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Teesta deal has to wait

*Delhi tells Dhaka; insists
no Himalayan rivers to
be inter-linked*

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India has assured Bangladesh that the Himalayan rivers will not be included in its river inter-linking project without prior consultation with Bangladesh, and said an agreement on sharing of the Teesta waters will have to wait till a consensus with West Bengal state is reached.

Addressing a joint media conference with Bangladesh Foreign Minister Dipu Moni after a two-hour first meeting of the Joint Consultative Commission (JCC) here yesterday, Indian External Affairs Minister S M Krishna said the Himalayan rivers are not part of the inter-linking project as of now and even if they are included at a later stage, it will not be done without consultation with Bangladesh.

Dipu Moni said, "India has reassured us -- Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee in Dhaka yesterday (Sunday) and SM Krishna today-- that the Himalayan river system is not part of the inter-linking project. There will be no unilateral decision without consulting Bangladesh on the issue."

Replying to a question from a Bangladeshi journalist as to when the Teesta water-sharing accord will take

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Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir, Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, Sadeque Hossain Khoka and other BNP leaders appear at the High Court yesterday morning for bail in two cases over bomb blast and arson during a recent shutdown in the capital.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Dhaka, Delhi agree to sign extradition treaty

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA,
New Delhi

Bangladesh and India have agreed to conclude an extradition treaty at the earliest and vowed not to allow domestic or foreign militants and insurgents in each other's territories.

A joint statement issued yesterday said Foreign Minister Dipu Moni and her Indian counterpart SM Krishna noted "the legal framework for bilateral security cooperation would be completed with the signing of the extradition treaty".

Both sides agreed to expedite efforts to conclude the treaty at the earliest, said the statement, which followed the first meeting of the Joint Consultative Commission co-chaired by the two ministers in New Delhi.

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JCC Joint Statement: www.thedailystar.net

RIVER-SHARING Hillary for amicable solution

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA,
New Delhi

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton yesterday said the water sharing issue between India and Bangladesh should be solved amicably as the issue will become contentious across the globe.

"This is certainly on the list of things that I would want to talk about," Clinton earlier said in an

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

Allow taka-whitening after tax plus penalty

*CPD suggests govt buck up dismal
investment scenario*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government may allow whitening of undisclosed income only after imposing tax plus a penalty, not at a flat tax rate that goes against honest taxpayers, said the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) yesterday.

"The proposal may be considered in light of the stagnated investment environment and to attract new investments," said the CPD in its budget recommenda-

tions for fiscal 2012-13.

The civil society think-tank made the suggestion after the government expressed its intention to allow whitening of undisclosed money in the next budget at a 10 percent flat tax rate. "This runs counter to the principle of rewarding conscientious taxpayers and punishing tax evaders and people with undisclosed income," said the CPD.

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Number of all-pass schools shoots up

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Along with breaking all records, the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination results showed that the number of institutions under 10 education boards with cent percent pass rate has increased significantly to 3,377 from last year's 2,017.

Also, the number of

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

FEMALE STUDENTS IN SSC Number higher, results poorer

WASIM BIN HABIB

Although the female examinees in this year's SSC exams outnumbered male students in most general education boards, they failed to match the performance of the males.

The results showed that the pass rate of female students under five general education boards is lower by 3.25 percentage point than the male students. The number of female students was 24,643 more than the male students.

A total of 3,42,626 female students took the exams under Dhaka, Comilla, Chittagong, Barisal, and Sylhet education boards against 3,17,983 male students.

Of them, the pass percentage was 87.03 percent and 84.25 percent for the male and female students respectively. Also in Rajshahi, Jessore and Dinajpur boards, a lesser number of female students came out successful than the males.

The average pass percentage of SSC, Dakhil and SSC (vocational) examinations under 10 education boards stood at 86.37 percent -- 4.06 percent higher than the last year's.

Like the previous years, lesser number of girl students have become successful this year. The pass percentage of male and female students this year is 87.27 and 85.37 respectively.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6



**Amusement park
Wonderland is being
demolished by Rajdhani
Unnayan Kartipakkha.
Rajuk launched the
drive yesterday
following a court order
to free the land of
Gulshan Central
Playground. Inset, a
wheel dozer in operation.
Story on page 2.**

PHOTO: STAR

Mahmudul new MP of Tangail-5

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) yesterday declared BNP leader Maj Gen (retd) Mahmudul Hasan elected MP from the Tangail-5 constituency.

In the process the EC cancelled candidacy of Jatiya Party MP Abul Kashem who contested the parliamentary polls from this constituency and was elected on December 29, 2008.

The EC yesterday took the decision in line with a Supreme Court verdict that declared Kashem disqualified from contesting the December 29 polls as he was a loan defaulter then.



SEE PAGE 6 COL 6

Govt may go for rice export

*Minister cites lack
of storage facilities
as reason*

UNB, Dhaka

The government may go for rice export due to lack of sufficient storage facilities and to ensure fair price for the marginal farmers, said Food and Disaster Management Minister Abdur Razzaque yesterday.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

Muggers shoot shop employee, snatch Tk 10 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT


Muggers shot and wounded an employee of a wholesale shop in broad daylight yesterday and took away Tk 10.60 lakh from him in the capital's Jatrahari.

Abul Hossain, 36, staff of M/s Abul Khair Traders, was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) with bullet wounds in his right thigh.

The victim told reporters at DMCH that three armed miscreants intercepted him and two of his companions - another Abul Hossain and Arshed Ali, son-in-law of his

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

এস.এস.সি. ২০১২ পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ সকল ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের
জানাই অলিম্পিক বলপেন এর পক্ষ থেকে শুভেচ্ছা ও
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আমিন কোর্ট, ৬২-৬৩, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০
ফোন: ৯৫৬৫২২৮, ফ্যাক্স: ৯৮০-২-৯৫৬৭৪৮৫, ৯৫৬৫৫৫৫

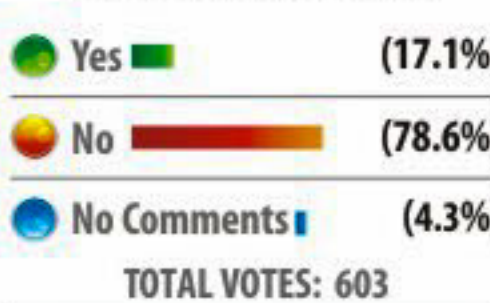
The Daily Star



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ONLINE POLL

Do you think US Secretary of
State Hillary Clinton's visit will
help ease the ongoing tension
in Bangladesh politics?



TODAY'S POLL

Do you believe India is sincere
about implementing all deals
signed with Bangladesh?

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PRAYER TIMING May 8

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-15	4-50
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-34	6-38
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation