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Middlemen control hides market

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Tanners have alleged that a syndicate of seasonal traders controlled the trade of hides during the Eid-ul-Azha causing an artificial hike in prices of animal skins.

Seasonal traders bought cowhides for Tk 700 to 15,00 a piece and sold it for Tk 1,700 to Tk 2,500, said some tanners.

Bangladesh Tanners' Association Shahin Ahmed said many tanners would not be able to buy hides at high prices since exporters of leather goods are reluctant to raise purchase prices. Seasonal traders purchased hides at low prices but sold them at exorbitant prices, he said.

"We can afford to increase the purchase prices of hides by Tk 5 to Tk 10 a piece but not more than that."

Two associations for exporters of leather goods and footwear this year set purchase prices of cowhides from Tk 55 to Tk 60 a square foot and goat hide from Tk 25 to Tk 30 in Dhaka. The prices of cowhide were fixed from Tk 45 to Tk 50 per square foot



Garo children sing and dance at Bidya Niketon High School at the capital's Banani celebrating Wangala, a thanksgiving to their god Misi Saljong, yesterday. The Garos believe fruits and roots collected from jungles were their food thousands of years ago and they did not have seeds to grow food. One day they prayed to their god and the next day they were given two types of rice seeds. They preserved them and started cultivating on the hills. After the harvest they thanked their god and celebrated the occasion before consuming the rice. Story on page 3.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

INDIAN AIR FORCE

Chopper crash kills 9 pilots

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Two pilots and nine trainee pilots were killed yesterday when an Indian Air Force Mi-17 helicopter crashed after an explosion on board near Tawang in northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh.

Defence spokesman Col Rajesh Kalia said the explosion on board the chopper SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

First glimpse of a planet from another galaxy

AFP, Washington

A hot, gaseous and fast-spinning planet has been found orbiting a dying star on the edge of the Milky Way, in the first such discovery of a planet from outside our galaxy, scientists said Thursday.

Slightly larger than the size of Jupiter, the largest in our solar system, the newly discovered exoplanet is orbiting a star 2,000 light years from Earth that has found its way into

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

One killed over cattle hides trade

A CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

At least one person was killed and another injured when a gang of cattle hides traders attacked and beat them up at Charkewar village under sadar upazila of the district on November 17.

The deceased was identified as Khoka Mollah, 32.

Sources said a gang of cattle hides traders led by Didar came to the house of SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

70 killed in Delhi building collapse

Evacuation ordered for 40 'illegal' buildings in the area

AFP, New Delhi

Authorities in New Delhi has ordered dozens of buildings to be evacuated near a five-storey residential block that collapsed killing nearly 70 people.

Fears of other collapses prompted officials to order residents to leave about 40 allegedly illegal buildings which were found to have water-logged basements -- one possible cause of Monday evening's disaster.

Hopes of finding survivors buried under the piles of concrete slabs and iron rods faded as rescuers completed their search through the remains of the building, which had housed scores of poor migrant families. "Stagnant water was found in the basements

of 38 buildings in the district, so the inhabitants must vacate immediately for their own safety," Deep Mathur, spokesman for the Delhi municipal corporation, told AFP.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Nato summit opens in Lisbon

AFP, Lisbon

US President Barack Obama and his Nato allies met yesterday to agree a plan to pass command of the Afghan war to Kabul by 2014 and erect an antimissile shield over Europe.

The leaders began a twoday summit in Lisbon dominated by war in Afghanistan and planning new defences against future foes.

"We will take decisions which will frame the future of our alliance," Nato Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen told the leaders of the 28 allies.

MORE ON PAGE 6

Rangamati Jubo Dal man shot dead

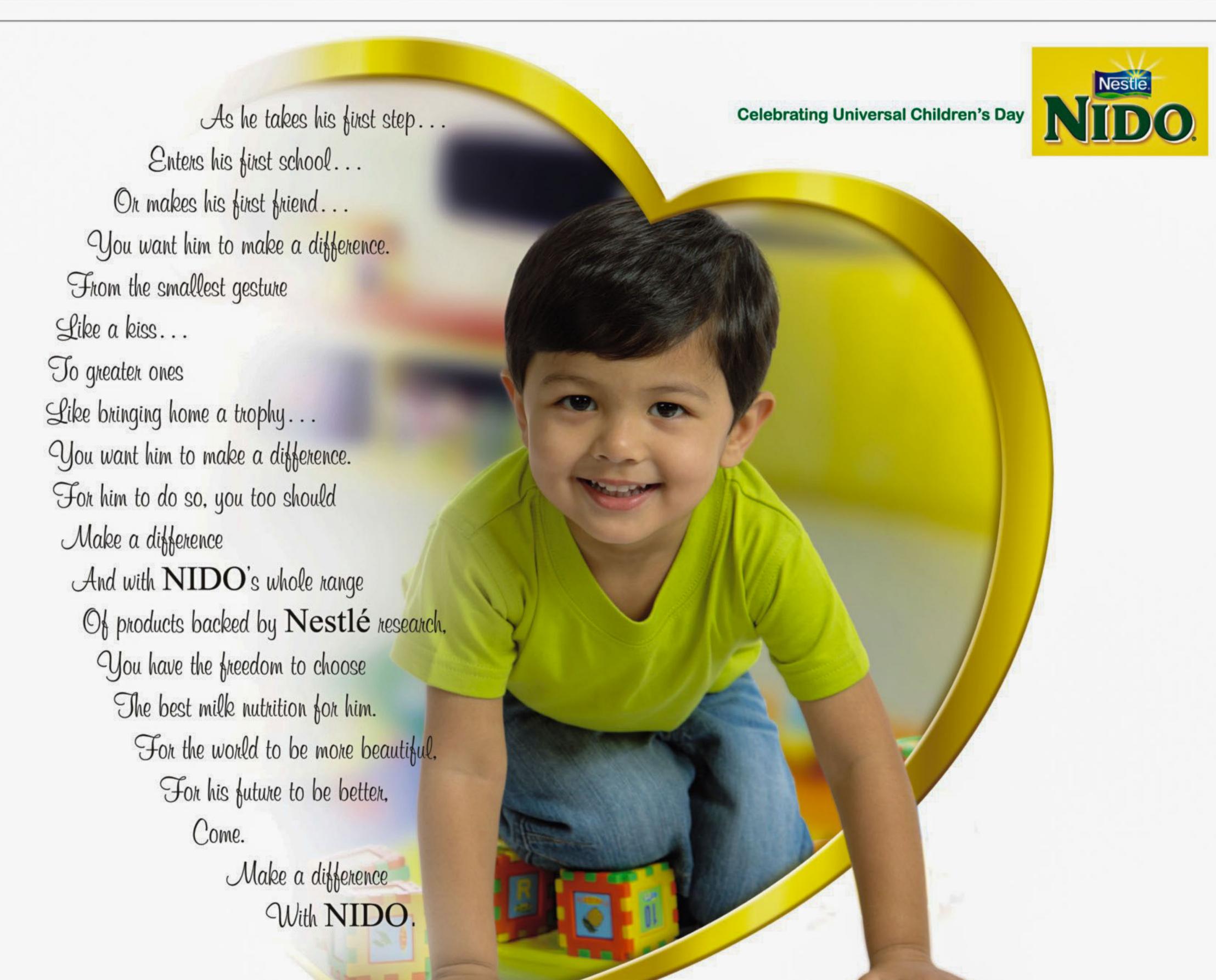
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

A Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal activist was shot dead allegedly by the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) at Betbunia under Kawkhali upazila here on Thursday.

The deceased was identified as Mohammad Arif, 27, of village Satnalapara, said police sources.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

November 20		
	Azan	Jamaat
ajr	5-05	5-40
ohr	12-45	1-15
sr	3-45	4-00
laghrib	5-21	5-24
sha	7-00	7-30
Source:	Islamic Four	dation



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