



GRAFT ALARM IN CHINA

Xi warns corruption in the end will kill the party and country

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'LITTLE NEUTRAL ONES'

Neutrinos hold clues to some profound questions in astronomy

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SUFIA KAMAL FOREVER

Today is the death anniversary of the poet and women rights champion

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STUDY ON MPs

TIB flayed at Sangsad

Angry lawmakers term survey ill-motivated; Speaker to decide on course of action; TIB executive director says any decision should be consistent with democracy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speaker Abdul Hamid and some ruling alliance MPs in parliament yesterday launched a blistering attack on TIB, terming the graft watchdog's recent survey on the activities of lawmakers "flawed" and "ill-motivated".

In response to lawmakers clamouring for action against TIB for "undermining the dignity of parliament", the Speaker said he would come up with a decision later in consultation with some senior MPs.

Some lawmakers, including Tofail Ahmed and Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim, requested the Speaker to convene a meeting of the parliamentary standing committee on privileges, and to summon TIB officials to appear before it to defend the survey.

The Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) report, released on October 14, said 97 percent of the 149 sitting MPs surveyed were involved in "negative activities" that include being linked to or being supportive of criminal activities, misusing public funds and influencing government decisions.

And 70 percent of those involved in "negative activities" were engaged in "criminal activities" like murder, land-grabbing, extortion, tender manipulation and cheating. Many MPs even used their position to boost their income, the survey added.

Contacted yesterday, TIB Executive Director

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KUSHTIA NOV 5



Jamaat and Shibir activists swooped on cops in Dhaka, Kushtia and 9 other districts. At least 54 policemen were injured.

RAJSHAHI NOV 6



A Jamaat activist hit a policeman with a rifle after snatching the firearm from the law enforcer at Zero Point in Rajshahi city.

CHITTAGONG NOV 6



Jamaat men pounced on policemen with sticks and brickbats in Dhaka, Chittagong and 11 other districts, leaving 86 cops injured.



Activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir vandalise police vehicles at Narayanganj yesterday. At least 10 people including three policemen were injured in the incident.

PHOTO: STAR

JOYPURHAT NOV 12



Jamaat men attacked cops and torched vehicles during a hartal in Joypurhat. They tried to set a constable alight dousing him with kerosene.

DHAKA NOV 13



They attacked law minister's police escort and cops, snatched a firearm, vandalised and torched vehicles in Dhaka and three other districts. Twenty policemen injured.

CHITTAGONG NOV 18



Fresh attacks on policemen left eight wounded in Dhaka and Chittagong.

Give me another chance to serve

Khaleda pledges facelift for country

UNB, Barisal



BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday sought public support for another term in power, pledging a facelift of the country through massive development work.

"Give me one more chance. I will give the country a facelift through massive development work and will make it free of corruption," she told a rally at Bangabandhu Park in Barisal city organised by the BNP-led 18-party alliance.

AGITATION AT IU
BCL men swoop on teachers
25 injured

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Kushtia

At least 25 teachers of Islamic University sustained minor injuries when some activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League attacked a peaceful sit-in by the teachers on the campus at Shantidanga, 24 kilometres off the town, yesterday.

The attackers also hurled abuse at the teachers and beat them up, leaving them injured.

Witnesses said about 400 teachers under the banner of Islamic University Teachers' Association (IUTA) staged the sit-in before the university administration building demanding

"If I fail to do that, I'm giving you my word, I'll accept any punishment," added the former premier.

The opposition alliance has been campaigning for the restoration of the recently-abolished caretaker government system to oversee the general elections.

In an apparent reference to the allies of the Awami League in the ruling grand alliance government, Khaleda said, "Come out of the control of thieves."

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PHOTO ON PAGE 2

Sea level to rise 3 feet by 2100

WB report states how climate change to hit Bangladesh; warns poorest countries to be worst sufferers

STAR REPORT

As a consequence of climate change, the sea level will rise by up to 3 feet in Bangladesh, where water scarcity and falling crop yields exacerbate hunger and poverty, says a recent report by the World Bank.

Published on Sunday, the report says all nations will suffer the effects of a warmer world, but it is the world's poorest countries that will be hit hardest by food shortages, rising sea levels, cyclones and drought.

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Cabinet happy with annual reports

Ministries, divisions portray only successes in power generation, remittance and other areas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cabinet headed by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed satisfaction with annual reports of the ministries and divisions, which focused only on the success of the government.

The reports drew attention to positive developments in 28 areas like power generation, inflow of remittance, disposal of pending cases and social safety net programmes. But they mentioned nothing about infrastructure development projects like Padma bridge and corrup-

tion issues, according to a fact sheet provided by the cabinet division.

One of the success stories is a reduction in the drop-out rate in primary schools, 29.7 percent in 2011-12, down from 39.8 percent in the previous year.

The reports were submitted four months after the completion of the fiscal year.

The cabinet evaluated the reports and was very happy about the progress, Cabinet Secretary M. Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan said, briefing journalists after the

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Barack Obama with Myanma opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi after addressing the media at Suu Kyi's lakeside home in Yangon where she spent much of the last 20 years under house arrest.

Through his six-hour visit yesterday, Obama became the first sitting US president to set foot in the Asian nation, also known as Burma.

PHOTO: AFP



'No excuse for violence' in Myanmar

Rohingyas too have dignity, Obama says during his historic visit

STAR REPORT

US President Barack Obama used a historic speech in Myanmar yesterday to urge an end to sectarian unrest in the western state of Rakhine, saying there was "no excuse for violence against innocent people".

"National reconciliation will take time, but for the sake of our common humanity, and for the sake of this country's future, it is necessary to stop the incitement and to stop violence," he added.

He called for an end to communal violence between Muslims and Buddhists in the western state of Rakhine.

"Today, we look at the recent violence in Rakhine state that has caused so much suffering, and we see the danger of continued tensions there," Obama said in his address at Yangon University.

"For too long, the people of this state, including ethnic Rakhine, have faced crushing poverty and persecution. But there's no excuse for violence against innocent people, and the Rohingya hold within themselves the same dignity as you do, and I do," he added.

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