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**Erratum**  
Due to computer error, our back-page story headlined 'PM's cheque for BDR families' was a repetition of a front-page item. We regret the mistake and print it today.

**Roumari incident PM's cheque for BDR families**

**BSS, Dhaka**  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Tuesday handed over cheques for Tk 100,000 to each of the families of three BDR personnel who embraced martyrdom at Baraibari border outpost on April 18.

Sheikh Hasina also presented some gifts to the family members of Shaheed Lance Naik Mohammad Waheed Miah, Shaheed Sepoy Mohammad Mahfuzur Rahman and Shaheed Sepoy Mohammad Abdul Kader.

The prime minister expressed her deep condolence to the members of the bereaved families who called on her at her office on Tuesday. Sheikh Hasina assured them of all possible help and assistance in maintaining their families as well as meeting educational expenses of their children.

She enquired about the well-being of each of the three families especially about the schooling of their children. She asked them to take special care for the education of the children.

Sakhina Khatun, wife of Shaheed Lance Naik Mohammad Waheed Miah, Mohammad Amjad Hossain, father of Shaheed Sepoy Mohammad Mahfuzur Rahman and Safia Begum, wife of Shaheed Sepoy Mohammad Abdul Kader received the cheques from the prime minister.

**PM opens new ferry service**

**BSS, Shakhupur (Shariatpur)**  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday opened the Chandpur-Shariatpur ferry service, establishing a shortcut communication route between Chittagong port and the southeastern areas of the country including Mongla port.

The 10-kilometre route, a striking milestone in the country's communication sector, will shorten the distance between Chittagong port and Mongla port by 130 km. It will also ease traffic pressure on the capital and help reduce transport cost and cut air pollution.

**Water crisis grips many city areas as summer sets in**

**Illegal use of water pumps continues**

**RAZIUR RAHMAN**  
Dhaka WASA's failure to meet the increasing demand of water in summer coupled with illegal use of pumps and low pressure in supply lines has exposed residents of many areas in the city to severe water crisis.

If all of its 359 pumps operate in full capacity, WASA can only meet the minimum demand. However, the reality is that the WASA cannot supply more than 120 core litres a day, sources concerned said.

People in these areas complained that due to inadequate supply combined with low pressure in the supply lines, they were unable to fill their underground reservoirs. Sometimes there was no water in the supply lines, they added.

Besides, WASA water at Shyamoli, Agargaon, Armanitola and some parts of the old city has foul odour, local people complained.

High-rise apartments, multi-storey buildings are illegally using powerful water pumps, which deprive other consumers getting adequate water.

"When the flow of water is very low in the supply line, we do not get any water as illegal pumps of the buildings take away all the supply water before it reaches our reservoir," said a resident of Crescent Road in city's Dhanmondi area.



Siddiq Boli and Malek Boli in action during the final of the Abdul Jabber Memorial Wrestling Championship at the Lalidighi Maidan in Chittagong yesterday. Siddiq Boli (which means wrestler) won the title for the third consecutive year.

**Policeman killed as gun goes off accidentally**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A police constable was killed when a shot-gun accidentally went off while being cleaned by a havildar in the armoury of Rajarbagh Police Lines yesterday morning.



The body of Safiul Alam, a police constable who was killed when a shotgun accidentally went off while being cleaned at the Rajarbagh police lines yesterday morning.

**Jabber Wrestling Siddiq 'Boli' lifts title**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg**

Siddiq 'Boli' became champion for the third time in a row in the Abdul Jabber Memorial Wrestling.

**BGMEA says Hartal costs garment sector \$2m a day**

**UNB, Dhaka**

BGMEA has appealed to political parties to include a clear announcement in their respective election manifestos that they would not enforce hartals.

**Hasina tells Khaleda Don't kill people in the name of hartal**

**UNB, Naokhali**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the opposition leader to take preparation for election instead of killing innocent people in the name of hartal and movement.

**Estrada arrested for corruption**

**AP, Manila**  
Joseph Estrada became the first Philippine leader to be arrested for alleged corruption in office yesterday, spending the night in jail after being taken from his home amid a tense standoff between thousands of his backers and riot police.

Hours earlier, the chief anti-graft court, the Sandiganbayan, ordered Estrada's arrest for the non-bailable offense of plunder. The most serious charge in an eight-count indictment carries the death penalty, although it is considered unlikely to be imposed if Estrada is convicted.

After weeks of legal wrangling and a last-minute flurry of moves aimed at keeping him out of jail failed, the 64-year-old Estrada defiantly maintained his innocence and insisted he never gave up the presidency.

Under the brutal midday sun, police were forced to climb over the Estrada compound's fence to unlock the gate so they could deliver the warrant.

To clear a path along the narrow streets to his house in Manila's ritzy Greenhills district, riot police used truncheons and plastic shields to disperse angry Estrada supporters as a police helicopter hovered low overhead.

The former action film star then was driven three kilometers (about 2 miles) to Camp Crame, the main police camp, where he was spending the night in jail. Police said it was possible he might be transferred.

**PROGRAMME CANCELLATION**  
Due to some unavoidable circumstances, we deeply regret to cancel the TANATRIL SYMPOSIUM, which was scheduled to be held on 27th April, Friday at 6:00 p.m. in The Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel.

**BTTB starts sending bills for January**  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
The Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board (BTTB) said it has started sending phone bills for January to its subscribers under Uttara, Tongi and Mirpur exchanges.

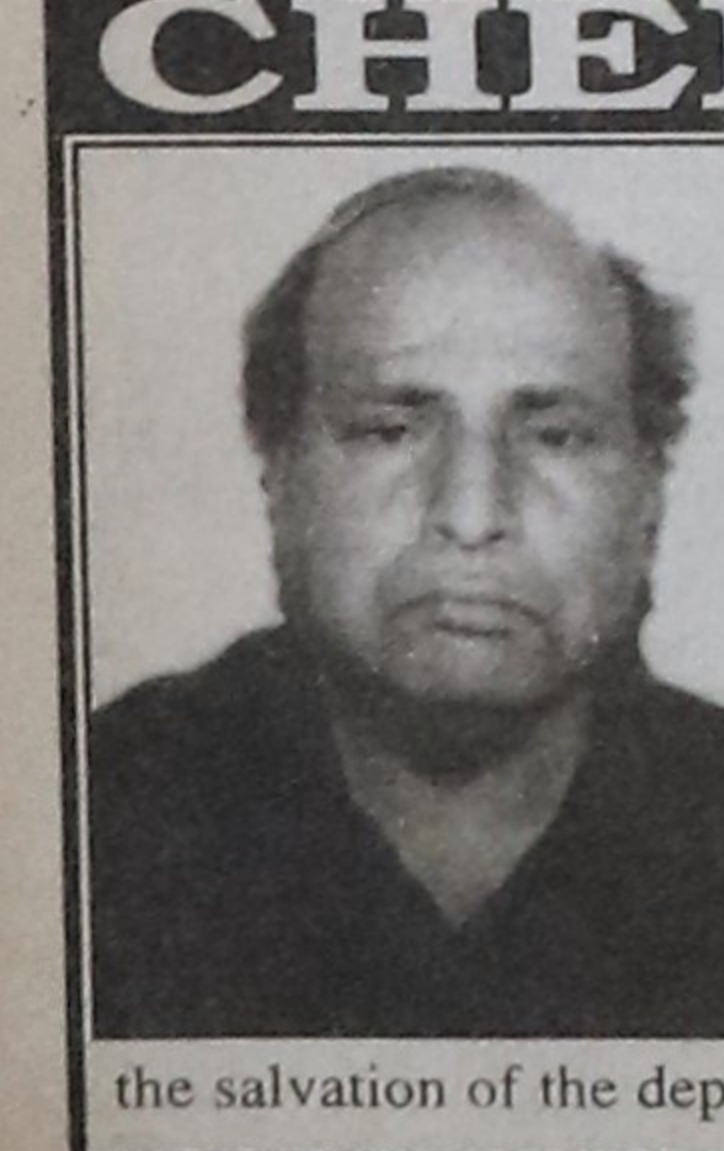
**Ershad plans to form new alliance of pro-Islamic parties**

**STAR REPORT**

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad is trying hard to form a new alliance of pro-Islamic political parties and to create a split in the BNP-led four-party opposition alliance, sources concerned said yesterday.

Ershad is planning to go to Saudi Arabia this month and to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) later.

**Bomb attack on Kazi Aref's house: 2 held**  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Two persons were arrested yesterday from in front of the house of slain JSD leader and veteran freedom fighter Kazi Aref Ahmed in connection with the bomb attack on the house on Tuesday.



**CHEHLAM**  
Renowned Industrialist Mr. Mujibur Rahman and owner of the Taj Tannery Expired on 17th of March 2001. A Milad Mahfil will be held on the Occasion on Friday the 27th April 2001 after Asr prayers at his residence House No-6, Road No-12, (31 old) Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka. Relatives, Friends and well-wishers are requested to attend the Milad Mahfil to Pray for the salvation of the departed soul.



Ousted Philippine president Joseph Estrada (R) and his son Mayor Jonggoy Estrada wait inside the police headquarters after being arrested yesterday on charges of financial irregularities.

**Will journalist Tipu remain disabled?**

The Daily Star - প্রথম আলো

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