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# World unites against terror

Leaders join mammoth procession in Paris defending freedom of speech, condemning extremism

More than a million people thronged the streets of Paris yesterday in the biggest rally in French history, led by dozens of world leaders walking arm-in-arm as cries of "Freedom" and "Charlie" rang out across the country.

The interior ministry said 3.7 million people took to the streets nationwide, with Paris alone seeing an "unprecedented" 1.5 million demonstrators.

In the capital, President Francois Hollande linked arms with world leaders, including the Israeli prime minister and the Palestinian president, in an historic display of unity.

A sea of humanity flowed through Paris' iconic streets to mourn the victims of the three days of terror that began with a slaughter at the offices of satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo and ended with 17 dead.

The vast crowd chanted "Charlie, Charlie", in honour of the cartoonists and journalists killed at Charlie Hebdo over its lampooning of the Prophet Mohammed.

Emotions ran high in the grieving City of Light, with many of those marching in tears as they came together under the banner of freedom of speech after France's worst terrorist bloodbath in half a century.

The crowd brandished banners saying: "I'm French and I'm not scared" and, in tribute to the murdered cartoonists, "Make fun, not war" and "Ink should flow, not blood."

Isabelle Dahmani, a French Christian married to a Muslim, Mohamed, brought the couple's three young children to show them there is nothing to fear.

GERMAN PAPER ATTACKED - PAGE 8 SEE PAGE 11 COL 5



Thousands of people get in and on trains at Tongi yesterday after taking part in Akheri Munajat of Biswa Ijtema on the bank of the Turag. One of them on top of the locomotive waves the national flag. The first phase of the second largest congregation of the Muslims ended yesterday.

PHOTO: CHRIS DÄPPEN

## 52 Buddhist families evicted in Bandarban

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Fifty-two families of the Barua community in Naikhangchhari upazila of Bandarban have been evicted from their homes.

Sources said the families were evicted so that their land could be cleared off to set up a rubber plantation there following an order of the joint district judge's court.

The victims wanted to leave for Myanmar but have now taken shelter in a local primary school with the help of Border Guard Bangladesh.

The families were forced to leave their homes in Uttar Ghundhun Barua Para village on Sunday after they were beaten up and their houses vandalised in the previous morning.

Kamal Uddin, panel chairman of Ghundhun Union Parishad, alleged that the attackers also ransacked a local Buddhist temple.

They were left stranded without any shelter until 6:00pm yesterday when they took shelter at the school, about four kilometres from the village.

The evicted families claimed that Subrato Barua

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## AL GOVT STEPS INTO SECOND YEAR Election pledges left ignored

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The ruling Awami League appears to have been reluctant to deliver on its electoral pledges on good governance, democratisation and decentralisation of power. Its inaction in general and excess use of power in some cases has rather worsened the situation in its first year in office.

In the run-up to the one-sided January 5 parliamentary polls, the AL had said it

would take more than a dozen measures to improve the governance. After leading her party to an easy win with three-fourth majority, AL chief Sheik Hasina formed her cabinet on January 12 last year amid an unprecedented scale of political turmoil.

One of the crucial electoral pledges was to take steps to create a national consensus among political parties, professional bodies and civil societies on basic issues like

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

## Child burnt to death

500 families homeless

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The charred body of a four-year girl was recovered from the gutted remains of Polpar Battala slum in the capital's Katasur yesterday, where a devastating fire ravaged everything, leaving over 500 families homeless.

The minor girl was identified as Fatema, daughter of Mohammad Zainal, a CNG-run auto-rickshaw driver.

Zainal, who hails from Madaripur, rented a shabby room at the slum in

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5 PHOTO ON PAGE 5

## Ordeal of truck drivers, helpers

Police seize the vehicles, use them for blocking road near Khaleda's office

PRABIR BARUA CHOWDHURY and BELAL HOSSAIN BIPOB

Anger and frustration overwhelmed truck driver Masum who fell prey to a game of politics.

He had no income for a day as the police seized his vehicle on Saturday evening for no fault of his own -- to barricade a road in front of the BNP chief's Gulshan office -- in an apparent attempt to beef up security in the wake of a rumour that opposition leaders and activists might gather there after Akheri Munajat of Bishwa Ijtema.

Hapless Masum guarded his vehicle there until it was released around

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5



A book inside which one of the three bombs was hidden at a courtroom of the High Court yesterday. Inset, an official showing the bomb which was later dipped into a bucket of water.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

## Three bombs found at courtrooms

Panic in SC area

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Raising serious concern over security at the apex court, three bombs were recovered from a Supreme Court building yesterday.

The explosives were found in two courtrooms on the first floor of the SC's annex building where proceedings of the High Court take place.

Police were yet to arrest anyone in connection with the incident that created panic among judges, lawyers and court staff.

Each of the bombs, weighing around 500 grams, contains explosive substances, and is more powerful than usual crude bombs, said Rahmatullah Chowdhury, senior

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## Robot that draws pictures on sand

MAIL ONLINE

Disney is known for animated characters on the stage and screen but now Disney can even create pictures in the sand!

Research Disney's latest creation is BeachBot, an autonomous robot that draws pictures on the beach using state of the art technology.

The adorable orange and tan bot was modeled to look like a turtle by the students and a research team at the University of Zurich and sketches images on

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

**The Daily Star**

**Integral Energy Limited**

**ONLINE POLL**

Do you agree with FBCCI move on seeking legal remedy to get rid of destructive political programmes like hartal and blockade as these are taking their heavy toll on economy?

Yes (58%)

No (42%)

TOTAL VOTES: 325

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you agree with SHUJAN's demand for a fresh, inclusive parliamentary election within the shortest possible time?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

**PRAYER TIMING January 12**

Fazr	Azan	Jamaat
5-30	6-05	
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-36	5-40
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

## BIWTA boss 'behind river grabbing'

Foreshores leased out flouting HC orders; ACC probe on

PANKAJ KARMAKAR

In complete defiance of orders from the High Court and the shipping ministry, Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) allegedly leased out vast tracts of shores and foreshores of different rivers around the capital in the last three years.

BIWTA Chairman Samsuddoha Khondaker allegedly made these deals in an underhand way after assuming office in

October 2011, according to a set of allegations the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) is looking into.

The HC in a verdict in June 2009 asked the government to protect all rivers in the country from land grabbers. Three months later, the shipping ministry decided to cancel the leases and not to lease out shores and foreshores any more.

But the BIWTA allowed a cement factory

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**SHARP**

সার্প ফটোকপিয়ারের বাড়ো অফার

সার্প ফটোকপিয়ার, টোনার এবং আনুষঙ্গিক দ্রব্যাদি কিনুন এবং জিতুন

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