



**HSBC PULLS OUT 'AMANAH'**  
It stops selling Shariah-based products in Bangladesh

PAGE B1

**'COLD WAR' HITS FIRST DAY**  
Busan Int'l Film Festival opens in the South Korean port city

PAGE 11

**125 YEARS OF GLORY**  
Int'l Herald Tribune is confident it can adapt to a digital age

PAGE 7

**SC judges should avert criticism**

Attorney general says in hearing on Speaker's ruling

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The conducts of Supreme Court judges should be restrained so that they are not criticised in any way, Attorney General Mahubub Alam told the apex court yesterday.

He said the High Court's observations about the Speaker's ruling regarding a judge were illogical and not right as the Speaker had made the ruling in accordance with

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

HALL-MARK LOAN SCAM

# 27 sued, finally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After two and a half months' investigation, the Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday filed 11 cases against 27 top officials of Sonali Bank and Hall-Mark Group for misappropriating over Tk 1,568 crore in depositor's money.

The sum, which was funded loan meaning given in cash, is part of the more than Tk 2,600-crore credit that the controversial group in collaboration with some bank officials swindled out of the bank using forged documents, according to the investigation.

Seven of the accused are Hall-Mark officials, including its owner Tanvir Mahmud, while the rest are Sonali Bank officials, including its former managing

director Humayun Kabir.

The ACC would now try to arrest the accused, said Mir Mohammad Zainul Abedin Shibli, deputy director of the commission, after filing of the cases with Ramna Police Station in the capital.

The cases were filed under anti-money laundering and corruption prevention acts, said Shibli, who led a six-member inquiry team.

"If convicted under the anti-money laundering act, the accused may get up to 10 years in prison and their moveable and immovable properties might also be confiscated," he told a press briefing at the ACC headquarters.

According to the ACC findings, Sonali Bank's Ruposhi Bangla Hotel branch

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

# Punish the culprits

Amnesty asks govt; protests in Paris, Colombo

STAR REPORT

Buddhist monks around the world and various international and local organisations including Amnesty International and INGO Forum Bangladesh have protested against and condemned the recent barbaric attacks and vandalism on Buddhist temples, monasteries and houses in Cox's Bazar and Chittagong.

Protesters threw stones at the Bangladesh Embassy in Sri Lanka yesterday as saffron-robed monks

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

# ATTACKS ON BUDDHIST COMMUNITY Most of attackers were teenagers

Instigators remained in the background

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK, Ramu, Cox's Bazar

Most of the attackers who wreaked mayhem on Ramu's Buddhist community from Saturday evening to early Sunday were aged between 14 and 22, according to witnesses.

The witnesses along with many victims also identified at least a dozen locations from where the attackers were brought in by buses, trucks, pickups, jeeps,

microbuses and three-wheelers.

On the evening of Saturday, less than a hundred people at Ramu started the campaign against the Buddhists through processions and rallies.

But, overnight, the mob grew to around 6,000. A major portion of those who torched and vandalised temples and houses were outsiders.

They came from Garjania, Monirjhil, Kawakhop,

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

BUDDHIST-HEAVY COX CITY PULL OUT OF FED CUP FOOTBALL -- STAR SPORT



A video grab image shows a small section of the mob that took part in hours of arson and vandalism at Ramu Saturday night. The group was caught on camera while heading for Cox's Bazar town around 12:30am Sunday. A number of young faces are seen in this photo.

IMAGE COURTESY: CHANNEL 24

# UAE stops giving all types of visa

Foreign ministry unaware of the 'temporary move'

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The United Arab Emirates has temporarily stopped issuing all kinds of entry permits for Bangladeshi passport holders as Dhaka has failed to resolve the UAE's security concerns over identification and fake documents, GulfNews reports.

However, officials at the foreign ministry and the Bangladesh embassy in Abu Dhabi said they were yet to know about any such move.

Earlier in August, the UAE imposed stringent measures because of the increasing number of Bangladeshis there, many with fake documents, expired passports and visas.

The UAE had considered this large number of people as a security threat.

Maj Gen Nasser Al Awadi Al Menhali, an assistant undersecretary at the ministry of interior in the UAE, confirmed that there would be no new visit visa, resident

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

# 22 BNP men get HC bail

Police cordon partially withdrawn from party central office premises

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday granted anticipatory bail to 22 opposition leaders and workers and directed the government not to harass or arrest BNP leader Mirza Abbas without due legal process.

Meanwhile, normalcy has returned to BNP's central office in the capital's Nayapaltan yesterday, a day after police besieged the office following clashes with the opposition activists in Nayapaltan and Kakrail.

The law enforcers allowed the leaders and workers to enter the office. Many leaders were in the office till evening.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

A schoolteacher walks away in tears from Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday, just a day before World Teachers' Day, as police lob teargas shells at teachers demonstrating for enlistment in the monthly pay order (MPO).

# WORLD TEACHERS' DAY TODAY Teachers without pay

70,000 teachers in private schools, colleges look to government contribution

WASIM BIN HABIB

About 70,000 teachers of around 7,000 non-government schools and colleges are not getting paid regularly, some for more than a decade.

This is because the institutions do not have the ability to pay the teachers while

the government is suffering from fund crunch which is holding it back to bring these institutions under government payroll.

Amid so many teachers complaining of dire hardship, the nation is observing the World Teachers' Day today. Many

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

# Cops club agitating teachers

25 injured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police baton charged teachers of non-government schools and colleges yesterday when they were agitating for inclusion of the educational institutions in the

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

Now BREWING...



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