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Major boost for Syrian opposition

US, UK, France join Gulf nations in recognising opposition coalition

REUTERS, Morocco
 Western and Arab nations sympathetic to Syria's uprising against President Bashar al-Assad gave full political recognition to the opposition yesterday, reflecting a hardening consensus that the uprising might be nearing a tipping point.

Meeting in the Moroccan city of Marrakech as rebels battled Assad's troops on the outskirts of his Damascus power base, the "Friends of Syria" group called on Assad to step aside and end the 20-month-old uprising.

Hours earlier, President Barack Obama announced that Washington would now recognise the newly formed coalition of opposition groups as Syria's legitimate representative, joining France, Britain, Turkey and Gulf states.

At Marrakech's meeting, leaders of Syria's opposition



The very-typical traffic gridlock in the capital turned unbearable again yesterday afternoon, ahead of today's opposition-sponsored 8-hour hartal. The photo was taken at Farmgate.

KAMARUZZAMAN'S TRIAL Tortured man testifies at war tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 War crimes accused Muhammad Kamaruzzaman used to pick out detainees of a camp in Mymensingh for death as whoever he had selected disappeared later, a freedom fighter testified yesterday.

PADMA PROJECT ACC set to sue graft suspects

UNB, Dhaka
 The Anti-Corruption Commission is set to file a case against the people involved in the corruption conspiracy in hiring a consultant for the proposed Padma bridge project.

Low prices, plant safety compatible

Wal-Mart CEO talks first time after Tazreen fire

BLOOMBERG, New York
 Wal-Mart Stores Inc Chief Executive Officer Mike Duke said he sees no conflict between paying low prices to suppliers that source merchandise from overseas and being able to maintain safe conditions at garment factories.

"We will not buy from an unsafe factory," Duke said in an interview yesterday with Bloomberg LP President and Chief Executive Officer Dan Doctoroff at the New York

Pay more, ensure workplace safety

PM spurs garment exporters, opens Batexpo-2012; Ashraf blasts US envoy's push for trade union

STAR REPORT
 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged garment factory owners to pay workers more and ensure workplace safety, as the apparel makers are making fortunes from the sector.

"I hope that the garment owners will pay the workers as best as they can and



obey the labour law, and ensure compliance with the buyers to expand the export market," she said.

Hasina was speaking at the opening ceremony of the three-day Bangladesh Apparel and Textile Exposition (Batexpo-2012) at Bangabandhu International

Water crisis in Dhaka to end

Claims Wasa as Sayedabad treatment plant phase-II ready to supply water

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 There will be no water crisis in the capital from today as the Sayedabad Water Treatment Plant is set to double its production.

The 10-year-old plant's capacity has been enhanced by 22.5 crore litres a day under its phase-II project, Taqsem A



Emily, her mother Leukaemia cured using HIV virus

AFP, New York
 US doctors say they have saved a seven-year-old girl who was close to dying from leukaemia by

Man drowns after being chased

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 After being chased allegedly by police and locals for ignoring a stop signal from a police check post, a man got drowned in the capital's Demra yesterday.

Thirty-five-year-old Azibor Khan, a CNG-run auto-rickshaw driver by profession, was riding home on a rickshaw with two other people.

Around 2:00pm, a police check post near the local poultry farms signalled the rickshaw to stop.

Fearing harassment on the eve of today's hartal, the passengers told the



A minibus goes up in flames at Bangla Motor intersection in the capital around 11:00 last night after supporters of today's hartal set it on fire. The vehicle was requisitioned to ferry policemen.

CHARGING EXTRA FEES MPO for 3 principals suspended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 The monthly pay order (MPO) facilities of three prominent non-government city schools have been suspended as they failed to give proper answer about returning or adjusting the extra money they charged for admission.

They are: Farhad Hossain of Monipur High

TV, mobile phone kids' enemies

Reduce reading skills: study
 DAILY MAIL ONLINE
 Children with TVs in their bedrooms and their own mobile phones suffer significant falls in reading

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

সায়দাবাদ পানি শোধনাগার ফেজ-২

আজ শুভ উদ্বোধন করবেন
 মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী
 শেখ হাসিনা

দৈনিক আরও ২২.৫ কোটি লিটার পানি

৩য়সি ঢাকা পানি সরবরাহ ও পয়ঃনিষ্কাশন কর্তৃপক্ষ

GD-4912

The Daily Star
Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL
 Do you think the law enforcement agencies will arrest the killers of the Bishwajit Das within 24 hours following the High Court order?
 Yes (15%)
 No (84%)
 No Comments! (1%)
 TOTAL VOTES: 489

TODAY'S POLL
 Do you think that the comment of Home Minister MK Alamgir that no Chhatra League activist was involved in the killing of Bishwajit is justified?
 PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net
 YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT facebook.com/dailystarnews

PRAYER TIMING December 13

Asan	Jamaat
Fajr 5-15	5-50
Zohr 12-45	1-15
Asr 3-45	4-00
Maghrib 5-19	5-22
Esha 7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন
 BANGLADESH SHIPPING CORPORATION
 প্রধান কার্যালয়, বিএসসি ভবন, সন্টগোলা রোড, চট্টগ্রাম।

"বিএসসি টাওয়ার"-এ বাণিজ্যিক স্পেস ভাড়ার বিজ্ঞপ্তি।

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন (বিএসসি) এর ঢাকাস্থ মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকার প্রাণকেন্দ্রে (প্রাক্তন দৈনিক বাংলার মোড় অবস্থিত) নিজস্ব জমিতে ৩ (তিন) টি বেইজমেন্ট ফ্লোরসহ ৫ (পাঁচ) টি ফ্লোরে কার পার্কিং সুবিধা সম্বলিত মোট ২৮ (আটাশ) তলা বিশিষ্ট "বিএসসি টাওয়ার" নির্মাণের কাজ দ্রুতগতিতে এগিয়ে চলছে।

০২। "বিএসসি টাওয়ার" এর ৪র্থ ও ৫ম তলা (প্রতি ফ্লোরে লিফট, স্টেয়ার, বাথরুম, সার্কেলেশন স্পেসসহ আনুমানিক ৪০০০ বর্গফুট) ব্যাংক, বীমা ও আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠান এবং নির্মিতব্য অন্যান্য ফ্লোরের ক্ষেত্রে শিপিং এজেন্সী বা মেরিটাইম সেক্টরের কোম্পানীসমূহকে অগ্রাধিকার ভিত্তিতে ভাড়া দেওয়া হবে। এছাড়াও টপ ফ্লোরে ১ম শ্রেণীর রেস্তোরাঁ এর জন্য ফ্লোর / স্পেস ভাড়া দেয়া হবে। ভাড়া, অক্ষীম ও অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী আলোচনা সাপেক্ষে নির্ধারণ করা হবে।

০৩। অগ্রাধিকার প্রার্থীসমূহকে আগামী ০১/১২/১২খ্রিঃ তারিখ এর মধ্যে নিম্ন ত্রিকোনায় আবেদন করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

০৪। বিএসসি কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন আবেদন গ্রহণ বা বাতিল অথবা সকল আবেদন বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।

মহাব্যবস্থাপক (প্রশাসন)
 বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন
 বিএসসি ভবন, সন্টগোলা রোড, চট্টগ্রাম।
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GD-4911