



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

KEEP CALM AND DISCOVER DHAKA

A Weekly Publication of The Daily Star  
**theSTAR**  
stories behind the news**A SUDDEN BOOST**

Govt adds Tk 5,000cr to revised ADP, which may fuel bank borrowing

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**MUSHARRAF TARGETED**

The ex-Pakistan president escapes assassination bid

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## Power corridor given to India

Dhaka likely to benefit from wheeling charge

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh will allow India to use its soil to transmit 6,000 megawatt of power from Assam to Bihar via Dinajpur through a new electricity network, officials said yesterday.

A committee has been formed to explore the feasibility of transmitting power from Rangia Raota in Assam to Borakpur in Bihar through Barapukuria of Dinajpur, and asked to submit its report in six months.

Power Secretary Monowar Islam said this at a press briefing after the seventh meeting of Bangladesh-India joint steering committee on cooperation on power at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in the capital.

He, however, couldn't say how Bangladesh will benefit by letting its neighbour use its soil for transmitting power.

"Now, I can only say that we will get some power from it," he said. India plans to start transmitting power via Bangladesh from 2017, said officials.

Bangladesh can benefit financially from the transmission of power, as India will pay it wheeling charge, should the project go ahead.

For example, Power Grid Company of Bangladesh, which transmits power all over the country, gets about 22-23 paisa per kilowatt as wheeling charge from the PDB for carrying about 500MW electricity from India to Bangladesh, said one of the officials.

Indian Power Secretary PK Sinha, who led a five-member

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Sri Lanka captain and ace fast bowler Lasith Malinga takes his second wicket, the crucial one of opener Dwayne Smith, to set the West Indies on the path to defeat in the first semifinal of the ICC World Twenty20 at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP



## Lanka thru' on D/L

NAIMUL KARIM

Take a glance across the scorecards of Sri Lanka's games this year – except for the last one against New Zealand – and it will be a difficult task to identify that one notable individual performance that took the team over the line in each of them.

The fact that none of their players feature in the top ten wicket-takers or run-scorers column in this tournament is the exact reason behind their progress to the finals: their team effort.

And it was exactly this feature that led the Lankans to their second consecutive T20 final after they achieved a 27-run win, via Duckworth-Lewis, over the West Indies in Mirpur

## EXPLOSION AT SHIP-BREAKING YARD

# 4 killed by toxic gas

Owner's representative blames it on workers

PINAKI ROY with ARUN BIKASH DEY

Four workers were killed and three others injured when a gas cylinder exploded at a ship-breaking yard in Sitakunda of Chittagong yesterday.

The incident happened when the victims were dismantling a scrap ship around 3:30pm. All the four died from inhaling carbon dioxide.

With this, the death toll over the last two years at ship-breaking yards in the port city rose to 44. Since February 2012, at least 35 accidents have taken place, leaving dozens of ship-breaking workers wounded.

Import and dismantling of ships with highly toxic elements continue, even after the High Court directed the government to ensure workers' safety and shut down all the unauthorised

ship-breaking yards four years ago.

But officials of the relevant government agencies ignored the order.

In yesterday's incident, a cylinder full of carbon dioxide suddenly went off at the shipyard of Arafin Enterprise at Kadam Rasul, said Kamrul Hasan, an inspector of the Department of Inspection for Safety of Shops and Establishments.

The four died instantly. The injured were sent to Al-Amin Private Clinic for treatment. Later, one worker was shifted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital as his condition worsened.

Interestingly, Arafin Enterprise officials claim to have all the safety gear, and a signboard on its entrance says: "Safety First".

Its manager, Hasan Uddin, claimed

the victims -- Jasim, Faruk, Arif and Gias Uddin -- were not their employees.

According to him, they were hired by an electric cable trader who bought the cables of the ship beached a month ago for scrapping.

Hasan also claimed that the workers were provided with safety gears but they did not use it.

"Marks of splinter injuries were found on the chests of the workers. But they died from inhaling toxic gases," said Dr Rezaul Karim of Al-Amin clinic.

According to the website of Bangladesh Ship Breakers Association (BSBA), the owner of Arafin Enterprise is Giasuddin Chowdhury.

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## Pornography for dowry!

Husband held after wife's lawsuit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Taking obscene shots of his wife with a hidden camera, Sharifur Rahman shared the footage on Facebook and demanded Tk 10 lakh from her.

The Detective Branch of Dhaka Metropolitan Police on Wednesday arrested Sharif, a student of a private university.

The arrestee had been blackmailing his wife, a public university student, for dowry since they got married in July last year, the victim told this correspondent yesterday.

The footage was uploaded on a

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## Clarification, our apology

State Minister for Jute and Textiles Mirza Azam has issued a clarification on a news item headlined "New Taxi Service in Capital: Costliest in South Asia" published in The Daily Star on March 31.

In the news it was said that the state minister is one of the owners of Toma Paribahan, which is not based on fact, says a clarification sent by Md Rezaul Karim, public relations officer of the ministry.

"The state minister is not a owner of Toma Paribahan and he does not have any sort of business partnership with the organisation," it added.

**Our reply**  
We stand corrected and offer our apology for the mistake.

## SUICIDE AFTER STALKING Culprits threaten family with death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

He had to endure the loss of his daughter two days back and now he begs for the protection of his family from those who instigated the girl to commit suicide through public humiliation and assaults.

Sohrab Bepari, a resident of East Jurain in the capital, has been passing days in fear due to repeated death threats for filing a case against some local youths.

Some unknown callers first tried to convince the grief-stricken father to bury the matter through negotiations. As they failed, they threatened that his wife, other daughters and sons would be killed if he did not withdraw the case, Sohrab said.

The callers also threatened to force the family to leave the city, he added.

Receiving such calls throughout yesterday, Sohrab sought security for him and his family.

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Jashim's father in tears at a clinic in Chittagong yesterday after seeing his son's body. Jashim, a worker at a ship-breaking yard in Sitakunda, was killed in an accident inside a ship along with three fellow workers.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

## NEWS ANALYSIS

ELECTED THRU' RIGGING

# What would they deliver to people?

SHAKHAWAT LITON

Article 11 of the constitution provides for effective participation of people in administration at all levels through their elected representatives.

Each of the upazila parishads is legally an administrative unit at upazila levels. So, people's effective participation in every upazila parishad administration through their elected representatives must be ensured to uphold the spirit of the constitution.

But the largely rigged upazila parishad elections in the past few weeks have jeopardised the spirit of the constitution, triggering many crucial questions.

How will people's effective participation be ensured in at least 100 upazilas' administration where polls have been rigged and people denied their constitutional right to exercise franchise to elect their representatives?

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## Upazila rigging upsets int'l community

UK minister tells PM  
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The international community was disappointed with the gross irregularities and government's interference in the upazila elections, British Minister for International Development Alan Duncan told Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Duncan called on Hasina at her parliament office Wednesday evening to express his concerns, said sources who were there during the meeting.

During the 40-minute meeting that started at 7:00pm, the UK minister said it was the expectation of the British government and

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Jamuna | tv

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