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BRIGHT DAYS FOR RMG

Bangladesh looks to India as a new export destination

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India fail to record an int'l victory on their tour of England

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WIKILEAKS AUCTION

The organisation puts on sale memorabilia associated with its founder Julian Assange to raise funds

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METRO RAIL PROJECT

Air force concern unfounded

Experts object to its route change proposal; financier upset with delay, change

TAWFIQUE ALI

Bangladesh Air Force's objection to the Bijoy Sarani portion of the proposed 22-km metro rail on a plea that it will hinder the operation of Tejgaon airfield is unfounded, experts have said.

The experts also rejected an alternative route, suggested by the air force, running from Sangsad Avenue

to Khamarbari through a stretch of Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban complex, saying it clashes with another project and may also prompt a legal battle.

BAF argues that the 18-metre elevation of the metro rail along Bijoy Sarani is just too high for aircraft to fly from adjacent Tejgaon airfield during emergencies and

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An aerial view of the Tejgaon airstrip that runs along Rokeya Sarani in the capital. Right: A sketch of the proposed alternative route for metro rail.



PM off to NY

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina last night left for New York to attend the 66th United Nations General Assembly.

Ministers, advisers, MPs, chiefs of three services, civil and military high officials saw her off at Shahjalal International Airport at 9:40pm.

The prime minister will

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NEWS ANALYSIS

Corrupt ministers, nothing to worry

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has promised to show the door to any minister found involved in corruption. One ought to have every reason to feel elated at such an expression of decisiveness on the part of the head of government.

Unfortunately, the elation goes missing when the prime minister adds that for a minister to be taken off the

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TRANSIT DEAL WITH INDIA

Trade with Nepal awaits a big leap

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

Bilateral trade between Bangladesh and Nepal is likely to increase significantly as India has recently allowed Bangladesh an additional rail transit route to land-locked Nepal.

The route between Rohanpur of Bangladesh and Singabod of India will be

used to facilitate transit traffic between Bangladesh and Nepal. Bangladesh and India signed an addendum to a 1978 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between themselves on September 6 in this regard.

Finance ministry officials hoped the trade volume will shoot up after a

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Dhaka, Delhi on right track

Says Adviser Rizvi about bilateral initiative

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister's International Affairs Adviser Gowher Rizvi has said Bangladesh and India are on the right track to deepen bilateral ties.

Confrontation and suspicion that previously marked the relations between the two countries did not bring any

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Army pressed for nat'l unity govt

WikiLeaks cables disclose Yunus declined to join it, deemed it tantamount to coup; Bhuiyan, Amu were eager but refused to work under Fakhruddin

STAR REPORT

Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus strongly declined to join a military-backed national unity government during the tumultuous days under a state of emergency in 2007.

"I want to earn my way to power from the people," Yunus told US embassy officials at a meeting on April 8, 2007, saying a national unity government would be tantamount to a coup. "I won't participate in that," a cable on the meet quoted



him as saying.

Through a diplomatic dispatch in earlier February, the embassy officials informed Washington that military officers had identified the microcredit pioneer as the ideal consensus leader for a national unity government, but some were reportedly having second thoughts after the mixed reaction to his plan to float a political party.

Yunus' reluctance, however, could not

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Sharp rise in carjacking

9 held with 14 cars, 5 motorbikes

KAILASH SARKAR

Police recovered 14 stolen cars and five motorbikes and arrested nine suspected carjackers in Chittagong and Dhaka on Thursday and Friday.

The law enforcers were seemingly happy with the success of their recent drives, which came at a time when the crime is on the rise. But they could not hide their frustration over the cycle of suspects being apprehended, then getting out on bail, getting involved in the crime again, and getting arrested all over again.

On Friday and Thursday, three teams of Detective Branch of police in separate drives recovered the stolen vehicles from Banasree, Shahjahanpur, Bailey Road, Joykali Mandir, Adabar, Bangshal, Bashundhara and Darussalam areas of the capital and Chandgaon, Panchlaish, Doublemooring and Kotwali areas of port city. All the vehicles were stolen from Dhaka, said DB officials.

The detained were identified as Jubayer Ahmed alias Babu, 24, Shahjarul Islam alias Milon, 19, Gias Uddin alias Khokan,

37, Mohammad Murad, 32, Mohammad Jahangir Alam, 44, Mohammad Solaiman, 37, Shakil Ahmed alias Sujon, 26, Enamul Huq alias Babu, 29, and Kamal Ahmed, 28.

Additional Deputy Commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police Masudur Rahman said, "Police arrested a large number of people involved in carjacking, but most of them get involved in carjacking again while they are out on bail. And as the criminals know they will get bail, they don't care about harming drivers and motorists."

"There was one Belal who was arrested 36 times for carjacking and another Al-Amin was apprehended 32 times in connection with the same crime," he cited as examples.

Meanwhile, Mohammad Maniruzzaman, additional deputy police commissioner of Detective Branch (DB-North), at the DB office yesterday said, "Carjacking is on the rise now as well as the number of carjacker gangs."

He said the rise in carjacking is worrying since it is also responsible for spike in

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