

BSRM www.bsr.com

NOT ALL 500Ws ARE CREATED EQUAL!!

Only BSRM Xtreme, which is regularly **EMT** and **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

TRANSFORM DIGITAL

Inverter Technology
from Hitachi Refrigerator

INVERTER × Dual Fan Cooling **eco CHOICE**

HITACHI
Inspire the Next

Up to 9 EMI @ 0% Interest

R-V720PG1 600 Litres Tk 170,000
R-W720PFG1X 600 Litres Tk 230,000

For More Information: 09613 700700

POLITICS, FOR PEOPLE?



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN/STAR



With his entire body bandaged, Sujan Miah, a victim of a petrol bomb attack, is barely hanging on to life in excruciating pain at the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital while 13-year-old Zakir Hossain, top right photo taken on Wednesday, passed away yesterday. In a hospital in Bogra, bottom right, truck helper Abdur Rahim is seen all burnt following a petrol bomb attack on his vehicle Thursday night. He too died yesterday. As the two major political parties continue to flex their muscle, innocent people suffer the pain and lose their lives. This is precisely why college student Sagor, left, was seen yesterday in front of Jatiya Press Club with banners telling Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia that people want peace.

It'll be govt's political funeral

Reacts BNP to call for Khaleda's arrest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP yesterday came down heavily on the lawmakers who had clamoured in parliament for arresting the chief of the party, Khaleda Zia.

"It seems parliament has been turned into a club house of the Awami League-led grand alliance government where a competition for abusing the Zia family is underway," party Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi said in a statement.

The BNP leader also said arresting Khaleda at a time when the protesters were "taking to the streets despite the so-called gun-fights and crossfire" would result in the "illegal government's political funeral."

In an unscheduled

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Ousted Thai PM banned from politics

Yingluck faces criminal charges

REUTERS, Bangkok

Thai authorities dealt a double blow to ousted Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra and her powerful family yesterday, banning her from politics for five years and proceeding with criminal charges for negligence that could put her in jail.

The moves could stoke tension in the politically divided country still living under martial law after the military seized power in May, toppling the remnants of Yingluck's government to end months of street protests.

The ban and the legal case are the latest twist in 10 years of turbulent politics that have pitted Yingluck and her brother Thaksin, himself a former prime minister, against the royalist-military establishment which sees the Shinawatras as a threat and reviles their populist policies.

Yingluck will face criminal charges in the Supreme Court and if found guilty faces up to 10 years in jail, the Attorney General's Office said yesterday.

The charges against the country's first female premier,

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5



8 MONTHS' ORDEAL IN IRAQ

Not jobs, they want to return home

BELAL HOSSAIN BIPLOB

After remaining jobless for eight months, at least 30 Bangladeshi migrant workers in conflict-torn Iraq have refused to take up any work and demanded their recruiting agency bring them back to Dhaka.

Career Overseas Consultants Ltd, a Bangladeshi agency, had sent a total of 180 migrant workers to Iraq in May last year, promising them jobs at Abu Torab Housing Project in Najaf, a desert area in the restive country.

Of them, 117 have remained jobless since their arrival in Iraq as the housing project was delayed by the construction company concerned, agency sources said.

Thirty out of this jobless lot have submitted their resignation letters to the recruiting agency, Md Rafik, one of the 30 workers, told this correspondent on Wednesday over the phone.

They alleged they were not only stranded at the housing company's labour camp but also had been suffering from poor supply of food, water and electricity.

"Since June 2014, the agency has been

saying they will provide us with jobs in one or two months. But they couldn't do that in the last eight months. Besides, we are having to stay within the boundary of this camp like prisoners," engineer Siddique, who represented the workers, told The Daily Star over the phone.

The Bangladeshi agency, however, said it had managed jobs for 63 workers at Al Ayadi Group, another Iraqi construction company in Baghdad, in November last year.

It claimed that jobs for the remaining workers had also been arranged at the Baghdad-based company but they had refused to leave the camp and join the new job.

"The new employer and our embassy officials have gone to the workers' camp in Najaf several times and urged them to join the new company. But the attempts had been futile," ABM Badrul Amin, managing director of Career Overseas Consultants Ltd, told The Daily Star.

The agency declined to bring the workers back home. "We are still trying to convince the workers to join the new company in Baghdad," Amin said.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

Two Greenland lagoons drain away in weeks



MAIL ONLINE

A team of researchers, building the highest-resolution map of the Greenland Ice Sheet, has made the surprising discovery of billions of gallons of water being drained away in a matter of weeks from sub-glacial lakes leaving miles-wide empty craters.

They discovered two lakes of meltwater that pooled beneath the ice and rapidly drained away, due to mysterious natural drainage tunnels

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with PM that it would be logical to take legal action against Khaleda Zia for masterminding criminal activities that were leading to deaths and loss of property in the ongoing blockade?

Yes (34%)
No (66%)

TOTAL VOTES: 363

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with SCBA President Khandker Mahbub Hossain that the only way out of the ongoing crisis is to form a legitimate government by holding an inclusive and credible election endorsed by the people?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net



Escorted by vehicles of law enforcers, goods-laden trucks travel in convoy on the Dhaka-Rangpur highway to avert hit-and-run petrol and crude bomb attacks by blockaders. Inset, another convoy of oil tankers carrying flammable diesel and petrol travels on the highway between Gaibandha and Rangpur yesterday. Even though travelling in such convoys provides the vehicles with some security, it was only Thursday when one such convoy came under attack at Kadirganj in Rajshahi.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH



2 Shibir cadres beaten up for torching bus in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An angry mob beat up two cadres of Islami Chhatra Shibir for torching a bus in Paba upazila of Rajshahi last evening.

The two -- Moshir Rahman and Abdul Awal -- were now undergoing treatment at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital, said Motiar Rahman, officer-in-charge of Paba Police Station.

Quoting witnesses, law enforcers said some 12 Shibir cadres intercepted the Rajshahi-bound bus from Tanore upazila in Teghor area around 6:00pm and torched the bus after pouring petrol on it.

Passengers along with locals captured two of the attackers while they were fleeing the scene.

The mob had given them

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4