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# Fraud alert from Libya

Govt urged to ensure proper screening as manpower cheats get active

PORIMOL PALMA

Bangladesh embassy in Libya has asked for stringent government measures so that illegal manpower syndicates cannot send jobseekers to that country. The embassy sought such steps as it learnt that illegal syndicates have become active to send Bangladeshi workers to Egypt and Sudan with tourist visas, and then push them into Libya, official sources said. Libya could be a very important labour market for Bangladesh. But any sort of illegal practices in sending manpower to that country might ruin the scope to utilise this opportunity, said Ahsan Kibria Siddiqui, first secretary (labour) at the Bangladesh mission in Tripoli. The embassy therefore sought government steps to closely watch airport immigration in the country, Ahsan told The Daily Star over the phone recently. Besides, it sought that the Bangladesh mission in Egypt request the authorities in Egypt and Sudan to check illegal entry of any Bangladeshis to Libya.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7



## Garos dance away harvest festival

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Dancing and singing, hundreds of jubilant Garos yesterday celebrated the conclusion of their two-day long Wanna (harvest) festival at Askipara of frontier Haluaghat upazila. Wanna, one of the greatest Garo festivals, marks the beginning of the harvesting season. This festival is the ninth of its kind. On Thursday evening, William Hanna, ambassador, Head of Delegation, European Union, inaugurated the festival celebration. Sanjib Drong, the convener of the celebration committee presided over the inaugural session. The indigenous Garo people from Haluaghat

PHOTO: STAR

The Garos perform a traditional dance during their Wanna festival yesterday at Askipara of Haluaghat in Mymensingh.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6

# Workers block road over house rent hike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Several hundred garment workers barricaded the main thoroughfare in Chittagong for several hours yesterday after police obstructed their rally called to protest frequent rise in house rents. Due to the blockade, traffic remained stranded on the Airport Road since 3:30pm until police high officials around 9:15pm assured the agitators of steps to meet their demands. Earlier, workers of different factories at Chittagong Export Processing Zone (CEPZ) and adjoining areas gathered on Labour Colony ground near the CEPZ main gate around 2:30pm to join the pre-

announced rally to press home their seven-point demand that includes an end to arbitrary increase of house rents, a sub-inspector of Bandar Police Station told The Daily Star. Law enforcers rushed in around 3:00pm and barred the workers from holding the meeting, workers alleged. Police closed the gate of the ground so that no worker could enter. Angered, the workers took to the streets and put barricades at different points including Saltgola Crossing, Mailer Matha and Navy College Gate on the Airport Road.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5  
PHOTO ON PAGE 5

## Cat scare at hospital

### Infant gets badly injured as stray cat almost drags her out of room

EMRAN HOSSAIN

A cat in Dhaka Shishu Hospital attacked a very sick six-day-old baby girl, pulled her to drop her on the floor from a phototherapy machine and was dragging her out of the ward when people rescued the infant. Born on November 30, baby Lamia was taken to the intensive care unit of the hospital on Tuesday immediately after the attack. She suffered scratches and

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

# Eurozone debt deal reached without UK

AFP, Brussels

European Union leaders, except Britain, banded together yesterday to back tighter budget policing after a heated summit considered a last chance to save the debt-struck eurozone. After two years of foot-dragging on deepening integration, 26 of the 27 EU states signalled their willingness to join a "new fiscal compact" to resolve the two-year crisis threatening to crack apart the monetary union. But the deal came with a heavy political price when non-euro Britain resisted a Franco-German drive to enshrine new budget rules in a modified EU treaty to

carve them into stone. "The British were already not in the euro and in that respect, we are used to this situation," German Chancellor Angela Merkel said as talks resumed yesterday after a first 10-hour session winding up at 5:00am. Merkel said she was "very pleased" most had agreed the "fiscal compact" that plans to impose near automatic sanctions on debt and deficit delinquents. "We have learned from the mistakes of the past," she said. The 17 eurozone nations signed up to the pact while nine other EU nations, "indicated the possibility to take part in

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

## Govt mulls 2nd war tribunal

Says Quamrul

BSS, Dhaka  
The government plans to set up a second tribunal to expedite the trial of the perpetrators of crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War, State Minister for Law Quamrul Islam said yesterday. "The trial of war

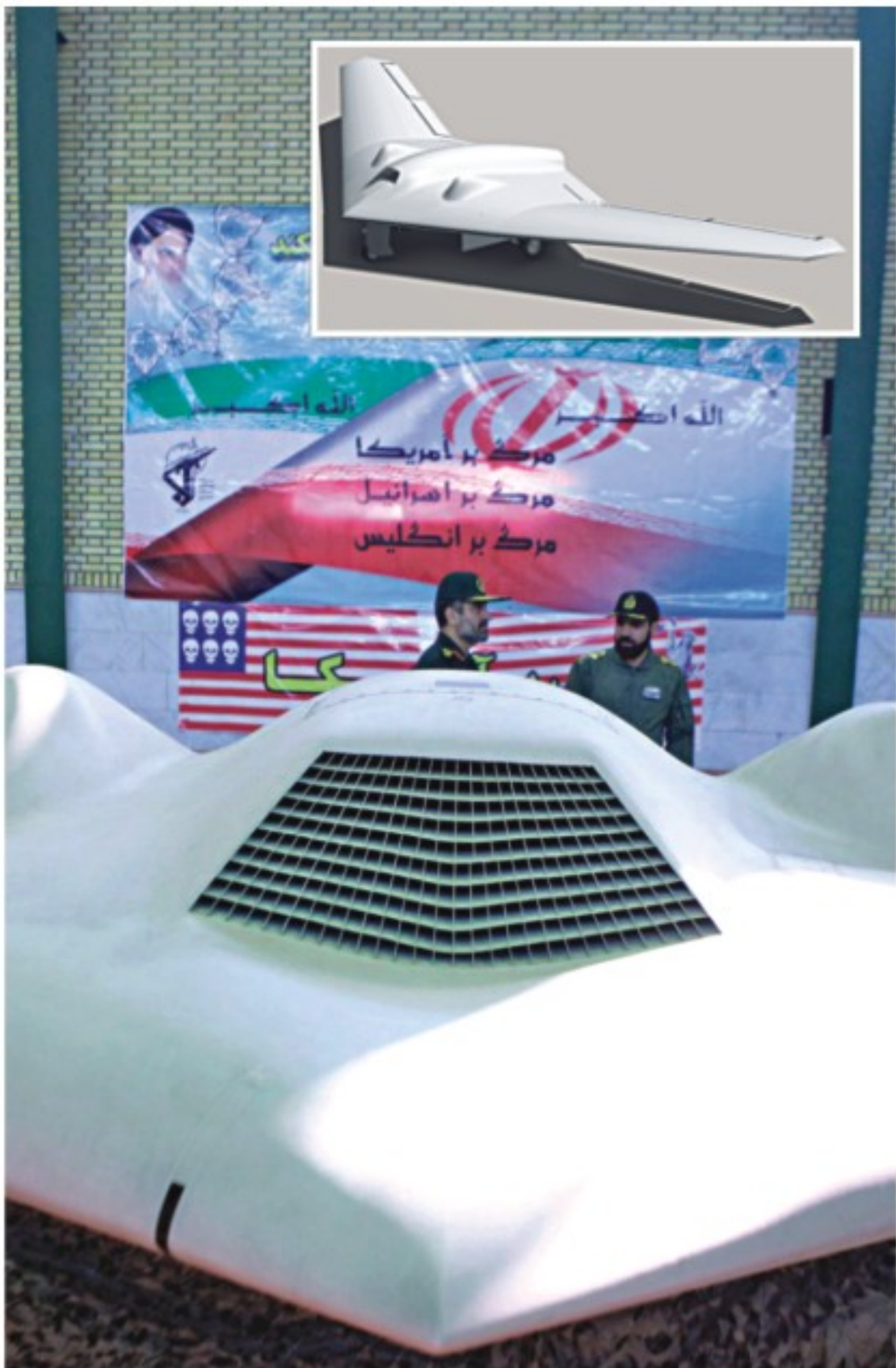
SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

## Iran TV shows 'brought-down' US drone

AFP, Tehran

The US drone which Iran said it had brought down penetrated 250 kilometres (150 miles) inside the Islamic republic's air space, state television's website reported yesterday. In a letter of protest to the United Nations, the

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8



A picture released on Thursday shows Iranian officials looking at what they claim is the US RQ-170 Sentinel high-altitude reconnaissance drone that crashed in Iran on December 4, 2011 displayed at an undisclosed location. Inset, a rendition of a Lockheed Martin RQ-170 Sentinel drone. PHOTO: AFP

## TIPAI PROTEST JP long march today

UNB, Dhaka

Jatiya Party, a key component of the Awami League-led ruling alliance, sets off on a long march towards Sylhet today to protest the construction of the controversial Tipaimukh dam in India's Manipur state. The programme led by JP Chairman HM Ershad will begin at the party's Banani central office at 7:00am. A public rally will be held on Sylhet

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

## Dhaka renews call for joint study on Tipai

Says foreign ministry release

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh has reaffirmed its stance seeking a comprehensive joint study to assess the impacts of the Tipaimukh dam project undertaken by India. "The present government has all along been very alert and sensitive on the issue of the proposed Tipaimukh dam," said a foreign office statement issued yesterday evening. There should be a comprehensive study of the

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

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তারিখঃ ১৪/০৮/১৪১৮  
২৮/১১/২০১১

জাতীয় পরিবেশ পদক ২০১২

পরিবেশ উন্নয়নে অসামান্য অবদানের জন্য যোগ্য ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠান থেকে জাতীয় পরিবেশ পদক ২০১২-এর আবেদন আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। নিম্নোক্ত ৪ (চার)টি ক্ষেত্রে এ পদক প্রদান করা হবেঃ

ক্ষেত্র	পুরস্কার	সংখ্যা
পরিবেশ সংরক্ষণ	স্বর্ণ পদক, সনদপত্র এবং ৫০ (পঞ্চাশ) হাজার টাকা সম্মানী	প্রতি ক্ষেত্রে ১ (এক)টি
পরিবেশ দূষণ নিয়ন্ত্রণ		
পরিবেশ বিষয়ক গবেষণা ও প্রযুক্তি উদ্ভাবন		
পরিবেশগত শিক্ষা ও প্রচার		

বিশ্ব পরিবেশ দিবস ২০১২ উদযাপন উপলক্ষে অনুষ্ঠেয় উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠান বা সরকার কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত যে কোনো সুবিধাজনক সময়ে আনুষ্ঠানিকভাবে এ পদক প্রদান করা হবে। আবেদনের নির্ধারিত ফরম পরিবেশ অধিদপ্তরের অভ্যর্থনা কেন্দ্র (সদর দপ্তর) থেকে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। এছাড়া পরিবেশ অধিদপ্তরের ওয়েবসাইট [www.doe-bd.org](http://www.doe-bd.org) এবং নিম্নবর্ণিত দপ্তরসমূহ থেকেও আবেদনপত্র সংগ্রহ করা যাবেঃ

পরিচালকের কার্যালয়	উপ-পরিচালকের কার্যালয় (জেলা দপ্তর)
ঢাকা অঞ্চল ফোনঃ ০২-৯১২৬৮৭৪	ঢাকা (সেলঃ ০১৭১১-৭৩৭৮৩৮), নারায়ণগঞ্জ (ফোনঃ ০২-৭৬৪২৪১১), মানিকগঞ্জ (ফোনঃ ০৬৫১-৬২০৫৭), মুন্সিগঞ্জ (সেলঃ ০১৮১৮-৫৪০৩৩৮), গাজীপুর (ফোনঃ ০২-৯২৬১৭৪৪), টাংগাইল (ফোনঃ ০৯২১-৬১৩৩৭), নরসিংদী (সেলঃ ০১৭১৫-২৭৯৩৯৩), ময়মনসিংহ (ফোনঃ ০৯১-৬৩৯৬০) ও ফরিদপুর (ফোনঃ ০৬৩১-৬১৯১৯)
ঢাকা মহানগর ফোনঃ ০২-৯১১১৯৪৭	কুমিল্লা (ফোনঃ ০৮১-৬৬৯০৬), ব্রাহ্মণবাড়িয়া (ফোনঃ ০৮৫১-৫৭৭৭৭), চাঁদপুর (ফোনঃ ০৮৪১-৬৭২৯২), নোয়াখালী (ফোনঃ ০৩২১-৭১৭১৫), ফেনী (ফোনঃ ০৩৩১-৭৪২১০) ও কক্সবাজার (ফোনঃ ০৩৪১-৬২২৩২)
চট্টগ্রাম ফোনঃ ০৩১-৬৫৯৩৭৯	রাজশাহী (সেলঃ ০৭২১-৭৬১৪১০) ও রংপুর (ফোনঃ ০৫২১-৬৪০৩৩৪)
খুলনা ফোনঃ ০৪১-৮৬১৫০৭	কুষ্টিয়া (সেলঃ ০১৭১২-৫৮৮৭২৮), যশোর (সেলঃ ০১৫৫৬-৩৪০৭৭৬) ও বাগেরহাট (ফোনঃ ০৪৬৮-৬৪২০১)
সিলেট ফোনঃ ০৮২১-২৮৩০২৭৮	-
বরিশাল ফোনঃ ০৪৩১-৬২৪৮২	-

যে কোন ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠান পদকের জন্য উপযুক্ত ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানের অনুকূলে আবেদনপত্র/প্রস্তাব ৩১ জানুয়ারি ২০১২ তারিখের মধ্যে পরিবেশ অধিদপ্তরের সংশ্লিষ্ট জেলা/বিভাগীয় কার্যালয়ে প্রেরণ করতে পারেন।

মোঃ শাহজাহান  
ভারপ্রাপ্ত মহাপরিচালক

জিডি-৫০৩৩