



**WITH TODAY'S ISSUE**

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Most of the poor countries walked out of UN climate talks  
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The striker slammed a hat-trick to take Portugal into the World Cup  
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## No policy decision, only routine work

PM outlines jobs of polls-time cabinet in winding up speech of 19th session of parliament; expects main opposition to join polls

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said the ministers of the interim cabinet would not make any policy decisions and would only be doing routine work during the election period.  
During her speech in the House, drawing the curtains for the ninth parliament, she said the ministers would not be getting any state facilities while campaigning to become the members of the next parliament.  
She expressed her determination to hold the elections in time and asked people to vote



spontaneously so that democracy becomes stronger and nobody could grab state power by bypassing the constitution.  
"I want to assure you [people and the opposition] that the elections will be held in a free and fair manner. I urge the opposition leader to join the elections and the people will decide who assumes power," she said.  
In response, BNP late last night said Hasina's speech has deepened the ongoing crisis and it accused Hasina of trying to hold a one-party election.  
Hasina in her speech said the new



With his hands bandaged, Tofazzal, 11, lies on a stretcher at Pangu Hospital in the capital yesterday. He lost a number of his fingers when a homemade bomb he was playing with unknowingly exploded in his hands. PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

## Abandoned bomb hurts 2 more kids

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
Two more children fell victim to an abandoned crude bomb explosion inside the civil aviation staff quarters in the capital's Shaheen Bagh yesterday.  
Eleven-year-old Tofazzal Hossain lost index, middle and ring fingers of his right hand in the blast. His left hand too was badly hurt. His playmate, 10-year-old Lokman Hossain received splinters in the left hand, said doctors at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).  
With the two, at least nine children were injured in explosions of abandoned crude bombs across the country in nearly a

## Portfolios of ministers finalised

**Notification today**  
PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and M ABUL KALAM AZAD  
The portfolios of the polls-time cabinet members were finalised last night and would be announced today, three days after eight new faces were sworn in as members of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's cabinet.  
Sources said the interim cabinet would have around 25 members and a few high-profile ministers like Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, who ran the home ministry, and Dipu Moni, who was the foreign minister, would not be part of the new government.

## Ministries in a mess

**Activities at secretariat hampered as ministers, officials in dark about polls-time cabinet**  
M ABUL KALAM AZAD and PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE  
It was a workday and a middle-aged man went to the secretariat around lunchtime. He was looking for Iqbal Parvez, personal aide to State Minister for Public Works Abdul Mannan Khan.  
But Iqbal was nowhere to be seen. His boss, too, was not around. So the visitor went to the senior information officer of the ministry, to know Iqbal's whereabouts.  
"I gave money to Iqbal *bhai* to help me turn a residential building into a commercial one. Where can I find him?" he asked the officer, when a reporter of this newspaper was present.  
The main job of Iqbal, an advocate, is lobbying, and the minister created a post to give him the job, officials said.  
Iqbal has been absent from work since Monday, the day Mannan bade an emotional farewell to all, thinking he might be dropped from the polls-time cabinet, officials added.  
Mannan is just one of at least 20 ministers and state ministers who have not gone to the secretariat after Monday, leaving their offices in utter wilderness and confusion. None of them has handed over their responsibilities to anyone.

## VANDALISING VEHICLES Not enough

**Fakhrul wants more from JCD men**  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Opposition activists have to do much more than just vandalising one or two vehicles on the street to have the BNP-led alliance's demands met, acting BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said yesterday.  
"Many of our leaders, including the JCD general secretary, are in jail. The party activists cannot stay home at this time. They must take to the streets in their thousands," Fakhrul said at a discussion at the Jatiya Press Club in the capital.  
Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal organised the discussion to mark the 49th birthday of BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman.



## Hartal may spoil whole next week

**RASHIDUL HASAN**  
Amid the unity factor looming overhead, the 18-party opposition alliance is planning to enforce another spell of four to five days' countrywide hartal next week demanding a non-party election-time government.  
Sources in the opposition said its chief Khaleda Zia was worried, as the government had reportedly made attempts to split the alliance by offering ministerial posts to some of its leaders.  
She had assured the leaders of evaluating them once the alliance assumes power, added the sources.  
At a meeting on Tuesday night, top opposition leaders also told Khaleda that they believed President Abdul Hamid could actually do little to solve the political crisis over the mode of polls-time government.  
Therefore, the combine should beef up agitation to realise its demand, said sources present in the meeting held in Khaleda's Gulshan office after her meet with the President.  
Accompanied by a 20-member delegation, Khaleda on Tuesday evening had met the President and asked him to do something for holding talks between the government and

## Go to work, shun violence

**PM asks RMG workers**  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon the agitating garment workers to go to work and boost the production. They may lose their jobs if the factories get closed, and orders are cancelled or shifted to other countries due to their violent activities," she said.  
The workers should realise this in the greater interest of the sector, added the PM.  
She was addressing a programme at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital. Export Promotion Bureau organised the event to hand over the National Export Trophy for 2010-11 to the country's leading exporters.  
A section of labour leaders had been



## PRIMARY EXAMS 1.6 lakh kids absent on first day

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
The primary terminal examinations 2013 for class five students of schools and madrasas began yesterday with more than 1.6 lakh examinees out of over 29.50 lakh absent on the first day.  
Three students -- two from madrasa and one from school-- were reportedly expelled for resorting to unfair means.  
Examinees sat for the Mathematics exam at 11:00am in 6,566 centres across the country as well as eight overseas centres on the first day. The students of both disciplines will take Bangla exam today.  
Primary and Mass Education Minister Afsarul Ameen, State Minister Motahar Hossain and

Children sit for their Primary School Certificate examination at Mohammadpur Govt High School in the capital. The exams began across the country yesterday.



## Dismal end of JS session

**Opposition joined only 76 of 418 sittings of 9th parliament**  
SHAKHAWAT LITON  
Amid the growing political tension over the next national election, Jatiya Sangsad wrapped up its sittings yesterday setting a new record of House boycott by the opposition lawmakers.  
The ninth parliament had begun its journey on January 25, 2009 and sat 418 times, the highest number of sittings by any parliament, till yesterday. The BNP-led opposition MPs joined only 76 sittings, according to information from Parliament Secretariat.  
In the five-year (2001-2006) tenure of the eighth parliament, main opposition Awami League MPs had skipped 223 out of 373 sittings. The main opposition BNP legislators were absent in 163 out of 382 sittings in the five-year (1996-2001) term of the seventh parliament.  
The fifth parliament, which was dissolved a few months ahead of its five-year term, held 400 sittings. Of them, 135 sittings were boycotted by the AL-led opposition lawmakers.

**অভিনন্দন**

আকিজ জুট মিলস্ লিমিটেড অন্যান্য বছরের মত এবারও (২০১০-২০১১ ইং) রপ্তানিতে অসাধারণ সাফল্য অর্জন করেছে। আকিজ গ্রুপের সম্মানিত পরিচালক শেখ জামিল উদ্দিন গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনার হাত থেকে সাফল্যের স্বীকৃতি স্বরূপ জাতীয় রপ্তানী ট্রফি (রোপ্য) গ্রহণ করেন।

আকিজ জুট মিলস্ লিমিটেডের এই অসাধারণ সাফল্যে আকিজ পরিবারের প্রতিটি সদস্য গর্বিত ও আনন্দিত।