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International grand rally on poverty in October

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Jatiya Sangsad is going to organise an international grand rally against poverty in the capital on October 17.

The aim of the rally is also to generate pace in implementing 'Vision: 2021', a slogan of ruling Awami League-led grand alliance government to turn the country into a middle income country by the year 2021.

Prime Minister and Leader of the House Sheikh Hasina and Opposition Leader and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will be invited in the meeting as the chief guest and special guest respectively.

Besides, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Chief of India's ruling Congress party Sonia Gandhi, Nobel laureate Prof Amartya Sen, noted international human rights activist Asma Jahangir and others dignitaries will be invited to attend the high-profile rally.

A preparatory meeting on holding the rally was held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhavan

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Panna tigers give clue to Sundarbans tigers' deaths?



PHOTO: TV GRAB FROM BBC DOCUMENTARY GANGES

The tiger being tranquilised, bottom, for the second time for taking off collar (notice the neck and the dart stuck on its hind leg). One of the darted tigers, top left, walks weak and famished. The tiger lies unconscious for a long time after being tranquilised.

INAM AHMED

Those in Bangladesh who argue that the death four years ago of two Sundarbans tigers was due to reckless research have found support for their contention in the findings of an official Indian investigation into the deaths of Panna tigers in Madhya Pradesh.

It is now thought increasingly likely that the deaths four years ago of two Sundarbans tigers were the result of foreign researchers using radio collars as a way of tracking tigers in the forest. The researchers - a university of Minnesota professor James LD Smith and a PhD candidate Adam Barlow - were, at the time, working alongside the forest department as part of the Sundarbans Tiger Project.

The researchers had tranquilised and then collared two tigers - one in 2005 and the other in 2006. The first tiger died within six months of radio-collaring. The second one died soon after being tranquilised to remove the collar.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 7

RIVERS AROUND DHAKA

Final recovery drive awaits demarcation

MORSHED ALI KHAN

The drive to recover shores, foreshores and channels of the five rivers around Dhaka will not resume until the demarcation of the rivers is complete, sources concerned said.

The four district administrations around the city in coordination with Ministry of Land and Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) are now sorting through volumes of archives to ascertain the actual widths of the rivers Buriganga, Turag, Balu, Dhaleshwari and Shitalakhya. Sources said the demarcation lines would be drawn on the basis of the rivers' shores, foreshores and channels.

A Dhaka district administration source said

they are working with scientific data, on the rivers' "peak flow marks" and "low flow marks". The rivers should be demarcated at the "peak flow marks" to ensure flow of water is totally unhindered, the source said.

The district administrations of Dhaka, Gazipur, Narayanganj and Munshiganj are legally bound to demarcate rivers under their jurisdiction by November 30, 2009. According to the High Court order, passed on June 25, these district administrations must also complete installing demarcation pillars along the rivers by May 30, 2010.

The problem arises when our old documents show the rivers at a completely different

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

3,300MW more power by 2010

Move to build new power plants on urgent basis

BSS, Dhaka

The government has taken initiative to build new power plants on an urgent basis in both public and private sectors to meet the growing demand of electricity to be implemented under the supervision of the power division.

Bangladesh Power Development Board (PDB), as part of the move, has undertaken a massive initiative to set up new power plants with production capacity of 3,300 megawatt (MW) by 2010 in addition to the existing plants.

As per the new initiative, 500 to 1,500 MW rental power plants would be built which would go into production by 2010. Eight hundred megawatt would be generated by 2011 by setting up 10 power plants.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Pullout from CHT a regular redeployment

Says Ctg GOC

Maj Gen Shamim

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

General Officer Commanding (GOC) of 24 Infantry Division Maj Gen Mohammad Shamim Chowdhury yesterday termed the withdrawal of army camps in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) redeployment of troops to battalion headquarters.

The initiative to withdraw the army camps was taken after considering the present situation peaceful in the CHT districts, Gen Shamim said during a press briefing at the Chittagong division

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

2 killed in shootouts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In separate "gunfights" with law enforcers, two criminals were killed and three sustained injuries in the city's Agargaon and Mohammadpur and in Satkhira yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Rafiqul Islam alias Panku, 30, and Lutfor Rahman, 35, of Shahpur village of Tala upazila in Satkhira.

ASP Talebur Rahman of Rab-2 said members of the elite force arrested Rafiqul Islam at Banasree, Rampura on Tuesday night as he was wanted in seven cases.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

75 killed in Baghdad bombing spree

Worst carnage since US troops pulled out

AFP, Baghdad

A series of devastating attacks across Baghdad killed at least 75 people yesterday, in the worst day of carnage to hit the Iraqi capital since US troops pulled out of the conflict-hit nation's cities.

Nearly 400 people were also wounded in two massive truck bombings outside government ministries, including one near the heavily-fortified Green Zone, a car bombing and a spate of mortar attacks.

It was the bloodiest day in Iraq since February 2008, coinciding with the sixth anniversary of a truck bombing on the UN com-

pound in Baghdad that killed UN special envoy Sergio Vieira de Mello and 21 other people.

"I was in my home with my family when the roof collapsed on us," said Hamid, 46, who lives a few hundred metres from the foreign ministry compound which was targeted along with the finance ministry.

"The government promised us security would return but where is the security?"

One of the truck bombs exploded outside the foreign ministry in a residential area close to the Green Zone sending plumes of smoke and dust into the air, leaving a crater three metres (10 feet) deep and 10 metres in diameter

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Faridpur gang rape victim back to family

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

The victim of Faridpur gang rape was brought back to her family from safe custody of police yesterday following a plea made by her father.

The 14-year girl was taken under safe custody from the protection of a lawyer in Faridpur sadar on August 12. Police handed her over to the father after they had conducted the victim's age assertion and forensic tests.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

অভিনন্দন

দেশের গ্রামীণ আর্থ সামাজিক উন্নয়নের লক্ষ্যে বিদ্যুৎ চাহিদা পূরণে পল্লী বিদ্যুতায়ন বোর্ডের আওতাধীন প্রতিষ্ঠিত করাল পাওয়ার কোম্পানী লিমিটেড (আরপিসিএল)-এর প্রাক্তন প্রথম চেয়ারম্যান ব্রিগেডিয়ার জেনারেল (অবঃ) মোঃ এনামুল হক, এম.পি গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের বিদ্যুৎ, জ্বালানী ও খনিজ সম্পদ মন্ত্রণালয়ের প্রতিমন্ত্রী হিসেবে দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত হওয়ায় আরপিসিএল- পরিচালনা পরিষদ ও কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারীবৃন্দের পক্ষ হ'তে তাঁকে জানাই প্রাণঢালা অভিনন্দন ও শুভেচ্ছা।

Kabul siege sparks fear on election eve

AFP, Kabul

A shoot-out at a rundown building in downtown Kabul yesterday ended with police dragging down flights of stairs the bloodied and blackened corpses of Taliban militants who had stormed in hours earlier.

The standoff was over but tensions were mounting with polling stations due to open shortly after dawn and a tight security grid clamped down on the normally busy city --

empty and boarded up for a public holiday.

The sound of gunshots filled the air as police and intelligence agents sealed off roads leading to the area, with authorities determined to show they had security in hand for voting day despite Taliban threats to attack.

Hayatullah, who runs a nearby tea shop, said he saw the attackers climbing up the stairs from the back of the building, which is fewer than two kilometres (one mile) from the fortified

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

OnlinePoll

Do you agree with BDR Director General Maj Gen Md Mainul Islam that the country's foreign enemies benefited from the Pukhria massacre on February 25-26?

Yes (68.6%)

No (26.9%)

No Comments (4.5%)

Total votes: 1238

TODAY'S POLL

Should the hill land recovered from the lessees for violating lease agreements be used for forestry or reallocation among the landless people?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing

August 20

| | Azan | Jamaat |
|---------|------|--------|
| Fajr | 5-25 | 6-00 |
| Zohr | 1-45 | 2-15 |
| Asr | 5-45 | 6-00 |
| Maghrib | 7-38 | 7-41 |
| Esha | 9-00 | 9-30 |

Source: Islamic Foundation

25th Death Anniversary of Habibul Kabir (Nizam)

On occasion of the 25th death anniversary of Habibul Kabir (Nizam) a milad mahfil will be held today 20-08-2009 after Asar Prayer at 68/1 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan-1, Dhaka. Relatives, Friends and all well wishers of the deceased are requested to kindly join the milad mahfil and pray for the salvation of his departed soul.

Family of Habibul Kabir (Nizam)

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পাশ্চাত্য ঢাকা বাংলাদেশ

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