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Ashfaqur Rahman sheds some light on the British monarchy and the lavish royal marriage ceremony ahead
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The rising demand for jute products has made small enterprises of the north upbeat
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STALIN'S WOE

Brain disease made him a ruthless dictator: his physician
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GRAFT IN OMS OF RICE

Govt limits sale

Subsidised rice for police, border guards also out on market; 60 dealerships cancelled

REAZ AHMAD

The government has decided to scale down nationwide open market sale of rice amidst reports of illegal sale of the subsidised rice and asked all departments concerned to guard against recurrence of such pilferage of grains under the public food distribution system (PFDS).

Besides, dealership of 60 people was cancelled, while a number of food officials responsible for being lax in monitoring would be taken into task departmentally, Food and Disaster Management Minister Abdur Razzaque told The Daily Star yes-



terday. "We've already asked to cut the supply of OMS rice from three tonnes to one tonne to each dealer in the haor belt where farmers started harvesting boro rice. Besides, we would scale down the OMS operation across the country in May as boro rice starts reaching the market," said

Abdur Razzaque.

He explained that as the price of rice volatility has stabilised in the domestic market in recent weeks and demand for low-priced OMS rice subsidised, a section

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A few rose-ringed parakeets are still seen in the last remaining greens of the concrete jungle called Dhaka. Nesting season of this species starts in April and a pair of breeding parakeets was photographed on a Cassia Fistula Linn tree in bloom on Hare Road near Ramna Park yesterday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Food security at any cost

Vows PM; opens power plant work, pledges to develop Rajshahi

UNB, Chapainawabganj

Bangladesh, having highly fertile lands, cannot depend on others food, said the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday pledging to ensure food security for every citizen, no matter what it costs to do so.

"We will not let our people suffer from food crisis," she said while addressing an opinion-exchange meeting with government officials of the district at the circuit house in the afternoon.

Deputy Commissioner K M Ali Azam presided over the meeting.

The PM also inaugurated machinery installation work of Amnura 50 MW plant, unveiled two railway rehabilitation projects, laid the foundation of the 546-meter long second bridge over Mahananda River at Saheber Ghat and inaugurated the newly built stadium at Rehaichar.

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Show disloyals the door

BNP executive members urge, stress loyalty to Khaleda-Tarique; chairperson calls for unity

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

A number of members of the National Executive Committee of BNP yesterday urged Chairperson Khaleda Zia to oust those party leaders who are "still conspiring" against her and her son Tarique Rahman, senior vice-chairman of the party.

They however did not name the leaders.

The members also suggested announcing a unit committee for the party's crisis riddled Dhaka city unit (there is no city unit committee since June 2008 due to internal conflict) without further delay. And they demanded disciplinary actions against those who contested against party candidates in the recent municipal elections and are going against continuing union parishad elections.

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Crazy idea, overactive police

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Teenager Suhana (not her real name) felt the pressure of a very tight HSC exam schedule was too much. She did not want to drop out. Instead, she figured, if

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Indian businesses to invest \$3.5b

Visiting commerce minister responds positively to transit, rice export; ups duty-free RMG import

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Indian companies will invest \$3.5 billion in Bangladesh's telecom, food processing, manufacturing and pharmaceuticals sectors in the next few years,

visiting Indian Commerce and Industry Minister Anand Sharma said yesterday.

But he did not specify when the money would flow into

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MORE STORIES ON PAGE 3, B1



Anand-Sharma

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Yet another custodial death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A youth died in police custody while undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday. The deceased is Shafiqul Islam Raja, 22, an employee of a cloth shop in Sadarghat area in the capital.

Raja's family members alleged he died due to torture in police remand.

Dhaka Central Jail authorities said he was brought to the prison on April 17. They took him to

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Lack of right men delays reforms

Muith speaks about share regulator

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance Minister AMA Muith has said they have not yet found competent persons for restructuring the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) after a probe held it largely responsible for the recent share market debacle.

The minister said this yesterday at a view exchange meeting with editors and senior journalists of different print and electronic media at

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RELATED STORY ON B1

ধন্যবাদ জ্ঞাপন

গত ২১ এপ্রিল ২০১১ তারিখে এক সংবাদ সম্মেলনের মাধ্যমে আবাসিক খাতে আগামী ১৫ মে ২০১১ থেকে নতুন বিদ্যুৎ সংযোগের যুগপোষোগী ঘোষণা প্রদান করার জন্য রিহাবের কার্যনির্বাহী পরিষদ ও সকল সদস্যের পক্ষ থেকে মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী, বিদ্যুৎ উপদেষ্টা, বিদ্যুৎ প্রতিমন্ত্রীসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে আন্তরিক ধন্যবাদ ও অভিনন্দন জানাচ্ছি।

সরকারের এই সিদ্ধান্তের মধ্য দিয়ে গৃহায়ন শিল্পে বিদ্যমান অচলাবস্থার অনেকটাই নিরসন হবে বলে আমরা মনে করি। এছাড়া আমরা দৃঢ় ভাবে বিশ্বাস করি বর্তমান গণতান্ত্রিক সরকার আবাসিক গ্যাস সংযোগ পুনরায় শুরু করে গৃহায়ন শিল্পের বিকাশে সর্বশেষ বাধাটিও অচিরেই অপসারণ করবেন। গৃহায়ন শিল্পে নিয়োজিত ব্যবসায়ীদের একমাত্র সংগঠন "রিহাব" বর্তমান গণতান্ত্রিক সরকারের উন্নয়ন সহযোগী হিসাবে কাজ করে যেতে দৃঢ় প্রতিজ্ঞ।

পরিশেষে, সকল মতদ্বৈততা, বিভ্রান্তি ও অপপ্রচারকে পরিহার করে একতাবদ্ধ ভাবে বর্তমান গণতান্ত্রিক সরকারকে সহযোগিতার মাধ্যমে গৃহায়ন শিল্পের যাবতীয় সমস্যার সমাধান ও বিকাশে একযোগে কাজ করার জন্য সকল রিহাব সদস্যকে আহ্বান জানাচ্ছি।

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