



Stress free shipping to Europe

Delivering to over 74,000 postal codes within 2-3 business days\*, FedEx is the reliable, stress free alternative when shipping your important items to destinations across Europe. When you need speed and reliability for your next international express shipment call our 24-hour call center on 9565114 or visit fedex.com.bd.

**FedEx Express**  
Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.  
Every Package Matters



# Crime wave hits Savar industrial belt

Frequent break-ins, extortion on the up; crime dons active again

EMRAN HOSSAIN

The levels of crime witness an upward trend in a part of Savar industrial belt despite the state of emergency, creating feelings of insecurity in the area.

Robbers broke into several industries and made attempts on several others in Kalma in Savar since January, the latest on February 6, although the area is adjacent to highly secured Savar Cantonment.

Over 50 industries are operational in Kalma and surrounding areas including Khejurbagan,

Birulia and Khagan. If security matters are not immediately attended to, the industrialists fear they would also become victims.

Locals observe a sharp difference between the recent break-ins and previous petty crimes, which involved stealing power cable or electronic parts from lamp posts outside the industries.

Industry owners and the locals blame it on failure of law enforcement agencies, who did not trap some influential persons. Locally known as "godfathers", these people include several ward commissioners, Union Parishad chair-

men and some political leaders who harbour criminals.

A number of these men were detained earlier, but almost all of them are out by now. With their arrests in the beginning of the joint forces' drive, crimes including drug peddling marked a significant decrease, the locals add. But the situation has returned to its previous state, which incidentally coincides with their release.

Law enforcers failed to grill even a number of "marked" criminals, say the industrialists asking not to be mentioned fearing retaliation.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

## Gen Moeen to visit India this month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief of Army Staff General Moeen U Ahmed is expected to pay a weeklong visit to India in the last week of this month to hold meetings with high officials of the Indian government and military.

Highly placed sources said the army chief was due to visit India

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

## Clarification

Brac yesterday clarified a report headlined "Abducted Brac official buys freedom" published in The Daily Star on Tuesday.

The Brac clarification signed by M Anwarul Haq, director, public affairs and communications, said Brac paid no ransom to the abductors for freeing Hemonta Chakma, manager of a Rangamati branch of Brac.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2



Dancers perform at a cultural function organised by Jatiya Basanta Utsab Ujjapan Parishad on Fine Arts Institute premises at Dhaka University yesterday.

## NATIONAL INTEREST Prof Yunus for consensus among parties

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nobel laureate Dr Muhammad Yunus yesterday said all the political parties would have to reach a consensus for the greater interest of the country.

"There won't be any division among them, if they do politics for welfare of the nation and people," said Dr Yunus while talking to New York-based news agency News World.

He said the politicians must decide whether they would give priority to the country or partisan politics.

"I'm not saying this in the interest of any political party or any quarter," Dr Yunus said adding that all have to give up their own interest and work for the greater interest of the nation.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

## 'Social emergency' if economic crises persist

Fears Akbar Ali

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ongoing emergency in the political and economic arena may create a 'social emergency' in the country unless the government deals with the economic problems properly, Dr Akbar Ali Khan, chairman of Regulatory Reforms Commission (RRC), yesterday said.

"Economic and political instability may be a grave concern for any given country and we are now going through such a critical situation," he said, adding that the administration will have to adopt mid-term planning so that eco-

nomics emergency could be tackled and confidence builds up among the people.

Dr Akbar was speaking at a seminar on 'State of the Economy and the Way Forward', organised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) at the CA Bhaban in Dhaka.

He said along with the domestic economy, the world economy is also in trouble. "We have to find a way to overcome such economic crises."

"It will be wrong if the government takes a six-month plan. It

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

## BIRD FLU 22,000 fowls culled in 2 districts

STAR REPORT

A total of 22,127 fowls were culled in Pabna and Khulna on Tuesday night as bird flu infection continues to spread in different regions of the country.

Our Pabna correspondent reports that at least 5,272 farm fowls, ducks, pigeons and other free range fowls were culled in Shujanagar upazila of the district on Tuesday night after bird flu infection was detected at a poultry farm.

This is the third consecutive incident of culling fowls due to bird

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## 2 robbers killed in gunfight with law enforcers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Two robbers were killed and 18 others, including 10 police and ansar men, injured in a gunfight between the law enforcers and the bandits at Araji Chandpur in Rajshahi's Bagha upazila early yesterday.

Police identified the dead as Saidur Rahman, 32, of Kalyanpur, and Momin, 25, of Natun Char in Daulatpur upazila of Kushtia. Police arrested a bullet-wounded

bandit. Police said a gang of about 25 robbers stormed the house of one Tarapada Kumar Sarker during the marriage ceremony of his son at Maniharpur village in Lalpur upazila of Natore, looting at gunpoint 25 bhori of gold ornaments, Tk 58,000 in cash and other valuables worth about Tk 4.5 lakh.

The bandits quickly left the house firing shots as locals. Police arrested a bullet-wounded

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

## Obama hammers Hillary in primary clean sweep

AFP, Washington

Barack Obama routed Hillary Clinton in a trio of Washington DC-area nominating clashes, carving into his faltering White House rival's core power base of white, women and working class voters.

The surging Democrat coasted to crushing victories in Virginia, Maryland and the US capital on Tuesday, lifting his consecutive wins since last week's neck-and-neck Super Tuesday nationwide

showdown to eight.

Presumptive Republican nominee John McCain meanwhile landed his own triple primary triumph, but a tougher-than-expected showing from rival Mike Huckabee in Virginia reflected his struggle to close the deal with conservatives.

Another grim night for Hillary left her further behind Obama in the crucial count of convention delegates, and desperate for

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

## Hotel manager killed in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The manager of a residential hotel in Nawabpur in old Dhaka was slaughtered by an ex-employee and his hired goons early yesterday morning over a dispute.

Two other members of hotel staff were seriously injured when they tried to resist the attackers.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

### Prayer Timing

February 14

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-25	6-00
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	5-57	6-01
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

# 500 sms @ tk 10 only

## THIS SPRING IT WILL NOT JUST RAIN, BUT POUR!

500 sms @ tk 10\*  
type Yes and send to 3030  
to know your sms balance dial \*566\*2#

talk @ only 29 paisa/min  
from 12:00 am till 6:00 am to all djuice and gp numbers!

talk @ only 75 paisa/min  
from 6:00 am till 12:00 am to all djuice numbers!

\* you can activate this offer from february 14 till march 14 '08  
\* enjoy this offer for one month from activation  
\* this offer is valid for djuice subscribers only  
to know more call 121 or visit www.djuice.com.bd  
\* conditions apply \* VAT applicable \* charges applicable

djuice