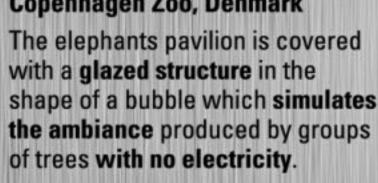
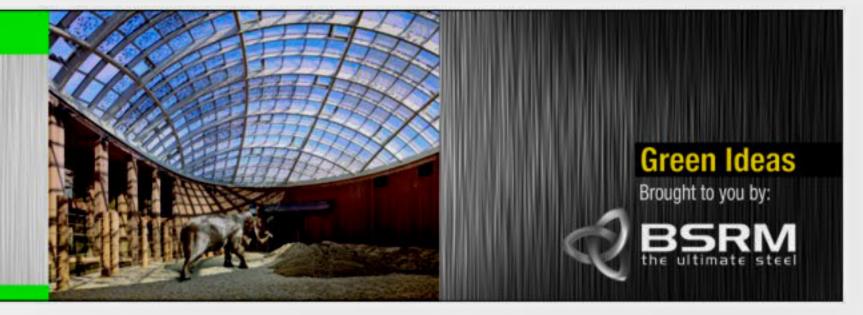
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#### Two killed in 'shootouts' STAR ONLINE REPORT

Two alleged criminals were killed in "shoot-

outs" with Rapid Action Battalion in the capital and Barguna early yesterday.

They are Nabir Hossain Dabir, 28, from Sakhipur of Shariatpur, and Abdul Khaleq, 50, of Badarkhali union of Barguna.

On information, a team of Rab-4 around 4:00am went to the city's Bauliabadh area to catch some criminals, said Iqbal

**SEE PAGE 19 COL 3** 

### Speeding buses kill two

STAR REPORT

Two separate road accidents took lives of two persons, a higher secondary-level student and a garment worker, yesterday in front of Bangladesh Secretariat and at Hemayetpur bus terminal of Savar respectively.

Witnesses and police said Saifur Rahman, 18, a firstyear student of Dhaka Imperial College, received injuries as a

**SEE PAGE 19 COL 3** 

### 'Stalker' slits teenage girl's throat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,

A girl student of class seven narrowly escaped death as an alleged stalker slit her throat when she was asleep in her house in the early hours yesterday.

The incident occurred in a village in Sherpur upazila of Bogra.

Sirajum Monira Laboni, a student of Chandaikona High School in Sherpur, is **SEE PAGE 19 COL 2** 

### Prepare for anti-govt agitation Khaleda tells

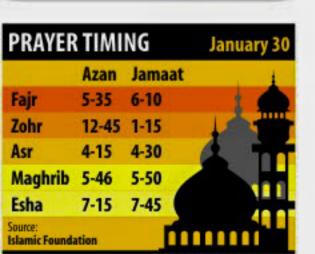
followers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia last night called upon her party supporters to be prepared for an antigovernment move-

ment. People do not want to see the ruling alliance in power anymore and that is why it should step down without further delay, said Khaleda, also the leader of the

**SEE PAGE 6 COL 6** 



# inshort Fortune maker on fallow land

## Oli Sikdar of Patuakhali sets vegetable revolution for jobless youths to follow

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

Thirty-year-old Oli Sikdar of Dipasha village in Patuakhali had approached many for a job just a year back. Failing to find one, he decided to try his luck at farming. Oli took training in vegetable cultivation at Agriculture Extension Department in Baufal upazila six months ago.

Oli later started cultivating vegetables on fallow lands near roads, ponds and ditches in the village. He never looked back since then. He earned more than Tk 2 lakh over the last three months.

He cultivates aubergine, turnip, cucumber, cauliflower, bean, carrot and gourd on about two acres of land.

"I was frustrated for having no job. An

agriculture officer advised me to train in vegetable cultivation last year."

Oli said he started cultivating vegetables on fallow land after taking a loan from a local non-governmental organisation as none agreed to lend him any money.

"I sell vegetables in different bazars in my area. Often wholesalers or retailers buy fresh vegetables from me."

"I earned over Tk 2 lakh over the last three months. I am not frustrated any more. If the weather remains favourable, I expect to earn at least Tk 5 lakh from my farm," he said.

His success inspired other jobless youths to do farming in the area. They now produce enough vegetables to meet the

SEE PAGE 19 COL 6



PHOTO: STAR

Oli Sikdar at his brinjal field in Baufal upazila of Patuakhali. He makes a good profit by growing vegetables.

## An elusive racket at JU campus

ENAM UL HAQUE

An unbelievable racket has been attracting spectators to Jahangirnagar University campus at Savar recently. It is, by far, the only welcome racket on the rambling campus of the country tense with political row.

Although the birdwatchers of Dhaka city have labelled it "the lesser racket" its official name is Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo, a rather elusive migratory bird of Bangladesh.

It lives in the forests of this country in winter and breeds in the Himalayas in summer. It is rarely seen in Bangladesh outside the sprawling forests. Even in forests where these birds are numerous in winter it is not easy to spot or photograph one. Because of its very dark colour and shy nature it often evades the keenest of eyes. In the denuded green patches of the campus the bird is easily visible and, to the photographers' delight, surprisingly bold. It does not seem to mind the presence of admiring visitors under its perch training binoculars and cameras on its face.

The bird has two racketshaped or oar-like feathers dangling from two ends of its tail which explains its curious scientific name Dicrurus remifer meaning oar-bearing fork-tailed bird.

There are only two SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

## Onus is on civil society, NGOs

American war crimes trial expert tells The Daily Star how the country should deal with trial of rape crimes

RAKIB AHAMMED

The International Crimes Tribunal, civil society and NGOs can do a lot to ensure justice for the rape victims of the Liberation War, said American war crimes trial expert Laurel E Fletcher.

**Laurel E Fletcher** 

seek trial of those responsible of their lives.

In an exclusive interview with The Daily

for the most horrific incident Other social bodies may

Star, she also said the tribunal

must create an environment

where the victims would feel

secure to come forward to

encourage them to testify at the trial, she **SEE PAGE 6 COL 7** 

## Evidence enough to arrest G Azam

## Say war crimes trial backers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former Jamaat ameer Ghulam Azam will be arrested on charge of committing crimes against humanity during the Liberation War, 1971, an investigator said yesterday.

Mohammad Abdul Hannan Khan, the senior-most member of the war crimes probe body,

said this adding they made some progress in investigation into allegations against Azam. Hannan, however, did not mention any timeframe for

the arrest. He was talking to The Daily Star after a meeting with

war crimes prosecutors and leaders of a forum called Antorjatik Aporadh Tribunal Dhaka Sohayak Mancha (platform for supporting the tribunal).

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

## **Ekushey Boi** Mela ready to roll RAKIB AHAMMED

With only two days left for the opening of the Amar Ekushey Boi Mela at the Bangla Academy, owners were busy yesterday giving finishing touches to their stalls to complete SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

## Trader shot dead in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unidentified gunmen shot dead a trader in Kunjaban residential area in the capital's East Rampura last night.

**SEE PAGE 19 COL 6** 

The deceased,

Mohammad Shahidullah,

## Habiganj by-polls a political win for AL: Hasina

A Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo sighted on the Jahangirnagar University

UNB, London

campus at Savar.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said yesterday though Awami League lost its parliamentary seat in Habiganj byelection, it is a political win for her party and the government in ensuring free and fair polling.

"We have politically won in Habiganj by-election. This has proved the government's commitment to establishing people's democratic rights to free and fair voting practices," she said.

Addressing the council of the UK chapter of AL at Hotel Hilton in London, the AL president however said she is looking into why her party was defeated in Habiganj by-polls.

Recalling the Magura by-election marked by fraud and SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



PHOTO: COURTESY

premises is acceptable? Yes Was (47.4%)

(52.5%)No m No Comments (0.1%)TOTAL VOTES : 3615 TODAY'S POLL

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