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## RIGHTING THE WRONGS

Shakhawat Liton discusses huge challenge the special committee on constitution amendment faces

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European conservatives' new scapegoat

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## AUSSIE'S 25TH IN A ROW

Shane Watson hits a brisk 62 as Australia extend their winning streak to 25 in WC

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# Tigers cross Irish hurdle

Shafiu steers first win in World Cup

BISHWAJIT ROY

The celebration continued unabated at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday as the bowlers led by pacer Shafiu Islam salvaged the party for Bangladesh in a match where anything other than a victory would have been a huge upset for the jubilant fans. The sell-out crowd, who were the main inspiration for Shakib Al Hasan's men in the nail-biting contest, erupted into joy once Shafiu dismissed the last batsman Boyd Rankin, who chipped to midwicket but was brilliantly caught by Junaed Siddiqui,



ICC Cricket World Cup 2011

to ensure the 27-run victory. The players were also seen taking a victory lap and the reason was simple; with the hard-fought win they not only avenged their second round defeat in the 2007 World Cup in Barbados against the Irish but also kept alive their chances of achieving a second round

birth in the competition.

After a shoddy batting performance, the home sides bowlers took charge to script the victory against the 'never-say-die' Irish who looked all set to spoil the Bangladesh party after dismissing them

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Bangladesh pacer Shafiu Islam, centre, takes a flight to the heavens after dismissing the last Irish batsman Boyd Rankin during their World Cup match at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## Celebrations all around

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Thousands of cricket fans of all ages came out of their homes and the Mirpur stadium and gathered on the streets of the capital last night cheering. Wearing Bangladesh Cricket team's jersey, blowing whistles, playing the drums, weaving flags or whatever they could find, they expressed their joy of Bangladesh's victory over Ireland in the world cup match.

Streets around Mirpur cricket stadium, the venue of the match, saw procession of cheering Tigers fans. They were chanting Bangladesh... Bangladesh. Even law enforcers struggled to get the Tigers' bus out of the stadium and into their hotel.

The team bus started

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## LATEST ON LIBYA

### UN fears massacre

AGENCIES

Reports from Libya indicate thousands may have been killed or injured as the government crackdown escalates 'alarmingly', said UN human rights head Navii Pillay.

The United States is withdrawing embassy personnel from the Libyan capital and suspending all embassy operations for security reasons, the White House said yesterday.

Gaddafi blamed al-Qaeda, in midst of immense international pressure, for an insurrection that poses the worst threat to his four decades

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## BANGLADESHIS IN LIBYA

### Dhaka seeks IOM help for evacuation

PORIMOL PALMA

Amid reports of deteriorating conditions of Bangladeshis in Libya, Bangladesh yesterday formally requested the International Organization for Migration to relocate them and arrange food for them.

"In light of the latest prevailing situation the government has made a formal request to IOM for assisting the temporary relocation of Bangladeshis and arrange shelter, food and water where possible," said a statement of IOM Dhaka office.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, meanwhile, said Bangladesh is concerned about the safety and welfare of Bangladesh nationals. Some Bangladeshis, however, took refuge in Bangladesh embassy in Tripoli, while a few hundred have moved to the borders of Egypt and Tunisia.

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## WB okays \$1.2b for Padma bridge

BSS, Dhaka

The World Bank has approved \$1.2 billion concessional credit for the Padma Multipurpose Bridge Project.

The much-expected approval was given at a board meeting of the bank, held Thursday at its headquarters in Washington DC, says a WB press release.

The project, with an estimated cost of \$2.9 billion, is expected to unlock the economic potential of the southwest region.

"The construction of the bridge would fulfil the long-standing dream of the people of the southwest region to have a permanent crossing over the Padma River," said Isabel Guerrero, WB South Asia vice president, while commenting on the project at the meeting.

"We have been working closely with the

Government of Bangladesh on a Governance and Accountability Action Plan that ensures strict supervision to prevent fraud or corruption, and guarantees quality and transparency," she added.

Ellen Goldstein, WB country director for Bangladesh, who was also present at the meeting, said "I have witnessed the tremendous support of local people for the bridge and believe it will have far reaching economic and social benefits, including faster growth, new jobs, enhanced connectivity and trade within the country and in the broader region, and improved protection against river bank erosion and floods."

Earlier, Communication Minister Syed Abul Hossain told BSS the construction work of the main part of the bridge would begin as soon as the WB approves the

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

## RECKLESS DRIVING

### Bus crushes top official

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A rashly driven bus crushed an additional secretary of the establishment ministry to death while he was crossing Mirpur Road in the capital's Dhanmondi area yesterday morning.

The deceased is Mohammad Abu Taher, 55. He left behind his wife and three sons.

Witnesses said a speeding Mirpur-bound bus of Bikolpo Paribahan hit Taher around 10:00am near Dhanmondi Road-8 intersection.

Anisuzzaman Babu, the victim's son, said his father was on way to his shop at ARA Centre in Dhanmondi.

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Mohammad Abu Taher

## Bird flu strikes

### 42 farms hit in 2 months

MAHBUBA ZANNAT

Bird flu has struck the country again affecting at least 42 poultry farms in several districts in the last two months.

In the latest outbreak, two farms in Netrakona and Natore were affected on Thursday. Over 1,500 chickens and 628 eggs of the farms were culled by livestock department officials, report our district correspondents.

According to the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR), the number of affected farms was only 32 in 2009 and 31 in 2010.

These data show how widespread the flue has been this year.

Experts blame owners' reluctance in ensuring hygiene of the farms and government's slack monitoring for the outbreak.

"Owners are supposed to spray disinfectants regularly, and ensure safety of poultry workers. But they didn't do it properly," said Dr ASM Alamgir, an influenza expert at the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Dhaka office.

He adds that the government's monitoring job has been left to an understaffed livestock department.

Admitting their lack of seriousness, leaders of Bangladesh Poultry Industries Association said maintaining biosecurity is often impossible for the medium and small poultry farmers.

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The first Asian to swim across the English Channel

Dr. Maqsudul Alam  
The first Scientist to decode the jute plant genome

Dr. Fazlur Rahman Khan  
Architect and Structural Engineer of Sears Tower

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