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Your Right to Know

## CHT PEACE ACCORD

Hill people have the right to ask where and why it got stuck PAGE 14

### THINGS TO DO

US envoy tags labour rights, safety to duty-free access PAGE B1

### **CASTING A COLD EYE**

China refuses to release Nobel laureate Liu Xiaobo

PAGE 6



WB, ACC talk fails to reach consensus on action against Abul; anti-graft body to reinvestigate corruption allegation; expert team departs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gloom reappeared over the Padma bridge project as the World Bank team headed for the WB headquarters in Washington last night seemingly unhappy over the omission of ex-minister Syed Abul Hossain as a top corruption suspect in the project.

The panel of the lead project financier met twice with the Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday, with the last session lasting only for about 20 minutes. Both the parties gave unclear statements over the outcome of the meetings.

"We had some open discussions. We are grateful...," Luis Moreno Ocampo, chief of the panel, told journalists outside the ACC headquarters before leaving. On the other

hand, ACC Chairman Ghulam Rahman said, "Now we have to look into the whole matter afresh...our enquiry officers will re-examine the whole thing."

Flying in on December 1, the team sat with the ACC for four times to discuss the findings of the ACC enquiry into the corruption allegations in the \$2.9 billion project.

Asking not to be named, a high official said the ACC will send the WB panel within a week a list of names of persons to be included in the enquiry report on corruption allegations in the project. And the inclusion will be made on the basis of evidence and in line with Bangladesh

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



A worker of the gutted Tazreen Fashions counts the few notes she received as salary at the IRI office in Tongi while her co-workers stand in queue for their pay. At least 1,380 workers of the factory received their pay yesterday. PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

West Indies star Marlon Samuels pulls one on way to scoring a magnificent century in the third one-day international against Bangladesh at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur last night. PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

## Samuels the difference

BISHWAJIT ROY

A vigorous Mashrafe Bin Mortaza sent dangerman Chris Gayle back to the dressing room early for the second successive occasion and the West Indies suffered a middleorder jolt, but through it all Marlon Samuels scored a sensible hundred to help the visitors bounce back in the five-match ODI series with a four-wicket victory over Bangladesh in the third match at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur last night.

The 'Narail Express' also got the wicket of Samuels but it was too late for the Tigers, especially after the right-hander had put pacer Rubel Hossain to the sword in the 45th over. The dashing batsman smote two sixes after smashing three consecutive boundaries and this fateful over -- before

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

TAZREEN WORKERS

# Compensation, salary given

GAZI TOWHID AHMED

Over 1,300 workers of fire-ravaged Tazreen Fashions Ltd yesterday received salaries and compensation from company officials under the supervision of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

paid to 990 permanent workers and 328 contractual workers amounted to Tk 1.2 crore, BGMEA officials said.

"We are giving them [workers] more than their expectations," Mikail Shipar, labour secretary,

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4 MORE STORY ON PAGE 3

## No more such fire tragedy

PM asks industries to ensure workplace safety

Salaries and compensation: STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday reaffirmed her commitment to provide all possible cooperation in ensuring safety at · workplaces.

She urged all to remain alert so that no tragic incident like the recent one occurs at any garment factory in Ashulia.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 1

# Graft record erodes

States TI, releases corruption perception index

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh's ranking and scores in the Corruption Perception Index (CPI) dropped in 2012, compared to last year, the Transparency International said in a survey yesterday.

The country remains static at 13th from the bottom of the index, but slipped 24 steps to 144th place from the top.

Last year, the country ranked 120th place out of 183 countries surveyed for prevalence of corruption, arranged from

least corrupt to worst corrupt. This year, 176 countries were surveyed.

On a scale of 1 to 100, Bangladesh scored 26 -- 1 point less than last year, when it scored 2.7 on a scale of 0-10.

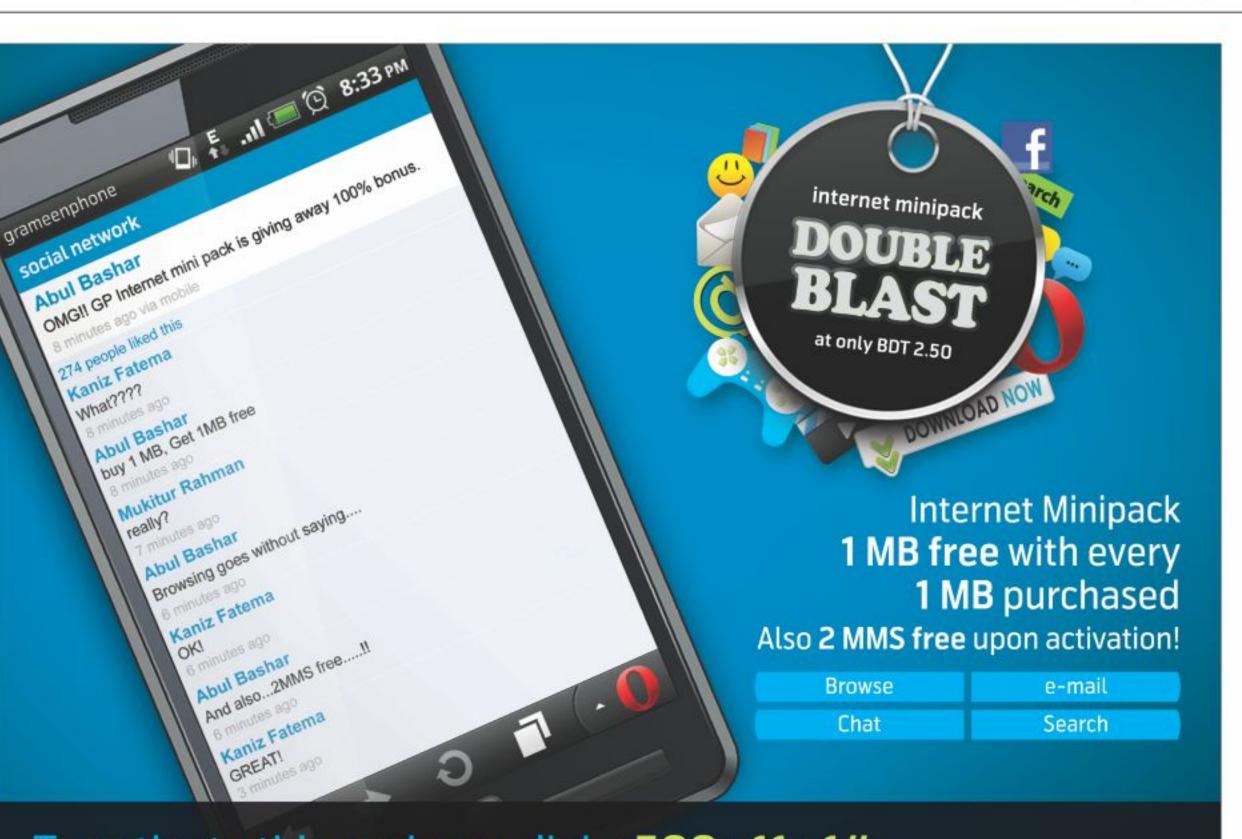
"From all considerations we think our position has downgraded. Although we remain static at 13th position, our score came down and in the list ordered from top our position slipped significantly by 24 steps. It is a matter of concern, Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

## nixed paying suppliers to fight fire

BLOOMBERG

At a meeting convened in 2011 to boost safety at Bangladesh garment factories, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. made a call: paying suppliers more to help them upgrade their manufacturing facilities was too costly. SEE PAGE 13 COL 6



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