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in Short

Rare birds seized from city shops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Wildlife Crime Control Unit of Forest Department in a drive on Thursday recovered 320 birds of rare species from the capital's Katabon and the outskirts Tongi.

The team led by Tapan Kumar Dey, conservator of forests at the Wildlife and Nature Conservation

Ailing Delwar sent to S'pore

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ailing BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain was admitted to Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore for better treatment yesterday.

PRAYER TIMING

	March 5
Asan	5-15
Jamaat	5-50
Fajr	5-15
Zohr	12-45
Asr	4-30
Maghrib	6-05
Esha	7-30



Bangladeshi and Pakistani evacuees from Libya are seen in a camp at the Tunisia-Libya border post of Ras Jedir Thursday. A major international operation is under way to airlift out of Tunisia thousands of people stranded at the border.

Intense battle in Tripoli
Rebels advance in east

REUTERS, Tripoli

Forces loyal to Muammar Gaddafi widened attacks on rebel-held areas in an escalation of Libya's crisis yesterday and unrest spread to the capital when gunmen opened fire to break up dissident protests. Eastern-based rebels pressed home their push to the west with an attack on the oil town of Ras Lanuf, claiming to have taken its airport.

The rebels earlier told Reuters they were open to talks only on Gaddafi's exile or resignation following attacks on civilians that have provoked international condemnation, a raft of arms and economic sanctions and a war crimes probe.

In developments likely to raise concern about dwindling food and medical supplies in rebel-held areas, reports from around the vast country suggested a sharp worsening of a conflict that the West fears could trigger a mass refugee exodus to Europe.

The popular uprising against Gaddafi, the bloodiest yet against a long-serving ruler in the Arab world, has knocked out nearly 50 percent of the OPEC-member's 1.6 million barrels of oil per day output, the bedrock of its economy.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 7

HC disposes of 8,389 cases last month

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The chief justice's initiative to speed up disposal of cases has showed good results with some 8,389 cases disposed of in the High Court last month.

Chief Justice ABM Khairul Haque told The Daily Star last night that all credit for the improvement goes to the judges and lawyers. If the present trend continues, the

SEE PAGE 13 COL 3

ANTI-GOVT AGITATION

BNP to gauge public pulse

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

The main opposition BNP has planned to task its senior and mid-level leaders with a "special assignment" to assess public sentiment on different crucial issues.

On receiving the assessment reports, party Chairperson Khaleda Zia will finalise a fresh agitation programme, which is likely to be announced after the Cricket World Cup, said party insiders.

As part of the plan, BNP vice presidents, joint secretaries general, organisational secretaries and a few other leaders of the central executive committee will talk with people at union level to seek their opinion on different issues including prices of essentials and power shortage.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 6

'MUTINY' IN ARMY
AL for probing Khaleda's statement

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

The ruling Awami League has urged the government to look into BNP chief Khaleda Zia's statements apprehending a tragedy in the armed forces like the BDR Pilkhana carnage.

AL high-ups believe that since Khaleda holds the top position in her party and was the prime minister twice, her statement on such a sensitive issue has deeper meaning. They said the

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

Bus kills garment worker in Savar
Mob damages 25 vehicles

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Agitating locals torched a bus and damaged 24 more vehicles on Dhaka-Aricha highway after a garment worker was crushed to death by a bus in Savar yesterday morning.

The dead, Monira Begum, 27, was on a rickshaw when the bus rammed hit from behind near Radio Colony. As she fell on the road on impact, the bus, which was of Green Line Paribahan, ran over her. The rickshaw-puller was also injured, said witnesses.

Monira was on her way home. Incensed, locals took to the street around 10:30am and

SEE PAGE 13 COL 4

ONLINE POLL

Do you think the removal of Prof Muhammad Yunus from Grameen Bank's managing director post will damage the government's image abroad?

Yes (83.8%)
No (14.6%)
No Comments (1.6%)
TOTAL VOTES : 632

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with Finance Minister AMA Muhith that the government had no alternative to removing Prof Muhammad Yunus from the Grameen Bank's managing director post?

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