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**AL rally in Ramu didn't incite attack**  
Claims home minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Home Minister Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir yesterday said the protest rally brought out by AL men on the night of the Ramu violence did not encourage the attack on Buddhists. "The party men were protesting the



A fire ravages the Sat Tala Bosti at Mohakhali in the capital. Around 200 shanties of the slum were gutted in the blaze last night. Story on page 3.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

**Stop polluting Dhaka rivers**

Task force gives 2-month time to plug sewage lines

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Inter-ministerial Task Force on rivers has served on the capital's house owners a two-month ultimatum to stop discharging excreta into the river and to make their own septic tanks.

At present a large number of house owners link their sewage lines with the storm sewerage system, making the rivers around the capital flow with wastes.

In a bid to make the capital's rivers pollution free, the taskforce earlier formed a committee to identify the major sources of the ongoing pollution.

"We have set a two-month time period to stop discharge of sewage into the rivers. Following this, the

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**Classical music fest next month**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Classical music experts from

Kolkata are set to perform at a four-day music festival at the capital's Army Stadium next month.

Organised by Bengal Foundation and Kolkata ITC Sangeet Research Academy (SRA), the festival will begin on November 29.

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MORE ON PAGE 10-11



The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

**ONLINE POLL**

Do you agree with BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia that the top officials of the government were involved in Hall-Mark loan scam and looted Tk 4,000 crore?

Yes (40.5%)  
No (58.2%)  
No Comments (1.2%)  
TOTAL VOTES: 802

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you agree with Awami League leader Suranjit Sengupta that the railwaygate scandal is a national and international conspiracy against him?

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

**PRAYER TIMING** October 8

Azan	Jamaat
Fajr 4-45	5-20
Zohr 12-45	1-15
Asr 4-15	4-30
Maghrib 5-53	5-56
Esha 7-30	8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation

**58pc children still need basic services**

13 percent engaged in child labour

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh made significant progress in promoting child rights during the last five years but around 58 percent children are still deprived of one of six basic services, says a government draft report.

The draft of the Fifth Periodic Report on child rights labels shelter, sanitation, water, information, education and health as the six basic services for children.

The report--revealed at a consultation

meeting yesterday--also states that around 13 percent of all children between the age five and 14 years were still engaged in child labour.

Capacity Building for Monitoring Child Rights, of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, organised the meeting with stakeholders at the city's Biam Auditorium to finalise the report.

The report is to be submitted to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child by

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**Ex-MP Swapan injured in BCL attack**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A group of Bangladesh Chhatra League activists yesterday attacked former BNP lawmaker Zahir Uddin Swapan in his own constituency, injuring him and seven others.

The attack took place at Agoiljhara upazila of Barisal-1 constituency.

Witnesses said Swapan was returning from a visit

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**Philippines govt, rebels agree on peace pact**

AFP, Manila

The Philippine government and the country's biggest Muslim rebel group yesterday announced they had agreed a deal to end a decades-long separatist insurgency that has killed more than 150,000 people.

The agreement would see the establishment of a new semi-autonomous Muslim area in the resource-rich southern Philippine region of Mindanao, which the 12,000-strong Moro Islamic Liberation Front regards as its ancestral homeland.

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**HC clears way for Moudud's graft trial**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday cleared the way for continuing the proceedings of a corruption case against BNP leader Moudud Ahmed.

On September 16, 2007, the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) had filed the case with Gulshan Police Station, accusing Moudud of amassing wealth worth

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