



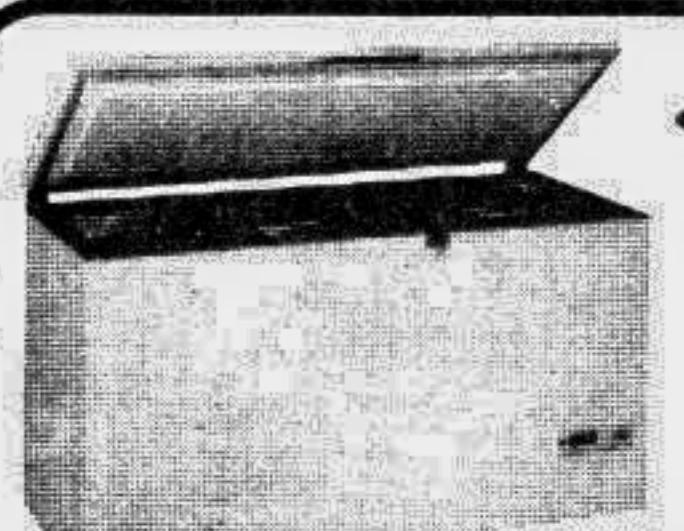
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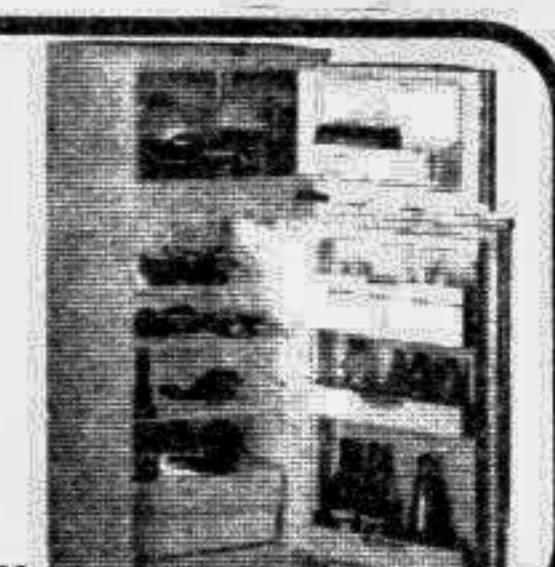
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## Road accidents kill 7 in N'ganj, Sherpur

By Staff Correspondent

At least seven people were killed and 40 others injured in separate road accident in Narayanganj and Sherpur yesterday.

Of them, three were killed in Narayanganj and four in Sherpur.

Our Narayanganj correspondent reports : Three people were killed and 15 others injured, two of them seriously, in a road accident on Dhaka-Chittagong highway at Dewanbagh in front of 'Cute pally' under Bandar thana at about 3:30 pm yesterday.

The accident occurred when a Noakhali bound passenger bus from Dhaka collided with a private car coming from the opposite direction.

All died on the spot. Of the dead, two were identified as : Sohel, 27, of Panchabati under Fatullah and Mizan, 35, of Masimpur under Luximpur thana. The 25-year-old woman in the private car could not be identified immediately.

Two of the injured were rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where attending doctors stated their condition to be critical. Others were released after first-aid.

Police seized the bus. The driver, however, managed to flee.

The bodies were sent to Narayanganj general hospital morgue for autopsy.

A case was registered with bandar thana in this connection.

UNB adds: At least four people were killed and 25 others injured in a road accident at Jhenigati thana on the Sherpur-Jhenigati road in Sherpur yesterday.

Three of the deceased were identified as Shafi, 15, Abul Kalam, 45 and Lutfar Rahman, 26. Two died on the spot while a 12-year-old unidentified boy succumbed to his injuries on way to hospital.

All the victims were enroute to Sherpur from Jhenigati by bus to watch BNP's long-march led by Khaleda Zia.

Police said the accident took place at about 2:45 pm when the goods-laden truck hit the passenger bus at Koari. The bus fell into a roadside ditch.

Of the injured, four were admitted to Sadar Hospital while two others admitted to Jhenigati thana Health Complex.

Drivers and helpers of both the vehicles managed to flee the scene.

Mannan Bhuiyan indisposed

BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan fell sick and drove back to the capital from the ongoing road march yesterday evening, reports UNB.

He is suffering from viral fever, party sources said.

They said the party secretary general returned with permission of the party chairperson, Begum Khaleda Zia, who is leading the three-day political campaign against the government.

President

From Page 1

The President said the principal objective of learning was to acquire knowledge and build up a strong character. He said if a student graduating from a university is devoid of these qualities, then the whole objectivity of education becomes meaningless.

He said the education sector of the country was being given the highest allocation in the national budget. But, he said, bulk of the budget allocation was being spent for constructing buildings, procuring educational inputs and paying salary to the teachers. As a result, he observed, the primary objective of such allocation to produce educated workforce with strong character was not being attained.

According to a delayed report, the clash between Patuakhali and Bholia groups took place after an inmate, accused in a murder case, locked in an altercation with his rivals.

Later, the jail authorities brought the situation under control with the help of jail wardens.

Four of the injured — Alam, Tazel, Faruque and Altaf Muhuri — were admitted to the jail hospital.

10 injured as prisoners clash at Patuakhali jail

PATUAHALI, July 26: At least 10 prisoners were injured, four seriously, in a clash between two groups of prisoners at the district jail on Friday, reports UNB.

According to a delayed report, the clash between Patuakhali and Bholia groups took place after an inmate, accused in a murder case, locked in an altercation with his rivals.

Later, the jail authorities brought the situation under control with the help of jail wardens.

Four of the injured — Alam, Tazel, Faruque and Altaf Muhuri — were admitted to the jail hospital.

Boiler explosion kills 4 in Bogra

BOGRA, July 26: Four people, including three children were killed and another was injured in a boiler explosion of a rice mill at Dhar Mokam in Sherpur thana of the district, police sources said today, reports BSS.

Police identified the dead as Sabuj 3, Saiful 45, Shahadat 3 and Razina 7.

They said the Boiler of khan rice mill exploded at about 5 PM on Sunday leaving Saifur, a worker of the mill dead on the spot and injuring the four others.

Injured Rezina, Sabuj and Shahadat were rushed to Mohammad Ali Hospital where they succumbed to their injuries.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her entourage march in the funeral procession of the late King Hassan at Rabat on Sunday. —PID photo

### Bangladeshi gets Magsaysay award

MANILA, July 26: The Ramon Magsaysay Awards, Asia's version of the Nobel prizes, were Monday shared between leading Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Taiwanese and Philippine figures, reports AFP.

Angela Gomes, who heads Bangladesh's women's organization, Banchte Shekha, won the prize for community leadership while Cloud Gate Theater of Taiwan founder Lin Hwamin bagged the prize for journalism, literature and creative communication arts.

The award for government service went to Tasneem Ahmed Siddiqui, head of Pakistan's Sindhi Katchi Abadi Authority, while Rosa Rosal of the Philippine National Red Cross won the prize for public service.

Filipino publisher Raul Locsin, who runs Manila's BusinessWorld economic daily, shares the award with Lin.

The Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation said no award was being given this year for international understanding, although no reason was given.

### One shot dead in Pirojpur

PIROJPUR, July 26: A middle-aged man, defeated in the last UP chairman election, was killed by rivals in Bhandaria this morning, reports UNB.

The police said Salam and Babul along with their supporters attacked Abu Talukder of Gouripuri Union when he was returning home from nearby Poik Khali Bazar after having breakfast at about 6:30 am.

Without elaboration, Siddiqui said he will speak "everything to the press at the Jatiya Press Club in the first week of August."

Injured Rezina, Sabuj and Shahadat were rushed to Mohammad Ali Hospital where they succumbed to their injuries.

## Unocal takes over

From Page 1  
Magurcharia gas explosion, the company chief said he had already met the Environment Secretary on the issue. "I told we want to arrive at a solution accurately and rationally."

Terming the Tk 603 crore environmental loss claim scientifically baseless, the Unocal chief said the occidental had done a study and the Department of Environment should do a second one.

"If there is a significant difference, we have agreed to accept a third party to settle it."

Replies to a question whether the Unocal has any differences with the Petrobangla on takeover of the Occidental in Bangladesh, Terry Budden said there are times when friends disagree.

"We have some problems now, but we are resolving those. It's like marriage. Learning from living together, learn to cooperate and make the relationship stronger," he told newsmen.

The Bangladeshi assets involved in the transaction include two production-sharing contracts covering Blocks 12, 13 and 14 (3.4 million acres) in northeastern Bangladesh in which Unocal already held 50 per cent working interests.

The Jalalabad Gas Field, located in Block 13, currently produces 60 to 100 million cubic feet of gas and 1,000 to 1,600 barrels of condensate per day from four wells and an associated gas plant.

Initial gas deliveries to Bangladesh's national energy company, Petrobangla, for domestic use began in February 1999. The field contains an estimated 1.6 trillion cubic feet of gas-in-place.

The three producing fields in the contract area are Kharir, Atuf Northwest and Wadi Taribah. Current gross production from the fields is approximately 15,000 barrels of oil per day.

Replies to a query as to whether Unocal favoured gas export, Terry Budden said it was not the question of export. "The question is a commercial market... an economic market."

He said Unocal is in Bangladesh as a contractor company of the Petrobangla. It is not the duty of Unocal to find a market to sell gas as Petrobangla is the buyer.

He told the reporters that they had never pursued Bangladesh to export gas.

Regarding the future of Bangladeshi officials and employees of Occidental, he assured none would lose job.

But there will be some changes at management and expert levels. Some have already been changed, he informed.

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