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## Free Shaheed Minar land from illegal occupation

HC asks authorities  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the authorities concerned to demolish all structures, excluding a grave, located on the land of the Central Shaheed Minar in the next 48 hours.

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## PM hits out at Khaleda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Reacting to BNP chief Khaleda Zia's remark that her party will not take revenge if elected again, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said "good sense" had prevailed upon Khaleda. "Although good sense has prevailed on her after a long time, I want to say that by making such a statement she [Khaleda]

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PRAYER TIMING		February 23	
	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

## KILLINGS, BORDER CRIMES Dhaka to ask Delhi to step up joint patrol

M RAHMAN

Bangladesh will ask India to strengthen joint patrols on the border to check crimes and killings of Bangladeshi nationals by India's Border Security Force, said a high official at the home ministry.

Dhaka will seek explanations from New Delhi on the recent killings of Bangladeshis by the BSF.

Bangladesh has pinpointed more than 350 smuggling-prone spots on the Bangladesh-India border with India's help. Most killings on the border happen in such areas, and unarmed people often fall victim to BSF firing.

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A student of Oxford International School at Dhanmondi, Dhaka, at The Daily Star Spelling Bee contest held at the school yesterday. Three students of the school advanced to the divisional round.

PHOTO: STAR

## SPELLING BEE Students of 3 more schools move to next round

SHAHNOOR RABBANI

Three top-class schools in the capital -- Oxford, Green Dale and London Grace -- yesterday hosted The Daily Star Spelling Bee competition organised by champs21.com.

The young spellers from Oxford International, competing for a place in the divisional round, showed tremendous grit and tenacity with only nine

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## Ghulam Azam hailed Pak army atrocities

Prosecution tells war crimes tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former Jamaat-e-Islami chief Ghulam Azam gave frequent statements praising and supporting the atrocities of the Pakistani occupation forces during the Liberation War in 1971, the International Crimes Tribunal was told yesterday.

Reading out the formal charges against Ghulam Azam, the prosecution said he repeatedly praised the Pakistani army and its auxiliary forces for protecting "Pakistani ideologies" and holding back the "miscreants and insurgents devastating the country".

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## TRANSPORT STRIKE Passengers suffer in 8 districts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Hundreds of passengers suffered a travel chaos yesterday as the transport workers in eight districts of Rajshahi division enforced a 72-hour strike to realise their eight-point demand.

The workers, however, called off the strike in the

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## BEFORE BDR MUTINY Jawans met Taposh to raise demands

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

Three months before the 2009 Pikhana mutiny, some jawans of the now-defunct BDR had placed their demands before Fazle Noor Taposh, now an Awami League lawmaker, which he had conveyed to his party chief Sheikh Hasina.

The demands included 100 per cent ration, promotion and scope for soldiers to work in foreign missions, according to the statement Taposh gave to police.



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The Daily Star



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ONLINE POLL

BNP chief Khaleda Zia at a function vowed to take lessons from the past mistakes and use the experience to run the country better in the future. Do you think BNP will actually take lessons?

Yes (50.5%)

No (46.3%)

No Comments (3.2%)

TOTAL VOTES: 685

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think that the three-day India-Bangladesh home minister-level talks will help stop the brutal treatment of Bangladeshis and escalating tension at the borders?

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