



The Daily Star

Plus 48-page 7th part of our 500-page anniversary supplement

SECOND EDITION

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MIDDLE EAST UPRISINGS

Experts analyse the causes and possible consequences

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Praful Bidwai shows how WikiLeaks revealed India's turn-around in foreign policy

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CASHING IN ON LOVE

Love letters written by Elizabeth Taylor to be sold at auction

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Demolish BGMEA highrise: HC

It says the 15-storey was built on water body violating all rules, gives 90 days to get it vacated

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The High Court has ordered the authorities to demolish the 15-storey BGMEA building on Begunbari-Hatirjheel canal, saying it was built on a land acquired through forgery and earth-filled illegally.

In a judgement yesterday, the court asked the tenants to vacate the building and move their belongings within 90 days from the date of receiving the copy of the verdict.

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association, owner of the building, did not take approval of the plan and construction from Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk), said the judgement.

BGMEA will appeal to the Supreme Court against the verdict, its lawyer Rakanuddin Mahmud told The Daily Star.

Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Justice Sheikh Md Zakir Hossain delivered the judgement after hearing a suo moto rule issued by another HC bench on October 3 last year seeking explanation why the BGMEA building should not be demolished.

The rule was issued following a newspaper report on October 2 that the building was constructed without Rajuk approval.

Deputy Attorney General ABM Altaf Hossain said the BGMEA authorities have

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The 15-storey BGMEA Bhaban on Begunbari-Hatirjheel canal is seen on the foreground near Sonargaon Hotel in the capital.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQUE

Two PMs misled

Call to punish culprits in govt system

TAWFIQUE ALI

The High Court verdict declaring the BGMEA building illegal will uphold the rule of law, development experts and professionals said yesterday.

They also demanded punishment of the government officials responsible for involving the country's two prime ministers in the foundation laying and launching ceremonies of the building, keeping the two unaware of its illegality.

The then prime minister Sheikh Hasina laid the foundation in

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PRO-HARTAL PROCESSION

1 killed in clash with police

STAR REPORT

A madrasa student was shot dead and 30 people were injured yesterday in clashes between law enforcers and madrasa students, who brought out a procession in Jessore in support of today's dawn-to-dusk hartal across the country.

Islamic Law

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PHOTO ON PAGE 8

BNP to work on public sentiment

Plans to wage agitation against constitution amendment move, portray govt anti-Islamic

SHAKHAWAT LITON and RASHIDUL HASAN

Banking on the country's Muslim majority population's religious sentiment, BNP-led opposition parties are planning to wage strong agitation in and outside the parliament against the AL-led government's move to amend the constitution.

Some opposition alliance leaders said they will leave no stone unturned to por-

tray the government as "anti-Islamic", for its move to uphold secularism in the constitution by deleting the phrase "absolute trust and faith in the Almighty Allah".

The main opposition BNP will try to drum up support of all like minded Islamic political parties to gather pace for the anti-government agitation, they said.

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Stop land grabbers

PM asks Cox's Bazar district admin

UNB, Cox's Bazar

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed the district administration to remain alert so that no one can grab khas land.

She gave the directive while holding a meeting with the officials of the district administration. Deputy Commissioner of Cox's Bazar Gias Uddin Ahmed presided over the meeting.

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Cox's Bazar gets rail-linked in 2yrs

PM opens Tk 1,852cr railway project, new air force base

UNB, Cox's Bazar

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday formally inaugurated the construction work of rail line at Jhilongjha that will connect Cox's Bazar with other parts of the country.

The work on the Tk 1,852 crore project

will be completed by December 31, 2013.

Of the total amount, the government will provide Tk 670 crore while the rest Tk 1,182 crore will come as project aid.

Earlier in the morning, the prime minister also

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RELATED STORY ON PAGE 2



PHOTO: SHAKHAWAT JAMIL

Workers unplug a manhole in the middle of a road at Capital's Bashabo without even placing a cone or taking any other safety measures. There have been incidents of workers dying while unclogging manholes in the city.

Rally for Yunus

37 lakh Grameen borrowers sign support for Nobel hero

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Politicians, civil society members, lawyers, journalists and Grameen Bank borrowers have urged the prime minister not to give in to the influence of the people around her and allow Prof Muhammad Yunus to run his microfinance bank.

The plea came from a solidarity rally yesterday at the Jatiya Press Club, where papers with signatures of 37 lakh Grameen borrowers defending the Nobel laureate were put on display.

The event was organised by "The Citizens' Committee to Protect the Honour of Nobel Laureate Professor Yunus," a national support platform for the Grameen founder.

The committee was formed after Bangladesh Bank relieved the microfinance pioneer of the post of managing director at Grameen. The committee includes politicians, lawyers, civil society members, rights activists and professionals.

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Hasina on Aminee's threat

UNB, Cox's Bazar

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday questioned who is more powerful, almighty Allah or Mufti Aminee?

She posed the question while addressing a rally at the Park Playground organised by the district Awami League.

Addressing the rally as chief guest, Hasina said Aminee had threatened that he would pull her down from power.

Referring to Surah Al Imran in the holy Quran, she said, "Almighty Allah in this Surah declared that He is the only one, none

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Heartiest Felicitations

to

the newly elected

Executive Committee for the session 2011-2012 & 2012-2013 of Bangladesh Cement Manufacturers Association (BCMA)



A. Khaliq (Pervez)
Vice Chairman, Diamond Cement Ltd.
First Vice President (BCMA)



Mostafa Kamal
Chairman & Managing Director
Meghna Group of Industries
President (BCMA)



Md. Alamgir Kabir
Director, Crown Cement
Second Vice President (BCMA)



Mohammed Amirul Haque
Managing Director, Premier Cement Mills Ltd.
Executive Member (BCMA)



Md. Ali Pasha
Managing Director, Seven Circle Bangladesh Ltd.
Executive Member (BCMA)



Ramakanta Bhattacharjee
Deputy Managing Director
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Executive Member (BCMA)



Shama e Zaheer
Managing Director, Mir Cement Ltd.
Executive Member (BCMA)



Abdul Quayum Miah
Advisor, Madina Cement Industries Ltd.
Executive Member (BCMA)



Md. Faizur Rahman
Managing Director, Nowpara Cement Mills Ltd.
Treasurer (BCMA)



Members : Bangladesh Cement Manufacturers Association (BCMA)



The Daily Star

40 years of independence and 20 years of independent journalism

"Empowerment, Health, Population and Finance" is the subject of the 7th instalment of our 500-page 20th Anniversary special supplement. In this issue we take an in-depth look at matters of vital national importance. We hope readers will enjoy this supplement as they have the others.

EDITOR