

Terrorizing with spinning
Anil Kumble, one of India's most prolific bowlers, took 619 wickets in just 132 Test matches that spanned over a period from 1990 to 2008.

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in Short
Kader Siddiqui wants to rejoin AL: Razzaque
Siddiqui denies
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Abdul Kader Siddiqui, chief of Bangladesh Krishak Sramik Janata League (BKSJL), had expressed his willingness to rejoin the ruling Awami League (AL), claimed a minister yesterday.
"With his wife, Kader Siddiqui recently came to my
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BNP waits on war trial

Keeps off Jamaat for now in anti-govt programme
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The main opposition BNP will not team up with Jamaat-e-Islami to launch any anti-government programme until war crimes allegations against top Jamaat leaders are settled, party insiders have said.
Jamaat leaders in a recent meeting with BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia tried to convince her to revive the four-party alliance, they said.
The leader of the opposition said the alliance is more of an electoral coalition and it would be revived at the right time.
Khaleda, now in Saudi Arabia, said she would announce agitation programmes after the Cricket World Cup, as Bangladesh is a co-host of the big event.
Acting Jamaat chief Maqbul Ahmed and acting secretary general ATM Azharul Islam, who were present in the
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Keep Alim in jail till Mar 31

Orders int'l crimes tribunal
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The International Crimes Tribunal directed the police yesterday to keep former BNP lawmaker Abdul Alim in Dhaka Central Jail till March 31 in connection with crimes against humanity during the Liberation War in 1971.
The three-judge panel, headed by Justice Nizamul Huq, also adjourned the hearing on Alim's bail petition till the same day.
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This group of Bangladeshis have arrived at Ras Jdir in Tunisia yesterday after 26 hours' perilous journey of fleeing the conflict in Libya. Inset, their leader Haji Kamal, a farmer living in the North African country for the past thirty years. Story on page 1.



IO seeks 60 days more
12th time extension prayer in arms haul case
STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
The Criminal Investigation Department has sought another 60 days to complete the investigation into the 10-truck arms haul case as the deadline for submitting its probe report expires tomorrow.
The investigation
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Fierce battle on for Gaddafi hometown

AL JAZEERA ONLINE
Forces loyal to Muammar Gaddafi are resisting an advance by Libyan rebels towards the embattled Libyan leader's hometown of Sirte in the fiercest clashes since the start of a sweeping offensive that has brought a string of coastal towns under opposition control.
The rebels, backed by international coalition air strikes, have advanced largely unchecked since Friday but claims in Benghazi, the rebel's eastern stronghold, earlier yesterday that Sirte had also
fallen were premature.
Opposition fighters are now engaged in clashes about 100km east of the city, with pro-Gaddafi forces shelling their front lines.
Meanwhile, Qatar became the first Arab nation to recognise the rebel leadership -- the Transitional National Council -- as the official representatives of the Libyan people, BBC reports.
Fighting is ongoing at Nawfaliya, about 180km east of Sirte, where opposition forces say they have come upon a heavily
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Hajj 2011 Tk 2.59 lakh cost fixed for each pilgrim

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The cabinet has approved the National Hajj Package 2011 fixing Tk 2,59,042 for each hajj pilgrim, and amended the Hajj Policy 1431-1435 Hijri.
The approval came at the weekly cabinet meeting at the secretariat with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair yesterday.
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Coastal dists go to UP polls today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Elections to union parishads, the lowest tier of local government system, begin today with voting in 190 unions of 24 upazilas in 12 coastal districts of Chittagong, Khulna and Barisal divisions.
The battle of ballots will start at 8:00am and continue till 4:00pm without break.
In the first phase, polls to 568 UPs in the coastal districts will be held by April 3, according to the schedule announced by the Election Commission on February 24.
The EC will then announce the schedule for phase-wise elections to 4,300 UPs across the country.
Election Commissioner Sohul Hussein said yesterday all steps have been taken to ensure free and fair polling in the unions. A congenial atmosphere has been created so that voters can go to the polling centres without any obstacles, he told journalists at his EC Secretariat office.
A judicial magistrate and an executive magistrate will hear and deliver judgment instantly on cases of breach of electoral code of conduct and election-related crimes.
Officials at the EC Secretariat said around 32,000 candidates are vying for the posts of chairman, member and
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Battles within families

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali
Seventeen candidates in the district's union parishad polls are competing against family members--wife against husband, son against father, nephew against uncle, brother against brother.
Sheuly Akhter is fighting with her husband Mizanur Rahman for the chairman's post of Choto Bighai union in Sadar upazila.
In the same upazila, Abul Bashar Sohag Majhi is vying with his brother-in-law Shahidul Islam Khokon to be the chairman of Lawkathi union.
Shahidul Islam Mridha is running against his maternal uncle Kalai
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Indian Hydraulic Excel Trailers loaded with equipment for Palatana Power Station in Tripura are seen at the Kuruila river jetty in Brahmanbaria yesterday.

Power plant equipment hits road to Tripura

Transshipment begins thru diversion roads
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria
Four consignments of power plant equipment bound for Indian state of Tripura left Ashuganj river port early yesterday. They will travel 49 kms in Bangladesh territory before entering India through Akhaura.
This is the first instance of India using Bangladesh roads for transshipment.
As many as 16 diversion roads were built over the last three months so that
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ONLINE POLL
Do you think the government should immediately ban fatwa and make it punishable offence?
Yes (66.2%)
No (31.4%)
No Comments (2.4%)
TOTAL VOTES : 468
PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

New leak at Japan plant

Green group calls for extension of evacuation zone to avert nuke disaster
AGENCIES
Highly radioactive water has been found for the first time outside one of the reactor buildings at Japan's quake-hit Fukushima nuclear plant, officials say.
The leak in a tunnel linked to the No 2 reactor has raised fears of radioactive liquid seeping into the environment.
Meanwhile, environmental group Greenpeace said its experts had confirmed radiation levels of up to 10 microsieverts per hour in a village 40km northwest of the plant.
It called for the extension of a 20-km evacuation zone,
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SC hearing on Grameen appeals today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Supreme Court is likely to hold a hearing today on the appeals filed against the High Court verdict that upheld a Bangladesh Bank order removing Muhammad Yunus from the office of Grameen Bank managing director.
Nobel laureate Dr
SEE PAGE 13 COL 3

In Memoriam
Gone too soon
"The leaves are crisp and the skies are grey
The rays but hindered by clouds astray
For you have gone too soon.
Days are bleak and nights unkind
The wind stands still and time yet minds
For you have gone too soon.
Your presence was a light and joy...."
On this day, the 29th of March in 2007, our beloved director, **Mr. KUTUBUL ALAM CHOWDHURY**, left for his eternal abode in heaven. He was an entrepreneur, a philanthropist and a keen golfer.
May Allah bless his soul with eternal peace.
Management & Employees of East Coast Group of Companies



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