



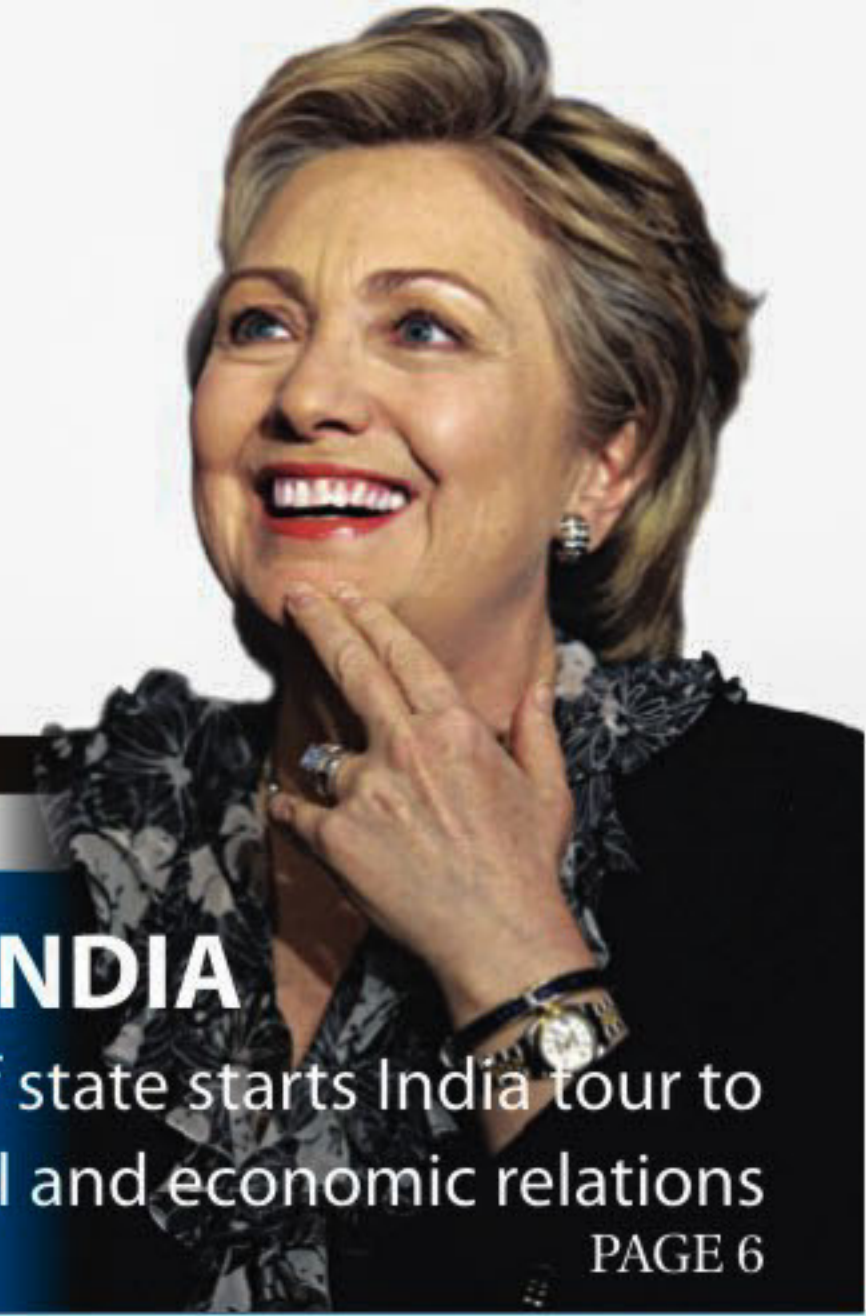
# The Daily Star

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Your Right to Know

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## WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS

Khazanah National MD and Axiata Group CEO sit for an interview

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## "GOOD MORNING ATLANTIS"

Beyonce records a message for astronauts on the final space shuttle mission of Nasa

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## HILLARY IN INDIA

The US secretary of state starts India tour to strengthen political and economic relations

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## Extra-judicial killings led to mob violence

Says HR commission chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The recent rise in mob-violence including the one that killed six students on Monday is the direct social impact of continuous extrajudicial killings, said National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairman Prof Mizanur Rahman. "That is why we have been saying that you cannot continue extra-judicial killing," Rahman said while inaugurating a five-day training programme titled "Learning rights to make a difference" in the capital yesterday.

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## KILLING OF 6 STUDENTS Lone survivor gets bail in 'robbery' case

SHARIFUL ISLAM and KAILASH SARKAR

Al Amin, the lone survivor of the mob beating that left six students dead at Aminbazar on the city's outskirts early Monday, was out on bail yesterday in a "robbery" case.

Earlier on the day, police produced him before a court, showing him arrested in the case filed by Shahadat Enterprise Manager Abdul Malek.

Malek in his case statement said the youths were robbers and four of them took away Tk 5,000 from him earlier.

However, nobody else was arrested till filing of this report last night although another case was lodged with Savar Police Station, accusing five to six hundred unidentified villagers of murdering the six.

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PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

## Mob beat hijacker to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Locals beat to death a man and injured another at Kachuai under Patiya upazila of the district on Monday night suspecting them to be hijackers of a CNG-run auto-rickshaw.

The deceased was identified as Mofizur Rahman, 23. The injured Omar Faruque, 22, is undergoing treatment at Neurosurgery Ward at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH).

Locals said Mofiz, Faruque and another unidentified man hired a CNG-run auto rickshaw in guise of passengers. When they reached Kachuai around 10.30pm they threw the driver out and took over the vehicle.

As the driver cried for help, the locals chased the auto-rickshaw and caught the two while their accomplice managed to escape, Abu Naser, sub-inspector of Patiya Police Station told The Daily Star.

Two cases were filed in this connection, he added.

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## Birthday in tears

KAILASH SARKAR and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

His sister bought two T-shirts and was planning to order a cake for his 19th birthday. The family made all the preparations to give him a surprise.

But the home that was sup-

posed to have a birthday party yesterday turned into a home of mourning.

Tipu Sultan, one of the six students beaten to death by a mob early on Monday at Keblarchar in Aminbazar, was

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Father, sister and mother of slain college student Kamruzzaman Kanto shed tears, top, together at their home in Darussalam in the capital. Two T-shirts, far left, meant for the surprise 19th birthday celebration of slain Tipu Sultan, left, which he never got to have. His birthday was yesterday.

## BNP talks with Kader Siddiqui

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Krishok Sramik Janata League (KSJL) President Kader Siddiqui said yesterday his party will hold talks with BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia soon and then decide whether to wage a movement against the government jointly or separately. Siddiqui said this after a BNP delegation met him at his Mohammadpur residence in the capital. The BNP team led by acting secretary general

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## Sugar prices hit new high

SOHEL PARVEZ

Sugar prices hit all time high on the domestic market this week, putting additional strain on the wallets of consumers who are already battered by rising prices of essentials.

Retailers have been demanding as high as Tk 75 a kilogram for the sweetener in some residential areas in the capital for the past two-three days amid reduced supply and a tendency of hoarding among traders ahead of the fasting month of Ramadan.

At city markets, prices of a kilogram of sugar rose to Tk 68 to Tk 73 yesterday. The last record high price of sugar was Tk 70 a kilogram in September two years ago.

The new record high price comes at a time when people, irrespective of incomes are bearing the brunt of increased cost of living due to rising inflation, led by food items.

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HC ON ESSENTIALS

## More mobile courts to rein back prices

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the government to set up immediately adequate number of mobile courts in Dhaka and Chittagong cities to monitor wholesale markets and rein in soaring prices of essentials.

The HC issued a rule upon the government also to explain within 10 days its inaction to check the price hike.

An HC bench comprised of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Justice Gobinda Chandra Tagore came up with the rule after hearing a pub-

lic interest litigation filed on Sunday by Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB), a rights body.

The bench ordered the secretaries to the ministries of commerce and food to take appropriate legal actions against the businessmen responsible for increasing the prices and creating an artificial crisis of essentials.

It ordered the police to assist the mobile courts as per their requirements.

The HC also asked the government to submit to it within seven days a report on the progress of setting up mobile courts

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## Girl kills herself

She was videoed by force before making it public; culprit arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A college girl committed suicide late on Monday after her male classmate circulated her obscene video clips via mobile phone.

The victim, 22-year-old Suparna Bachhar, was an honours third year student of mathematics department at Govt Brojo Mohon College.

Police picked up her classmate Nazrul Islam Nayon for allegedly shooting and distributing the video. Following the allegation, the college authority expelled him from the institution.

Suparna was married to Kamanashish Mandal, 26, a

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Nazrul Islam Nayon



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

The hill-like piles of coal kept at Barapukuria coalmine site in Dinajpur. A sign, inset, above the door for going into the mine says "May Allah bless you", and reminds miners never to fall asleep under ground. Miners taking a lift, right, for going down into the mine.



## Heart of Coal

INAM AHMED with KANGKON KARMAKER

Black clouds roil in the west. Then the first few drops patter on the soggy earth. Frogs croak.

Osman Gani spits on the ground. "Damn it. It's coming again," he mutters.

Monsoon rains are no new thing for the Bolorampur villagers. But it is different now. The village is sinking; slowly but surely. Their village is going under like many other villages in this remote place called Barapukuria. And when you are sinking, rains can only add misery. Here around Barapukuria coal mine,

what once was prime farmland is now sloshing silvery water. And in that water, 77-year-old Gani goes with a fishing net in hand. His sun-baked face, criss-crossed with aging lines, his slightly stooped back signs of his long days in the field, sowing and reaping crops. Today, he goes to the same field but for fishing.

"Son, this is my fate," draws the old man, his eyes yellow with age. "My land is right under the water and I have to fish. This mine. This mine has robbed me of my last bit."

In the distant, the chimneys of the

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