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Alamgir Khan examines microcredit's effectiveness in overall development

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IN THE SELECTORS' HANDS

Ricky Ponting leaves his future as the Aussie captain to the selectors

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GIRL WHIPPED TO DEATH, 2 POST-MORTEMS

Civil surgeon at fault

Health probe report tells HC first post-mortem ambiguous, the second correct

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

An investigation report submitted to the High Court on Thursday termed the first autopsy report of Hena Akter "vague" while the second "proper".

Fifteen-year-old Hena of Shariatpur was raped by her 40-year-old cousin Mahub and was afterwards lashed at least 50 times following a Fatwa (religious edict) in local arbitration on January 24. She succumbed to her injuries on January 31.

As per an HC direction, a seven-member committee formed by the Directorate of Health prepared the probe report interrogating the doctors of Shariatpur General



Hena

not mentioning the injury marks on Hena's body deliberately.

Hospital who attended the first autopsy, and those of Dhaka Medical College Hospital who performed the second.

The report was submitted to the bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Justice Sheikh Md Zakir Hossain, sources said.

The bench that earlier issued a suo moto rule on this issue may hear the case this week.

The report stated that the doctors of Shariatpur General Hospital and district Civil Surgeon Golam Sarwar are "equally" guilty of

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Govt to build flats for seven Birshreshtha families

BSS, Dhaka

The government would construct a building with seven flats of 2,000 square feet each at Mohammadpur in the city for the families of seven Birshreshtha gallantry award recipients.

State Minister for Liberation War Affairs Capt (retd) Tajul Islam revealed this at a reception accorded to the family members of Birshreshthas on behalf of President Zillur Rahman

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PHOTO: STAR

Children expressing their patriotism at a programme in Central Shaheed Minar organised to mark the Independence Day. More photos on page 2.

Independence Day observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The demands for a fair and expeditious trial of the war crimes rang loud and clear, as the nation yesterday celebrated the Independence Day paying tribute to the heroic freedom fighters of 1971.

The country observed the 40th anniversary of its independence yesterday.

The celebration began with 31 gun salutes before dawn at the National Parade Square in the capital.

President Zillur Rahman and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina placed wreaths at the National Memorial at Savar in the early morning. They stood in solemn silence for a few minutes commemorating the liberation war martyrs.

The premier at 9:00am attended the Independence Day parade at the Bangabandhu

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Fate of nurses in Libya uncertain

Bangladeshis at Choucha say medical staff detained to work

MORSHED ALI KHAN, from Choucha, Tunisia-Libya border

ON TUNISIA-LIBYA BORDER



MORSHED ALI KHAN writes from the spot where thousands of Bangladeshi workers have taken shelter after fleeing the Libyan upheaval

Hundreds of Bangladeshi nurses and other medical staff in Libya are being

forced to stay in their jobs, said Bangladeshis stranded in Choucha camp. Mohammad Salauddin, an employee

of the medical maintenance department of Sirat, arrived here recently with his wife and five children. He said male and female nurses and staff are

not allowed to leave Libya.

"The hospitals are full of dead bodies

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PHOTO ON PAGE 13

NEWS ANALYSIS

Sad old 'debate' culture taints JS

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The just concluded marathon "debate" in parliament on the thanks giving motion on the president's address demonstrated lack of interest in both the treasury and opposition benches' leadership for improving the deliberation standard.

Almost all the members of parliament, who took part in the discussion, either misused or abused the opportunity to debate public issues and ventilate public grievances. They rather tried to ventilate their personal grievances by blasting the rivals aggressively using abusive and vulgar languages. They seemed to have forgotten about the dignity of the place where they were speaking at.

The parliament, also known as the House of the Nation, was in fact made subject to whims of some MPs who mindlessly use abusive and vulgar words. Some of them even uttered such words that prompted former law minister Abdul Matin Khasru to say: "Languages used by some lawmakers are not even used in the 'red-light district'".

Parliamentary debate, as it is often called, is a competition of knowledge, strategy and oratory. But the way many MPs deliberate in the debates seem they are engaged in a competition to mindlessly and aggressively attack rivals without logic and proper knowledge of parliamentary language. Their fierce verbal attack on the opponents largely damages the atmosphere supposed to

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