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in Short

Satellite in space by 2013
Targets telecoms minister

UNB, Dhaka

Post and Telecommunications Minister Razi Uddin Ahmed Raju yesterday said Bangladesh will launch satellite into space by 2013 for development of the country's telecommunications sector.

"The homemade laptop computer worth Tk 15,000 will be available by June next," he said at a seminar at Mirpur cantonment in the capital in the afternoon.

Military Institute of SEE PAGE 7 COL 5

ONE-DAY CRICKET SERIES

Aussies hand 60-run defeat

BISHWAJIT ROY

Michael Clarke began his journey as Australia's full-time captain in the best possible way. He led from the front with a scintillating hundred to guide a new-look Australia to a 60-run victory over Bangladesh in the first match of the three-ODI series at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

The former world champions put in a clinical display to win the match comfortably, but it was also the Tigers' purposeless batting that enabled the Aussies to come up with flying colours after a disappointing World Cup campaign.

Clarke's 101-run knock gave the impression that the responsibility inspired the right-hander to anchor the innings after his side lost three wickets in 14 overs after being sent in on a good batting pitch. His classy effort helped Australia put up a strong total of 270 for seven, even though Bangladesh's slow bowlers, riding on Sohrawardi Shuvo's three-wicket haul, did their job.

In reply Bangladesh, who have only twice before successfully chased totals of that size against teams like Zimbabwe and the depleted West Indies, were never in a

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PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN
New Australia captain Michael Clarke sits on his knees as he executes a lofted cover-drive on way to hammering 101 in the first ODI against Bangladesh at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

Mobs kill 6 'robbers' in Gazipur, Habiganj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six alleged robbers were beaten to death and five injured by mobs in Kapasia of Gazipur and Lakhai of Habiganj yesterday.

In Kapasia, villagers at Dighirkandi of Kurihata union caught nine robbers at around 8:30pm. They killed four before police could reach the spot. The five others were rescued critically injured and rushed to local hospital, said Kapasia police.

Of the dead, only one-- Masud, 35, of Mymensingh--could be identified.

The gang was preparing to commit robbery in the houses of Monir and

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

CASE BACKLOG

Judiciary choking

Says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country's judicial system has almost reached a breaking point due to huge backlog of thousands of unsettled cases, Law Minister Shafique Ahmed said yesterday.

"Each year cases are piling up in the courts. Nobody knows where they will end up. It takes five to 10 years to settle a case in the Supreme Court," he said while

SEE PAGE 7 COL 2

Fine slapped on 3 Sylhet realtors

Environment drive finds 79 acres wetlands already filled up

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The Department of Environment yesterday fined three housing companies for filling up water bodies and cutting hills at Dakshin Surma, Fenchuganj Road and Tamabil Bypass.

A team led by Mohammad Munir Chowdhury, director (Monitoring and Enforcement) of the DoE, asked Ruposhi Bangla Housing at South Surma, Al-Baraka Housing on Tamabil Bypass and Royal City Housing at Lalmatia and Parairchak on Fenchuganj Road to stop their activities.

The team discovered that over 79 acres of wetlands, canals and lowlands have already been filled up, which has affected the environment and biodiversity of the area as natural water receding system has

been blocked.

During the drive, the officials found a seven feet deep water body being filled.

Such activities also caused huge loss to agricultural farming and fishing, DoE director told The Daily Star. None of the companies obtained permission from the district administration or from the DoE for their activities, he added.

The DoE penalised Ruposhi Bangla Housing Tk 8.7 lakh, Al-Baraka Housing Tk 10.88 lakh and Royal City Housing Tk 14.8 lakh and asked them to pay the sums by April 10. The team also seized four bulldozers, excavators, 65 bags of cement and 800 kg of iron rods during the drive.

Moreover, DoE would ask the authorities of Bangladesh Bank, Jalalabad Gas

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Schoolgirl killed after gang rape

Stalkers accused

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A school girl was strangled to death reportedly after being violated by a gang of stalkers at Shimulia village in Charghat upazila of Rajshahi district yesterday.

Police recovered the body of the victim, a class X student of Shimulia High School, from a lichi orchard -- some 250 yards of her house at around 9:00am.

"A scarf was wound around her neck. The neck was broken in such a way that led us to believe that she was

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

One-man crusade

Indian govt agrees on tougher anti-graft law after Hazare's 4-day hunger strike

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India's anti-corruption crusader Anna Hazare ended his four-day hunger strike yesterday after the government accepted his demand to help enact a tougher anti-graft law.

Hazare, 72, broke his fast in the morning with a sip of water offered by a child at the Jantar Mantar landmark in downtown here.

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Anna Hazare

PRAYER TIMING April 10

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-35	5-10
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-24	6-28
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

সব প্রস্তুতি থাকা সত্ত্বেও কারিগরি ত্রুটির কারণে দৈনিক সকালের খবর-এর নবযাত্রায় কিছুটা বিলম্ব হচ্ছে বলে আমরা আন্তরিকভাবে দুঃখিত

একটু অপেক্ষা করুন, শিগগিরই পাওয়া যাবে সারা দেশে।

সত্য আমাদের শক্তি

সকালের খবর

র্যাংগস টাওয়ার (৮ম ও ৯ম তলা), ২৫ কমরেড মণি সিংহ সড়ক (৬৮ পুরানা পল্টন), ঢাকা-১০০০। ফোন: ৯৫৫৭৭৯০, ৯৫৬৫৪৬৬
ফ্যাক্স: ৯৫৬০৩৩৮, ই-মেইল: info@sokalerkhabor.org

ONLINE POLL

Do you support the government decision to delete Individuals' names in the probe report on the stock market debacle before making the report public?

Yes (4.7%)
No (94.4%)
No Comments (0.9%)

TOTAL VOTES: 423

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the government will be able to take actions against the individuals responsible for the stock market debacle?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

শ্রীমন্ত

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