

Saarc summit is on: Morshed

UNB, Dhaka
Bangladesh hoped yesterday the 13th Saarc summit will take place in Dhaka on schedule despite Saturday's terrible tremor in Pakistan and India that left thousands killed.
"Saarc summit is on," Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan told the newsagency responding to a question
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Govt ready to act against any militant patron

Bhuiyan says
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
LGRD and Co-operatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan in an interview with BBC Bangla Service
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Top outlaw killed in Rab 'crossfire', another lynched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
A regional leader of an outlawed party was killed in an 'encounter' with Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in Mongla port area on Saturday night while a top outlaw was beaten to death by a lynch mob in Daulatpur upazila.
Biplobi Communist Party (BCP) leader Nurul Islam, 50, who was shot during a shootout between Rab and his accomplices, was arrested at Baniashanta Bazar under Dakop Police Station earlier on Saturday evening.
According to a press release from Rab-6, he was wanted in 38 criminal cases including three for murder
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TATA INVESTMENT PLAN

Fertiliser, gas tariffs still apple of discord

JASIM UDDIN KHAN
The government has proposed that the Indian industrial giant Tata Group offload a part of its Bangladesh industrial projects share to public and brand its products for Tata Bangladesh in international market.
The Tata Group is considering the proposal positively and agreed in principle to label its locally produced items under Tata Bangladesh, sources said.
Industries ministry officials and a team of Tata Group discussed the proposal at a meeting yesterday at the ministry conference room.
The ministry officials proposed Tata representatives to supply fertiliser to Bangladesh to fulfil domestic requirement on priority basis, which was agreed by the team.
Tata plans to annually produce 10 lakh tonnes of urea at its Banskhali Fertiliser Industry, while Bangladesh has a shortage of eight lakh tonnes fertiliser annually.
The government proposed the group to tag the tariff value of its fertiliser in line with the Bangladesh coal and gas tariff. The Asian century-old conglomerate disagreed on the point and demanded that the government should place specific tariff rate for procuring fertiliser.
On arbitration in international trading law, the group prefers to settle any future dispute in London, while the government wants it to be settled in Dhaka.
The ministry officials sought the law ministry vetting in signing the sales and purchase agreement and discussed its terms and conditions in detail.
Another meeting between the group officials and the government at the Power Development Board (PDB) office discussed the terms and conditions of Tata-produced power.
PDB officials sought more time to
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ACC catches customs staff taking bribe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A team of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday caught a customs staff at Chittagong Port in the act of taking bribe from the clients.
The authorities suspended him along with two other employees immediately.
The suspended customs staff are Samirul Haque, office superintendent, Niamat Ali, appraiser, and Moshir Rahman, a sepoy of the Chittagong Customs House.
The ACC team on the first day of its anticorruption drive at the port and customs house found Samirul Haque clearing the clients' bills of entry, taking Tk 200 to Tk 500 against each bill, said an ACC source.
The ACC team challenged Samirul, who immediately denied any wrongdoing, but when the team asked about Tk 13,750 he had in his
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City shopping malls are bathed in light last night, although the government has asked the traders to avoid such lighting this Ramadan in the wake of heavy load shedding.



PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh Chhatra League men chase activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir, student wing of ruling coalition partner Jamaat-e-Islami, near Dhaka Medical College yesterday.

Election officer gets BNP reception

BDNEWS, Jhalakathi
The newly elected election officer of Mehendiganj upazila under Barisal district, Aslam Khan, who is also the outgoing president of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) Nalchhiti upazila
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Bimstec meet starts in Dhaka today

UNB, Dhaka
Bimstec Trade Negotiation Committee (TNC) sits today in Dhaka for the eighth time to finalise a draft agreement on trade in goods among the seven South
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Flood situation worsens in north

STAR REPORT
Flood situation in Gaibandha and Rangpur districts worsened yesterday as fresh areas went under water.
About 8,000 people were rendered homeless in Rangpur and 25,000 remained marooned in Gaibandha. Floodwaters have swallowed several hundred villages in the two northern districts.
Our Gaibandha correspondent reports: More areas in Gobindaganj and Palashbari upazilas of the district were submerged yesterday as the water level of the river Karotoa rose further.
Surging water engulfed the entire Darbasta union as well as 12 villages under Palashbari upazila, when a 400-foot stretch of Karotoa flood control embankment was breached at
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Cops gobbled up Tk 1.8cr after arrest of hundi trader

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The arrest of a so-called money launderer has turned out to be a curious case of police and their informants gobbling up Tk 1.80 crore and claiming that they had seized only Tk 58 lakh from the man.
Meantime, a business establishment, Uttara Group of Industries, told police high-ups that the arrested man was carrying their money to the tune of Tk 4 crore, which was meant for business purpose.
When the police high-ups inquired about the incident, the Savar police who arrested the 'money launderer' owned up that they had actually seized Tk 2.38 crore and showed the amount as only Tk 58 lakh.
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Shri-Iftar			
Ramadan	Oct	Sehri	Iftar
5	10		5-41
6	11	4-35	5-40

Prayer Timing		
October 10		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fair	4-34	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-15	4-30
Maghrib	5-41	5-55
Esha	7-30	8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation

Over \$600 loans from WB, ADB stuck up

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
More than \$600 million loans from the World Bank and ADB have not been released due to the government's failure to set up an independent institution to enrol educational institutions in monthly payment order (MPO) and fulfil other conditions.
Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday told reporters that a \$100 million fund is not being released as the independent institution is yet to be set up.
Besides, \$200 million earmarked for flood rehabilitation programme, \$50 million for a project of Power Development Board (PDB), \$60 million for Local Government and Rural Development (LGRD) and \$200 million loans for health, communications and power ministry are also stuck up, sources said.
Saifur, after a discussion on the stuck up loans at an inter-ministerial meeting, admitted that
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Mahasaptami today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Hindu devotees, though a bit shaken in heart, are all set to invoke Durga, daughter of the majestic Himalayas, slayer of evil and purifier of life, and to supplicate to her for whatever boon they want from her.
For, today is Mahasaptami and no-one, even no threat of violence, would be able to keep away the really ardent votaries from worshipping the Mother, dancing and singing, at some 20,000 Puja Mandaps across the country.
However, fear of bombing did make attendance and presence of devotees very low at the Mandaps
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PHOTO: STAR

Hindu devotees offer prayers to Goddess Durga at Dhakeshawri Mandir mandap on the first day of the Durga Puja yesterday.