

THE DAILY Star ON FRIDAY

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EXPORT WOES

Exporters slam a daytime ban on goods vehicles

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ON FOOTBALL FRONTIER

Bangladesh take on Pakistan in SAFF Championship opener in Delhi today

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NO STRIKE ON IRAN

Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak rules out a strike on Iran's nuclear facilities "for the moment"

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BNP-JAMAAT RULE
Names of the accused

STAR REPORT

The following 25 ministers and lawmakers of the last BNP-Jamaat alliance government have been found involved in the 2001 post-polls violence:

Ministers
1 Ruhul Quddus
Talukder Dulu
2 Abdus Salam Pintu
3 Motiur Rahman
Nizami
4 Altaf Hossain
Choudhury
5 Tariqul Islam
6 Hafizuddin Ahmed
Lawmakers
1 Wadud Bhuiyan of Khagrachhari
2 Nadim Mostafa of Rajshahi
3 Salauddin Quader

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2001 POST-POLLS PERSECUTION

25 ministers, MPs complicit

Judicial probe finds over 26,000 involved in 18,000 major crimes; govt to file cases if victims fear retaliation

M RAHMAN

A judicial probe commission has found the involvement of 26,352 people, including 25 ministers and lawmakers of the previous BNP-Jamaat alliance government, in the 2001 post-polls violence.

The government will file cases against the alleged perpetrators if the victims are still afraid to file lawsuits against them for fear of reprisal, Home Minister Sahara Khatun told reporters at her secretariat office yesterday, seven months after the commission submitted its report to her on April 24.

She said there had been more than 18,000 incidents of major crimes, including murder, rape, arson and looting by cadres of the then ruling BNP-Jamaat alliance in the 15 months

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This photo shows Purnima weeping as she tries to narrate her ordeal in a press briefing after she was gang-rapped on October 8, 2001. The state minister for home yesterday said out of 5,571 complaints of violence after the 2001 elections, only the rapists of Purnima were sentenced. Purnima agreed to have her name and photo go in the media.

PHOTO: COURTESY

TI'S GRAFT INDEX
Bangladesh betters a bit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh was ranked 13th from the bottom in the annual corruption perception index (CPI) by the Transparency International (TI), only one notch up from its position last year.

On a scale of 1 to 10, it scored 2.7, which is 0.3 points higher than the previous year. Countries scoring below 3 on the scale represent existence of unbridled corruption in their societies.

New Zealand scored the highest, 9.5, to top the 2011 list of least corrupt countries. Somalia and North Korea jointly became the worst scoring only 1.0 followed by Myanmar and Afghanistan both of which scored 1.5.

The Berlin-based global civil society group, campaigning against corruption, has been publishing the report every year since 1995. The report was published in Dhaka as well as other countries simultaneously yesterday.

The index is based on perception of how corrupt the

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PM to visit
Myanmar,
Indonesia
Dec 5-9

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina leaves Dhaka on December 5 for Myanmar and Indonesia.

A special flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines carrying Hasina and members of her entourage is scheduled to take off from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 2:00pm.

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Dhaka tuned to ICT

eAsia 2011 opens in city, draws host of experts, policy-makers, industry leaders from the region

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Asia's mega technology event, eAsia 2011, kicked off in the capital yesterday, thereby putting regional information and communication technology focus on Bangladesh.

No other ICT event hosted in the country has seen so many foreign and local experts sharing their knowledge and experience under the same roof. Some 2,000 foreign and local representatives are taking part in the three-day event at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

With the presence of policymakers, senior government officials, industry leaders, international development agencies, civil society members, academia and investors, the event is hosting seminars and showcasing Bangladesh's mark in the digital era.

A total of 30 international seminars and workshops are to be held in the course of the event. Along with many international technology companies, country pavilions of Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Japan and the

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MORE STORIES ON B4

Economy in critical condition: Khaleda

Slams govt for inefficiency, graft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Projecting a bleak picture of the country's economy, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday blamed inefficiency, corruption and mismanagement of the government for the situation.

"The economy is in deep crisis. An anarchic situation has been created in the macro-economic management but there is no visible initiative to overcome this situation," she said and warned that the government would have to bear all responsibility for this situation.

Addressing a press conference at her Gulshan office, Khaleda also urged people to be united in the face of such

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DCC-SPLIT
President
completes
formality

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

President Zillur Rahman yesterday signed the DCC-split bill into a law.

With this move, the corporation constituted through the 2002 polls dissolved instantly, which means tenures of Mayor Sadeque Hossain Koka and all the councilors of

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DCC employees belonging to Sramik League assault another employee who is an activist of Srmaik Dal at Nagar Bhaban in the capital yesterday. The scuffle broke out when Sramik Dal brought out a procession inside the Nagar Bhaban compound protesting the DCC split while Sramik League was holding a rally there in favour of the government move. The clash left five people injured.

PHOTO: STAR

NEWS ANALYSIS

CHANGES TO UPAZILA ACT
Parishad victim, others happy

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The latest changes to the Upazila Parishad Act 1998 appear to be a blatant example of how the government has tactfully tried to make both the field level bureaucracy and aggrieved upazila parishads' chairmen and vice-chairmen "happy".

And in doing so, the government curtailed to a large extent the powers of the parishads and did not even hesitate to take a stance against a decentralisation of power.

So making the upazila parishads, constituted in January 2009, functional may remain a far cry, although the changes were brought about by giving a well-publicised impression of making the parishads stronger.

The changes brought to the act by passing a bill in parliament in a matter of five minutes on Tuesday vested the executive powers of the parishads in the chairmen. Before the changes these executive powers were exclusively vested in the parishads, an elected body, and the parishads was empowered to authorise chairmen or vice-chairmen or any members to exercise those executive powers.

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Hopes for climate
fund fading fast

INAM AHMED, from Durban

Chances are becoming bleak for setting up the Green Climate Fund (GCF) under which the climate-affected poor countries are supposed to get \$100 billion a year from 2020 as the US feels that the formation of the fund should be scrutinised further.

A transitional committee had worked on the formation and modalities of the fund and submitted its report at the climate conference in Durban. But the US

feels it should be further reviewed. It feels since the GCF would become the global financial institution its governing instruments should be designed carefully.

Saudi Arabia is also adamant on its opposition to the GCF as it feels that the mitigation measures proposed in the fund would limit its oil business.

A set of countries including Venezuela has said they want the governance structure of the fund to be clear. Columbia and

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HSBC-STAR
Climate
awards
today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

HSBC and The Daily Star jointly award five companies and institutions today for their efforts in promoting green businesses and cutting environmental pollution.

They will be honoured at an award

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74 people barred from
flying to Malaysia*They posed as parents of children going for education programme; immigration officials at Shahjalal airport cite visa anomalies*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Immigration officials at Shahjalal International Airport yesterday barred from flying to Malaysia 74 people posing as guardians of some children, who were going to the tourist country to attend an education programme.

They were among a group of 189 people, including children aged between 10 and 15.

All of them were scheduled to fly on a 7:00pm Biman Bangladesh Airlines flight on tourist visas, a top immigration official said.

"They [those barred] identified themselves as guardians of the children and

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Two killed in
road crashes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A two-year-old baby girl was crushed to death by a recklessly driven microbus in the capital's Mirpur yesterday.

The girl, Maria Akhter, and her mother Nargis Begum were going to Mirpur-1 around 4:00pm

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See the Sports Page for SAFF Football Championship news

