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## UNEASY AMITY

Chua Chin Hon sees tension behind glamour of Hu Jintao's visit to US

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## MARKET ROLLER COASTER

A look into twin bourses' nosedive

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## NO "RAFA SLAM"

Injured Rafael Nadal crashes out of Australian Open

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# Stalking now sexual offence

HC declares

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The High Court yesterday declared stalking of girls and women illegal, and directed the government to consider the offence as sexual harassment.

The court's ruling came amid growing incidences of stalking that led many victims to commit suicide.

The court also asked the government to properly define "sexual harassment" in the law, and replace the term "eve teasing" with "stalking" as a sexual offence in the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act.

- Consider stalking as sexual harassment
- Enact law to protect victims, witnesses
- Equip police stations to deal with stalking cases
- Bring cyber cafés under registration
- Address mental trauma of victims

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## A DASH OF WHITE IN A CONCRETE CITY

While poachers sell them in bunches along the city's high streets to be served on dinner tables, this small bunch of the cattle egrets, a common resident bird in Bangladesh, are found freely feeding in the wetland in Banani, the heart of the posh city. It only proves that it does not need any caring but just a little bit of safe habitat for wildlife to flourish in Bangladesh. But we hardly care to share a world with all the species who have a similar right to live.

PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL



## Hasina meets Cameron today

Receives Global Diversity Award

UNB, London

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hold talks with British Prime Minister David Cameron at 10 Downing Street today.

Foreign Ministry officials said the meeting between Hasina and Cameron will start at 10:30am. Bilateral issues including defence, counter-terrorism and climate change are likely to figure prominently during the meeting.

On the first day of her five-day visit, Hasina attended several bilateral meetings arranged by the House of Commons.

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# It was LeT's grenade

Investigation confirms the source in Pakistan 6 years into Kibria murder; family of AL leader frustrated with probe

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK

Harkatul Jihad al Islami (Huji) used a grenade to kill Awami League leader SAMS Kibria in 2004 from a cache it was supposed to transport to India-administered Kashmir for Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

The LeT high-ups in Pakistan had sent the cache to Bangladesh to despatch it to their men in Kashmir through Satkhira border. But the Huji did not dare to follow the instruction thanks to the Indian authorities' interception of the previous consignment.

The cache of 32 grenades, which the Huji received in Chittagong, rested in Bangladesh for a while before those were used in different major attacks. The grenades were hurled at AL chief and then oppo-



Huji arms dispatcher of LeT here

32 grenades received in Ctg

Huji decided to use those on AL leaders

4-party govt leaders was aware of it

sition leader Sheikh Hasina on August 21, 2004, the then British high commissioner Anwar Choudhury, AL leaders Suranjit Sengupta, Syeda Jebunnesa Haq, and Badruddin Ahmed Kamran, also mayor of Sylhet.

The revelation came six years into the sensational

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# Tall task at Khaled's hand

Stock probe to cover wrongs in 2 years, time for report 2 months

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government yesterday appointed a three-member probe committee to look into the massive ups and downs in the country's stockmarket in the last two

years.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) also published a circular and terms of references for the probe committee, asking it to submit a report

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## No pressure from govt

Says Ibrahim Khaled

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and MD FAZLUR RAHMAN

The head of the government committee for probing the recent stockmarket debacle yesterday insisted that the

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# Alarm bell ringing

Leading personalities say govt must review its decision to amend anti-graft body law

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The proposed amendments to the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) law will greatly affect its independence and effectiveness, and the government must review those.

The much-discussed bureaucrats' dominance over a democratic government is proved by the amendment proposals.

Eminent citizens expressed these views as the government moved to amend the law. The Daily Star sought their reaction in the wake of cabinet approval of the proposals for this.

"Most of the proposed amendments will destroy the ACC's independence and weaken it," said former caretaker government adviser Akbar Ali Khan.

Existence of the ACC will be meaningless if it does not have independence and effectiveness, he said.

Akbar Ali stressed that the amendment proposals should be discussed both inside and outside parliament.

On the proposal that the ACC will require prior permission for filing a case against government officials, he said this will ultimately make it impossible to investigate their involvement in corruption.

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## NEW AIRPORT PLAN Clashes leave 30 injured

20 vehicles, 30 shops vandalised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Clashes between supporters of Arial Beel Rakkha Committee and police left at least 30 people injured, and 20 vehicles and 30 shops vandalised in Dhaka and Munshiganj yesterday.

The flare-up was caused when police tried to prevent the supporters from joining a rally at Muktangan in the capital in protest at the proposed

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## Litigants 'harassed'

CJ orders probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice ABM Khairul Haque yesterday directed the Supreme Court probe committee to look into the allegation of harassment of two litigants.

The two -- Barik Mia and Mantu Mia of Moulvibazar -- got bail from the High Court in November last year, but they had to wait until early this month to be released from jail.

Sources said some of their relatives in collusion with some members of the judiciary were allegedly behind the delay.

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### SAFA Awards

Best Presented Accounts and Corporate Governance Disclosures Awards 2009 Winner in the Banking Sector (1<sup>st</sup> Position)

Best Presented Accounts Awards 2009 Overall Winner (1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up)

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