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Trump doubles down on wiretap claims

WH requests Congress to probe if Obama admin abused power

CNN.COM

President Donald Trump is asking Congress to look into whether the Obama administration abused its investigative powers during the 2016 election, White House press secretary Sean Spicer said in a statement yesterday.

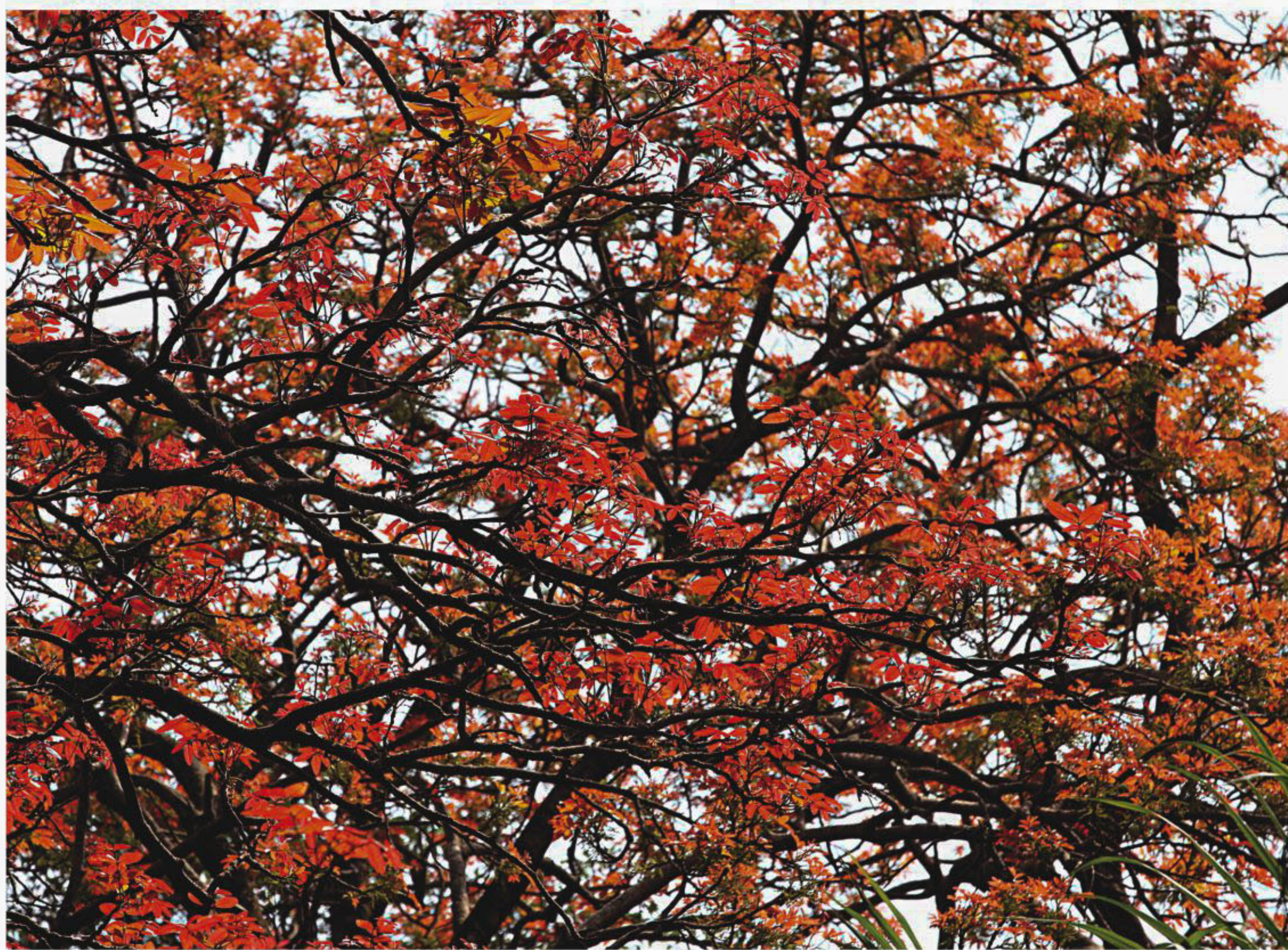
The request came a day after Trump took to Twitter to accuse former President Barack Obama, without providing any evidence, of wiretapping his phones in Trump Tower in the weeks before the November election.

"Reports concerning potentially politically motivated investigations immediately ahead of the 2016 election are very troubling," Spicer said in the statement, which he also posted on Twitter. "President Donald J Trump is requesting that as part of their investigation into Russian activity, the congressional intelligence committees exercise their oversight authority to determine whether executive branch investigative powers were abused in 2016."

"Neither the White House nor the President will comment further until such oversight is conducted," Spicer added. He did not provide any further details on the President's request to Congress.

While Spicer said "reports" to that effect prompted the call for a congressional investigation, the White House still has not provided any evidence to back up the President's accusations. There are no publicly known credible reports

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A tree in Ramna Park goes all colourful as spring advances. These newly sprouted leaves will soon turn green. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: SK ENANUL HAQ



Shazneen murder case: Shahid's death penalty remains in force

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The death sentence of Shahidul Islam (Shahid) in the case over the rape and murder of Shazneen Tasnim Rahman 19 years ago remains in force.

The Supreme Court yesterday dismissed a petition by the accused for reviewing its earlier verdict upholding his death penalty.

A three-member SC bench headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha gave this order, thus bringing an end to the last step of the legal battle.

Shahid was a domestic help at Shazneen's Gulshan house when the incident happened on the night of April 23, 1998.

During yesterday's hearing, Munsurul Hoque

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PM leaves for IORA summit today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is flying to Indonesia today to attend the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Leaders' Summit to be held tomorrow.

The summit with the theme "Strengthening Maritime Cooperation for a Peaceful, Stable and Prosperous Indian Ocean" marks the 20th anniversary of IORA since its official inception in 1997.

The meeting would

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

First round the world trip with all-women crew



MAIL ONLINE

Air India has made history by completing its first ever around-the-world flight run entirely by an all-women crew.

The plane travelled from Delhi to San Francisco and everyone involved was female - from the captain to the ground crew and check-in staff.

The airline has applied for a Guinness World Record and now plans to operate similar flights as a way of celebrating International Women's Day on March 8th.

Even the bag handlers and air traffic control dispatchers were women - as well as the customer care staff.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Polls to 14 UPs under new EC today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fourteen upazila parishads in 12 districts go to polls today with much attention focused on whether the new Election Commission will be able to hold those in a free and fair manner.

Fresh elections will be held in Sylhet's Osmaniganj, Khagrachhari's Guimara and Sunamganj's Jagannathpur for all three posts of chairman and vice-chairpersons.

The remaining 11 upazila parishads will see by-polls to fill some vacant posts, said EC officials. Four municipalities in four districts will also see by-polls for either mayor or councillor posts.

The EC has taken all out preparation to hold the polls in a free and fair manner, EC Director (public relations) SM Azaduzzaman told The Daily Star.

President Abdul Hamid on February 6 appointed KM Nurul Huda as the chief election commissioner (CEC) along with four election commissioners for five years.

Right after taking oath on February 15, the new EC got the task of holding some pending local government polls.

Experts and officials earlier reckoned

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

Fate of illegal BGMEA building sealed

SC rejects review petition against demolition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday dismissed a petition seeking review of its judgement upholding an April 2011 High Court order for demolishing the 15-storey BGMEA building illegally built in the capital's Begunbari canal and Hatirjheel lake.

It also asked the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) to submit an application by March 9 stating the time it would take to bring it down.

A three-member SC Appellate Division bench headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha fixed to pass an order on the application that day.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam, representing Rajdhani Unnayan

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MPs slam Muhith for Yunus praise

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two MPs, one from the Awami League and the other from the Workers Party, last night lambasted Finance Minister AMA Muhith for what they claimed "praising the contribution of Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus in poverty reduction through microcredit".

AL MP Hasan Mahmud

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PRAYER TIMING MARCH 6

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5-15	12-45	4-30	6-05	7-30
JAMAAT 5-50	1-15	4-45	6-10	8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



প্রাণঢালা অভিনন্দন

ইউনিয়ন গ্রুপ এর চেয়ারম্যান **জনাব রানা শফিউল্লাহ** ও ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক **জনাব রাকিবুল কবির** বাংলাদেশের সর্ববৃহৎ ডাইড ইয়ার্ন প্রস্তুত ও রপ্তানিকারক (দেইউ বাংলাদেশ লিঃ, সাম রি ডাইং বিডি লিঃ) রপ্তানি বাণিজ্যে অসামান্য অবদানের স্বীকৃতিস্বরূপ গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার কর্তৃক প্রতিবারের মত এবারও 'সি.আই.পি (রপ্তানি)-২০১৩' নির্বাচিত হওয়ায় আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন এবং তাদের সর্বাঙ্গীন সাফল্য ও দীর্ঘায়ু কামনা করছি।

সকল কর্মকর্তা ও কর্মচারীবৃন্দ

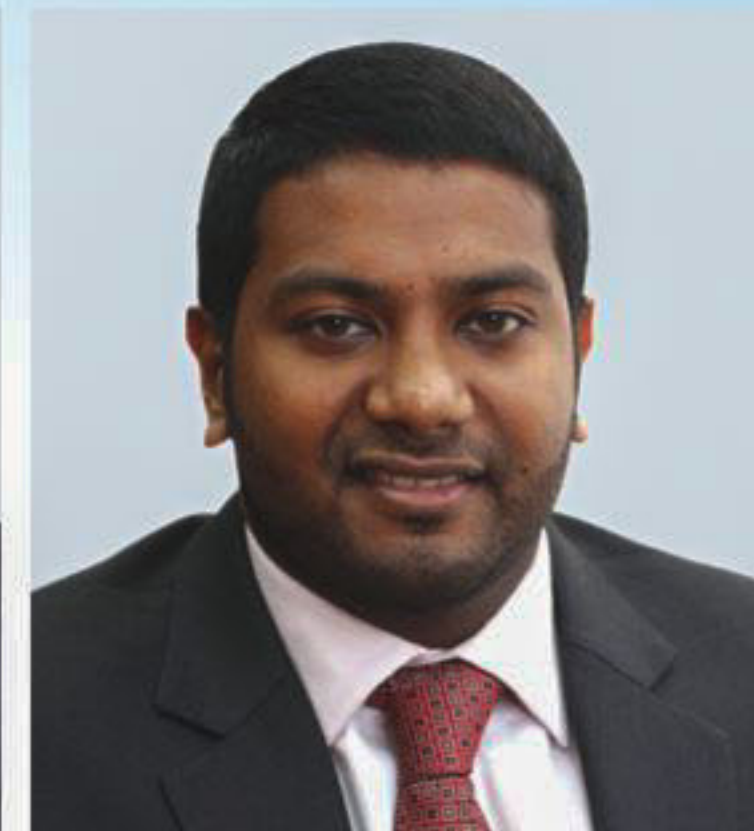


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www.uniongroup.com

Congratulations



Mr. Md. Jahangir Alam Khan
Managing Director



Mr. Md. Tanvir Khan
Deputy Managing Director

The Honorable Managing Director, Mr. Md. Jahangir Alam Khan & Honorable Deputy Managing Director, Mr. Md. Tanvir Khan of JK Group of Industries have been selected **CIP (Export)** for the year 2013 by the Government of Bangladesh, in appreciation of their exceptional contributions in Spinning, Textile and RMG Sector.

All Employees of JK Group of Industries, congratulate them and wish them success in all future ventures.



JK GROUP OF INDUSTRIES