

VIOLENCE AND POLITICS

Views on Jamaat-Shibir aggression, responses from govt and opposition

PAGE 14

ASEAN SUMMIT

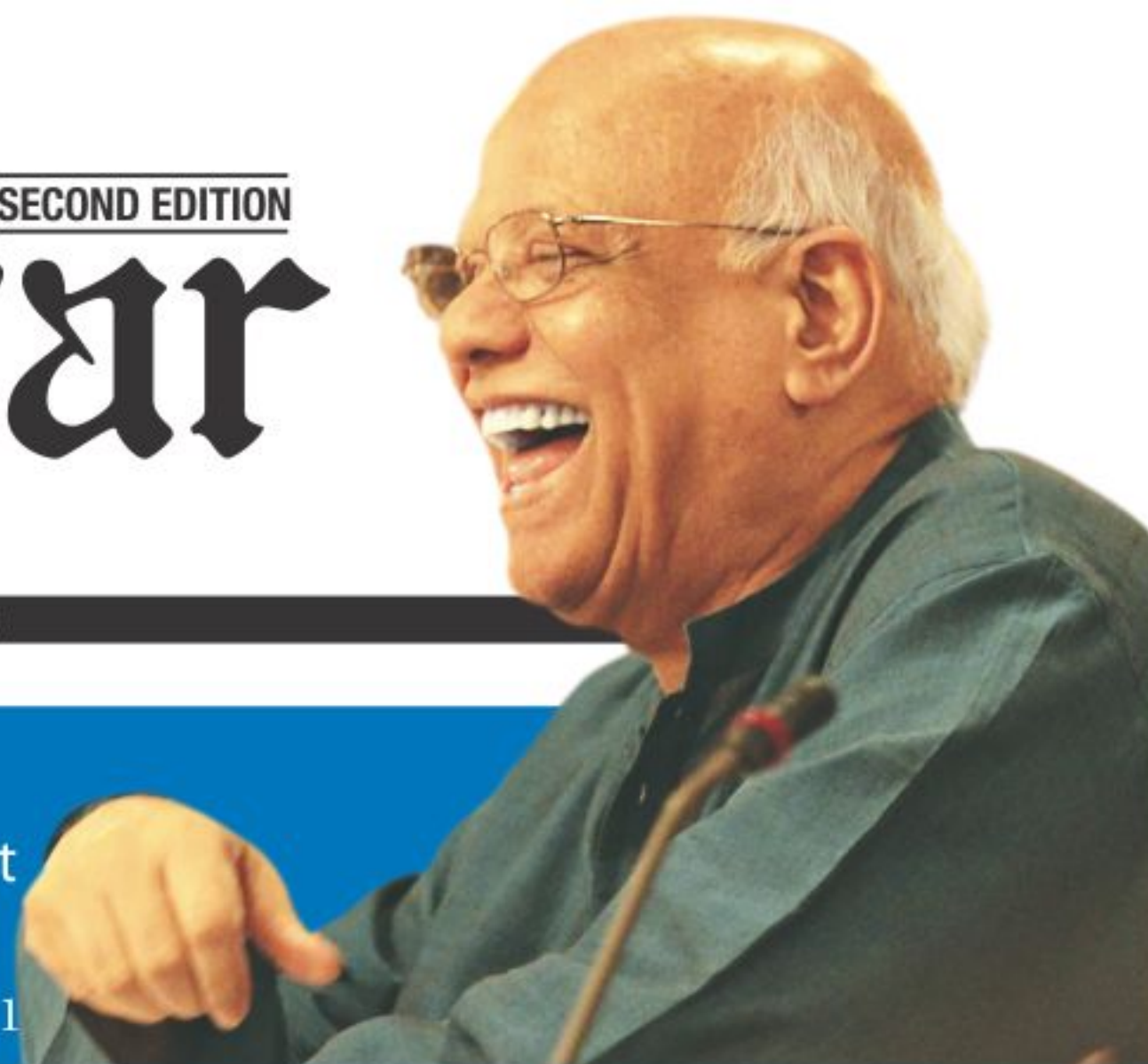
Obama set to defy China over sea rows

PAGE 7

MUHITH UPBEAT

Terms Bangladesh one of the fastest growing economies since 2008

PAGE B1



PADMA GRAFT ALLEGATIONS

ACC may sue officials in Dec

Focuses on bridge officials, for now

M RAHMAN

The Anti-Corruption Commission is likely to sue some top officials of Bangladesh Bridge Authorities and Padma bridge project by mid-December for influencing the selection of the consultant for the troubled venture.

But the anti-graft body may not implicate in the case former communications minister Syed Abul Hossain or prime minister's economic affairs adviser Mashiur Rahman at this stage. The two

went on leave recently in line with the World Bank's condition to revive its \$1.2 billion loan deal.

In its First Information Report (FIR), the commission will also bring allegations against officials of the local agency of the Canadian consultant firm, SNC Lavalin, which was controversially selected for a \$50 million job in the Padma project.

Through the filing of the FIR, the inquiry into the WB's allegation of corruption in the project

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2



Farmers at Sirajdikhan of Munshiganj produce a fast-growing cauliflower that can be harvested in just 60 days. They initially grow seedlings, inset, and then move the plants to the field.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Khaleda to join Armed Forces Day party today

RASHIDUL HASAN

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will attend the Armed Forces Day reception at Dhaka cantonment today.

She skipped the reception in 2010 and 2011. This will be her second appearance at the programme during the tenure of the Awami League-led alliance government.

Major Gen (ret'd) Fazle Elahi Akbar, BNP chairperson's chief coordinator on defence and security

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

TIB SURVEY ON MPs

Irked government to complain to TI

TIB defends its report, says it will respond positively if summoned by JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will write to the Berlin-based Transparency International against the corruption watchdog's Bangladesh chapter over its "ill-motivated" survey on lawmakers, Information Minister Hasanul Haque Inu told parliament yesterday.

"Transparency International Bangladesh's report is ill-motivated. It has vilified the lawmakers before people. We

will send the report to the TIB headquarters saying we reject it, and ask the organisation to make objective reports," said Inu.

Replying to queries from MPs, who blasted TIB for the survey, the minister said it had become fashionable in Bangladesh to label only politicians as corrupt though various quarters in the society were involved in the practice.

"TIB also did something of that fashion

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

It's all lies

Khaleda bins graft allegations against Tarique; says her son leads a very honest life

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday said her elder son Tarique Rahman leads "a very honest life" and is not involved in any corruption and has no wealth.

"All allegations of corruption against him [Tarique] are nothing but lies and

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

SECONDARY SCHOOLS Govt unveils admission policy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The education ministry yesterday announced the admission policy for public secondary schools, keeping the lottery system mandatory for enrolling

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

Khulna hosts first Test from today

Changes unlikely in Tigers squad

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh cricket team for the second Test against the West Indies at Test cricket's newest stadium and Bangladesh's seventh Test venue, the Sheikh Abu Naser Stadium in Khulna, is

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



GAZA CRISIS

Truce agreed: Hamas

Israel says no deal yet

THE INDEPENDENT

A Hamas official says Egypt has brokered a Gaza ceasefire deal that would go into effect within hours, but a spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said "we're not there yet".

"An agreement for calm has been reached. It will be declared at 9 o'clock (1900 GMT) and go into effect at midnight (2200 GMT)," Hamas official Ayman Taha told Reuters from Cairo, where intensive efforts have been under way to end seven days of fighting.

Netanyahu spokesman Mark Regev told Reuters the announcement was premature and Israeli military operations in Gaza, territory run by Hamas Islamists, would continue in parallel with diplomacy.

"We're not there yet," Regev said on CNN. "The ball's still in play."

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was heading to the region from Asia and was expected in Jerusalem late on Tuesday to meet Netanyahu.

Both Israel and the United States have said they preferred a diplomatic solution to the Gaza

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

HILLARY SENT ON MISSION -- PAGE 7

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