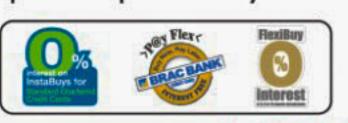
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REGIONAL WATER SHARING

Solution lies in 2 factors

Int'l seminar focuses on cooperation, understanding

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Regional cooperation and understanding are the two main ingredients for resolving water sharing and management issues in the region.

And the impact of climate change in the region is yet to be wholly perceived. So, all the countries concerned must conduct joint studies and research, and act accordingly to face the problem.

This was the unanimous view of participants at an international seminar in the capital yesterday.

"The Himalayas, the rivers Brahmaputra and Padma, and the largest mangrove forest in the world -- the Sundarbans -- are natural heritage which several countries share. So, we have to sit down together and solve our problems," said Ramaswamy R Iyer, former secretary of Indian water resources ministry.

The seminar on "Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna Region: Water-based Regional

(12.1%)

(87.9%)

(0.0%)

Coopearation" was organised by Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation and held at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

Speaking as chief guest, Foreign Minister Dipu Moni said since the signing of the Ganges Treaty in 1996, it is taking so long to strike a treaty on the sharing of Teesta water. If the pace of talks remains the same, it will take a millennium to reach agreements on all the 54 transboundary rivers.

She mentioned that 10 percent of the world population live only in 1.2 percent of the global landmass in this region. And it is home to 40 percent of the world's poorest people. "So, we need to change our mindset," she said.

The foreign minister went on, "We have to go beyond the narrow and shallow national interests for the sake of attaining sustainable development and managing the common heritage of the people of this region."

Referring to the on-going talks on the Teesta

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



Fresh laitya fishes caught in the Bay being dipped in dye so that they look attractive and could be sold at higher price. Despite government attempts to provide people with unadulterated consumables, an unscrupulous group of traders continue to cheat consumers and sell food that are harmful. The photo was taken at Patharghata Fisheryghat in Chittagong yesterday.

Tribute to '71 from Tripura

Dipu Moni to lay foundation of war memorial

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

As Foreign Minister Dipu Moni lays the foundation of a memorial in a verdant park of Tripura, it opens a new chapter in tributes to Indian soldiers and Mukti Joddhas martyred in the Liberation War, 1971.

The 20-hectare park at Chottakhola, a border village in South Tripura district, is dotted with seven hillocks and a serpentine lake overlooking Noakhali, Feni and Comilla.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

November 7		
	Azan	Jamaat
ajr	5-00	5-35
ohr	12-45	1-15
sr	3-45	4-00
laghrib	5-25	5-30
sha	7-00	7-30
Source:	Islamic Four	dation

OnlinePoll

Do you think CNG-run auto rickshaw drivers will stop demanding high fare and start using meter following the new increased fare?

O No Comments Total votes: 206

O Yes

O No

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the election commission's recommendation to change electoral laws to disqualify loan defaulters as lawmakers will be accepted by the political parties?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Office attacked over youth job

AL men behind Gopalganj offence

A CORRESPONDENT, Gopalganj

A ruling Awami League (AL) leader and his men yesterday vandalised the Kashiani upazila youth development office in Gopalganj as his candidates were not listed for government jobs. Saidur Rahman Miraz, youth development officer, claimed a

group of ruling party men led by Sharafat Hossain Lavlu Mridha, upazila unit AL's relief and social welfare secretary, stormed into the office and started vandalising it around 9:30am. They vandalised its windowpanes and doors as Sharafat's

candidates names were not listed for a training under national service programme, he added. They also ransacked the upazila officers' dormitory adjacent

to the office.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Nizami the man behind Pabna mass murders

War crimes probe learns

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Jamaat Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami, now detained, masterminded the massacres in Santhia upazila and elsewhere in the district in 1971, a war crimes probe finds.

"In our primary investigation, we found that Jamaat chief Motiur Rahman Nizami was the mastermind behind the massacres," said Md Abdur Razzak of the International Crimes Tribunal probe team.

The 11-member team led by Sayed Rejaur Rahman, prosecutor of the tribunal, wrapped up their three-day probe in Pabna SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Decision on **Eid today**

UNB, Dhaka

The National Moon Sighting Committee will meet today at Islamic Foundation to fix the date of holy Eid-ul-Azha after reviewing the moon sighting news of Jilhaj month.

The meeting will be held at the conference room of Islamic Foundation at 6:00pm, said a press release.

State Minister for Religious Affairs and President of the committee Mohammad Shahjahan Mia will chair the meeting.

Those who will sight the SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



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