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House # 53 (New) Rd. # 3A (New) Dhanmondi R.A., Dhaka Tel # 863896

conference is to strengthen eco-

nomic relations between the

two countries and convince U.S.

entrepreneurs to invest more

here," said Abdul Awal Mintoo,

United States - Bangladesh

Business Council and the Amer-

ican Chamber of Commerce in

and businessmen and their

Bangladeshi counterparts are

expected to attend, sources said.

States' secretary of Commerce,

S.A.M.S. Kibria, minister of

Finance, Tofail Ahmed, minis-

ter of Industry, and Abdul Jalil

minister of Commerce, are ex-

pected to address the confer-

Organisers said they could

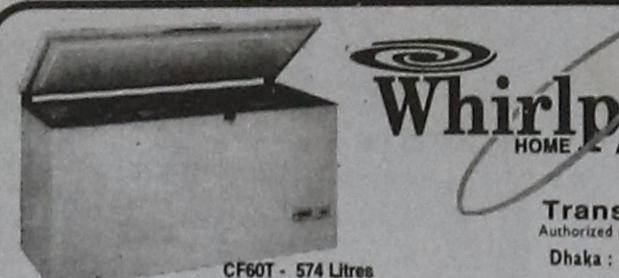
not confirm whether United

U.S. officials, congressmen

William Deley, the United

Bangladesh.

House #96, Section #10 Senpara Parbata Mirpur, Dhaka Tel # 9010493



& Freezer

Instalment facility available

Mina for Arafat Maidan today

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, now in Saudi Arabia, will leave Mina for Arafat today by road to perform holy Hajj.

on Monday night. She reached Mina from Makkah yesterday morning to make a night halt

Over 20 lakh Muslims are performing Hajj this year and staying at the historic Arafat Maidan. Bangladesh Television will telecast live the holy Hajj

She will leave Arafat for Muzdalefa by road and stay overnight. Early in the morning on Thursday, she will leave Muzdalefa for Mina for stone

fer 'qurbani (sacrifice)' and Towaf-el-Ifadah at Mina the same day (Thursday) and stay there at night.

Javed declared CCCI acting president

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Mar 14: Chitfresh trouble today when its senior vice president Saifuzzaclared acting president, sources

Javed is the son of former AL

It was decided at a meeting of the board of directors of the CCCI at chamber office this afternoon, Chittagong Chamber

24 directors were present in the

his post.

"We are majority in the

When asked about the court June, Salimullah said copy of the order was yet to reach the

Javed was made acting presichamber, he said.

When contacted, Kamal Uddin Ahmed said he is still president of CCCI. Javed was made acting president illegally, he

Replying to a question, he meeting. Javed backed by some

natures of some directors were forcibly taken to bring no-confidence against him by Javed group. Salimullah denied the

Bangladesh born envoy to accompany Clinton

By Staff Correspondent President Bill Clinton's en tourage will include a Bangladesh born US ambas-

Bangladesh born US citizen Osman Siddiqui will be accompanying Clinton to Bangladesh and during his entire South Asia tour.

Osman Siddiqui was appointed US ambassador to Fiji by Clinton last year. His appointment was immediately

confirmed by the US Congress. Siddiqui is a first generation immigrant who went in the US in 1974. He is the first South Asian and the first Muslim to be appointed ambassador of the United States.

Kashmir militant leader shot dad

SRINAGAR, Mar 14: Indian security forces shot dead six militants, including a top separatist commander, in two separate encounters in Indian administered Kashmir, police said here today, reports AFP.

A police spokesman said Abdul Hamid Gadda and two fellow separatists were killed late Monday in a shootout with members of the counter-insurgency Special Operations Group (SOG) near Gandherbal town, 35 kilometers north of the Kash-

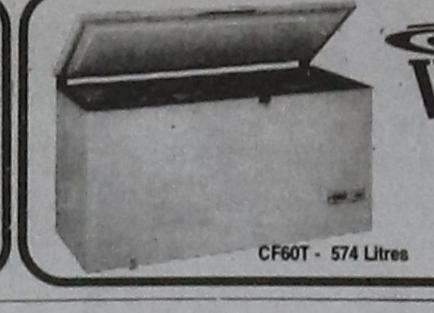
mir summer capital Srinagar. Hamid was a top ranking commander of Kashmir's most powerful militant group, Hizbul | ordered that Shad should be Mujahideen, which is fighting for Kashmir's accession to Pakistan.

DHANMONDI

KALYANPUR

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MIRPUR



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late course be 8 - Commerce sagainst

Clinton's visit

Chelsea to

accompany,

Hillary to

Refrigerator

Transcom Electronics Limited Authorized distributor in Bangladesh for Whirlpool Appliances, USA Dhaka: 815307-10, 819625-9 Ctg.: 716353, 723578 Khulna: 720304 Bogra: 6215

the Bulg Stor Some

ART290 - 265 Litre

Hasina leaves

reports UNB.

After staying overnight at Madina, she arrived in Makkah

rituals and prayers today.

president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry. Entitled "United States -Bangladesh Economic Relathrowing. tions: Prospects and Chal-The Prime Minister will of lenges," the conference is being organised by the federation, the

tagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) ran into a man Chowdhury Javed, was de-

leader Aktaruzzaman Babu.

sources said.

Chamber sources said 17 of meeting.

Salimullah, a CCCI director, told this correspondent that 17 directors brought no-confidence against president Kamal Uddin Ahmed and removed him from

board of directors' meeting to take decision," Salimullah said, adding such a decision was taken today as Kamal refused to resign.

order to hold the CCCI poll by chamber. Kamal was removed and

dent as per constitution of the

said he was not invited to the dissident directors forcibly captured CCCI, he said. Kamal also alleged that sig-

for this cow in the city's Nayabazar cattle market yesterday. However, he said he would settle for Tk 1 lakh. — Star photo Shad Ershad granted

ad-interim bail By Staff Correspondent

Shad was granted bail on the

The case was filed against

basis of a criminal miscella-

neous case filed with the special

the March 12 order of Chief

Metropolitan Magistrate in

which he said that his court was

not empowered to grant bail or

custody to an accused charged

under Women and Children

Rashid gave directive to the

CMM's court on March 8 to de-

Shad arrested by Gulshan police

A Division Bench of High

Court, Dhaka yesterday.

Prevention Act 2000.

Masud Rana, a trader from Dohar, was asking Tk 150,000

The special court for Women writ petition filed by Ershad on and Children Repression Prevention in Dhaka yesterday granted ad-interim bail to Shad Ershad, son of Jatiya Party chief and former president HM

Ershad. The ad-interim bail was granted till April 6 against Tk 25,000 bond and two sureties. Shad was arrested in a case filed by a businessman under Women and Children Repression Prevention Act 2000, for abduction of his daughter.

The court yesterday granted him bail after it brought into Court comprising Justice M M consideration the petitions Hoque and Justice M Abdur submitted by the complainant and the victim to the CMM's

court on March 12. The victim's father had filed a petition with the CMM's court for withdrawal of his complaint. The victim who made a judicial statement involving Shad in the kidnapping also prayed before the court for withdrawal of her statement. The CMM, however, made no

decision in this regard. Shad Ershad was arrested by Gulshan Police on March 4. He was first taken to the custody of Cantonment police for security

The High Court on March 5, kept in the custody of Cantonment police till further order.

The order was passed upon a

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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Business community prepares for US-Bangladesh confce

By Shahriar Karim

States president Bill Clinton The country's business will attend the conference. community is putting the fin-However, they said they are tryishing touches on a United ing to make sure Clinton at-States-Bangladesh conference, tends the seminar. About 150 scheduled to be held at the U.S. businessmen will accom-Sheraton Hotel on March 20. pany Clinton during his visit to "The main purpose of the

Dhaka. In addition to encouraging investment, Bangladeshi businessmen will ask the United States for duty free access to its market, a 30 per cent increase in garment quotas and the merger of certain garment categories, said chamber sources.

They will also ask U.S. investors to spend more on the country's energy, manufacturing and textile sectors.

However, Mintoo said he expects a cool reaction to the proposal from U.S. investors.

"Unless Bangladesh decides Illegal liquor factory found in AJM areas

From Our Correspondent NARAYANGONJ, Mar 14 Officials of the District Narcotics Control Department unearthed an illegal liquor factory in Adamjee Jute Mills area on Monday.

to export gas, U.S. entrepreneurs won't be interested in more investment," he said. Anisur Rahman Sinha, pres-

ident of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association, said the United States assured the sector it would increase the garment quota if the ready-made garment industry eliminated child labour.

"We have already done our job. Now its their turn to fulfil their commitments," said

Sinha said the quota in certain categories isn't used due production shortfalls or a lack of demand in the U.S. To overcome this problem, the association proposed the merger of certain categories.

The association will urge U.S. authorities to support the merger, since it will cost money to tackle human rights, work place code of conduct, environmental degradation and other issues that will come up in the future, said Sinha.

Bangladesh's exports to the United States are growing at per cent annually. Bangladesh is the sixth largest supplier of apparel and garments to the U.S., said association sources.

Fresh programme after SSC exams: Khaleda

Opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia has called upon her student wing JCD to continue the movement defying all sorts of government repression, reports UNB. She said the fresh

programme will be announced after the SSC examination. You must not afraid of arrest, jail and repression

These are part of politics, Begum Zia told JCD leaders and activists. JCD central and Dhaka University unit leaders held a

brief meeting with Begum Zia at

29 Minto Road yesterday

evening.

Asking the JCD leaders to activate and strengthen the student front, BNP chairperson said the party leaders would feel encouraged if they took to the She urged the student leaders

to resolve internal conflict through discussion and urged all to work unitedly, meeting sources said. The opposition leader said

all nationalist forces would have to gear up oustgovernment movement as there is no alternative to it. "Cases and attack will come

on you even if you keep confined in house. So, join the movement," she told them, adding "you have suffered enough and have to endure more to reach the goal of victory by dislodging the 'fascist' government and establishing democratic rule."

Amanullah Aman MP Bazlul Basit, Helen Zerin Khan and ABM Mosharraf Hossain also spoke at the meeting.

Hajj begins

"I am so excited. This is like

a dream for me," said Bangladeshi Ahmed Yassin, 72, in Makkah where workers were busy cleaning slowly emptying

Traffic to Mina flowed despite the huge number of cars and buses on the modern highways, bridges and tunnels. Those on foot followed specially assigned routes for pedestrians, including covered parts to shelter from the sun.

Saudi Arabia has improved police communications to avert congestion on a bridge used by pilgrims. In 1998, 119 people died in a stampede on the Jamraat bridge. Saudi television told the pil-

midday of around 37 Celsius and a low at night of 21 Celsius. Helicopters hovered to moncide the bail or custody issue of | itor the flow of pilgrims and report on any emergencies.

stay back WASHINGTON, Mar 14: While her mother stays home to run for office, campaign, Chelsea Clinton will accompany her father, President Bill Clinton, to India, Bangladesh and Pakistan on a trip begin-

ning Saturday, reports AP. But White House press secretary Joe Lockhart said Chelsea would not be the first lady's stand-in at official events. "I don't know what she will

do but she'll serve the role she normally serves as the president's daughter," Lockhart said. It will be Chelsea's second trip to South Asia. She went to India and Pakistan with her mother, Hillary Rodham Clinton, on a goodwill visit in April 1995. Chelsea will have time to

Standford University. Her mother is running for a Senate seat in New York state.

kill during spring vacation at

Opinion poll Over 59pc think Clinton won't press Dhaka for gas export

By Staff Correspondent US President Bill Clinion during his visit will not put any pressure on Bangladesh for export of gas, 59.4 per cent of the respondents said in an opinion

But 40.6 per cent of them said they think Clinton will press for it.

Centre for Sustainable Development (CFSD), an NGO, conducted the poll in the city from March 10 to 12. Seven hundred twenty-three residents gave their views.

Of the respondents, 52.2 per cent said they will support the position of the government if Clinton puts pressure for gas export. However, 47.8 per cent think the government should not sign any agreement even if Clinton puts pressure.

On a question regarding this, an overwhelming majority 71.4 per cent, hoped that President Clinton would initiate a process to write off the debts but at the same time he would create a special fund with this money for the protection of environment and alleviation of poverty. Only 28.6 per cent liked the idea that President Clinton should simply write off

the debts. Although Bangladesh is his first stop in terms of the official visit, President Clinton and his entourage would stay in Delhi overnight on way to Dhaka. The people and the media in Bangladesh have interpreted this in various ways. The poll included a poser whether President's overnight stopover in grims to expect hot weather at Delhi undermined the image of Bangladesh as a hospitable and an independent nation. The result shows that only 41.9 per cent think that his Delhi See page 11 col 8

Science and Technology Minister Lt Gen (rtd) Noor Uddin Khan speaking at a seminar on "e-commerce: The Business

of the New Millennium" organised by The Daily Star and ASSET International in the city yesterday.

on measures By Inam Ahmed

partners are trying to reach a consensus on what actions they should take if corruption and governance, the two burning issues, are not addressed prop-

is going to be the single big issue in this year's Aid Club meeting, and the donors are preparing a separate paper on it. But before the meet begins,

(LCG) sits here today to hammer out a consensus on the issue. Donors now want to fix some common quantifiable indicators of governance to judge the performance of the government as well as ascertain the level of

volvement in Bangladesh's development process. As their new strategy, donors are now putting emphasis on governance as a precondition to their assistance. During the last mid-term review meeting in Dhaka in September, 1999, they had categorically stated that the amount of aid would shrink unless there is

ernance. Mannan Bhuiyan, 8 BNP MPs to visit Feni today

Bhuiyan along with 8 party MPs of greater Noakhali will visit Feni tomorrow (Wednesday) in the wake of arrest of many of their party leaders and workers during the combing operation by the po-

Party sources said the Secretary General and the MPs will sit with local BNP leaders at 10 am at the circuit house and visit

were arrested today. Of them, three were arrested from Feni Sadar thana, three from Daganbhuiyan thana, 4 from Sonagazi and 2 from Fulgazi thana.

after taking bribe. Meanwhile, ruling party MP Joinal Hazari today visited Faleswar, the area dominated by BNP's Prof Jaynal Abedin. He asked the residents to round

Corruption & governance Donors meet today for consensus

As the annual consultative meeting between the donors and the government begins on April 13 in Paris, the development Understandably, corruption

the local consultative group

corruption in the society. It would then be easier for them to rethink the nature of their in-

a marked improvement in gov-

FENI, Mar 14: BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan lice, reports UNB.

certain areas. Police said 12 more people

Witnesses said police made indiscriminate arrest from the BNP dominated areas and released many of them allegedly

up the 'terrorists' whenever they return home from hideouts.

Meanwhile, residents of the areas where police drive is on told UNB that the cadres of the ruling party committed a series of dacoities in the absence of male members in the house.

velopment partners are however still not decided how they would link aid with governance It now appears that some donors may decide to disengage themselves from development programmes other than those in key social sectors. Financial sector and power are two basic areas which might suffer from any such decision, the sources

According to sources, the de-

During the Paris meeting, donors will also want to know from the government what specific strategy it has for the next year to fight corruption. Next on the agenda will come the poverty reduction strategy, and here again, the key issue will be

improving governance. Viewing corruption as antipoor, they will hint that corruption has intensified and the government has not done much to take it by the horn.

Unlike in other years, the macro-economy will get less importance this year. The fragile fiscal situation marked by low revenue collection and high expenditure of the government will certainly figure out in the discussion, the sources said.

Meanwhile, despite the government's insistence on specific aid pledge at the Paris meeting. donors are still of the option not to make any such vows.

While reviving the issues discussed at the 1999 development forum meeting, donors are expected to open their flags on the reform agenda. Public administration and financial sector reforms would be two critical areas the donors are likely to criticise heavily.

Court asks jail authorities to give divn to Prof Ferdous

By Court Correspondent The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka yesterday directed the jail authorities to give first class division to Prof Ferdous Hossain, a senior teacher of the Department of Political Science of Dhaka University. The division was granted

earlier prayer with the CMM's Court filed on January 30. The IO delayed by about a month to submit a report to the CMM about his social position. The CMM ordered the IO to submit a report by February 8,

yesterday on the basis of his

mentioning whether he deserved first class division in the jail, which is granted on the basis of social position. He was detained at the Dhaka Central Jail since January 28, under Women and Children Repression Preven-

saulting his wife and demanding dowry from her. When produced in the court earlier, Prof Ferdous acknowledged of beating his wife but de-

tion Act 1995 on charges of as-

nied to have demanded dowry. Storm hits Barisal town: 100 houses damaged

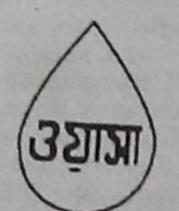
From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Mar 14: About 100 thatched houses were damaged and many trees were uprooted as nor'western accompanied by heavy rain lashed Barisal town and its adjoining areas at about

4.45 pm this afternoon. Electricity supply was disrupted for an hour in different areas in the town. Roads in the town have gone under knee-deep water, causing inconvenience to vehicles and pedestrians.

নগরীর পরিচ্ছনু পরিবেশ বজায় রাখুন

কোরবাণীর পশুর পরিত্যক্ত বর্জা भग्नः लिश्ति रक्तित्व गी।

অতীতে পবিত্র ঈদ-উল-আজ্হা পালনকালে নগরীর কোন কোন এলাকায় লক্ষ্য করা গেছে, কোরবাণীর পত্তর বর্জ্য, নাড়িভূড়ি, চামড়ার অপ্রয়োজনীয় অংশ, জবাইকৃত পত্তর রক্ত ধোয়া পানি প্রভৃতি ঢাকা ওয়াসার পয়ঃ ম্যানহোলে ফেলা হয়। ফলে পবিত্র ঈদের পরবর্তী দিনগুলোতে উক্ত এলাকায় পয়ঃ নিষ্কাশন লাইনে ব্রকেজের কারণে দূর্গন্ধময় এক অসহনীয় পরিবেশের সৃষ্টি হয়। ক্ষেত্র বিশেষে অবৈধ/ অননুমোদিত পানির লাইনের মধ্যে দৃষিত পানি প্রবেশের ফলে ঢাকা ওয়াসাসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের জন্য এক ব্রিতকর পরিস্থিতির সৃষ্টি হয়। এমতাবস্থায় কোরবাণীর পশুর পরিত্যক্ত বর্জ্য পয়ঃ ম্যানহোলে না ফেলার জন্য ঢাকা ওয়াসার সম্মানিত গ্রাহক সাধারণকে বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ জানান যাচ্ছে।



আপনার সেবায় নিয়োজিত

ওয়াসা -জঃতঃ ৮৬/২০০০

GD-247

take-off after its landing gear jammed. - Star photo

The Malaysian Airlines aircraft being taken to a hangar at Zia International Airport yesterday. The captain aborted