



Prime Minister Khaleda Zia launches a website and a compact disc (CD) containing the digitised forms of Bangladesh government at her office in the city yesterday.

## Bangladeshi shot dead by BSF

UNB, Benapole

Indian Border Security Forces (BSF) shot dead a Bangladeshi at

Manekshaw hospitalised

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, Delhi

Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, the hero of India's 1971 war against Pakistan leading to liberation of Bangladesh, is suffering from acute pneumonia in an army hospital in the southern state of Tamil Nadu.

The 91-year-old Manekshaw is undergoing treatment at the Military Hospital in Wellington.

Born in Amritsar on April 3, 1914, Sam Hormusji Framji Jamshedji Manekshaw served as the 8th Chief of the Army Staff between June 1969 and January 1973, capturing nearly four decades of distinguished military career.

An astute war strategy planner, Manekshaw led India to victory in the 1971 war which ended with the surrender of over 90,000 Pakistani troops in Dhaka on December 16, 1971.

He was among the first batch of cadets to pass out of the Indian Military Academy in October 1934 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Indian Army.

Decorated with the Military Cross for valour in Burma during World War II, Manekshaw was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 1968 for handling the insurgency in Nagaland as the Group Officer Commanding in Chief of the Eastern Command.

Manekshaw was conferred with the honorary rank of Field Marshal on January 1, 1973.

He retired from the army a fortnight later.

Benapole border on Friday.

BDR sources said BSF of Chhutia outpost fired at Shamsur Rahman, 35, killing him on the spot when he was crossing the border with cattle from the Indian side. Rahman hailed from Dhankhira village. BSF took away the body.

Smuggling of cattle is usually promoted by BSF as cow slaughter is banned in India, villagers said.

## Eight Indians arrested

UNB, Satkhira

Eight Indian nationals were arrested from Bhomra border in Satkhira on Saturday for entering Bangladesh without valid papers.

The arrested, identified as Haripada Mondal, Ram Krishna Mondal, Ananta Naskar, Shamay Ghose, Basudev Naskar, Kritta Mondal, Rita Ghose and Sulekha Goshe, hall from Bashbarhat in North 24 Pargana district of West Bengal. They entered Bangladesh in a microbus.

Bhoma BDR camp in-charge Havilder Abdul Jalil said they nabbed the Indian nationals from Ashashuni upazila where they were scheduled to perform 'Kirtan' (religious song) on the day.

The Indians claimed that they are the members of a 'Kirtan' group and wanted to visit different Hindu-populated areas to perform religious songs. But they had no musical instruments with them, which aroused suspicion about their motive, Havilder Jalil said.

## Jamaat hosts party for foreign diplomats

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Jamaat-e-Islami arranged a party for foreign diplomats on a large scale for the first time on Eid day to exchange Eid greetings.

Jamaat chief Matiur Rahman Nizami, who is also the industries minister, hosted the party at his official residence at Minto Road, which lasted for one hour from 11:00am.

Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Mohammad Shahta Zarab, British High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury and his spouse, US Charge d'Affaires Judith A Chammas and her spouse, Australian High Commissioner Lorraine Barker, Pakistani High Commissioner Alamgir Bashir Khan Babar, Sri Lankan High Commissioner Gamini Sarath Munasinghe, Japanese Ambassador Matsushiro Horiguchi, Vietnamese Ambassador Ngo Van Hoa, Turkish Ambassador Ferid Ergin, Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Beheshti Monfared, Philippines Ambassador Jose Lino B Guerrero, Moroccan Charge d'Affaires Abdulhamid Lakhkhoi, Libyan Charge d'Affaires Solaiman B Belkhir and Councillor (political) at the Indian High Commission Gaddam Dharmendra attended the programme.

Ambassadors of the Vatican City, Switzerland, Norway, South Korea and North Korea and the charge d'affaires of China and their spouses were also present.

Jamaat chief Matiur Rahman Nizami, Senior Assistant Secretary General M Kamruzzaman and other leaders Abdul Kader Mollah, Barrister Abdur Razzaq and Principal Mujibar Rahman Khan exchanged greetings with the diplomats while Shamsunnahar Nizami, chief of women's wing of the party and wife of Nizami, greeted the wives of the diplomats.

The Indians claimed that they are the members of a 'Kirtan' group and wanted to visit different Hindu-populated areas to perform religious songs. But they had no musical instruments with them, which aroused suspicion about their motive, Havilder Jalil said.

Previously the Cell itself saw many quality bidders in its successful Haripur 360MW project which comparatively had harder criteria.

## Bangladeshi man, 2 sons convicted of 'honour killing' in UK

UNB, Dhaka

A Bangladeshi-origin man and his two teenage sons have been found guilty in Britain of murdering his daughter's boyfriend in 2004, in yet another incident of 'honour killing'.

The incident once again highlights the reality of 'forced marriages', 'arranged marriages' and 'honour killings' prevalent among sections of the Asian community in Britain, according to an IANS report from London.

The conviction also brings out the cultural divide between parents from the Indian sub-continent and their British-born children.

In this case, the daughter, Manna Begum, 20, had been dating Arash Ghorbani-Zarin, 19, an Iranian-origin student of electronic engineering at Oxford Brookes University, and had become pregnant.

Begum was supposed to marry someone else through an 'arranged marriage' but had continued to date Arash.

This enraged Begum's father, Chomir Ali, 60, a member of Oxford's Bangladeshi community, told the media that the actions of Chomir Ali and his sons had been condemned.

"What he did is very bad, for his family and his community. This is the first time I have ever seen this. I have never known it in Bangladesh either."

the family of Arash issued a statement through police.

They said: "Our son was intelligent and loving and had a wonderful lifetime ahead of him. We miss him every second, every minute and every hour of every day. His death has crushed our family. This verdict gives us back some comfort that justice has been done but it does not bring him back."

Jomshed Ali, 60, a member of Oxford's Bangladeshi community, told the media that the actions of Chomir Ali and his sons had been condemned.

"The second bid for the project was cancelled as the Cell received a lone bid, and not because of any business lobby, the rejoinder said.

The rejoinder said it is not true that the modification of criteria was made to award the contract to some party under the directive of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). It was the committee which agreed to recommend some modifications for more competition and wider participation among the bidders to have a better tariff offer.

Justice Gross said the Western-style relationship caused a "battle of wills" in Begum's family, as she refused to conform. The relationship "broke religious and family taboos".

The jury at Oxford crown court was told that Mamnoon's DNA was found on the butterfly knife used to kill him and that bloodstained clothing belonging to the brothers was found in a plastic bag.

Begum and Arash were described by friends as devoted to each other. They wanted to marry and did nothing to hide their affection, often holding hands. This, the jury was told, "brought shame on the family".

Mujibar was said to be furious at his sister's "blatant" defiance and slapped her three times when she refused to end the relationship.

In a police interview, he said: "She acted contrary to religion and tradition by dating Arash. Instead of dating, she should have waited to have an arranged marriage."

Prosecuting lawyer Julian Baughan said: "Their relationship brought shame and dishonour on the family. That drove the accused to murder Arash to vindicate the family's honour."

"It is inconceivable that a murder of this kind would have been organised by his 15- and 18-year-old sons (their ages at the time) on their own. It had all the hallmarks of a family killing with the father egging the boys on."

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