

THE DAILY *Star* ON FRIDAY

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PHOTO SHOW FROM JAN 25

"Fragility" is the theme of the biennial exhibition's seventh edition

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COSTLY MISDEEDS

Audits find irregularities in state companies cost Tk 76.87cr

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'IDIOTIC THINKING'

Preacher alarms many in Egypt, saying all women must wear veils

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BEGUM ROKEYA UNIVERSITY Teachers' rally under attack

7 hurt as acid from loudspeaker's battery splashes on them during attack allegedly by BCL men; university closed indefinitely

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A group of outsiders, allegedly Bangladesh Chhatra League activists, yesterday attacked teachers and students of Begum Rokeya University at Rangpur, leaving seven teachers with burn injuries from battery acid.

The public university was closed sine die following the incident.

Tuhin Wadud, a lecturer of Bangla department, and Motiur Rahman, associate professor of management department, were admitted to Rangpur Medical College Hospital with burns to their eyes and faces.

The other teachers received minor injuries.

Sources said the teachers and students were on a movement demanding resignation of its vice-chancellor,

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PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Monkeys huddle together for warmth at Dhaka Zoo yesterday, as the country continues to reel from the cold wave sweeping over Bangladesh.

BORDER KILLING India formally regretted, says MKA

STAR REPORT

India has formally regretted the recent border killings of Bangladeshis by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF), Home Minister Muhiuddin Khan Alamgir said yesterday.

Sources at the foreign ministry, however, said the neighbouring country was yet to reply to the note of protest Bangladesh sent to its external affairs ministry through the Indian High Commission in Dhaka on January 7.

The note contained tough words against border killings that have continued even after

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Cold claims 8 more

Mercury dips further; northern region worst-hit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As mercury hit 45-year low yesterday with the minimum temperature recorded at 3 degrees Celsius in Saidpur, the cold snap claimed at least eight more lives.

Cold-related complications left four people dead in Lalmonirhat, one each in Jamalpur and Madaripur and two in Moulvibazar from Wednesday night till yesterday, officials say.

The death toll in the cold spell over the last one week now climbs to 90.

With Wednesday's minimum temperature of 3.2°C in Dinajpur, this winter seems threatening to break the 1968 record of all-time low -- 2.8°C in Sreemangal.

However, in the capital, the day was slightly warmer with temperature rising to 7.6°C from 7.2°C in 24 hours.

The second lowest temperature yesterday was 3.5°C in Rangpur.

According to the Met office, the severe cold spell sweeping over Rajshahi and

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Why Bikash was freed secretly?

JS body asks home ministry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary committee at a meeting yesterday asked the home ministry to explain why it had secretly released a top criminal like Bikash Kumar Biswas from jail without notifying the law enforcement agencies, said a source in the committee.

Sayedul Huq, president of the parliamentary body on home ministry, first raised the issue at the meeting, also

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All set for extradition treaty with India

Signing likely during Indian home minister's visit on Jan 28-30

M RAHMAN

An extradition treaty between Bangladesh and India is likely to be signed during Indian Home Minister Sushilkumar Shinde's Dhaka visit later this month.

"We are finalising the draft of the treaty and keeping regular contact with India for

tabling it when the Indian minister comes," an additional secretary of the ministry told The Daily Star yesterday, requesting anonymity.

He added they were finalising the draft keeping in mind the national interests of the two countries.

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Biswa Ijtema begins today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Biswa Ijtema, the second largest Muslim congregation after the holy Hajj, is set to begin today on the bank of the Turag on the capital's outskirts Tongi.

The 48th Ijtema will be in two phases to accommodate huge number of devotees from home and abroad on the 160-acre Ijtema ground.

The congregation will start after Fajr prayers. Several million devotees including a large number from the capital and its adjoining areas are expected to join Juma



Devotees from across the country head for the Biswa Ijtema ground in Tongi yesterday to join the second largest Muslim congregation in the world.

PHOTO: STAR

Opposition out to bring back another 1/11

Says prime minister

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the opposition was staging anti-government movement to foil democracy, bring back a 1/11-like situation and save war criminals.

She also said the nation could not move forward as the anti-liberation forces ruled the country for 21 years after the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1975.

The premier made the remarks while addressing a discussion meeting marking the historic Homecoming Day of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

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The dark episode of 2007

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Just six years ago on this day, the then president Iajuddin Ahmed had to declare a state of emergency to stop the country from plunging into further political chaos with a general election round the corner.

And after six years, when another general election is approaching, the country is again heading for a political crisis, showing that the top politicians have failed to learn from the crisis in 2007.

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Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC)
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