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# Flood in North worsening

Fresh areas go under water as rivers swell

STAR REPORT

Swelling rivers in the country's north inundated fresh areas yesterday, leaving more people displaced and houses, schools, croplands submerged.

Three flood control embankments in Jamalpur and Bogra collapsed in strong currents.

According to the Water Development Board (WDB), the Brahmaputra, Jamuna, Kangsha, Surma, Dhaleswari and Lakhya flowed above danger level in at least 10 points on the day.

"Downpours, mostly in the bordering Indian hills, cause this rise in water level in the Brahmaputra and Jamuna basins. Water level there will remain more or less steady in the next five days," said Amirul Hossain, executive engineer at Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre of WDB.

The overall flood situation during the period will improve in Rangpur, Kurigram and Gaibandha, but will deteriorate slightly in Bogra, Pabna, Sirajganj and Tangail.

Meanwhile, ferry services on the Mawa-Kawrakandi route in the Padma resumed partially around 8:30am yesterday.

The services came to a halt around 9:00pm Tuesday due to erosion of the river at the Mawa ferry terminal, snapping road communications between the capital and 21 southern districts.

River erosion engulfed at least 60 shops, damaged

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The mighty Padma devours land, homes, shops and roads at Mawa in Munshiganj. Roads leading to pontoons for large ferries are gone, disrupting services and causing a long queue of trucks, *inset* yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED



## Inqilab news editor on 5-day remand

Police seize computers from the office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed Rabiulla Rabi, news editor of Bangla daily Inqilab, on a five-day remand.

He was arrested during a raid on his office on Tuesday night hours after Praloy Kumar Juarder, acting assistant inspector

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PRAYER TIMING August 21		
Fazr	Azan	Jamaat
4:30	4:30	5:05
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	4:45	5:00
Maghrib	6:33	6:36
Esha	8:00	8:30

## Truce talks over Says Hamas, threatens to broaden offensive after Israeli airstrikes kill military chief's wife, son; 20 more killed, death toll 2,047

AFP, Gaza City

The armed wing of Hamas yesterday warned foreign airlines against flying into Tel Aviv, threatening to step up its six-week conflict with Israel and declaring truce talks in Cairo over.

The warning came after Israeli warplanes pounded Gaza again as furious mourners buried the wife and infant son of Hamas's top military commander, baying for revenge as nine days of calm exploded into bloodshed.

Mohammed Deif, who has topped Israel's most wanted list for more than a decade, escaped the assassination attempt, Hamas said.

Israel, which had carried out five previous attempts on Deif's life, said it would have no qualms about trying again, describing him as an "arch murderer."

So far, 20 Gazans have been killed since Palestinian militants launched a barrage of rockets on southern Israel on Tuesday and F16 fighter jets carried out retaliatory air strikes, Palestinian medics said.

"We are warning international airlines and press them to stop flying into Ben Gurion airport from 6:00am Thursday," the spokesman of the Hamas armed wing, Abu Obeida, said in a televised speech.

Last month, many international airlines briefly suspended flights into Tel Aviv after a Hamas rocket struck close to the airport.

Dressed in military fatigues with his face wrapped in a red-and-white chequered headscarf, Abu Obeida said Hamas was abandoning efforts to negotiate a durable ceasefire with Israel at Egyptian-brokered talks.

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A Palestinian doctor carries a wounded child at the hospital following an Israeli air strike on a house in Gaza City yesterday. The Israeli air strike killed a young girl and a woman, wounding 16 others.

PHOTO: AFP

## 30th Death Anniversary of Habibul Kabir (Nizam)



On the occasion of the 30th death anniversary of Habibul Kabir (Nizam) a Milad Mehfil will be held Today, 21-08-2014 after Maghrib Prayer at Union Center, 68/1 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan-1, Dhaka. Relatives, friends and all wellwishers of the deceased are requested to kindly join the Milad Mehfil and pray for the salvation of his departed soul.

Family of Habibul Kabir (Nizam)

## QAISAR'S WAR CRIMES TRIAL Verdict any day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday wrapped up the closing arguments of former state minister Syed Mohammad Qaisar's case and kept it waiting for verdict delivery.

However, cases pending verdict delivery have been piling up, three with Tribunal-1 and two with Tribunal-2, which are frustrating justice seekers.

Led by Justice Obaidul Hassan with members Justice Md Mozibur Rahman Miah and Justice Md Shahinur Islam, the tribunal yesterday sent the 74-year-old accused to jail, cancelling his bail.

The prosecution sought the capital punishment and compensation for the victims and the defence wanted Qaisar's acquittal.

Qaisar, the alleged founder of anti-liberation Qaisar Bahini, faces 16 charges, including genocide, committed in Habiganj and Brahmanbaria during the Liberation War. The accused had pleaded not guilty.



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## It will weaken foundation of democracy

Editors' Council on Broadcast Policy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Broadcast Policy-2014 recently passed by the government will weaken the foundation of democracy and hinder the advancement of the mass media, Editors Council said.

In a statement, it said it was concerned that freedom of expression and free flow of information would be restricted through enforcement of the broadcast policy and other government measures.

The government issued a gazette notification on the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

## Wrong strategy leads to poor performance

ADB ranks Bangladesh 27th among 28 nations in knowledge economy index

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh performed poorly in a knowledge economy index for failing to shift from labour-intensive growth to productivity-led growth, a path to becoming a middle income nation.

The country ranked 27th out of 28 emerging economies in Asia and the Pacific, according to the report, "Innovative Asia: Advancing the Knowledge-based Economy", published by the Asian Development Bank in April this year.

ADB Vice President Bindu Lohani presented the study findings to Finance Minister AMA Muhith at his secretariat office in the capital yesterday.

Welcoming the ADB initiative, Muhith said it was good that the bank studied the sub-sectors and how they affected the economies in the region.

"We are almost at the bottom of all sub-indexes, but ADB has said that Bangladesh's progress is good, which bodes well for the future," Muhith told reporters at the secretariat.

The minister said Bangladesh would have to come out of the league of the least developed countries and move forward to become a middle income nation. "To do so, we need to make a quantum leap."

Muhith said Bangladesh could start with the ICT sector. "We have to do better in higher education."

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সঞ্চয় সমৃদ্ধি

সঞ্চয় প্রবৃদ্ধি

সঞ্চয় করুন

দেশ গড়ুন

পেনশনার সঞ্চয়পত্র (৫-বছর মেয়াদী)

পেনশনার সঞ্চয়পত্র (৫-বছর মেয়াদী), মুনাফার হার ১৩.১৯%

এক লক্ষ টাকা বিনিয়োগে প্রতি তিন মাসে নীট মুনাফা ৩,২৯৭.৫০ টাকা।

পাঁচ লক্ষ টাকা পর্যন্ত বিনিয়োগের মুনাফাআয় - করমুক্ত।

মূল্যমান : ৫০,০০০ টাকা; ১,০০,০০০ টাকা; ২,০০,০০০ টাকা; ৫,০০,০০০ টাকা এবং ১০,০০,০০০ টাকা।

ওয়েজ আর্নার ডেভেলপমেন্ট বন্ড (৫ বছর মেয়াদী)

মুনাফা ১২% (মেয়াদান্তে চক্রবৃদ্ধি)

ওয়েজ আর্নার নিজে অথবা তার সুবিধাভোগীদের নামে এ বন্ড ক্রয় করতে পারবেন।

বিদেশে লিয়েনে কর্মরত বাংলাদেশী সরকারি, স্বায়ত্তশাসিত ও আধা-স্বায়ত্তশাসিত সংস্থা এবং বাংলাদেশী দূতাবাসে কর্মরত ব্যক্তিবর্গ এ বন্ড ক্রয় করতে পারবেন।

বিদেশে অবস্থিত বাংলাদেশ দূতাবাস থেকে কোন প্রকার সত্যায়ন ছাড়াই প্রবাসী বাংলাদেশীগণ কেবল তাদের পাসপোর্টের কপি এবং বাংলাদেশী বংশোদ্ভূত বিদেশী নাগরিকগণ No Visa Required সীল সম্বলিত পাসপোর্টের কপি প্রদান করে দেশের সকল তফসিলি ব্যাংকের অথরাইজড ডিলার (এডি) শাখা, বিদেশে অবস্থিত বাংলাদেশী ব্যাংকসমূহের শাখা এবং তাদের আওতাধীন এক্সচেঞ্জ কোম্পানীর মাধ্যমে এ বন্ড ক্রয় করতে পারবেন।

ক্রয়কৃত এ বন্ড ব্যাংকে জামানত রেখে দেশে ঋণ গ্রহণের সুযোগ আছে এবং স্বয়ংক্রিয়ভাবে একাধিক মেয়াদে পুনঃবিনিয়োগের সুবিধা বিদ্যমান।

এ বন্ডটি এফসি একাউন্টধারী ছাড়াও অনিবাসী বাংলাদেশী এবং তার সুবিধাভোগীদের জন্য।

পাঁচ লক্ষ টাকা পর্যন্ত বিনিয়োগের মুনাফাআয় - করমুক্ত।

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