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COLLY CUTS BACK

England's Paul Collingwood announces his retirement from Test Cricket

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ADDRESS TO NATION ON 2 YEARS OF GOVT

PM lists successes, pledges to keep up

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday claimed that her government achieved remarkable successes in the last two years and urged people to compare those with the last BNP-Jamaat government's achievements in first two years.

In her 30-minute speech to the nation marking two years of the Awami League-led grand alliance government, Hasina urged people to be patient and cooperate with the government. She reiterated her resolve to implement the grand alliance's all electoral pledges.



On the success of the government, she said, "Such massive development activities were not done by any government in the past."

The prime minister expressed concern over the price hike of com-

- Govt to probe rice price hike
- 2,361MW more power by next yr
- Improvement in law and order
- Identified war criminals arrested
- Opposition fails to play role in JS
- All poll pledges to be fulfilled

modities in international market. She expressed satisfaction over law and order, the stable economy and initiatives taken in the communications, agriculture and education

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Some issues missing, some repeated

A comparison with last year's speech shows progress in some past pledges

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina claimed some new successes in her speech yesterday but some of them were repetitions of what she said the previous year.

The prime minister has marked significant progress in generating more power, improving law and order and creating employment for youths she promised in her last year's speech marking one year of her government.

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Army to be deployed in 56 municipalities

EC declares considering those vulnerable to poll violence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

January 27. There are 310 municipalities in the country. "Members of the armed forces will be in the field in the municipalities concerned (56) two days before they go to polls, and will remain on duty till a day after the elections," Election Commissioner Muhammed Sohul Hussein said.

In line with the EC decision, its secretariat on Tuesday sent a letter to the Armed Forces Division along with a list of 56 municipalities to take necessary steps. It agreed to do so, an EC official told The Daily Star on condition of anonymity.

The EC Secretariat yesterday sent a letter to the home ministry asking it to

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SPEECH REACTION
 BNP terms it meaningless, Ershad says 'no exaggeration'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Politicians and eminent citizens last night gave mixed reaction over Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's speech to the nation.

BNP Standing Committee Member MK Anwar said the prime minister gave a meaningless speech concealing the real picture of the country. She could have been

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Dhaka gets closer to Delhi, Beijing

Foreign policy expected to yield results from this year

REZAUL KARIM

The first two years of the Awami League-led grand alliance government have seen Bangladesh focusing its foreign policy on regional connectivity and boosting ties especially with India and China -- the two Asian giants.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's official visit to India in January last year helped clear the clouds that overshadowed the relations between the two close neighbours during the rule of BNP. The 51-point Joint Communiqué signed during the visit is considered a landmark in the

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JBIC RANKING Bangladesh 15th best investment destination

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh has ranked 15th in an international rating among the investment-potential countries for the foreign investors and businessmen in 2010.

The country has made tremendous progress within a short span of time as it was in the 28th place in the 2009 ranking. This was revealed in a

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Policemen beat an investor protesting a stock fall on Dhaka Stock Exchange yesterday.

STOCK SLUMP 6 protesters held for vandalism

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday detained at least six people in front of Dhaka bourse and adjacent areas on charge of street vandalism during a demonstration by the retail investors protesting the continuous slump in stock prices.

However, another two people were released immediately after the police detained them.

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