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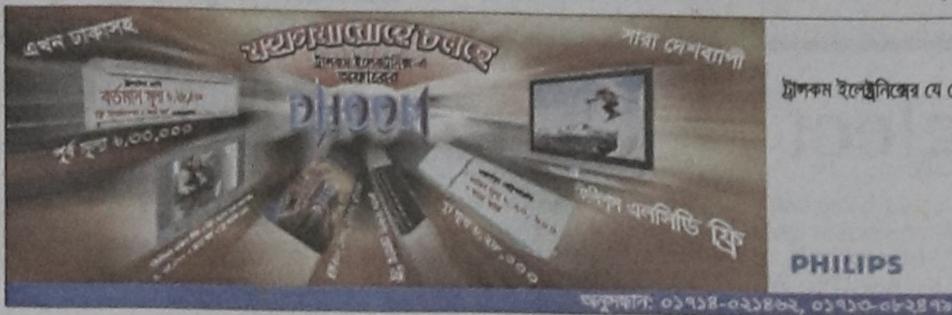
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Olympics Games yesterday. She won the gold with a score of 75.5 points.

Olympics medals

table for the first

time, dethroning

the United States

which had domi-

three Games

since finishing second to the for-

gold medals won, the hosts had 49

golds to 34 for the United States

and with just 12 more to be con-

They reversed the final posi-

tions in Athens four years ago when

the United States topped the gold

medal tally with 36, China was

second with a best-ever 32 and

Russia was third with 27.

tested on Sunday's closing day.

By the end of a day that saw 32

mer Soviet Union in Barcelona in relays.

ট্রাঙ্গকম ইলেব্রনিক্সের যে কোন ব্র্যান্ডের পণ্যের সাথে পাচ্ছেন জ্যাচ কার্ড যাতে থাকছে অভাবনীয় সর অফার কাৰ না মালা কাগতি চিভি সম্পূৰ্ণ ফি

TRANSTEC'

PHILIPS

SPIDERWOMAN! Russia's Evgeniya Kanaeva performs with a ribbon in the individual all-around final of the rhythmic gymnastics in the Beijing 2008

16-day spectacle when their

women basketball team crushed

Argentina in gold for fighting for his

right to be at the Olympics when he

set up the winning goal in their 1-0

triumph over Nigeria in the men's

degrees Celsius (107.6 F) inside the

Bird's Nest, the football superstar

put Angel Di Maria clear early in the

second half and the Benfica player

In the heat of Beijing it was one

of the sport's hottest properties,

Messi, who was central to the out-

come, and his appearance was only

settled a few hours before the first

game after his powerful European

club Barcelona had blocked their

In a night of doubles, Ethiopian

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

Kenenisa completed the elusive

5,000m-10,000m double and

prized striker from taking part.

chipped over the goalkeeper.

In a match played in a sizzling 42

football final on Saturday.

Lionel Messi rewarded

Australia 92-65.

The Chinese have progressively

improved their medal standing

determined to beat the United

soil as the world's dominant sport-

regained some lost pride in track

and field winning the last two races

in the Bird's Nest Saturday, putting

a week of disappointment behind

them when they won the 4x400m

gold on the penultimate day of the

The Americans won their last

6 B

37 | 36

The United States however

Hosts China over the past 20 years and as a

made sure on matter of national pride were

ping the States and end the Games on home

Overall Medal

**USA** 

RUS

(Continues to page 18)

ing nation.

36 CHANGHONG

# US-led forces kill 88 Afghan civilians

AP, Kabul

An Afghan human rights group said Saturday that at least 88 people were killed in a battle between USled coalition forces and militants in western Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, President Hamid Karzai condemned the violence and said most of the dead were civilians. The US coalition said it would investigate the claims of civilian deaths.

Rights Commission researcher visited Azizabad the village in found 88 people had died, 15 houses were destroyed and others were damaged.

group's commissioner, said the information was preliminary and dos, with support from the coalition.

Barack Obama named Sen. Joe

Biden of Delaware as his vice presi-

dential running mate early

Saturday, balancing his ticket with

a seasoned congressional veteran

well-versed in foreign policy and

his Web site with a photo of the two

men and an appeal for donations. A

text message went out shortly

afterward that said, "Barack has

-chosen Senator Joe Biden to be our

White House, and is a Catholic with

blue-collar roots, a generally liberal

voting record and a reputation as a

Biden, 65, has twice sought the

Obama announced the pick on

AP, Washington

defence issues.

VP nominee."

long-winded orator.

cords!

AFP, San Francisco

and wall outlets.

Francisco.

Electricity

line without

Intel on Thursday showed off a

wireless electric power system

that analysts say could revolu-

tionize modern life by freeing

devices from transformers

officer Justin Rattner demon-

strated a Wireless Energy

Resonant Link as he spoke at

the California, firm's annual

developers forum in San

wirelessly to a lamp on stage,

lighting a 60 watt bulb that

uses more power than a typi-

Most importantly, the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

electricity was transmitted

without zapping anything or

cal laptop computer.

Electricity was sent

Intel chief technology

that the group would publish a final report. He did not provide a breakdown of how many of the 88 were civilians or militants.

He said 20 women were among the dead, and that the rest were men and children. The Interior Ministry has said that 76 civilians said. were killed, including 50 children under the age of 15. Karzai's office during the raid, Azimi said. said at least 70 civilians died.

efforts to get the US and Nato to An Afghan Independent Human prevent civilian deaths had gotten ians two women and three chil nowhere, said the Afghan government would soon announce "nec-Herat province where the airstrikes essary measures" to prevent civiltook place early Thursday and ian casualties, but provided no

Rumi Nielson-Green said Saturday Ahmad Nader Nadery, the that the operation was led by Afghan National Army comman-

Joseph Biden

Acting Awami League President

Zillur Rahman yesterday

hold the stalled parliamentary

He asked the government to

The acting AL chief categorically

"The government is claiming it

said no other elections before the

has completed all preparations for

holding the parliamentary polls.

Then, what is their problem in

holding the polls in October or

meeting making the 33rd death

He was addressing a discussion

November?" Zillur questioned.

declare a specific date for the gen-

eral elections and lift the state of

emergency fully before the polls.

national polls will be acceptable.

polls in October or November.

demanded that the government in the city.

UNB, Dhaka

Obama taps Biden to

be running mate

The operation was launched after an intelligence report that a Taliban commander, Mullah Siddiq, was inside the compound presiding over a meeting of mili tants, Defence Ministry spokesman Gen. Mohammad Zahir Azimi

Siddiq was one of those killed

Originally the coalition said the Karzai, lamenting that his battle killed 30 militants, but Nielson-Green said that five civildren connected to the militants were among the dead.

"Obviously there's allegations and a disconnect here. The sooner we can get that cleared up and get it US coalition spokeswoman official, the better off we'll all be, said US coalition spokesman 1st Lt. Nathan Perry. "We had people on the ground.'

Across more than 30 years in the

Senate, he has served at various

times not only as chairman of the

Foreign Relations Committee but

also as head of the Judiciary

Committee, with its jurisdiction

over anti-crime legislation,

Supreme Court nominees and

passed over several other potential

running mates, none more promi-

nent than former first lady Hillary

Rodham Clinton, his tenacious

rival in dozens of primaries and

debut for the newly minted ticket

on Saturday outside the Old State

anniversary of Bangabandhu

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on the

premises of Bangabandhu

Memorial Museum at Dhanmondi

League, the meeting was

addressed, among others, by pre-

sidium members Amir Hossain

Amu, Suranjit Sengupta and Motia

Chowdhury, AL's Women Affairs

Secretary Dr Dipu Moni and Juba

Mahila League General Secretary

Apu Ukil. Mahila AL President

his suggestion for organising the

parliamentary polls in the third

week of October. He demanded

permanent release of party presi-

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Amir Hossain Amu reiterated

Nazma Akhter presided.

dent Sheikh Hasina.

Organised By Jubo Mahila

Capitol in Springfield, Ill.

Obama's campaign arranged a

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

In selecting Biden, Obama

Constitutional issues.

caucuses.

AL demands JS

polls in Oct-Nov

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

### Pay salary, iftar in time, police ask RMG owners Steps to thwart unrest in garment sector

Police authorities yesterday asked owners of garment factories in Tejgaon Industrial Area to pay workers their salaries, tiffin, iftar and other allowances in time during Ramadan since non-payment of them often leads to unrest in this month.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A special police team would be deployed in the area to thwart any unrest arising during Ramadan despite payment of salaries and other allowances, said Mahbubor Rahman, deputy commissioner of Tejgaon Division of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, at a meeting yesterday.

The industrial hub had witnessed severe violence for around a week during Ramadan last year as workers took to the streets demanding increased iftar allow-

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

## Motijharna hills in Ctg see landslide again

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A big landslide from a hill occurred at Motijharna of Lalkhan Bazar in the port city yesterday, only five days after a mudslide from a nearby

Witnesses said a large portion of Batali Hill fell down at around 4:00pm. There were no casualties.

A huge crack has also developed in the hill posing threat of landslide again. There are several slums close to the hill.

(CCC) erected a 'Bijoy Stombho' (victory tower) on the hill 15 years ago. Locals said the landslide might be due to the tremor that jolted the

CCC Councillor from the area Monowara Begum Moni said they are trying to shift people from the

# Rahul wants to spread Grameen Bank's concept

across India PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India's ruling Congress General Secretary Rahul Gandhi is impressed by Grameen Bank's 'huge success' in Bangladesh, and has said he wants to propagate the concept of micro financing and self-help groups across India.

Addressing more than 1,000 women and members of self-help groups, who have benefited from micro financing model in his poverty-stricken parliamentary constituency of Amethi in Uttar Pradesh state on Friday, Rahul hoped the concept being implemented there gets due recognition and wins Nobel Prize as was the case with Grameen Bank.

> "I had gone to Bangladesh SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

# China to finish atop AFP, Beijing

hill claimed 11 lives.

Chittagong City Corporation

port city and adjoining areas on Friday night.

# Big hilsa now rare, dearer

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and NAJMUL ALAM NOBIN

Consumers have rarely seen big size hilsa fish at city markets this year as a large number of the fish is being exported following withdrawal of a ban on it on December 10 last year. Exporters told The Daily

by exporting hilsa than selling it at local markets, Exporters buy hilsa weighing over 1.2kg-1.5kg at Tk 550 per kg from ghats but the market price of perkg hilsa is much

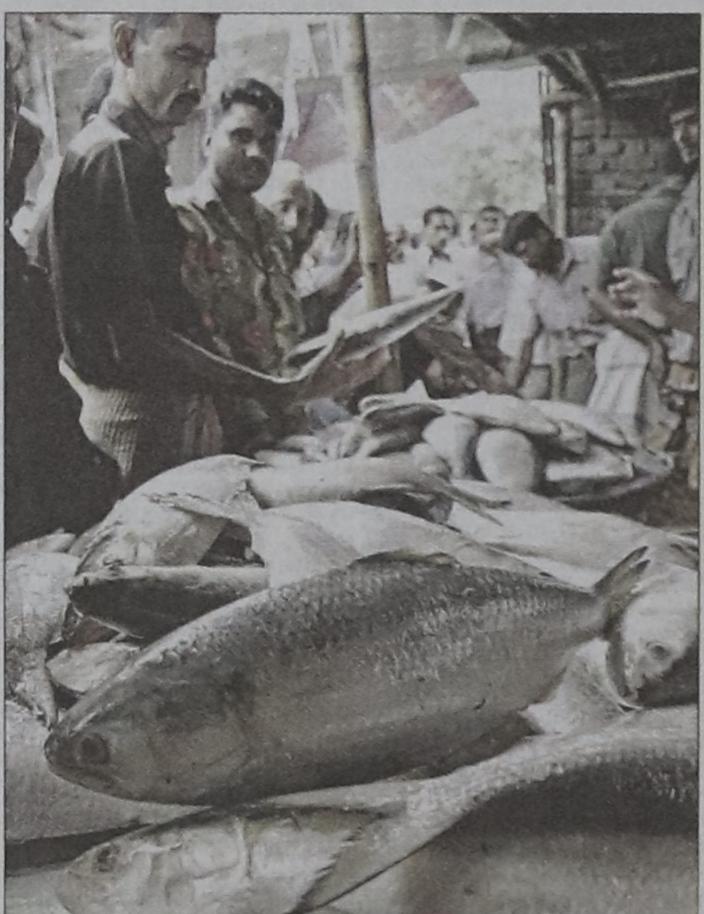
lower than what they get from

Star that they get higher prices.

exporters. A number of wholesalers at Karwan Bazar, meanwhile, alleged that they cannot buy big size hilsa even at the export rates as exporters control fishermen by paying them in

The export price of hilsa weighing 1kg-1.2kg that enters the Indian market is Tk 450 per kg and hilsa weighing around 800g-1kg is Tk 380 per kg. SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

advance.



Poor supply of big hilsa, mainly due to export, skyrockets prices leaving many unable to buy the delicious fish.

A new road linking Agargaon-Rokeya Sarani intersection and Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue in front of the Chief Adviser's Office is being built to relieve traffic pressure on Rokeya Sarani and Bijoy Sarani. The photo was taken yesterday.

# Khowai embankment project limping for four decades sadar, Baniachang and Lakhai crore. A revised project was taken

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

The Khowai embankment project could not be completed in about four decades due to frequent design changes and half-hearted flooding, facilitate irrigation and attempt at implementation.

And gushing rainwater rolling Development Board (WDB) offidown from across the border often breaks through the completed portion of the dam during the monsoon.

through the embankment to make way for truck movement during the dry season when the river becomes railway bridge at Shaistaganj, a narrow stream. The ravaged points never get repair work, locals

The sinuous Khowai snakes through Chunarughat, Habiganj

upazilas of Habiganj.

The government took up the Khowai project in 1969 to keep vast farmlands on its banks from yearly save the Habiganj town, Water

Later in 1973, the government sanctioned Tk 39.41 crore for the project that aimed at erecting 73-Besides sand collectors cut road mile earthen embankment on both banks, concrete walls at six points, loop cutting, reconstructing a

installing two pump stations,

digging up canals and 65-mile The project could not be completed in time after spending 29.13

up in the 1995-96 fiscal plan at an estimated cost of Tk 72 crore. Only Tk 18 crore was sanctioned at the time. Later in 1999, the government raised the amount to Tk 33.12

The government changed the design and readjusted costs in 2002-2003 to complete the project by 2006.

WDB sources said work on 93km embankment, 36-km submersible embankment, loop cutting at 8 points, two sluice gates, 28 irrigation infrastructures and a few other things have so far been completed at an accumulated cost of Tk 68.5

Yet the completed portion has SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

### Tarique needs treatment abroad

Says medical board member STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A doctor who sits on all the three medical boards formed for detained Tarique Rahman's treatment yesterday recommended the authorities send the senior joint secretary general of the BNP

abroad for treatment. "Tarique Rahman's health condition is deteriorating fast; he's almost partially paralysed now," Prof Sirajuddin Ahmed, chairman of orthopaedic department at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), told

reporters. Tarique, accused in a string of corruption cases, has been undergoing treatment at the BSMMU for the last eight months during which authorities there formed two medical boards for him, in addition to a

government one.

The doctor said the BNP leader's right leg is getting thinner due to pain at hip joints and his 6th and 7th vertebrae are broken.

"Treatment that Tarique needs at present is not available here," he said. "We'll not take responsibility for anything bad that may happen to him."

"In my last report on his health, I SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

# HRC Group boss freed on bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Businessman Sayeed Hossain Chowdhury was released on bail from Dhaka Central Jail yesterday. He was released as the High

Court granted him bail on August 20, Deputy Inspector General of (prisons) Major Shamsul Haider Siddiqui said, when contacted. The joint forces arrested the

HRC Group chief on July 18 under the Emergency Power Rules for smuggling money out of the cou xntry and enjoying properties bought in other people's names. Sayeed, brother of Awami

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

# UN envoy fails to meet Suu Kyi

UN special envoy Ibrahim Gambari failed to meet detained opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi before he left Myanmar yesterday, an apparent setback in his bid to promote democratic reforms in the country.

In a meeting with diplomats Saturday, Gambari said it was Suu Kyi and not the government who refused to hold the meeting. The news adds to speculation that the Nobel Peace Prize laureate may be SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

**Prayer Timing** 

August 24

	Azan	Jamaat
ajr	4-30	5-05
Cohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-33	6-36
sha	8-00	8-30
Source:	Islamic Foul	ndation