## Heading for uncertainty

Many arson victims leave hospital only to see hard times ahead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In his over three-decade career, trucker Piar Ahmed never faced any accident. Nor had he ever fallen victim to vandalism as he always avoided driving through political flashpoints.

Yet all his caution failed to save him from being severely burnt as his parked lorry came under a firebomb attack in Comilla early last month. He was released yesterday after a month's treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

"I need to take the wheels as soon as possible," the 55year-old trucker said.

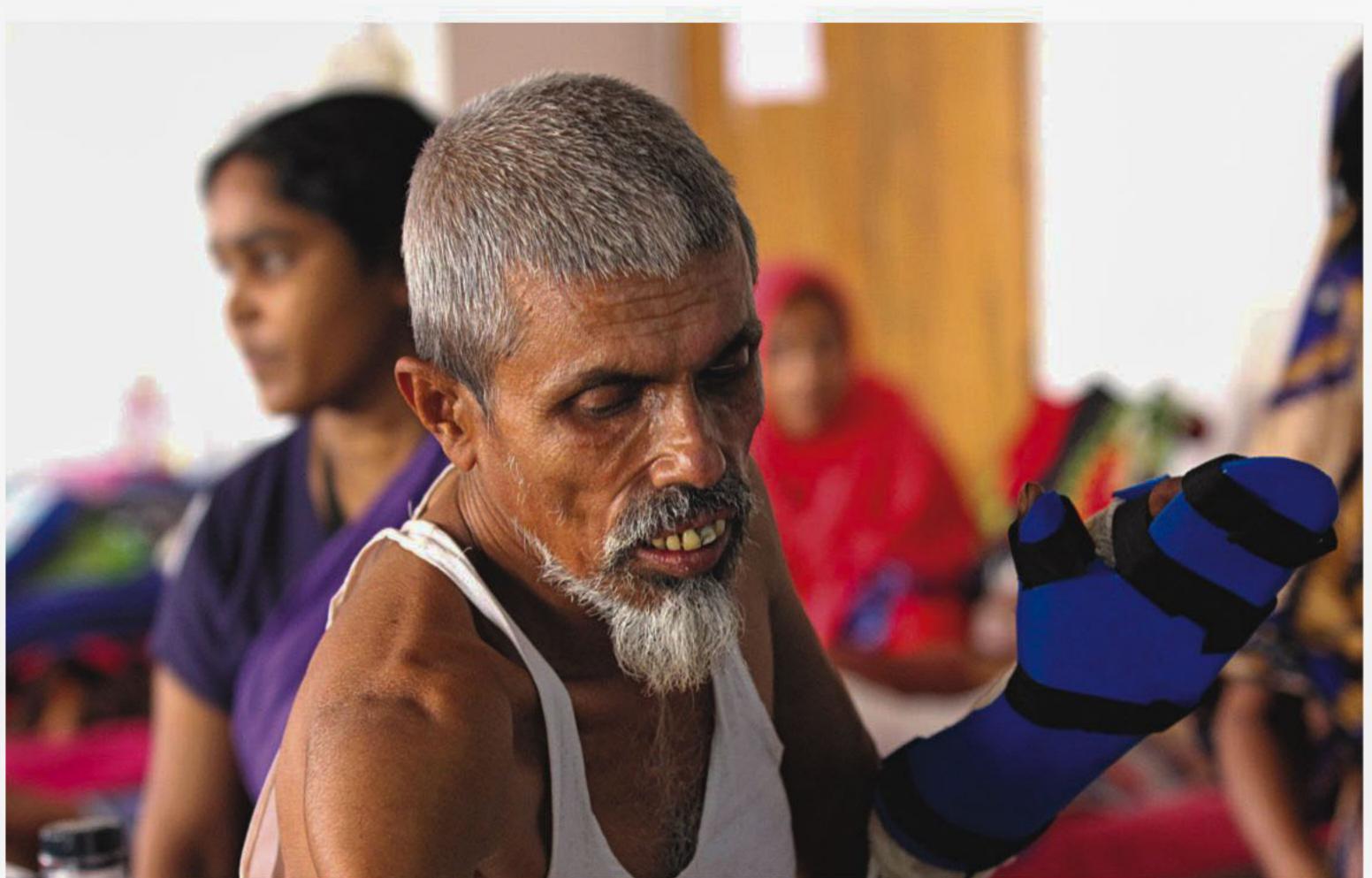
He wants to resume his driving more for his financial needs than for the love of his profession.

Piar had taken a loan of Tk 2 lakh to send his son abroad last year. But his son returned empty-handed as fortune did not smile on him. He's still paying off the loan in instal-

Doctors, however, fear that Piar will not be able to drive anytime soon.

Blisters in his left hand are yet to be cured and he needs to

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Piar Ahmed, who had suffered burns when alleged blockaders set fire to his truck in Comilla last month, was released yesterday after a month-long stay at the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

#### **CABINET MEETING** Civil society move for dialogue criticised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The civil society's efforts for a dialogue to end the ongoing political crisis was criticised at an informal discussion in a weekly cabinet meeting at the Secretariat yesterday.

A number of ministers during the discussion said civil society members are very vocal about holding a SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha JAMAAT 6-10 1-15 4-30 5-50 7-45

# buses after 9pm

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transport owners will not operate buses on highways after 9:00pm as arson attacks on vehicles continue unabated : STAR REPORT across the country.

Trucks and covered vans, however, will run as usual.

The decisions came at a meeting between State Minister for Home Affairs Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal and transport: leaders yesterday evening.

still being carried out at different points on highways. We : Gazaria upazila of Munshiganj yesterday have agreed to suspend long-route bus operations at night : that left almost all the books damaged. for a few days on security grounds," Khandaker Enayetullah, • secretary general of Bangladesh Paribahan Malik Samity, : upazila in Rajshahi died of burn wounds at

### Owners won't run Books not spared

Bomb, arson attacks on trucks carrying children's books, poultry; one more arson victim dies

Now the books of schoolchildren have become the target for alleged blockaders.

A truck carrying around 38,000 books of : pre-primary students came under a bomb "Despite security measures, arson and bomb attacks are : attack on the Dhaka-Chittagong Highway in

> Truck helper Shahidul Islam, 38, of Poba SEE PAGE 10 COL 2 : Rajshahi Medical College Hospital yester-

day, seven days after his truck was attacked by arsonists at Nawdapara.

In an act of sheer cruelty, criminals burned some 2,500 chicks by setting alight a covered van at Ramchandrapur in Muktagachha upazila of Mymensingh.

Law enforcers detained at least 78 BNP-Jamaat men in six districts yesterday, the second day of the nationwide 72-hour hartal enforced by the BNP-led 20-party alliance alongside an indefinite blockade.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 2

FAKE FREEDOM FIGHTERS

### Certificates of 26 more revoked

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Ministry of Liberation War Affairs has revoked freedom fighter's certificates of 26 more government and non-government employees for obtaining those through forgery.

Twenty-one of them have failed to prove that they really fought for the country during the Liberation War in 1971 and four did Bank. not declare their freedom fighter status

while entering the profession. Another's certificate was found fake, according to an investigation by the National Security Intelligence (NSI).

The 26 include a joint chief of the Planning Commission, a principal, a headmaster, assistant tax officers, executive engineers, a deputy director of health directorate and a senior executive officer of Sonali

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

### Batting fails Tigers again

SPORTS REPORTER

At the end, it was Bangladesh's batting collapse that lost them the game. A 168run stand for the third wicket between Tamim Iqbal (81) and Mahmudullah Riyad (83) provided hopes of a total around 300. The batsmen, who came to the crease with the Tigers struggling at 16 for 2, played cautiously and stitched a much needed partnership. Both of them scored half-centuries and

battled on till the 40th over. With a little more than 10 overs to go, Bangladesh were at a comfortable 184 for 2, but that's when disaster struck. Tamim and Riyad were dispatched in

consecutive overs and Mushfigur Rahim was bowled by young leg-spinner Yasir Shah first up. The flurry of wickets put pressure on the middle order who eventually crumbled.

Shakib tried hard to up the rate, but SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Dashing Bangladesh opener Tamim Iqbal is on his toes as he pulls one down to the square-leg boundary during the first World Cup warm-up match against Pakistan at Blacktown Olympic Park in Sydney yesterday. Tamim scored 81.

PHOTO:

#### Fakhrul again denied bail

Remand prayer also rejected

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sent BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir back to jail, rejecting his remand and bail petitions in an arson

Metropolitan Magistrate Asaduzzaman Nur also allowed police to interrogate Fakhrul at the jail gate.

Earlier, Dewan Uzzal Hossain, a sub-inspector of Detective Branch of police, also the case's investigation officer, produced the BNP leader before the court with a 10-day remand prayer.

The defence had also filed a petition with the court seeking Fakhrul's bail. The court was told he had been suffering from different ailments.

The BNP leader was taken to the court on completion of his five-day remand in connection with another arson case. The lawsuit was filed with Paltan Model Police Station for torching a car of an SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

The Daily Star **Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL** Do you think that the political parties would respond to the call of civil society members to hold a dialogue?

Yes (71%) No No **TOTAL VOTES: 464** TODAY'S POLL Do you agree with Prof Dr Anwar Hossain of DU that a dialogue

between the government and the BNP is quite unlikely? PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

### Youth demonstrate their talent in technology fair

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Drone copters are now popular globally for capturing aerial videos and photos. The youth in Bangladesh are also designing the most modern modules to grab global attention. A group of students from United International

University yesterday presented two such projects at Digital World 2015, the country's largest technology fair. Md Miraj Hossain and Sarem Din Nasouri, final year stu-

dents at the university's electrical engineering department, demonstrated a drone copter and a surveillance robot.

They built the machines that can be controlled wirelessly, while the visuals can be seen on monitors.

The drone copter, said Hossain, can be used for various purposes like border security; the surveillance robot in disastrous situations where people cannot reach.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

### Set afire in Malaysia, Bangladeshi migrant dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Bangladeshi migrant worker died on Sunday after an Indonesian woman had set fire to his body in Malaysia following a dispute over only Tk 7,700 equivalent of Malaysian ringgit on February 4.

Raju, 32, a resident of Jhikargachha upazila in Jessore, succumbed to his injuries at a hospital in George Town, the capital of Penang state in Malaysia.

His body was kept at the hospital mortuary, said SEE PAGE 10 COL 1





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#### বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১/ক, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা

আন্তর্জাতিক মাতৃভাষা ইনস্টিটিউটের ভাষা জাদুঘর সরকারি ছুটির দিন ছাড়া প্রতিদিন সকাল ১০টা থেকে বিকাল ৫টা পর্যন্ত শিক্ষার্থী ও দর্শনার্থীদের পরিদর্শনের জন্য উন্মুক্ত রাখা হয়েছে। জাদুঘরে এশিয়া মহাদেশ, অস্ট্রেলিয়া ও প্রশান্ত মহাসাগরীয় অঞ্চলসহ ইউরোপীয় দেশসমূহের মাতৃভাষা ও সাংস্কৃতিক বৈচিত্র্য এবং মহান ভাষা-আন্দোলন ও মুক্তিযুদ্ধের দুর্লভ আলোকচিত্র, বিশ্বের বিভিন্ন ভাষার লিপি ও লিখন-ব্যবস্থার পরিচয়সহ বহু গুরুত্বপূর্ণ সাংস্কৃতিক ও ঐতিহাসিক নিদর্শন রয়েছে।

> আন্তর্জাতিক মাতৃভাষা ইনস্টিটিউট ফোন: ০২-৮৩৯১৩৪৬, ৮৩৯১০৫২

### HC gets 10 additional judges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ten additional judges were appointed to the High Court (HC) Division of the Supreme Court yesterday, raising the number of HC judges to 97.

President Abdul Hamid made the appointment for two years as per Article 98 of the constitution, law ministry sources said.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

### CHILEAN PLANE CRASH

### Wreckage found after 54 years

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Fifty four years since the Douglas DC-3 plane carrying 24 people went missing in the Andes, its wreckage has apparently been found.

Mountaineers say they have discovered the remnants of the plane that stunned Chile and the sporting world when it disappeared on April 3, 1961, killing all on board, including eight members of the top division Chilean team Green Cross.

Speaking to Chile's Channel 7, expedition member Leonardo Albornoz said the group discovered the wreckage at an altitude of about 10,500 ft around 215 miles of the capital, Santiago. The group is keeping the exact SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

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