

**Did you know?**  
Belém Tower is a fortified tower in Lisbon, Portugal. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the structure was built from lioz limestone and is composed of a bastion and 30m tall four-storied towers.



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**GRAFT ALLEGATIONS**  
**Khoka slammed for ignoring JS body call**

RASHIDUL HASAN

A parliamentary committee yesterday slammed Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka for not appearing before it to testify on corruption allegations against him.

The House committee on Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives also recommended that the government take actions against him and a number of DCC officials for "ignoring the committee's call".

"We invited DCC Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka several times to appear before

# 3 more power plant contracts okayed

*Gas-based plants to supply 600MW within 3 years*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cabinet purchase committee yesterday approved awarding contracts for three gas-based power plants that would produce 600 megawatt electricity.

Of these, local Summit Industrial and Mercantile Corporation Ltd and its American partner GE have been awarded a private power contract to set up a 450 MW combined cycle power plant in Bibiyana at a very competitive price of US 3.32 cents per kilowatt-hour over a period of 22 years.

Two remaining plants would be set up

by Aggreko as rental power units. The British company will set up an 80 MW plant in Brahmanbaria and a 70 MW one in Ashuganj. Aggreko will charge Tk 4.8 per kilowatt-hour during its three-year contract period. Afterwards, the company will uninstall its units.

Summit won the Bibiyana bid by offering a price that is much lower than that offered in the first tender for the same project which was cancelled in 2008. That bid drew a lone offer of US 4.53 cents per kilowatt-hour.

Once Summit-GE signs the final agree-

ment for the project with the Power Cell under the power ministry, it will have to launch the simple cycle part of the plant within 24 months and combined cycle part within 36 months.

The simple cycle part is built using gas turbines, while the combined cycle uses heat generated by the simple cycle unit to produce extra power.

The Bibiyana power plant project will be implemented on a build, own and operate (BOO) basis. The World Bank (WB)-financed power project will cost

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# Jawans used APC during mutiny

*Prosecutor tells BDR court*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

War field vehicle Armoured Personnel Carrier (APC) was used by some mutineers during the bloody mutiny at Bangladesh Rifles Headquarters on February 25-26 last year, a prosecutor told the BDR Special Court-10 yesterday.

Maj Mokaid Mohammad Ali, prosecutor of the case against 337 accused from Rifles Sports Board and all directorates under Bangladesh Rifles Headquarters, described 11 kinds of charges against them including illegal use of APC.

The prosecutor said 57 army officers were killed during the mutiny at Pilkhana and 23 of them were from the wings of the detained 337 alleged mutineers.

The prosecutor alleged many of the accused joined the mutiny, looted arms from the armoury and did not take any step to protect lives of the officers or move to prevent the mutiny even after knowing about it before.

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# Nightmare for a 12-yr-old

RAKIB AHAMED, back from Rugganj

"I was scared and crying as I washed away the blood."

Shanto, aged twelve, was petrified when a Rab official forced him at gunpoint to wash the blood of bullet-hit persons from a bridge during Saturday's clash at Rugganj in

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

# Parliament not working as expected

*Says EU ambassador*

UNB, Dhaka

European Union (EU) Head of Delegation Ambassador Stefan Frowein yesterday said the present parliament is not functioning according to the aspirations of the people.

The ambassador made the remarks to reporters after a farewell call on Law Minister Barrister Shafique Ahmed at his ministry.

Asked about the EU's role in staging the 1/11 political episode, Frowein said the EU had no role in it nor did they interfere in it.

However, he admitted that they offered some suggestions due to the friendly relations between EU and Bangladesh.

Frowein praised the role of the press in flourishing democracy in Bangladesh.

The ambassador termed

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Hundreds of vehicles grind to a halt in a gridlock in the main thoroughfare of Gulistan in the capital yesterday. Commuters are compelled to endure such ordeal almost every day.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

# Biman flight cancelled for pilot shortage

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Biman yesterday cancelled a Dhaka-Chittagong flight due to shortage of pilots, officials said.

Meanwhile, the airline served show-cause notices to its four pilots for holding a press conference last week defying a directive of the authority.

A number of scheduled flights of the national carrier were disrupted yesterday on the third day of the protest programme of Bangladesh Pilots' Association (BAPA).

Biman insiders said the flight schedules were disrupted as many pilots complained of illness.

Due to short of pilots, a Kathmandu-bound flight, which was scheduled to take off at 2:45 pm, was delayed for about two and half hours.

A Dhaka-Bahrain-Kuwait

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# SC clears way for trial of 3 graft cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) yesterday stayed the High Court (HC) orders that halted the proceedings of three graft cases against former adviser of caretaker government Justice Fazlul Huq and two ex-ministers.

A three-member Appellate

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# Sourav confesses killing Sarima

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Sourav, the prime accused of Mridhat Sarima Rahman murder case, confessed to the killing before a Chittagong court yesterday.

Chittagong Metropolitan Magistrate Azizul Hoque recorded the 15-page confessional statement of Sourav under section 164 in the afternoon.

Sourav in his confession reiterated the statements he gave before the police and media after his arrest in the early hours of Saturday.

"I brought a one-foot-long knife from my home.... I flicked

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

# Muhith slams UNFPA report on population

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday termed the UNFPA's recent report on Bangladesh's population as 'unauthorised meddling', claiming they do not have the right to do this.

"They did not consult with the government and it was done in a peculiar way," said Muhith at a discussion meeting on "The State of the Economy", organised by Economic Reporters' Forum at the Jatiya Press Club auditorium.

The minister also suspected some evil quarters were behind this report, adding the relevant government agencies will meet today and

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# India pledges to export 11 lakh bales of cotton

*Laws to be amended to remove non-tariff barriers for import of jute bags*

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India has assured Bangladesh of exporting some 11 lakh bales of cotton in addition to those already contracted and amend relevant law to remove non-tariff barriers in importing jute bags from Bangladesh.

"The Indian commerce minister has assured me about the duty-free entry of more Bangladeshi goods and we'll get a positive response very soon," visiting Bangladeshi Commerce Minister Faruque Khan told reporters here yesterday.

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# MEDICAL COLLEGES Results of admission test today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The results of admission test of 61 public and private medical colleges will be published this afternoon.

A total of 43,644 candidates competed for 2509 seats in 18 public colleges and 3550 seats at 43 private colleges this year.

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**Heartiest Congratulations**

**Babu Amal Podder**, Honorable Managing Director, Metro Knitting & Dyeing Mills Ltd. has been receiving CIP (Export) Card from **Lt Col (ret) Faruk Khan**, honorable Commerce minister, Government of the people's Republic of Bangladesh, readymade garments sector of (Knit), 2009. To mentionable, this grand prize is a recognition of significant contribution in national economy export trade of country.

Best wishes  
**All employees of the company**

- Metro Knitting & Dyeing Mills Limited
- M/s. K B Traders
- Metro Knitting & Dyeing Mills Limited (Factory-2)
- AAA Textile Mills Limited
- Bea-Con Knit Wear Limited
- Panam Agrovet Limited

**OnlinePoll** ✓

Do you think BNP Chairperson Khaleeda Zia should vacate her cantonment house instead of challenging the High Court judgment in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court?

○ Yes (54.4%)  
○ No (45.2%)  
○ No Comments (0.4%)

**Total votes: 3393**

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you agree with AL Joint General Secretary Mahubul Alam Hanif that BNP had a role in the Rugganj clash?

Please cast your vote at [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

**Prayer Timing**

October 25

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-50	5-25
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-32	5-35
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

**অগ্রগতির বছর**

২৫ অক্টোবর, ২০১০

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