

PLUS 16-PAGE THE DAILY STAR-NIELSEN OPINION SURVEY 32 PAGES PLUS RISING STARS PRICE: TK 10.00

EXPORTS BUOYANT

Soared 41pc to \$10.26b in July-Dec last year PAGE B1 **COOKING UP A STORM**

Alastair Cook becomes the highest scorer in a tour of Australia since 1928-29 PAGE 17 **KEEP ROCKING**

Mila spellbinds her fans with lively performance PAGE 11

Mega trial opens Long, futile wait to see

Poush 23, 1417 BS

Court accepts carnage charges against BDR mutineers; more than 800 accused produced; 72 denied bail

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and SHARIFUL ISLAM

A trial court yesterday took into cognisance charges of the country's largest ever killing case in connection with the BDR carnage at Pilkhana in

As many as 801 of total 824 accused were hauled before the Court of Metropolitan Sessions

February 2009.

Stock fall

protests

sparks angry

SARWAR A CHOWDHURY

investors to take to the

The slumping stockmarket

prompted several hundred

Motijheel street yesterday

for more than one and a

half hours, the third time

In the previous two

SEE PAGE 7 COL 5

MORE IN STAR BUSINESS

in last one month.

Judge, Dhaka amid tight security. Apart from the prosecution, several hundred defence lawyers gathered in the courtroom and complained of not receiving

In terms of the number of accused this is the largest ever criminal case in which every single defence counsel demanded : carnage case.

certified copy of all case documents. To meet this: mother passed a restless huge demand the authori- : time thinking of spending ties concerned need to : a few moments with her make around 1.6 crore; beloved son Kawsar copies of all documents, the : Ahmed Bulbul.

judge said in the courtroom.

including the charge sheet.

"We have to keep in mind that this kind when she finally reached of case is the first in the world," said the : Bakshi Bazar where the SEE PAGE 19 COL 1 PHOTO ON PAGE 20

close ones

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and SHARIFUL ISLAM

: At her 60, Dana Bibi underwent a bus journey in the inight chill all the way from any copy of necessary case documents : Baniachang in Sylhet to the · capital just to have a glimpse of her son who is being tried in the BDR

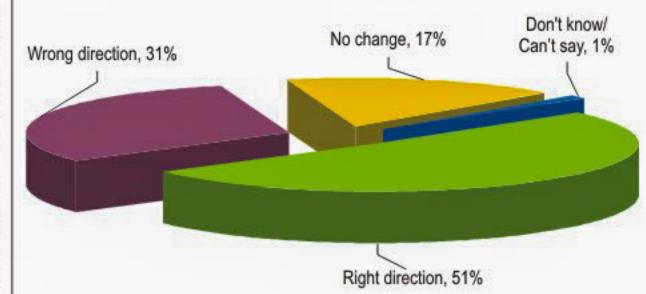
During the journey the

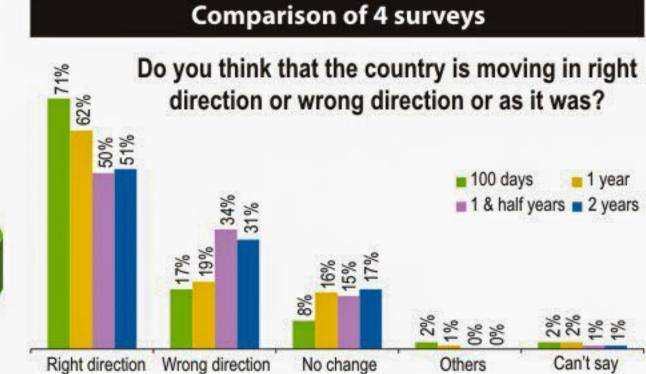
Her anxiety escalated SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

Majority confidence still there, popularity declining

Shows The Daily Star-nielsen opinion survey on govt's performance in 2 years

Do you think that the country is moving in right direction or wrong direction or as it was?





ATTACK ON PABNA GOVT OFFICIALS

All 31 accused freed

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

A Pabna court yesterday cleared 31 ruling party men of vandalising examination centres and torching government vehicles in Pabna on September 17 last year.

Pabna Speedy Trial Tribunal acquitted the 31 Awami, Jubo and Chhatra League men of the charges for lack of witnesses and evidence, said a court official preferring anonymity.

The accused, who were produced before the court at about 10:00am, include Pabna district BCL unit president Ahmed Sharif Dablu and its ex-president Mostafizur Rahman, Jubo League district unit organising secretary Jahir Hassan Rubel and Pabna district AL leader Habibur Rahman Swapan.

More than a hundred ruling party men attacked two examination centres during SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

STAR REPORT

Two years after the Awmai League-led government came to power, it still enjoys confidence of 48 percent of the population who are satisfied with its performance, The Daily Star-Nielsen opinion poll shows.

More than a half of the respondents think the country is heading in the right direction; and Sheikh Hasina as the prime minister still enjoys almost half the respondents' approval.

However, when compared with the previous three polls, the latest one shows that the popularity curves, on all counts, SEE PAGE 19 COL 6

group 4

(FOR DETAIL SEE THE SPECIAL TABLOID)

Local govt bodies remain ineffective

Polls delay shows govt's lack of interest

SHAKHAWAT LITON

By keeping upazila parishads almost dysfunctional, and showing reluctance to hold

long overdue polls to other local government institutions, the Awami League-led government has

demonstrated its lack of interest in decentralisation of power. In doing so, the

ruling AL also demonstrated its indifference to its own electoral pledges, and commitments stipulated in the party SEE PAGE 7 COL 1



Your dream of sweet home is now a reality with our Home Loan

At Prime Bank, we offer you an easy-to-avail Home Loan with convenient repayment options. With maximum limit on loan amount, you also have unlimited options of choosing your home. Drop in anytime, let us help you realise your long cherished dream.

29 Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka-1000, Mobile: 01714 088931-2, 01714 133281-2



www.primebank.com.bo

nation today HASAN JAHID TUSHER

PM addresses

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will address the nation at 7:30pm today marking the completion of two years of the Awami League-led grand alliance government.

She is expected to highlight the successes and the government initiatives during the period, her Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad told The Daily Star.

The speech will be recorded at 11:00am, to be aired by Bangladesh Television, Bangladesh Betar and all other private television channels.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4



We are now



Wishing everyone a secured and happy 2011

HEAD OFFICE:

Web: www.g4s.com

G4S Plc The Manor, Manor Royal

Crawley, West Sussex RH10 9UN The United Kingdom Tel 1: +44-0208-7707000 Tel 2: +44-0208-7222000

COUNTRY OFFICE: G4S Security Services Bangladesh (P) Ltd **Dhaka House** 22 Pragati Sarani Block J, Baridhara, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh Tel: +88-02-9887316-8/8819033, Fax: -88-02-8810859

Securing Your World

Email: info@bd.a4s.com

Web: www.g4s.com.bd

