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Shazneen's 17th death anniversary today

On this day 17 years ago, 15-year-old Shazneen Tasnim Rahman was brutally murdered at her house in the capital's Gulshan area. Shazneen was a class-IX student of Scholastica School when she was murdered on the night of April 23, 1998. People from all walks of life were dumbfounded by the brutality of



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina meets Japanese premier Shinzo Abe on the sidelines of the Asian-African Summit in Jakarta yesterday.

Hasina calls for peace, security

Stresses South-South cooperation in fighting terrorism, climate change, human trafficking

UNB, Jakarta

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called for a triangular South-South cooperation to fight terrorism, human trafficking and climate change. "I believe the South-South and triangular cooperation has immense potential to foster development, achieve peace and security, fight terrorism and violent extremism," she said.

The PM made the remarks while addressing a plenary session of the second Asian-African Summit at the Balai Sidang Jakarta Convention Centre in Indonesia. "Durable peace and security are pre-conditions to sustainable development," she told the summit.

"Indeed, the volatile regional and global security situation, terrorism and violent extremism continue to challenge development gains and our efforts towards peace and prosperity," she added.

Hasina, also chief of the ruling Awami League, said a set of transformative goals and targets were being identified in the context of the post-2015 development agenda.

Indo-Bangla pipeline for diesel import

BPC, NRL sign deal

MD FAZLUR RAHMAN

Bangladesh and India have agreed to install a 130-kilometre long cross-border pipeline to help Dhaka import 10 lakh tonnes of diesel from the neighbouring country annually, officials said.

Numaligarh Refinery Ltd (NRL) of India and Bangladesh Petroleum

Good goal, ways to get it done questionable

FOUR-TIER DATA CENTRE

SHARIER KHAN

The project had no financing and neither did it have any Development Project Proposal (DPP) approved by the planning ministry. Yet, the cabinet's purchase committee in late February approved a project to install a "tier-four" national data centre at a cost of \$154 million.

The job was given to Chinese ZTE Corporation. According to a highly placed source at the information and communication technology (ICT) ministry, only a few years ago Bangladesh Computer Council had installed a "tier-three" national data centre. Just 20 percent of it is being utilised.

"Even if we incorporate all data of all government institutions, 60 percent of the data centre will remain unutilised," the ICT ministry source said, adding: "Bangladesh does not need a tier-four data centre."

However, according to an IT specialist, "A robust and large data centre will always be useful for the

Cops suspect militant link

ASHULIA BANK HEIST

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Investigators probing the gruesome bank heist in Ashulia have said the nature of the attack seemed different from "usual bank robberies".

They suspect that the robbers have links with militant groups.

"The robbers used hand grenades, crude bombs, firearms and cleavers. A can of petrol was found in the backpack of a

Bankers term it unusual

Banking professionals described Tuesday's grisly bank heist in Ashulia as a very unusual incident that appears to be more of a militant attack than a robbery.

The robbery marked by killing of eight people and use of powerful explosives is

BCL men led the attack

KARWAN BAZAR

STAR REPORT

Those who hurled bricks at Khaleda Zia's motorcade and vandalised several vehicles when the BNP chief was campaigning for her party's mayor candidate on Monday evening are all known faces in Karwan Bazar and Tejgaon areas.

They are mostly leaders and activists of the ruling Awami League's associated bodies and Chhatra League men from ward-26, Tejgaon and Dhaka Polytechnic Institute.

Chhatra League leaders and activists played the leading role in the attack,



Trial of 2 more war crimes accused ends

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday concluded all proceedings in the war crimes case against Mahidur Rahman and Afsar Hossain Chutu of Chapainawabganj and kept the case waiting for verdict any day.

Mahidur and Chutu, alleged members of Razakar force in Shibganj upazila, face three charges including mass killing committed in the western district during the Liberation War in 1971.

Among the charges, two are related to killing of 28 people in separate incidents, while the other was related to looting and arson in two villages. The duo,

Ruling-party men are seen during the attack on BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at Karwan Bazar on Monday.



1. MIZANUR RAHMAN MIZAN, BCL joint secretary, Dhaka North; 2. REZWANUR HOQUE ROMAN, BCL general secretary, ward-26; 3. MAHMUD TUHIN, BCL leader, Dhaka North; 4. MD ZAKIR, BCL vice-president, ward-26; 5. AL-AMIN, BCL education secretary, ward-26; 6. MOHON KUSH, BCL member, Dhaka Polytechnic; 7. ZAKIR HOSSAIN SAGOR, BCL president, Dhaka Polytechnic Institute

Niko Graft Case HC hearing on Khaleda's plea begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday started hearing a seven-year-old writ petition of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia filed to challenge the legality of Niko corruption case.

During the hearing, Ragib Rauf Chowdhury, a lawyer for Khaleda, read

Storm kills 11 in 6 dists

STAR REPORT

At least 11 people were killed and scores injured as a nor'wester swept through several districts, mostly in the northern parts of Bangladesh in the late hours of Tuesday and early yesterday.

The storm also destroyed a large number houses, uprooted trees and damaged crops.

Rail communications between Dhaka and Sylhet were snapped for seven hours till 9:00am yesterday as trees, uprooted by the storm, fell on the tracks at Lawachhara Reserve Forest in Moulvibazar.

Of the deceased, three are from Habiganj, two each from Dinajpur, Bogra and Sherpur and one each from Gaibandha and Jamalpur.

In Habiganj, a woman and her son died when a tree collapsed on their house during the storm at Badauri village in Baniachang upazila. The deceased were identified as Nurjahan Begum, 22, and Rabin Mia, 4.

Ramzan Ali, 40, of the district's Nabiganj upazila was injured when a tree fell on his house. He was rushed to Upazila Health Complex where doctors declared him dead, said Liakat Ali, officer-in-charge of Nabiganj Police Station.

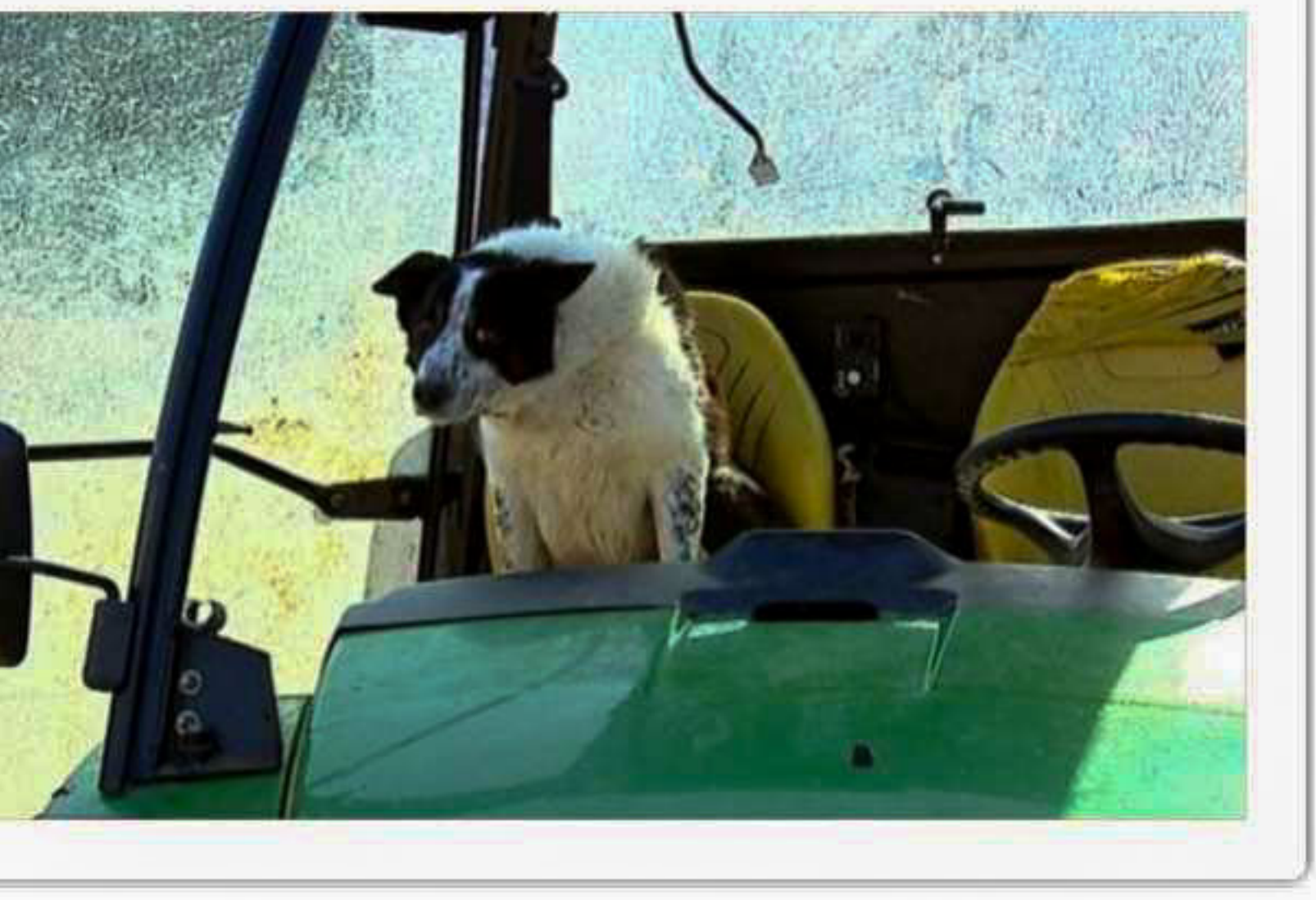
In Dinajpur, a child and a woman were killed and 30 others were injured as a

Dog 'drives tractor' on motorway

BBC ONLINE

Delays were caused on a busy stretch of motorway "due to a dog taking control of a tractor".

The bizarre incident was reported on Twitter by Traffic Scotland at J13 of the M74 at



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PRAYER TIMING APRIL 23

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-25 12-45 4-45 6-27 8-00

JAMAAT 5-00 1-15 5-00 6-31 8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

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