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They will get higher returns from sales of their stakes in Bangladeshi firms

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And this year's Shaheed Altaf Mahmud Padak goes to ...

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STATEHOOD FOR EAST UKRAINE?

Putin calls for talks to this end; rebuffs EU threats of fresh sanctions

Not ready to tackle Ebola

Though a low-risk country, Bangladesh may find it tough to handle cases of infection

PORIMOL PALMA and SHARIFUL ISLAM

Bangladesh is at low risk of being hit by the deadly Ebola outbreak, but if any infected traveller enters the country undetected, the consequences might be devastating because of the highly dense population and poorly equipped hospitals, say medical experts.

Officials of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) said there is no need to panic, as there is no direct flight between Bangladesh and the affected West African nations. Some people, mainly from Nigeria, visit Bangladesh for business or sports purposes, they added.

No case of Ebola infection has been reported so far in any part of Asia, yet the authorities concerned should exercise extreme caution, said Dr Saif Ullah Munshi, associate professor of virology at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University.

A weak infection control system and lack of critical care facilities will pose a major challenge for public hospitals if they are to deal with Ebola patients, he added.

The Ebola virus disease has killed 1,552 people in 3,069 cases in West

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FOR MORE: THEDAILYSTAR.NET/EBOLA-OUTBREAK

SYMPTOMS

FEVER
(GREATER THAN 101.5°F)
SEVERE HEADACHE
MUSCLE PAIN
WEAKNESS
DIARRHOEA
VOMITING
STOMACH ACHE
LACK OF APPETITE

PREVENTION

Avoid contact with blood and body fluids

Don't handle items that may have come in contact with an infected person's blood or body fluids

Avoid funeral or burial rituals that require handling the body of someone who has died from Ebola

Avoid hospitals where Ebola patients are being treated

Avoid contact with bats, primates or blood, fluids, and raw meat prepared from these animals

After you return from abroad, monitor your health for 21 days and seek medical care if you develop Ebola symptoms



In the wake of Ebola outbreak in West African countries, a help desk has been set up at Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka for screening passengers from affected countries.

PHOTO: SHARIFUL ISLAM

Coping with Ebola crisis

ANDREW EAGLE

Sergeant KM Mehedi Hasan of Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police was elated to learn that he had been selected to participate in a United Nations peacekeeping mission.

Little could the father of one from Khulna imagine that the success would land him in the midst of West Africa's ebola epidemic.

Thirty-two-year-old Hasan was one of only eight officers offered a UN Police Adviser position in Liberia this year.

On 9 June 2014 they arrived in Monrovia, raising the total number of Bangladeshi officers in Liberia to 12. "I first heard of ebola during induction ... It worried me, but it's not the only disease here," says

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JP may quit govt

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

The parliamentary party of the main opposition Jatiya Party has decided in principle that it will quit the government to turn the party into a "real opposition", said JP insiders.

The decision came yesterday at a meeting of the JP parliamentary party where JP lawmakers observed that people don't consider the party a "real opposition" as it is in the government and the opposition.

The party, however, didn't decide on when it

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Migration keeps poverty at bay

Poverty rate of families with int'l migrant members much lower than that of non-migrant ones

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

International migration plays a significant role in poverty reduction, a recent study by the Refugee and Migratory Movement Research Unit (RMMRU) found.

The policy advocacy institution at Dhaka University came to the conclusion after conducting an exhaustive household survey in 17 districts of the country, representing all seven divisions, over the past one and a half years. Some 5,084 individuals were interviewed.

The survey found that only 13 percent of the households where at least

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Violence near BNP Office Charges pressed against 130 leaders, activists

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Police have recently pressed charges against 130 BNP-led alliance leaders and activists in a case filed in connection with violence near the BNP central office on March 11 last year.

Among the accused are BNP leaders Joynal Abdin Farroque, Ruhul Kabir Rizvi, Amanullah Aman and Jatiya Gonorantrik Party chief Shafiul Alam Pradhan. All the 130 accused in the case are on bail.

On August 3, Paltan Police Station Sub-Inspector Abu Zafar, also the case's

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Pak protests turn deadly; 3 killed

Nearly 500 injured in clashes near parliament, PM's house; army expresses 'serious concern'; Imran, Qadri vow to fight on; govt offers talks

AGENCIES

Pakistani opposition leader Imran Khan ordered his supporters yesterday to take to the streets and stand up against security forces after at least three people were killed in clashes between protesters and police in the capital overnight.

Pakistan's army commanders, meanwhile, expressed "serious concern" over the

violent turn of events in Islamabad.

After a lengthy four hour meeting at the General Headquarters with army chief Gen Raheel Sharif in the chair yesterday, Pakistan Army corps commanders came out with a statement "reaffirming support to democracy".

In a statement, the army "reiterated that the situation should be resolved politically

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36th founding anniversary of BNP today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Nationalist Party celebrates its 36th founding anniversary today. On this very day in 1978, late president Ziaur Rahman floated the party.

To mark the day, BNP has scheduled elaborate programmes including discussion meetings, hoisting party flags at its offices across the country, and placing wreaths on the grave of the BNP founder. This is the first time

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NEWS ANALYSIS

BNP: a party for the supremo

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The BNP was formed in 1978 with the aim of giving military ruler Gen Ziaur Rahman institutional support.

At the beginning, therefore, the party's charter gave the military ruler absolute power to run it at will, without keeping any room for the practice of intra-party democracy.

The party's current chief enjoys almost the same absolute authority as there was

hardly any move to democratise the organisation over the last 36 years. And the lack of democratic practices has also been blamed for the severe organisational weaknesses that the party, which turns 37 today, faces now.

When Gen Zia formed the BNP, he was the most powerful president in the country's history. He held the post of army chief and chief martial law administrator alongside

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