

ATTACK ON BAULS
Punishment
of culprits
demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Gosthi, a cultural organisation, yesterday organised human chain programmes across the country demanding punishment to the culprits who assaulted bauls (mystic singers) in Rajbari.

They also demanded security of the cultural activists and bauls.

The Udichi Shilpi Gosthi observed the programmes in front of the Jatiya Press Club in the city and all district headquarters, says a press release.

Udichi central unit Vice-President Prof Badiur Rahman, Prof Niranjan Odhikari, General Secretary of Sammlito Sangskritik Jote Hasan Arif and Udichi central unit General Secretary Habibul Alam were present programme in Dhaka.

Myanmar keen to
solve Rohingya crises
New envoy tells president

UNB, Dhaka

Myanmar is keen to resolve all problems including that of the Rohingyas through negotiations by the two democratic governments.

Newly appointed Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh U Min Lwin told this while he was presenting his credentials to President Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban yesterday.

The new envoy said the democratic government established in Myanmar recently has decided to resolve all problems with the neighbouring countries through discussion and negotiation.

He mentioned that the newly elected Myanmar president has decided to visit the Asian countries and start it from Bangladesh.

Ambassador Lwin expressed happiness as he has been assigned to Bangladesh for discharging the diplomatic duties. "Myanmar will support Bangladesh in the international and regional forums including the United Nations, Saarc and BIMSTEC," he said.

The envoy appreciated the government of Bangladesh for playing very positive role recently in the international relations.

Welcoming the new ambassador, Zillur said the government has taken initiative to establish rail and road connectivity with Myanmar.

He hoped that such direct connectivity will help expand trade and commercial activities between the two countries in future.

Secretary to the President's office M Safiul Alam and Foreign Secretary Mijarul Quayes were present during the meeting.

PM goes to
C'nawabganj
tomorrow

UNB, Dhaka

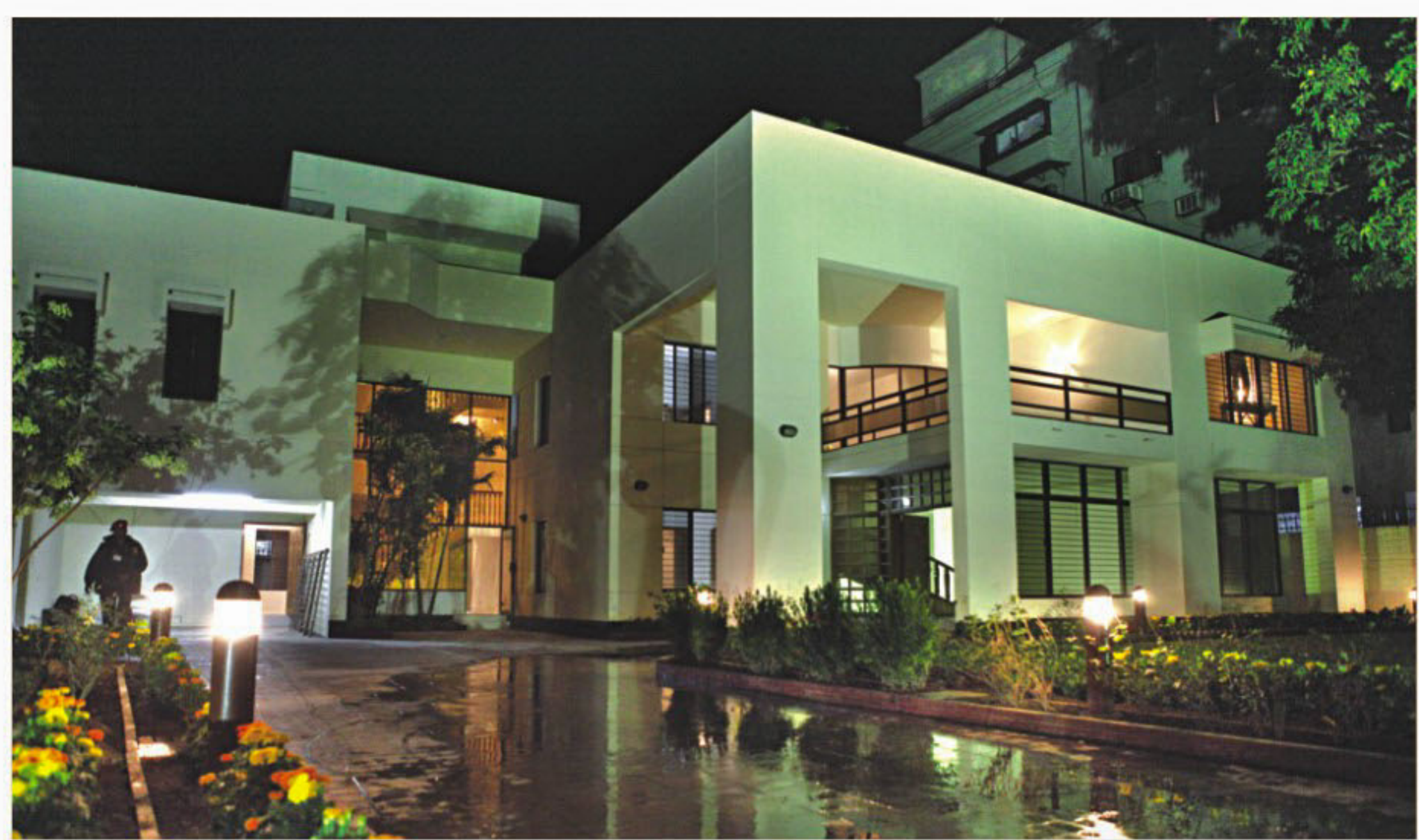
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to go to Chapainawabganj tomorrow on a daylong visit during which she will inaugurate the work of machinery installation of Amnura 50 MW power plant.

She will unveil the plaque of railway rehabilitation projects of Rajshahi-Amnura-Chapainawabganj, and Amnura-Rohanpur-Rohanpur border lines.

The prime minister will also lay the foundation of the second bridge over Mahananda River at Saheber Ghat and inaugurate the newly built stadium at Rehaichar in Chapainawabganj.

Later, she will hold meeting with the senior officials of the district administration at the circuit house.

Before returning to Dhaka, she will address a rally to be organised by local Awami League at Chapainawabganj Government College ground.



The new house of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at Gulshan-2 in the city.

STAR FILE PHOTO

Khaleda Zia moves to new house

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia shifted to a new rented house at Gulshan in the city in the early hours of Thursday.

Her Press Secretary Maruf Kamal Khan yesterday said Khaleda shifted to the new residence as renovation works in the house were completed.

The house, close to Pakistan High Commission, belongs to Tanveer Islam, son of Major (Retd) Quamrul Islam, former state minister for expatriates' welfare and overseas employment.

Standing on a one-bigha land at Gulshan-2, the house named "Feroja" has seven bedrooms, a living room, a lawn, a garden and amenities needed for a comfortable living.

Khaleda was looking for a house since she had to leave the 6, Shaheed Mainul Road residence in Dhaka cantonment on November 13 following a court verdict.

Khaleda, leader of the opposition in parliament, went to court against the

government's decision to cancel the allotment of Mainul Road house but lost the legal battle.

After leaving the cantonment house, she was residing at her younger brother Shamim Iskander's house in Gulshan area.

Mentionable, Khaleda has another house in Gulshan, which was also allotted by the government after the death of her husband late president Ziaur Rahman.



Russian JSC Gazprom Company Executive Officer Valery Gulev calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: PMO

6 houses
guttled in
Ctg

BSS, Chittagong

At least six dwelling houses were gutted in fire in the city on Wednesday night.

The fire originating from an electric short circuit engulfed the houses at Saraipara Momtaj bylane under Pahartali police station at around 8:50pm.

Firemen with the help of locals brought the fire under control at 10:30pm.

Efforts on to meet power crisis: PM

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister (PM) Sheikh Hasina yesterday said her government is working relentlessly to mitigate gas and power crises in the country in the shortest time possible.

She made the remark while a delegation of Russian JSC Gazprom Company led by its

Executive Officer Valery Gulev called on her at the prime minister's office (PMO).

Prime minister's press secretary, briefing newsmen later, said the premier and the Russian delegation discussed on gas extraction, gas well drilling and power generation.

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, PM's Energy Adviser Toufiq-e-Elahi

Chowdhury, Ambassador at-Large M Ziauddin, Principal Secretary to the PM MA Karim, PMO Secretary Mollah Waheeduzzaman, Energy Secretary Mesbahuddin, Petrobangla Chairman Dr Hossain Mansur, Russian Ambassador in Dhaka Gennady P Trotsenko and Bangladesh Ambassador to Russia Dr SM Saiful Haque were also present.

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