



REGD. NO. DA 781 | VOL. XXII No. 265 | ASHWIN 27, 1419 BS | JILKAD 25, 1433 HIJRI [ 24 PAGES PLUS THE STAR PRICE : Tk 10.00 ]

**GAS, POWER CRISES**  
Production drops by 60pc in some 50 factories of Ctg  
PAGE B1

**MORE CHOCOLATE, MORE NOBEL**  
The more chocolate a country's people eat, the more Nobel winners it spawns  
PAGE 7

**BIG B TURNS 70**  
Amitabh Bachchan marks the birthday with a lavish bash  
PAGE 10

## Govt administrator to run Destiny

Top shots of the scam-hit group sent to jail

**STAR REPORT**  
Hours after a Dhaka court sent the Destiny top brass to jail yesterday, the government announced plans to keep the controversial group's business running by appointing an administrator.  
Keeping investors' interests in mind, the government will appoint the administrator within a week after doing away with the current management, Commerce Secretary Ghulam Hussain told journalists yesterday.  
"The prime minister has already given her consent to the appointment of an administrator. If necessary, we will amend the companies act in consultation with the law ministry to pick more than one administrator," he said.  
Top Destiny Group officials are currently facing charges that include money laundering and transferring company

funds to personal accounts.  
The anomalies first came to light after a Bangladesh Bank probe in March found Destiny's cooperative arm engaged in illegal banking.  
Other agencies, including the Anti-Corruption Commission, cooperatives department and commerce ministry, also stepped in to look into the matter.  
The commerce secretary said the Destiny Group was not being banned as directly a few lakh people, indirectly even more, are involved with the company.  
"I will not say the Destiny incident is a national crisis. But it is not a small matter either."  
The government has also decided to investigate Destiny activities further and conduct audits of all the companies under the group through an internationally renowned firm, he added.  
**SEE PAGE 19 COL 5**



Rafiqul Amin  
Harun-Ar-Rashid

## THE GREED REAPERS

**Started with 12 members in 2000; roped in 40 lakh in a decade**  
**Only early-stage members made money; 98pc lost theirs**  
**Products offered: hair tonic, water purifier, TV, fridge, AC, cellphone, laptop, beauty items**  
**Illegal banking launched in 2005; got 8.5 lakh members in five years; one-third of the members are fake**  
**Huge sums 'invested' in fake companies ended up in top officials' pocket**



**MARCH 2012**  
Bangladesh Bank raises allegations of illegal banking  
**MAY 2012**  
BB freezes Destiny's bank accounts  
**JUNE 2012**  
BB finds signs of money laundering by top Destiny officials  
**JULY 2012**  
ACC sues 22 officials for laundering Tk 3,285.26 crore  
**AUGUST 2012**  
Cooperatives Dept unearths that 14 Destiny officials

## 3G from middle of next year

Telecoms regulator goes for auction by February

**ABDULLAH MAMUN**  
The 3G spectrum licence auction is due in early next year, with the service expected to be rolled out by the middle of the year, said a telecom ministry official.  
"I hope to finalise the 3G guideline by December after consulting with the different stakeholders and hold the auction in January or February of next year," said Sunil Kanti Bose, secretary of the ministry of post and telecommunications.  
The 'first consulting meeting' was organised yesterday by the telecommunication ministry, in presence of a  
**SEE PAGE 6 COL 1**

## ATTACK ON BUDDHISTS PM blames it on Ramu MP, again

Foreign minister assures diplomats of security; 'key instigator', ally remanded

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has once again blamed the local BNP lawmaker for "fanning communal violence" in Ramu of Cox's Bazar on the night of September 29.  
"We have reports that when the attack began, he (local MP) was sleeping at his house. It is like Nero fiddles while Rome burns," she said.

Hasina, also president of the ruling Awami League, was addressing a view-exchange meeting with leaders of Rajbari district unit of the party at the Gono Bhaban in the capital.  
Referring to the statement of the leader of the opposition (on Ramu incident) that one should not

## SAGAR-RUNI MURDER Rab not yet sure suspects are killers

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Rab yesterday said it was not yet sure that the eight persons named as suspects in the journalist couple Sagar-Runi murder case were indeed the killers.  
"We are not confident that the detained seven persons and the fugitive one are the killers. But we have to be sure about it through interrogation and  
**SEE PAGE 19 COL 5**

## PADMA BRIDGE PROJECT Funding after WB team's green signal

**REJAUL KARIM BYRON, from Tokyo**  
Bangladesh will have no problem in getting the World Bank's financing for the Padma bridge project if the global lender's external panel finds satisfactory the country's handling of corruption allegations over the project.  
Isabel Guerrero, WB vice president for South Asia, made the remark during a meeting with Finance Minister AMA Muhith at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo yesterday.  
Muhith is now in the Japanese capital to attend the semi-annual meetings of the WB and the International Monetary Fund.  
A finance ministry official, who was present at the meeting, said Guerrero mentioned that once the expert panel gives a positive report, the financing will start and steps will be taken to fast track the project.  
**SEE PAGE 19 COL 8**



Villagers remove from the road trees uprooted by a storm at Subarnachar upazila in Noakhali yesterday. The storm damaged several establishments, including this school (inset) at Char Clerk union of the upazila, while sweeping across vast areas of Noakhali, Bhola and Chittagong. More photos on page 9.  
PHOTO: STAR

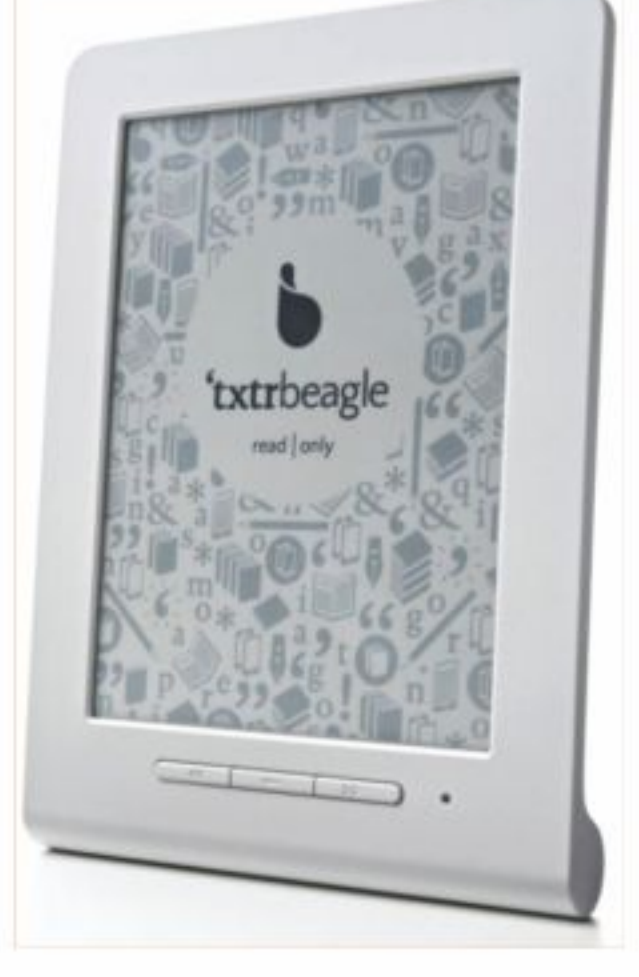
## Storms kill 22

**STAR REPORT**  
At least 22 people were killed and dozens injured when powerful storms lashed several upazilas of Noakhali, Bhola, Chittagong and Feni districts early yesterday.  
Of the victims, 12 died in Noakhali, six in Bhola and four others in Chittagong.  
Officials in Dhaka Met Office told The Daily Star that they issued an alert on Tuesday of a seasonal depression located in the Bay of Bengal.  
Gaining strength, the depression became a storm and hit different coastal islands between  
**SEE PAGE 19 COL 1**

**Philosophy of Statesman Sheikh Hasina**  
"The book **Philosophy of Statesman Sheikh Hasina** is a complete documentary, an invaluable reference and a beacon of light for the resurgence of the democratic and peace loving people of the world."  
**Irina Bokova**  
Director General  
UNESCO  
You read this unique and universal publication and tell others to read it published by Mohammad Omar Faroque Chowdhury, chairman of Bangladesh Awami Jubo League.  
Contact: Bangladesh Awami Jubo League office, 23 Bangabandhu Avenue, Dhaka.  
Phone: +880-2-9572299, +88 01717055855,  
For home delivery contact @+88 01519 521971 or visit www.rokomary.com  
10% discount until November 11. So collect it immediately!!!

## Wonder ebook in the offing

**DAILYMAIL ONLINE**  
A German firm is hoping to radically change the electronic book market with an ebook that costs just £10 to buy.  
"The txtr beagle is designed to do best what eReaders are intended for: reading digital books," the firm says on its website.  
**SEE PAGE 19 COL 4**



## INDIAN JAIL Bangladeshi sculptor to walk free after 8 years

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi**  
Having spent eight years in a high-security jail here on charges of possessing fake Indian currency, a Bangladeshi sculptor and another individual can finally walk free. A Delhi court yesterday sentenced them to a prison term less than the time they had already spent behind bars.  
**SEE PAGE 7 COL 3**

## GABTOLI BUS TERMINAL Body of a boy left in suitcase

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Wednesday evening. Gabtoli Bus Terminal area in the capital. Everything seemed usual: the everyday hustle and bustle, passengers coming in and going out.  
But what did not seem normal was a piece of luggage lying in front of a bus counter for hours. Someone in the crowd first saw it at around 8:00pm. As the night wore on, more and more people noticed the luggage, about three feet long.  
Amir Hamza Liton, an employee of RB Travels, was among those who spotted the black luggage in front of Rekha Paribahan bus counter. He initially thought its owner must be around. But when no one came to pick it  
**SEE PAGE 19 COL 3**

**Land for Sale Gulshan-2**  
PLOT : 7B, ROAD: 47 & 49, GULSHAN-2, DHAKA  
12 Katha (Corner Plot)  
**GENUINE BUYER ONLY**  
Contact Person: **Dr. Toufiq M. Seraj**  
Managing Director, Sheltech (Pvt.) Ltd  
**For Appointment**  
Please contact: **01713-091770**