



Fisheries and Livestock Minister Sadeque Hossain Khoka submits his nomination paper for mayoral post in DCC elections (left) and Mizanur Rahman Minu MP submits nomination paper as mayoral candidate in RCC elections yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR

### Three of a family killed in Ctg road accident

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Three members of a family were killed and four others injured in a road accident at Potenga yesterday.

The victims were identified as Sanjida Solaiman alias Jerry, 3, her grandmother Rabeya Khatun, 60, and aunt Laila Begum, 37.

The accident occurred at about 10:30 am when a rickshaw carrying the three was hit by a minibus. They died on the spot.

Police seized the minibus, but its driver managed to flee. A case has been filed in this connection.

UNB adds: A madrassah student was run over by a bus at Devipur on Charkhali-Mothbaria road in Pirojpur yesterday.

The victim was identified as Mahfuz Khan, 13, a student of Devipur madrassah.

Witnesses said the Mothbaria-bound bus from Charkhali ran over the boy at about 2 pm. The bus driver fled the scene.

## AL will go to JS to record reasons for resignation: Hasina

UNB, Tungipara

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina yesterday said she would go to parliament at least for a day to record AL's observations about the BNP-Jamaat "mis-rule" and the reasons for their resignation.

"There is always possibility of Awami League MPs going to Parliament and recording the statement and observations to explain the reasons for quitting parliament and the prevailing situation of the country prior to our resignation," she said.

Hasina once again cautioned that her party would be forced to quit parliament and take to the street if the government failed to stop repressive action against her party leaders and workers and the minorities.

"We will be compelled to resign from parliament and call for a mass movement," she told reporters of different national and local dailies at her Tungipara residence.

The Awami League president, however, said the opposition's future course would depend on government actions.

Hasina, who is now on a hectic organisational tour of southwestern districts, said she received positive response from different districts for starting anti-government movement.

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### Probe into getting A-2 US visa by Hasina's son

UNB, Dhaka

Former prime minister Sheikh Hasina's son, Sajib Wazed Joy, got A-2 visa for the US, which is given only to mission officers, the parliament was told yesterday amid a controversy.

LGRD Minister and ruling BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, who is in charge of PM's office in parliament, said it is being investigated how he got such visa.

"It is also being examined whether he was given any government money or official status," he said in reply to a question from Mashur Rahman of his party.

He, however, informed the House that Joy used to "illegally" carry name card containing the address of Bangladesh Embassy in Washington. Copy of the card was published in the Weekly Holiday on November 10, 2000.

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### Holcim case Court summons Jugantor editor, publisher & chief reporter

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka, yesterday summoned editor, the publisher and the chief reporter of daily Jugantor in connection with a defamation case.

Magistrate Mohammad Emdadul Haq passed the order following the case filed by Holcim (Bangladesh) Limited.

The accused are Editor Golam Sarwar, Publisher Salma Islam and Chief Reporter Saiful Alam.

Director of Jamuna Printing and Publication Ltd. Nurul Islam was not summoned as the allegations brought against him were not proved.

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### Jamuna Builders sue Holcim MD, two others

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Jamuna Builders Limited yesterday filed a defamation case against Managing Director and Vice-president of Holcim (Bangladesh) Limited PN Lyer and two others of the company with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court, Dhaka.

The two others are Chief Executive Officer Ramit Raja and Manager (Corporate Sales) Star Jing Kaojai.

They were charged with damaging the reputation of Jamuna Builders Ltd by sending a demand letter to it on March 13 for payment of Tk 31.53 lakh within 90 days for supply of 819 metric tons of cement.

The accused also damaged the

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# Suicide bomber kills 7 in Jerusalem

AFP, Umm El Fahem, Israel

A Palestinian suicide bomber killed himself and seven passengers, including four Israeli soldiers, on a bus carrying mostly Israeli Arabs in northern Israel yesterday.

The blast, claimed by the radical group Islamic Jihad and condemned by the Palestinian leadership, was the deadliest suicide bombing since March 9, when a bomber killed 11 people at a crowded Jerusalem cafe.

Another 35 people were wounded in yesterday's attack, six of them seriously, near the Arab Israeli town of Umm El Fahem, in what could deal a blow to hopes of an imminent ceasefire brokered by the United States.

A high-level security meeting between Israel and the Palestinians was, however, still set to take place late yesterday, officials on both sides said.

A top aide to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Nabil Abu Rudeina,

told reporters in Ramallah that during the meeting, to be held under US auspices, the Palestinians would present their own security plan.

An Israeli defence ministry spokesman confirmed that the meeting, aimed at hammering out a ceasefire deal, would go ahead despite the attack.

Meanwhile, an anonymous caller, claiming to represent Islamic

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PHOTO: STAR

A modest gift from The Daily Star: Seventy visually impaired chess players were presented with specially crafted chess board sets by this newspaper at a ceremony, organised jointly in the city yesterday by Interlife Bangladesh and Bangladesh Chess Federation.

## 'Develop surface water as main source of drinking water'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Should policymakers still consider groundwater as the main source of safe drinking water and spend money on it?

Researchers say over Tk 15,000 crore loan money have been spent in the last 30 years for extraction of groundwater and research to make it safe. But far from being safe, newer hazards from groundwater are coming to light.

They suggest development of surface water as the main source of drinking water because the country has the highest per capita availability of surface water in the world and the process would be less costly.

They were speaking at a press conference at the Dhaka Community Hospital (DCH) in the city yesterday.

Prof Quazi Quamruzzaman, Chairman of Dhaka Community Hospital Trust, said, "Until now we

knew of arsenic in tubewell water. But from a Daily Star news we came to know that equally harmful elements like uranium, boron, selenium, manganese and other metals also exist in tubewell water.

"In view of this new threat, I want to know from policymakers and donors why should we still go ahead digging fresh tubewells knowing

that there is poison in their water?"

He referred to the news item headlined "Drinking death in groundwater", published in The Daily Star on February 20.

"We want to know what benefit we got from investing such huge amounts of loan money. How much money has been properly utilised

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### Rejoinder

Following an article and photographs published in The Daily Star on March 13 under the caption "Rules are for the breaking" the owner of the Noor Tower at Sonargaon Road, Nurun Newaz Salim in a letter said that the Noor Tower provides sufficient parking space in two floors. There is also provision for surface parking within the premises of the tower.

### Forex smuggling case: Court order on Nasim's bail petition today

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka will pass an order today on the bail petition of AFM Bahauddin Nasim in connection with foreign currency smuggling case.

The court also directed the prosecution side to submit Nasim's passport to the court today. CID seized the passport in connection with foreign currency smuggling case.

Nasim was produced before the court at 11.15 am yesterday.

During one-and-a-half-hour arguments on the issue, Advocate

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	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Mar 21		6-10 pm
Mar 22	6-01 am	

Prayer Timings		
Mar 21		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-00	5-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-15	6-20
Esha	7-45	8-15
Source: Islamic Foundation		

ANNOUNCEMENT