

**FedEx**  
Federal Express  
Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.  
Licensee of Federal Express Corporation  
Tel # 9565114; Fax # 9565112

**NEW DOHS**  
184/A, Eastern Road, Lane # 2  
Mohakhali, Dhaka  
Tel # 9884851, 603798

**GULSHAN**  
OPEN 24 HOURS  
Bilquis Tower  
Gulshan Circle-2, Dhaka  
Tel # 9883927, 887771

**UTTARA**  
Baly Complex, Sector-3  
Airport Road, Uttara, Dhaka  
Tel # 894213

**Whirlpool**  
Home Appliances USA  
Twin Tub Washer Dryer Tumble Dryer  
TRANSCOM ELECTRONICS LTD.  
Authorized Distributor in Bangladesh for Whirlpool Appliances, USA  
Dhaka: 8115307-10 CTG: 716353, 725878 Khulna: 720304 Bogra: 8215

**New body formed to address problems of newspapermen**

A new organisation styled Sangbadik-Sramik-Karmachari Oikya Parisad was formed here yesterday to address the problems of journalists, employees and workers of newspapers and news agencies, reports UNB.

Restoring congenial atmosphere in the newspaper industry is also an objective of the SSKOP, formed at a meeting at the National Press Club with BFUJ Vice-president G M Yakub in the chair.

Representatives of Bangladesh Federation of Journalists, Dhaka Union of Journalists, Bangladesh Sangbadipatra Press Sramik Federation and Bangladesh Sangbadipatra Karmachari Federation attended the meeting.

The meeting decided that four federations and two factions of DUJ will be included in the new organisation.

Presidents of the four federations will chair the meetings of the new organisation by turns, according to a press release.

The new parishad decided to hold joint meetings in all the newspapers and news agencies and a central rally at the National Press Club.

The meeting was adjourned till 11:00 am today.

**No funds**

loadshedding and higher overhead cost," observed the official.

Donors' lending for the power sector remained embargoed throughout the nineties as they asked the government to improve performance of PDB and DESA by increasing revenue collection and reducing system loss. However, the donors conditionally relaxed the embargo last year.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) recently provided a loan for a transmission line around Dhaka city. But even the ADB is insisting on hand over of the country's whole transmission system to PGCB before seeking more loans.

The country has been experiencing a severe power crisis for long due to lack of investment in the sector. As a result, the government opened up the sector for private investment.

Three large-mounted power plants in the private sector have so far come into operation and one 360 MW gas-based plant will start operating after a year. Many other private sector projects including the 450 MW Meshan that plant are being delayed due to various reasons. Besides these, a number of projects in the public sector are being implemented or are in the pipeline.

The country now requires over 2700 MW of power during the peak hours against a supply of around 2400 MW. Within a year, the demand will reach 2900 MW.

**Air quality**

which have been phased out in the country which produce those.

They manipulated the banks to finance the imports on a back dated permit before the government decision was enforced in July last year.

The Bangladesh Road Transport Authority which gives route permits and fitness certificates for vehicles does not have modern equipment to test fitness, leaving the large fleet of city's buses, trucks and auto-rickshaws belching smoke as ever.

The much awaited project was taken up to clean the air in the capital and some other metropolitan cities, fouled beyond permitted level by smoke emitting vehicles.

The level of lead eight times that permitted by the World Health Organisation had been found in Dhaka, according to a study by the Shishu Hospital, revealing the grim situation of air pollution in the capital.

Earlier studies had found that there were 463 Nano gram of lead in the air which totalled roughly 50 tonnes annually, pointing to the state of air pollution in the city, where certain streets rival those in Mexico which is said to be the most polluted city in the world.

After a lot of wrangling, the authorities started importing unleaded petrol late last year but blended that with leaded petrol, leaving 0.2 per cent of lead in petrol and octane.

But diesel continued to remain unclean, with 0.5 per cent of sulphur, the permitted level being 0.1 per cent.

Against such a backdrop, the AQMP targeted clean air for the urban areas by 2003, by introducing unleaded fuel, better lubricants, tighter air quality monitoring, proper fitness test of vehicles and phasing out the vintage auto-rickshaws which use a deadly cocktail of leaded fuel with engine oil.

The ambitious project envisages setting up of 20 air quality monitoring stations in the capital to tighten control on smoke emission level.

An electronic display system would inform the citizens air quality at crowded road sections.



They don't stand a chance of watching the game from the stands, but can still wait to have a lucky glimpse of their stars at the entrance of Bangabandhu Stadium yesterday (left), atmosphere in sold-out stadium was electric during the game between the Asia Eleven and the Rest of the World Eleven. — Star photo by Anisur Rahman



**Key of Lynchburg city presented Poverty, illiteracy two major challenges: PM**

LYNCHBURG, Virginia, Apr 8: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said alleviating poverty and eradicating illiteracy in a firm democratic dispensation is the challenge before her, reports UNB.

Today democracy has taken roots in Bangladesh, people's right to vote been ensured through introducing the system of non-party caretaker government. Parliament has been made sovereign and accountable, she said, receiving the key of Lynchburg City at an impressive ceremony at the Smith Memorial Building of the Randolph-Macon Women's College on Friday. Mayor of Lynchburg, Peter Warren, presented the key to Hasina.

Said Warren: "We are truly blessed by your esteemed presence... You are known throughout the world as a champion of peace and justice and we thank you for the work you are doing to promote friendship and harmony among those who have not known peace."

Hasina came here to receive the prestigious Pearl S Buck Award being given for her vision, courage and achievements in political, economic and humanitarian fields.

Likening Sheikh Hasina to Quaker John Lynch who founded the city of Lynchburg, Warren said: "I think it is especially apropos that you have come to this city to be honoured for your work because like you

the Quakers have always been champion of peace, justice and equality."

She promised to break the vicious cycle of poverty, ensure equality between man and woman and work for unconditional peace at home and abroad for economic progress.

"Our people cannot be kept deprived of their economic rights for long. We want to free Bangladesh from hunger and poverty. Our country is small in size but vast in potentialities."

She said more than 40 per cent of the annual budget have been allocated for social sectors to alleviate poverty and empower women.

The prime minister referred to the successful settlement of longstanding dispute with India over the sharing of the Ganges Water and resolution of the two-decade-old ethnic problem in the Chittagong Hill Tracts without any external mediation.

She said Bangladesh is committed to peace, fully and unconditionally.

"We are a party to CTBT, NPT and anti-personnel landmine convention and are, so far, the only nation on our continent to be so."

About Bangladesh's prospective gas sector, she said since oil and gas could play a vital role in the country's development, the government is interested in long-term investment in the

energy sector. Besides oil and gas exploration, power generation has been given top priority.

Hasina said US companies are actively engaged in the energy sector where the US investments rose to 750 million US dollars from a paltry 20 million dollar three years ago.

Hasina sought assured market access for Bangladesh's IT products and programmes to the United States.

She said Bangladesh has a rich pool of trained manpower in software development and management sector. It has all the possibilities to emerge as another hub of IT industry in South Asia. She said an electronic village has been set up near Dhaka and a crash programme taken to produce 10,000 professionals per year.

Referring to US President Bill Clinton's visit to Dhaka on Friday, the prime minister said Bangladesh valued its friendship with the United States which has gained a new dimension with the Clinton visit.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury, Principal Secretary to the PM Dr SA Samad, Press Secretary Jawadul Karim, Bangladesh Ambassador to Washington K M Shehabuddin, Lynchburg City Mayor Peter Warren and Randolph-Macon Women's College President Kathleen Bowman were present on the occasion.

**'Dhaka values ties with Washington'**

LYNCHBURG, Virginia, Apr 8: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said US President Bill Clinton's visit to Bangladesh set a milestone in Dhaka-Washington ties, opening a new dimension to the working relations between the two countries, reports UNB.

Hasina said she admired the United States for its efforts to diffuse tension worldwide and promote peace, progress and prosperity.

"On our part, we have consistently supported the US position on major international issues and events to advance the cause of peace and security," she said at a roundtable discussion with the students of Chris Goldman, a political science professor.

"Bangladesh values its relationship with the United States," said Hasina.

Hasina said the people of Bangladesh hold the people and the government of the United States in great esteem for their commitment to freedom, democracy, human rights and empowerment of women.

Hasina said her meeting with the US leaders and a cross-section of people have been a most rewarding experience.

"We are indeed grateful to President Clinton for his deep concern for the welfare of the people of Bangladesh," she said.

The prime minister said, unlike the past, US companies are involved in exploration of oil and gas and are also setting up power plants in Bangladesh. She said US investments has increased to around 750 million US from 20 million US three and a half years ago.

Hasina said she hoped friendship and cooperation between Bangladesh and USA would be consolidated in the future.

**Directive to remove sheds, cottages along roads by Apr 11**

Home Minister Mohammad Nasim took a tough stand yesterday when he asked owners to remove all illegal sheds and cottages along roads and highways within four days, reports UNB.

The government move follows widespread allegations of toll collection, hijacking, and that sheds and cottages set up in the name of various organisations have been used to commit crime.

"Remove all sheds and cottages by April 11; otherwise law enforcing agencies will demolish them and take action against the owners under the Public Safety Act," said Nasim while briefing newsmen at his office.

He said the buildings sheltered unscrupulous transport workers who collect tolls and kidnap transport owners and workers.

"Some unscrupulous people are holding the transport sector hostage, collecting illegal tolls under the banner of different organisations across the country. This should not be allowed and will be stopped immediately," said Nasim shortly after a high-level meeting in the ministry.

Nasim said he regretted that Dhaka was almost isolated from the rest of the country for several hours due to roadblocks following the arrest of a so-called leader of truck workers. Such incidents occur frequently, causing suffering to thousands of passengers, he added.

Nasim said the high-level meeting discussed the transport sector and concerns that whenever action was taken against the unscrupulous leaders or extortionists, they (transport workers) go on a rampage and put pressure on the administration by barricading the highways.

"It will no longer be tolerated," said Nasim.

The home minister said the government has no alternative but to take stern action against the unscrupulous elements to stop toll collection and such anarchy along the highways.

"Please wait, give us some time. We are going to take stern action against such anarchy by unscrupulous elements. Groups may try to create obstacles but they will not be allowed to create any problems," said Nasim.

He said he has directed police officials to restore discipline in the transport sector and take action against the anarchist. "Their illegal pressure would not be tolerated in future," said Nasim.

Nasim asked for the cooperation of transport leaders and workers so the government can easily implement the plan to restore discipline. "If we failed to restore discipline in this sector, country's economy and development will be hampered."

**ALCWC meets today**

A meeting of the central working committee of Bangladesh Awami League will be held today at 7 pm at the Awami Foundation office in Dhanmondi in the city.

Acting president of the party and Forest and Environment Minister Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury will chair the meeting, a party press release said here yesterday.



Discarded polythene bags are being taken for recycling. These are melted and turned into plastic moulds. — Star photo by Amran Hossain

**JCD, Shibir clash: 10 injured Khulna City College closed sine die**

From Staff Correspondent

According to police, activists of both the student organisations were locked in fierce clash on the campus over a trifling matter relating to forthcoming election of the students' union of City College.

Both the groups exchanged brick chips chased each other and exploded bombs, during the clash which was later brought under control by police.

Shibir activists blamed Chhatra Dal for the attack while leaders of Chhatra Dal denied the charge. They blamed the Shibir activists for the incident on the college campus.

Shibir activists threatened the OC of Khulna thana for arresting their activists. Abdullah Al Mamun and recovering bombs from college campus.

Riot police have been deployed in and around the college campus to avert further clash.

'prisoners' free day' today

The BNP-led opposition alliance in observance of the 'Prisoners' Free day,' will hold rallies today, reports UNB.

BNP will hold its rally at Muktagong and Jamaat at the north gate of Baitul Mukarram in the afternoon.

KHULNA, Apr 8: At least ten people were injured, three of them seriously in a clash between the activists of Chhatra Dal and Chhatra Shibir on city college campus at noon today.

The seriously injured were admitted to a local clinic.

Police recovered eight hand bombs and some wooden clubs from the college ground.

Abdullah Al Mamun, an activist of Chhatra Shibir was arrested by police.

The college has been declared closed for an indefinite period following the clash. The decision was taken at a meeting of the Teachers Council in the afternoon.

resting their activists. Abdullah Al Mamun and recovering bombs from college campus.

Riot police have been deployed in and around the college campus to avert further clash.

'prisoners' free day' today

The BNP-led opposition alliance in observance of the 'Prisoners' Free day,' will hold rallies today, reports UNB.

BNP will hold its rally at Muktagong and Jamaat at the north gate of Baitul Mukarram in the afternoon.

**Asia atop**

From Page 1

The three sixes of the innings came from Ganguly's willow and on all the occasions Tufnell was the victim. He hit his first six with style over the mid-wicket, the second one over the long-on and last one over the long-off.

Pakistani captain Moin Khan, who batted at number seven, played another crucial knock of 34 runs off 31 balls that featured six boundaries. He added 23 valuable runs with Anil Kumble, who made an unbeaten 14 runs off eight balls.

Nantie Hayward was the most successful bowler for Rest of the World Eleven, claiming three wickets for 39 runs in seven overs while Mark Waugh and Tufnell took two wickets each for 28 and 68 runs respectively.

**SCOREBOARD**

**REST OF WORLD**

N Johnson c Jadeja b Akram	2
M Waugh c and b Vaas	28
Kallis lbw b Kumble	27
Bevan not out	185
Cairns c and b Muralitharan	8
Klusener c Jayasuriya b Muralitharan	6
Gilchrist b Razzak	1
Rose lbw b Razzak	1
Caddick run out	23
Hayward not out	0
Extras (b-5, lb-13, nb-2; nb-2)	22
Total (for eight wickets in 50 overs)	319

Fall of wickets: 1-28; 2-46; 3-97; 4-134; 5-180; 6-186; 7-196; 8-315.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Akram	5	1	27	1
Vaas	10	0	57	1
Razzak	10	0	68	2
Kumble	9	0	59	1
Muralitharan	9	0	45	2
Tendulkar	7	0	45	0

Result: Asia Eleven won by one run.

Man of the match: Michael Bevan

Most valuable player: Michael Bevan

Best batsman: Michael Bevan

Best fielder: M Muralitharan

Best bowler: N Hayward

**তিতাস গ্যাস ট্রান্সমিশন এন্ড ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানী লিঃ**  
(গেটোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানী)  
১০৫, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ  
কাওলা বাজার বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২১৫  
ফোনঃ ৯৫৬৩৬৬৭-৬৮, ৮১১২১৩৫-৪২, ৮১১৩৯৩৯

**গত ০৭/০৪/২০০০ তারিখে ঢাকা শহরের কোন কোন এলাকায় গ্যাস সরবরাহ সাময়িক বন্ধ** বিদ্যিত হওয়া সম্পর্কে তিতাস গ্যাস টি এন্ড ডি কোং লিমিটেড-এর বক্তব্য।

ঢাকা মহানগরীর সম্মানিত গ্যাস গ্রাহকগণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, ঢাকা মহানগরীতে গ্যাসের স্বল্প চাপ সমস্যা দূরীকরণ এবং সম্মানিত গ্রাহকগণকে সুষ্ঠু ও নিরবচ্ছিন্নভাবে গ্যাস সরবরাহ নিশ্চিত করিবার লক্ষ্যে পূর্ব পরিকল্পিত কার্যক্রমের অংশ হিসাবে তেজগাঁও টাউন বর্ডার স্টেশন (টিবিএস) এর মডিফিকেশন কার্যক্রম হাতে নেওয়া হয়। সেই লক্ষ্যে সর্ব সাধারণের অবগতির জন্য গত ০৫/০৪/২০০০, ০৬/০৪/২০০০ এবং ০৭/০৪/২০০০ তারিখে দৈনিক প্রথম আলো, দৈনিক জনকণ্ঠ, দৈনিক আজকের কাগজ, দি ডেইলী স্টার, দৈনিক সংবাদ, দৈনিক বাংলা বাণী, দৈনিক বাংলাদেশ অবজার্ভার, দৈনিক ইন্সট্রাক্টর, দৈনিক ডোরের কাগজ, দৈনিক মুক্তকণ্ঠ ও দৈনিক মানব জমিন পত্রিকায় এবং ০৬/০৪/২০০০ তারিখে বাংলাদেশ টেলিভিশনে চর্টা ও ১০ টার সংবাদের পূর্বে বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশ করা হয়। বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লেখ করা হয় যে উপরোক্ত কার্যক্রমের জন্য ০৭/০৪/২০০০ তারিখ সকাল ০৯:৩০ ঘটিকা হইতে ০৮/০৪/২০০০ তারিখ সকাল ০৯:৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত নন্দীপাড়া, বাসাবো, গোড়ান, খিলগাঁও, সবুজবাগ, মালিবাগ, শাজাহানপুর, রামপুরা, মগবাজার, নয়াটোলা, তেজগাঁও, গুলশান, বনানী, মহাখালী, বাডা, কাওলা বাজার এলাকা সমূহে গ্যাস সরবরাহ বন্ধ/বিদ্যিত হইবে। কিন্তু প্রকৃতপক্ষে ০৭/০৪/২০০০ তারিখ দুপুর ১:০০ ঘটিকা হইতেই পর্যায়ক্রমে এলাকা ভিত্তিক গ্যাস চালু সর্ববয় এবং পূর্ব নির্ধারিত সময়ের প্রায় ১১ ঘণ্টা পূর্বেই অর্থাৎ ০৭/০৪/২০০০ তারিখ রাত ১০:৩০ ঘটিকার মধ্যেই ঢাকা মহানগরীতে গ্যাস সরবরাহ স্বাভাবিক অবস্থায় আনা হয়।

অপর দিকে ০৭/০৪/২০০০ তারিখ অপরাহ্নে বঙ্গবন্ধু-সেতু সংযোগে সড়ক নির্মাণ হ্রিকাদার মাটি কাটার মেশিনের দ্বারা (পে-লোডার) জয়দেবপুর-টাঙ্গাইল সড়কের মৌচাক সংলগ্ন মোহনা সিনেমা হলের নিকট তিতাস গ্যাসের একটি উচ্চ চাপ সম্পন্ন বিতরণ লাইন ছিঁদ করা ফলে। সম্ভাব্য দুর্ঘটনা এড়াইবার জন্য বর্ধিত স্থানের ছিদ্রটি দ্রুত মেরামতের লক্ষ্যে উক্ত লাইনটির মৌচাক মির্জাপুর অংশ বন্ধ করিয়া দিতে হয়। এবং জরুরী ভিত্তিতে ঐ দিন সন্ধ্যার মধ্যেই ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত অংশে মেরামত করিয়া লাইনটিতে পুনরায় গ্যাস সরবরাহ করা হয়। উক্ত দুর্ঘটনা জনিত অনিবার্য কারণেও ঢাকার কিছু এলাকায় গ্যাস সরবরাহের সামান্য বিঘ্ন ঘটে।

সম্মানিত গ্রাহকবৃন্দের সহযোগিতার জন্য কৃতজ্ঞতা জ্ঞাপন করা যাইতেছে। তৎসঙ্গে তাঁহাদের সাময়িক অসুবিধার জন্য কৃতপক্ষ আন্তরিকভাবে দুঃখিত।

আকারে গ্যাসের চুলা জ্বালিয়ে রাখবেন না  
আগামী প্রজন্মের জন্য গ্যাস ব্যবহারে মিতব্যয়ী হোন

**Editor: Mahfuz Anam**

Published by the Editor from Transcraft Ltd, 229, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Telephone Numbers: 8124944, 8124955, 8124966, Fax: 8125155, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Internet edition address: http://www.dailystarnews.com and Email address: dstar@bangla.net