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SAMSUNG

# Rickshaws clog streets

Traffic police relax rules to allow non-motorised vehicles on city roads off limits to them HELEMUL ALAM

Due to poor traffic rules enforcement, a large number of rickshaws travel on city streets that are off limits to nonmotorised vehicles, worsening congestion and increasing risk of accidents.

Rickshaws and rickshaw-vans are now a near-regular mode of transport on Airport Road, where vehicles probably travel the fastest in the capital. On Mirpur Road, one might be excused for thinking there are no restrictions on rickshaws on that thoroughfare.

The mix of slow-moving and fast-moving traffic on the same street does not go well.

According to a recent study by Accident Research Institute of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, based on data provided by the Dhaka Metropolitan Police, victims of 10 percent fatal accidents on city streets are rickshaw pullers and their passengers.

Rickshaws largely defy all traffic rules and pose high risk for accidents. Their pullers would blissfully risk lives to cut a corner violating traffic rules.

Their passengers are also often seen preferring to take a risk to get ahead of other vehicles rather than playing it safe. The passengers are often seen defending rickshaw pullers on the street when their disregard for traffic rules leads to mishaps.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1





### Poet Fazal Shahabuddin passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Eminent poet and journal

ist Fazal Shahabuddin passed away at his residence in the capital's Madhya Basabo yesterday. He was 78. Family members said

the poet, who had been suffering from old-age complications over the last few months, breathed his last around 10:30am.

SEE PAGE 10 COL



CASH, NOT CREST!

# Chief whip slams media for reports

He won't apologise for comments

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

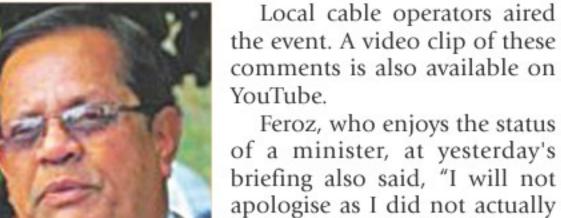
Instead of saying sorry, Jatiya Sangsad Chief Whip ASM Feroz yesterday criticised the media for running the news items about his asking for money from those who want to give him gifts.

"With a smile, I made the comments jokingly. I actually didn't mean it. It would have been better had the media not run the sto-

said at a press briefing at the Jatiya Sangsad Media Centre. The briefing was organised in response to

the reports based on his comments made at a reception at Bauphal in Patuakhali on Friday on his becoming the chief whip.

"I will receive no more crests. I want cash if anyone wants to give me a gift. Cash is what I want," he announced through a loudspeaker at the programme. "Don't you understand? Huge money is needed to contest election.



ASM Feroz

comments is also available on Feroz, who enjoys the status

of a minister, at yesterday's briefing also said, "I will not apologise as I did not actually mean it." Rather, he said, the journalists who tried to "assassinate his character" should say "There were many words, before and

ries. The media has undermined me," Feroz after my speech, which the media did not carry properly." But he didn't say what those words were.

He also alleged the media exaggerated his statement.

Replying to a question, the Awami League leader said he would not go for any measures against the media. He sought divine blessings so that the media gets itself "corrected".

Identifying himself as a national-level leader, Feroz said some people in the Awami SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

### Mamata govt helping Jamaat

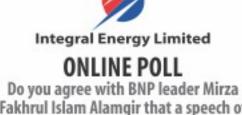
Says Biman Bose

THE ECONOMIC TIMES ONLINE

Accusing the Trinamool Congress government of helping fundamentalist forces in Bangladesh, the Left Front yesterday said its stand has resulted in fanatics belonging to both the majority and minority communities becoming

more active in West Bengal SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

The Daily Star



Fakhrul Islam Alamgir that a speech of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina incited ruling party men to attack opposition leaders and activists?

TOTAL VOTES: 380

TODAY'S POLL Do you think the international cricket will be benefited from the ICC revamp proposal by India, Australia and England?

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### EGYPT PRESIDENTIAL RACE

## Leftwinger contests against army chief

THE GUARDIAN ONLINE

The veteran leftwinger Hamdeen Sabbahi has become the first candidate to officially enter the race to succeed Mohamed Morsi as Egyptian president, ensuring that the army chief Abdel Fatah al-Sisi will not be elected unopposed.

Sisi, who rose to popularity after toppling Morsi last July, is still expected to win by a landslide. But the involvement of Sabbahi, who finished third in Egypt's 2012 presidential elections, means there will be a credible contest, despite other potential candidates opting out of the race in deference to Sisi.

Sabbahi's platform is likely to tread on Sisi's patch. Both men use nationalism to drum up support, and both have SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



Jinnah at Curzon Hall

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

Pakistan's founding father and first governor general Mohammad Ali Jinnah,

revered by his followers as Quaid-e-Azam, addressed a SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

### Robocops help ease traffic jam ODDITYCENTRAL.COM

The intersection of Boulevard

Triomphal and Huileries Avenue in Kinshasa, Congo, has two new additions -robot traffic policemen.

These large robocops have replaced human police

SEE PAGE 10 COL



# Rising slowly against fear

SOHEL PARVEZ and KONGKON KARMAKER

As the night thickened and numbing cold began to set in, 29-year-old Liton Kanta Roy took his blanket and a small torch to join a voluntary patrol team at Telipara, home to 150 Hindu families.

The three-member team, two of them carrying bows and arrows,

passed through narrow passages beside mud-and-bamboo-cane-built houses that sit in close proximity on both sides of the village road.

Occasionally, one of the team members blew whistle to alert other teams that were guarding the borders of the locality with sticks, bows and arrows. The aim was to resist any sudden attack by outsiders on the poor

villagers at dead of the night.

"It has become our regular duty since we were attacked on the January 5 election day. Every night we guard our locality in groups so that others can sleep without fear," said a halfmasked Liton, pausing for warmth at a campfire set by another team to keep an eye on the road.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



A banner hangs calling for an end to communal violence near Kornai Govt Primary School in Dinajpur amid the rubble of shops that had been levelled. The photo was taken at the end of January, weeks after the violence broke out centring the January-5 elections. PHOTO: STAR

# শ্বেনিলী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড উদ্ভাবনী ব্যাংকিং এ আপনার বিশ্বস্ত সঙ্গী

৮৭৫টি শাখার যে কোন এক শাখা থেকে অন্য শ

আপনি জানেন কি?

রয়েছে!!!

সঞ্চয়ী, চলতি ও SND হিসাবে তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে টাকা জমা ও উন্তোলন করতে পারবেন

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