



A BOOST FOR ECONOMY
Analysts say a cut in repo rates will bring down banks' interest rates
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WHATSAPP REBUKED
The messaging app stores contact details of non-users
PAGE IT & TELECOM

CHICAGO PARK SHOOTING
The girl who performed at Obama's inauguration gets killed
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PADMA BRIDGE GRAFT CONSPIRACY
No financing until certain terms met

States WB president
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim has strongly said the lender would not finance the Padma bridge until certain conditions are met to heighten oversight in the project and Bangladesh gives an assurance that a complete and fair probe is under way. "Until certain conditions are met to heighten oversight in the project and give assurance that a complete and fair criminal investigation is under way, we cannot consider financing the bridge," he said. "I say this knowing how much this bridge means to the people and economy in the



Jim Yong Kim

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Defiant committee dissolved

4th evaluation body testifies against Bridges Division secy
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Having failed to influence members of the fourth evaluation committee in selecting Canadian firm SNC Lavalin, former secretary of the

Bridges Division Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan dissolved the committee. Two members of the committee told this to an Anti-Corruption Commission team yesterday. They are former Buet professor Ishtiaq

Ahmed and former additional director general of Water Development Board Mokbul Hossain.

The evaluation committee wanted to discard SNC Lavalin as it

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Stick-wielding Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir activists protest the killing of Shibir men in front of Azizul Haque College in Bogra town yesterday. Inset, firemen try to put out flames at allegedly a Chhatra League-dominated students' hostel which was set ablaze by Shibir men in Jamil Nagar, Bogra.



PHOTO: STAR

The spirit of Ekushey
SYED BADRUL AHSAN

February resonates in our souls. In the month of February, Bangladesh's people give their memories a jog. Or could it be that the memories make their way into the consciousness on their own? That is a thought. But

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July to see power import from India

Dhaka-Delhi joint venture mega coal power project kicks off
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh is set to import 250 megawatt of electricity from India from July with the construction of a 124 km grid interconnection project ending ahead of schedule.

Construction of transmission line will be completed by next month and substation by July, Power Secretary Monowar

Islam and his Indian counterpart P Uma Shankar said this at a joint press conference yesterday at Bangladesh Secretariat.

Dhaka and New Delhi yesterday also announced starting work on setting up a 1,320 MW coal-fired power plant at Rampal in Bagerhat under a joint venture

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Killing, violence mark hartal

3 killed in Bogra clashes, panicked driver killed in Feni crash, injured Jessore policeman dies of heart attack
STAR REPORT

At least three people in Bogra were killed in clashes during yesterday's hartal enforced by Jamaat-e-Islami demanding the scrapping of the international crimes tribunals and release of its top leaders being tried for war crimes.

Jamaat claimed the victims, Abu Ruhani, 22, Mizanur Rahman, 30, and Abdullah, 21, were its activists.

The party and its student body Islami Chhatra Shibir called for a

dawn-to-dusk hartal in the district tomorrow protesting the killings.

At least a hundred people, including 10 policemen, were injured in Bogra yesterday when the pickets and law enforcers clashed. Pickets even snatched a rifle from a policeman.

At least 35 people were arrested in connection with the violence.

Meanwhile, an auto-rickshaw driver in Feni crashed his vehicle into a tree while trying to outrun the pickets chasing him. He succumbed

to his injuries at a hospital.

A policeman in Jessore suffered minor injuries when pickets attacked him in Monirampur but he later died of a heart attack at a hospital.

Law enforcers picked four persons in connection with the attack.

Yesterday, Jamaat and pro-Jamaat student body Islami Chhatra Shibir men went on the rampage across the country and vandalised more than 60 vehicles, mostly buses and trucks,

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Onlookers surround the body of a person, who was among the four thrown from a running train by robbers early yesterday, near a rail bridge in Badughar of Brahmanbaria. Of the four, three people died while the other suffered critical injuries.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Three killed as muggers push them off train

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Three passengers of a train including a woman were killed, while one was severely injured when a gang of muggers pushed them off a running train in sadar upazila yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Khayer Miah, 40, Shud Miah, 50, and Shahana Begum, 50, of Merashani village under Bijoyagar upazila of the district.

The injured Md Rubel Miah, 25, was taken to Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital for treatment.

The Dhaka-bound Titash Commuter Train reached Pagachang station around 5:20am when eight muggers boarded the

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WASHINGTON TIMES ARTICLE
Khaleda comes under fire at JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia had committed sedition by urging the US to interfere in Bangladesh's internal affairs through her Washington Times article, ruling alliance lawmakers said yesterday.

Participating in a freestyle discussion in parliament for more than two and a half hours, 20 ministers and MPs



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FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE - PAGE 15

Facts, twists
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's call for the US to "act and ensure that democracy is saved in Bangladesh" is tantamount to working against the country's interests, the ruling Awami League and its ally Workers Party said yesterday.

By making such plea, they observed, she had asked for US interference in internal politics of Bangladesh.

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Qukhwani
M. Sirajul Islam
1935 - 2013

With profound grief we inform you the sad demise of M. Sirajul Islam on January 27th, 2013 at 2.35pm in Apollo Hospital Dhaka at the age of 77. His Qukhwani will be held today (February 1, 2013, Friday) at 4.00 PM at his residence: House# 19, Road# 59, Gulshan 2, Dhaka.

Hailing from Old Dhaka City Freedom Fighter M. Sirajul Islam was a pioneer of the cotton industry of Bangladesh. Elected MP from Dhaka city in the General Election of 1970, he was also one of the signatories of the first Constitution of Independent Bangladesh. He was the Managing Director of Bakul Group, the Governor of Lions Bangladesh, Founder Member of National Medical College Hospital, Dhaka Progressive Lions Eye Hospital, Narshingdi; Lion M.S. Islam Diabetic Hospital Narshingdi; Chairman of UCEP Bangladesh & President of Dhaka Mahanagar Samity.

He was the life member of Bangladesh Lions Foundation, Anjuman Mofidul Islam, Bangladesh Family Planning Association, Bangladesh Diabetic Association, National Heart Foundation, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, Bangladesh Tuberculosis Society, Liver foundation of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Shishu Hospital.

He was an avid philanthropist and worked in the various areas of health care & education. He was awarded as "Ambassador of Goodwill" from Lions International HQ at USA for his remarkable contribution towards society.

~ Family Members & Employees of Bakul Group (Since 1964) ~

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