

# Birthday

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 exploitation and repression by the Pakistani rulers. The movement culminated in independent Bangladesh through the nine-month Liberation War in 1971.  
 On August 15, 1975, the great leader along with most his family members was assassinated by a cabal of army men.  
 The day is being observed as National Children's Day. This is also a public holiday.

Meanwhile, President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday issued messages marking the day.

The president said, "We'll have to build our young generation with the spirit of noble qualities so that they can materialise Bangabandhu's dream of transforming the country into Sonar Bangla [Golden Bengal]. We have to put in our sincere endeavour to flourish the intrinsic values of our children from their very childhood."

He urged all to make united efforts for building a happy and prosperous Bangladesh and ensuring a bright future for children.  
 Hasina in her statement said, "The charismatic leadership and personality of Bangabandhu had brought the whole nation under one umbrella. As a result of which we got the independence and sovereign Bangladesh, and the Bangali nationalism flourished."

The PM will place wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu at Bangabandhu Bhaban in the capital's Dhanmondi at 7:00am.

The president and the premier will pay homage to Bangabandhu by placing wreaths at his grave at Tungipara at 10:00am.

Hasina will also join a cultural programme, a children's gathering and discussion at Tungipara. She will also inaugurate a book fair and distribute sewing machines there.

Besides, the ruling Awami League, its associated bodies, socio-cultural and political organisations chalked out elaborate programmes to mark the day.

The programmes of the ruling party include hoisting of the national and party flags atop Bangabandhu Bhaban and AL offices across the country at 6:30am and placing of wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu at Bangabandhu Bhaban at 7:00am.

The ruling party will organise a discussion at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre at 3:00pm tomorrow. The PM will preside over the programme.

# Efforts on

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 Diplomatic sources said the authorities have identified improvement of security at advisory, supervisory and operational levels.  
 The Bangladesh government is expected to give the responsibility of airport security to one of the four British companies, recommended by British High Commissioner Alison Blake, by March 20. Otherwise, direct Biman passenger flights on the Dhaka-London route might be barred, added the sources.  
 Meanwhile, as part of the move to pick a foreign company for overall security management of Shahjalal International Airport, the Bangladesh authorities yesterday started negotiations with Restrata, one of the four firms.  
 On Tuesday, representatives of the foreign firm, Redline Assured Security, sat with top officials of Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (Caab) and discussed the area of work, charges and duration of service, said a top official at the civil aviation ministry.  
 "We are expecting to choose one firm by Saturday for the security management of the airport," Civil Aviation Minister Rashed Khan Menon told reporters yesterday.  
 The British envoy on Sunday provided the list of the four security firms during a meeting with top government officials. The two other companies are G4S and Westminster Security Services.

# Dhaka's cost

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 second and third cheapest cities of the world. The other two are Chennai and New Delhi. Even Karachi of Pakistan is the world's seventh cheapest city.  
 New York City now features among the world's 10 most expensive cities for the first time in 14 years. London has climbed six places to join four other European cities in the top ten.  
 "Falling commodity prices and exchange-rate revisions have caused Olympic Games host Rio de Janeiro to drop 52 places down the ranking, while visitors to Euro 2016 matches in Paris and Lyon will see a mild improvement in prices because of a weaker euro. In Russia, scheduled host of the 2018 FIFA World Cup, that has seen the biggest decrease over the last year, with St Petersburg and Moscow tumbling 51 and 63 places down the ranking respectively, reflecting a 40 percent decline in living costs over the previous year," said the study.

# Six power deals

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 capital project at a cost of Tk 1,544 crore.  
 The cabinet committee also approved changing a lead bidder of a 149MW fuel oil-based power project in Kaliakoir. The project has been stalled for the last three years due to legal complications. The original lead bidder, a Sri Lankan company, is now being replaced by Summit, a local company.

The new projects that were approved yesterday are the United 300MW fuel oil-based Anwara power project, Acorn 100MW Julda fuel oil-based power project, Precision Energy Patia 100MW, 225MW dual fuel-based Bhola power project to be implemented by India's Shapoorji Pallonji Infrastructure Capital Company, and 30MW Solar Power Project by Intraco CNG & Juli New Energy.

This solar power project will be implemented in Gangachara upazila of Rangpur.

The Special Act for Speedy Supply of Power and Energy, 2010 was promulgated in the context of huge load shedding back in 2010 with the intent to urgently shorten the tender processing time to quickly award rental power projects. The act was renewed in 2014.  
**NOT SO 'SPEEDY'**  
 In March 2014, United Enterprises & Co proposed to build a 500MW fuel-oil based power plant in Anwara of Chittagong with its own finance, on own land and under own management.  
 The Power Development Board in May that year decided to reconfigure the project at 300MW, and place it for an unsolicited deal under the special act for speedy power supply.  
 But the "speedy" project was never really speedy.

The Prime Minister's Office gave it the go-ahead in December 2014 along with the proposals related to the projects proposed by the Precision Energy and the Acorn.  
 A technical committee reviewed the proposal and the company's technical and financial capabilities, and cleared it in February last year. Then the PDB held some meetings with the last one in January this year.  
 The Acorn submitted its proposal in March 2014 to build the Julda power plant in Chittagong. This proposal too travelled around various desks before being approved yesterday.  
 The Precision's proposal to build the Patia power plant was submitted in May 2014. It took almost two years for the proposal to get the final approval.  
 Ironically, the whole process -- from submission of the Letter of Intent (LOI) to awarding a contract -- usually takes less than a year in case of normal tendering of projects.

As for the price of electricity, the United will charge 18.37 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh), the Precision 18.37 cents/kWh and the Acorn 18.37 cents/kWh. The rates were fixed for a 15-year period through the unsolicited negotiations.  
**BHOLA PLANT**  
 The Shapoorji Pallonji Infrastructure Capital Company of India has been seeking a power project from mid-2014 on the basis of unsolicited negotiations.  
 At first, it proposed to transfer an installed but unused power plant from Uttarkhand in India to Sirajganj. Then early last year, it started hammering on installing the plant in Bhola.  
 In September last year, it changed the proposal in favour of a brand-new 225MW dual fuel-powered plant that could either run on gas or on imported petroleum.  
 The Shapoorji also proposed to build this plant with its own funding. As per an unsolicited negotiation, the company will be selling electricity at 3.98 cents/kWh if it's produced by using gas, and 16.96 cents/kWh if produced by burning fuel oil.  
 The Indian company suggested using gas from the Shahbazpur field.  
 However, the gas field is already falling short in desired production and cannot produce enough to run the new power plant.  
 An existing 200MW plant, which began power generation last year and uses gas from the Shahbazpur field, is now producing only 50-60MW electricity as the field has not been producing enough gas since September-October last year.  
 The existing plant requires 30 million cubic feet per day (mmcf) gas from the Shahbazpur field. The proposed plant would require a similar quantity.  
 But the gas field, which is disconnected from the national gas network because of its location, is presently producing only 17-18 mmcf.  
**CHANGE OF LEAD BIDDER**  
 Kaliakoir 149MW HFO/Gas-fired project was proposed by a consortium of Aitken Spence of Sri Lanka and Alliance Holdings of Bangladesh in August 2011. It proposed a levelised tariff of 6.46 cents/kWh for 15 years.  
 Bangladesh Telecommunications Company Limited was supposed to allocate land for the project from its Talibabad Satellite Centre at Kaliakoir in Gazipur. But the land could not be handed over in time and the plant could not be built.  
 The PDB then asked the consortium to extend the bid security or face encashment.  
 This led the company to go for litigation in 2012 and the LOI could not be cancelled.  
 Last year, the consortium declined to carry out the project and told the PDB that the Summit was interested as the lead bidder.  
 The Summit submitted its LOI and proposed to acquire land on its own and build necessary infrastructure.  
 After taking legal opinions in this regard, the PDB in December last year decided to propose that the government may approve the change of lead bidder so that the existing bidders withdraw the on-going litigation.  
 Meanwhile, the Sri Lankan company certified transfer of its share [64 percent] in the consortium to the Summit.

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# Denmark happiest

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 Zealand, Australia, and Sweden. Denmark was in third place last year, behind Switzerland and Iceland.  
 This year's bottom 10 were Madagascar, Tanzania, Liberia, Guinea, Rwanda, Benin, Afghanistan, Togo, Syria and Burundi.  
 The United States came in at 13, the United Kingdom at 23, France at 32, and Italy at 50.  
 Among the other South Asian countries Pakistan ranked 92nd while Nepal was at 107, Sri Lanka at 117, India at 118 and Afghanistan at 154, according to the report.  
 "There is a very strong message for my country, the United States, which is very rich, has gotten a lot richer over the last 50 years, but has gotten no happier," Reuters quoted Prof Jeffrey Sachs, head of the SDSN and special advisor to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, as saying in an interview in Rome.  
 While the differences between countries where people are happy and those where they are not could be scientifically measured, "we can understand why and do something about it," Sachs, one of the report's authors, said.  
 "The message for the United States is clear. For a society that just chases money, we are chasing the wrong things. Our social fabric is deteriorating, social trust is deteriorating, faith in government is deteriorating," he said.  
 Aiming to "survey the scientific underpinnings of measuring and understanding subjective wellbeing," the report, now in its fourth edition, ranks 157 countries by happiness levels using factors such as per capita gross domestic product (GDP) and healthy years of life expectancy.  
 It also rates "having someone to count on in times of trouble" and freedom from corruption in government and business.  
 "When countries single-mindedly pursue individual objectives, such as economic development to the neglect of social and environmental objectives, the results can be highly adverse for human wellbeing, even dangerous for survival," it said.  
 "Many countries in recent years have achieved economic growth at the

cost of sharply rising inequality, entrenched social exclusion, and grave damage to the natural environment."  
**YARDSTICK OF HAPPINESS**  
 The first report was issued in 2012 to support a UN meeting on happiness and wellbeing. Five countries -- Bhutan, Ecuador, Scotland, United Arab Emirates and Venezuela -- now have appointed Ministers of Happiness charged with promoting it as a goal of public policy.  
 The 2016 survey showed that three countries in particular, Ireland, Iceland and Japan, were able to maintain their happiness levels despite external shocks such as the post-2007 economic crisis and the 2011 earthquake because of social support and solidarity.  
 Sachs pointed to Costa Rica, which came in 14th and ahead of many wealthier countries, as an example of a healthy, happy society although it is not an economic powerhouse.

# All female crew

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 part of his legacy.  
 The flight Captain was Sharifah Czarena, assisted by Senior First Officers Sariana Nordin and Dk Nadiyah Pg Khashiem.  
 Captain Czarena trained in the UK and in December 2013 became the first Royal Brunei pilot to fly out of London Heathrow in its flagship Boeing 787 Dreamliner.  
 She told The Brunei Times in 2012: "Being a pilot, people normally see it as being a male-dominant occupation."  
 "As a woman, a Bruneian woman, it is such a great achievement. It's really showing the younger generation or the girls especially that whatever they dream of, they can achieve it."  
 Saudi Arabia is the world's only country to forbid women from driving.  
 While it is not technically illegal for women to drive, only men are awarded driving licences - and women who drive in public risk being fined and arrested by the police.  
 Saudi women have launched a series of campaigns - including on social media - to demand an easing of the restrictions.

# HC clears

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 connection with the murder of Humayun Kabir Sabbir, a director of Bashundhara Group, in July 2006.  
 Later, the ACC submitted a charge sheet against eight people. All the accused are now on bail.  
 In the case, allegations were brought against the accused of taking and accepting bribes worth Tk 21 crore to suppress the murder case.  
 Yesterday, the HC bench of Justice Md Ruhul Quddus and Justice Mahmudul Hoque rejected four separate petitions submitted by Tarique, Babar, Sufian and Saleemul, challenging the trial proceedings of the case against them.  
 The court also vacated its 2008 orders that had stayed the trial proceedings against them.

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 ACC's lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star that there is no legal bar to run the trial proceedings by the trial court against the accused.  
 In 2008, Tarique, Babar, Sufian and Saleemul filed four petitions with the HC for scrapping the trial proceedings of the case.  
 After hearing the petitions on February 16 this year, the HC bench fixed yesterday for delivering verdict on the appeals.

Petitioners' lawyer Raghbir Rauf Chowdhury told this correspondent that Tarique is now in London for treatment and Babar is now in jail.  
 Meanwhile, another HC bench led by Justice M Enayetur Rahim yesterday ordered the authorities concerned of the government to send a summons notice to the present address of Tarique in London, asking him to surrender before the trial court by March 31 in the Tk 20.41-crore money laundering case.  
 The bench also set March 31 for passing further orders in this regard, ACC lawyer Khurshid added.

**Public safety**  
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 "Helmet is extremely vital for construction workers because it is believed to prevent 90 percent of casualties, as most accidents at construction sites occur from falling objects from above," said another renowned civil engineer Prof Shamsul Hoque.  
 The project has not undergone the road safety auditing either even though it is required under the 2005 Guidelines for Road Safety, said official sources.  
 The Local Government Engineering Department has been implementing the Moghbazar-Mouchak flyover. The project drew huge criticism from experts for being implemented with half a dozen gross flaws without mandatory approval of Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority.  
 Nazmul Alam, project director of the flyover, said, "We provide safety gears but the workers decline to put them on complaining of unease."  
 Regarding workers' safety, he said, "We follow up safety compliance."  
 Asked why the workers are still without safety gears, Nazmul said, "As the project director and the supervision consultant, I cannot evade responsibility for the lapse and causality."

# Indian govt's move

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 their finger prints and iris signatures.  
 Now the BJP, which inherited the scheme, wants to pass new provisions including those on national security, using a loophole to bypass the opposition in parliament.  
 "It has been showcased as a tool exclusively meant for disbursement of subsidies and we do not realise that it can also be used for mass surveillance," said Tathagata Satpathy, a lawmaker from the eastern state of Odisha.  
 "Can the government ... assure us that this Aadhaar card and the data that will be collected under it - biometric, biological, iris scan, finger print, everything put together - will not be misused as has been done by the NSA in the US?"  
 Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has defended the legislation in parliament, saying Aadhaar saved the government an estimated 150 billion rupees (\$2.2 billion) in the 2014-15 financial year alone.  
 A finance ministry spokesman added that the government had taken steps to ensure citizens' privacy would be respected and the authority to access data was exercised only in rare cases.  
 According to another government official, the new law is in fact more limited in scope than the decades-old Indian Telegraph Act, which permits national security agencies and tax authorities to intercept telephone conversations of individuals in the interest of public safety.  
 Those assurances have not satisfied political opponents and people from religious minorities, including India's sizeable Muslim community, who say the database could be used as a tool to silence them.  
 "We are midwifing a police state," said Asaduddin Owaisi, an opposition MP.

Raman Jit Singh Chima, global policy director at Access, an international digital rights organisation, said the proposed Indian law lacked the transparency and oversight safeguards found in Europe or the United States, which last year reformed its bulk telephone surveillance programme.  
 He pointed to the US Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, which must approve many surveillance requests made by intelligence agencies, and European data protection authorities as oversight mechanisms not present in the Indian proposal.  
 The Indian government brought the Aadhaar legislation to the upper house of parliament yesterday in a bid to secure passage before lawmakers go into recess.  
 To get around its lack of a majority there, the BJP is presenting it as a financial bill, which the upper chamber cannot reject. It can return it to the lower house, where the ruling party has a majority.  
 In its assessment of the measure, New Delhi-based PRS Legislative Research said law enforcement agencies could use someone's Aadhaar number as a link across various datasets such as telephone and air travel records.

# Worker dies

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 During a visit to the scene, the correspondent did not find any worker there.  
 Toma Construction has been doing the construction job and Emon was a worker of the company, said Moshir Rahman, officer-in-charge of Ramna police.  
 Emon's father Kabir Hossain also works for the company, he added.  
 The body has been taken to Gaibandha for burial, Kabir said.

added that with more than half the delegates "yet to be chosen and a calendar that favors us... we remain confident that our campaign is on a path to win the nomination."  
 Republicans will now have to decide whether to rally behind one candidate or siphon votes away from Trump as a team.  
 The scope of Trump's victory against Rubio in Florida will shock the Republican establishment as much as it will raise hopes the party can challenge in the one-time swing state come November 8.  
 President Barack Obama carried the state in both the 2008 and 2012 elections.  
 Rubio bowed out, saying: "While it is not God's plan that I be president in 2016 or maybe ever, and while today my campaign is suspended, the fact that I've even come this far is evidence of how special America truly is."  
 Kasich meanwhile openly called for a contested convention and vowed to campaign on.  
 "I want to remind you, again tonight, that I will not take the low road to the highest office in the land," he said.  
 Ted Cruz, an ultra-conservative senator from Texas, also remains in the Republican race.  
 Projections by US media showed him just behind Trump in Missouri, and in second place in Illinois and North Carolina.  
 Cruz made a call for Republicans to unify behind him against Trump.

# Clinton, Trump

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 Trump may now struggle to reach the 1,237 delegates necessary to avoid a challenge at the party's nominating convention in July in Cleveland.  
 "The bottom line after tonight: it looks like Trump will not have a majority of delegates in July," said Paul Beck, a professor of political science at Ohio State University.  
 There were fewer problems for Clinton, who defeated her rival Bernie Sanders in Florida, North Carolina, Ohio and Illinois. She also had a slight edge in Missouri, according to vote tallies.  
 Results however were so close -- less than one percent difference -- in Missouri that counting ceased until yesterday to consider absentee votes and ballots cast abroad, CNN reported. Under state law a recount can be ordered with such close results.  
 Sanders nevertheless faces an almost impossible task to catch up with Clinton's formidable delegate advantage.  
 "We are moving closer to securing the Democratic party nomination and winning this election in November," said Clinton, casting one eye on the general election -- and at Trump.  
 "When we hear a candidate for president call for rounding up 12 million immigrants, banning all Muslims from entering the United States -- when he embraces torture, that doesn't make him strong. It makes him wrong."  
 Sanders, however, was not giving up. He congratulated Clinton on her Tuesday victories in a statement, but

**Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation** কৃষি সমৃদ্ধি

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Memo No: 12.241.001.00.00.018.2016-1305 Dated: 15.03.2016

### Corrigendum

Invitation to the tender No: 12.241.001.00.00.018.2016-1245, dated: 06.03.2016 for appointment of receiver's and carrying agent of MOP fertilizer imported from Russia is hereby amended as follows:

Sl No	Invitation to the tender & tender schedule Clause No.	Existing provisions	Amended provisions
1.	Serial No. 17 (b) eligibility of tenderer, invitation to the tender & ITT Clause No. 18.1g of tender data sheet of the tender schedule.	A certificate from Government, Semi-Government & Autonomous bodies, private sector or any other entities showing experience of carrying any goods (Fertilizer, Rice, pulse, wheat, sugar, salt etc) of minimum 50,000.000 M Tons bagged/bulk cargo for last 03 (three) years including C&F, survey, Stevedoring, lightening, bag supply, bagging, weightment, stitching and transportation from outer anchorage of Chittagong port/Harbaria, Mongla port to godowns of different destinations.	A certificate from Government, Semi-Government & Autonomous bodies showing experience of carrying any goods (Fertilizer, Rice, pulse, wheat, sugar, salt) of minimum 50,000.000 M Tons bagged/bulk cargo for last 03 (three) years including C&F, survey, Stevedoring, lightening, bag supply, bagging, weightment, stitching and transportation from outer anchorage of Chittagong port/Harbaria, Mongla port to godowns of different destinations.
02. All other terms & conditions of the said tender will remain unchanged.			

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