



SYRIA CRISIS

The president grants amnesty for crimes committed during the 10-month uprising

PAGE 7

JU OUTBURSTS

Only words of assurance solve nothing

PAGE 14

MONI MAKES HISTORY

Enamul Haque Moni becomes the first Bangladeshi to officiate a Test match

PAGE 16

Tripura shows the right way

Chief minister opens door for investment after Hasina's power plant proposal

HASAN JAHID TUSHER, back from Agartala, Tripura

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's recent visit to Tripura has sparked a dialogue about expanding trade and other bilateral relations between Dhaka and Agartala.

Termining Hasina's call for setting up a joint-venture power plant in Tripura a very good proposal, Chief Minister Manik Sarkar of the Indian state said, "Bangladeshi investors, who are interested in investing in such a plant, should come up with specific proposals on permission from their government."

Talking to The Daily Star in his office in Agartala on Friday, Manik Sarkar said his government gave its consent to the Bangladesh government's plan to open up four new border haats between Brahmanbaria and Tripura.

He also said his government is in the process of opening up a "Bangladesh Market" in Agartala, where only Bangladeshi goods will be sold. Fifteen such shops have already been allotted in a newly built market at Lichubagan of Agartala, he said.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



This photo, taken from a high rise in Hatirjheel, shows how people, unable to find space inside a train, travelled back to Dhaka after the Akheri Munajat at the Biswa Ijtima. People in their thousands thronged the Ijtima ground in Tongi yesterday for the final prayer. Inset, a law enforcer on duty there takes the opportunity to pray to Allah along with the devotees.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

BISWA IJTEMA Divine blessings sought

HELEMUL ALAM

The first phase of Biswa Ijtima at Tongi near the capital ended yesterday afternoon with the offering of Akheri Munajat (concluding prayers) seeking divine blessings for the people of Bangladesh and the Muslim Ummah.

The Ijtima venue on the banks of the Turag river and its adjoining areas reverberated with the word "Amin" repeatedly uttered by lakhs of devotees from home and abroad raising their hands together in prayer.

Renowned Islamic scholar Moulana Jubayerul Hasan from India conducted the akheri munajat that began at 12:35 pm and ended at 12:54 pm.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

Second war crimes court from March

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Shafique Ahmed yesterday said a second International Crimes Tribunal might start functioning from March this year to quickly dispose of the war crimes cases.

Engineers will visit the site today to begin preparations for the offices and other logistics support for the new tribunal, he told reporters during his visit to the Old High Court

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

Eight murders in SQ Chy's 77 war crimes

Formal charges read out to tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The prosecution yesterday told the International Crimes Tribunal that BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury had been involved in at least 15 acts of genocide and eight murders during the Liberation War of 1971.

He was also involved in at least 11 acts of torture, nine acts of abduction, 10 acts of confinement, eight acts of persecution, eight acts of bodily harm, seven acts of deportation and a rape, said prosecutor

Zead Al Malum during the hearing on charge framing against the lawmaker from Chittagong.

The crimes add up to 77 committed in 25 incidents during the Liberation War, the prosecutor said.

The formal charges, submitted on November 14, were read out before the tribunal yesterday. The three-judge tribunal headed by its Chairman Justice Nizamul Huq adjourned the hearing until January 23.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



NARSINGDI MAYOR MURDER

Prime accused surrenders

RASHIDUL HASAN and BENAJIR AHMED

Salauddin Ahmed Bachchu, the prime accused in Lokman murder case, surrendered before a Narsingdi court yesterday after hiding for two and a half months.

Salauddin, younger brother of posts and telecommunications minister Rajiuddin Ahmed Raju, was taken on remand shortly after he and four other accused surrendered around 10:30am.

The other four are Monowar Hossain Khan, a businessman and accused No 6, Hiron Mia and Amir Hossain Amu, accused No 7 and 13 and brothers of former Narsingdi mayor late Manik Mia, and Manik's son Mamun, accused No 14.

Chief Judicial Magistrate Nitai Chandra Saha turned down the bail prayers of the five and ordered a one-day remand for Salauddin, Amu and Mamun and sent the



Salauddin Ahmed Bachchu

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

COALMINE CASE Khaleda gets bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday granted regular bail to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in the Barapukuria coalmine corruption case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission.

The bail will remain in force until the trial court disposes of the case, proceedings of which have been stayed since October 16, 2008.

The lower court will consider granting her bail if she surrenders before it, the HC said.

The bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Sheikh Md Zakir

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

STOCK INVESTMENT

Black money gets a twist

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has modified scope for black money to be invested in stocks and said money earned through criminal acts will not be allowed into the markets.

Black money in stocks will not be questioned under the income tax law, but other laws can be applied against

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

Pak PM won't go back on criticism of military

Insists he is answerable only to parliament; decision on fate of Gilani, Zardari today



Yusuf Raza Gilani

AGENCIES

Pakistan's prime minister yesterday rejected a demand by the country's powerful army chief that he clarify or retract his criticism of the army and the spy

agency last week, likely raising tensions further in a festering row with the military.

"The prime minister ... is answerable to parliament," Yusuf Raza Gilani told reporters in the

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

WHEN EMERGENCY STRIKES

Just dial **10678**

from any corner of the country for the best emergency service



Apollo Hospitals
Touching Lives



Safety- security through intelligence

- Intelligent addressable Micro-processor based Fire detection system (Honeywell)
- Self-operated fire protection system (Sprinkler), Fire Hydrant, Fire Brigade Connection & Fire Extinguisher
- Security system incorporates with CCTV covering internal and external area of the building
- Earthquake preventing shear wall structure
- Used Dry type Transformer for power Transmission and BBT (Bus Bar Trunking), for power distribution (SIEMENS)

Comfort-workplace that faster

- Unitile System- Double glazed Low-E façade (Pilkington)
- Automated Central Air-conditioning & Ventilation System (YORK)
- Wheelchair Lift specially for physically challenged people (SHANDONG)
- Exclusive Marble finished double height reception, meeting room & lobby at Level-1

Efficiency- everything works gently

- Micro processor based Building Management System (BMS)
- Fully Comprehensive power backup (24 hours)
- Dedicated "PRESSURIZED" Fire stair
- Dedicated Wet riser with fire hydrant, Jockey pump and Diesel engine driven fire pump (UL enlisted)
- Dedicated water reservoir for fire with deep tubewell

Speed-maximize your time

- Equipped with all international standard lift features
- Aerodynamic design of lift with 3.5m/s speed (MITSUBISHI, Japan)
- Dedicated Guaranteed Car-park-6 nos/floor
- Façade illumination LED light (power from-Solar-Panel)

The Intelligent Workspace

Be a Part of High Definition Commercial Building

Doreen Tower is the ultimate third generation (3G) business hub at Gulshan commercial area. This high definition 25 storied commercial building enhances your business towards your desired success. Now you can achieve **Safety, Comfort, Efficiency & Speed**, all together at Doreen Tower.



25 Storied Commercial Building

RAJUK APPROVED

HOTLINE
+88 01713 193 355 +88 01713 193 366
rent@doreentower.com www.doreentower.com

*Conditions Apply