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 S&P keeps Bangladesh's rating the same as in 2011

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EPIC, YET CONTEMPORARY
 Adapted from Mahabharat, a new play touches on present-day issues

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UN ACTION ON SYRIA
 Hillary says Russian opposition to it will lead to a civil war

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BLASTS INSIDE SECRETARIAT

29 opposition leaders charged

Charges also pressed against 25 lawyers in court vandalism case

CHAITANYA CHANDRA HALDER

Detectives yesterday pressed charges against 29 opposition leaders, including BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, over the twin blasts incident at the secretariat during the April 29 shutdown.

A charge sheet was also submitted by police against 25 lawyers in court vandalism case.

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This toddler, after drawing pictures with his crayons for over four hours, falls asleep at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday. Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal organised a children's painting and drawing competition there to mark the 31st death anniversary of president Ziaur Rahman.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Nishat reaches Kathmandu

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After over 50 days of trekking during which they made history, Nishat Majumder and MA Mohit reached Kathmandu

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Up to 10pc fine plus regular tax

Govt finalising provision for taka whitening

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Those seeking to whiten black money may have to pay a fine in addition to normal taxes in the next fiscal year, said a finance ministry official.

Currently, people pay a flat tax -- usually 10 percent -- to get amnesty for black money. But this is going to change except in case of stockmarket and infrastructure bonds, said the official asking not to be named.

In the next fiscal year, one will have to pay normal taxes and a fine between 5 and 10 percent of the undisclosed money he will whiten, said the official.

The matter has already been discussed by the government high-ups and may come up in the finance minister's budget speech.

Scope is there now for legalising black money on a limited scale. One can avail himself of the opportunity by investing in

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JOINING JS SESSION No bail for SQ Chy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday rejected legislator Salauddin Quader Chowdhury's bail petition. The BNP leader, who is

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India must act fast

PM tells visiting ministers about unresolved issues

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged quick action from India to resolve some pending issues as she stressed the need for signing of Teesta water-sharing deal at an early date.

"India needs to move forward quickly on some pending issues so that Dhaka

and New Delhi can work to execute various agreed decisions. There is a high expectation of inking the Teesta water sharing deal," she said.

The premier made the remarks when a Indian delegation led by Meghalaya State Chief Minister Mukul Sangma and

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NOTICE

We will bring out a four-page colour supplement on The Daily Star-DHL Bangladesh Business Awards 2011 on Sunday. Watch out for your copy.



Nishat Majumder and her fellow mountaineer MA Mohit are greeted by visiting theatre personality Nasir Uddin Yousuff Bachchu and Bangladesh Ambassador to Nepal Nim Chandra Bhowmik, among others, in Kathmandu as they reach the Nepalese capital ending their expedition yesterday.

PHOTO COURTESY: MA MOHIT

Police working more prudently

Claims Shahara at JS; AL's allies disagree

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The home minister claimed in parliament yesterday that the police force was working "more efficiently and prudently" than ever before and that her ministry had been working for the last three years to make the force a "friend

TEJGAON PLOTS HC summons 20 winners

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summoned 20 people, who were allocated plots in Tejgaon Industrial area of the capital between 2002 and 2006 at "minimum price", before it on June 12 to explain their roles in this regard.

The HC passed the order after the Ministry of Housing

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