

**TO AVOID DOUBLE TAXATION**  
Bangladesh and India are close to signing  
a deal to amend the treaty

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**THRU' MISHUK'S EYES**  
Exhibition features time and world  
of the versatile genius

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**NEIL HEYWOOD MURDER**  
The wife of disgraced Chinese leader  
Bo Xilai is charged with homicide

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## Abul a patriot

*PM says he had the courage to quit*

STAR REPORT

Lauding former communications minister Syed Abul Hossain, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said he was a patriot and had stepped down voluntarily to pave the way for construction of the long-cherished Padma bridge.

Talking to journalists in London, Hasina also said Abul had shown courage by resigning even though the World Bank could not provide any "concrete evidence of his involvement in corruption".

"He has guts, he has patriotism... that's why he could resign," UNB quoted the premier as telling journalists of UK-based Bangla newspapers.

"How many people in the past have shown such courage by tendering resignation over fictitious allegations? You should appreciate this," she added.

The prime minister is now in London on a five-day official visit to attend the inaugural ceremony of the 2012 Olympic Games.

Meanwhile in Dhaka, the Cabinet Division was yet to issue any notification on Abul Hossain's resignation as ICT minister on July 23.

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## Bonus, arrears before Eid

*Garment owners assure workers*

M RAHMAN

Garment factory owners have agreed to pay workers their bonus and arrears before Eid holidays to avert unrest in the sector.

Home Minister Shahara Khatun said this to reporters after a meeting with the leaders of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers & Exporters Association,

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## Labour issues cloud bright RMG future

*Mozena dwells on 'perfect storm' at Star discussion*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has every prospect to be the world's largest garment seller, but its exports to the US may land in deep trouble unless the government sincerely resolves a number of issues mostly relating to improving labour rights within this year.

Dan W Mozena, US ambassador to Bangladesh, made these remarks yesterday. Cost escalation is driving buyers from



China and investments are looking for new homes like Bangladesh. Now it is time the country grabbed the opportunity.

Mozena said four factors had gathered on the horizon, with power to have "a very magnified negative impact" on exports to the US, the largest market for

Bangladesh. "The US is trying to convey a clear

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## PADMA BRIDGE FUND

# No surcharge this fiscal year

*Says Muhith*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

No surcharge will be imposed in any sector in the current fiscal year for raising funds for the Padma bridge project, Finance Minister AMA Muhith said yesterday.

'Dual policy' confusing BNP on Padma bridge financing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday alleged that people are confused due to the government's dual policy towards the Padma bridge construction.

"On the one hand, the government wrote to the

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## Stage set for the 'Isle of Wonder'

*Olympics open today*

QUAZI ZULQUARNAIN ISLAM  
From London

The eyes of the whole world will be fixated firmly on London tonight and the organising committee of the 30th Olympiad could hardly have picked a better man to whom they could hand the keys to direct the much-vaunted 'greatest show on earth'.

On early evidence (courtesy of two rehearsal screenings) Danny Boyle's three-act magnum opus, marvellously titled the 'Isle of Wonder' is a

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## DHAKA TORN-UP

# Road diggers trade blame

TAWFIQUE ALI and HELEMUL ALAM

The usual game is on. The utility agencies responsible for digging up the roads in the capital during the rainy season are blaming each other for the mess.

Government agencies dealing with water, electricity, gas and telephone services this year too are digging up city roads all at a time without any coordination among themselves and "coinciding" with the monsoon.

Even some dug-up roads that had been claimed to be done with by agencies have been filled up without much care and defying rules.

According to the rules, any agency or individual that requires digging up a road must fill the trench with sand after the work is done. Then it becomes the city corporation's responsibility to restore the road to its normal state. But in many cases, utility agencies have filled dug-up roads with mud.

The city's Jatrabari, Sayedabad, Tikatuli, Kamalapur, Mirpur, Demra, Uttara, Gulshan and Dhanmondi areas have many roads either strewn with potholes or being dug up and left without repair.

As a result, stagnant water from seasonal downpours is

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Workers dig a trench for laying utility lines near the under-construction Jatrabari-Gulistan flyover in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

## ELECTORAL LAWS

# Reform bid hibernating

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The move to reform electoral laws has been stalled as the Election Commission is yet to decide on the proposals finalised by previous elec-

tion commissioners around six months ago.

Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad and his colleagues have openly questioned the necessity of the reforms initiated by

the previous commission.

With experience gained during and after the last parliamentary polls, the EC led by ATM Shamsul Huda had drafted reform proposals

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## EC to redraw boundary of constituencies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad yesterday said the Election Commission will move to redraw boundaries of 300 parliamentary constituencies on the basis of the latest census.

"The next 10th parliamentary election will be held as per the redrawn

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