

Celebrating poetry's rebel

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

A moving spirit worked incessantly in Kazi Nazrul Islam. He was a poet, of course. But more than that, he was symbolic of huge energy, for there was something of a mpleteness in him. He lived for more than three decades following the onset of his affliction, a period in time when he truly would have soared, infinitely higher than he already had.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

Dhaka for closer

With western countries, particularly the USA and the EU nations, disapis getting closer to New Delhi, Beijing and Moscow for political and eco-

The three countries voiced strong support for Sheikh Hasina's govern-

Diplomatic sources said the three countries have taken special interest in Bangladesh as the two successive governments led by Hasina have been

opment projects in Bangladesh.

file visits involving Dhaka, Tokyo, Beijing and New Delhi.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bernicat new

US envoy

in Dhaka

Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat has been nominated for the next

US ambassador to Bangladesh, according to an announcement of the White House.

Ambassador Bernicat is currently serving as a deputy assistant secretary at the Bureau of Human Resources of the

SEE PAGE 13 COL 6



A Saarc summit!

Sharif too will join Modi's oath-taking ceremony

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Is it a Saarc summit? No, but almost. But for the absence of Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the presence of heads of states and governments from seven other Saarc countries at the swearing in of Narendra Modi here tomorrow will have many trappings of a summit of the regional economic grouping.

With Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif having confirmed yesterday his attendance at the event, heads of states and governments of seven of the eight Saarc countries SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

probe in to the 7-murder case conversation between AL lawmaker Shamim Osman and Nur Hossain? PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

Wo ■

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with BNP Chairperson

Khaleda Zia's demand that the

government form a "credible and

all incidents of abduction, forced

disappearances and killings till date?

TOTAL VOTES: 287

TODAY'S POLI

Do you think there will be neutral

Exclusive in Stock

(13%)



PRADO, HARRIER, PREMIO, ALLION, AXIO 09-14 etc. Sal-Sabeel Cars welcomes you for

FIXED PRICE







Thai military tightens grip Senate dismissed AFP, Bangkok

Thailand's military junta said yesterday it had disbanded the Senate and placed all law-making authority in the army

chief's hands, dramatically tightening its grip after a coup that has sparked Bangkok protests and drawn international condemnation. The regime also con-

firmed it had detained former premier Yingluck Shinawatra and scores of other ousted government leaders and would hold them for up to a week as it

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

ties with East Leans towards Beijing, Delhi, Moscow REZAUL KARIM

pointed over the January 5 national polls, the Awami League government nomic cooperation.

ment following the non-inclusive parliamentary polls. The western states, however, called for fresh and inclusive elections.

The three-nation backing prompted many other countries to congratulate the new government and express their willingness to work with it.

maintaining close ties with them since 2009.

Despite being a strong critic of the January 5 elections, Asian giant Japan has shown interest in implementing major infrastructure and devel-Within the next couple of months, there will be a number of high pro-

"India and Bangladesh will launch huge engagements immediately

Still a wasteland

5 years after Cyclone Aila, lack of govt initiative

15 villages in the union.

after rebuilding it.

Sirajul Gazi looking at the site where his home used to be

before Aila made a landfall in 2009. Now the place goes

under water during high tide of the Kobadak river. Sirajul

01713396347

Kobadak and Kholpetua rivers.

Aila washed away a huge number of

Those who have shrimp farms said they

Asked how they used to fight the virus

houses, livestock, crops and other resources

from the villages surrounded by the

could not regenerate them due to virus attacks.

problem before the disaster, they said they

had often changed the water of the shrimp

enclosures to prevent the spread of virus-

related diseases but the authority stopped

allowing them to cut any narrow passage

through the embankment to let water flow

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

to address soil salinity, crises of drinking

PINAKI ROY back from Gabura

help them overcome the impact.

Five years have elapsed since they lost their

houses and means of living to cyclone Aila,

but the government has not done enough to

union under Shyamnagar in Satkhira is now

almost devoid of vegetation except for some

coconut, date and palm trees. Many of the

38,000 people living in it do not have work,

to live on the embankment that collapsed in

some parts during the hurricane on May 25,

2009, causing saline water to swamp all the

More than 100 families have continued

homes and supply of drinking water.

The entire 33 square mile area of Gabura

water, unemployment in Gabura, Satkhira

FIGHT OR FLE The eight people Rab arrested in connection with the murder of Phulgazi upazila chairman Ekramul Haq in Feni. PHOTO: STAR The photo was taken at Rab headquarters in Dhaka yesterday. The Haily Star





PHOTO: PINAKI ROY

