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260 more workers return
FM goes to KL; job-cut talks not finalised yet
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 260 workers returned home from abroad with special travel passes yesterday after facing various problems in the wake of the global economic meltdown.
Of them, 26 workers returned from Malaysia while 148 from Saudi Arabia, 50 from the United Arab Emirates, 14 from Maldives, 20 from

Govt to restart OMS of rice for April
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is going to restart open market sale (OMS) of rice in labour intensive areas of six divisional headquarters from April 1 for one month through dealers to sell among the low-income

Prayer Timing
March 26

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-45	5-20
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-20	6-25
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

Tk 1,100cr spending of CAAB under scanner

JS body blasts it for sketchy bookkeeping; 4 sub-committees to check graft in jute, textile mills

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The parliamentary standing committee on public undertakings yesterday blasted the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) for alleged anomalies in its accounts of expenditure of Tk 1,100 crore in last eight years.
"It is clear that accounts of expenditure of the civil aviation authority was not properly maintained mainly due to corruption," said Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, chief of the committee.

He was talking to reporters after the committee at a meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban discussed the functioning of CAAB.
Besides, the parliamentary standing

committee on jute and textile ministry at a meeting yesterday formed four sub-committees to investigate widespread allegations of financial anomalies in the state-run jute and textile mills, and also give reports on their present conditions.
Mohiuddin Khan said the committee headed by him at its meeting found lack



Mothers feed saline to their diarrhoea affected children at the ICCDR,B at Mohakhali in the capital yesterday. Hundreds of children are becoming victims of the water-borne disease every day.

3 killed in boiler blast

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla
At least 3 workers, including two women, were killed and 10 others injured in a boiler explosion at a rice mill in Burichang upazila early morning yesterday.
The deceased were Shohel Miah, 35, of Sylhet district, Monowara Begum, 45, of Debidwer upazila and Alaban Bibi, 40, of Mymensingh. Soheli and Alaban Bibi died on way to the hospital.
Police and fire fighters said around 3:15am the boiler of Nishad Rice Mill exploded scattering over a 250-yard-area damaging the tin-shade mill and the adjacent house of

Arms, ammo still all around Pilkhana

6 BDR men offer confessional statements
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) headquarters at Pilkhana is still an unsafe zone as grenades and other explosives remained scattered here and there even after a month of the mutiny by border guards.
"Arms, ammunition and other explosives, including grenades, are still being recovered everyday as BDR members hid those at various places, even in socks and dresses," BDR Director General (DG) Brig Gen Md Mainul Islam told reporters yesterday.
Addressing a press briefing at the conference hall of BDR headquarters, the DG said it is quite impossible to say exactly how many explosives and ammunition were used during the mutiny and how many arms and explosives taken away by the mutineers. At the end of the counting, it would be possible to assess how many arms went missing, he said.
Meanwhile, six BDR mutiny suspects yesterday gave confessional statements before the court about their involvement in the carnage for the first time after the incident.

Pro-AL panel wins SCBA poll

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Ruling Awami League (AL) backed Sammilita Ainjibi Samannay Parishad won a landslide victory in the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) election yesterday.
Advocate AFM Mesbah

Most Dhaka OCs get new posting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The government yesterday gave new postings to 37 inspectors, including 20 officer-in-charges (OCs) of 20 police stations out of the 35 of Dhaka Metropolitan Police,

আমার স্বাধীনতা আমার বীমা

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EU gives clean report on JS polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The European Union Election Observer Mission (EU EOM) has rejected allegations of armed forces' influence in the ninth parliamentary election, or of any mechanism or intimidation from any quarter to manipulate polling.
The EU EOM in its final report on the election released yesterday said the poll was held in a free and fair manner, and there was no rigging in it.
The EU mission also brushed aside allegations of different political parties that the Election Commission (EC) was biased, and it did not act neutrally in holding the election.
"I heard the so called rumours of certain mechanism. We invited those who had raised the rumours to come forward with evidence, and our mission was here (in Bangladesh) till January 16. We were here more than two weeks after the election," said Alexander Graff Lambsdorf, chief of the EU EOM, while releasing the report at a press conference at a city hotel.
"I saw that the security forces created an environment that generally speaking did nothing to intimidate the voters around and inside the polling stations. I could not see any intimidation

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