



THE MESSAGE US SENDS

Yousef Munayyer analyses American policies on Israel and Palestine

PAGE 14

CONGO CRISIS

African leaders begin talks as M23 rebels advance

PAGE 7

DALLAS ICON NO MORE

Larry Hagman, famous for playing JR Ewing, loses battle with cancer

PAGE 10-11



PARAG KIDNAP CASE

Kingpin survives 'shootout'

Claims police shot him blindfolded; wife says he bought land in Tongi with Tk 17 lakh; police version differs with Rab's

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The police early yesterday announced the death of Parag kidnap kingpin Ameer in a "shootout" at Tongi. But a drama unfolded three hours later, around 7:00am.

Doctors found the man alive soon after law enforcers took the "body" to Tongi Upazila Health Complex.

After he regained consciousness at the health centre, he claimed himself to be Moktar Hossain and said the police had shot him at close range after blindfolding him.

But his wife Beauty confirmed to local journalists that he was Ameer.



Bullet-hit Ameer at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Monirul Islam, inspector of South Keraniganj Police Station and investigation officer of the Parag abduction case, filed two other cases yesterday. One was against the couple for possessing firearms and ammunition and another against Ameer alone for attacking police.

Beauty was in the custody of Tongi police along with her four-year-old son Abeer and domestic help Rubi as of 9:00pm yesterday, sources said.

Ameer was shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital with bullet injuries in the chest and head.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



Locals try to douse the flames in Tazreen Fashion near Dhaka Export Processing Zone in Ashulia last night. The fire gutted several floors of the eight-storied factory and nine workers perished when they jumped to their deaths to escape the fire.

FIRE AT AHSULIA FACTORY

At least 9 workers killed

Around 100 injured; flames yet to be doused

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least nine workers were killed and around 100 injured in a devastating fire at a garment factory near Dhaka Export Processing Zone in Ashulia last night.

The dead included seven female and two male workers of the factory, Officer-in-Charge of Ashulia Police Station SM Badrul Alam told The Daily Star around 1:45am today.

Police, fire-fighters and witnesses said those killed in the incident did not suffer burns, but they died after jumping off different floors of the eight-storey Tazreen

Fashion at Nischintapur in a bid to escape the blaze that started on the ground floor around 6:50pm.

The flames soon spread up to the fourth floor.

Fifteen fire-fighting units from Ashulia, Savar, Dhamrai, Tongi and the capital were trying to douse the fire as of filing this report around 2:45am.

Panic-stricken workers, especially the women, started running helter-skelter and jumped off the building. This left many of them seriously injured.

Four of those who jumped died on the spot.

Harunur Rashid, assistant manager of the nearby

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

Akramuddin's panel leads in FBCCI polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A panel led by Kazi Akramuddin Ahmed was leading in the FBCCI polls last night as he won 11 posts of directors out of 15 in the chamber group.

The Ganatantrik Parishad backed by former FBCCI president Annisul Huq trailed far behind its rival by winning only four posts in the chamber group.

The counting of votes in the

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

Asia Energy back

Gets nod from govt for survey

SHARIER KHAN

with the British company in conducting the survey.

The ministry said the company would carry out survey in Nawabganj, parbatipur, Birampur and Phulbari areas of Dinajpur district, having approval for conducting activities required for exploration of a potential coal mine. The company owns exploration licence and mining lease for exploration of mineral resources

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5
NON-STOP HARTAL IN PHULBARI -- PAGE 20



Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan (3rd from R) is the toast of his teammates after claiming his 100th Test wicket, that of West Indies skipper Darren Sammy, on the fourth day of the second Test at the Sheikh Abu Naser Stadium in Khulna.

All changed with a shot

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh's tumble to defeat was clear from the end of the third day of the second Test against West Indies at the Sheikh Abu Naser Stadium in Khulna. The West Indies had taken a first innings lead of 177 and still had five wickets in hand, with run-machine Shivnarine Chanderpaul batting on 109. On the fourth day yesterday however, Bangladesh and Shakib Al Hasan in particular learnt a harsh lesson in Test cricket after the left-hander did splendidly both with the ball and with the bat to give the home side a glimmer of hope, which he himself extinguished at the fag end of the day.

It was almost a day to celebrate for Bangladesh's feted all-rounder, but the word 'almost' will probably be what the day is remembered for. He had to wait till his 49th over to take his first wicket, that of Denesh Ramdin, but after that he sent back Darren Sammy, Veerasammy Permaul and Sunil Narine in his next five overs. In taking four wickets he not only became just the second Bangladesh bowler to claim 100 Test wickets and the country's highest wicket-taker -- overtaking Mohammad Rafique on 100 -- but also effectively limited the West Indian

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

Ashura today

UNB, Dhaka

Ashura, commemorating the martyrdom of Hazrat Imam Hossain (RA), grandson of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH), will be observed in the country today with religious fervour and mourning over the tragedy.

On this day in the Hijri year of 61, Hazrat Imam Hossain (RA), along with his family members

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6

HOLIDAY

The Daily Star offices will remain closed today on the occasion of holy Ashura, and therefore there will be no issue of the newspaper tomorrow.

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Aarong
Dairy

Milk for Good