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Rail tracks cut off

30 hurt as train derailed in Lalmonirhat on last day of hartal; 2 killed as truck crashes after 'chased by pickets'

STAR REPORT

On the last day of the 84-hour hartal, pickets removed rail line sleeper clips causing a train to derail and 30 passengers to get hurt at Kaliganj of Lalmonirhat early yesterday.

The injured were taken to a local health complex and the police arrested two opposition activists in this connection.

The sabotage and the consequent accident snapped rail communication between Lalmonirhat and Burimari, including the Burimari Land Port, as of 12:00am today when this report was filed.

The authorities of West Zone of Bangladesh Railway declared red alert apprehending further incidents of sabotage, reports BSS.

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The locomotive of a train went off the tracks and dug into the dirt after hartal pickets removed sleeper clips of the rails in Kaliganj upazila of Lalmonirhat early yesterday. At least 30 people were hurt in the incident.

PHOTO: STAR

RENTAL POWER CONTRACT

Failed company vie for renewal

SHARIK KHAN

A local company that owes the government more than \$67 million in penalty for failing to supply electricity from its two rental power plants is lobbying hard to have one of its two contracts renewed for five years.

The company, Quantum Power, had signed a contract with the Power

Development Board (PDB) in February 2010 to generate 110 megawatt of electricity from a diesel-fired rental plant in Bheramara. The contract is due to expire on December 31.

This plant turned out to be one of the worst performing plants and had been penalised time and again over the years, the

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

'Oli offered to join polls-time govt'

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

The Awami League last night offered the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to join the all-party polls-time government as proposed by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

A component of the BNP-led 18-party opposition alliance, LDP

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

Power plant won't harm Sundarbans

Says PM, asks 'vested quarters' not to create obstacle to Rampal project; accuses BNP of killing people in the name of hartal

BSS, Rampal

Criticising the opponents of Rampal power plant, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said her government would not do anything harmful for the Sundarbans, the

world's largest mangrove forest.

Terming their disapproval of the power plant a conspiracy against development, she said, a section of people were habituated to

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RELATED STORY - PAGE 5

2 envoys for change in ACC law

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two foreign diplomats yesterday said they will urge the government to change the controversial provision in the Anti-Corruption Commission law, which requires the ACC to get government permission before filing a graft case against any public servant.

German Ambassador to Bangladesh Albrecht Conze and Japanese Ambassador

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5
MORE ON PAGE 5

The Daily Star



Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think it was justified for the four prosecutors and two investigators of the International Crimes Tribunal to seek nomination from the Awami League for the next general election?

Yes (10%)
No (90%)
TOTAL VOTES: 342

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think that the Election Commission could manage to ensure participation of the main opposition BNP in the next general election?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT
www.thedailystar.net

PRAYER TIMING November 14	
Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5:00 - 5:35
Zohr	12:45 - 1:15
Asr	3:45 - 4:00
Maghrib	5:22 - 5:25
Esha	7:00 - 7:30
Source: Islamic Foundation	

Arrest order for 17 accused
Jasmine granted bail in Hall-Mark scam cases

COURT CORRESPONDENT



Jasmine Islam

A Dhaka court yesterday took cognisance of charges against 25 people, including Hall-Mark Group Chairman Jasmine Islam and its Managing Director Tanvir Mahmud, for swindling over Tk 2,600 crore out of Sonali Bank.

The court also issued arrest warrants against 17 of them as they have been absconding since the filing of 11 cases in this regard by the Anti-Corruption Commission on October 4 last year.

Judge Md Zahirul Haque of the Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka directed officers-in-charge of different police

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It's still difficult to get right info

Finds survey on RTI law

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 80 percent of the respondents in a survey said they had hardly received any information they had requested from officials concerned, who are bound by law to provide information in 20 days.

The respondents said they had to wait 25 to 30 days only to receive partial or vague information under the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2009, according to the survey report released yesterday.

However, almost all the respondents who were information officials at public and private institutions denied the allegation, claiming they had provided information within 20 days.

The preliminary findings of the survey were revealed at its launching ceremony at the Information Commission in the capital.

The title of the survey report is "Stakeholders' perception survey on the functioning of the Information Commission in implementing the RTI Act, 2009".

Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI) conducted the survey among 45 participants -- representatives of civil society and non-governmental organisations, journalists and information officials -- between September and October this year.

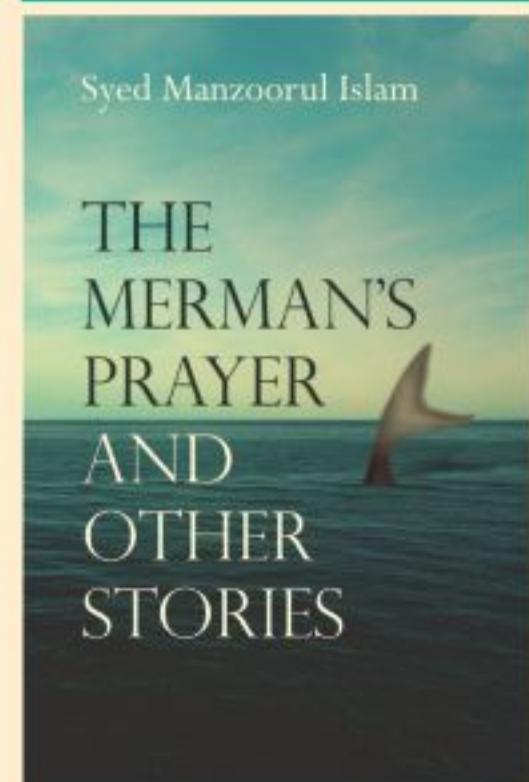
The report mentions that about half the respondents think leniency in punishing the violators of the RTI Act discourages people to request



Daily Star Books at Hay Festival

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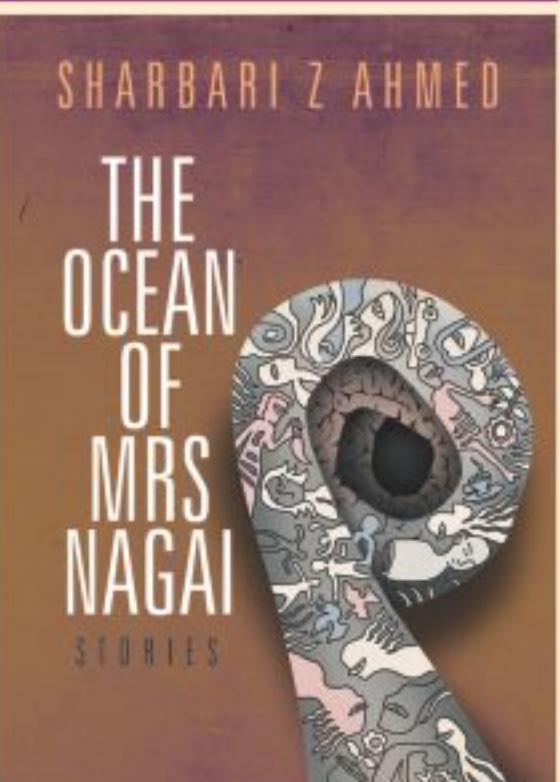
Syed Manzoorul Islam's
THE MERMAN'S PRAYER AND OTHER STORIES



Date: 14th Nov, Thursday
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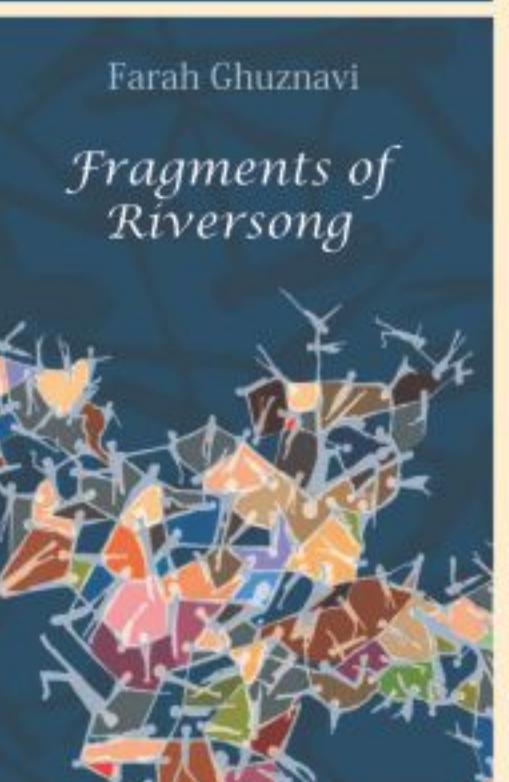
Sharbari Z Ahmed's
THE OCEAN OF MRS NAGAI



Date: 15th Nov, Friday
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Bangla Academy

Cover Price: Tk. 300; Special offer: 240

Farah Ghuznavi's
FRAGMENTS OF RIVERSONG



Date: 15th Nov, Friday
Time: 12:15 pm
Place: Main Auditorium
Bangla Academy

Cover Price: Tk. 300; Special offer: 240

Bangladesh Marches Ahead Towards Development

Summit Purbanchol Power Company Limited

received the national recognition as the "Best Private Sector Power Generation Company 2013" for its contribution towards building the Bangladesh of tomorrow.



Chairman of the Summit Group Mohammad Aziz Khan receiving the crest of the "Best Private Sector Power Generation Company 2013" from the Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the ever first 10000 mw generation and National Electricity Week 2013 celebration event.



10000 mw power generation capability is a unique milestone for Bangladesh. In celebration of this historical achievement at the Alok Utshob and National Electricity Week 2013 event Summit Purbanchol Power Company Limited, a subsidiary of the Summit Power limited, has received this recognition for its unparalleled success in the private sector power generation. We salute all our well-wishers on this glorious occasion.

