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# The Daily Star

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**'BLACK MUSLIM'**  
Madonna thus urges fans to vote for Obama  
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## Fresh reminder from WB

Padma graft allegations must be thoroughly investigated, it insists

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
The World Bank funding of the Padma bridge project will depend on the satisfactory implementation of all the measures it has asked the government to take, the bank said in a statement yesterday.  
Last week, the global lender announced that it was re-engaging in the project after the government had fulfilled some of its conditions, but for the project's implementation the bank also wanted a fair probe into the graft allegations.  
In addition, the financing will depend on the "positive report" by a five-member WB panel on the manner and progress of the investigation by the Anti-Corruption Commission.



"The Bank remains concerned about corruption in Bangladesh in general and in the Padma bridge project in particular. It is for this

reason that we have also made it clear that to engage anew in the project will require new implementation arrangements that give much greater oversight of project procurement processes to the Bank and co-financiers.  
"It is only after satisfactory implementation of all these measures as well as a positive report from the external panel of internationally recognised experts that the World Bank will go ahead with the financing of the project," said the statement, which came five days after its announcement of re-engagement in project.  
The bank felt "obliged" to make this clarification as "media reports have quoted senior Bangladeshi

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## BGB, BSF agree on checking use of arms

Chetia to be deported thru' legal procedures

**KAILASH SARKAR and M RAHMAN**  
Indian Border Security Force and Border Guard Bangladesh have agreed to exercise restraint in shooting intruders, said Home Minister Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir yesterday.  
He said this after a meeting with BGB chief Maj Gen Anwar Hossain and BSF Director General UK Bansal at the former's

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## High wave of Chinese investment in 3-5 yrs

Ambassador Li tells The Daily Star

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

There will be a "high wave" of Chinese investment in Bangladesh in the next three to five years, said Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Li Jun yesterday.  
Rising labour costs and economic restructuring in China were forcing businesses to relocate to other countries, including Bangladesh, he said.  
"Bangladesh has many advantages, especially in human resources. So, it is a very lucrative place for such relocation,"



Li Jun

said the ambassador at a views exchange meeting at The Daily Star office.  
Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of the English daily, moderated the discussion.  
Li said bilateral trade between the two countries was growing steadily and that whichever parties came to power (the Awami League or the BNP), relations between Dhaka and Beijing would not be affected.  
The ambassador said China had rendered zero tariff treatment to 4,762

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## Ataus Samad passes away

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Veteran journalist Ataus Samad is no more.  
One of the leading journalists in the country, Samad breathed his last at 9:25pm yesterday at Apollo Hospitals in Dhaka. He was 75.  
The famed journalist, who was



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## PM for lasting global peace

Reminds UN members to their commitments

**BSS, New York**  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called upon UN members to reaffirm their political and financial commitments for the sake of sustainable international peace and security.  
She also underscored the need for reenergising

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## Taxpayers made to run around

**SOHEL PARVEZ**  
Nurul Islam, who works at a private television channel, went to Segun Bagicha tax office on Tuesday to submit his return, as he has done over the past several years.  
He was taken aback when informed that his tax circle had been changed after an increase in the number of tax zones

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## Govt told to go ahead

**STAR REPORT**  
India's Supreme Court yesterday dismissed the government's plea seeking a review of its directive to the government to implement the controversial interlinking of rivers project in a time-bound manner.  
The court's order came amid protests by Bangladeshi environmentalists as the scheme aims to link 30 major

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## Super-Eights begin today

**AGENCIES**  
Bangladesh may have bowed out with a heart-breaking loss to Pakistan on Tuesday, but the World Twenty 20 shifts into a

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For Latest Cricket Update Dial 2002



These hajj pilgrims wait at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka for their flight to Saudi Arabia yesterday. But they could not make it as NAS Air Services delayed the schedule for at least a day. PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HUQ

অবিরাম উৎসর্ঘের অভিমুখে, সম্মানিত গ্রাহকবৃন্দের সাচ্ছন্দ্য বৃদ্ধির প্রয়াসে আরও প্রশস্ত পরিসরে এসআইবিএল "গুলশান শাখা"-র মুহূর্ত উদ্বোধন  
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ঢাকা-১২১২

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