



## YUNUS & WORLD BANK

Sadiq Ahmed explains why the Nobel laureate should lead the global lender

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## SUCCESSOR TO SALEH

Mansur Hadi takes the oath of office as Yemeni president

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## TRANSIT, REGIONAL TRADE Infrastructure not ready for taking load

Muhith for more efforts to boost S Asian connectivity

STAR REPORT

The country's existing infrastructure cannot take the load that will come with transit to its neighbours, Finance Minister AMA Muhith said yesterday.

"Transit is extremely important, but mind that development of infrastructures is very basic," Muhith said at the inaugural session of a two-day dialogue on India-Bangladesh relations at Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) yesterday.

Transit between Bangladesh and India has been there since 1947. It stopped only for a brief period during the India-Pakistan war in 1965, said Muhith.

"Sometimes it [transit] was reasonably exploited. Sometimes its use was minimal, as in the past few years."

The minister also dismissed fears that there would be

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In tears, the parents and sister of Maj Mominul Islam Sarkar offer fateha at his grave at Banani graveyard yesterday on the third anniversary of his death. Maj Mominul and 56 other army officers were killed in the BDR Pilkhana carnage on February 25-26, 2009. More photos on page 3.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

## India trying to solve Teesta water issue

Pranab assures Shahara

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Indian Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee yesterday assured visiting Bangladesh Home Minister Shahara Khatun of resolving the Teesta water-sharing issue.

The Indian minister also said the bilateral agreement on land boundary and exchange of adversely-held enclaves would be placed in the

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## ADP to be slashed by Tk 5,500cr

One-third of ADP implemented in 7 months

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The Annual Development Programme in this fiscal year is likely to be slashed by Tk 5,500 crore.

At a meeting of the resource committee with Finance Minister AMA Muhith in the chair yesterday, the Planning Commission was informed about the cut and advised to prepare a draft ADP in line with this.

The size of the revised ADP could be Tk 40,500.

A finance ministry official said in trimming ADP, the allocation of foreign funds could be reduced and local fund slightly

increased.

In the first seven months of the current fiscal year, Tk 15,784 crore or 34 percent of the allotment was spent.

The ministries utilised 41 percent of the local and 24 percent of the foreign fund allocations.

The planning ministry sources, however, said the foreign fund utilisation had got some momentum lately.

The finance minister told the meeting that less foreign aid and more expenditure on subsidy were the major reasons behind the slash in ADP, although the revenue earning had increased.

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## INTERIM GOVT Menon calls for AL-BNP consensus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon yesterday urged the ruling Awami League and the main opposition BNP to reach a consensus on formulating a structure for an interim government to hold the next national polls.

He also urged the two parties to voice their opinions about the interim government in parliament

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## BNP instigated BDR carnage

PM tells Patuakhali rally; says trial to be completed in shortest possible time

BSS, Patuakhali

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday accused the main opposition BNP of instigating the bloodbath in Bangladesh Rifles (now Border Guard Bangladesh) headquarters three years ago.

The trial of the BDR mutineers for murder has begun and it would be completed very soon, she told a public meeting at Mozahar Uddin Biswas College ground in Kalapara upazila of Patuakhali in the afternoon.

Accusing the BNP of instigating the BDR carnage, the prime minister said people know who brought out

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## It was a plot to weaken nat'l security

Says Fakhru about Pilkhana bloodbath

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BDR carnage in February 2009 was staged as part of a blueprint to destroy the "future" of the nation, BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir said yesterday.

"The BDR tragedy was not a common incident or mutiny.... It was a result of a farsighted blueprint to damage border security to make the country dependent on others and

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This electricity pole was severely damaged by a carelessly driven truck months ago on the street in front of Ahsan Manzil in the capital. The authorities are yet to remove the pole, which could tumble with all its high-voltage cables and cause casualties.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## 'WRONG TREATMENT' RMCH interns go on strike after protest over death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Hours after a patient died allegedly of wrong treatment, interns of Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) yesterday went on a strike demanding security as agitated relatives of the deceased gathered at the facility.

Asaduzzaman Asad, assistant secretary general of the city unit BNP, died around 9:00am, moments after he was injected with medicines prescribed by an intern, said police and relatives of the victim.

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## WAR CRIMES TRIAL None held illegally

Says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Shafique Ahmed yesterday categorically stated that nobody has been detained illegally in connection with the crimes against humanity committed during the 1971 Liberation War.

The government has detained some accused on specific allegations, information and evidence, and there has been no instance of human rights violation in this regard, he

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