when Ms Lewinsky is

Labourers brought out a procession in the city yesterday carrying the body of their comrade Yasin who was shot dead by terrorists at Shyampur under Demra thana recently.



### AL leaders were silent about Aug 15 killings out of fear: SPP

"A man may be killed by an army, but his idea and philosophy can't be killed ... thousands of army can't stop even one

This was observed by advocate Serajul Huq, the chief prosecutor in the Bangabandhu Murder Case, while placing his argument before the District and Sessions Judge's Court yesterday, reports UNB.

The prosecutor ridiculed a defence suggestion that none was killed in Bangabandhu's 32 Dhanmondi residence on August 15. "If that was the reality." along with so many people would have been the happiest person," said Serajul Huq, a personal friend of the assassinated President. It sounds like "a man is

-Star photo

see Sonia at the DMCH," said

Akhteri Begum, mother of the

came to see Sonia, he assured to

bear all expenses for her treat-

ment," said M Feroze, her fa-

upto his promise and slipped

out of responsibility by giving

depicted on foreign television

few months later." Akhteri in-

formed this correspondent

adding soon after one Iranian

gentleman in Spain contacted

them through the television

personnel and offered to bear

influential people in the coun-

try could not do this for Sonia"?

wondered the mother. "Even af-

ter assurance from the Home

Minister for Sonia's treatment,

we had to sell property what

from others to bear the cost.

she added.

ever we had and borrow money

"For one year I had been

shuttling between secretariat

and my residence to see the

minister, but failed", he said.

"Officials also commented that

there are hundreds of Sonias in

the country and how many of

them could be taken care of,"

"Why the government or the

the cost of her treatment.

Tk 2000 only, Feroze added.

"When the Home Minister

But the minister did not live

"Sonia's painful story was

killed, but he is not dead," he

Referring to some other sug-

#### Rubel's mother

From Page 1

police officials, besides being a local leader of the ruling party. During the first visit to Sonia, an acid victim, re- ister Rafigul Islam also came to Mukuli Begum's residence, Jahanara asked her to secure the release of Rubel.

> Mukuli Begum informed her that she had requested some police officials to arrest some young men of the locality as the date of election to the managing board of the neighbourhood school was approaching Rubel's mother said. Those arrested would be kept in police custody for two days and there is nothing to be concerned about, Mukuli Begum was quoted as saying by Rubel's mother police said when Jaha-

nara went to Mukuli Begum's residence again she was told that Rubel was arrested in an arms case. Mukuli Begum informed that one Bashar had informed her about the arrest. Mukuli Begum, however, did not take any initiative for Rubel's release, who subsequently died in the police custody, the mother said.

Abu Taher in his statement said that from the balcony of his third floor flat he observed that about six plainclothesmen were assaulting Rubel indiscriminately.

Then a number of local people gathered around the DB team. At one stage of torturing one of the DB men hit Rubel's head on a roadside electricity pole and Ruble screamed in

The DB men pulled away the sister-in-law of Rubel when she came to protect Rubel from

them. Then the DB men dragged Rubel towards their vehicle. Murad, a friend of Rubel's brother Jewel, said in his statement that being informed

that DB men had picked up Rubel, he rushed to the DB of-

Murad was able to meet SI Havatul Islam Thakur, an accused in the murder case. Thakur assured Murad that he would see if he could do anything regarding Rubel's release.

Then Thakur told Murad to wait outside. But Thakur did not tell him where Ruble was kept at that time, Murad said. Besides, the CID yesterday

interrogated two prisoners at the Dhaka Central Jail, identified as Amin and Zaman, who had been in DB custody on July

Meanwhile, an SI of the Detective Branch (DB) who was the duty officer on July 23 at the DB office recorded his statement vesterday before the judicial commission probing into Rubel murder case.

Besides, two lawyers and former home secretary Kazi Azhar Ali also gave their views before the commission yester-

#### BCL factions trade fire at CU

From CU Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Aug 18: Two rival factions of the pro-Awami League Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) traded fire at Chittagong University today.

The sporadic shootout lasted for about an hour and seven to eight gun shots were fired, police said.

The clash erupted after Krishna Gopal Pal, a BCL activist and a second year student of Economics Department, was severely beaten up by some activists of a rival faction. The victim, however, was admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) in a critical condition.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Islami Chhatra Shibir gheraoed the residence of Pro-Vice Chancellor of the university and demanded rehabilitation of their activists who were ousted from Shah Amanat Hall.

#### Release of AC Akram demanded

TANGAIL, Aug 18: Several hundred people brought out a procession here yesterday demanding release of AC Akram, the main accused in Rubel Murder Case, reports UNB.

Tangail is the home district of AC Akram. The processionists marched through the different roads in the town chanting slogans in favour of their demand. They also submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner.

Most of the people came from the village home of AC Akram at Hugra in Sadar thana by engine boats, buses and trucks and gathered in front of -Star photo the town's Bhasani Hall.

gestions of the defence counsel to the prosecution witnesses during the lengthy cross-examination, Huq said, "Cross-examination is not for manipula-

Some of the defence queries and suggestions to the witnesses, the prosecutor said, were meaningless. "Those were empty, Zero + Zero + Zero = Zero. Was it necessary to ask an illiterate witness about number of wheels of a tank?"

tion of errors but to find out the

truth."

Referring to a revelation from the deposition of PW-50 DSP Nurul Islam, the lawyer said. "I have never heard in the Army Act that a man could be killed after he raises his hands

DSP Nurul Islam in his de-

position had said army men in black and khaki uniform coming near the veranda of Bangabandhu's house asked him, Sheikh Kamal and another police man to raise their hands up. All the three obeyed. But Major Bazlul Huda fired at Sheikh Kamal

Referring to the deposition by another prosecution witness who had said there was a dead silence after 10-year-old boy Russel was gunned down by a brute, the prosecutor said, 'Sometimes silence is more eloquent than the sound of a gun. After the death of Russel, all became silent."

Turning to some other defence suggestions. Huq said the counsel tried to establish that the army men returned the fire of Sheikh Kamal and Sheikh Jamal who shot from inside the house. "Even if we concede to this idea, my question is why did they come to that house."

About the suggestion that Awami League leaders like Captain Mansur Ali, Tajuddin Ahmed had accepted the killing and none raised their voice against it, the prosecutor said, "Awami League leaders were silent because there is a word called fear. It is fear that refrained them from raising their voice.

None of them had accepted the killing, Huq contended. "If that was so, why then Mansur Ali, Tajuddin and others were killed inside the jail?"

"It is not correct," said the prosecutor refuting the defence suggestion that the political leaders had accepted the killing

and the change on August 15, 1975. About the change of the government on August 15, the prosecutor said, "A mere change in paper does not make any change in the state. Lord Clive

told Mir Zafar that he would be made the Nawab." He termed as wild and fabu-

lous the defence suggestion that

বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং

কান্ডের নাম

উদ্ধৃত মৃল্য

বায়নার টাকা

গ্রহণের কার্যালয়

ও সময়

all the inmates of the house committed suicide by exploding grenades.

Referring to another defence suggestion that the army came to abduct Sheikh Mujib, the prosecutor pointed to Havilder Quddus Sikder, PW-4, who had told the court that accused Bazlul Huda entered the house and killed Sheikh Kamal. Then climbing upstairs Major Noor and Major Huda gunned down Bangabandhu.

Huq said, "The intention is a matter of mind, but circumstantial evidence spell out the intention. Intention is something large and somebody has to read that. There was no other intention except to kill him (Bangabandhu). They came to kill him and they killed him."

Major Mohiuddin (lancer) along with his troops pushed Bangabandhu towards the stairs, and Major Huda and Major Noor asking them to step aside instantly fired at Bangabandhu, contended the prosecutor pointing to the deposition of the prosecution witness Havilder Quddus. He described the deposition of Quddus as 'natural and spontaneous description of

After killing Bangabandhu, both the officers came out of the house. Then entered Major Aziz Pasha with Havilder Moslemuddin and killed all other inmates of house in the first

All these show that different sets of people were entrusted with different tasks, Serajul Huq said.

Referring to Quddus' deposition, he said Major Aziz Pasha asked one Havilder to take Russel to his mother when the minor boy wanted to go to his mother. "What a heart rending mys-

tery!" said Hug terming Maj Aziz Pasha as the finest killer and a most cruel man. He compared Pasha with Sheemar, the killer of Hazrat Imam Hossain in Karbala. Referring to Farook's com-

ing in front of Bangabandhu's residence on August 15 morning, the prosecutor said he (Farook) came there to ascertain whether the operation was successful.

When Farook asked something, the Major Huda was quoted to have said all were finished. Probably Farook had asked "Kam thik se hua"? (Has the task been carried out rightly). Hug jokingly said in

The chief prosecutor was assisted by Additional PP Qumrul Islam and Adv Mosharraf Hossain Kajal

He will continue his argument when the hearing resumes at 10 am today.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

#### প্রকল্প ব্যবস্থাপক-২, সওজ এর কার্যালয় যমুনা সেতু একসেস রোডস প্রকল্প সড়ক ভবন, রমনা, ঢাকা

### নিলাম আহ্বানের বিজ্ঞপ্তি

চুক্তি নং–৪ এর

২য় নিলাম আহ্বানের বিজ্ঞপ্তি

০১/১৮-১১ইং অর্থ বংসর, প্রকল

ব্যবস্থাপক-২, সওজ, যমুনা সেতৃ একসেস রোডস প্রকল্প, সড়ক ভবন, রমনা, ঢাকা। ১৯৯৮-৯৯ইং অর্থ বৎসরে প্রকল্প ব্যবস্থাপক-

২, সওজ, যমুনা সেতু একসেস রোডস প্রকল্প-এর চুক্তি নং ৪ এর নবীনগর-চান্দ্রা সড়কের সার্ভে রিপোর্ট অনুযায়ী বিভিন্ন জাতের গাছ ও খড়ি নিলামের কাজ এবং মিরপুর

সডকের কটাক নং-৫ এর সার্ভে রিপোর্ট অনুযায়ী বিভিন্ন জাতের গাছ ও খড়ির নিলাম। গ্ৰুপ তালিকান্যায়ী উদ্ধৃত দরের ১০% (শতকরা দশ ভাগ) প্রকল

ব্যবস্থাপক-২, সওজ, যমুনা সেতৃ একসেস রোডস প্রকল্প, ঢাকা-এর অনুকৃলে যে কোন তফসিল ব্যাংক হইতে ভাফট/পে-অর্ডার, ট্রেজারী চালান আকারে জমা দিতে হইবে। অত্র দপ্তরে যে সকল ঠিকাদারের স্থায়ী জামানত আছে তাহাদেরকেও উক্ত দরপত্রের সাথে ১০% (শতকারা দশ ভাগ) টাকা উদ্ধৃত দরের জামানত দিতে হইবে। অন্যথায় দরপত্র বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে।

সড়ক ও জনপথ অধিদপ্তরের তালিকাভুক্ত "এ" ঠিকাদারের যোগ্যতা হইতে "ই" শ্রেণীর ঠিকাদার/প্রকৃত কাঠ ব্যবসায়ী/আগ্রহী ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠান।

লিখিত আদেশের তারিখ হইতে ২৫ (পঁটিশ) উত্তোলনের সময় প্রতি সেট সিডিউলের মূল্য টাকা ১,৫০০/-

যে সকল কার্যালয়ে (এক হাজার পাঁচশত) (অফেরতযোগ্য)। যাহা দরপত্র বিক্রয় করা

নিম্নের দপ্তরগুলি হইতে ক্রয় করা যাইবে। ১। প্রকল্প ব্যবস্থাপক-১/২ এবং ৩, সওজ যমুনা সেতৃ একসেস রোডস প্রকল্প, সড়ক ভবন, রম্না, ঢাকা। ২। বিভাগীয় কমিশনার, ঢাকা। ৩। প্রকল্প ব্যবস্থাপক-৪, সওজ, যমুনা সেতু

একসেস রোড়স প্রকল্প-৪, চট্টথাম। ৪। নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সওজ, প্লানিং বিভাগ, সেতৃ ও নকসা বিভাগ, সড়ক ভবন, রমনা,

নিলাম দরপত ঃ ১। প্রকল পরিচালক (অঃ প্রঃ প্রঃ), সভজ, যমনা সেতৃ একসেস রোডস প্রকল্প, সড়ক ভবন, রমনা, ঢাকা।

२। তত্তাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী, সওজ, মনিটরিং ও ইভ্যালুয়েশন সার্কেল, সড়ক ভবন, রমনা,

৩। বিভাগীয় কমিশনারের কার্যালয়, ঢাকা। ৪। প্রকল্প ব্যবস্থাপক-২, সওজ, যমুনা সেতৃ একসেস রোডস প্রকল্প, সড়ক ভবন, রমনা,

२८.०৮.৯৮ইং (अकिन हनाकानीन न्यारा)। নিলাম তফসিল

বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ১০. নিলাম দরপত্র ঃ ২৫.০৮.৯৮ইং বেলা ১২.৩০ মিনিট পর্যন্ত। গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ

দরপত ঃ ২৭.০৮.৯৮ইং বেলা ১২.৪৫ মিনিট পর্যন্ত। নিলাম খোলার নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময় যদি একাধিক দরদাতা একই দর উদ্ধৃত করেন সে ক্ষেত্রে লটারির মাধ্যমে

সিদ্ধান্ত গৃহীত হইবে। সর্বোচ্চ দরদাতাকে কার্যাদেশ পূর্বের উদ্ধৃত দরের উপর ৩% (শতকরা তিন ভাগ) আয়কর হিসাবে অভিরিক্ত জমা দিতে হইবে।

মোঃ আবদুল মুকতাদির ঠিকাদারের নাম ঠিকানা/নিলাম ডাককারীর প্রকল্প ব্যবস্থাপক-২, সভজ, নাম ঠিকানা এবং সাক্ষর য্মুনা সেতৃ একসেস রোডস প্রকল্প ডিএফপি-১৭৫৪৮-১৬/৮

সড়ক ভবন, রমনা , ঢাকা ब्रि-३४५७

# said, adding "They tried to Juba League president Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim, MP, directed the Juba League

## Tributes paid to Bangabandhu in New Delhi

NEW DELHI. Aug 18: Former Indian president R Venkataraman, former prime minister I K Gujral and a host of leading sociopolitical personalities at a discussion here last evening paid homage to Bangladesh's founding father Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, re-

Dr Kamal Hossain speaking at a convention on 'Oil and gas resources of Bangladesh and

turned home Monday after a

of questions regarding the state

of treatment facilities in the

country for victims like Sonia.

Her mother raised a number

The teen-age girl from Old

A miscreant wanted to sat-

The miscreant did not accept

Dhaka fell victim to acid

throwing in her own house on

isfy his desire by having Sonia

in a wedlock, which however,

the refusal as her legal right.

Rather he preferred to throw

acid on her to burn. She fell

victim to this brutality on

at night on that day carrying a

bottle of acid hidden behind his

back. He threw acid on my face

Sonia said narrating the inci-

to the Mitford Hospital and

later shifted to the Dhaka Med-

ical College Hospital (DMCH),

at the DMCH, for about three

months where the doctors op-

erated upon my both eye lids

and did grafting on my face."

the incident and the Home Min-

Immediately, she was rushed

"I remained under treatment

"Many newspapers covered

and damaged my both eyes,"

The man came to our house

March 8 last year.

March 8 last year.

was refused.

Sonia said

she added.

five-month treatment abroad

national interest' held at the National Press Club yesterday.

ports BSS. "Political assassination is a major threat to democracy and the threat is growing. There is a need to put a stop to this trend," the former Indian president R Venkataraman said while paying tributes to Bangabandhu at the meeting organised by the "Freedom Movement Memorial Committee Friends of Bangladesh" in cooperation with the Bangladesh High

Commission on the occasion of his 23rd death anniversary. Held at the 'Secular House' the meeting was addressed, among others, by former Indian minister Vasant Sathe and Edvardo Faelerio former ambassador SK Singh and JN Dixit Secretary of CPI Atul Kumar Anjan, Bangladesh High Commissioner to India CM Shafi Sami, president of Freedom Movement Memorial Committee Shashi Bhushan, and presi-

dent of Friends of Bengal Daljit Sen Adel. Venkataraman said there were a few people in the world called Father of the Nation. Describing Bangabandhu and Mahatma Gandhi as great leaders

he said both of these greatmen had many things in common. Both Sheikh Mujib and Mahatma Gandhi were born in middle class families and both of them went through trial and

tribulation. Both the leaders had faced conspiracy cases and both of He said Sheikh Mujib was

Former Indian prime minister I K Gujral in his brief speech, paid tributes to Bangabandhu

He recalled the liberation war of Bangladesh and said the friendship between Bangladesh and India had been established on the spilling of blood of the two peoples.

### Where's she?

There was no sign Monday of Ms Lewinsky outside her apartment at the Watergate complex. She was not seen outside the office of her lawyers. And there were no reports of her eating at any of the downtown

not even confirm if the former White House intern, a native of

Brentwood neighbourhood home of Ms Lewinsky's father, Dr Bernard Lewinsky. But unknown to be in town, no reporters were camped out at the

When Ms Lewinsky testified before the grand jury, Clinton was in plain view, attending a crime event in the Rose Garden at the White House.