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BORDER KILLINGS

Shahara happy with Indian pledges

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

The director generals of India's Border Security Force and Border Guard Bangladesh will meet in New Delhi on March 11-15 for talks to end the BSF firing on and killing of Bangladeshis at the border.

Home Minister Shahara Khatun made the announcement on the structured biannual director general-level meeting yesterday afternoon. She returned home, wrapping up her first official visit to India, yesterday.

Talking to a group of journalists at the Taj Man Singh Hotel in New Delhi before she left for home, Shahara said the BGB-BSF meeting would discuss how to step up consultations between the two border forces and bring an end to the incidents of firing and killing at the frontier.

The BGB-BSF meeting assumes significance as it comes in the wake of a number of incidents of firing and killing by BSF along the border.

The Indian side, during the home minister-level meeting Saturday, explained to Bangladesh the circumstances in which BSF had to open fire recently when its own jawans had come under attack and were grievously injured by members of a suspected smuggling gang.

However, Bangladesh is seriously concerned by the remarks of BSF chief UK Bansal, who in two separate interviews to the BBC and the Press Trust of India, had said the firing would not stop completely and that the BSF would open fire if dared by criminals.

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There is always the sight and sound of birds in Panipara village of Narail. Locally known as *Pakheer Gram* (a village of birds), the place has become a haven for thousands of migratory birds. Nature lovers and bird watchers have grown fond of the village. The photo was shot yesterday.

PHOTO: POUNEL S BOSE

WAR TRIAL REPORTING Tribunal asks media to be careful

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal yesterday suggested that the media be more careful about reporting on its proceedings.

The tribunal also asked a Bangla daily to run a rejoinder to its earlier reports within two days.

Saying that many newspaper reports covering the

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Cops finally 'sure about' motive

Say at least 7 involved in journo couple killing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fifteen days after the murder of journalist couple Meherun Runi and Sagar Sarowar, police yesterday claimed that they had ascertained the motive behind the murders.

"We are almost certain about the motive behind the murder, but it will not be wise to disclose it at this moment for the sake of investigation" Monirul Islam,

deputy commissioner of Detective Branch of police (DB-South), told The Daily Star.

Meherun Runi, senior reporter at the private TV channel ATN Bangla, and her husband Sagar Sarowar, news editor at private TV station Maasranga, were murdered in their West Rajabazar flat in the capital on February 11.

Replying to a query, the police official

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Criticise, but don't hurt opponents

Speaker urges MPs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Upset by the recurrent use of offensive words in parliament, Speaker Abdul Hamid yesterday urged the lawmakers to adhere to the code of conduct while addressing the opponents.

Speaking at a book launching ceremony at the parliament's media centre, Hamid said "One

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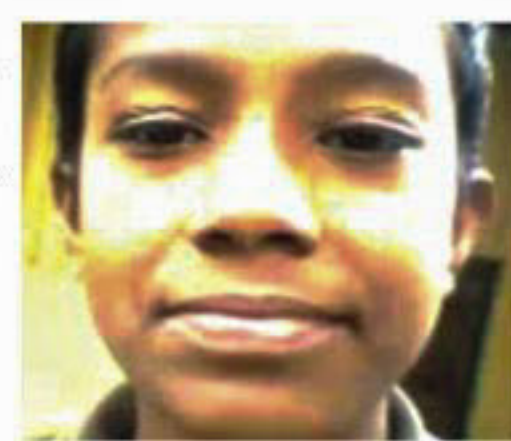
An insult the boy couldn't accept

Takes his life after picked up for theft by cops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 14-year-old boy, apparently unable to bear the disgrace of being picked up by police in connection with theft, yesterday took his own life.

The family of the deceased, Khondker Shafiqul Islam Dipraj, 14, a class VIII student of Shaheed Zia Bashabo High School in the capital, said Dipraj



locked himself in his room and hanged himself around 2:30pm.

A woman who lived near Dipraj's Bashabo home called in the police on Friday and complained that Dipraj had stolen the electric cable of her house.

Police picked up the boy but let him go

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4



Three Spelling Bee contestants from Delhi Public School.

SPELLING BEE 4 schools in divisional round

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"Finally, the divisional round," exclaimed an excited Shadman, a tenth grader of Scholastica school who earned himself a place among the three winners after spelling "condescend" right at The Daily Star Spelling Bee contest yesterday.

All he is eyeing now is becoming the best "Spelling Bee" in the country. "I'm proud of all the time I spent practising [spelling] and I hope I can make my school proud," Shadman said following the contest held on the

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ASSAULT ON COPS IN 2004 Case against Haji Selim dropped

Govt terms charges 'politically motivated'

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday withdrew a police assault case filed against former Awami League lawmaker Haji Mohammad Selim and 20 others considering it "politically motivated" and "intended to cause harassment".

So far, 81 out of 137 criminal cases have been withdrawn by the government on those grounds, said Selim's counsel Pran Nath.

Metropolitan Magistrate Keshab Roy Chowdhury passed the order yesterday after hearing on a petition submitted on January 8 this year by Metropolitan Public Prosecutor (PP) Abdullah Abu for withdrawal of the case.

The same court issued arrest warrants against Selim and others on February 7 this year, as they were absent from the court on eight hearing dates since January 3, 2011.

The court in the order also said that although the

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CANING BY TEACHER Student's eye hurt

Nahid orders probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A class VI student suffered severe injury in one of her eyes as her class teacher beat her up with a cane at Keraniganj on the outskirts of the capital on February 19.

Despite an operation,

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CHILD'S DEATH IN CRASH Owner of unfit bus in custody

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A bus owner, who appeared before a High Court bench yesterday following its summons, was handed over to police by the court as one of his 'unfit' buses crushed a schoolgirl to death in the capital early this month.



Paloma

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

City road crashes claim 2 more lives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two people including a college student were killed in separate road accidents in the capital's Farmgate and Dayaganj yesterday evening.

The diseased were identified as Ahmed Abdul Aziz, 22, a student of Computer Science Department of National Polytechnic Institute, and Shyamoly Chakrabarti, 35, a

housewife from Gendaria.

Nadim Hossain, a friend of Aziz, said a Gulistan-bound bus hit Aziz from behind when he and Aziz were trying to board a bus near Al-Raji Hospital at Farmgate around 5:30 pm.

Aziz, a resident of Dogair in Demra, was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

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Chandra Bahadur Dangi poses with his certificates.

PHOTO: AFP

Shortest man on Earth from Nepal

AFP, Kathmandu

A 72-year-old man from a remote valley in southwestern Nepal yesterday was declared the shortest man ever documented after being measured by Guinness World Records officials.

Chandra Bahadur Dangi stands just 54.6

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The Daily Star



Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL

Do you think the ongoing trial for the BDR mutiny is on the right track?

Yes (16.4%)
No (80.0%)
No Comments (3.6%)

TOTAL VOTES: 440

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think it was justified for the prime minister to accuse main opposition BNP of instigating the bloodbath in Bangladesh Rifles headquarters three years ago?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT facebook.com/dailystarnews

PRAYER TIMING February 27

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-15	5-50
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	6-05	6-10
Esha	7-30	8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation