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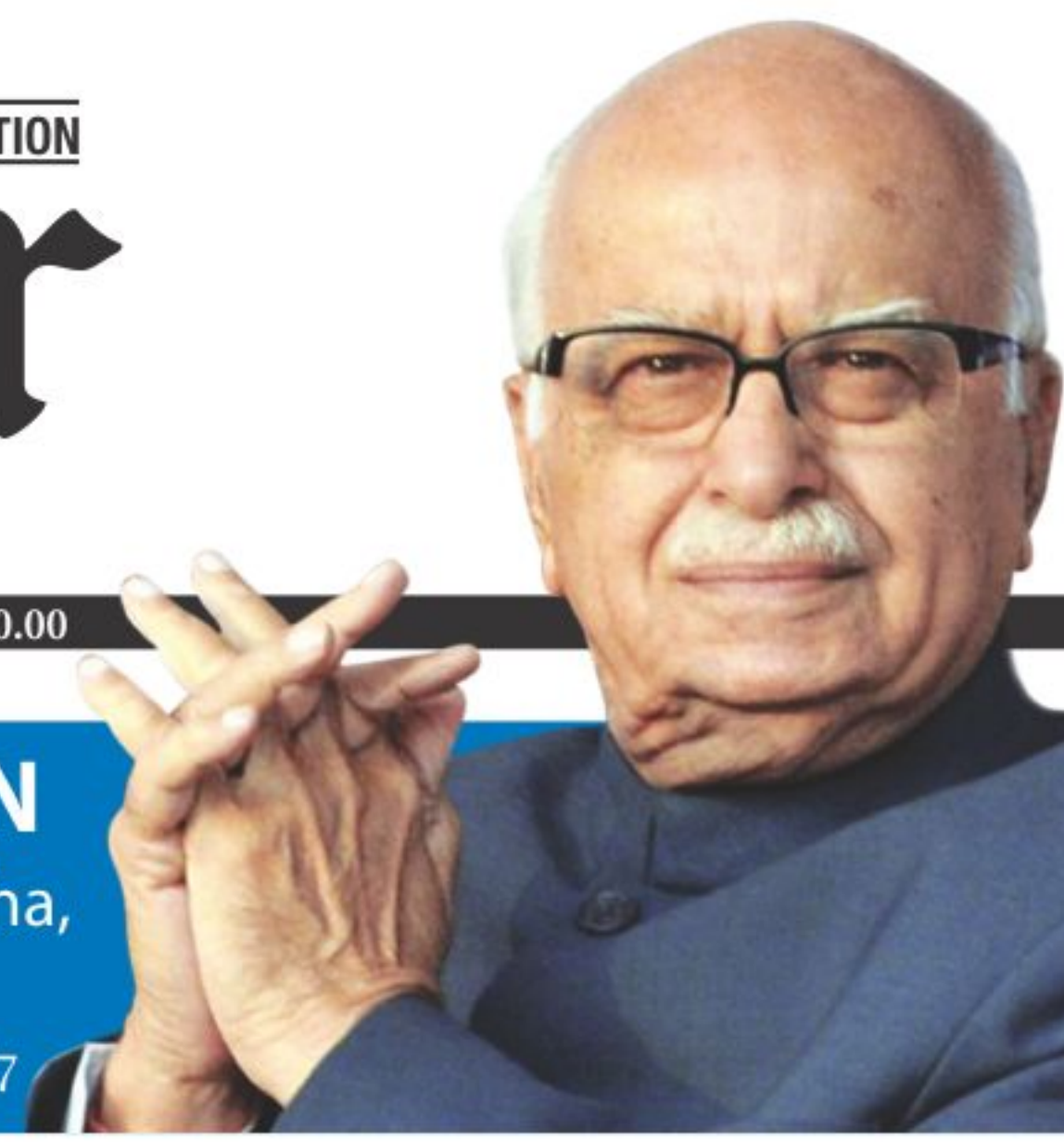
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PADMA BRIDGE FUNDS

BB asks banks to open accounts for donation from locals, expats

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THE ROHINGYA ISSUE

Julfikar Ali Manik draws attention to where the problem has its roots

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ADVANI MAKES A U-TURN

Calls the UPA-II illegitimate in Lok Sabha, later withdraws the comment

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Priority high, approach low

2 top highway projects go awry for lack of fund

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

Two high-priority highway development projects have totally lost momentum as the government released funds thinly and that too not on time. Both projects also suffered from bidding delays, exposing the inefficiency of the bureaucracy in implementing the projects.

The projects are the Dhaka-Chittagong highway widening project and the Joydevpur-Mymensingh highway widening project.

Work on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway began two and a half years ago. The highway was supposed to get two more lanes this year. This would have eased the huge tailbacks that have become a regular

phenomenon on the economic lifeline of Bangladesh.

Only 20 percent of the 192.30km highway has been widened so far.

Nobody knows when the highway will truly become a dual carriageway even though the deadline to finish the job has been deferred to December 2013 now, adding a year's delay.

The ruling Awami League in its election manifesto had promised to upgrade this highway, demonstrating how much the party cared about and valued this project.

However, problems have plagued the Tk 2,382 crore project from the very beginning. Flawed biddings led to tenders being cancelled twice since 2006.

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ZERO GRAVITY: US gymnast Alexandra Raisman performs during the women's floor exercise final of the artistic gymnastics event at the O2 North Greenwich Arena in London on Tuesday. She won the gold, her second on the night, with a score of 15.6 points.

PHOTO: AFP

Lock houses for security

Shahara tells Eid holidaymakers, sees no crimes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Residents of Dhaka city, before going on Eid holiday, should lock their houses, Home Minister Shahara Khatun said yesterday. She added that the government had been taking security measures, though.

There is concern over security during the Eid vacation as many people



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INTERIM GOVT FOR POLLS

Chief adviser from ex-chief justices

BNP to propose formula after Eid

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

The BNP plans to make a formal proposal to restore the non-partisan caretaker government system with a change in the provision of appointment of the chief adviser.

Keeping in mind the political chaos over the appointment of the chief adviser in 2006, the party may propose a system that will have the chief adviser chosen from among former chief justices instead of having the immediate past chief justice take over, said party insiders. A group of senior lawyers and

academics are now busy finalising the proposal, which might be unveiled by the party chairperson after Eid-ul-Fitr.

The party took the initiative to prepare the proposal after rejecting the prime minister's recent suggestion about a small cabinet with BNP participation to oversee the next election.

Party policymakers recently discussed the legal provisions of the caretaker government system (13th and 15th amendments of the constitution) with BNP Chief Khaleda Zia

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TAX EXEMPTION RIDDLE

GB paid Tk 10cr in taxes

Refund unlikely

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Grameen Bank, for the first time, had paid Tk 10 crore in taxes to ensure compliance for a period of six months, when there was no tax exemption for the microfinance pioneer, said NBR officials yesterday.

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Leave Grameen Bank as it is

58 top women leaders ask govt not to change ordinance, deprive real owners

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A group of 58 women leaders and professionals yesterday condemned the government move to amend the Grameen Bank Ordinance, saying it would deprive its real owners of their role in managing their bank.

"We are deeply shocked and saddened by the government moves to amend the Grameen Bank Ordinance,"

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Outcry over Grameen unnecessary

Hanif slates civil society

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Though the government has not taken any action against the authorities of Grameen Bank (GB), some members of the civil society have raised a hue and cry in the name of saving the bank, complained

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REOPENING OF ZARDARI GRAFT CASES

Pak SC summons PM over contempt

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan's top court yesterday summoned the new prime minister to appear later this month to face possible contempt charges, the clearest sign yet it could dismiss a second premier in a show-down over corruption cases.

The Supreme Court--which disqualified and convicted prime minister Yousuf Raza Gilani over the



Raja Pervez Ashraf

that as head

summoned his successor Raja Pervez Ashraf on August 27 for ignoring a request to ask Swiss authorities to reopen cases against the president.

It is the latest episode in a two-and-a-half-year saga in which the government has resisted demands to have Asif Ali Zardari investigated, arguing

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

Bomang Raja passes away

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati


Raja Aungshoi Prue Chowdhury, the chief of Bomang Circle, is




Raja Aungshoi Prue Chowdhury

no more. He passed away yesterday morning due to old-age-complications at his palace. He was 98.

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জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি



আসন্ন পবিত্র ঈদ-উল-ফিতর নিরাপদ ও নির্বিঘ্নে উদ্‌যাপনের জন্য সম্মানিত জনসাধারণকে নিম্নোক্ত পরামর্শ গ্রহণের অনুরোধ জানানো হচ্ছে :

- ঈদের প্রাক্কালে যারা ঢাকার বাহিরে যাবেন তাঁরা সময় নিয়ে ভ্রমণ পরিকল্পনা করবেন, যাতে শেষ মুহূর্তের ট্রেন, বাস, লঞ্চ ও ফেরীঘাটের মারাত্মক ভীড় এড়িয়ে নির্বিঘ্নে প্রিয়জনের সাথে ঈদের আনন্দ উপভোগ করতে পারেন।
- দ্রুতগতিতে গাড়ি চালাতে চালককে তাগিদ দেবেন না। চালক যাতে নিয়মতান্ত্রিকভাবে গাড়ি চালায় সে দিকে লক্ষ্য রাখুন।
- নিজের জীবনের ঝুঁকি নিয়ে অতিরিক্ত যাত্রী হয়ে ট্রেন, বাস, লঞ্চ বা স্টিমারে চলাচল করবেন না। ট্রেন/লঞ্চ/বাসের ছাদে/দ্রোকে ভ্রমণ করবেন না। ভীড় এড়িয়ে চলুন, নিরাপদে ভ্রমণ করুন।
- রেল স্টেশনে, বাস ও লঞ্চ টার্মিনালে, যাত্রা পথে পাশের যাত্রী বা অপরিচিত কোন ব্যক্তির কাছ থেকে খাবার সামগ্রী ও পানীয় গ্রহণ করবেন না।
- কোন ব্যক্তিকে অজ্ঞান পার্টি/প্রতারক চক্রের সদস্য সন্দেহ হলে তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে নিকটস্থ পুলিশকে জানান।
- বড় অংকের অর্থ লেনদেনের ক্ষেত্রে সতর্কতা অবলম্বন করুন, প্রয়োজনে পুলিশের সহায়তা নিন। কোন নোট জাল সন্দেহ হলে তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে নিকটস্থ পুলিশকে জানান।
- কোন ব্যক্তি/গোষ্ঠী যাতে অমূলক ঘটনার গুজব সৃষ্টির মাধ্যমে জনগণকে বিভ্রান্ত করে আইন-শৃঙ্খলা পরিস্থিতির অবনতি ঘটাতে না পারে সে ব্যাপারে সতর্ক থাকুন। এ ধরনের পরিস্থিতি সৃষ্টি হলে আইন-শৃঙ্খলা রক্ষাকারী বাহিনীর সদস্যদেরকে অবহিত করুন।
- প্রয়োজনে ঢাকা মহানগর পুলিশের সহায়তার জন্য ০১৭১৩৩৯৮৩১১, ০১১৯১০০১১২২, ০১১৯১০০১১৩৩, ৯৫৫৯৯৩৩, ৯৫৫১১৮৮, ৯৫১৪৪০০, ০১১৯১০০১১০০, ০১১৯১০০১১১১, ০১৬৭৮০২৪৬৫২, ৯৩৪১৪৯৩, র‍্যাপিড এ্যাকশন ব্যাটালিয়নের (র‍্যা্যব) ০১৬৭৮০২০০৬৪, ০১৭১৩৪৪৪৩৩৩, ৭৯১৩২২২৭, পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্সের কন্ট্রোল রুমে ৯৫৬১৯৬৭, ৯৫৬০৬৬১ নম্বরে এবং জেলা পুলিশ সুপার ও থানার অফিসার ইনচার্জ (ওসি) এর সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।

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পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স, বাংলাদেশ

GD - 3137

PADMA GRAFT ACC to work with WB, if loan revived

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Chairman Ghulam Rahman yesterday said the graft watchdog will work with the World Bank's "panel of investigative experts" only if the global lender revives its funding for the Padma bridge project.

"Scope for working jointly with the WB would be created if it makes a positive move for funding the project," he told newsmen at his Segunbagicha

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People unhappy over Teesta deal failure

Says Dipu Moni

STAR REPORT

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni has said people of Bangladesh are disappointed as the Teesta water-sharing treaty with India was not signed during the Indian prime minister's visit to Dhaka last year.

"Just before the visit of Dr Manmohan Singh to Dhaka, there was this expectation, and very high, that the Teesta Accord will be signed, unfortunately, it

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