

# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

www.thedailystar.net

Your Right to Know

28 PAGES PRICE : Tk 10.00



## BAGHDAD NOW

Situation in the Iraqi capital after US withdrawal

PAGE 14

## SLAMMING NATO RAIDS

Karzai demands instant halt to night hunts at Afghan homes

PAGE 7

## FIRST SINCE IMRAN KHAN

Shakib takes six wickets and knocks a century in one Test match

PAGE 16

## FACING BNP, JAMAAT AL, allies to move jointly

14-party meets to launch simultaneous campaign for war crimes trial

HASAN JAHD TUSHER

The Awami League-led 14-party alliance together with other like-minded parties will launch simultaneous political programmes across the country to resist the opposition BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami's latest "move to protect the war criminals".

The decision was made last night at a three-hour meeting of the ruling alliance, which also decided to mobilise public support in favour of the war crimes trial.

Chaired by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, also AL president, the meeting held at the Gono Bhaban discussed the current political situation of the country.

The AL move comes against the backdrop of Sunday's street chaos in the capital and elsewhere in the country, which AL blames on BNP and its key ally Jamaat, claiming it was aimed at foiling the war crimes trial.

On Sunday, a series of crude homemade bombs went off in central Dhaka as hundreds of activists of BNP and Jamaat clashed with police, smashed more than a dozen vehicles and set some of those on fire.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8



Migratory birds chirp at a lake of Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute, Savar. Like every other year, the winter guests have started flocking to this institute and also to Jahangirnagar University campus as they find the area to be safe holiday homes for the winter. PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

## SUNDAY'S VIOLENCE BNP denies secret plot

Announces Jan 8 road march to Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday rejected outright the allegation of resorting to violence in the city on Sunday, saying that it does not need to follow a secret way to gather lakhs of people as it is not an underground or secret organisation.

"Important decisions are reached in the meetings of BNP standing committee and national executive committee. We don't take any decision secretly," acting secretary general of BNP Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir told at a press conference at party chairperson's Gulshan office in the city.

The government's propaganda campaign claiming that its intelligence agencies had

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6

## Good initiative, but no hope

Says CEC about president's talks on new EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) ATM Shamsul Huda yesterday expressed doubt over the expected success of president's initiative to hold dialogues with political parties to appoint a new CEC and election commissioners.

"Although the initiative is good, I think it will not be able to reach a consensus. But they [government] will get an idea on what kind of election commission the political parties want," he said.

The CEC was talking to reporters after a meeting with Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain at the Election Commission (EC) secretariat in the capital.

President Zillur Rahman will start holding dialogues

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

## BABU MURDER 23 accused get bail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

As many as 23 out of 27 accused in Sanaullah Noor Babu murder case were bailed through a court order in Natore yesterday.

In the afternoon, Vacation Judge Hossain Shaheed Ahmad granted bail to the accused who include prime suspect KM Zakir Hossain, ex-information and research secretary of district Awami League, and Khokon Mollah, president of the party's Bonpara

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

## Making money thru' stealing credit cards

Postal staff involved with the gang

KAILASH SARKAR

If you have been waiting for a credit card in your mail, you cannot be sure that it will reach you. It is because several gangs, operating for more than two decades, in league with postmen and post office employees in the capital, are active in stealing credit cards and charging those on a regular basis.

Members of one such gang, including a postman in the capital, who were arrested by police detectives early this month,



revealed how they make money by stealing credit cards.

The postmen, who are the key persons of the ring, do not register in the record book the arrival of parcels that potentially contain credit cards. So

there is no proof that the parcels made it to the post office. The postmen then open the parcels and hand the credit cards over to some good-looking members of their gangs.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

## NEWS ANALYSIS Party's feast on public money

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The 61 administrators recently appointed to as many zila parishads do not have any specific tenure.

That in effect means they can continue holding office for an indefinite period until or unless polls to the parishads are held or they are removed by the government on grounds of failure to make the partisan government happy with their work.

They also need not be worried about their tenure as right now all signs suggest they will be able to remain in office at least for the next two years, the remaining period of the tenure of the current government during which holding polls to the zila parishads remains a distant cry.

Such a situation has cropped up because the Zila Parishad Act 2000 does not specify the tenure of

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1 RELATED STORY ON PAGE 20



A homeless boy shivers in the bone-chilling cold Monday night at the capital's Kamalapur Rail Station as the cold spell continues in the country. Story on page 20.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

## KILLINGS ON BORDER BSF orders enquiry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Indian Border Security Forces has ordered an enquiry into the recent border incidents that led to the deaths of three Bangladesh nationals, an official spokesman for Indian High Commission in Dhaka said yesterday.

The spokesman, however, said the BSF opened

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

## 4 major private power deals signed

Orion Group, Solarium to generate 1,105MW from coal, sunlight

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday signed deals with two companies on setting up coal-based and solar power plants of total 1,105MW capacity, as part of its efforts to diversify energy sources.

As per the agreements with the Power Development Board, Orion Group will

build three coal-fired power plants while Solarium Power Ltd, a solar power plant.

Of the coal-fired power plants, one will be in Chittagong with a capacity of 282.67MW, one in Khulna of 282.67MW capacity and one in Mawa of Munshiganj of 522MW, said Obaidul Karim, chairman

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

**TOSHIBA**  
Leading Innovation >>>

REGZA  
www.regza-asia.com

Upgrade Your Life  
**POWER TV**

27 VIDEO FORMATS

USB MOVIE

USB MOVIE, LED, FULL HD, PC INPUT, HDMI, OPTICAL

**RANGS INDUSTRIES LTD.**

Dhaka-0111315222,0171260625,8815659-62,8815922,Ctg-01716147814, Khulna-01711180375,Boys-01712974674,Comilla-0171190127,Sylhet-0171190120.

**69th Branch**

Ismail Mansion  
32 Mohakhali C/A  
Wireless Gate, Dhaka-1212

www.shahjalalbank.com.bd

Shahjalal Islami Bank Ltd. is now at

**Mohakhali,**  
commercially important place in the capital city

**Grand Opening**  
Wednesday, December 21, 2011

**Shahjalal Islami Bank**

L I M I T E D

Committed to Cordial Service