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# Baira threatens to stop export of manpower

*Asks govt to cancel state arrangements for Malaysia*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The platform of private recruiting agencies yesterday threatened to close manpower export if the government did not withdraw its decision to send workers to Malaysia under state arrangements.

The announcement came at a press conference of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira) in the capital's Ruposhi Bangla Hotel.

The agreement between Dhaka and Kuala Lumpur was signed on September 12 to avert the problems created earlier because of the involvement of private manpower agencies and the brokers, and to ensure that the workers are not exploited by unscrupulous middlemen.

But the Baira leaders claimed that this decision would create a big obstacle in manpower export and therefore, a declining trend might emerge.

"The move to send workers to Malaysia will fall in the brokers' trap due to the government officials' inexperience to pick the workers from suitable sectors and inadequate facility to train them up," said Ali Haider Chowdhury, general secretary of Baira.



India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni hit two lusty blows in the final over to give the total some respectability against Afghanistan during their ICC World Twenty20 match at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday.

For Latest Cricket Update Dial 2002

PHOTO: REUTERS

## Mashiur asked to sit at party office

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has tasked her embattled Economic Affairs Adviser Mashiur Rahman to deal with the economic policies of the Awami League ahead of the next general elections.

To this effect, Hasina, who is AL president, directed Mashiur to sit regularly at her Dhanmondi political office and upgrade the AL's economic policy for the polls, a close aide to the AL chief, preferring not to be quoted, told The Daily Star.

The policies are to be incorporated in the election manifesto of the party that heads the ruling grand alliance government.

Mashiur last night met the prime minister at her Gono Bhaban residence

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

## Teesta bridge opens today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina opens the much-awaited Teesta bridge in Lalmonirhat sadar upazila at noon today, much to the delight of people here and in Kurigram.

From now on, the people will have easy access to the capital and other parts of the country. Till now, they have had to use Teesta railway bridge only, which is in a state of disrepair.

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## PADMA GRAFT PROBE ACC team to visit Canada

UNB, Dhaka

A team of the Anti-Corruption Commission will visit Canada in connection with the probe into alleged Padma bridge graft after getting response from the government there, the ACC chairman said yesterday. "The probe into the

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PRAYER TIMING September 20		
Azan	Jamaat	
Fajr	4:40	5:15
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	4:30	4:45
Maghrib	6:05	6:10
Esha	7:30	8:00

Source: Islamic Foundation

# Kamaruzzaman was a known Al-Badr leader

*Testifies war crimes witness*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A freedom fighter yesterday told the International Crimes Tribunal-2 it is hundred percent true that Jamaat-e-Islami leader Muhammad Kamaruzzaman was an Al-Badr leader during the Liberation War.

Refuting a defence claim that Kamaruzzaman was "neither an Al-Badr nor an anti-liberation activist", Ziaul Islam, eighth prosecution witness in a case against the Jamaat leader, said, "He [Kamaruzzaman] was a known Al-Badr commander in Mymensingh."

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## A market with a difference

Malibagh market in Dhaka declared chemicals-free

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Traders in the capital yesterday declared the Malibagh Kitchen Market as the country's first ever formalin and carbide free market.

The declaration was made at a programme to launch an FBCCI project titled "Formalin and poisonous carbide free ideal market."

Commerce Minister GM Quader inaugurated the project at Malibagh

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

# Major shake-up in civil admin

*20 DCs get new posting*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a major reshuffle in the field level administration, the government yesterday transferred 20 deputy commissioners (DC), one year ahead of the next parliamentary elections.

Usually, the DCs are posted to districts for a term of two to three years.

"The transfers have been made on a general basis, and there is no other reason behind it," said Abdus Sobhan Sikder, senior secretary to the Ministry of Public Administration.

Talking to The Daily Star, he said all the transferred

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## Painkillers cause of headaches

BBC ONLINE

Up to a million people in the UK have "completely preventable" severe headaches caused by taking too many painkillers, doctors said.

They said some were trapped in a "vicious cycle" of taking pain relief, which then caused even more headaches.

The warning came as part of the National

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Construction materials are left on the pavement of a street in Jamal Khan area of Chittagong city with little concern for pedestrians who have to walk around the obstacles.

PHOTO: STAR

# No compromise

*Mamata rigid on demand, says govt must reverse decisions on major economic reforms*

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

A day after withdrawing support to the Congress-led UPA government, Trinamool Congress Chief Mamata Banerjee yesterday ruled out any compromise regarding her demand for reversing of the decision on major economic reforms taken by the Indian government.

Meanwhile, the Congress, which falls short of parliamentary majority after the exit of Trinamool Congress from the United Progressive Alliance (UPA), is struggling to shore up support for the government led by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

"I will stick to my position," said the chief minister of the Indian state of West Bengal, adding all six ministers from Trinamool would resign if the federal government did not backtrack on its decision to hike diesel price, limit the use of subsidised cooking gas and allow foreign

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

The Daily Star



Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with Dr Kamal Hossain that there is a scope for reviewing the apex court's verdict that scrapped the caretaker government system?

Yes (87%)  
No (8%)  
No Comments (5%)

TOTAL VOTES: 467

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with Mashiur Rahman that the WB charges were based on information provided by its "spies"?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT  
www.thedailystar.net  
YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT  
facebook.com/dailystarnews

প্রবাসীদের আরো কাছে থাকতে ২য় শাখা নিয়ে আমরা লন্ডনে

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