

BE SAFE

BSRM

FATIGUE

TESTED

DUCTILE ROD

BSRM Xtreme500W

KEEPS YOUR BUILDINGS SAFER FROM NATURAL DISASTERS

BSRM Xtreme

Feel safe with Xtreme Inside

www.bsrm.com

TRANSCOM

DIGITAL

SUPER DUPER ETC

Buy from a whole New Range of Samsung Refrigerator

Huge Price Reduction

From **৳11,000** to **৳18,000**

On Selected Models

SAMSUNG

For More Information: 9853366-8, 01712 665463

VIOLENCE AFTER 18-PARTY RALLY

Opposition activists, after ending their rally at Kajir Deury in Chittagong yesterday, go berserk at Ispahani intersection, pelting law enforcers with brick chips and burning a motorbike. *Top right*, smoke billows from an Awami League office set ablaze during a clash between opposition activists, and police and Awami League men in Maizdi of Noakhali yesterday. *Bottom right*, these motorbikes, reportedly belonging to Awami Leaguers, were torched during an Awami League-BNP clash at Monohorganj upazila in Comilla yesterday.



PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS
BANGLAR CHOKH/STAR

Tk 2,588CR SWINDLING BY JUBOK

3 lakh victims yet to get money back

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

More than 3 lakh clients of Jubok have been waiting for years now to get back the money they deposited with the fraudster, mainly because of government's indecision.

None of these people, who were lured by Jubok into depositing their hard earned money for big returns, has got a penny back even five months after a government commission recommended returning their money -- about Tk 2,588 crore -- by selling Jubok's assets.

The government says it cannot do so because of legal issues. Officials can-

not say when and how these "legal issues" would be resolved.

Aiming to return the money, the government formed two commissions, one in 2010 and the other in 2011, headed by former governor of Bangladesh Bank Mohammad Farashuddin and former joint secretary Rafiqul Islam.

According to their reports, 3.03 lakh people have lost to Jubok's forgery about Tk 2,588 crore.

Contacted, Banking Division Secretary M Aslam Alam said, "In the reports, the commissions have identified problems, but not solutions."

The second commission submitted its report in May this year but the finance ministry has yet to "find a way" to return the money to the affected people.

Following the submission of the report, the Division held several meetings, the last being in the last month, but could not make a decision in this regard.

Officials said they would soon sit with the finance minister to discuss the matter.

The Rafiqul Islam-led commission suggested that the government should appoint an administrator who will take Jubok's assets into his custody, sell those and return the money to the customers.

6 killed in bus-truck collision

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Gazipur

Six people were killed and 10 others injured in a head-on collision between a bus and a truck on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in Bhawal National Park area here yesterday morning.

Four of the deceased were identified as bus driver Kawsar Mia and passenger Jamir Ali, from Gazipur Sadar upazila, Ariful Islam, from Sonatala upazila of Bogra, and garment worker Shamim, from Katiadi upazila of Kishoreganj.

Sources of Nawjor highway police outpost said the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

US spied on 35 world leaders

Reveal documents leaked by Snowden

THE GUARDIAN ONLINE

The National Security Agency monitored the phone conversations of 35 world leaders after being given the numbers by an official in another US government department, according to a classified document provided by whistleblower Edward Snowden.

The confidential memo reveals that the NSA encourages senior officials in its "customer" departments, such as the White House, State and the Pentagon, to share their "Rolodexes" so the agency can add the phone numbers of leading foreign politicians to their surveillance systems.

The document notes that one unnamed US official handed over 200 numbers, including those of the 35 world leaders,

none of whom is named. These were immediately "tasked" for monitoring by the NSA.

The revelation is set to add to mounting diplomatic tensions between the US and its allies, after the German chancellor Angela Merkel on Wednesday accused the US of tapping her mobile phone.

Angry European leaders, gathered for their annual meeting in Brussels, yesterday said they want a new deal with Washington to end the damaging spy row so as to keep an essential alliance and the fight against terrorism on track.

The growing scandal has embroiled US President Barack Obama in embarrassing exchanges with key allies -- from France and Germany to Brazil and Mexico.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Bangladesh captain Mushfiqur Rahim, left, and his New Zealand counterpart Brendon McCullum hold the trophy as Bangladesh Cricket Board president Nazmul Hassan Papon, centre, looks on, after the Test series ended in a 0-0 draw, at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday. Story on page 14.



PHOTO: STAR

Cops receive death threat

Phone calls, texts pour in

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Anonymous callers phoned many police officers throughout the day yesterday, threatening to kill the law enforcers and their family members.

Many cops also received text messages in their mobile phones from a particular sender, who warned policemen that their activities were under watch.

Officers-in-charge (OC) at different police stations in the capital were among those targeted by the callers.

Masud Karim, OC of Dhanmondi Police Station, said he received no fewer than 700 phone calls in the last two days.

"They were bad-mouthing us and threatening to kill us and our family members. Most of the calls were not from local numbers, but the callers were Bangladeshis," he noted.

Identifying himself as "jag janata", a sender sent the Bangla text message (in English alphabet). Addressing the police as brothers, the message said cops' activities were under watch and the Awami League's tenure had ended.

Contacted, Narayanganj Police Super Sayed Nurul Islam said he saw the message in his phone in the afternoon. Chittagong police super AKM Hafiz Akhter also confirmed

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

WTO WAIVER ON SERVICES

Windows opened for LDCs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh would immensely benefit from WTO's decision to grant waiver on services from the least developed countries (LDCs) in its ninth ministerial conference slated for December in Bali, Indonesia.

Debapriya Bhattacharya, economist and distinguished fellow of think tank Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), said this yesterday at an international conference at Brac Centre Inn in Dhaka on the upcoming WTO ministerial conference.

He said the adaptation of waiver on services would allow the World Trade Organisation's (WTO) member countries to grant preferential market access to the services and service suppliers of the LDCs.

"Since Bangladesh is a member of LDCs, it will also be benefited from the decision. The country will enjoy trade benefit on export of services to the developed and developing countries for the decision," he said.

The WTO will also adopt another important decision on Rules of Origin (RoO) at the Bali conference to be held

between December 3 and 6.

Once for the first time the proposed decision on RoO is adopted, governments will have to set multilaterally agreed guidelines, which should help make LDC exports to qualify for preferential market access to developed and developing countries easier.

Two important issues -- duty-free and quota-free (DFQF), and cotton -- would remain unresolved in the Bali conference although the LDCs had been negotiating to resolve the issues for a long time, Bhattacharya said.

Some African countries have been

Police thank 18-party for peaceful rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday thanked the 18-party opposition alliance for holding a "relatively peaceful" rally in the capital in line with its promise.

Talking to reporters outside his office, Monirul Islam, spokesman for Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), said the rally was held peacefully because of

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

Subscribe to

The Daily Star

BREAKING NEWS ALERT

Register at:

2222

REGISTRATION FREE

For Registration, SMS start<space>br & send it to 2222

On your airtel

Scan this QR code

**Taka 2.30 per sms