

200 hurt as police, visitors clash at Bangla-Nepal jt trade fair

BSS, Panchagarh
At least 200 people, including policemen, were injured in a clash between visitors and police centring lottery draw at Bangladesh-Nepal Trade Fair at a local stadium at Panchagarh on Saturday.

Taliban FM rejects Annan's call to stop destruction of statues

India, Pakistan urged to resume peace talks on Kashmir

AFP, Islamabad
Taliban Foreign Minister Wakil Ahmad Mutawakel said yesterday he had rejected a plea by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to stop the destruction of ancient Buddhist monuments.

uneasy neighbour India are expected to figure prominently.
A young Kashmiri woman wrapped in a giant shawl wept as she told Annan of being raped by Indian soldiers in disputed Kashmir.

Petrobangla wants Block 9 PSC signed on April 5

SHARIEF KHAN
In a bid to close the chapter on the Second Round Block Bidding for oil and gas exploration once and for all, Petrobangla has asked three foreign oil companies - Chevron, Texaco and Tullow - to sign the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) for Block 9 on April 5.

Bushra murder Hearing on naraji petition Mar 29

COURT CORRESPONDENT
The Special Court on Women and Children Repression, Dhaka yesterday fixed March 29 for hearing on the naraji petition in the Bushra Islam Phool Murder Case.

7 BNP leaders get bail in Ctg BCL activist murder case

UNB, Ctg
The metropolitan sessions judge yesterday granted bail to seven BNP leaders till April 22 in a BCL activist killing case.

Eid cattle markets DCC prioritises profit over law, public interest

RAZIUR RAHMAN
In violation of its own ordinances that prohibit illegal use of roads and pavements for commercial use, DCC leased out spaces on roads for cattle market and, by so doing, apparently legalised 'renting out' of thoroughfares in the city for commercial use.

As DCC officials drew satisfaction from a record earning of Tk 1.6 crore, traffic and public movement at Banani, Hazaribagh Road, Karwan Bazar, Azimpur Road and other areas where there were cattle markets was heavily affected.

Constable murder City BNP leader Iqbal remanded

COURT CORRESPONDENT
Abu Iqbal, general secretary of 32 Ward of BNP, arrested in connection with the killing of police constable Abu Naser during hartal on February 13 was placed on a one-day remand for interrogation.



Civil society leaders and residents of Trimohoni in the city's Khilgaon area staged a rally (left) yesterday protesting acute pollution of the Narai, Deb-Dholai and Balu rivers due to massive dumping of waste.

Hartal called on Mar 13 Jamaat activist beaten to death in Chittagong

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
A Jamaat activist was beaten to death by his rival group at village Ghatiadanga under Satkania thana yesterday morning, police and party sources said.

'Kana' Babu had hand in killing Shamsur Rahman?

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
Humayun Kabir alias 'Kana' Babu, an armed cadre of Purbha Banglar Communist Party (PBCP), has been shown arrested in journalist Shamsur Rahman murder case as he confessed his involvement in the murder.

Stop dumping waste, save the rivers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Residents of Nandipara on the outskirts of Dhaka gathered yesterday to strongly protest the acute pollution of three rivers-Narai, Deb-dholai and Balu-due to the indiscriminate dumping of sewage by Dhaka Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA).



Chinese Feng Jia (left) and Jie Guo (right) look on as Pakistan's Kashif Jawwad strikes the ball during yesterday's Prime Minister Gold Cup hockey championship match at the Moulana Bhasani National Stadium. Pakistan won 3-1. Story on page-13

BNP to hold rallies in dist hqs today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The BNP-led opposition alliance will hold rallies in all city and district headquarters today and bring out processions to press for immediate resignation of the government and transfer of power to a caretaker administration, and to protest against the deteriorating law and order situation.