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**PSC WITH EXPLORERS**  
**18pc gas price hike proposed**

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The energy ministry has proposed changes in the contract model for deep-sea gas exploration, drilling and production suggesting that Bangladesh pay oil companies \$1 more for every 1,000 cubic feet of gas. In the existing Production Sharing Contract-2012 model, designed for upcoming tender for deep-sea gas, the price for 1,000 cubic feet of gas is fixed at \$5.5 and the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 7

**387 Bangladeshis held in KL so far**

**Govt moves to bring illegal workers back**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Thousands of Bangladeshis will face deportation from Malaysia as the country started a crackdown early Sunday targeting five lakh irregular foreigners staying there. Malaysian police had already arrested 387 Bangladeshis in the first 24 hours till early Monday, Malaysian English daily The Star reported yesterday. Other nationals arrested include 717 from Indonesia, 555 from Myanmar, and 229 from Nepal, the daily reported. Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Khandker Mosharrar Hossain yesterday told the reporters that the government would bring back the Bangladeshis detained in the ongoing crackdown. "Some illegal Bangladeshi people were not legalised due to their own failures. Our high commission asked them to renew their passports, but they ignored the call," he said while some reporters met him at his ministry office in the capital. Terming the current situation of the country disgraceful, the minister alleged that the agencies that sent those illegal workers were responsible for the workers' sufferings.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

**Correction**

We published several photos of the waterlogged compound of Infectious Diseases Hospital at Mohakhali on this page yesterday. But the caption mistakenly mentioned that it was the compound of IEDCR. We regret the inadvertent error.

**WAR CRIMES IN 1971**  
**Son defends accused Alim**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sazzad bin Alim, son of war crimes accused Abdul Alim, yesterday defended his father saying he was not involved in any crimes committed during the Liberation War in 1971.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

The Daily Star

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**Texting pill**

THE TELEGRAPH ONLINE

Scientists are set to trial a new 'digital pill' which can send a text to relatives and doctors from inside the body. It is hoped the pills could be used to cut the number of drugs that

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

**Syria asks UN to stop US strike**

**Iran ready to negotiate; 'unconvinced' Russia sends intelligence ship to Mediterranean; Assad warns of regional war**

AGENCIES

Syria has asked the United Nations to prevent "any aggression" against Syria following a call over the weekend by US President Barack Obama for punitive strikes against the Syrian military for last month's chemical weapons attack, reported Reuters. Washington says more than 1,400 people, many of them children, were killed in the world's worst use of chemical arms since Iraq's Saddam Hussein gassed thousands of Kurds in 1988. Forces loyal to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad carried out a "massive and coordinated" chemical attack in Damascus on August 21, according to a French intelligence report shown to lawmakers yesterday, a government source said. On the other hand, Assad warned in an interview published yesterday that a regional war could break out if Syria is attacked, reports CNN.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

The Daily Star

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**ONLINE POLL**

Do you think an amendment to the constitution will ensure continuation of democracy and peaceful handover of power?

Yes (44%)  
No (56%)

TOTAL VOTES: 179

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you think that the newly drafted police act will help increase political influence over the force?

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**PRAYER TIMING** September 3

Azhan	4:30	5:05
Jamaat	4:30	5:05
Fajr	4:30	5:05
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	4:45	5:00
Maghrib	6:33	6:36
Esha	8:00	8:30

Source: Islamic Foundation

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