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Berlusconi in hospital after attack

AFP, Milan

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi spent a quiet night in hospital and asked yesterday to see the front page coverage of the

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Yet another 'heist' at govt office

PWD night guard killed in Bogra this time; govt sends out alert

STAR REPORT

In a sequel to heists in five public offices in Rajshahi and Natore over last two nights, criminals ransacked another government office at Sutrapur in Bogra town on Sunday night and stabbed its night guard to death.

Meanwhile, the government sent alerts to all district and upazila administration offices and law enforcement agencies to remain vigilant.

Police and officials concerned in Bogra told our staff correspondent that a gang forced their way into the public works department (PWD) office, sometime on

Sunday night, and stabbed night guard Jamaluddin, 35, to death and tied up another guard Abu Taleb.

They also ransacked 33 almirahs in 14 rooms of the office.

Earlier on Friday and Saturday nights, criminals also ransacked five government

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More to get BNP axe 'Reformists', 'inactive' leaders to go from posts of vice-chairman, advisory council

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

Large-scale changes are likely in the 15 posts for vice-chairman in BNP and chairperson's advisory council as most of the "reformist" and "inactive" leaders may be dropped.

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will select 15 vice-chairmen as the fifth national council empowered her to do so. She will nominate the 15-member advisory council to assist her in discharging her duties.

Party leaders hinted that a number of vice-presidents and chairperson's advisers would lose their positions due to their "controversial" role during the last caretaker government's rule. Khaleda Sunday night announced the new

standing committee and eight joint secretaries general including many fresh faces who played important roles for the party during the emergency period.

Brig Gen (retd) Hannan Shah, newly-elected member of the standing committee, alleged that those who worked against the chairperson are also in the committee.

Lt Gen (retd) Mahbubur Rahman, another member of the committee, told The Daily Star that the newly-elected committee will be able to make the party stronger and the chairperson made the right decision.

Another member of the standing committee said massive changes would be made in the

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Ctg robbers kill 1, hurt 2

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Robbers gunned down an office assistant of Chittagong Wasa and injured his two relatives at East Gumdandi village in Boalkhali upazila of the district early yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Siddique Ahmed, 52, son of Ali Ahmed of the village.

Sources said a gang of armed bandits swooped on the house of Siddique Ahmed around 2:00am and started beating Rubel, nephew of Siddique, and Rubel's mother Farida Begum as they tried to resist the gang.

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4-LANE DHAKA-CTG HIGHWAY

3 firms to get deals by December end

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Contracts for Dhaka-Chittagong four-lane highway project will be awarded formally to three successful construction firms in the last week of December, communications ministry officials said yesterday.

The narrow highway from Dhaka to

Chittagong will be upgraded to a dual carriage-way and the construction will begin in February next year after the companies sign the contracts with Department of Roads and Highways in a ceremony, they said.

"We are now preparing for signing of the contract with which all the formalities

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Bangladesh, UK parliamentary group presents inquiry report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parliamentary groups from Bangladesh and the UK presented a joint report into the effects of climate change at the Copenhagen summit yesterday.

"Climate Change Equity: is it a plan, an aspiration or a fashion statement?" was presented by Saber Hossain Chowdhury MP for Dhaka 9 constituency and UK's Colin Challen MP, who are the co-chairs of the All Party Parliamentary Climate Change Group (APCCG).

The report is the first of its kind in that it collaboratively seeks to address both the political and physical injustices of climate change.

Whilst Bangladesh is one of the lowest carbon-emitting

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6pc of GDP for education

Pledges South Asian countries at ministerial meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The second ministerial meeting of South Asia Education for All (EFA) Forum ended yesterday with the eight participating South Asian countries committed to allocate six percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for education sector.

At a joint press conference, the delegations of the countries said though most of the governments could not achieve the target fixed in the forum's first meeting in Pakistan, they would pressurise their governments this time to spend the money in this sector.

Ministry of Primary and Mass Education organised the press conference at a city hotel to publicise the outcomes of the two-day meeting. The theme of the second ministerial meeting was "Reaching the un-reached with focus on decentralisation".

Finance Minister AMA Muhith was present at the closing ceremony of the meeting.

The forum also formulated a "Dhaka Declaration" emphasising allocation of at least six percent of the GDP in education sector by the third meeting scheduled to be held in India in 2011.

Primary and Mass Education Minister Afsarul Amin, State

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OnlinePoll

Do you think the government's initiative to bring kindergarten, madrasa and primary education under a unified common curriculum is a good idea?

Yes (69.3%)
No (27.9%)
No Comments (2.8%)

Total votes: 879

TODAY'S POLL

How do you evaluate BNP's new standing committee?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing

December 15

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	6-20	6-55
Zohr	1-45	2-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-22	6-25
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

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