



# The Daily Star

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## ZAINUL UTSAB

Festival marks the 98th birth anniversary of Shilpacharya  
PAGE 11

## OBSTACLE TO CHANGE

What Walmart is actually doing on safety standards  
PAGE B4

## TONY GREIG NO MORE

The ex-England captain and commentator dies of a heart attack  
PAGE 16

# Anomalies cost state Tk 730cr

Audit watchdog finds state-run BPC didn't deposit Tk 639cr VAT to national exchequer even 5yrs after collection

MD FAZLUR RAHMAN  
The national exchequer lost Tk 730.33 crore between fiscal 2007-2008 and 2009-2010 due to irregularities in state-run Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation and its subsidiaries, according to an audit watchdog.  
In 2008-2009, BPC received Tk 639.40 crore in value added tax from its marketing companies, but did not deposit the money with the state coffer, the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (OCAG) said in an audit

report.  
Rules stipulate that the companies must deposit with the National Board of Revenue the VAT collected in a particular month within the 10th of the next month.  
But the BPC has not deposited the money even in five years.  
The marketing companies said it was not their practice to deposit the VAT with the BPC, but the audit team found this response unsatisfactory.  
According to the audit report,  
SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



The government effort to save rivers from pollution is not bringing much result, as the people living by the streams and owners of mills and dyeing factories keep dumping waste in the water. This appalling view is of the river Turag. The photo was taken a few days ago from the Aminbazar bridge, on the outskirts of the capital.  
PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

# Same old formula

AL re-elects Hasina, Ashraf; party charter, RPO flouted as no election for others

SHAKHAWAT LITON and HASAN JAHID TUSHER  
Sheikh Hasina and Syed Ashraf Islam were re-elected Awami League president and general secretary unopposed at the party's national council yesterday.



They were also given the power to choose other members of the AL central committee in clear violation of the party charter and Representation of People Order.  
The AL charter mandates the councillors to elect all leaders, including a treasurer, 13 members of presidium, its highest policymaking body; 31 secretaries, including three joint general secretaries and seven organising secretaries.  
The party chief can only select 26 members of its highest decision-making forum, the AL Central Working Committee.  
Also as a political party registered under the RPO, the Awami League  
SEE PAGE 19 COL 1  
PHOTO ON PAGE 2

# AL to accept people's verdict in next polls

Hasina tells party council

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
The ruling Awami League would accept any results of the next parliamentary elections, pledged the party's re-elected President Sheikh Hasina yesterday.  
"The people of Bangladesh will vote for us in the next polls, if they like us. But if otherwise, we will accept whatever verdict they give. This is our ideal and motto," she said in her party's national council at the historic Suhrawardy Udyan in the capital.  
Hasina, also the prime minister, made the remarks a year ahead of the next general elections, which is set to be held under her government since the caretaker government system was abolished in June 2011. However, her speech in the council  
SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

# Outpouring of grief as Delhi rape victim dies

REUTERS, New Delhi/Singapore  
The 23-year-old woman whose gang rape provoked protests and rare national debate about violence against women in India has died from her injuries, prompting promises of action from a government that has struggled to respond

to public outrage.  
The unidentified medical student, who suffered a brain injury and massive internal damage in the December 16 attack, breathed her last in a hospital in Singapore where she had been taken for treatment.  
Protesters rallied peacefully in  
SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

A lesson for Bangladesh  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Rights leaders in Bangladesh have joined Indians in calling for an end to crimes against women.  
The call came after India's gangrape victim, a medical student, died, triggering public protests over attitude towards  
SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

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