



**BEING THERE FOR JAPAN**

Mizanur Rahman Shelley writes how Bangladesh may help the devastated country

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**STILL HAUNTED**

A worker repatriated from Libya recalls horrific days

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**WAR AGAINST AIDS**

Ban Ki-moon says "a moment of truth" has come for new strategies to address failures

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**Killing of a river**

Untreated liquid from a dyeing factory at Godnail in Narayanganj is discharged into a drain that eventually takes the toxic effluents into the river Shitalakkhya. Dumping of waste by many textile and dyeing factories of the district is choking the life out of the Shitalakkhya, a major river in Bangladesh. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

**Nod for free MPs at JS**

Constitution amendment body seeks to allow lawmakers play due role, without party string

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The parliamentary special committee on constitutional amendment seeks to free lawmakers from the restriction imposed through article 70 of the constitution, enabling them to play their due role in parliament independently.

The article 70 bars lawmakers from going against their party decisions in the House. They lose parliament membership for violation of

the article.

Members of the special committee are now considering two propositions to give the lawmakers enough freedom in the House through changes in the charter.

They said lawmakers could be allowed to express differing opinions and cast votes against party decisions except in some specific issues like no-confidence motion against the cabinet, finance bill and matters related to state security.

The second proposition is original article 70 of the 1972 constitution could be restored as it had imposed less restriction than the existing amended one.

Several members of the special committee have recently told The Daily Star about their move to give some freedom to the lawmakers through such amendment.

The committee at a meeting on Tuesday discussed both the

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**Escape mission**

Back home, man tells how seven Bangladeshis managed to cross Libyan border

M RAHMAN

The minivan was going through a mountainous area of Libya. Crammed with eight Bangladeshi nationals who went to the north African country in the hope of a better life for their loved ones back home.

Their dream of giving a better life for their loved ones was turning out to be a



Suruj

nightmare as Libya sank deep and deeper into chaos and civil war. Panicked foreign nationals started fleeing the country in one of the biggest mass exodus in history.

Suruj and seven other Bangladeshi workers in the minivan placed their trust in the Libyan at the wheel as they headed towards the Tunisian border from Borak,

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**BNP-backed panel takes lead in SCBA polls**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP-supported panel took lead in the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) elections.

According to the latest count, incumbent SCBA President Khandaker Mahbub Hossain and

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**Amini's arrest order revoked within hours**

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday withdrew an arrest warrant and a summons against Mufti Fazlul Haque Amini, president of a faction of Islami Oikya Jote (IOJ), hours after issuing those in two cases.

Metropolitan Magistrate Haroon-or-Rashid also fixed April 25 to pass orders on the cases--one filed for making anti-state remarks

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**MIRPUR-AIRPORT ROAD FLYOVER**

**Work goes on, may finish by 2012**

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

Started in January, construction work of Mirpur-Airport Road flyover over the restricted zone of Dhaka cantonment and Banani Staff Road level-crossing is progressing in full swing to meet the target of completion by October 2012.

People living in Mirpur and Pallabi areas will be immensely benefited as their travel time for airport, Banani, Gulshan and Kuril Badda will drastically lessen due

to the 1.8-kilometre flyover.

If the construction continues at this pace, it will be the Awami League government's first major work to be completed by the end of next year aimed at easing traffic congestion in the capital.

However, the flyover would not be required if the military authorities lifted the restriction on civilian movement between Matikata and Zia Colony, said experts.

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