



BSRM
the ultimate choice



NOT ALL 500Ws ARE CREATED EQUAL!!

Only BSRM Xtreme, which is regularly **CBT** and **FAT** Fatigue tested at 5 million cyclic load reversals from a U.K. Lab. is SAFE for your family.

BSRM Xtreme

Feel safe with Xtreme inside

www.bsrn.com

TRANSCOM
DIGITAL

Inverter Technology

from Hitachi Refrigerator

INVERTER × Dual Fan Cooling

eco CHOICE



R-V720PG1
600 Litres
TK 170,000



R-W720PG1X
600 Litres
TK 230,000

HITACHI
Inspire the Next

Up to 9 EMI @ 0% Interest

For More Information: 09613 700700



New chapter in US-Cuba relations

World hails move to end 50-yr hostility

AFP, Washington

World leaders welcomed the groundbreaking news that the United States and Cuba are moving to restore diplomatic relations and bury one of the last vestiges of the Cold War after more than 50 years of hostility.

Celebrations broke out on the streets of Havana Wednesday as people living on a pittance per day in the communist-run island savoured the prospect of an end to the crippling US trade embargo and perhaps a brighter future.

From China to Chile, plaudits rang out. South American leaders holding a trade meeting in Argentina interrupted their session and broke into euphoric applause.

The gush of praise for the shock announcement in Washington and Havana -- it emerged that secret talks have been underway for a year and a half -- featured a plethora of terms like "turning

MORE STORIES ON PAGE 9 SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

'71 campaign that never really worked


SHAMIM ASHRAF

With the Pakistan army facing defeats at East Pakistan war fronts one after another in December 1971, there were attempts to use religion to cover up the mindless genocide, boost their morale and raise funds for them.

Terming the Pakistan troops mujahid or those who struggle for the sake of Islam, people were asked through newspaper adverts to stand by them and donate for the military occupation.

Different banks and some businesses were at the forefront of the campaign and its main aim was to exploit the religious sentiments of Muslims and encourage the Pakistan military to "exterminate the


SEE PAGE 2 COL 1




EXTERMINATE THE ENEMY ONCE AND FOR ALL CONTRIBUTE LIKE A MUJAHID TO THE NATIONAL DEFENCE FUND

PAKTRACK

KARACHI LAHORE DACCA




Contribute generously to the NATIONAL DEFENCE FUND



This is a war in which all of us have a duty to perform. While our Glorious defend the motherland, we have to contribute to their success.

As a humble gesture UBL has already donated Rs. 1.32 crore to the NATIONAL DEFENCE FUND. Our entire network of branches has been mobilised to go out with wallet and collect contributions for the fund. The whole staff of UBL is at your service to call on you, advise you, and do all they can for this noble cause.

Countrymen, no sacrifice is big enough for the nation.


 UNITED BANK LTD.

Pakistan's English daily The Dawn has republished these adverts which were run on December 14-18, 1971. See The Daily Star online for more images.

IMAGE: THE DAWN

JEHAD

MEANS TOTAL COMMITMENT



DONATE GENEROUSLY TO NATIONAL DEFENCE FUND

Donations accepted at all branches of Habib Bank Limited

LADIES! RUSH TO JOIN JEHAD

Donate generously woollen jerseys of 40" chest size to MUJAHIDS

Pure Mountaineous Jersey Wool at slashed down price of Rs. 4, 5, & 6 per Lb.

Aftab Shafiq Qamar Shafiq & Brothers

Glimmer Tex Show Room

Opp: Saddar Post Office, Victoria Road, Karachi.

Quaid-e-Azam said:

"Muslims can never be crushed. They have not been crushed during the last 1,000 years by any power. This is a dream and a hallucination. Shed them . . . Our religion, our culture and our Islamic ideals are our driving force . . ."



UNITED BANK LTD.

WIDE ANGLE

Pythons to some may be fearsome creatures. But for a small team of conservationists, it is a race against time to conserve this beautiful creature.

Unfortunately, python-human conflict is a major threat in that journey. Villagers mostly forget the immense benefit pythons have on agriculture, eating up rodents, the main destroyer of crops.

The Python Project, as it is known, is also helping shed new lights on python behaviour. This is the story of how the team is going about its work.

BCIM ECONOMIC CORRIDOR 4 nations agree to create fund

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A multi-billion dollar fund might be established to pull in resources from various parties to set up a thriving economic belt connecting Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar.

About 55 percent of the fund might come from various multilateral development partners while the rest might be borne by the four governments and the private sector. It will cost about \$22 billion to build the

proposed Bangladesh, China, India, Myanmar Economic Corridor (BCIM-EC), according to an initial estimate.

The figure is not final and will require more in depth study to reach a final estimation, according to officials from the foreign ministry who attended the two-day meeting in Cox's Bazar.

Citing an Asian Development Bank study, the Bangladesh delegation, led by foreign secretary Shahidul Haque, told the

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

Tarique faces arrest order

Five cases filed for calling Bangabandhu big Razakar

STAR REPORT

A Dhaka court has issued an arrest warrant for BNP senior vice-chairman Tarique Rahman in a defamation case filed for terming Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman a "big Razakar".

Metropolitan Magistrate Md Yunus Khan passed the order, hours after Mostafizur Rahman Dulal, a lawyer, filed the case

SEE PAGE 17 COL 5

GRAFT CASES AGAINST KHALEDA Judge transferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday transferred the judge, who had been dealing with two corruption cases against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and eight others, midway through the trial after she expressed no confidence in him.

The BNP chief filed two no-confidence petitions with the High Court in October, seeking orders on the government to transfer the cases from the Special Judge Court-3 of Dhaka that had Judge Bashudev Roy as its head.

Justice Bashudev has been transferred to the position of a special judge (district and sessions judge) in Patuakhali.

Following the transfer order, the hearing on the petitions scheduled for January need not be held, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told The Daily Star.

The court headed by Bashudev framed charges against Khaleda, her son and BNP Senior Vice-chairman Tarique Rahman and seven others in Zia Orphanage Trust and Zia Charitable Trust corruption cases in March.

Judge Bashudev will be replaced by Md

SEE PAGE 17 COL 4

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think ruling Awami League will take any action for the killing of its activist Taposh Paul in a factional fight at CU?

Yes (13%)
No (87%)

TOTAL VOTES: 175

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think government has delayed too much to seek foreign assistance tackling the oil spill in the Sundarbans?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT
www.thedailystar.net

PRAYER TIMING December 19

| Fazr | Azan | Jamaat |
|---------|-------|--------|
| 5:20 | 5:55 | |
| Juma | 12:30 | 1:15 |
| Asr | 3:45 | 4:00 |
| Maghrib | 5:22 | 5:25 |
| Esha | 7:00 | 7:30 |

Source: Islamic Foundation



The bridge on the road between Bakal and Bagdha unions of Agailjhara upazila in Barisal has been like this for over two years. Locals have built a bamboo structure over the broken part so that people could cross. The authorities seem to have no intention to repair it.

PHOTO: ARIFUR RAHMAN



Exonerated 70yrs after execution

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

George Stinney Jr became the youngest person to be executed in the US in the 20th century when he was sent to the electric chair in 1944, but more than 70 years after his death his conviction has been overturned.

On Wednesday, he was exonerated. Circuit Judge Carmen Mullen said the speed with which the state meted out justice against the boy was shocking and extremely unfair, and that his case was one of "great injustice" in her ruling exonerating Stinney Jr.

The 14-year-old black boy was sentenced to death for the murder of two white girls in a

SEE PAGE 17 COL 2

MUMBAI CARNAGE Pak court grants bail to Lakhvi

AGENCIES

A Pakistani court yesterday granted bail to the alleged mastermind of the 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai, lawyers told AFP, a move likely to further inflame tensions with India.

The 60-hour siege on India's economic capital left 166 people dead and was blamed on the banned

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

Moosa has \$7b in 'frozen' Swiss account

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Flanked by bodyguards, business tycoon Moosa Bin Shamsher yesterday appeared at the Anti-Corruption Commission headquarters to face interrogation over the allegations that he amassed wealth illegally and laundered a huge amount of money to Switzerland.

During interrogation, Moosa admitted that he has deposits worth \$7 billion in



Moosa Bin Shamsher

Swiss Bank accounts that are now "frozen", according to a top ACC official.

"Moosa, however, denied allegation of amassing wealth illegally, claiming that he earned the amount abroad through international arms trading," he added.

Asked about the "\$7 billion", Executive Director Mahfuzur Rahman of Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit said, "We are trying to

SEE PAGE 17 COL 5



Our ePAPER is BACK

Read The Daily Star at
epaper.thedailystar.net