

Did you know? The Zhiguli Hydroelectric Station is located in the Samara Oblast of Russia. This complex consists of an earth-fill dam, 2800 m long, 750 m wide and 52 m high.

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CONDITIONS FOR PARTY REGISTRATION Jamaat noncompliant, no EC action yet

SHAKHAWAT LITON

Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami's registration with the Election Commission still remains despite the party's failure to meet the conditions for retaining registration even nine months after the expiry of the one-year deadline.

The party managed to retain its registration as the commission's moves were confined to urging Jamaat to amend some provisions in its charter that do not conform to the country's constitution and the Representation of the People Order (RPO), said some officials at the EC.

The commission did not compel the party to meet the conditions stipulated in the RPO for retaining registration, they said.

According to the RPO, Jamaat was supposed to correct its charter and submit it to the EC by

the deadline of January 24 this year.

A source at the commission said the EC on November 2 decided to ask Jamaat once again to amend its charter and submit it to the commission within a specific timeframe to maintain registration.

"We will send a letter to Jamaat-e-Islami asking them to bring necessary changes to its charter to conform with the registration criteria. We will decide our next course of action on receipt of its response," Election Commissioner Muhammed Sohel Hussein said on Thursday.

An EC official said the matter has dragged on for long as the commission did not pursue the matter properly.

The EC had found that some provisions in the charters of a few other parties including

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Main opposition BNP stages a rally at the city's Naya Paltan marking November 7 that it celebrates as "National Revolution and Solidarity Day".

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Dipu Moni visits Tripura Nov 10-11

REZAUL KARIM

Aiming to boost cross-border trade with India's northeastern states, Foreign Minister Dipu Moni is set to embark on a two-day visit to Tripura on November 10, official sources said.

Strategies to further improve trade between Bangladesh and northeast India and development of trade-related infrastructure along the border would top the discussion agenda during the tour.

A team comprised of high-ranking officials and a 30-member business delegation will accompany the minister.

Matlub Ahmed, leader of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

JAIL KILLING CASE Attorney gen appeals to SC for retrial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Attorney General Mahbub Alam yesterday prayed to the Supreme Court for retrial of the jail killing case.

He made the prayer before the Appellate Division of the SC during a hearing on a leave-to-appeal petition filed against the acquittal of Dafadar (dismissed) Marfat Ali Shah and Dafadar (dismissed) Abul Hashem Mridha by the High Court of the charges relating to the jail killing.

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Sandwip likely to be mainland's part

Rubber dams to create new land in Bay

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Sandwip and Urir Char islands are likely to become part of mainland Noakhali in the near future thanks to the Meghna estuary development project.

Sandwip is currently facing severe erosion problems.

Several dams would be built at different strategic points in the estuary and they would help create more char lands by artificially concentrating deposits in that area, experts said yesterday at a workshop.

Bangladesh gained 598 square kilometres of

new land in 35 years from 2008 in the Meghna estuary near Noakhali, said the experts of Bangladesh Water Development Board at the workshop. They said over the years Bangladesh lost 1,045 square km of land due to erosion and gained 1,642 square km of new land at the Meghna estuary. On an average year, Bangladesh gains 17.1 square km of land, they said at a technical session.

Around 10,000 hectares of new land could be reclaimed within the next couple of years, the experts said.

The seminar on Estuary Development

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Keep 2 judges out of judicial functions

**SC Bar president
urges chief justice**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pro-BNP faction of the Supreme Court Bar Association has called on the chief justice to keep the two newly sworn-in High Court judges out of judicial functions to protect the image and dignity of the Supreme Court.

SCBA president Khandker Mahub Hossain said the chief justice can send the two judges -- Ruhul Quddus and M Khasruzzaman -- to other

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Myanmar votes in rare election

Fears of fraud amid tight security

REUTERS, Yangon

Myanmar held its first election in 20 years yesterday under tight security, a scripted vote that assures army-backed parties an easy win but brings a hint of parliamentary politics to one of Asia's most oppressed states.

State TV did not mention the election until a news bulletin four hours after polls had closed that showed army ruler Than Shwe casting his vote. Results may not be known for a day or more. Witnesses reported low turnout and irregularities.

Two military-backed parties running virtually unopposed were certain to prevail in a carefully choreographed end to half a century of direct army rule. Complex election rules stifled any prospect of a pro-democracy upset.

Many who abstained expressed doubt they could alter the

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3G mobile network in 3 months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh will launch third-generation (3G) mobile phone network in three months, Telecommunication Minister Rajiuddin Ahmed Raju said yesterday.

Teletalk, the state-owned mobile operator, will roll out the 3G services, followed by private operators.

"This 3G networks will

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1



A girl undergoes Karate training at Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib College in Tangail yesterday. The district administration has initiated the training programme in the district town so that girls can stand against stalking.

PHOTO: STAR

BLOCKS-10, 11 OIL, GAS EXPLORATION PSC with Conoco by next week

JASIM UDDIN KHAN

The government is set to sign a Production Sharing Contract (PSC) with US energy giant ConocoPhillips by next week to explore blocks 10 and 11 for oil and gas in the hydrocarbon rich Bay of Bengal.

Such PSC for exploration in the Bay is the first in Bangladesh when the government is eagerly waiting for immediate launch of exploration in the potential areas to reduce supply-demand energy gap.

The PSC is a special agreement between the government and foreign contractors signed mainly for petroleum exploration and development.

Both the government and Conoco have concluded their discussion positively on the issues which had created discords earlier, says a high official of the Energy and Mineral Resources Division (EMRD).

"We are hopeful that we can sign an agreement with ConocoPhillips by next week. The ministry instructed us to sign the agreement before the Eid-ul-Azha. We have prepared the draft which awaits law ministry vetting," said Muhammad Imaduddin, director (PSC), of Petrobangla.

Imaduddin added Conoco representatives have agreed with the government position on the PSC and expressed their intention to sign it as early as possible.

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RESISTING STALKERS Schoolgirls get karate training

**OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Tangail**

Tangail district administration yesterday introduced karate training for girl students so that they can deal with stalkers.

In the first such government move, the district administration opened a training camp for the students of Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib Women's College in the town.

Deputy Commissioner of Tangail M Bazlul Karim Chowdhury inaugurated the training camp as the chief guest and addressed a discussion on this occasion.

Local Shafiqul Islam Lablu and his wife Maliha Tanjina Sharmin, karate black-belt holders, have been appointed as trainers.

On the first day of the training, the trainers provided basic knowledge about karate

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OnlinePoll ✓

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?

Yes (26.6%)
 No (72.1%)
 No Comments (1.3%)

Total votes: 245

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think inability to reclaim the canals in the capital despite PM's repeated directives shows canal grabbers' enormous influence in the administration?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing
November 8

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-00	5-35
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-25	5-30
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

মাকে
~~এই দেশকে~~
দিয়ে
কিছু হবে না

একটু অভিমানে দেশকে নিয়ে এমন কত কথাই না বলি আমরা!
এমন অনেক কাজই করে ফেলি, যেন এই দেশটা আমাদের নয়।

স্বাধীনতার ৪০ বছরের সামনে দাঁড়িয়ে সত্যিই যদি আজ মনে হয়, এই মায়ের কাছে আমাদের একটু হলেও খণ রয়েছে, তবে আসুন,
এই মাকে, মাতৃভূমি এই বাংলাদেশকে নিয়ে আমরা একটু তাবি।

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