



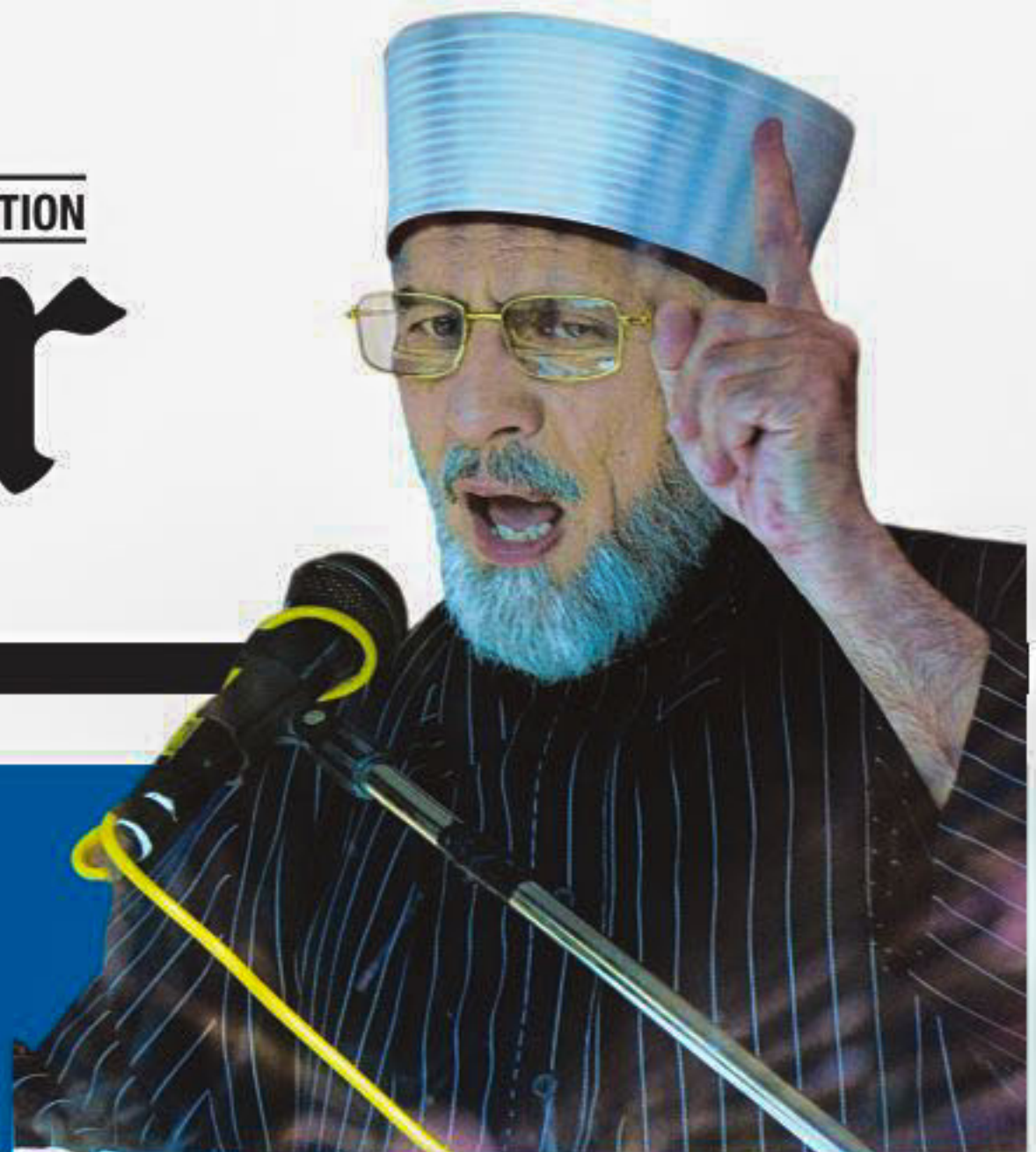
The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

www.thedailystar.net

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24 PAGES PRICE : Tk 10.00



KOREA CLASSIC CONCERT

An event celebrates 40 years of
Dhaka-Seoul relations

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STREET CHILDREN'S LIFE

Article sheds light on narcotics use
by those kids in Bangladesh

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CRISIS AVERTED?

Pakistan looks heading to polls
as cleric strikes deal with govt

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Add in Abul, get WB fund

*Lead financier of Padma bridge advises
govt to include him in list of corruption
conspiracy accused*

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The World Bank has told Bangladesh that it would go for financing the Padma bridge project if former communications minister Syed Abul Hossain be on the list of accused in the corruption conspiracy case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission.

The assurance came during a meeting in Washington last week among the World Bank president, its executive director for Bangladesh and other high officials.

Mukesh N Prasad, the WB executive director, has informed Finance Minister AMA Muhith and Prime Minister's Foreign Affairs Adviser Gowher Rizvi of this stance of the global lender, according to a source at the ministry.

Mukesh had sat with the World Bank officials to urge them to start financing the bridge construction once the lender's external panel submits its report.

Led by Luis Moreno Ocampo, the panel is

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PHOTO: STAR

This photo taken about a year ago depicts land grabbers choking the Turag at Sinnirtek in Mirpur in the capital. The BIWTA and Dhaka district administration began to restore the river to its original state but they employed a handful of workers, inset. It would take a long time to finish the job at this pace. Story on page 3.



4 robbers killed in gunfight

Maj (retd) Ziauddin hurt

STAR REPORT

Freedom fighter Major (retd) Ziauddin was injured when pirates ambushed him and his men at Charaputia area of Chandpai range in East Sundarbans yesterday. At least four pirates were reportedly killed.

Ziauddin, chairman of Dublarchar Fishermen Group and sub-sector commander of Sector-9 during the Liberation War, sustained bullet injuries in the head during the gunfight, reports our Barisal correspondent.

The identities of the deceased pirates could not be known.

A coastguard team and a Rapid Action Battalion team had been dispatched to bring Ziauddin to Mongla, reports a correspondent in Bagerhat.

Kamal Uddin Ahmed, younger brother of

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FAKHRUL'S IMPRISONMENT

A blatant abuse of the law

SHAKHAWAT LITON and CHAITANYA CHANDRA HALDER

For Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, his freedom and imprisonment appear to

NEWS ANALYSIS

play a game of "hide and seek", as BNP's acting secretary general's lawyers procure bail in one case, like magic, another case pops up in which he is shown arrested. With 22 cases now staked against him, police will have enough cases to pop up and keep him in jail for months, even if he is granted bail every time a case comes to court.

That's not all. One court finds him the most dangerous person for law and order. But then another court finds him good enough to walk out on bail.

Fakhrul's brush with such blatant harassment began on the evening of December 10, 2012.

He was arrested on that day in connection with two cases filed with Paltan and Sher-e-Bangla Nagar police stations for allegedly vandalising a city corporation garbage truck and blasting cocktails during the opposition-sponsored road blockade on December 9, 2012.

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Bangladesh fared better than most of South Asia

*Says UN report on
global economy*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Economic prospects for Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, in contrast to the rest of South Asia, remained favourable despite a moderate slowdown last year, says a United Nations report.

Strong growth in private investment and consumption, backed by a steady increase in remittances, contributed to economic expansion in the two countries.

Titled "World Economic Situation and Prospects 2013 (WESP)", the report was unveiled on Thursday in seven cities across the world. Its first chapter was pre-released in New York in December last year.

It says Bangladesh's GDP grew by 6.2

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Campus politics going bad

*Nahid laments present trend of teacher-student politics in public universities,
urges all to bring back glory days of yore*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"Bad politics" has crept in the public universities and some teachers are involved with such politics, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid said yesterday.

"It used to be called student-teachers' movement in the past. But now it is called students or teachers' politics. In the meantime, bad politics has entered the public universities," the minister observed.

In the past, teachers and students used to stage demonstrations for the cause of the nation or to press home any demand, he told at a seminar titled "Teachers' politics in Bangladesh: Achievements, Crisis and Possibilities in Higher Education."

Dhaka University Journalists' Association (DUJA) organised the seminar at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban at Dhaka University.

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Teenager ravaged 3 rapists held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A teenage girl was gang-raped by seven men in Mirsarai upazila of Chittagong on Wednesday.

Police said the seven men kidnapped the 18-year-old girl from her house when her parents were out on the night of January 16.

"They broke into the house of the victim and forced her out to an adjacent field around 1:00am and raped her till 3:30am," said Humoun Kabir, sub-inspector of Mirsarai Police Station.

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The Bibiyana gas field, where Chevron is to invest \$500 million so that more gas could be extracted to address the country's gas crisis.

PHOTO: FILE



Bibiyana field much larger than thought

*Chevron pumps most gas in recent
years; new gas supply depends on
setting pipelines*

SHARIER KHAN

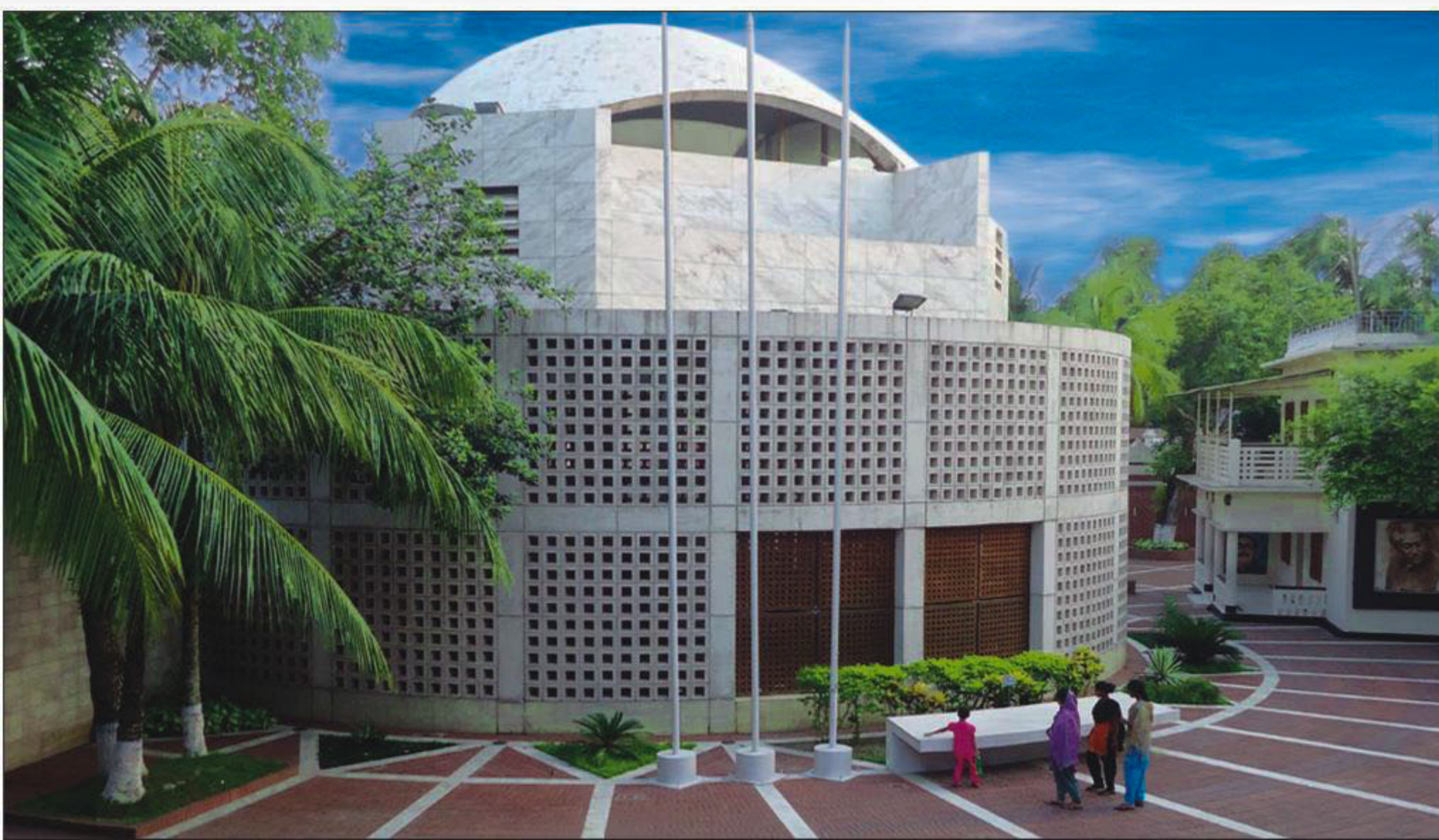
US oil company Chevron has contributed the most to increasing gas supplies to the energy-starved nation in the last two years and it is set to do more by 2014.

When the Awami League came to power in 2009, the country's gas supplies hovered around 1850-1900 million cubic feet per day (mmcf), which was a few hundred mmcf short of the demand.

Over the next four years, the supplies increased up to 2,250 mmcf due to increased production by the national gas companies, Bapex and Chevron. Of this increase, Chevron alone provided 250 mmcf.

And now it is investing half a billion dollars to increase Bibiyana gas field's production by 300 mmcf by early next

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জাতির জনক বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান-এর স্মৃতি বিজড়িত

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আজ ১৯ জানুয়ারী ২০১৩

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