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Mamata's Farakka theory

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi
Paschimanga Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has alleged the Indian government has been concealing "facts about the two damaged sluice gates on the Farakka Barrage resulting in Bangladesh getting more than its share of Ganges water".

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FOREIGN OFFICE
Major reshuffle in the offing

REZAUL KARIM
Several important changes are expected to take place in the foreign ministry and its missions abroad. Highly placed sources said Foreign Secretary Mijarul Quayes, who already completed his three-year tenure in that post, is likely to be appointed as an A grade ambassador to a diplomatically important country. As a position of a secretary is becoming vacant, several senior officials started hectic lobbying to get the vital post. Competent sources said Bangladesh Ambassador in Berlin, Germany Musud Mannan; Ambassador and Permanent

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VIOLENCE ON WOMEN
Timeline for case disposal on the cards

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The government is planning to amend the relevant law to set time limits for disposal of the cases dealing with violence against women, Law Minister Shafique Ahmed said yesterday. "Due to long delay in disposal of the cases, most of the victims don't get

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Baby surprise
Babies still too small to speak know how to make jokes and form friendships, say researchers at an

PHOTO: INTERNET

AFP, Sydney

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PM herself overseeing
Shahara says about journo couple murder case; rally on Feb 22

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been overseeing the case of the murder of journalist couple Sagar and Runi, said Home

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New Chinese envoy in city

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT
Newly appointed Chinese Ambassador or to Bangladesh Li Jun arrived in Dhaka yesterday. He told The Daily Star that during his service in Bangladesh, he would try

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CHIKUNGUNYA FEVER
No worry, it is curable
Say physicians

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Eminent physicians yesterday urged people not to get worried about Chikungunya disease as it is curable. Terming the viral fever a rising concern for the nation's public health, they stressed for raising awareness among people to prevent it and suggested all to consult doctors if

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2,000 jhau trees on beach cut down
Forest officials silent

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar
Miscreants felled around 2,000 tamarisk trees in last three days at a grove near Inani beach in Ukhia upazila in a bid to grab valuable land. During a visit to Sonarpara beach yesterday, a number of locals were seen uprooting the remains of the felled trees from the grove. Local sources say about 1,500 trees have been completely felled and removed, while remains of another 500 felled trees were still visible. Evidence of an onslaught on several hundred trees inside the grove about 500

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2 killed in road crashes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Two persons including a minor boy were killed in two separate road accidents in the city yesterday. Four-year-old Rakib Ahmed, who lived at Hazaribagh Beribandh slum, sustained serious injuries as a pick-up van

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The Daily Star
Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with the statement of Finance Minister AMA Muhith that the economy is very strong and it was never weak?

Yes (6.1%)
No (92.8%)
No Comments (1.1%)

TOTAL VOTES: 474

TODAY'S POLL
Do you agree with Railway Minister Suranjit Sengupta that BNP is trying to make parliament dysfunctional?
PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net
YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT facebook.com/dailystarnews



A contestant of Sunnydale School in Dhanmondi, Dhaka, trying to spell a word in The Daily Star Spelling Bee held at the school yesterday. Three students of the school made it through to the second round of the contest.

PHOTO: STAR

SPELLING BEE
Sunnydale sparkles

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Sunnydale School took the centre stage of The Daily Star Spelling Bee contest in Dhanmondi yesterday. After three intense rounds of knock-outs among four students, only two were eliminated showcasing a very impressive standard. Thereon, as words started to get harder the students began to stumble. Tasir Haque and Rifayet Zafer Wafee of class-VI were the first two spellers to qualify for the second round from Sunnydale School. After another round of nail-biting tiebreaker between the last two spellers, Bijoya Debnath

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PRAYER TIMING February 19

Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-20 5-55
Zohr	12-45 1-15
Asr	4-30 4-45
Maghrib	6-03 6-07
Esha	7-30 8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation

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