



Every year millions of children become victims of malnutrition which is one of the main causes of child mortality in our country and other parts of the developing world. What are the consequences for the children who survive? Read Star Weekend Magazine's cover story this week Malnutrition: Invisible threat to a Brighter Future.

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Sehri, Iftar timings			
Ramadan	Jan	Sehri	Iftar
8	8	5:19	5:31
9	9	5:19	5:32
10	10	5:19	5:32

Agreement on Ctg Hill Tracts President himself won't call any roundtable

President Shahabuddin Ahmed himself will not call any round-table conference on the December 2 agreement on Chittagong Hill Tracts, BSS quoting a statement issued from Bangabhaban said yesterday.

The President, however, has reiterated his views that this is a national issue of the highest importance which may be discussed by the government and the opposition both in and outside the parliament without drawing the President into any controversy," the statement added.

Earlier, in the morning BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan called on President Shahabuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban.

On December 21, Leader of the Opposition and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia met with the President and sought his intervention to arrange a

roundtable to discuss the agreement with the government, according to UNB.

Next day Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina met with the President and apparently rejected Begum Zia's idea of roundtable, arguing that Parliament is the appropriate forum to discuss such an important national issue.

A press release issued from Bangabhaban on December 22 said the President prefers to remain above all controversy. It said "He (President) will give his decision later."

In continuation of the December 22 press release from Bangabhaban, the President made the aforesaid statement yesterday.

Contact with BNP to continue, says Nasim

Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim yesterday said the opposition BNP should return to Parliament and give their opinion on the CHT peace agreement, reports UNB.

"It's the right of the BNP lawmakers to come back to the

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Follow-up meet with PCJSS now Jan 15

KHAGRACHHARI, Jan 7: The date of the proposed meeting between the National Committee on CHT and the Parbartya Chittagong Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) has been fixed on January 15, reports UNB.

The meeting to be held at Khagrachhari circuit house will discuss the process of surrendering of arms by Shantibabu guerillas as per provision of the

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All Party meet at Bandarban Jan 10

BANDARBAN, Jan 7: All Party Unity Council will hold a public meeting at Bandarban Press Club premises on January 10 to press for scrapping the CHT peace accord signed on December 2, reports UNB.

Tejgaon police and the Department of Narcotics Control have arrested eight persons including a woman for illegally selling liquor in the slum.

Tejgaon police arrested four persons. They were Babul alias Dulal, Shahidul Huq and

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Liquor poisoning: 13 deaths confirmed

By Staff Correspondent

Two more persons who fell sick allegedly after taking adulterated liquor at a slum in the city's Tejgaon area Sunday night died yesterday, raising the official death toll from the incident to 13.

One of them, Altaf Hossain, 45, died at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital and the other, Fazlur Rahman, 30, died at the slum, hospital sources said. Altaf was admitted to the hospital on Tuesday night. Fazlur Rahman was an illegal trader of

Police yesterday said they got the information that 11 people had died from the incident earlier. Local people however put the death toll at 25.

Tejgaon police and the Department of Narcotics Control arrested eight persons including a woman for illegally selling liquor in the slum.

Tejgaon police arrested four persons. They were Babul alias Dulal, Shahidul Huq and

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Crash-landing of Biman's F-28

Lloyds starts paying insurance claims

By Shehab Ahmed

The Lloyds of London, undertaker of Bangladesh Biman's F-28 aircraft that crash-landed on a mudflat, eight-km off Sylhet airport on December 22, has started paying insurance claims to the survivors.

Eight passengers, belonging to a family of Bangladeshis coming from UK, received the first payment of 10,000 Pounds earlier this week, according to Biman sources yesterday.

The rest of the 84 passengers who survived the crash-landing along with four crew, have been

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Drug withdrawn for severe side effects

By Naimul Haq

The government has issued letters to all local pharmaceutical companies asking them to stop further production of terfenadine, a non-sedative anti-histamine drug that has been proved to cause loss of life and severe side effects if ingested.

The drug is marketed in trade names — dinafine, serivin, nosidam and fenadine. As many as nine companies produce the drugs locally.

"We have issued notices to the respective drug manufacturing companies asking them to

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Employees of edn boards may call off strike today

By Staff Correspondent

The employees of the eight education boards may call off their indefinite strike, today after a meeting of the leaders of Inter-education Board Employees Federation with officials of the Education Ministry and the boards, according to Federation sources.

The decision was taken at an informal meeting between Education Minister A S H K Sadek and leaders of the Federation at

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Senator Harkin due today

US Senator Tom Harkin, famous for his Bill against American import of garments made with child labour, will arrive in the city today, reports UNB.

During his two day stay, the

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HEARTIEST WELCOME TO PROF. ROMANO PRODI

THE PRIME MINISTER OF ITALY AND MEMBERS OF HIS DELEGATION FOR THEIR FIRST EVER VISIT TO BANGLADESH.

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Cricket fans throng the Dilkusha branch of Al-Baraka Bank for tickets of the Coca-Cola Independence Cup cricket tournament yesterday.

— Star photo

Italian PM arrives today

By Staff Correspondent

A warm welcome awaits Italian Prime Minister Prof Romano Prodi when he arrives in the city this evening at 7:30 on a two-day official visit to Bangladesh.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will receive her Italian counterpart and his spouse Madame Flavia Prodi at the airport. After the formal ceremony, a motorcade will be driven in a motorcade to Sonargaon Hotel where he will be staying.

The Italian prime minister's 70-member entourage will include 12 officials and 30 representatives of internationally renowned Italian companies such as FIAT automobiles, Ital tel and Nuova Telspazio.

His entourage will also include Foreign Trade Minister See Page 12 Col 4

Contract with Indus Valley cancelled

The Government has cancelled the controversial contract between the RAJUK and the Singapore-based Indus Valley Investment Private Ltd. in the public interest, reports UNB.

The contract was signed to develop the Gulshan-Banidhara lake, an official said.

Earlier, an enquiry committee led by the Housing and Public Works Secretary submitted its report on this project. Its decision on cancellation of the contract was taken on the basis of the enquiry committee report.

The Government has also directed the Indus Valley to immediately close down its local office.

Rejoinder

Alhaj Fazlur Rahman, chairman of Rahman Group, has sent a rejoinder to a story published in The Daily Star on January 28. In his rejoinder, Rahman said:

"The news in the caption 'Ever changing colour of a defaulting borrower' in your See Page 12 Col 5

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