



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE



UKRAINE CRISIS

Peace plan looks tattered as Kiev cuts finance, orders troops reinforcements in rebel areas

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'AMI EK DURANTA JAJABOR'

Mohammad Ali Siddique, who sang numerous hit songs in the 60s and 70s, dies

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Prison preparing for execution

Says law minister; family meets Kamaruzzaman; confusion over review, mercy petition remains

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday asked the prison authorities to make preparations for Jamaat leader Muhammad Kamaruzzaman's execution, two days after the Supreme Court upheld his death penalty for war crimes.

Under the jail code, the convict will get seven days since hearing of the SC verdict to seek presidential mercy. If he opts not to do so, he will be hanged immediately, Law Minister Anisul Huq told The Daily Star yesterday.

Kamaruzzaman is aware of the judgment, he said.

For the execution to be carried out, however, a certified copy of the SC verdict must reach the tribunal that will issue a warrant of death for Kamaruzzaman, he added.

"But there is no chance for him being hanged tonight [last night]," he said.

Replying to a question, the minister said the convict could be executed on the basis of



the short order that the SC delivered on Monday.

On presidential clemency, Anisul said, "Kamaruzzaman has to confess his guilt and apologise for his offence to seek presidential mercy."

The developments come amid debates over Kamaruzzaman's right to seek a review of the apex court verdict.

The 62-year-old was transferred to Dhaka Central Jail from a Kashimpur prison on Tuesday and his family members met him there yesterday.

Now an assistant secretary general of Jamaat-e-Islami, he was a key organiser of the infamous Al-Badr Bahini responsible for abducting, torturing and killing freedom fighters, intellectuals and pro-liberation people during the 1971 Liberation War.

In May last year, a war crimes tribunal sentenced him to death for war crimes.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, the

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THE FISHING FEST: With water bodies drying up as winter approaches, this time of the year comes as an occasion for fishing in rural areas of Bangladesh. In the picture taken on Tuesday, people are seen catching fish in Nedar Canal in Tangail's Ghatail upazila. PHOTO: MIRZA SHAKIL



Republicans wrest full Congress reins

Rough ride ahead of Obama as Democrats face debacle in mid-term polls

AGENCIES

President Barack Obama faced a political rebuke and a curb on his policy ambitions yesterday after Republicans seized control of the US Senate and captured their biggest majority in the House of Representatives since Harry Truman's presidency more than 60 years ago.

Tuesday's midterm elections gave Republicans control of both houses of Congress for the first time since elections in 2006. Obama, who has lurched from crisis to crisis and whose unpopularity made him unwelcome to many fellow Democrats running for office, was scheduled for a news conference later.

He invited Democratic and Republican leaders of Congress to the White House tomorrow to take stock of the new political landscape.

It was "a pretty ugly night" for Democrats, said Representative Steve Israel, chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, speaking on MSNBC.

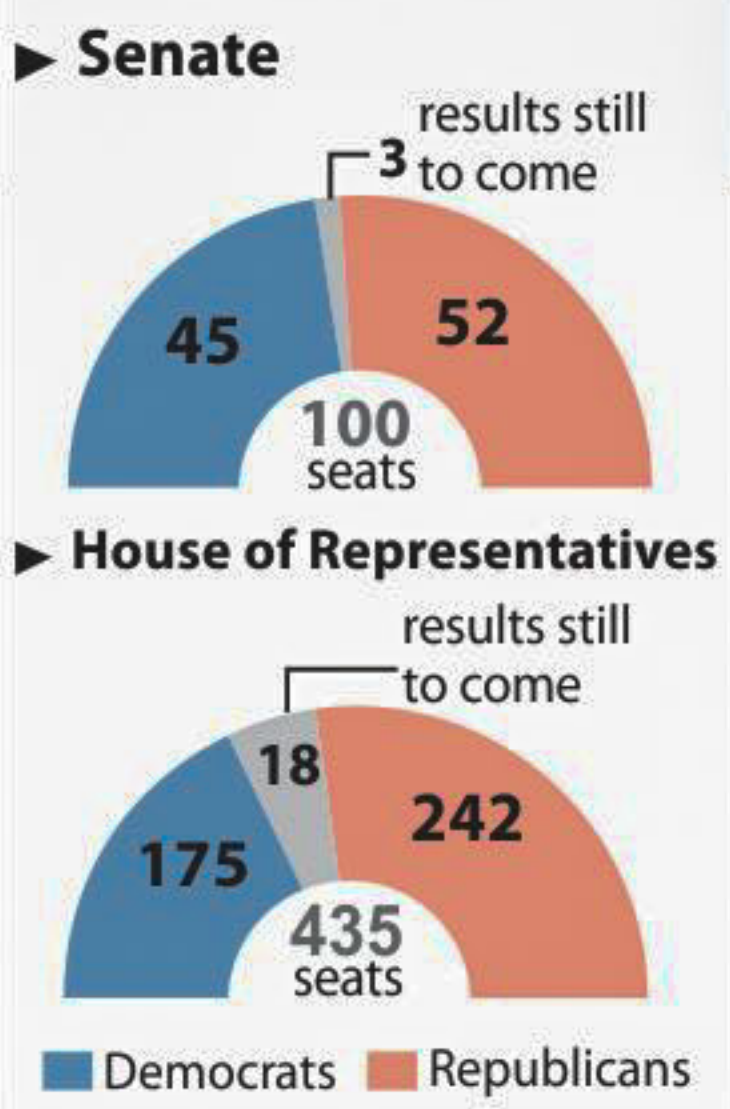
When the new Congress convenes in January, Republicans will be armed with their biggest majority in the House since the Democrat Truman's first term in the late 1940s. With some 18 seats yet to be decided, NBC News projected Republicans would win at least 244 seats in the 435-seat chamber.

Republicans needed six seats to win control of the 100-member Senate. But Republican candidates had picked up seven Democratic seats: Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Montana, North Carolina, South Dakota and West Virginia. Voting held for 36 seats.

Democrats had dominated Republicans in the Senate, 53-45 with two independents, going into the election but Republicans will now outnumber them 52-45 with two independents. Louisiana's US Senate race will be decided in a Dec 6 runoff.

In the House, Republicans had held a 233-199 advantage before Tuesday's vote. NBC News projected they would hold at least 244 seats and as many as 249 seats.

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DEATH AT DMCH Rejoinder, our reply

The Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) authorities in a rejoinder to two October 22 Daily Star reports-- headlined 'Death shrouded in questions' and 'Asma was strong, healthy'-- has claimed that the reports were not fact-based.

Following is the full, unedited text of the rejoinder, undersigned by DMCH Director In-charge Dr Md Musfiqur Rahman:

"Report by the Staff Correspondent Published in 'The Daily Star' on 22/10/2014 with the

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Woman, son killed

Husband detained

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police last night detained a husband on suspicion of killing his wife and their young son in the city's Mirpur.

The victims are Irin Akter Arzu, 35, and Sabbid, 7.

"Our primary suspect is the husband. The couple's relations turned sour lately, following the husband's

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High hope on solar

30 lakh solar home systems installed so far; PM targets 30 lakh more in 3 years

STAR REPORT

The Infrastructure Development Company Ltd (Idcol) yesterday celebrated the installation of three million solar home systems (SHSs) in the country.

The three million SHSs installed under an Idcol programme are currently generating 135 megawatts of electricity in the off-grid areas, where electricity may not reach in the near future.

As a result, more than 15 million people are benefitting from solar electricity for



lighting, watching TV, charging mobile phones and other low load appliances.

As of May, more than 3.1 million SHSs have been installed with support from the World Bank and other development partners, according to Idcol, the implementing agency.

Idcol, the state owned non-banking financial institution, has now set a target to finance six million such systems by 2017.

"We've set a target to provide solar energy

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চেহলাম



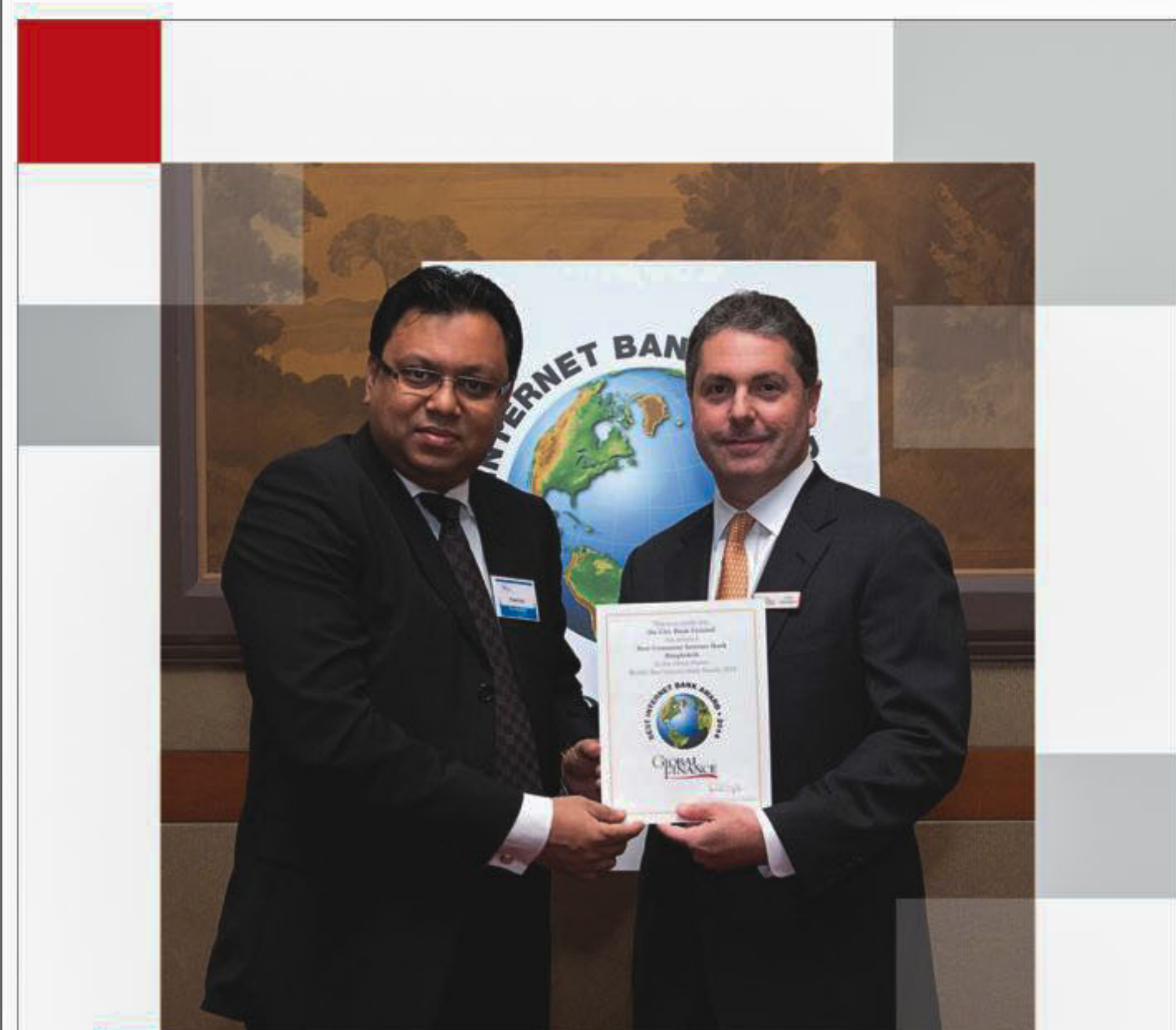
আগামী ৭ই নভেম্বর ২০১৪ইং রোজ শুক্রবার বাদ-জুমা বিশিষ্ট শিল্পপতি ঘোড়াশালের সম্ভ্রান্ত পরিবারের সন্তান ঘোড়াশাল পাইলট হাই স্কুলের সাবেক সভাপতি, বিজিএমইএ এর আরবিট্রেশান কমিটির সাবেক চেয়ারম্যান, লাক্সমা সোয়েটার্স লিমিটেড এবং লাক্সমা এ্যাপারেলস্ লিমিটেড এর প্রতিষ্ঠাতা ও ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক **জনাব রেহমান শরীফ** এর চেহলাম (দোয়া) উনার নিজ বাড়ী ঘোড়াশালে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। উক্ত অনুষ্ঠানে সকল শ্রুতাকাংখী, আত্মীয়-স্বজনকে উপস্থিত থেকে উনার রুহের মাগফেরাত কামনা করতে বিনীত অনুরোধ করা হল।

উল্লেখ্য যে, তিনি গত ১০ই অক্টোবর সিঙ্গাপুর মাউন্ডএলিজাবেথ হাসপাতালে ইন্তেকাল করেন। (ইন্সাল্লাহি ওয়াইন্নাইলাহি রাজিউন)।

অনুরোধক্রমে :- রোজী শরীফ, সাফিনা রহমান ও সাবিনা রহমান।



Zimbabwe batsman Hamilton Masakadza raises his bat after scoring a fine century on the third day of the second Test against Bangladesh at the Sheikh Abu Naser Stadium in Khulna yesterday. The towering right-hander remained unbeaten on 154. Story on page 14



Congratulations!

We congratulate City Bank & its Chairman, Mr. Rubel Aziz, on winning the Global Finance's "Best Consumer Internet Bank in Bangladesh" award.

We are inspired by the popularity of Citytouch Internet Banking and encouraged by the vision of Mr. Rubel Aziz in bridging the gap between banking and technology.

