



The Daily Star



BATEXPO KICKS OFF

Buyers and sellers gather at the country's biggest textile show in Dhaka

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WOMEN OF PEACE

Liberia's president, a Liberian and a Yemeni receive Nobel Peace Prize

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CONVERSING WITH TANVIR MOKAMMEL

The noted filmmaker talks about his movies that deal with Bangladesh's history

PADMA BRIDGE

Private-public fund to build it

PM says WB must come with proof for its graft allegation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the proposed Padma Multipurpose Bridge would be constructed under public-private partnership and she had already talked to different countries in this regard.

The premier came up with the new plan as the World Bank suspended its \$1.2 billion loan in September raising corruption allegations against then communications minister Syed Abul Hossain and his family firm SAHCO.

"From now on, major projects will be implemented under PPP. There will be no need for money from our side. Those who will implement the projects

will operate them until they get return on their investment and then hand them over to the government," said Hasina at a press conference at her official residence the Gono Bhaban.

"I've already talked to the heads of government and state of different countries including China, Malaysia, South Korea, Turkey, Qatar, Kuwait and Singapore about the Padma bridge construction and some of them already showed interest."

"We will send formal letters to these countries. If any country or foreign company comes forward, state-level talks will be held and the task will be

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Local lawmaker built the "police control room" right on the roundabout of Mirpur-10, Dhaka. The structure prevents motorists from seeing vehicles coming from different directions and a disaster is waiting to happen. The lawmaker named the room after his father and the structure bears ads which generate profit.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Take care of workers

Hasina urges RMG exporters, opens Batexpo

STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the garment entrepreneurs to ensure welfare of the workers by improving their living standards.

"You are enjoying the outcome of hard work by the labours. Build up

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Even 'crossfire' not this worse

Feel families of mysterious 'disappearance' victims

KAILASH SARKAR

Jesmin Akhter is still clueless about the fate of her father nearly six months after law enforcers reportedly picked him up from his house in Bagerhat.

"Even a death in crossfire is better than disappearance, because the victim's family at least gets the body. But I do not even know whether my father is dead or alive," 22-year-old Jesmin told The Daily Star

yesterday.

Four policemen in uniform and some plain-clothes men picked up her father Habibur Hawlader, a fisherman, from his house at Morelganj in Bagerhat on June 6. Later, police denied arresting her father, she said.

"They were members of law enforcement agencies but they acted like robbers."

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CONSTITUTION CHANGES Kamal slams lawmakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday blasted lawmakers for keeping mum in parliament during the passage of the bill splitting Dhaka City Corporation into two and amendment to the constitution scrapping the caretaker



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Ershad takes Tipai vow

Leads long march of protest

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY, from Sylhet

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad yesterday vowed to halt Indian government's move to build Tipaimukh dam "at any cost" for the greater interest of the country.

"If necessary, we will sacrifice our lives to prevent construction of the Tipaimukh dam. We will defend the

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JP chief Ershad speaking at a road rally in Narsingdi during his long march towards Sylhet.

WAR CRIMES TRIAL Formal charges against 4 today

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The special prosecution team dealing with war crimes related cases will today submit formal charges against Jamaat ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami, its Secretary General Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed and assistant secretaries general Muhammad Kamaruzzaman and Abdul Quader Molla.

The four are now detained in connection with crimes against humanity during the Liberation War.

The team is also ready to ask the International Crimes Tribunal for arrest warrant against former

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See the Sports Page for SAFF Football Championship news



Draft climate accord emerges, but problems remain

REUTERS, Durban

The chairwoman of UN climate talks yesterday urged delegates to approve a compromise package of accords on fighting global warming, telling delegates they should set aside national interests in order to save the planet.

South African Foreign Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane said the four separate texts were not perfect but represented a good outcome after two weeks of sometimes fraught negotiations in the port city of Durban.

"Let us agree to accept the Durban outcome package. I feel the four pieces of the package before us represent a comprehensive, balanced and credible set of outcomes for this conference," she said.

"I think we all realize they are not perfect. But we should not let the perfect become the enemy of the good and the possible," she added.

The talks, which were due to end on

Friday, dragged on throughout yesterday and looked set to continue into a second extra day, as visibly tired delegates tried to hammer out a deal.

A number of delegates had appeared cautiously optimistic that an overarching agreement could be reached but sticking points remained suggesting a breakthrough was far from certain.

These included an extension of the Kyoto Protocol, the only global pact enforcing carbon cuts. The draft text says the second Kyoto phase should end in 2017, but that clashes with the EU's own binding goal to cut carbon emissions by 20 percent by 2020.

Other technical disputes concerned complex government emissions permits and forestry accounting rules.

But behind the haggling, the talks have boiled down to a tussle between the United States, which wants all polluters to be held to the same legal standard on

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