

AFI SUBMERSIBLE PUMP
High Quality Pump
আর এফ এল
0192 4357640

The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

www.thedailystar.net

Your Right to Know

24 PAGES PLUS STAR CAMPUS PRICE: TK 10.00



100 YEARS OF INDIAN CINEMA
Film screening begins at Bangladesh National Museum in the capital
PAGE 9

SCHOOL DROPOUTS
Primary education is plagued by numerous problems
PAGE 10-11

INDIA COAL SCANDAL
Sonia Gandhi meets leader of the opposition as BJP sticks to hardline
PAGE 7

PADMA LOAN CRISIS

Mashiur all set to go?

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

In the interest of Padma bridge funding, Mashiur Rahman has tentatively agreed to step down as the prime minister's economic affairs adviser, highly placed government sources have said.

The co-financiers of the project -- Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) -- have extended their loan effectiveness after getting specific commitment from the government to remove Mashiur, officials of the two agencies said.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith assured ADB Director General for South Asia Juan Miranda of Mashiur's removal when they met on Thursday, they added.

The resignation of Mashiur is the last hurdle in efforts to get the \$1.2 billion loan, cancelled by the World Bank in June over corruption allegations, revived.

On Thursday evening, a meeting of the World Bank, SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

It seems utility companies do not have a clue about what the other is doing. The Titas Gas company started commissioning its new gas distribution line from Thursday in Jatrabari after it removed its old line from the area, which was posing an obstacle to the Gulistan-Jatrabari flyover construction. The company dug up the road and installed the pipes prior to Eid and had covered it up with soil temporarily to ease public movement. As they resumed their job Thursday, they discovered that Desco had installed a new high-voltage power line above the Titas pipelines, perhaps before the Eid holidays. Desco never told Titas its plan. Such lack of coordination has unnecessarily made the job risky as seen in the photo where the power cables are hoisted. However, Titas Managing Director Aziz Khan said the job would be done by Monday.

ELECTRICITY PRICE
30pc hike on
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) is preparing to announce a 30 percent hike in power tariffs, taking effect from September 1.

The declaration would be made within this week, a member of the energy regulator told The Daily Star SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

Honda coming to Bangladesh
Plans to assemble bikes, then manufacture those in 4 years time
REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

The Japanese Honda Motor Co plans to form a joint venture company in Bangladesh to assemble motorcycles, as production cost had increased in other countries, said a senior official of the industries ministry yesterday.

Within five years of operation here, the company would go for full-scale motorbike manufacturing, said ABM Khorshed Alam, an additional secretary of the industries ministry.

Honda would form the JV plant with the state-owned Bangladesh Steel and Engineering Corporation (BSEC) soon, he said.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8



HALL-MARK LOAN SCAM

Janata, Agrani too partners in crime

Finds central bank inspection
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

State-run Janata Bank and Agrani Bank breached banking rules to provide loans to the textile company Hall-Mark Group in connivance with Sonali Bank, helping embezzle crores of depositors' money, the central bank has found.

Janata's corporate branch located at Janata Bhaban and its local office in the city, the principal branch of Agrani Bank Ltd and the Sonali Bank Ruposhi Bangla Hotel branch worked in league with officials of Hall-Mark.

The findings came in a Bangladesh Bank inspection on foreign trade activities of the Janata corporate branch.

When accounts of the Anawara Mills and Max Spinning Mills were opened on June 8 last year the owner of Anawara Spinning Mills was identified in the papers as Md Jahangir Alam and the owner of Max Spinning Mills as Mir Zakaria.

In both cases, Tanvir Mahmud, managing director of Bobby Spinning Mills and also managing director of Hall-Mark Group, was the introducer.

Janata started purchasing bills of Anawara Mills on June 16, 2011, and of Max Spinning Mills on June 26, against letters of credit (LCs).

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

BNP steps into 35
Vows to restore interim govt system
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On its 34th founding anniversary yesterday, the BNP vowed to forge a tougher anti-government movement to restore the non-party caretaker government system ahead of the next general elections.

Leaders, workers and supporters led by BNP chief Khaleda Zia placed floral wreaths at the grave of the founder of the party and late president Ziaur Rahman at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the capital.

Leaders and workers of the BNP and its front and associated bodies thronged the grave premises to pay tributes to the late leader. Zia

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2
PHOTO ON PAGE 3

A new formula for polls time government

Unveils citizens' body
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

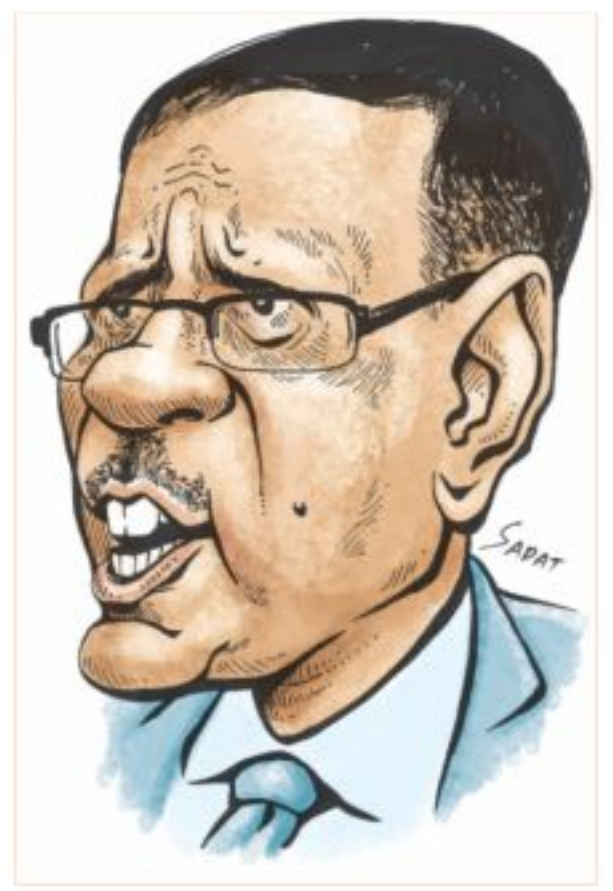
The next parliamentary election cannot be free and fair if held under the present government and without dissolving the incumbent parliament.

And the Election Commission, no matter how strong it is, alone will not be able to hold free and fair polls with the administration politicised.

This was the unanimous view of some eminent citizens at a discussion on "Interim versus caretaker government: in which way free and neutral polls" held at the Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday.

Shushashoner Jonney Nagarik, a citizens' body for good governance, that organised the programme came up with a formula as an alternative to the BNP-led opposition's demand for restoring the caretaker system and the ruling Awami League's proposal for an interim government under which the next polls will be held.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



Quader slaps railway staff
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Communications Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday slapped a train attendant in the face at Ishwardi Railway Station for his poor service and irregularities.

The minister also cancelled the lease of Mahananda Express,

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

স্থান: সরকারি শারীরিক শিক্ষা কলেজ, সাতমসজিদ রোড, মোহাম্মদপুর, ঢাকা

তারিখ	সকাল ৮টা	দুপুর ৯টা
৩ সেপ্টেম্বর	DHK 10001-11700	DHK 11701-13400
৪ সেপ্টেম্বর	DHK 13401-15100	DHK 15101-16800
৫ সেপ্টেম্বর	DHK 16801-18500	DHK 18501-20200
৬ সেপ্টেম্বর	DHK 20201-21900	DHK 21901-23600
৭ সেপ্টেম্বর	DHK 23601-25300	DHK 25301-27000
৮ সেপ্টেম্বর	DHK 27001-28700	DHK 28701-30400
৯ সেপ্টেম্বর	DHK 30401-32100	DHK 32101-33800
১০ সেপ্টেম্বর	DHK 33801-35500	DHK 35501-36788

সুরে সুরে মাতবে

অডিশন এখন ঢাকায়

Closeup তোমাকেই খুঁজছে বাংলাদেশ ২০১২

স্বপ্ন-সাধনা-সাহসে, গাও আত্মবিশ্বাসে