

Detention of 50 under SPA declared illegal

UNB, Dhaka
A High Court bench yesterday held illegal detention of at least 50 people, including Monwar Hossain Dipjal, a Dhaka City ward commissioner and movie villain.

Polls tribunal set up at each upazila

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Election Commission (EC) has set up an election tribunal at each upazila to hear and settle disputes on the ongoing Union Parishad polls.

Criminal cases Court summons Om Prakash, 7 others

COURT CORRESPONDENT
The Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka, yesterday issued Summons on businessman Om Prakash Chowdhury (Agrawal) and seven others in connection with seven criminal cases.

Criminal held, arms recovered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Detective police yesterday arrested a notorious criminal of Dhaka University area, Shahrier Hossain alias Rabin, with some firearms and ammunition.

Govt to decide jute sector job cut soon

RAFIQ HASAN
A high-level meeting will soon decide on retrenchment of excess manpower in the state-owned jute mills, jute ministry sources said.

Delhi seeks extension of water transit

RAFIQ HASAN
New Delhi has asked Dhaka to extend its transit facility through waterways for another three months.



A worker sets up a stall at the Bangla Academy yesterday on the eve of Ekushey Book Fair. The traditional fair is expected to start on February 1.

Scientists dispel fat food cancer scare

REUTERS, London
Fatty, fried foods such as potato chips and fries may contain a substance that can cause cancer in animals but the levels are not high enough to increase the risk of the disease in humans, researchers said on Tuesday.



Students of the Institute of Fine Arts stage a demonstration against administrative corruption, including leakage of question papers, in the city yesterday. They submitted a memorandum to the vice-chancellor.

Axed bank MDs for review of BB decision

STAR REPORT
The axed managing directors (MDs) of three private commercial banks yesterday appealed to the Bangladesh Bank (BB) to review its decision, claiming they have not flouted any banking rule, banking sources said.

Bid to intrude into Vajpayee's motorcade

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi
In the second major lapse in Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's security in just over a week, a private car attempted to intrude into the motorcade carrying him in the southern part of the Indian capital late last night.

Direct feeder vessel service with Yangon opens today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
Singapore-registered cargo container MV Orient Vision sets out on the sea today to introduce direct feeder vessel service between southern port city of Chittagong with the Myanmar capital of Yangon.

DMCH burn unit in acute bed crisis

NAIMUL HAQ
Burn patients are not getting admission to the only burn unit in the country at the Dhaka medical College Hospital (DMCH), owing to an acute shortage of beds.

Nat'l medical university to be set up in city

BSS, Dhaka
The government has decided to set up a medical university and two general medical hospitals in the city to make quality medical service easily available.

Sharon's second term Palestinians warn of more violence

AFP, Gaza City
Leading Palestinian figures warned of a new rise in violence in the territories as official election results published yesterday gave Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's right-wing Likud an overwhelming victory.

Bangladeshi, Vietnamese workers clash in Malaysia

AFP, Kuala Lumpur
Riot police were called in when hundreds of garment factory workers from Bangladesh and Vietnam clashed in Malaysia's northern Penang state in a dispute over the upcoming Chinese New Year holidays, police said yesterday.