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Festivity, joy in Ctg

The Daily Star, Alliance Française de Chittagong begin week-long festival on boat technology, culture

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Chittagong

Chittagong Shilpakala Academy premises turned into a festival ground yesterday, the first day of a weeklong gala featuring Boat Technology and Culture in Chittagong and in Bengal.



The opening ceremony was an event to be remembered by the participants for years as the stage was set in the form of a boat, with a real Shampana (a type of colourful boat) placed behind the podium for display.

Spectators shook their heads in wonder, one of them saying: "We've never seen anything like this before."

Titled "Tora Kon Kon Zabi Aar Sampanat, (Who want to board my boat)," the event is being jointly organised by The Daily Star and Alliance Française de Chittagong (AFC).

The festival is a sequel to The Daily Star-Odommo Chattagram Festival organised last year to promote the

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A photo exhibition being inaugurated at Shilpakala Academy in the port city yesterday. The show is part of a weeklong festival featuring Boat Technology & Culture in Chittagong and in Bengal jointly organised by The Daily Star and Alliance Française de Chittagong.

PHOTO: STAR

FBCCI slates Khaleda's article in US daily

BSS, Dhaka

The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry has expressed deep concern over an article by the leader of the opposition published in US daily Washington Times on January 30.

In the article, Khaleda Zia has openly urged the US authority to impose sanctions on Bangladesh and also requested it to withdraw all other facilities including the Generalised System of Preference (GSP) for Bangladesh, the FBCCI said in a statement last night.

Such an appeal by the leader of the opposition is suicidal and unacceptable at a time when the

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Hasina asks army to protect democracy

Tells senior officials to resist any anti-constitutional activities

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed the senior army officials to resist any anti-democratic and anti-constitutional activity for continuation of the country's development.

"Stay alert so that no vested quarter can disrupt the country's forward march riding over the army's back. I hope you'll resist any anti-democratic and anti-constitutional activity with your all-out



strength," she said.

The premier was addressing the Generals Conference of Bangladesh Army at Dhaka Cantonment.

Despite many obstacles, she said, her government has brought the war criminals under the trial process, which was not an easy task.

She also called upon all to remain vigilant as anti-state conspiracy is being hatched to stop the trial process.

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PADMA BRIDGE DSE for raising funds from stockmarket

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka Stock Exchange has offered to raise half of the fund for construction of the proposed Padma bridge from the share market, three days after the government withdrew its request for a World Bank loan.

"The stockmarket can be a major partner in the financing of the project if the government plans to use own fund," DSE President Rakibur Rahman said yesterday at a press briefing.

He said the government expenditure would increase due to interest payment if it collected funds from banking or other sectors. And for this, the government will have to

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REMARKS ON WAR TRIAL VERDICT Now home minister has to explain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Now it is the home minister who seems to be in trouble for allegedly commenting on ongoing trials in the international crimes tribunal.

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday ordered Home Minister Muhiuddin Khan Alamgir to explain within 10 days his alleged comment predicting when verdicts on two war trials would be delivered.

He now joins the ranks of at least three



MK Alamgir

top ruling Awami League leaders, ministers Matia Chowdhury and Suranjit Sengupta, and Deputy Leader of the House Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, who had been served similar notices.

The tribunal had disposed those notices asking people in high offices to be more careful and not to make comments on sub-judice matters.

Yesterday, the tribunal, through a defence lawyer, warned Jamaat-e-Islami

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Players of Khulna Royal Bengals turn up at the BCB Academy ground in Mirpur for training yesterday, ahead of their clash against Barisal Burners at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium where the fourth and final leg of the BPL starts today.

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PHOTO: STAR

Robbers kill DB man

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

An officer of the Detective Branch of police was killed following an attack by a gang of robbers at Gazaria upazila in Munshiganj yesterday.

The deceased is Shariful Islam Khan, 33, a sub-inspector of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said Zakir Hossain Mazumder, additional superintendent of police of the district.

Shariful hailed from Tangail.

DB police had a tip-off that a gang of robbers would be transporting to the capital an electric transformer stolen from Comilla Cantonment or the district's

PHOTO: STAR

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The Black Hornet

Tiny spy drone that can follow enemy targets

DAILY MAIL ONLINE

It fits easily into the palm of your hand and looks to the world like a child's toy helicopter.

But this tiny, remote-controlled aircraft is, in fact, British forces' latest weapon against the Taliban.

Codenamed Black Hornet, the eight-inch long plastic moulded drone has three cameras hidden inside its nose, yet weighs just 15 grams, or just over half an ounce.

Black Hornet, which has a smooth grey body

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THE ECONOMIST 2 journalists have to reply to ICT notice by March 4

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday extended time until March 4 for two journalists of The Economist to reply to a show-cause notice it had issued earlier.

The three-member tribunal headed by Justice

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PRAYER TIMING		February 4
	Asan	Jamaat
Fajr	5:30	6:05
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	4:15	4:30
Maghrib	5:52	5:56
Esha	7:15	7:45

Source: Islamic Foundation

Israel 'confirms' Syria air strike

Assad lashes out

AFP, Munich, Germany

Israel yesterday implicitly confirmed it staged an air strike on Syria this week, as President Bashar al-Assad accused the Jewish state of trying to "destabilise" the strife-torn country.

The foreign minister of Damascus ally Iran, meanwhile, said he welcomed Syrian opposition leader Ahmed Moaz al-Khatib's stated readiness to hold talks with representatives of Assad's regime.

Four days after an air raid, which

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Contest held at 6 more schools

MOYUKH MAHTAB

With the school activation rounds of the Spelling Bee around halfway through, the competition is getting fiercer every day as students are trying their best to make sure they move on to the divisional rounds.

Champs21 visited four schools in Dhaka yesterday. From Saint Gregory's High School, the qualifiers were Joy Ganguly (Class 9), Kazi Farhan Hossain Purba (Class 10) and Abdullah Jahed Sumon (Class 9).

Saint Xavier Francis Girls' High School saw younger qualifiers. The three top spellers were Fahmida Tasnim (Class 6), Nabila Mubassara

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The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL

Do you think that the government's decision to withdraw its request to the World Bank for the Padma bridge loan was right?

Yes (41%)
No (58%)
No Comments: (1%)

TOTAL VOTES: 659

TODAY'S POLL


Do you think that the government would be able to manage alternative funding for Padma bridge project within its tenure?

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