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PM seeks more investment from Belgium

Also urges manpower recruitment

UNB, Brussels
 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has requested the Belgian government to recruit skilled sailors, and skilled manpower for IT and other related sectors from Bangladesh.

"I believe there is good scope for Belgium to invest in Bangladesh's shipbuilding industry, IT, energy and infrastructure sectors," Hasina said while holding talks with Belgian Prime Minister Yves Leterme at his residence

Thursday evening.

Briefing newsmen after the meeting, PM's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad said Hasina also requested the Belgian government to import frozen fish, RMG products, bicycles, spare parts, pharmaceuticals, jute products, ceramics, and leather products in larger volume.

"I believe there is a lot of scope to expand trade between Bangladesh and Belgium," she said.

Hasina also urged the Belgian government



Belgian Prime Minister Yves Leterme welcomes his visiting Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina at his residence in Brussels yesterday. PHOTO: PID

6 lakh die every year from passive smoking

BBC ONLINE

The first global study into the effects of passive smoking has found it causes 6,00,000 deaths every year.

One-third of those killed are children, often exposed to smoke at home, the World Health Organization (WHO) found.

The study, in 192 countries, found that passive smoking is particularly dangerous for children, said to be at higher risk of sudden infant death syndrome, pneumonia and asthma.

Passive smoking causes heart disease, respiratory illness and lung cancer.

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Exercise utmost restraint
 Dhaka reacts to Korean conflict

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has urged both North and South Korea to exercise utmost restraint to maintain peace and stability in the region.

A foreign ministry spokesman said this in a press release yesterday.

"Any act of provocation is condemnable and should be avoided," the release added.

Tensions have soared between the Koreas since the North's strike Tuesday

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LDC DIALOGUE ENDS

Call for more active role of development partners

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A three-day international dialogue on development strategies for least developed countries concluded yesterday with a call for more active engagement from global development partners.

The dialogue also concluded that the positions of the world's weakest economies must be redefined in light of the post crisis evolving global economic relationships.

Trade experts, economists, bureaucrats, academicians and civil society

members, who took part in the event, also suggested that the 49-nation-bloc look for new opportunities amid the rapidly changing global economic order.

The observations came at the closing ceremony of the 'International Dialogue on Exploring New Global Partnership for the LDCs' in Dhaka Sheraton Hotel.

The Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), an independent think tank of Bangladesh, organised the event in partnership with the Development Centre of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The dialogue sought to design a new international strategy for LDCs to graduate from the listing, which will be negotiated at the Fourth UN LDC Conference in Istanbul in May next year.

CPD's Distinguished Fellow Debapriya Bhattacharya told reporters after the event that the main demands of LDCs are clear -- food security, climate change adaptation fund, access to foreign markets, and foreign direct investments.

"Without proper attention from international development partners, and

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PROTESTS AGAINST 'EVICTION'

Khaleda unhappy with leaders' role

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia was disappointed at city unit leaders' failure to offer resistance to the move to "evict" her from the disputed cantonment house on November 13.

The BNP chief was also irked at the thin presence of party's senior leaders in protest programmes during the November 14 hartal called to protest her "eviction" from the house, said a source in the party.

Khaleda was displeased as only a few hundred leaders and workers gathered at Jahangir gate at Dhaka Cantonment to protest the eviction.

The BNP chief had expected her party leaders to mobilise thousands of supporters in and around the cantonment, said the source.

She was particularly unhappy with BNP leader Sadeque Hossain Khoka, mayor of Dhaka City Corporation and his close

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Teacher jailed for harassing student

DU CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court yesterday sentenced a college teacher to one-year imprisonment for harassing a female admission seeker at Dhaka University.

Saiful Islam, lecturer of physical education department of University Laboratory School and College, was accused of passing

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DU VANDALISM
 All arrestees released

DU CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday released all the detainees of Thursday's car accident and the subsequent vandalism on Dhaka University campus following a negotiation between the car owner and the DU authorities.

They were freed around

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FROM LEFT...CPD Executive Director Mustafizur Rahman and Chairman Prof Rehman Sobhan, Economic Relations Division Secretary Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan and CPD Distinguished Fellow Debapriya Bhattacharya at the dialogue in Dhaka Sheraton Hotel yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

A public hospital with a difference

DMCH burn unit achieves commendable recovery rate, reduces number of deaths

SHAHEEN MOLLAH

When success story is rare in public service institutions, the Burn and Plastic Surgery unit at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) is an exception with increasing recovery rate and sliding death toll since its inception in December 2003.

The specialised unit can now cure patients with 40 percent burns, up from around 32 percent six years ago. Sometimes patients with 55 percent burns are also cured, claim doctors

of the unit.

The commendable success is achieved despite shortage of doctors and nurses. There are 50 doctors and 21 nurses against a requirement of 80 doctors and 125 nurses.

The unit also has no employees though it requires around 200. Only 35 outsiders work there without any remuneration hoping to get the job in future.

Despite all setbacks, the mystery behind the unit's success is nothing but sincere efforts by a

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Prayer Timing
 November 27

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-10	5-45
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-19	5-22
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

OnlinePoll ✓

Do you think enactment of an anti-hartal law will be undemocratic?

Yes (63.2%)
 No (35.9%)
 No Comments (0.9%)

Total votes: 1770

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think vandalising and torching vehicles by some Dhaka University students centring a road accident on the campus is justified?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

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