

#### Track your shipments online

You can check the status of your shipments across the world in real time, stage by stage, through to delivery. Just log on to fedex.com/bd and you can track up to 30 FedEx shipments at a



**Every Package Matters** 



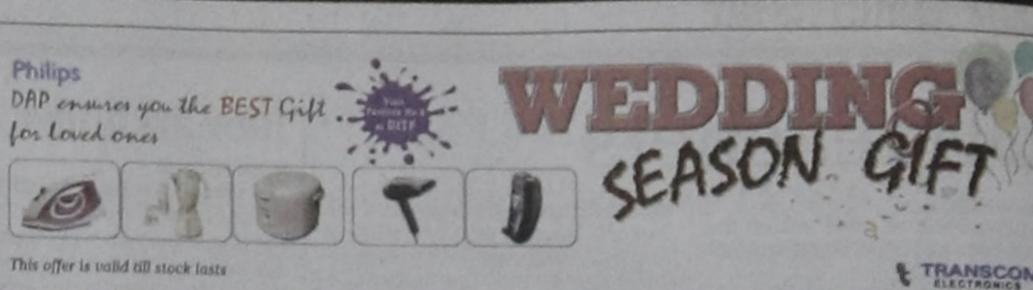
'Massive shortfall'

of mid-income

Dhaka by 2010

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

dwellings in



#### BARGE-MOUNT POWER PLANT ex-secretary Dr Toufiq

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued warrants against former energy secretary Dr Toufiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury and six others in connection with the Tk 3 crore graft case during the setting up of 100MW barge-mount power plant in Khulna.

In another move a bail petition of detained former premier Khaleda Zia in connection with the Niko scam case was not entertained yesterday, as the court has no jurisdiction to hear on the issue.

After scrutinising the case docket and other relevant documents, Judge Mohammad Azizul Haque of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court took the charges into cognizance against detained former prime minister Sheikh Hasina and seven others in the Tk3 crore graft case.

The court also issued arrest SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

CPD among

think tanks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

world's leading

The Centre for Policy Dialogue

(CPD) has got itself positioned

among 228 leading think tanks

in the world, while Bangladesh

has made it to the list of coun-

tries with the largest number

of think tanks, having 34 of

The list titled The Global

'Go-To Think Tanks' was pre-

pared by The Think Tanks and

Civil Societies Program of

Philadelphia, USA based

Foreign Policy Research

Institute -- an independent

non-profit organisation

devoted to advanced research

and public education on

international affairs, founded

India, China

boost trade,

military ties

China and India pledged yesterday

to strengthen trade and military

links and seek a solution to a border

row, as India's prime minister

sought to cement a rapid improve-

tempered, however, by Prime

Minister Manmohan Singh's call

for China to make concessions to

reduce a growing two-way trade

his host Premier Wen Jiabao signed

The Indian leader said he and

The friendly atmosphere was

ment in ties with a landmark visit.

pledge to

According to The Global

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

them.

in 1955.

AFP, Beijing

imbalance.

# Warrant against CA asks ministries to execute ADP fast

Only 16pc achieved in 5 months of FY08

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The planning ministry has sent the chief adviser's special directives to other ministries suggesting quick implementation of the Annual Development Programme (ADP) as only 16 percent has been implemented in five months of the current fiscal year (FY).

FY 08, only Tk 4,168 crore was spent during July-November.

The planning ministry data ingfrom the directive. show Tk 2,542 crore or 15 percent of the ADP's local component was spent, while the spending was Tk 1,626 crore or 17 percent of its foreign component that comes in not satisfactory. the form of project aid.

In FY 07, Tk 5,200 crore or 20 percent of the ADP was spent in

first five months.

"We have sent the chief adviser's directives for quick implementation of the ADP in rest of the fiscal year," said a high official of the planning ministry.

"In the directive, the chief adviser has asked all ministries to give full attention to implementing development programmes and Of the Tk 26,500 crore ADP for take it as a slogan -- implementation, implementation and implementation," the official said quot-

> After a review meeting on ADP implementation, Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam yesterday said the rate of ADP implementation is

"But I've been assured by officials of different ministries that implementation rate will get a fast

pace after January as most of the projects are now in the tendering process," he added.

"By January 31, the tendering process of the projects, except a few ones, will be completed."

The planning ministry data on ADP implementation by different ministries, from July-October, 2007 show a frustrating picture of some ministries, which got the major

Of the 45 ministries and divisions, ADP implementation by 28 ministries was in between 0-10 percent, while Rural Development and Cooperative Division spent the highest 38 percent.

The other ministries' implementation rate was below 20 percent in the first four months of the SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Delwar finds

'farcical' polls

BNP Secretary General Khandaker

Delwar Hossain yesterday said a

conspiracy is being hatched for

holding a farcical election keeping

Demanding immediate release

of the political leaders including

party chairperson Khaleda Zia, he

said the people will not accept such

Delwar was talking to a group of

He said BNP is facing obstacles

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

former student leaders at his Nam

Govt to consider

political parties'

conditions

for dialogue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Says adviser Quader

Communications Adviser Maj Gen

(retd) Ghulam Quader yesterday

said the caretaker government

with an open mind will listen to

political parties' conditions for

will start after the Election

Commission's (EC) talks with

political parties end, he said while

Remarkable CSR

donates Tk 9cr for DU

The Dutch-Bangla Bank Ltd

(DBBL) yesterday decided to

donate Tk 9.73 crore to Dhaka

University (DU) for establishing a

research centre on the university

its 77th meeting decided to donate

the money for constructing an 11

storey research centre 'Dutch

Bangla Bank Centre for Advanced

Research in Arts and Social Sciences

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Bhaban' on the DU campus.

The DBBL Board of Directors in

Dutch-Bangla Bank

research centre

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

campus.

The much-awaited dialogues

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

dialogue with the government.

an election.

flat in the capital.

the national political leaders in jail

plot to hold

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

According to Dr Toufiq M Seraj, MD of Sheltech, the annual demand for new middle income dwellings in Dhaka is around 60,000 units, but in recent years developers have only been able to

The managing director of one of

the Dhaka's leading construction

groups has warned that the present

slump in home building will lead to

a massive shortfall of middle-

income dwellings in the capital by

supply around 7,000 per annum. This year developers will only deliver around 4,000 units and the lack of new projects will store up problems for future years, said Seraj. Behind the decline are the increasing prices of raw materials, the corruption drive and the absence of business friendly policies in the real estate sector, he

FULL STORY STAR BUSINESS, PAGE 8

## Around 200 Malaysia job seekers left in the cold

Dhaka Bashi, an organisation of Old Dhaka residents, brings out a colourful procession with kites from Shishu

Outsourcing companies hired them without guaranteed employment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 200 Bangladeshi workers who went to Malaysia during November 26 and December 10 last year are living in cramped conditions without proper food and jobs they were promised in Shah Alam, a Malaysian city.

newspaper, on January 13 meanwhile reported the workers have been left in the lurch when their company suddenly terminated their employment or the outsourcing companies hired them without any guaranteed jobs.

The Bangladeshis are pleading with the authorities to help them, it

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

the last three days.

Town Hall Market.

Prices of different varieties of coarse

rice went up by at least Tk 1 per kg in

Dhaka's retail markets yesterday

following a price rise in wholesale

markets by Tk 50-100 per maund in

Tk 29-30 per kg yesterday compared

to Tk 28-30 on the previous day in

retail markets at Karwan Bazar,

Moulavibazar and Mohammadpur

Wholesale prices of the same

varieties of rice went up by Tk 50-

100 a maund (37.32 kg) in the last

three days at Karwan Bazar,

Badamtoli, Babubazar and

IRRI sold at Tk 1,050-1,060 a

maund, Guti Tk 1,040-1,090 and

Swarna Tk 1,020-1,050 yesterday

compared to Tk 980-985, Tk 980-990

Retailers claimed that they had

"I paid Tk 1,080 for a maund of

to increase prices due to rise in

Mohammadpur Krishi Market.

and Tk 990-1,000 on Friday.

wholesale prices.

IRRI, Guti and Swarna rice sold at

up by Tk 1 on

retail market

One of the Bangladeshis,

Academy yesterday marking Poush Sankranti, end of the Bangla month of Poush.

Nuruzzaman Pada, 36, said out of the 200 workers hired to work at a car component-making factory in Shah Alam, only 30 got jobs. They were provided accommodation at the agency's office. The other 170 were squeezed

The Star Online, a Malaysian into three three-room flats in Section 25 with barely space to stand. The Malaysian agent only provides rice and lentils every few days with rations enough for only one meal a day.

Another Bangladeshi, Kazi Shafiq, 25, said two of his housemates contracted jaundice and another vomited blood

week ago," said Abdur Rahman, a

Meanwhile, the government

Expressing their resentment,

announced that joint forces will

start market monitoring from

January 18. It appears to have cre-

businessmen said instead of repeated

should ensure adequate supply of

fertiliser and seeds at affordable

prices across the country. This would

increase production of rice with

joint forces' monitoring might lead

to further rise in prices," a rice

the city remained closed yesterday

as on all Mondays. This resulted in

heavy rush at OMS shops which sell

Without adequate supply of rice,

Meanwhile, all the BDR shops in

rice trader in Karwan Bazar market.

the Tk 50 transportation costs.

ated fears among traders.

consequent fall in its price.

trader at Babubazar said.

rice at Tk 25 a kg.

recently due to the unhygienic conditions.

of the workers for compulsory medical check-ups, while the sick were not promptly attended to, the newspaper reported. Moshiur Rahman, 32, said they

The agent has yet to send most

paid agents in Bangladesh between RM 12,000 and RM 15,000 each tocome to Malaysia, and many took loans to pay the fees.

"I have a wife and two children in Bangladesh who are depending on me to send money home but without a job I cannot send them anything. I am worried how they will survive."

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3 DU violence

Prayer Timing

January 15

12-45

4-00

5-36

7-00

Source: Islamic Foundation

EBL

Zohr

Maghrib

Azan Jamaat

6-05

1-15

4-15

5-40

7-30

### probing officer says teachers' link proven

COURT CORRESPONDENT

An investigation officer (IO) of a case, filed in connection with the August violence on Dhaka University (DU) campus, told a Dhaka court yesterday that he submitted the charge sheet against four DU teachers and 15 students as the charges brought against them were primarily proved during investigation.

Sub-inspector (SI) Babul Bhuiyan of Shahbagh Police SEE PAGE15 COL 6

তাখ রাখুন চ্যানেল-আই তে
আজ রাত ৭:৫০ মিনিট্রে

#### In a unique demonstration, students of Theatre and Music Department of Dhaka University (DU) yesterday stage Rabindranath Tagore's play Raktakaravi near Aparajeyo Bangla on the campus demanding release of arrested DU teachers and students.

### Vote for Cox's Bazar, Sundarbans BSS, DHAKA

Bangladesh's image will be brightened further across the world if the Sundarbans and Cox's Bazar are included in the list of 21 major SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



## 7 troops, 23 militants Adcomm clarifies killed in Pak clash

AFP, Islamabad

At least seven Pakistani troops and 23 Islamic militants were killed in a major battle yesterday near the Afghan border, days after Islamabad ruled out direct US military intervention.

Local Taliban commander Faqir Hussain was among the rebels killed in the battle, an official said, after Pakistani Taliban gunmen ambushed a paramilitary convoy in Mohmand district in the troubled tribal belt.

"The militants attacked a security forces convoy and the forces responded with the help of local people, killing 23 of the attackers," military spokesman Major General Waheed Arshad said.

It was the first significant attack in Mohmand which is next to Bajaur district, where al-Qaeda

believed to have had a hideout. The Egyptian-born deputy to al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden narrowly escaped a US air strike on a house in Bajaur two years ago, according to Pakistani officials.

number two Ayman Al-Zawahiri is

The paramilitary convoy was travelling from a frontier corps camp to the district centre when it was ambushed, triggering a battle that raged for several hours with both sides using heavy weapons.

"Our forces have secured the area and we appreciate the strong cooperation of the local people in fighting the militants," Arshad said. SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

### dispute over its rented house

Adcomm Limited clarified yesterday through a news release their position saying that in October of last year, the owner of house No 7/A on Road 41 of Gulshan-2 in the capital where the offices of Adcomm, Signage, and Megavision are situated, refused to accept the monthly rent, when paid.

Farhana Islam, the owner of the house, in a general diary filed with Gulshan police station on Saturday said she had rented out the house to Geeteara and her husband on a five-year contract that expired on September 30 last year. She also said she served a notice three months before the expiry of the contract, asking the tenant to leave the house, but they ignord the notice.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

#### Coarse rice price Motia slates govt failure in tackling rice prices STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Guti rice that I bought from Bogra : Awami League (AL) Presidium on Sunday, which was Tk 970 only a member Motia Chowdhury yesterday criticised the present government's failure to keep prices of He said he would have to sell the essentials steady and said that rice at Tk 1,150 or more, because of people's life have been badly affected by it.

Motia said the price of rice has already reached Tk 40 per kg due to the "unelected" government's highly ambitious budget. She expressed concern that the price of rice could go up to Tk 80 per kg if market monitoring, the government : this government presents yet another budget.

While addressing a programme held at AL's central office on Bangabandhu Avenue Motia said the people's sufferings could only be resolved under the leadership of Sheikh Hasina. Reiterating that AL chief Sheikh Hasina has been arrested on fabricated charges, Motia demanded her immediate release.

At the programme Harun-or-SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Local Company wants to purchase running or partially running Fish Processing Plant located in Chittagon or Khulna region of Banglades Priority will be given to the companies without or minimum liabilities. Please contact us immediately with a brief synopsis of the company location, structure, design, capacity, machinery specification, liabilities and other details. Owners should contact directly.

> Attn: Mr. Nurul Islam (Sentu) House # 25, Road # 34. Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212 Tel: 9881424 / 8812396

Email: misaag@ahmedamin-bd.com

EDITOR: MAHFUZ ANAM-Published by the Editor from Transcraft Ltd., 229 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd. 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhak