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France's Tirole wins Nobel in economics

AFP, Stockholm

French economist Jean Tirole won the Nobel Economics Prize yesterday, for his analysis of big companies, market power and regulation, the Royal Academy of Sciences said. Tirole, the second Frenchman to be honoured this year, is "one of the most influential economists of our time," the jury said.

"Many industries are dominated by a small number of large firms or a single monopoly," the jury said of the economist, from Toulouse 1 Capitole University.

"Left unregulated, such

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'SECURITY REASONS' Khaleda skips hearing in Zia Trust case

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Citing security reasons, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday again skipped a Dhaka court's hearing in Zia Charitable Trust and Zia Orphanage Trust graft cases filed against her.

The BNP chief also did not appear before the court mentioning the same reason on September 22. Khaleda turned up in the court for the last time on September 17.

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DANGER IGNORED

A battery-run rickshaw plying the Dhaka-Aricha highway near Amin Bazar in Dhaka while fast-moving buses swerve to avoid a collision. Illegal rickshaws like this and other non-motorised and slow vehicles take to the national highways with hardly any obstruction from law enforcers. Fatal accidents often take place on the roads because of these vehicles.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

PRAYER TIMING October 14		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-45	5-20
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-15	4-30
Maghrib	4-45	5-50
Esha	7-15	7-45

ALLEGED LINK TO BHASHANTEK MURDERERS 19 cops suspended, probe begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police yesterday suspended all 19 members of Pashchim Bhashantek Police Outpost for allegations that they had been maintaining warm relations with local goons.

While making the decision, the DMP authorities also considered their failure in arresting the perpetrators who killed Nasir Hossain in the area in the early hours of Saturday for protesting the stalking of his cousin, case statement says.

A three-member committee has been

formed to investigate the allegations against the policemen and also to find why they failed to arrest the killers, said Nisarul Arif, deputy commissioner (Mirpur division) of DMP.

"If they are found guilty, departmental actions will be taken against them," he added.

Mamun, 27, along with four of his cohorts -- Bablu, "Kana" Alam, Khokon and Chukka -- verbally abused Laboni, 15, in the capital's Bhashantek on Friday afternoon, Nasir's brother Mosharruf said in the statement of the case he filed with Bhashantek Police Station following the murder.

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Do not lower age for girls' marriage

HRW asks govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Human Rights Watch, a New York-based rights group, has called upon the government not to bring down the minimum marriage age for girls to 16 from 18.

The cabinet has recently approved an amendment to the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929.

The HRW call came following recent media

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Ebola modern era's worst health crisis

WHO warns against irrational moves to dodge infection

AP, Manila

The World Health Organisation called the Ebola outbreak "the most severe, acute health emergency seen in modern times" but also said yesterday that economic disruptions can be curbed if people are adequately informed to prevent irrational moves to dodge infection.

WHO Director-General Margaret Chan, citing World Bank figures, said 90 percent of economic costs of any outbreak "come from irrational and disorganised efforts of the public to avoid infection."

Staffers of the global health organisation

"are very well aware that fear of infection has spread around the world much faster than the virus," Chan said in a statement read out to a regional health conference in the Philippine capital, Manila.

"We are seeing, right now, how this virus can disrupt economies and societies around the world," she said but added that adequately educating the public was a "good defence strategy" and would allow governments to prevent economic disruptions.

Chan did not specify those steps but praised the Philippines for holding an anti-Ebola summit last week which was joined

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From farming to presidency

Evo Morales elected Bolivian president for third term

AFP, La Paz

Evo Morales grew up in poverty on Bolivia's high plains and was a llama herder, musician, footballer and coca grower before rising to become the country's first indigenous president.

After overseeing almost nine years of nationalisations, pro-poor policies and an economic boom that has transformed Latin America's poorest country, the 54-year-old won re-election by a landslide Sunday, according to exit polls, giving him a third term in power.

He may be the region's longest-serving sitting president,

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Workers clean up mess after cyclone

Hudhud death toll rises to 21 in India

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

The death toll in the Hudhud cyclone that slammed the coastal districts of southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh yesterday mounted to 21 as authorities began restoring communication and power links and clear roads.

"Fifteen deaths were reported from Visakhapatnam district, five in Vizianagaram and one in Srikakulam," Special Commissioner in State Disaster

Management Authority, K Hymavathi, told PTI news agency.

Advisor (Communications) to Government, Parakala Prabhakar said most of the deaths occurred due to falling trees.

Torrential rains and gale force winds packing a speed of nearly 200 kmph had pounded Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts on Sunday.

Officials said timely evacuation of hundreds of thousands of people ahead of the

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