

# The Daily Star

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**THE TAGORE IMPACT**  
Plays linked to the poet's literature and life enrich Int'l Theatre Festival  
PAGE 10

**DOMESTIC LABOUR**  
Kids exploited silently within the four walls of home  
PAGE 22

**MONARCH AND MATRIARCH**  
Charles shares childhood memories of his "Mama" the Queen  
PAGE 7

## Yet another fatal crash

7 of a family killed in bus-microbus collision

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Eight people, including seven of a family, were killed in a head-on collision between a bus and a microbus at Dulahazara of Cox's Bazar yesterday, two days after a similar accident claimed 12 lives, including nine of a family, in Keraniganj near Dhaka.

The bus heading towards Cox's Bazar collided head on with the microbus heading for Feni on Cox's Bazar-Chittagong highway during a downpour around 8:30am, a correspondent reports from Cox's Bazar quoting Assistant Superintendent of Police Md Khalequzzaman.

Eight people died and three were injured.

The deceased were: Sheikh Iftiza Hossain, 60, of Tekpara in Cox's Bazar municipality, his wife Hosne Ara, 45, their daughters Sabrina Sultan, 21, and Aabha, 8,

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



FROM LEFT... Rokia Afzal Rahman, president of Bangladesh Federation of Women Entrepreneurs; Aung San Suu Kyi, Myanmar's opposition leader; and Helene Gayle, chief executive officer of CARE USA; attend a panel discussion at the World Economic Forum in Bangkok yesterday. Story on page 7

## Outsourcing firm faces wrath of members

Chairman detained

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A few hundred registered members of an outsourcing firm vandalised the company office at Kalabagan in the capital yesterday following rumours of its owners fleeing with their registration fees.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

### NOTICE

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

## Danger lurks on highways

Without road dividers, narrow highways become death trap; 904 people killed in 4 months

M RAHMAN

Narrow highways, lack of road dividers on accident-prone stretches, faulty road markings and, above all, reckless driving continue to take lives on highways of the country, experts said.

The experts also said buses had become the road menace and most accidents with high casualties were caused by recklessly driven buses.

Yesterday, eight people, including seven of a family, died in a head-on collision between a bus and a microbus in Cox's Bazar. One of the vehicles was not in its lane at

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

## TIB chief sees signs of instability

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

TIB Chairpers on Sultana Kamal has said she finds signs of instability in the country.

"The situation we today have in Bangladesh -- say it good governance, human rights or democracy -- from all perspectives we see elements of massive unrest," she said at the inaugural of a convention at the Bangabandhu

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



Sultana Kamal

## Muhith suggests slashing ADP

NEC to form committee to get rid of unnecessary projects

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The National Economic Council has decided to form a high-powered committee to slash the number of projects in the Annual Development Programme.

The decision came at a meeting two weeks back. It was made on a recommendation from Finance Minister AMA Muhith, said Planning Secretary Bhuiyan Shafiqul Islam.

The planning minister will head the committee that will also

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

## BNP waits for dialogue offer

No tough agitation if govt initiates talks

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

With only eight days left to an opposition ultimatum over restoration of the caretaker government system, BNP and its allies now plan to declare a modest course of agitation if the government hints at talks.

If otherwise, tougher protest programmes like hartal and blockade would be enforced in phases, said leaders of BNP.

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at a rally in the capital on March 12 had issued the 90-day ultimatum to the government demanding a formal announcement from it to restore the caretaker government system in the constitution.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

## Shahara regrets cop action on journalists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Home Minister Shahara Khatun yesterday regretted the recent incidents of police assault on journalists.

"I express sorrow over the recent attacks and torture on journalists. Actions have been taken against the offenders. Investigation is on and further actions will be taken if needed," she said at a meet-the-reporters

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2



## US naval base in Chittagong?

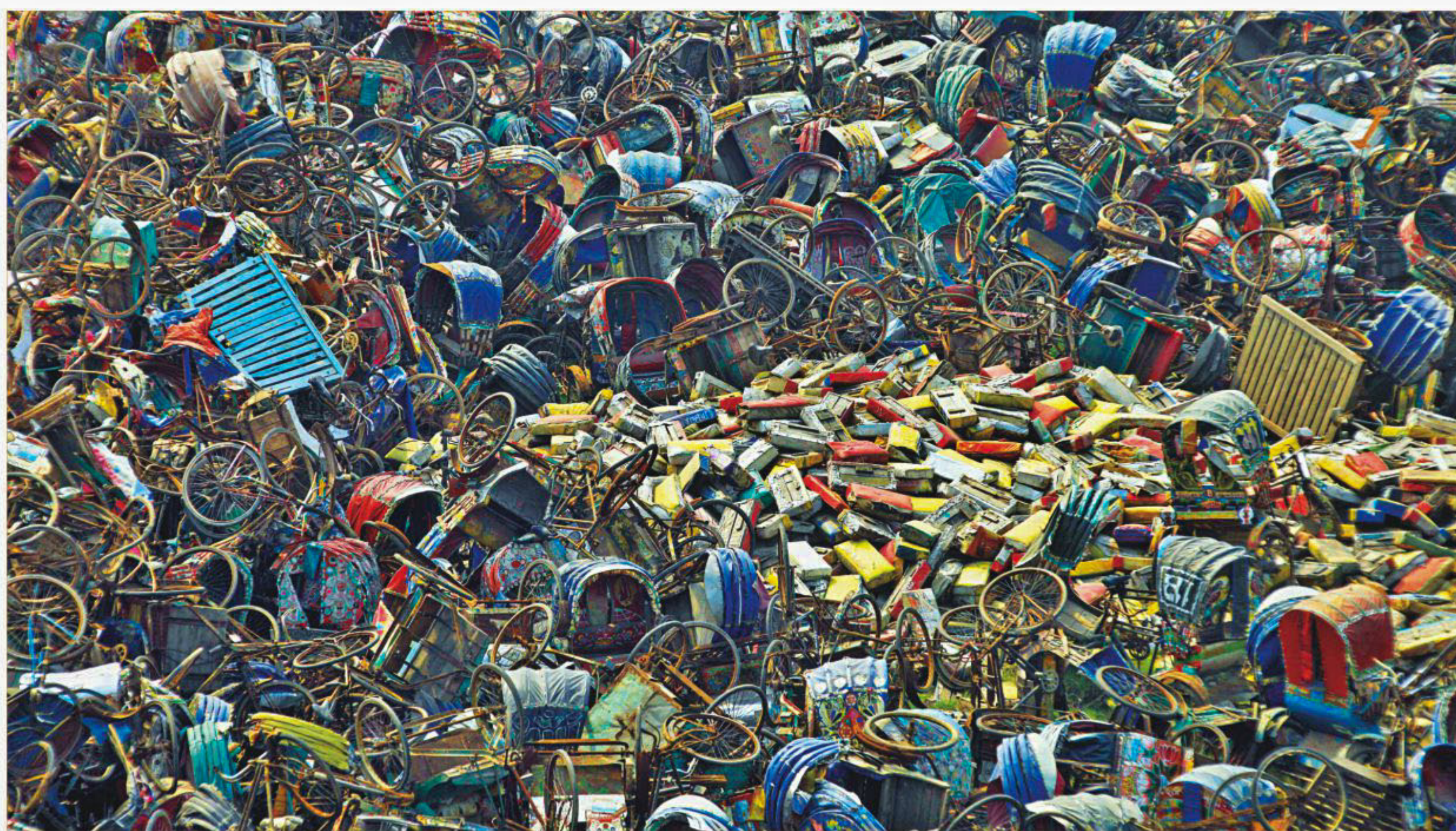
Indian news channel reports; US denies

STAR REPORT

The United States wants to park its seventh fleet in Bangladesh for its strategic interests, says Times Now, a Mumbai-based 24-hour English news channel.

Worried by increasing presence of Chinese naval bases in the South China Sea, America now eyes a counter strategy as it wants an overall presence in Asia -- right from Japan to its Diego Garcia base in the Indian Ocean, the TV channel reported on Thursday. The Times of India online edition carried the report.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4



Unlicensed rickshaws seized by law enforcers are dumped on a field at the capital's Mirpur. Due to lack of a policy, these three-wheelers are left to rot and no initiative is seen for their recycling. The photo was shot a month back.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## Police have become impatient

Says Suranjit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Minister without portfolio Suranjit Sengupta yesterday criticised police for becoming aggressive towards journalists and held weak democracy accountable for it.

"Why have police become so impatient and wild on media? We must strengthen all the institutions of the country to make democracy strong," said Suranjit.

He said the main problem of Bangladesh was whether democracy would last here. The opposition do not believe in the constitution of 1972 but only in the post 1975 era, he added.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

বাংলা ব্যাংক

মার্কেন্টাইল ব্যাংক লিমিটেড  
Mercantile Bank Limited

দক্ষতাই আমাদের শক্তি

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নতুন যুগের সূচনালগ্নে সম্মানিত গ্রাহক, শুল্কানুধ্যায়ী ও পৃষ্ঠপোষকসহ সকলকে জানাই বিনম্র অভিবাদন

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