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## in Short

BEATING STUDENT  
Khulna teacher suspended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,  
Khulna

The managing committee of Noornagar PWD High School on Thursday suspended teacher Kamalesh Roy for six months with effect from May 5 for inflicting corporal punishment on Rizia

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

Woman,  
daughter  
'murdered'  
OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Tangail

The bodies of a woman and her daughter were recovered from a paddy field at Delduar upazila in the district yesterday.

The dead were identified as Hazera

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

Stop killings  
on border

Khaleda urges  
India in meeting  
with Ansari

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia has urged the Indian government to put an end to the frequent killing of Bangladeshi nationals in border areas.

Khaleda made the request when she paid a courtesy call to Indian Vice President Hamid Ansari at his Hotel Sonargaon suite here yesterday morning.

Bangladeshi people in border areas feel insecure as innocent people are often being killed, and the Indian government should take the matter

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presents a framed photograph of Padma Boat, used by Rabindranath Tagore, to Indian Vice President Hamid Ansari at the inaugural function of the national programme arranged to mark the 150th birth anniversary of the poet laureate in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

## Youth kills sister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A college student yesterday surrendered to police after killing his elder sister at the capital's Sabujbagh.

Mithun Bala, an honors student of Govt Kobi Nazrul College, told the police that he killed his sister Rekha Rahman, 30, for her extramarital affairs.

Rekha's husband Kamrul Hasan Sumon has been in Singapore for last six months. Mithun and his sister moved to a rented flat at West Mathertek of the city four months back.

Police said Mithun yesterday entered Rekha's bedroom around 2:00am when she was asleep and hacked in the head with a local machete.

Hearing the victim's scream, owner of the house and neighbours rushed there and found Rekha lying in a pool of blood, said Mohammad Asaduzzaman, officer-in-charge of Sabujbagh Police Station. Rekha died after a while.



Mithun Bala

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

GB official  
harassed,  
threatened  
Police to probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Grameen Bank official was allegedly abducted by a group of unidentified people yesterday evening and released four hours later.

The victim, Sagirur Rashid Chowdhury, an account officer of the bank, said he was abducted around 7:30pm while going to Mirpur-1 from the bank's headquarters by a rickshaw.

The news of his abduction came a day after the Grameen Bank Employees' Association at a press conference

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

The Judicial Service Commission has

## Lower courts to get 250 more judges

### Appointment of 101 underway

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Judicial Service Commission has planned to appoint around 250 more judges to lower courts under its proposed rules while appointment of 101 judges is underway.

According to the new rules, the candidates for lower court judges have to qualify in the examination for enrolment as advocates under Bangladesh Bar Council -- the licensing authority for the country's lawyers, said the commission sources.

The age limit for candidates has been extended to 32 years in place of 30 years in the proposed rules, so that one can complete Bar Council examination after finishing law school.

The Judicial Service Commission has

sent the set of rules to the president for approval, sources said.

A high official of the commission on April 30 told The Daily Star that the commission would take necessary steps for the appointment of 250 judges after the president approved the rules.

For the recruitment of the 101 judges and judicial magistrates, the commission has introduced the provision of 30 percent quota for freedom fighters' children.

The commission has already held a written test of over 1,600 candidates. The viva voce will soon be held, sources said.

Over 16 lakh cases are pending with lower courts across the country with only 1,256 judges to deal with them, said sources at the Supreme Court and the law ministry.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

BNP protests  
oil price hike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The main opposition BNP yesterday protested the fresh hike in fuel prices and said the government decision will heighten public suffering.

"The government has failed in all fronts including controlling prices of essentials. Instead of resolving crises in public life, the government hiked the price of fuels which will further contribute to people's woe," BNP's acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam said.

He was talking to journalists after party chairperson's meeting with the visiting Indian vice president at Sonargaon Hotel.

The government on

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

## Concern over sending female workers to KSA

PORIMOL PALMA

A senior researcher of Human Rights Watch (HRW) has expressed concern over the government decision to send female domestic helps to Saudi Arabia where they are often abused by their employers.

"It's not the question if they will face abuse, but the question is when they will face it. Because I am sure that it'll happen," said Nisha Varia, who has been working at the Women's Rights Division of the HRW for eight years.

Her work mostly focused on the migrant domestic workers in Asia and Middle East. She came to Dhaka for attending a meeting on labour migration from April 18-22. On the sideline, she sat for an exclusive interview with The Daily Star to talk about the issue.

The Human Rights Watch is one of the



Nisha Varia, HR activist

world's leading independent organisations dedicated to defending and protecting human rights across the globe.

Following talks with a Saudi delegation in early April, Bangladesh's expatriates' welfare minister said Saudi Arabia might hire 10,000 female domestic helps and the process would start in two months.

During the talks Sanarcom and Baira -- associations of recruiting agencies of Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh -- signed a memorandum of understanding for workers' protection.

Nisha Varia, however, says domestic helps are not covered in Saudi labour law. So, they have neither weekly holidays nor any limit to working hours. Many have to work 18 hours a day for months or even years without a break.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

Prof Yunus to  
remain MD  
until decision  
by GB board

Says his counsel

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prof Muhammad Yunus is still the managing director of Grameen Bank and will continue to be so until the bank's board of directors appoints a new MD, said Rokanuddin Mahmud, a counsel for the Nobel laureate, yesterday.

Rokanuddin's statement came a day after the Supreme Court (SC) affirmed a High Court verdict upholding the removal of Yunus from the post of managing director of the microlender he had founded three decades ago.

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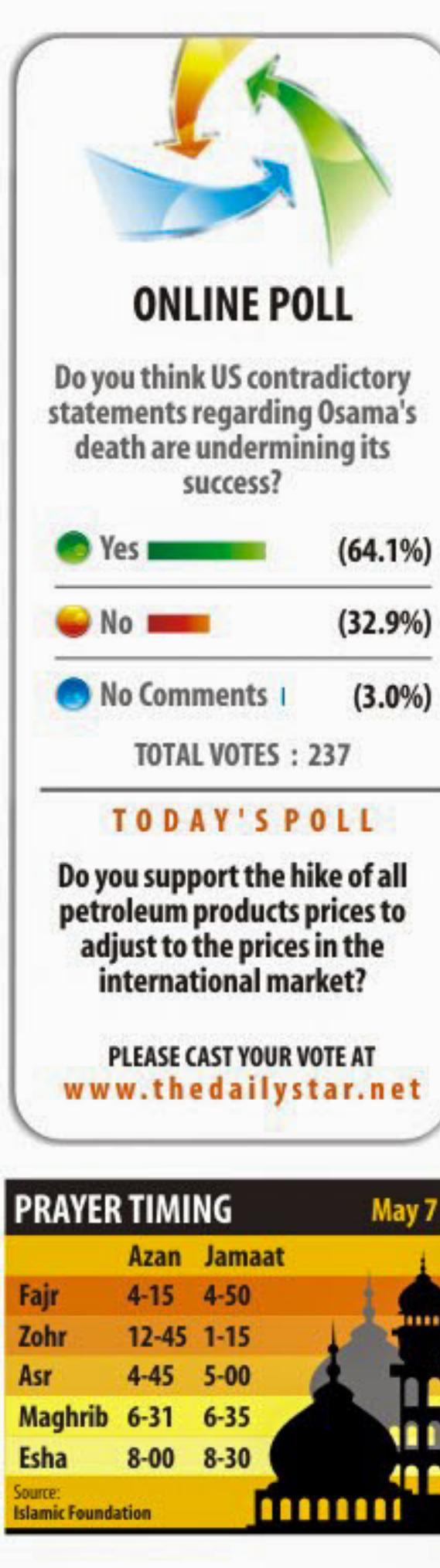
The Daily Star

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