Your Right to Know

JAIL KILLING PROBE

Investigator had to prepare FIR without visiting spot

PAGE 14

WOES OF DALITS

Indispensable in society, but ignored, always

PAGE 22

'ROCK-STAR DIPLOMAT'

NY Times dubs Hillary, who plans exit after US polls

PAGE 7

Pre-paid power meters for all

5-year scheme starts next month; pre-paid cards to put a cap on load usage, cut power theft

SHARIER KHAN

The government is set to start introducing pre-paid digital meters across the country from December with the aim to gradually eliminate electricity theft or systems loss.

In addition, these pre-paid meters will feature a mechanism for the authorities to control excessive power consumption by the users during peak hours. As a result, the meters will help the government manage load and slash power cuts.

The plan would be implemented over the next five years, said Power Division Secretary Abul Kalam Azad.

Each of these meters, which are

called "unified meters", would cost around \$50.

The customers will have a choice to pay for the meters in easy instalments or pay for them upfront.

Currently there are 10,000 prepaid meter users in Uttara, Tongi and Gulshan areas under Desco.

The system was introduced four years ago using meters developed by the Buet. The results were very satisfying in terms of eliminating system loss and improvement of bill collection in those households.

The Power Development Board (PDB) is now introducing another 46,000 pre-paid meters in Chittagong, Bogra, Sylhet and Sirajganj areas.

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The Baily Star honour our icons



FROM LEFT... Photographer Amanul Haque, singers Ferdausi Rahman and Firoza Begum at the Celebrating Life gala event holding their lifetime achievement awards. Standard Chartered Bank and The Daily Star organised Celebrating Life Award Ceremony 2012 at Mirpur Shaheed Suhrawardy Indoor Stadium yesterday evening. Film star Abdur Razzak also got the lifetime achievement award.



Gala cultural evening captivates audience

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shaheed Suhrawardy National Indoor Stadium yesterday vibrated with rhythm, melody and voice, individual as well as collective, when some creative minds, artistes in their own fashion and revered by the country, were honoured for their brilliance in photography, lyrics and film.

The setting was apt for the fifth award giving ceremony of "Celebrating **SEE PAGE 19 COL 2**

Malaysia to lift ban on Bangladeshi workers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After a four-year ban, Malaysia is likely to resume hiring Bangladeshi workers from January next year.

The Malaysian cabinet committee on foreign workers and illegal immigrants said the applications to recruit them were expected to be opened on December 1, Malaysian daily The Star reported yesterday.

Zafar Ahmed Khan, secretary of the expatriates welfare and overseas employment ministry,

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Bangladesh made major progress

The Economist says lives of poor improved a lot in 20 years

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Between 1990 and 2010, Bangladesh has made extraordinary improvements in almost every indicator of human welfare, The Economist reported.

"Economic growth since the 1970s has been poor; the

country's politics have been unremittingly wretched. Yet over the past 20 years, Bangladesh has made some of the biggest

The Economist

gains in the basic condition of people's lives ever seen anywhere," the popular British magazine wrote in two reports published in its November 1 issue.

In the 20 years, life expectancy rose by 10 years, from 59 to 69. Bangladeshis now have a life expectancy four years longer than Indians, despite the Indians being, on average, twice as rich, the reports said.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5 **FULL TEXT -- PAGE 15**

Khaleda likely to meet Pranab today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New

Bangladesh's Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia is likely to meet Indian President Pranab

Mukherjee here this morning shortly before returning to Dhaka after wrapping up her visit to New Delhi.

The meeting between Mukherjee and Khaleda was to have taken place soon after her arrival here on October 28 for the week-long visit but it was put off.

After Khaleda's meeting with the main opposition BJP's President Nitin

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

None righted the wrong

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, with

nearly his entire family, earlier in

August 1975 had been a rude

shock that left the nation in a state

paid to the principles that had

sustained the War of Liberation.

In that summer of cumulative

Bangabandhu's murder put

November 3 reminds brutal murder of the country's founding fathers



Syed Nazrul Islam

SYED BADRUL AHSAN Every 3 November dawns in dark-

ness for the people of Bangladesh. Every year the day is a painful reminder of the brutalities committed in 1975.

The assassination of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu



Tajuddin Ahmad

of paralysis.



AHM Quamruzzaman



M Mansur Ali

pain, a group of young military

officers, in connivance with a band of political predators symbolised by the likes of Khondokar Moshtaque Ahmed, pushed the country further down the path to disaster. It was in November of the year that matters came to a head,

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, walking beside her Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Tan Dung, is given a guard of honour during a welcoming ceremony at the presidential palace in Hanoi yesterday. Hasina began a three-day official visit aimed at strengthening bilateral ties with the Southeast Asian communist nation. More on page 3.

PHOTO: AFP

Dhaka, Hanoi for better ties Four deals

Hasina holds official talks with Vietnam PM

BSS, Hanoi

Bangladesh and Vietnam yesterday agreed to further strengthen bilateral relations in the fields of agriculture, trade, economics, politics, security and defence.

The consensus came during the official talks between Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Tan Dung in

Hanoi. Hasina and Tan Dung led the respective sides at the bilateral meet-

ing held at the Prime Minister's Office. "After a long interval of exchange

of visits of the top leadership of the two countries, I am confident that my visit would open up a new era in our bilateral relations," Hasina told a press briefing after the talks.

She also hoped that Dhaka and Hanoi would open avenues to strengthen relations at political, official and business levels, leading

to newer areas of cooperation. Tan Dung said both sides held wide range of discussions related to

mutual interest and bilateral, Bangladesh and Vietnam regional and international issues of ; yesterday signed four common concern during the talks. · agreements and memo-

nised the market economy status of : (MoUs) in the fields of Vietnam which is very important to : fisheries and livestock, promote the potentiality of trade and : agriculture, trade and ties between the two nations, he said. : business to promote bilat-

Hasina said "As the economies of ; eral relations. the two countries are based on agri- Prime Minister Sheikh culture, we can work together for · Hasina and her food production and processing to . Vietnamese counterpart SEE PAGE 19 COL 8 : Nguyen Tan Dung

MORE ON PAGE 3

signed

. UNB, Hanoi

Bangladesh has officially recog- · randa of understanding

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

অর্ধশত বছরের বেসরকারী ব্যাংকিং অভিজ্ঞতাসমৃদ্ধ আবহমান বাংলার ঐতিহ্যে লালিত



উত্তরা ব্যাংক লিমিটেড-এর

৪ নভেম্বর, ২০১২ (রবিবার) সিলেট বাংলাদেশের উত্তর-পূর্বাঞ্চলের একটি উদ্বোধন করবেন ঃ প্রাচীন জনপদ। বনজ, খনিজ ও মৎস্য সম্পদে ভরপুর এবং হযরত শাহ জালাল (রঃ) ও হ্যরত শাহ্ পরান (রঃ) এর স্মৃতি বিজড়িত সিলেট দেশের আধ্যাত্মিক রাজধানী হিসেবে

কোম্পানীগঞ্জের পাথর ও বালির গুণগতমান শ্রেষ্ঠতর। ব্যবসা বাণিজ্যের অন্যতম কেন্দ্রস্থল কোম্পানীগঞ্জে উত্তরা ব্যাংক লিমিটেড-এর ২১৩ তম শাখা আগামীকাল ৪ নভেম্বর, ২০১২ (রবিবার)

খ্যাত। সিলেটের অন্যতম সুপ্রাচীন জনপদ

থেকে অনলাইন সুবিধাসহ ব্যাংকিং কার্যক্রম শুরু করছে। উনুততর ব্যাংকিং সেবা দেশের প্রত্যন্ত অঞ্চলে জনগণের দোরগোড়ায় পৌছে দেয়াই উত্তরা ব্যাংক লিমিটেডের লক্ষ্য।



