

**Marine drive project put on hold**  
*Govt moves to protect it from tidal surge*  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Construction work of the 84-kilometre marine drive from Cox's Bazar to Teknaf has been suspended as the communications ministry yesterday decided to conduct a comprehensive study and work out a revised design to protect the road from tidal surge.

"We need a detailed study and a design for the road so that tidal surge cannot damage it," Communications

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

**COL TAHER EXECUTION HC revokes order on documents**  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday revoked its order that asked the government to produce before it records concerning martial law trial and execution of Col Abu Taher, since no such records are available.

The court revoked the order so that it can start final hearing on a writ petition challenging the trial and execution even without the relevant records, Deputy Attorney General ABM Altaf Hossain told The Daily Star.

In response to the writ

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

**Sixteen toxic ships enter Bangladesh**  
*Legal notice served*  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Violating High Court orders, shipping and environment departments have permitted 16 more toxic ships to enter the country.

As of yesterday, at least 10 of the 16 ships, mostly tanker and bulker, have reached the shore for scrapping after they received no objection certificates (NOC) from the shipping department, said sources in the ship breaking yards.

Bangladesh Environment Lawyers

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

**All's not well**  
Environment dept happy on progress of 16 ship-breaking yards with temporary clearance, insiders tell otherwise  
PINAKI ROY

The 16 ship-breakers who have been granted temporary environmental clearance are not doing much to fulfil the 56 conditions on which they obtained the go-ahead, said industry insiders.

The Department of Environment (DoE) has, however, expressed satisfaction over the environmental management of these ship-breaking yards although the yards are not properly equipped to handle toxic substance used in ships.

The DoE environmental management committee in its 288th meeting on October 18, 19 and 21 made the decision although the law does not allow any environmental clearance on a temporary basis for such hazardous sectors.

Besides, some of the conditions given to the 16 ship-breakers are contradictory to the High Court order passed in March last year.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 7



Two of the ships that were brought in through legal loopholes. The photo was taken from Sitakunda. PHOTO: COURTESY

**Municipality polls next month**  
*EC announces schedules, skips date for DCC elections*  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finally municipalities go to polls in January, around two years behind schedule, paving the way for holding an array of elections to local government bodies including union parishads.

The staggering elections will be held on January 12, 13, 17 and 18 in 269 out of 310 municipalities in seven divisions, the Election Commission (EC) announced yesterday.

The EC has set different dates for completing other process including filing applications for candidacy and scrutiny of those for the battle of ballots.

Around 76 lakh voters are entitled to exercise their franchise to elect 3,678 representatives including 269 mayors and 3,409 councillors to the municipalities.

Another large spell of poll fever is expected to hit the country during this winter after the last upazila elections in January 2009. Officially,

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

**KHALEDA'S HOUSEHOLD BELONGINGS**  
**Conflicting claims over moving stuff**  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Khaleda Zia's relatives and lawyers will collect today the goods she left behind at the house on Shaheed Moinul Road in Dhaka cantonment, her family lawyer told The Daily Star last night.

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia on November 13 moved out of the house leaving behind many household things. She claimed that she was evicted from the house but the army later said it was not true and the leader of the opposition had voluntarily left the house.

Yesterday, the cantonment board, after receiving a copy of the Supreme Court's recent judgment on the house Wednesday, gave her 72 hours time from today to get her stuff, said her family lawyer Nasiruddin Asim.

He claimed Khaleda's family members wanted to collect everything yesterday but the cantonment board did not allow, rather they moved some of her belongings elsewhere.

Army sources, however, claimed that they tried to contact Khaleda and sent her a message to take her belongings from

SEE PAGE 7 COL 6



**WikiLeaks chief faces new arrest warrant**  
AFP, Stockholm

Sweden said yesterday it would issue a fresh arrest warrant for WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange as new revelations from his website's expose of US diplomatic cables saw Russia branded a "mafia state".

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

The Daily Star is publishing this story a day late. For that, we owe an explanation to our readers. The news was extremely important in that it dealt with an institution and a person who brought the highest honour and accolade for Bangladesh. We seriously read the story that was released by a news agency. This newspaper wanted to verify the allegations and get an explanation from the organisation that stands accused. Moreover, this newspaper wanted to read the documents available and be sure about what has been levelled against the person and the organisation. What we have found is interesting. The allegations have been made and reported, not the answers.

**Norway examining 'aid anomalies' by Grameen**

*Norwegian TV reports the bank breached agreement of \$100m microcredit 14 years back; Prof Yunus says it was done to ensure responsible use of the revolving fund*

**STAR REPORT**

Norway says it is examining allegations that Grameen Bank has diverted millions of dollars of aid money to one of its sister concerns, reports BBC online.

International Development Minister Erik Solheim said that it was "totally unacceptable that aid is used for other purposes than intended".

A documentary maker has alleged that cash was diverted from Grameen Bank to other parts of Grameen.

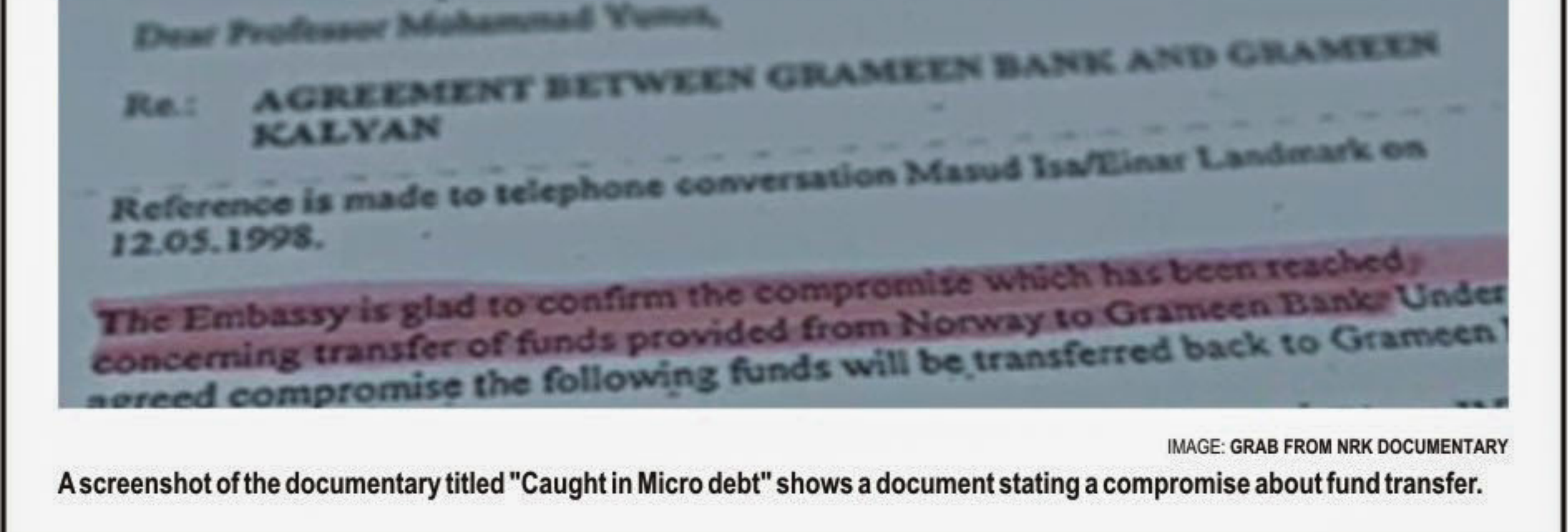
SEE PAGE 15 COL 1



**Transcription of the report**

In a secret memo from 1998 beats the Norwegian Embassy in Bangladesh alarm: Peace Prize winner Yunus has quietly tapped the Grameen Bank -- the poor bank -- for 608 million aid dollars, and moved the money into a

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1



A screenshot of the documentary titled "Caught in Micro debt" shows a document stating a compromise about fund transfer. IMAGE: GRAB FROM NRK DOCUMENTARY

**Govt wants partisan man as CG chief**  
*Alleges Delwar*  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain yesterday said the government is plotting to come to power again by appointing partisan man as the chief of the next caretaker government.

While addressing a protest

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

**Nurul Islam's death still a mystery**

**MUKHLESUR RAHMAN**

Two years have elapsed and police are yet to reveal the mystery behind the fire incident that killed Ganotantri Party President Nurul Islam and his son Tamohor Islam at their Lalmatia residence in the city on December 3, 2008.

Victims' family members claimed it was a planned killing by a quarter, which had been

issuing death threats to Nurul over cell phone asking him not to run in 2008 parliamentary elections.

They are also not satisfied with the on going investigation process and termed some probe reports prepared by different organisations ambiguous, inconsistent and even contradictory.

Nurul at his deathbed at Dhaka Medical

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



**BUDDY TRACKER**

Locate your buddies & stay connected with

only djuice/GP subscribers

To register, type start <your name> and send to 3020.  
To add friend, type add <friend's number> <friend's name> and send to 3020.  
To accept request, type Y <auto generated code> and send to 3020.  
To reject request, type N (auto generated code) and send to 3020.  
To locate friend, type locate <friend's number or name> and send to 3020.  
To deregister, type stop and send to 3020.

Monthly fee Tk. 10 (+15% VAT) and SMS fee Tk. 1/5MS (+15% VAT)  
SMS charge will not be applicable for registration, deregistration, accepting or rejecting requests.  
to know more visit www.djuice.com.bd

**djuice**