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**PHILIPS** 



Lawmaker's tongue-lashing debut

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Criticising the main opposition leader Khaleda Zia and her two sons was all ruling Awami League lawmaker Fazilatunnesa Bappi did in her very first speech in parliament yesterday. **SEE PAGE 19 COL 2** 

10-Truck Arms Haul

# Cops asked to protect witness

Ex-CG adviser Shoyeb tells court he was threatened with death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong court yesterday directed law enforcers to ensure safety of Shoyeb Ahmed, a former adviser to caretaker government and prosecution witness in the sensational 10-truck arms haul case.

Metropolitan Sessions Judge SM Mujibur Rahman of the Special Tribunal-1 of Chittagong gave the directive after hearing Shoyeb's statement.

Earlier, he sought security before the court as he was threatened with death by anonymous persons by letters, over phone and through SMS.

He also submitted two letters before the court as evidence. The letters read: "It is not the final day; more days are coming and you should be punished for your statement later."

Shoyeb said he got the letters in the **SEE PAGE 19 COL 8** 

### Ctg gets Sangu gas in April

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Australian oil and gas exploration company Santos is expecting to supply 20-30 million cubic feet gas to Chittagong's industrial areas from the first week of April.

Formally announcing

their success in finding a gas reserve with the well Sangu-11, John Chambers, president of Santos Bangladesh, at a press conference here said they found the reserve after drilling 4,200 metres into the well.

> Chambers, however, SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

### AL, BNP should reach polls consensus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Visiting US Assistant

Secretary of State for South and Central Asia Robert O Blake yesterday hoped that ruling Awami League and main opposition BNP will reach a consensus through

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

# Khoka sued for graft

The ex-DCC mayor, 3 others 'embezzled' Tk 26 lakh from public fund

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday sued former Dhaka City Corporation mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka and three others for misappropriating Tk 26 lakh from public fund and causing loss of another Tk 11 lakh to it.

The other accused persons are Abdul Baten, presi-

dent of DCC supermarket in Banani, Mahmudul Hassan Azad, its general secretary and AHM Tareque, manager of the Daily Star, adding that cancelling the market's parking lot.

Mahbubul Alam, ACC's assistant direc-

tor, filed the case with Shahbagh Police Station, said Sirajul Islam, officer-incharge of the station.

Alam said Khoka in connivance with the trio pocketed Tk 26,14,900, which they had collected in parking charges from the market between 2003 and 2011.

Khoka also caused a loss

of Tk 11.05 lakh to the public exchequer by cancelling tenders for the

parking lot in 2003 and 2005, he told The tender was a violation of the DCC rules.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7



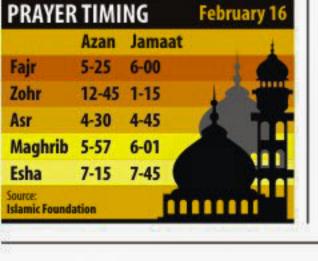
### EU team of lawmakers due Feb 19

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The European parliamentary delegation for South Asia will arrive in Bangladesh on a six-day visit on February 19, to discuss various issues with top government officials, opposition leaders and civil society representatives.

Jean Lambert, a Green Party Member of European Parliament (MEP) for London will lead the delegation. Diplomatic sources

deem the visit to be very important because the SEE PAGE 19 COL 4



#### JOURNO COUPLE MURDER

# No arrest yet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

None has been arrested yet, five days into the killing of journalist couple Sagar Sarowar and Mehrun Runi in West Rajabazar.

Police and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) officials yesterday said they had not arrested anyone as they could not be absolutely certain of anyone's involvement in the murder.

"Until we are cent percent sure, we are not

going to arrest anyone or comment on the motive behind the murder," Monirul Islam, deputy commissioner (DC) of Detective Branch of police, said yesterday during a press briefing at the media centre of Dhaka Metropolitan Police headquarters.

"We have employed our utmost effort to arrest the killers and unravel the mystery," he said.

He, however, said they are keeping personal or family conflicts, professional SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

### PDB pledges a good summer Blake tells Khaleda

Power outages to be at 'tolerable level'

BSS, Dhaka

Power Division officials yesterday said they expect to offer a relatively comfortable summer to the residents of the capital, keeping power outages at a "tolerable level".

Preparations are underway for equitable load management and upgrading of power equipment targeting SEE PAGE 6 COL 3

#### Ringleader dead in Ctg gunfight

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A gang leader was killed during a gunfight between his cohorts and police at a hilly area in the port city yesterday. The deceased identified

as Md Alamgir, 27, is the top leader of Alamgir Bahini, a criminal group in Chittagong. **SEE PAGE 19 COL 3** 



A competitor from Saint Jude's International School in Dhanmondi, Dhaka, trying to spell a word to make it through to the divisional round of The Daily Star Spelling Bee competition held at the school yesterday. Of the 25 participants from the school, three went through to the divisional round. PHOTO: STAR

#### St Jude's students in action SAVEEM SHAMA

Enthusiastic youngsters from St Jude's International School yesterday participated in the divisional round of the Spelling Bee competition as the Champs 21 team continued their venture of handpicking three best spellers from different schools.

The contest at the school began with 25 participants, 10 girls and 15 boys. All of them seemed very excited at defeating others in the

**SEE PAGE 6 COL 5** 

### Condolence Lt. Col. Hesamuddin Ahmed, psc (Retd.) We express our deep condolence on the sad demise of Lt. Col. Hesamuddin Ahmed, psc. (Retd), Member UCEP Association and former Vice Chairperson, UCEP Board of Governors. Lt. Col. Hesamuddin Ahmed, psc. (Retd), a former Secretary to the Government died in the early hours of 14 February 2012 at his own residence at Baridhara, Dhaka (Innalillahi-----Rajiun) The Members of the UCEP Association, Staff and thousands of underprivileged children of UCEP express heartfelt condolence to the bereaved family members and pray to Almighty Allah to give them the courage and strength to bear this irreparable loss. May his soul rest in eternal peace. **UCEP Bangladesh** www.ucepbd.org





#### CAREER OPPORTUNITY

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- sales officials
- Achieving sales target and territory coverage
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Candidates with qualifications and experience as above are requested to send their applications with CV and a recent passport size photograph mentioning the contact telephone number to the General Manager, Admin. & HR, Baizid Group, Rahima Centre (4th floor), 1618/1839 CDA Avenue, Nasirabad, Chittagong- 4000, within 10 days after publication of the advertisement.

Hotline: Chittagong Office- 01919-012745, Dhaka Office- 01919-322745

Major Rivers

## Capital dredging not before 2 yrs

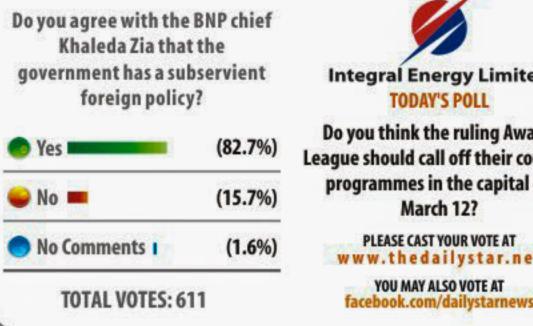
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It may need around two more years to launch capital dredging in the country's major rivers, according to a statement made by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in parliament yesterday.

She said projects will be prepared on the basis of recommendations put forth by a study -- Capital Dredging and Sustainable River Management in Bangladesh. The two-year-long ongoing study is expected to be completed by August 2013.

"On approval of the projects, dredging and digging works will begin in the country's important rivers," the premier said in a scripted answer while replying to queries from lawmakers.

After assuming office in January 2009, Hasina and her **SEE PAGE 19 COL 8** 



**ONLINE POLL** 



Do you think the ruling Awami League should call off their counter programmes in the capital on March 12? PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT



ব্যাংকের সম্মানিত চেয়ারম্যান ও সাবেক সংসদ সদস্য জনাব শেখ আব্দুল হাই বাচ্চু ব্যাংকের ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক **জনাব কাজী ফখরুল ইসলামের** সভাপতিত্বে অনুষ্ঠিত উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠানে বিশেষ অতিথি হিসেবে উপস্থিত ছিলেন

বসুন্ধরা গ্রুপের চেয়ারম্যান জ্নাব আহমেদ আকবর সোবহান, বেসিক ব্যাংকের পরিচালনা পর্যদের সদস্য যথাক্রমে জনাব জাহাঙ্গীর আখন্দ সেলিম, শ্রীযুক্ত শুভাশীষ বসু, জনাব সাখাওয়াত হোসেন, জনাব মো. আনোয়ারুল ইসলাম (এফসিএমএ)। এছাড়াও উপস্থিত ছিলেন ইস্ট-ওয়েস্ট মিডিয়া গ্রুপের চেয়ারম্যান **জনাব মোস্তফা কামাল মহীউদ্দীন** ও বেসিক ব্যাংকের অতিরিক্ত ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব শেখ মন্জুর মোর্শেদ। এছাড়া ব্যাংকের উপ-ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালকবৃন্দ ও মহাব্যবস্থাপকবৃন্দ, উর্ধ্বতন কর্মকতাবৃন্দ, গণ্যমান্য ব্যক্তিবর্গ, স্থানীয় উদ্যোক্তা এবং ব্যবসায়ী ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীরা অনুষ্ঠানে উপস্থিত ছিলেন।

