

US Marine hurt in firefight at Mosul airfield

AFP, Washington
A US Marine was wounded Monday in a firefight at the Mosul airfield and US special forces found a large weapons cache near the northern city of Kirkuk, the Pentagon said.

Blix attacks US war intelligence

BBC ONLINE
Chief UN weapons inspector Hans Blix has claimed that the US tried to discredit his team and used "shaky" intelligence to make the case for war in Iraq.

US and Britain appeared to have used "shaky" intelligence, including forged documents, in an effort to prove Iraq had banned weapons.

hurt us a bit and say that we had suppressed this.
Blix said he was "a little bit displeased about it. But you know, this is a rough and tough, rough game and I don't think that we really felt desolate about it."

Senior lawyers plan to go between govt, judges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Senior lawyers of the Supreme Court are planning to request the non-confirmed judges to withdraw their writ petitions challenging the government's refusal to confirm their services.

Major shake-up in police IGP removed, 21 top cops transferred

REZAUL KARIM
In a major reshuffle in the police administration, the government has removed the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Modabbir Hossain Chowdhury and transferred 21 other top officials with an aim to bring about more efficiency and dynamism.

Officer on Special Duty at the Ministry of Establishment until further notice. Modabbir Hossain was in the hot seat since November 5, 2001.



New IGP Shahudul Haq

Baghdad hospital situation "critical"

AFP, Baghdad
Baghdad hospitals, many of which were wracked by bombings or lootings and have not had their garbage collected for weeks, are facing a "critical situation," a relief group warned yesterday.



PHOTO: AFP

Shi'ite Muslims stage anti-American demonstration in Karbala yesterday as thousands converged onto the holy city to mark the death of Imam Hussein.

Fresh foot-dragging on separation of judiciary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The government is unwilling to accept the amendments to the rules that the Appellate Division finalised to separate the judiciary from the executive.

Both parties had pledged to separate the judiciary before the general election.
On January 26 last, the Appellate Division had finalised the rules and regulations the government prepared.

Division suggested formation of an 11-member Judicial Service Commission. But the government believed that the size of the commission should be smaller.

Storm plunges city into darkness

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Power cut hit most areas of the city following a Nor'wester last night.
The Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) sources said that the power cut affected 80 percent of the city as soon as the storm started at around 9:00pm.

US eyeing bases in India Washington wants own airbases there

AFP, New Delhi
The United States wants greater access to Indian defence infrastructure as it believes the country's strategic location offers a bright alternative in Asia, a report said Tuesday.

candid in their plans to eventually seek access to Indian bases and military infrastructure," Rediff said, quoting the report.

government officials.
The report quotes American defence officials as saying that the US military would be "able to touch the rest of the world" and "respond rapidly to regional crises."

JS session summoned on May 8

BSS, Dhaka
President Prof Iajuddin Ahmed has summoned the next session of the Jatiya Sangsad at 7:00 pm on May 8 at the Sangsad Bhaban.

Tap new tech for more farm output

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The farm sector should tap new technologies without upsetting the agro-ecological balance.

Participants at an open discussion on 'Status of Hybrid Rice and Genetic Engineering in Bangladesh' expressed the view.

3 burnt alive as shanty set ablaze in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Three people including two kids were burnt to death and two others injured when a shanty at a Pallabi slum was set on fire following an altercation in the early hours of yesterday.

10 chargesheeted for killing 2 cops in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira
Ten people have been chargesheeted for killing two constables of Hagachha police camp in February this year. Investigation officer of the case Mallick Ruhul Islam submitted the chargesheet to a magistrate's court here yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR

Army personnel supervise water rationing from their camp near Kamalapur Internal Container Depot as water crisis has compounded in recent days.

Fund crunch leaves water project floating

M AMINUL ISLAM
Non-availability of funds has thrown into uncertainty implementation of the Dhaka WASA's Tk 1,800 crore Pagla Water Treatment Project, which was to start last year.

"Negotiation is still continuing. If it fails, we would look for alternative sources."
Meanwhile, extraction of ground water by WASA deep tube-wells has declined by about 30 per cent in many areas of the city in the recent weeks due to further fall in ground water level.

Shamsur Rahman murder: HC asks accused Litu to surrender

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
The High Court has ordered former KCC ward commissioner Asaduzzaman Litu, a chargesheeted accused in journalist Shamsur Rahman murder case, to surrender before the lower court in two weeks.

