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Govt signs gas purchase deal with Unocal

UNB, Dhaka

The government yesterday signed a contract with Unocal on gas purchase from Bibiana gas field, where the American oil-giant has invested \$230 million. Discovered in mid-1998, the Bibiana gas field in Sunamganj holds in its treasure a recoverable reserve of 2.4 trillion cubic feet gas. Secretary of Petrobangla Kazi Giasuddin and Managing Director of Unocal Andrew Fauthup initiated the deal on behalf of their respective sides. State Minister for Energy AKM Mosharraf Hossain, Energy Secretary Nazrul Islam, Chairman of Petrobangla SR Osmani, Charge d' Affaires of US embassy and high officials of the Energy Division and

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With Eid only a few days away, low-income customers throng the footpath at Motijheel in the capital yesterday to check out children wears.

GAS PIPELINE TO NORTH HC vacates its stay on re-tender

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A High Court (HC) division bench yesterday vacated its previous stay order on re-tender of construction of gas pipelines in North Bengal. The rule came at a time when Gas Transmission Company Limited (GTCL), a company of Petrobangla that oversees the gas pipeline projects, had selected a bidder three for

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PM orders Fallujah onslaught

Civilian flights suspended, men's movement restricted; 21 Iraqis, 2 GIs killed in attacks

AGENCIES, Fallujah

Black smoke plumed above western Fallujah yesterday as US and Iraqi troops battled to secure a hospital and two bridges, while marines entered the northwest of the rebel enclave, embedded reporters said. US warplanes and artillery shells also pounded the centre of the city during the morning, leaving 12 people dead, according to an official from a local clinic. Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi said yesterday he has authorised US-led military forces and Iraqi forces to enter the rebel-held city of Fallujah. "I have given my authority to the multinational forces, I have given my authority to the Iraqi forces... we are determined to clear Fallujah from terrorists," Allawi said, responding in English to a question at a Baghdad news conference. Allawi announced yesterday he

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RESULTS TAMPERING Names of 30 lawyers to be sent to Dhaka Bar for action

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong Bar Association (CBA) has decided to send a list of 30 lawyers, who were allegedly involved in tampering with results, to the Bar Council in Dhaka for taking necessary action against them. The decision came at a meeting of the CBA at its office with Bar President Ibrahim Hossain Babul in the chair yesterday. Babul told The Daily Star, "We're ready to comply with any decision the Bar Council takes against the lawyers in Chittagong who obtained LLB degree here." "We'll send another list to the Bar Council as probe is on against some

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Six-day bank holiday from Nov 11

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The commercial banks will remain closed for six straight days from November 11 because of Shah-e-Qadr and Eid-ul-Fitr as well as weekly holiday, according to a Bangladesh Bank (BB) decision. The central bank told the commercial banks of its decision yesterday. The BB authorities, however, are

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Pirates raid Korean ship in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Five pirates were arrested as they looted goods from a South Korean vessel at the outer anchorage of Chittagong port Sunday, port sources said. Port officials said some 100 pirates stormed into the ROK flagged vessel MV Amazan at around 7:00pm. The vessel was brought to Chittagong port from Batan port in Indonesia for scrapping. Harbour Master of Chittagong port Nazmul Alam said, "As the ship reached the outer anchorage, a large number of organised pirates began

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Sehri-Iftar			
Ramadan	Nov	Sehri	Iftar
25	9	4-8	5-18
26	10	4-8	5-18

Prayer Timing		
November 9		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fair	4-48	4-53
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-18	5-28
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

Arafat's wife lashes out at deputies

Accuses them of plotting to 'bury him alive'

REUTERS, Paris

Palestinian leaders are heading for Paris to see critically ill President Yasser Arafat at a French military hospital despite a scathing attack by his wife who accused them of plotting to "bury him alive". Amid an increasingly bitter row

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MONGA IN NORTH Dr Kamal blames govt for inertia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gono Forum (GF) President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday blamed the government for not taking necessary measures to save thousands of monga-affected people in the northwestern region of the country, and said many of them are 'dying from starvation'. "We have visited the area recently and found people starving to death," Dr Kamal said at a press

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