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in Short

Withdraw power tariff hike
BNP asks govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain yesterday asked the government to withdraw the decision of increasing the prices of electricity.
"People won't accept it unless adequate power supply is

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Four held for robbery at MP's house

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch (DB) of police yesterday arrested four people who allegedly committed robbery at the houses of lawmaker Shahida Tarekh Dipti and Awami League leader Ali Newaj Khan at Malibagh and Pallabi on January 12 and 9.

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India lifts rice export ban

Bar goes for one onion variety too

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India has eased a three-year ban on overseas shipments of rice allowing export of three varieties of non-basmati rice.

But the exemptions would be given only if it fetches \$850 a tonne.

A high-level ministerial panel headed by Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee made the decisions yesterday. It also allowed export of the 'Rose' variety of onion.

Meanwhile, Indian Food Minister KV Thomas assured visiting Bangladeshi Food Minister Abdur Razzaque of exporting three lakh tonnes of non-basmati rice to Bangladesh soon.

The assurance came after the two held a meeting last evening here.

"The minister [Thomas] has assured that India will supply the rice as soon as possible. It will be on government-to-government basis supplied from Food

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Places like these do exist in Dhaka. Just an hour away from the city centre, at Jahangirnagar University where lotuses grow naturally and migratory birds call it their home, albeit for a few months. The photo was taken recently on the JU campus.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

PM offers sympathy for share losers

Pledges action against people behind crash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed sympathy for the investors affected by the recent share market crash and assured that the government is taking necessary steps to stabilise the market.

During the question-answer hour in parliament, she also said some unscrupulous groups manipulated the capital market for their benefit. Actions will be taken against them.

"I have also received other

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

Saarc visa exemption on cards

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

South Asian countries yesterday approved a proposal to exempt 19 categories of people from visa requirement.

They also agreed on a liberalised scheme under

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

ASSAULTING MAGISTRATE EC to sue AL lawmaker Bodi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission will sue Awami League lawmaker Abdur Rahman Bodi of Cox's Bazar on charge of assaulting a magistrate and an election official during a campaign ahead of last month's municipal polls in Teknaf.

The EC has also decided to take the matter to the

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RAPE, STALKING HC summons 3 OCs to explain their actions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summoned the officers-in-charge of police stations concerned of Kurigram, Pabna and Chandpur districts to explain their actions

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'CROSSFIRE' KILLINGS HRC chief doubts 'self-defence' claim

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Only the judiciary can determine whether self-defence is a reason for law enforcers to

commit extra-judicial killings, National Human Rights Commission Chairman Prof Mizanur Rahman said yesterday.

"There have been claims that law enforcers shoot in self-defence. Only



the judiciary can determine if such shootings were done in self-defence," Mizanur told reporters after the inauguration of a

Commonwealth seminar at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel.

The foreign affairs ministry and Commonwealth Secretariat jointly organised the two-day regional seminar for Asia and Europe as a follow up of the Universal

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A diamond is nice. But surely a sparkling face is better than a sparkling finger.

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ONLINE POLL

Do you think Bangladesh cricket captain Shakib Al Hasan's target to reach ICC World Cup 2011 quarter finals is achievable?

Yes (84.8%)
No (14.4%)
No Comments (0.8%)

TOTAL VOTES : 637

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the latest hike of the power tariff is justified?

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www.thedailystar.net

PRAYER TIMING February 10

Azan Jamaat
Fajr 5-25 6-00
Zohr 12-45 1-15
Asr 4-30 4-45
Maghrib 5-57 6-01
Esha 7-15 7-45

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