RAKIB AHAMMED

The month-long Amar Ekushey Boi Mela ended yesterday.

Expressing satisfaction over the peaceful completion of the fair, writers, publishers and booklovers hoped to join the next years' fair.

Three thousand and eight new books were published in the fair this year, said Shahida Khatun, member secretary of the fair organising committee.

The total sale amounted to around Tk 25 crore, she said, adding that Bangla Academy sold books worth overTk70 lakh.

Bangla Academy Director General Shamsuzzaman Khan, however, expressed

mises.

decrease.

exchanged greetings while sellers were busy meeting the last moment's demands of the customers.

growing number of visitors.

FROM PAGE 1

"An aircraft was shot down

told Reuters by telephone.

ofTripoli.

"The EU measures not

to the UN measures.

"The council also prohibited trade with Libya on equipment which might be used for internal repression,'

he added.

their response to the mounting humanitarian crisis in

meeting, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said she would discuss co-ordinated responses on both the humanitarian and political fronts with many of her counterparts from Europe, the Middle East and North Africa at the UN human rights coun-

As the UN Human Rights Council met in Geneva over a deadly crackdown by Gaddafi's forces on antiregime protests and the ensuing humanitarian crisis, the International Criminal Court said it would probe possible crimes against humanity

committed in Libya. Men opposed to Gaddafi patrolled the streets of Az-Zawiyah, saying they had seized weapons and even tanks which they would use to

defend themselves. But they were also bracing themselves for a potential showdown with forces loyal to Gaddafi, who have reportedly

surrounded the city. Ezeldina, a Zawiyah resident, told Al Jazeera that people in the city had raided military camps to prepare for

a potential raid by government forces. "We are expecting an

attack at any moment," he said. "We are forming rotating watch groups, guarding the neighbourhood."

Government forces manned several checkpoints

between Az-Zawiyah and the capital, and supporters of the Libyan leader demonstrated in the Harsha district, 5km from the centre of Zawiyah. Government loyalists also Yemen since 2007.

concern over the quality of books. The quality of the books was very poor, he said.

Abul Kalam Azad said at the closing ceremony that Bangla Academy has been doing a great job by organising the book fair on its pre-Kabir Chowdhury, presi-

said the fair proves that demand for books will never In the afternoon, visitors, writers, and publishers

Libyan rebels

notice to demolish the structures. Gaddafi, reports

this morning while it was firing on the local radio station. Protesters captured its crew," the witness, Mohamed, Three areas in the east were

reported to be under the control of protesters yesterday, a day after pro-democracy demonstrators took control of the city of Az-Zawiyah, just 50km west The European Union

yesterday agreed to slap an asset freeze and travel ban on Gaddafi and 25 members of his family and inner circle, the EU's Hungarian presidency

only implement the resolution of the United Nations Security Council of February 26 but in addition impose autonomous sanctions", said Tamas Fellegi, national development minister of Hungary, which currently holds the rotating EU presidency, reportsAFP.

"The council of the EU British prime ministers urging banned the supply to Libya of the Libyan leader to leave. arms, ammunition and related material, in addition forming a National Libyan

Meanwhile, foreign ministers from around the world are meeting in Geneva to discuss

Opening the Geneva meet-

ing, UN Human Rights Commissioner Navi Pillav warned the Libyan authorities that widespread attacks on civilians could amount to crimes under international Speaking on her way to the

his younger brother, Tehzeeb. The trial heard that he had cil meeting in Geneva. attempted to move from his IT

nation to plan an attack as

"frightening". of this case is probably the fact that Karim tried to enrol as cabin crew and anyone can imagine how horrific the consequences of this could

The jury found Karim guilty of plotting to blow up an aircraft, sharing information of use to Awlaki, offering to help financial or disruptive attacks on BA and gaining a job in Britain to exploit terror-

showed no emotion as the jury delivered their verdict, had argued that he only moved to Britain to seek treatment for his son whom he feared had bowel cancer.

He will be sentenced on March 18.

Karim started to communicate in late 2009 with Awlaki, who is believed to have been hiding in a remote area of



Visitors throng the Bangla Academy premises on the last day of the Amar Ekushey Boi Mela yesterday.

FROM PAGE 1

Of the rest, 11 were admitted to DMCH while the others were sent to different clinics and hospitals in Dhaka and Narayanganj.

Mariam, Sabina and her 11month-old girl Sumaiya, Anwar Hossain, 45, Shuvo, 12, Monir Hossain, 40 Yarham, 45, Hasan, 35 Sultan, 30, Hashmatullah, 40, Kala Chand, 40 Shahjahan, 45, Abdul Hye, 60, Delwar Hossain, 40 Rubina and a 25-year-old unidentified youth were stated to be critical.

Many of the train passengers, travelling on its engine and roof, truck passengers and employees of a nearby shop are among the injured.

The accident occurred when a Dhaka-bound train from Narayanganj rammed a timber-laden truck at the unguarded level crossing around 9:40am, said Golam Mostafa, stationmaster of Fatullah Railway Station.

bumped into the shop, witnesses said.

According to train driver Abul Hossain, the truck got on the railway track when the train came near the railroad crossing. He tried in vain to slow down the speed-

Truck driver Md Babar Ali, undergoing treatment at DMCH, said he was on a trip to Bhanga in Faridpur. There was no barrier at the spot, he

Assistant Engineer Abdul Matin Mondal said the road was constructed illegally at Nandalalpur area without taking permission from the railway authorities. It has been closed after the acci-

Train movement on Dhaka-Narayanganj route remained suspended for about two-and-a-half hours following the accident noted Abdul Aziz, station master of Narayanganj.

The rail link was restored around 12:15 pm after a rescue train from Kamalapur reached the accident site around 11:30am and moved the

four-member enquiry committee, led by Railway Divisional Transport Officer Nazmul Islam, has been formed to probe the accident. Other members of the body are Divisional Engineers Arifur Rahman Benu Ranjan and Subakta Din. The committee has been asked to submit its

Bangladesh Railway Touhidul Anwai Chowdhury, Additional Directors General Md Shahjahan and Anhar Mahmud and members of the enquiry committee

visited the spot. There are 26 level crossings on Dhaka-Narayanganj route, of which 12 are unauthorised, noted

Commuters have been increasingly opting for train journey on this route since the beginning of construction work of Jatrabari flyover. Almost every train has been carrying passengers double of its capacity, added sources.

Passengers alleged a

3 die, 75 hurt | Yunus beyond

FROM PAGE 1 age of 60, which was not

And no endorsement was obtained for this from

Bangladesh Bank, said Khondaker Muzammel Huq, chairman of Grameen, who received a copy of the letter. Muzammel, a former employee who had served

under Yunus at Grameen, has recently been appointed by the government as chairman of the microfinance institution. His appointment came more than one year after the expiry of the previous chairman's tenure. Yesterday's meeting with Grameen directors took

place in the wake of a controversy surrounding the microlender's handling of funds. Muzammel adjourned Grameen's 92nd board meeting yesterday after covering several issues on agenda.

not within the law. from The Daily Star, Jannat-E-Quanine, general manager of Grameen Bank, said: "We cannot make any comments on board proceedings or

to the board meeting." "We can confirm that no letter addressed to Professor Muhammad Yunus has been received from Bangladesh Bank.'

"The chairman of the Grameen Bank Board is referring to a letter addressed to the Ministry of Finance where it is understood that a Bangladesh Bank official has expressed an opinion regarding Professor Yunus's term as managing director."

Professor Yunus to cease functioning as managing director, nor is there any suggestion of his being removed from this post. Professor Yunus continues to be in his position as the managing director of Grameen Bank.'

AFP reported that Bangladesh moved to force the Nobel prize winner out of his pioneering microfinance bank, with the central bank saying he had passed retirement age and had to go.

there is a campaign of politically orchestrated attacks on the Nobel laureate.

Bangladesh Bank sent a letter to the finance ministry saying that Yunus, who won the Nobel prize in 2006 for his work making small loans to poor entrepreneurs, should be removed from the

"In the letter -- a copy of which has been given to me -the central bank said he no longer can stay as the chief executive of the Grameen

PM bats

FROM PAGE 1

cricket team] could have been bowled out for 170 to 180 runs. So, Shakib's decision in my view was right," a minister quoted the prime minister as saying.

it is irrational to say that asking India to bat was a serious mistake, the minister told The Daily Star in return for anonymity.

In the World Cup opening match at Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla Stadium on February 19, India scored 370 runs for four wickets and Bangladesh 283 for nine in reply.

Bank because the retirement age of the bank is 60," said Muzammel.

Hence, him being the

bank chief executive is "illegal and not valid", Muzammel said. A Bangladesh Bank official said the finance ministry can now remove Yunus because the government holds a 25

microlender. "We told the finance ministry his overstaying as the chief executive clearly flouted section number 14(1) of the Grameen Bank laws, the official said, speaking on

percent stake in the

condition of anonymity. The move comes as Yunus faces intense pressure from the government to quit his post. In early February Finance Minister AMA Muhith asked the Nobel winner to go.

Following the release of a Norwegian documentary in December which accused Yunus and Grameen of malpractice, Yunus has been vilified in the Bangladeshi press and seen his bank become the target of a government investigation.

After the release of the documentary, the Norwegian government opened an investigation and expressed its full satisfaction over the use of its funds.

Latest

FROM PAGE 1

looted valuables from there," an eyewitness told The Daily Star early today. Identities of the abducted

women could not be known immediately. somehow. We are in grave danger. We don't know what

will happen next," one of the

officials at the high commission said. He said several hundred Bangladeshi workers had been gathering in front of the high commission for the past few days. But he could not say what happened to the gathered workers after

last night's incident. Tens of thousands o Bangladeshi workers have been stuck along Tunisia and Egypt borders, passing their days under inhumane conditions. But no initiative from the government was taken so far to evacuate

them, added the official. He claimed a civil war has started in Tripoli. The official appealed to the Bangladesh government to send airplanes without further delay to bring them back home immediately, adding that they are living close to death.

Iran arms Afghan insurgents, says Nato

AFP, Kabul

The Nato force in Afghanistan yesterday spelled out the support it believes Iran is providing to insurgents in the violencewracked country, warning it was keeping a wary eye out.

Tehran opposes the presence of thousands of US troops in the region, with American soldiers stationed 115, 9-115 in Iraq and Afghanistan, **Bowler** both of which border Iran, Benn an Islamic republic. Roach "They (Iran) are giving

them a limited amount of Sammy Pollard 215 runs. Roach.

Windies blow

FROM PAGE 20

posed any threat in the lopsided encounter, crumbling to 36-5 by the 11th over after early strikes from Roach, who took 6-27, and left-arm spinner Sulieman Benn (3-28). Roach, 22, returned to

collect only the sixth World Cup hattrick and the first of this tournament, sealing an emphatic win for the former world champions. Doeschate, who scored 119

repeat his magic, trapped leg before wicket for seven by Benn. Tom Cooper provided the

only resistance with an unbeaten 55 off 72 balls. West Indies captain

Roach. "It was great, brilliant. His role in the team is to be a strike bowler and it was

hard in their opener. "I don't know what to put it down to. I guess the guys just didn't turn up after what was a decent performance

the opening wicket with Devon Smith (53) after the West Indies were put in to bat on a placid wicket in the day-night clash. Pollard, who plays for

Indian Premier League, hammered five fours and four sixes on his way to the third-fastest World Cup halfcentury before Ramnaresh Sarwan chipped in with a 42ball 49. Gayle overcame a sub-

dued start to unleash seven

fours and two sixes in his

110-ball knock, which was

cut short by ten Doeschate (1-77) during a batting Powerplay. Smith scored at a quicker pace than his more famous partner, racing to his fourth

Just when Smith looked set to go on to a bigger score, he edged behind off medium-pacer Bernard Loots to give the Netherlands their first breakthrough in the

The win put life back into the West Indies campaign after they lost to South Africa

For Netherlands, it was "We managed to flee | the second defeat on the trot after the six-wicket reversal against England in Nagpur

> Group B match between the West Indies and the Netherlands at the Feroz Shah Kotla Stadium in New Delhi on Monday: WESTINDIES

Miller not out Benn not out

Total: (For 8 wkts in 50 overs) 330 Fall of wickets: 1-100, 2-168, 3-196, 4-261, 5-278, 6-290, 7-312, 8-326 Did not bat: Roach Bukhari

Seelaar 10 NETHERLANDS Kervezee st Thomas b Benn Barresi c Gayle b Roach Cooper not out Ten Doeschate lbw b Benn Zuiderent b Roach De Grooth lbw b Benn Borren c Pollard b Sammy 10 Bukhari b Roach Seelar lbw b Roach Loots lbw b Roach Westdijk b Roach Extras: (lb-2)

0 M R W 28 27 23 0 Miller

> 0 2

'TOXIC' RID SYRUP, 28 DEATHS

Case hearing deferred again

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court deferred the hearing on charge framing against Pharmaceuticals' managing director (MD) and four others for the sixth time yesterday. The court set March 9 for

the hearing following a petition seeking adjournment on the grounds that defence lawyer Syed Rezaur Rahman was unable to appear before the court because of his dealing with other cases with Metropolitan Sessions Judge's and Chief Judicial Magistrate's Courts of Dhaka. Judge Mohammad Abdul

Majid of the Drug Court, however, warned the defendants that the hearing would not be postponed any further. Earlier, the court had to

defer the hearing twice on similar excuses. On January 17, the court

adjourned the hearing for about one and half months as Rid Pharma MD Mizanur Rahman had fallen sick.

A case was filed in August

2009 against the five of the company for using toxic

diethylene glycol in manu-

facturing paracetamol syrup

that caused deaths of 28 children the same year. Of the five, three went into hiding. They are Abdul Gani, a director, Mahbubul Islam and Enamul Haque, two pharmacists of the

company. Accused MIzanur and his wife were present at the

court. In 2009, Brahmanbaria police took more than nine months to submit reports on execution of arrest warrants against the three fugitives.

The case against Rid Pharma reminds us of the fate of four similar cases in 1992. None of the four companies -- Adflame Pharmaceutical Ltd, Polychem Laboratories Ltd, BCI (Bangladesh) Ltd, and Rex Pharmaceutical-- which used a lethal chemical, diethylene glycol, in paracetamol syrup, were brought to book.

In 1992, the lethal chemical claimed lives of 2,700 children.

samples from 15 wild Amur

tigers in the Russian Far East.

from the animals and

screened them for certain

"markers" -- points in the

DNA code that show that an

animal had parents that

were genetically very differ-

The results revealed evi-

Genetically speaking, the

They took blood samples

Amur tigers in crisis **FROM PAGE 20** together to analyse DNA

diversity of the world's larg-

or rare genetic disorders is likely to be passed on to the next generation. The findings are reported in the journal Mammalian Biology.

The Amur tiger, or Siberian tiger as it is also known, once lived across a large portion of northern China, the Korean peninsula, and the southernmost regions of eastern Russia.

During the early 20th Century, the Amur tiger was almost driven to extinction, as expanding human settlements, habitat loss and poaching wiped out this biggest of cats from over 90% of its range.

By the 1940s, just 20 to 30 individuals survived in the wild. The new study has identified that this recent "genetic bottleneck" -when the breeding population of tigers was so critically low - has decimated the Amur tiger gene pool.

A more genetically diverse population of animals has a much better chance of survival; it is more likely, for example, to contain the genetic resistance to a variety of diseases and less likely to succumb to rare genetic disorders, which can be "cancelled out" by healthy genes.

Scientists in Russia, Spain and Germany worked

5,062 pass FROM PAGE 20

applicants sat the preliminary exams, vying for 1,581 posts. Of them, 13,536 qualified for the written test of which 7,217 came out successful.

Among the successful candidates, 6,523 took part in the viva voce and 5,062 passed the test. However, results of 48 candidates have been kept suspended.

One killed

FROM PAGE 20 Police said Tipu was a listed criminal and the leader of a

gang named 'Tipu Bahini.' Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-11 went to Dakshin Misapur village at about 3:00am where Tipu and his cohorts were preparing to

the criminals opened fire at the elite force members, prompting them to retaliate. Tipu was caught in the line of fire and died on the

spot though his cohorts managed to flee the scene, said police. Rab recovered three firearms and some bullets

the structures following the SC order. Barrister Kamal-ul Alam,

advocate Abdul Matin Khasru, and advocate AM Amin Uddin appeared for

Curtain drops on Boi Mela

Information Minister

dent of Bangla Academy,

They demanded a larger fair ground considering the

took to the streets just outside the capital, waving posters and chanting slogans. The rallies appeared to be evidence that Gaddafi had not lost complete control of the

capital. Ibrahim Sharquieh, deputy director of the Brookings Doha Centre, said the battle between pro- and anti-Gaddafi forces for Tripoli is not likely to be won immedi-"We know that [Gaddafi] is

in the Bab al-Aziziya area [of

Tripoli] and Bab al-Aziziya

seems to be very secure. He

has his militia around him

and they are doing a good job

protecting him," Sharquieh told Al Jazeera. "He has even made some attacks outside the Bab al-

"We can comfortably say

that he is still in control in

Tripoli. Although there is

Aziziya area.

some resistance in some areas I don't think we can talk about the city falling today or tomor-Meanwhile, the calls for Gaddafi to step down multiplied, with the Canadian and

Council in the east said they did not want any foreign intervention in the country. The death toll from the

Opponents of Gaddafi

violent crackdown on protesters is estimated by some diplomats to be about 2,000. Plane terror

FROM PAGE 20 terror attacks. The IT worker, who moved with his wife and son to Newcastle in northeast England in 2006, had admitted being involved in the production of a terrorist group's video, fundraising and volunteering for terror

abroad. Karim, a privatelyeducated member of a middle-class family in Dhaka, was lured into becoming a staunch supporter of a radical organisation called Jamayetul Mujahideen Bangladesh by

role within the airline to become a member of cabin Colin Gibbs, a counterterrorism lawyer for the Crown Prosecution Service, described Karim's determi-

"The most chilling element have been, had he succeeded," Gibbs said.

ist purposes. The bearded Karim, who

The prosecution said

The conditions of

Hit by the train, the truck

ing train before the collision.

added. Railway's Senior Deputy

Railway sources said a

report within two days. Director General of

sources in railway.

section of dishonest railway employees allow more than 100 passengers on the engines and roofs of the trains putting their lives in danger.

Muzammel told The Daily Star that Yunus, now 70, has been staying in the post for an indefinite period, which is In response to queries

discuss anything that relates

"There is no directive on

Meanwhile, news agency

Supporters of Yunus, including former Irish president Mary Robinson, say

Grameen Bank he founded.

Hasina also observed that

bullets, technical pieces of IEDs, rockets, RPGs (rocketpropelled grenades), through networks well established through the border," said US Rear Admiral Gregory Smith.

17th over.

Pollard c ten Doeschate b Bukhari 60 Sammy c Kervezee b Seelaar Chanderpaul b Seelaar Thomas lbw b Bukhari Extras: (b-3, lb-3, w-14, nb-1)

R 65 Westdijk Ten Doeschate 10 Loots Cooper

Total: (All out in 31.3 overs)

dangerous playing surface. The Netherlands hardly

Dutch hope Ryan ten against England, failed to

Darren Sammy praised

important that he went out and did it," said Sammy. Dutch skipper Peter Borren was bemused by his team's performance after they had pushed England

against England," he said. Gayle put on 100 runs for

Mumbai Indians in the

one-day half-century off 45 balls with the help of nine

in their opener.

last week. SCOREBOARD Scoreboard of the World Cup

Smith c Barresi b Loots Gayle c Kervezee b ten Doeschate 80 Bravo c Kervezee b Seelaar 30 Sarwan lbw b Westdijk

Result: West Indies won by Man-of-the-match: Kemar

0

33

est cat. Very low diversity means any vulnerability to disease

Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-26, 3-34, 4-35, 5-36, 6-56, 7-113, 8-

rob a house. Sensing their presence,

from the spot. Two Rab members

Havilder Shafiqul Islam and Havilder Dilip Barua - were also slightly injured during the 'gunfight' and received primary treatment from the local upazila health complex.

dence of the genetic bottleneck during the tigers' recent history, when the variety of genes being passed on dramatically reduced.

ent from each other.

Amur tiger has not recovered from this. Cox's Bazar

The apex court also dis-

missed four leave-to-appeal

petitions against the HC

order. The petitions were filed by the owners of some structures including a few hotels and restaurants set up on the beach. The HC bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Justice Sheikh Md Zakir

remove all permanent and temporary structures from the beach to keep its natural beauty intact. The bench passed the order following a public interest litigation filed by Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB). The

petition was filed following a

report published in The

The DC of Cox's Bazar on

Daily Star on January 5.

Hossain on January 10

directed the government to

January 12 served a notice on the owners to remove their structures from the beach within a week. Four owners -- Nowshad Karim, Rabiul Islam, Ferdous Akhter and Mujibul Islam -- filed four writ petitions with the HC bench

January 17 temporarily stayed the notice. The land ministry then filed four writ petitions with the HC bench headed by Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik seeking

After the hearing, the

bench on February 15

vacated the order passed by

Justice Miftah Uddin

Murhsid, the counsel for

HRPB and land ministry,

told The Daily Star that there

to vacate the order.

Chowdhury.

headed by Justice Miftah

Uddin Choudhury challeng-

ing the notice. The bench on

Subsequently, the owners filed separate leave to appeal petitions with the SC for staying the February 15 HC order that ordered them to demolish their structures. Advocate Manzill

is no legal bar to knock down

the owners of structures.