

# Encourage more investment in Bangladesh

Hasina urges Japanese PM Naoto Kan



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Japanese counterpart Naoto Kan hold a meeting at the latter's office in Tokyo, Japan yesterday. PHOTO: PID

**BSS, Tokyo**  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday requested her Japanese counterpart Naoto Kan to encourage Japanese investment in Bangladesh and relocate their not-so-profitable industries to her country.  
Hasina said Japanese investors can invest more in Bangladesh, as the country is investment-friendly and now being considered the second most profitable economy in South Asia.  
Hasina, at an official banquet, said more investments can also significantly help to reduce the trade deficit -- Bangladesh imports now amount to over a billion dollar as against exports of US\$ 330 million to Japan.  
Naoto Kan hosted the banquet in honour of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Prime Minister's Office (PMO) in Tokyo.  
Sheikh Hasina stressed on a comprehensive economic partnership agreement between Bangladesh and Japan for reaping mutual benefits by exploiting the untapped potentials of the two countries as well as reducing huge trade imbalance.  
She sought more Japanese cooperation in Bangladesh's quest for a "Digital Bangladesh" and for graduating it to a middle-income country by fulfilling the government's Vision-2021.  
The PM said her government began implementing policies ensuring a sound macro-economic stability, comfortable foreign

reserve, and an excellent business climate.  
Both Dhaka and Tokyo are committed to international peace and security, counter-terrorism, prevention of nuclear proliferation, elimination of weapons of mass destruction, and management of global climate change issues, she said.  
She observed that the common good will, understanding and complementarities naturally lead the two countries to a strategic partnership, which would promote global peace.  
Hasina assured that Bangladesh will extend its wholehearted support to the rightful claim of Japan for a permanent seat in an expanded UN Security Council.  
The Bangladesh premier thanked Kan for their generous hospitality during her visit to Japan.  
Finance Minister A M A Muhith, Foreign Minister Dr Dipu Moni, Prime Minister's Adviser Prof Dr Alauddin Ahmed and Dr Mashiur Rahman, Executive Chairman of Board of Investment (BOI) Dr S A Samad, Ambassador At Large M Ziauddin, and Bir Bahadur MP joined the banquet.  
Awami League leader M Akhtaruzzaman, Principal Secretary M A Karim, ERD Secretary Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan, Foreign Secretary Muhamed Mijarul Quayes, FBCCI President A K Azad were also present.



## Chitra Bhattacharya passes away

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Chitra Bhattacharya, former member of parliament and wife of Justice Debesh Bhattacharya, passed away at a hospital in Kolkata at around 4:30am yesterday due to old age complications at the age of 84, says a press release.  
Chitra, also a human rights activist, left behind her sons economist Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya and Physicist Dr Debadarshi Bhattacharya (Dipen) and daughter Debalina Roy and a host of well-wishers and admirers to mourn her.  
She was born into an aristocrat Zamindar family in Netrakona.  
All through her life, she played an active role in pursuing the progressive feminist issues, human rights movements and various social agendas. She was elected member of parliament from Bangladesh for the seat reserved for women in 1996 and 2001 as an Awami League candidate. She was also a member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Finance, former vice-president of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad and member of the advisory council and an active member of the Legal Aid Committee.  
She was associated with many social and philanthropic organisations, including Ramkrishna Mission, Gandhi Ashram, Dhaka Orphanage Society, Bangladesh Hindu, Buddhist and Christian Oikya Parishad and Puja Ujjapan Parishad.  
Chitra contributed to spreading education and initiating many social activities on various capacities in Tangail.  
Chitra completed her matriculation from Rangpur, intermediate from Ananda Mohan College in Mymensingh and later obtained a masters degree from Dhaka University on sociology.  
She will be cremated in Kolkata today (Tuesday) and her final rites will take place in Dhaka and Elenga.

# Frame counter-terrorism strategy

PM's adviser tells workshop

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Bangladesh is a victim of domestic and international terrorism, said prime minister's Foreign Affairs Adviser Dr Gowher Rizvi, emphasising on framing a counter-terrorism strategy for the country.  
"Bangladesh is a victim of both domestic and international terrorism. We need a counter-terrorism strategy to fight the evil," he said while inaugurating a two-day workshop titled 'Towards developing a national counter terrorism strategy for Bangladesh'.  
The workshop was jointly organised by The Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI) and US-based Defense

Institutions Reform Initiative (DIRI) at the DEI auditorium in the city yesterday. Parliamentarians, foreign diplomats and security experts from home and abroad attended it.  
Addressing the launch of the workshop, Rizvi said the present government is putting special emphasis, among others, on counter-terrorism efforts, which however is not enough.  
The counter-terrorism strategy should be such that the terrorists have no scope to operate within Bangladesh, he said.  
Referring to partnership between the civilians and the military during the War of Liberation, Rizvi said relation-

ship between the civilians and the military is of immense importance, possible through dialogues.  
US South and Central Asian Affairs Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Alyssa Ayres appreciated Bangladesh's efforts against terrorism and militancy.  
The US puts special emphasis on cooperation with Bangladesh in combating terrorism, food security and climate change and this will continue, she said.  
US Ambassador to Bangladesh James F Moriarty said framing a counter-terrorism strategy to ensure national security is an urgent task.  
There is no scope for complacency in only arresting some criminals, said

Moriarty, adding that attention should be put to improving human living standards so that people cannot opt for terrorism.  
The US is committed to work with Bangladesh in rooting out militancy, Moriarty said, adding that authorities should not lapse concentration on the issue.  
DIRI Programme Coordinator John Hansen spoke on the programme while BEI President Farooq Sobhan chaired it.  
Four papers, two each from Bangladesh and US, are scheduled to be presented at the workshop on which participants will discuss different aspects of developing a national counter-terrorism strategy.

# US gives importance to ties with Bangladesh

Says State Department official

**DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT**  
The Obama administration considers Bangladesh as a focus country as the United States gives special emphasis on the relationship with it.  
The United States is working with Bangladesh in the field of food security, health, climate change and economic development, said US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Alyssa Ayres.  
She was speaking at a view exchange meeting with media representatives, university teachers, members of civil society, entrepreneurs, former diplomats and retired civil and military officials at Prothom Alo office here yesterday.  
Alyssa Ayres arrived here on Sunday on a five-day visit.  
About visit to Bangladesh, the US State Department official said her country always lays utmost importance on US-Bangladesh relations. She came here to know about its politics, economics as well as people's perception of the relationship between the two countries.  
One of the main objectives of her visit is to further strengthen the existing ties between the United States and Bangladesh, she added.  
While speaking about the future of Bangladesh, Dr Ayres referred to the recently held event to brand Bangladesh in London. At the event, Bangladesh was considered as the next big potential country in Asia, she said.  
She observed that both the people of Bangladesh and its expatriate citizens are portraying the positive image of the country. There is a possibility to portray the brighter image of Bangladesh through upholding its creativity and diversity, she added.  
Prothom Alo Editor Matiuur Rahman gave welcome address at the meeting.  
Former Advisers to the caretaker governments M Hafizuddin Khan, Mahbubul Alam and Rasheda K Chowdhury, The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam, Editor of Manabzamin Matiuur Rahman Chowdhury, Former ambassador Ashfaqur Rahman and Tawfiq Ali, political analyst Dilara Zaman, Prof Al Masud Hasanuzzaman of Jahangirnagar University, Major Gen (ret) Amin Ahmed Chowdhury, Lt Gen (ret) ATM Zahurul Alam, Chairman and Managing Director of Transcom Group Latifur Rahman, BGMEA President Salam Murshedi, Summit Group Chairman Muhammad Aziz Khan, MCCI Vice President Syed Nasim Manjur and Advertisement Firm official Gausul Azam attended the programme.  
US embassy officials, including Patricia Hill, Jon Donilowicz and Lauren Lovelace, were also present.

# 52-tonne wood seized from Jessore brick kiln

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
The Department of Environment (DoE) in a drive seized 52 tonnes of firewood from a brick kiln in Jessore yesterday.  
Use of woods in brick kilns is prohibited, yet owners never stopped the practice in the South Western region, said a DoE official.  
DoE's monitoring and enforcement wing conducted the drive led by Mohammed Munir Chowdhury, the wing director, with the help of the DoE officials from Dhaka and Khulna.  
The huge pile of logs was recovered from Moon Bricks Ltd at Mohakal in Nawapara in the district.  
The tree logs were later handed over to Jessore's forest department, says a press release.  
The environmental certificate of the brickfield was cancelled along with a penalty of Tk 3 lakhs. A case was also filed against its owner.  
The team, on the same day, also fined three other industries -- RC Cement Industries, Haque Cement Industries and Raju Cotton Refinery -- Tk 11 lakh for polluting air.  
Among the three, two industries have been operating without any clearance certificate for long. The team fixed a deadline to set up air filter and dust collector at the industries.



Participants at a view-exchange meeting with US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Alyssa Ayres at Prothom Alo office in the city yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

# Dipjol lands in jail

**COURT CORRESPONDENT**  
A Dhaka court yesterday sent Dipjol City Corporation ward councillor and film actor Monwar Hossain Dipjol to jail in connection with a case filed against him for assaulting a traffic police constable on November 16 in the city's Gabtoli area.  
Metropolitan Magistrate SK Tofail Hassan passed the order after Sub-Inspector Nazmul Huda Khan, also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, produced him before it at 3:30pm.  
The court also fixed December 1 for hearing a five-day remand prayer and directed jail authorities to produce the accused before it on schedule.  
In the forwarding report, the IO mentioned that Dipjol was directly involved with assaulting Aftab Uddin while he was on duty. The law enforcer came under attack as he protested violation of traffic rules by the DCC ward councillor. Following the incident the accused and his accomplices fled the scene.  
A dozen cases filed against him are pending with different courts, said the IO, adding he needs to be remanded to gather vital clues about the incident and know the whereabouts of his accomplices.  
After hearing both the sides, the magistrate passed the order.

# MISLEADING NEWS JS body recommends warrant instead of issuing arrest

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
A parliamentary body yesterday agreed in principle to recommend passage of the bill to issue only a warrant instead of issuing an arrest warrant for publishing or broadcasting any misleading news.  
The law minister earlier placed the bill titled 'Code of Criminal Procedures, 1898 (amendment) act 2010' which was sent to the parliamentary standing committee on law, justice and parliamentary affairs ministry for scrutiny.  
Meanwhile, the body yesterday also asked the Supreme Court registrar to

# JS body recommends warrant instead of issuing arrest

appear before the committee's next meeting to clarify the alleged irregularities in appointing the Dhaka District and Sessions Judge.  
"It was alleged that the Dhaka district and sessions judge was appointed superseding a number of judges. The committee will seek clarification from the SC registrar on the issue," Suranjit Sengupta, chief of the committee, told reporters emerging from the meeting at the Jatuya Sangsad Bhaban.  
About amendment of the bill, he said, "For the sake of flourishing of democracy and to give more rights to journalists, the committee in principle agreed to place the bill in parliament with that provision."  
"But the committee will sit with the leaders of Press Club, Dhaka Reporters Unity and Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists and Dhaka Union of Journalists on December 5 to share their views on the provision of the bill before making final recommendations," added Suranjit, also an AL senior lawmaker.  
The committee members said once the proposed bill is passed, country's image will brighten and the world media will also welcome the government for not issuing arrest warrant against a journalist or editor or publisher of any print or other media for publishing any misleading news.

# Mostak, Jamal DRU president, general secretary

**UNB, Dhaka**  
Mostak Ahmed, special correspondent of the Daily Bhorer Dak and Jamal Uddin, senior reporter of the daily Ittefaq, were elected president and general secretary of Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) yesterday.  
Mostak bagged 365 votes while his nearest rival Alamgir Hossain got 300 votes.  
Other office-bearers are Vice-president: Azmarul Haque Helal, Joint Secretary: Galman Shafi, Finance Secretary: Salah Uddin Bablu (unopposed); Organising Secretary: Shamsuddin Ahmed, Publicity and Publication Secretary: Kabir Ahmed Khan; Training and Research Secretary: Mashiur Rahman, Sports Secretary: Shafiqul Islam Shamim (unopposed); Cultural Secretary: Kamrul Hasan Darpan and Office Secretary: Jasim Uddin Khan.  
Executive committee members are Elias Hossain, Aminul Haque Bhuiyan, Kishore Kumar Sarker, Shahidul Islam, Nazmul Ahmed Towfiq, Hasan Azad, SM Munna Mia, Showkat Ali Khan and Atiqur Rahman.

## WEATHER TODAY

### Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.  
Light fog may occur over the river basins of the country during early morning.  
Night temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country, Met office said.  
The sun sets in the capital at 5:10pm today and rises at 6:24am tomorrow.  
Country's highest temperature 31.8 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and lowest 16.9 degrees Celsius at Srimongal.  
Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	28.3	21.4	64	65
Chittagong	29.0	20.5	88	66
Rajshahi	28.5	17.0	73	77
Rangpur	26.7	17.6	99	86
Khulna	29.0	20.6	69	78
Barisal	29.6	20.0	78	81
Sylhet	28.4	19.6	95	89
Cox's Bazar	31.8	21.4	74	33



US South and Central Asian Affairs Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Alyssa Ayres calls on Leader of the Opposition and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at the latter's Gulshan office in the city yesterday. PHOTO: BNP

# Police raid Jamaat office

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Detectives yesterday again conducted an hour-long search at the Moghbazar head office of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami on information that there had been explosives but to no avail.  
Additional Deputy Commissioner Mahbubur Rahman of Detective Branch of Police said, "We had an information that there were bombs inside the Jamaat office. We searched there around 6:15am but no bombs were found."  
Earlier on November 22 the law enforces conducted an hour-long raid at the same office to arrest its student wing chief but failed to do so.

# Azharul Islam

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Today is the 22nd death anniversary of eminent film and drama maker Azharul Islam.  
On the occasion, doa and milad mahfil will be held at his village residence in Jhitka of Manikganj, says a press release.

# Anwara Khatun

**METRO DESK**  
Today is the 22nd death anniversary of Begum Anwara Khatun, a member of erstwhile Bengali Legislature Assembly, says a press release.  
Herself one of the very few Bangalee Muslim women to have obtained MA BT, Anwara pioneered the Muslim women's education campaign.