

**1ST OF THE THREE**

Bangladesh take on an in-form Pakistan in the first ODI today

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HILLARY VISITS MYANMAR

Seeks to encourage a change in the military-dominated nation

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TO VICTORY WE OWE

Views, observations and quotes on the Liberation War, till December 16

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PM defends DCC split, slams critics

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has stated that had there been adequate money with the government, it would have split Dhaka City Corporation into four zones instead of two. "There was in fact a proposal for splitting DCC into four parts to ensure better services to citizens," said the premier in her 50-minute winding up speech at the 11th session of parliament yesterday.

The PM, coming down heavily on critics of the DCC split, said that she was at a loss to understand why they had been raising a hue and cry over the partition.



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Mayor Khoka challenges DCC split HC asks govt, EC to explain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

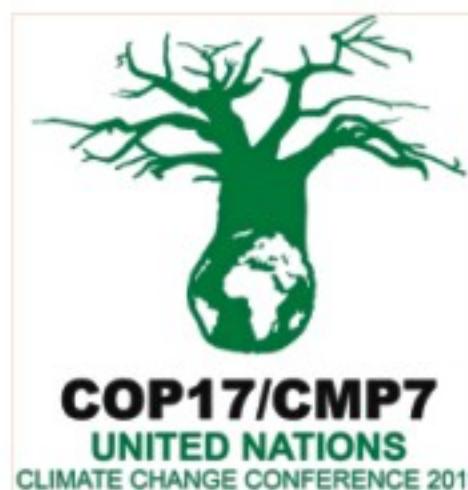
The High Court yesterday questioned the legality of splitting Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) into two.

Parliament on Tuesday passed a bill to split the DCC ignoring widespread criticisms and protests.

In response to a writ petition filed by outgoing DCC Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka challenging the legality of the bill, the HC yesterday issued a

**Durban set to pick up more heat***Compromise formula on Kyoto Protocol faces obstacle*

INAM AHMED from Durban



Durban burned with sweltering heat yesterday and the UN's weather agency World Meteorological Organisation's just-released report that 2011 is the 10th hottest year since records began in 1850 had probably something to do with a new-found formula to save the Kyoto Protocol.

The compromise formula to give a fresh lifeline to Kyoto Protocol that ends

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Detainee's death raises question Demonstration in Sunamganj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Within two hours of his arrest, a man was found dead at Tahirpur Police Station in Sunamganj Tuesday night.

Police claimed that Dipal Robi Das, 45, from Puran Barunka village of Balijuri union, committed suicide while family members said he was tortured to death.

The body of Robi was found hanging from the

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TIPAIMUKH TALKS 2 advisers in Delhi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Bangladesh prime minister's advisers Gowher Rizvi and Mashirul Rahman yesterday arrived here for talks with the Indian power and water resources ministers today.

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Notice

Today's issue of The Daily Star contains a two-page supplement on "Men's involvement in the context of HIV prevention in Bangladesh" organised by the UNFPA and The Daily Star on November 20, 2011.

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WAR CRIMES TRIAL SQ Chy wants a year to prove his innocence*Demands 200 Rab, police personnel for protection*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury, who faces trial for alleged crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War, has refused to cooperate with the International Crimes Tribunal unless he gets 200 Rab and police guards to protect him.

In placing his demands before the three-judge tribunal yesterday, the detained BNP leader also said he should be allowed at least one year to collect documents

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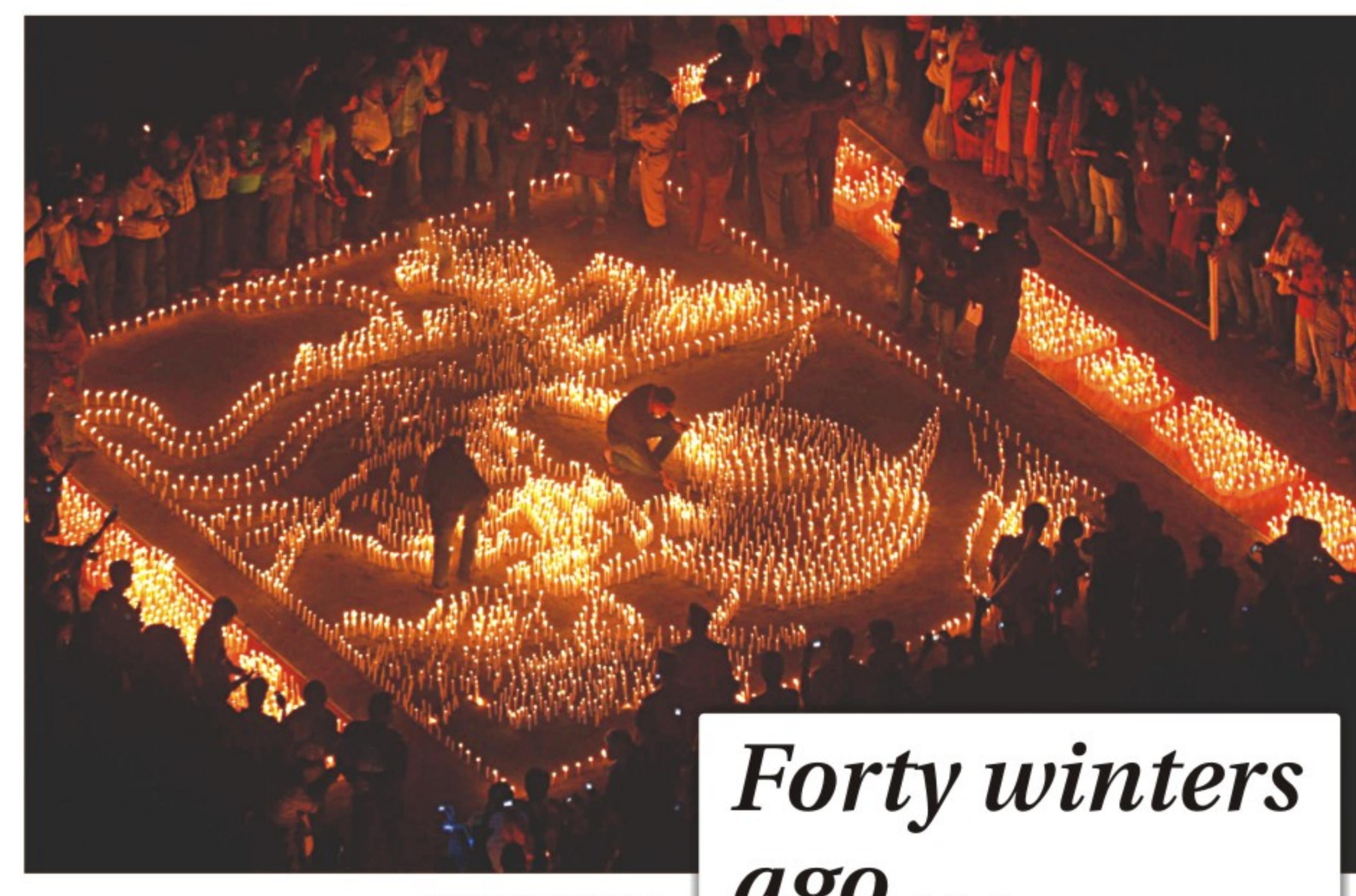


PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL
As midnight chimed in, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy lit 40,000 candles on its premises on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the month of victory.

Forty winters ago ...

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

Forty winters ago, as the earth prepared for yet another day to give way to a new night of starry luminescence, the People's Republic of Bangladesh took birth over the ashes of what had effectively been, till midnight of March 25 of the year, the eastern province of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. It was December 16, 1971.

In slightly over 24 years since the partition of India on the false premise of communalism, the Bangalees of East Bengal / East Pakistan were proud witnesses to a restoration of their secular heritage in terms of both culture and politics. Slogans of *Joi Bangla* rent the air as the nearly hundred thousand strong Pakistan military capitulated before the combined assault of the Mukti Bahini (freedom fighters) and the Indian army. It was pure joy to be alive. It was, in a great way, a restoration of our faith in history when Niazi and his men bit the dust.

That is the essence of the epic tale we live through every time December comes round. The month is a substantive reminder of the intensity that came to define our armed struggle for liberty which had been set off nine months earlier. By December 1, 1971, the War of Liberation had

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NEW PRIVATE BANKS BB receives 37 applications

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Bangladesh Bank has received 37 applications for permission to set up new banks.

On the list of the applicants are many influential lawmakers, politicians and businessmen having strong links with the ruling alliance.

Under pressure from government high-ups, the board of the central bank in September decided to give its approval for new banks, provided the applicants fulfil some stringent conditions.

Yesterday was the closing day for submitting applications. The aspirants had to deposit Tk 10 lakh as non-refundable fees with their applications.

It has been almost a decade since the last time BB gave approval for setting up banks.

The conditions set up by the central bank board

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অসামান্য প্রাপ্তি, বিরল অর্জন
জাতীয় রঞ্জনী ট্রফি (স্বর্ণ)

