



# The Daily Star



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## Road accident Death of DU student sparks violence

By DU Correspondent.  
An MBA student of Dhaka University and another person were killed when their autorickshaw and a minibus collided head-on on the campus yesterday morning.  
Agitated students went on a rampage and damaged at least ten vehicles in Shahbag and Curzon Hall areas following the incident.  
The student, Saiful Azam Riyad, 23, was the son of Hafez Mohammad Amanullah of Demra in the city.  
The other victim was the driver of the autorickshaw, Mohammad Alamgir, 42, a resident of Keraniganj, police See Page 12 Col 1

## Rape incident IGP has denied receiving letter, Nasim informs British HC

Home Minister Mohammad Nasim yesterday said he will write to BBC head office asking them to take action against the men in Dhaka responsible for broadcasting an "imaginary and baseless news" about violation of a British woman by police, reports UNB.  
The home minister had a discussion with British High Commissioner in Dhaka, David C Walker, who informed Nasim that he did not know the name of the rape victim, place of occurrence and the time.  
The High Commissioner told the minister that he had written a letter to the Inspector General of Police in December last upon an official information from London about a rape inci- See Page 12 Col 6

## AB Bank clarifies

By Staff Correspondent.  
The Managing Director of Arab Bangladesh (AB) Bank yesterday clarified that the Bangladesh Bank's notices on the Chairman of AB Bank, Morshed Khan, and three other directors for their removal from directorship were not served for any loan from the bank. See Page 12 Col 1

## Inside Today Article

### Crisis in Kosovo

Column: The Horizon  
This Week  
by Arshad-uz Zaman  
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## Prayer Timings

March 25		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-30	5-35
Zohr	12-45	1-20
Asr	4-30	4-35
Maghrib	6-20	6-23
Esha	7-30	7-35

Source: Islamic Foundation

# NATO hits military targets in Yugoslavia

BELGRADE, Mar 24: US B-52 bombers took off from their base in Britain today, and air raid sirens sounded in Kosovo's capital after NATO gave the go-ahead for allied airstrikes on Yugoslavia, reports AP.  
Eight B-52 bombers armed with 20 cruise missiles each for possible attacks on Serb air defenses flew out of their base in Gloucestershire, England, this morning, the British news agency Press Association reported.  
It wasn't immediately

known where the aircraft were headed but flying time for the aircraft is about four hours to the Kosovo region, where a year-long war between Yugoslav forces and ethnic Albanian rebels has left more than 2,000 people dead and some 400,000 homeless.  
The refusal of Yugoslav leader Slobodan Milosevic to sign onto a peace plan agreed to in Paris last week by the ethnic Albanians, despite repeated pleas from the West and threats of NATO airstrikes, prompted

NATO officials late Tuesday to order allied military action.  
Any attack, officials said, would likely come after dark.  
The military action against Yugoslavia will mark the first time in its 50-year history that NATO, a defensive alliance of 19 nations, has gone to war against a sovereign country.  
"Our objective is to prevent more human suffering and more repression and violence against the civilian population of Kosovo," NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana said.

BRUSSELS, Mar 24: NATO secretary-general Javier Solana said in a written statement today that NATO had begun air strikes against military targets in Yugoslavia, reports Reuters.  
Yugoslavia warned its citizens of impending airstrikes today, shutting down the independent Belgrade radio station B-92 and declaring a state of emergency — its first since See Page 12 Col 8

# Donors won't pledge aid this year

Donors will not make any pledge this year at the Paris Aid Consortium meeting, now known as Bangladesh Development Forum.  
"Beginning this year, there will be no pledging of aid in the Development Forum meeting," World Bank Country Director Frederick T Temple told UNB yesterday.  
However, he said that discontinuation of aid pledging "is not in any way to indicate dissatisfaction with the country's economic performance."  
Elaborating a new format of the consortium meeting to be held on April 19-20, Temple said the format would differ from the previous Paris meetings in order to promote more dialogue between the government and the donor participants.  
He also said that the political situation of Bangladesh would not in any way influence the Paris meeting.  
"It has been decided by the donors that political situation

has nothing to do with the meeting although it might have influence on the donors when they pledge," said the World Bank official.  
"Performance of the country will be the main issue of discussion of the meeting. The donors will understandably discuss their perceptions of Bangladesh's performance which could influence future assistance to the country."  
Replying to a question on possible issues to be raised by the donors at the meeting, Temple said: "The pace of reform and the implementation of commitments made by the government."  
He said: "The donors have presented the Finance Minister with a list of high priority actions, which has been on the government's reform agenda for some time."  
The government has been requested to inform the donor community about the prospective timetable for implementation. See page 11

# Country heading for worst power crisis

The country is likely to face its worst ever power crisis this summer due to generation problem caused by frequent mechanical troubles in power plants, reports UNB.  
A high-level meeting yesterday with state minister for energy and mineral resources Rafiqul Islam in the chair expressed the fear. It reviewed the deteriorating power situation in the country.  
According to meeting sources, the generation situation might deteriorate further with some bigger plants at risk of shutdown.  
The meeting felt that to face the crisis, the Power Development Board (PDB) would need Tk 500 crore immediately to repair and rehabilitate some of the units that may collapse any time.  
The units at risk of collapse include three at Ashuganj, each with a generating capacity of 150 MW, sources said.  
These units need major overhauling as they were not overhauled since their installation in 1986.  
Seventeen power units with total capacity of 1021 MW had to be closed down due to mechanical faults. Many other old units are not producing at their expected level of generation, the sources said.

The meeting expressed deep concern at the prevailing generation situation and underscored the need for setting up new plants and rehabilitating the old ones, they added.  
PDB officials at the meeting, however, were of the view that the government should go for new plants instead of concentrating on rehabilitating the old units.  
A number of the country's power plants have crossed their economic life long before but have been kept in operation through rehabilitation. These are the plants that are producing much less than their capacity.  
Meanwhile, loadshedding by the PDB has gone up more than 1000 MW across the country. The capital alone is facing more than 500 MW loadshedding.  
The loadshedding has gone up sharply as two units at Ghorashal Power Station with a capacity of 210 MW each tripped suddenly on Tuesday. One of the units, however, was brought back to operation yesterday.  
The newly-installed sixth unit of the Ghorashal power station is also facing mechanical problems, leading to frequent tripping.  
A 210 MW capacity unit at Raozan has remained shut due See Page 12 Col 7

# Tajuddin is being honoured but ...

Star Report

For the man who led from the front in the nation's final battle for freedom, national awards of any kind are mere formalities.  
But history has a lot more to tell when it comes to treating our heroes.  
Twenty-seven years had gone by until the man who was at the helm of affairs during those turbulent days of the glorious War of Liberation as Prime Minister in exile had been posthumously honoured with an Independence Day award.  
The award to be delivered tomorrow reminds us of many old pieces of bitter, unpalatable truth — some of which remained buried under the carpet.  
In less than three years of his being at the height of everything, things turned terribly sour for Tajuddin Ahmed, the first prime minister of Bangladesh and later finance minister as Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman took the reins of the government as prime minister.  
"In the greater national interest," so it was said, the man was literally ordered to quit the Cabinet of Bangabandhu. That was October 26, 1974.  
"Dear Tajuddin Ahmed, In the greater national interest, I do not think you should continue as a minister. I therefore ask you to tender your resignation from the Cabinet. Attached herewith is a letter of resignation for your signature. Sincerely,  
(Signed) dated 26.10.1974  
Time: 11:00am  
(Sheikh Mujibur Rahman)"  
(Translation by The Daily Star)  
In exactly one hour and 22 minutes, the signature slot on the prescribed resignation letter was filled in.  
"Honourable Prime Minister, As per the Article 58(1)(Ka) of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, I shall be obliged if this resignation letter is submitted before the Honourable President.  
Yours faithfully,  
Tajuddin Ahmed  
(Signed) dated 26.10.1974  
Time: 12:22pm (Translation by The Daily Star)  
History is full of ironies! A quarter of a century later,



Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman



Tajuddin Ahmed

he is being eulogised and rehabilitated as one of the national heroes alongside the person who had shown him the door "in the greater national interest".  
True, national interests have changed in a changed national and international order. But how far have they? Yes, that far that the services of the same person, not deemed fit to continue as a minister for reasons of that nature, are being recog-

nised by a government that draws all its strength from the late leader who fired Tajuddin Ahmed.  
The stories of that time are mostly known.  
The dismissal of the minister, then in charge of finance, forest, fisheries and livestock ministries, came in the wake of deep discords over how to go about with the issues at stake for the new nation.  
See Page 12 Col 1



প্রধানমন্ত্রী  
শ্রদ্ধা,  
১৫ই অক্টোবর, ১৯৭৪

শ্রী তাজউদ্দিন আহমেদ  
তুহফার কার্ডে দুইটি স্বাক্ষর করা পত্র পরিচিতি করা হয়েছিল।  
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২৬/১০/৭৪  
১২:২২ পি  
(স্বাক্ষর: তাজউদ্দিন আহমেদ)

স্বাক্ষর: তাজউদ্দিন আহমেদ,  
মন্ত্রী,  
১৫ই অক্টোবর, ১৯৭৪

# Hosts laid to rest Last tie with Zimbabwe today

By Al-Amin  
Once again Kenya showed who are the better, crushing over-rated Bangladesh at their own den yesterday.  
The humbled hosts were thrown out of the Meril International one-day tournament in the most humiliating fashion when Kenya handed them a 73-run defeat at the Bangabandhu National Stadium last night.  
With the comfortable victory, their second against Bangladesh in this two-tier tri-  
nation meet, Kenya set up a final clash against Zimbabwe, billed for March 27 at the same venue. On the other hand, Bangladesh will take the field today against Zimbabwe in the last league match of the tourney.  
But, their track record suggests Bangladesh can expect only to be battered in the day-night affair, which holds only an academic interest. Favourites Zimbabwe have al- See page 11



Man of the Match  
Kennedy Otieno  
of Kenya

# BCL activist shot dead in Chittagong

From Staff Correspondent  
CHITTAGONG, Mar 24: An activist of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) was shot dead and three others including the ex-general secretary of students union of Chittagong City College received bullet wounds in two separate incidents of violence in the city today, police said.  
The injured were admitted into Chittagong medical college hospital and among them the condition of ex-general secretary of city college Aminul Islam Swapon was stated to be critical.  
Md Feroz, 22, joint secretary of BCL Pahartoli Unit, was See page 11

# Newspapers to remain closed on Independence Day: BSP

All newspapers will remain closed tomorrow (March 26) on the occasion of National and Independence Day, a Bangladesh Sangbadpatri Parishad (BSP) press release said yesterday, reports BSS.  
A BSP meeting held here yesterday also decided that the Parishad will take a unanimous decision on newspaper holidays after Eid-ul-Azha following discussion with all concerned. See Page 12 Col 7

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