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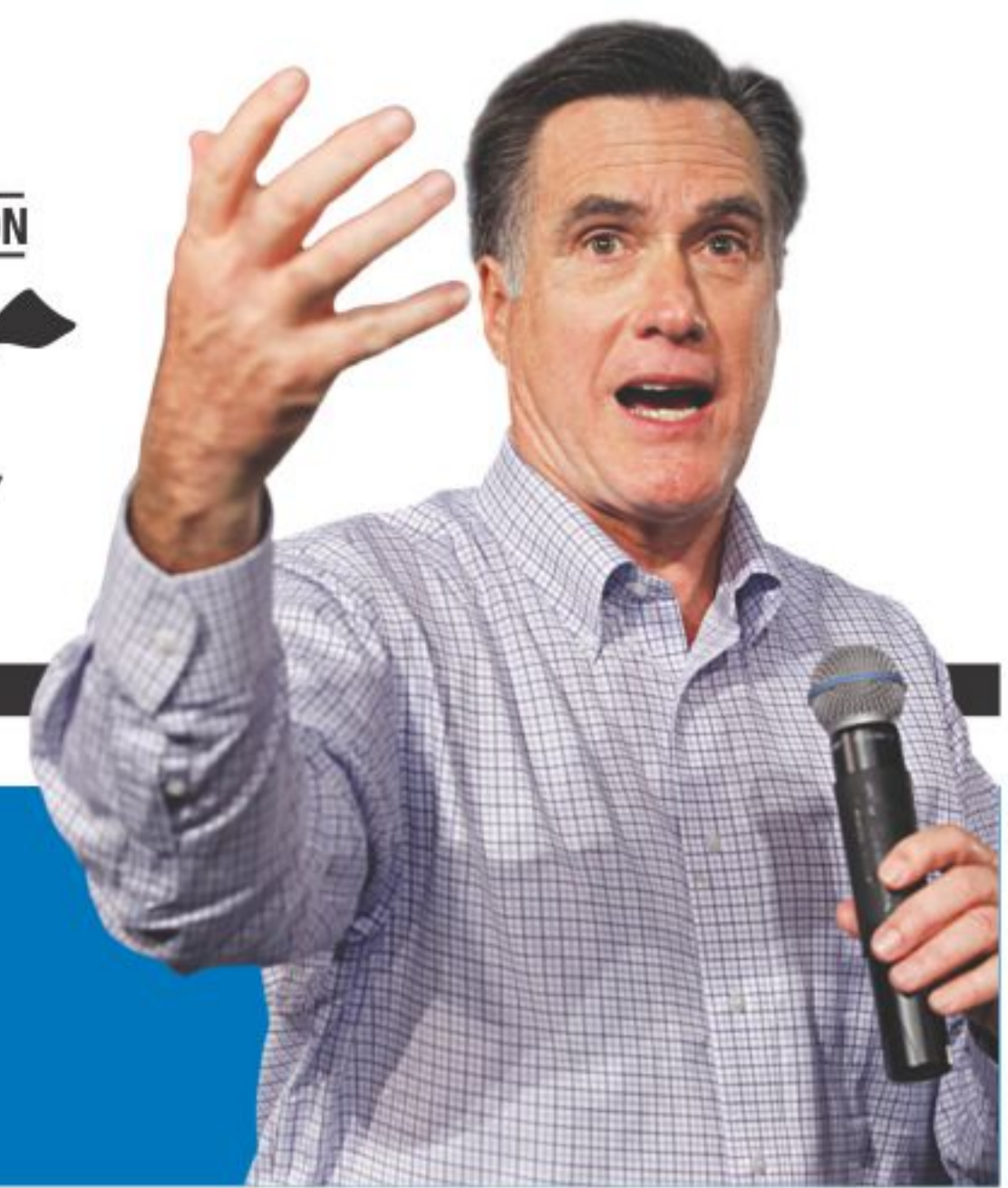
The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

www.thedailystar.net

Your Right to Know

24 PAGES PRICE: Tk 10.00



REGD. NO. DA 781 | VOL. XXII No. 195 | SHRABAN 15, 1419 BS | RAMADAN 10, 1433 HIJRI

GOVT TO EXPORT RICE

The move aims at ensuring better prices for growers

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A PASSIONATE WRITER

Littérateur-thinker Ahmed Sofa who never hankered for fame or money

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IRAN NUKE FEARS

Mitt Romney will back Israel in unilateral military action

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OPERATION CLEAN HEART Indemnity challenged

HC asks govt why Tk 100cr compensation fund for the victims won't be created

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Nearly a decade after its passing, the indemnity act legitimising all actions under a controversial criminal hunt called the Operation Clean Heart has been challenged at the High Court.

During a hearing on a public interest litigation filed by a lawyer, the court yesterday issued a rule upon the government to explain within six weeks why the Joint Drive Indemnity Act, 2003, second of its kind in the country's history, should not be declared unconstitutional.

It also asked the authorities concerned to explain why they should not be directed to create a fund of Tk 100 crore in compensation to the Operation Clean Heart victims.

Secretaries to ministries of law, home and defence, army chief and inspector general of police have been made respondents to the rule.

The BNP-Jamaat alliance government passed the act to give immunity from prosecution all those who carried



A transformer is kept right in the middle of a busy road in Old Dhaka's Chawkbazar, posing a grave risk of electrocution for citizens. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Caesar bows out with grace

QUAZI ZULQUARNAIN ISLAM from London

Syque Caesar puffed out his cheeks and exhaled.



"I am only 21, you know? I still have plenty of time," he said. He had just been asked the most surprising, yet inevitable question - is this the end of the road for Syque Caesar? Will he compete again for Bangladesh as a gymnast?

We were in the dark and drafty mixed zones, deep in the bowels of the O2 Arena in Greenwich. Caesar had just finished competing in his four events and as things stood, he was out of the Olympics. To be honest, there never really was a

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Businessman found dead at home

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A businessman was found murdered in his house in the capital's Gulshan yesterday. Mohammad Fazlul Haque, 72, an importer and the owner of Haque Paint, was stabbed in the neck in his room on the



Fazlul Haque

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PADMA BRIDGE FUNDING ADB, Jica may wait further

Extension of loan effectuation date likely for a month

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

ADB and Jica may extend the loan effectuation date by a month and see what else the government does to deal with the World Bank's corruption allegations in the Padma bridge project.

The finance ministry last week wrote to both the Asian Development Bank and Japan International Cooperation Agency informing them about the government's recent moves on the corruption allegations. It requested

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Remit more to help build Padma bridge

PM urges expatriates

UNB, London

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said it will not be difficult for her government to construct Padma bridge if Bangladeshi expatriates living in various countries remit more spontaneously.

"We don't need to collect toll or go for subscriptions ... if you remit more and more, it won't be a tough job for us to construct the bridge," she said at an Iftar party hosted by the Bangladesh

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10-TRUCK ARMS HAUL CASE Witness tells of torture by Rab

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A police official and prosecution witness in the sensational 10-truck arms haul cases yesterday told a court he was brutally tortured by Rapid Action Battalion in custody and was shown arrested in another case for his involvement in the seizure.

Helal Uddin Bhuiyan, the then officer-in-charge of Koilar Depot police outpost, broke down while narrating the torture before Judge SM Mojibur Rahman of the Special Tribunal, Chittagong.

Helal is one of the few policemen who rushed to the CUFL jetty where the smuggled arms and ammunition were being offloaded on April 2, 2004.

The court started recording his deposition at 2:45pm and adjourned the proceedings at 3:30pm. The court is scheduled to resume recording his deposition today.

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HC directive sought to end Buet crisis

Nahid meets UGC today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Supreme Court lawyer yesterday filed a writ petition with the High Court seeking its directives on the authorities concerned for the resumption of Buet classes within 24 hours.

Advocate Younus Ali Akond, who filed the petition, also sought the HC's directives to authorities to stop unrest, agitation and strike on the campus of Bangladesh University of Engineering and

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5 workers killed as cement bags fall on them

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Five labourers including three of a family died in their sleep when cement bags, piled up in an under-construction amusement park in Narayanganj, fell on them yesterday.

Police identified the deceased as Aku Munshi, 50, of Rajbari, his son Rakib, 20, nephew Asiruddin, 20, Zahid,

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HOME MINISTRY PROBE REPORT Cops let mob beat Mamun to death



M RAHMAN

A home ministry probe body has found that detainee Mamun Bhuiyan had not been snatched by his rivals who killed him in front of police. On the contrary, police intentionally handed him over to them

on May 29 in Kaliganj of Gazipur.

It has been revealed that Sub-Inspector Nripen Chandra Dey of Kaliganj Police Station abused his authority and also crafted a story to conceal the truth.

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System Upgrade: 6-Day Closure

Dutch-Bangla Bank (DBBL) will start a new Tk. 1.50 billion (150 crore) upgrade. This upgrade is necessary due to the popularity of DBBL's services. Because of the number of clients we serve, it will take 6 days (20th August to 25th August -after Eid) for us to migrate to our new systems. Most operations such as branches, ATM, POS, internet banking, e-commerce payment gateway, SMS alert systems will be closed during this transition period of 6 days. However, Mobile Banking and Credit Card services will operate as usual.

The new DBBL system will have the power to provide enhanced, more efficient and innovative services to our valued clients.

Thank you for being our partner in this continuing journey.



Dutch-Bangla Bank

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