



KSA alerts its diplomats

Asks them not to go out late at night; Saudi paper says their probe team sent to Dhaka; IGP denies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Saudi Arabia has directed its diplomats abroad not to wear Saudi national dress in public places or to go out late at night, reported The Saudi Gazette, a leading Saudi daily, yesterday.

Quoting sources, the online version of the daily said the directives to its diplomats abroad include instructions not to wear the Saudi national dress on the streets and in public places, except during official ceremonies or at the place of work.

The instruction, issued by the Saudi foreign ministry, also made it mandatory for heads of missions to report the names of staff who do not comply with the directives.



Two nightingales of Bangladesh and India, Runa Laila and Asha Bhosle, sing during a concert at the army stadium in the capital last night.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

BNP wants to create anarchy

Says Shahara BSS, Dhaka

Home Minister Shahara Khatun yesterday said the main opposition BNP is trying to carry out subversive acts centring its March 12 rally.

"A vested quarter is out to sabotage in the name of March 12 rally designed to hinder the trial process of the war criminals, who committed crimes against humanity during the Liberation War in 1971," she said while addressing a discussion as the

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Things better, but will they sustain?

SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Things may change in a day and they have at the neurosurgery department of Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

When a High Court judge went to visit an ailing relative in a ward there on Thursday, there was no doctor. The room felt terribly hot for the patients, as there was no fan moving overhead. Relatives were trying to cool their patients down with hand fans. All the ward's four fans had gone out of order months ago.

Identifying himself, Justice Gobinda Chandra Tagore, an additional HC judge, informed the DMCH authorities

of the situation. The authorities acted fast, replacing two fans with new ones within an hour.

Yesterday, the other two were replaced along with a few other inoperative ones in the adjacent ward, hospital sources told The Daily Star.

Nobody knows how long the patients would have to suffer if Justice Gobinda had not gone to see his relative.

"We came to know this from the judge. The officials concerned did not inform us about the problem," said Mushfiqur Rahman, acting deputy director of DMCH.

The fans went out of order a week

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3 Suicides in

\$114M PAYMENT TO BOEING

Biman seeks 2 more months

SHARIFUL ISLAM

Biman has sought two more months from Boeing for making a \$114 million pre-delivery payment for two new 777-300ER planes against the aircraft manufacturer's mid-April deadline.

"We have asked Boeing to extend the time up to June," said Muhammad Zakiul Islam, managing director (MD) and chief executive officer of Biman Bangladesh Airlines. He blamed fund crunch for the failure in paying the amount.

The pre-delivery payment was supposed to be made in October-November 2011, two years prior to the delivery of the new aircrafts worth \$308 million. As the deadline had expired, Boeing wrote to Biman but the latter did not respond.

This prompted Boeing to send a delegation to Dhaka. In a meeting with Biman, the delegation said if the airlines failed to pay the amount by April 16 they would not be able to deliver the aircraft by 2013 as per agreement.

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Japan spiked after quake

AFP, Tokyo

The number of people who took their own lives in Japan drastically increased in the aftermath of last year's tsunami and the nuclear disaster it triggered, the Japanese government said yesterday.

A more than 20 percent rise in the amount of suicides in one month was likely attributable at least in part to the widespread anxiety Japanese society felt in the aftermath of the catastrophe, an official said.

In May last year 3,375 people killed themselves, SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

Iran war not inevitable

Says Netanyahu, warns only military threat will stop Tehran's nuke programme

THE GUARDIAN ONLINE

Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli prime minister, has said an attack on Iran's nuclearfacilities is not inevitable.

He however claimed it is the threat of military action, not sanctions, that will deter Tehran from developing an atomic bomb.

Following his White House meeting with US President Barack

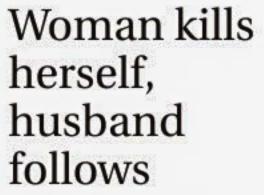
Obama this week, Netanyahu differed with the president over the value of diplomacy and was sceptical about a fresh round of talks between Tehran and the major powers, telling Fox News that Iran has "bamboozled the west."

The Israeli premier said, like Churchill, he is sounding the "jarring gong of danger" to wake democracies from their slumber to the com-

ing danger. Asked if "war is inevitable," Netanyahu replied: "I don't think so."

But he brushed off Obama's demand for an end to the "loose talk of war" and "blustering" over Iran -criticisms evidently aimed at months of threats from within Israel -- to argue that Tehran is more likely to respond to fear of attack than sanctions.

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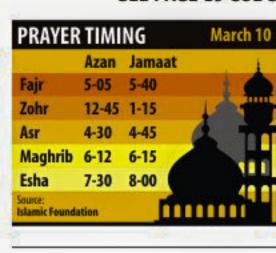


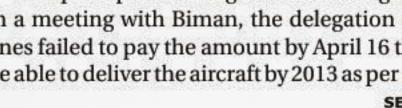
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man took his own life

jumping in front of a train moments after seeing the body of his wife, who committed suicide in their Khilgaon home in the capital last night. Rafiqul Islam Tota, 35,

commercial manager of Envoy Garments in city's **SEE PAGE 19 COL 8**





DE FOWER IS YOURS

ঢাকা ইলেকট্রিক সাপ্লাই কোম্পানী লিমিটেড (ডেসকো)
প্রট নং- ২২/বি, ফারুক স্বরণী, নিকুঞ্জ-২, ঢাকা -১২২৯। অন-লাইনে নতুন বিদ্যুৎ সংযোগের আবেদন গ্রহণ সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ডেসকো এলাকার বিদ্যুৎ সংযোগ প্রার্থীদের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ডেসকো'র ওয়েব সাইট www.desco.org.bd এর মাধ্যমে নতুন বিদ্যুৎ সংযোগের আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হচ্ছে। এক্ষেত্রে, এল.টি. সংযোগের ক্ষেত্রে ২০ (বিশ) কর্মদিবস ও এইচ.টি. সংযোগের ক্ষেত্রে ২৫ (পঁচিশ) কর্মদিবসের মধ্যে বিদ্যুৎ সংযোগ প্রদান সম্পন্নের ব্যবস্থা নেয়া হয়েছে। তবে সময়মত ডিমাভ নোট পরিশোধ ও সোলার প্যানেল স্থাপন (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে) করতে হবে।

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ডেসকো কর্তপক্ষ

