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'Shootouts' continue

2 more killed in Jessore

STAR REPORT

Two people were killed in a “shootout” with police in Monirampur upazila of Jessore early yesterday.

Of the two, deceased Bazlur Rahman Bazlu, 40, was from Monirampur and Saidur Rahman Sayeed, 34, from Dumuria upazila of Khulna.

Monirampur police claimed the two were Jamaat activists, but Rabiul Islam, elder brother of Bazlu, said they were active in BNP politics.

According to cops, Bazlu and Sayeed were accused in at least six cases, including the one for allegedly damaging and looting around 70 houses of Awami League men at Jaipur village in the upazila on March 22, 2013.

Our Benapole correspondent reports: Police picked up Bazlu and Sayeed at Jaipur village around 7:30pm on Tuesday, said Reshma Sharmin, assistant superintendent of police (ASP) in Jessore.

Obtaining information from the arrestees, cops along with the two went to Begaritola in Monirampur upazila around 3:00am yesterday to recover illegal arms.

As police reached there, a criminal gang

SEE PAGE 8 COL 1

More arson, more arrests

Several vehicles torched

STAR REPORT

Incidents of arson, explosion, police shooting and arrests marked yesterday's nation-wide hartal, enforced by the BNP-led alliance alongside its ongoing blockade.

Eight people were injured after alleged pickets hurled a homemade bomb at a mini bus at Tiger Pass area in Chittagong around 12:00am. After the explosion, the driver lost control of the vehicle which then hit a road divider, said Mohiuddin Selim, officer-in-charge of Kotwali Police Station.

The injured were taken to Chittagong Medical College Hospital, and three of them were admitted to the hospital's burn unit.

SEE PAGE 8 COL 2

Violence worries EU delegation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

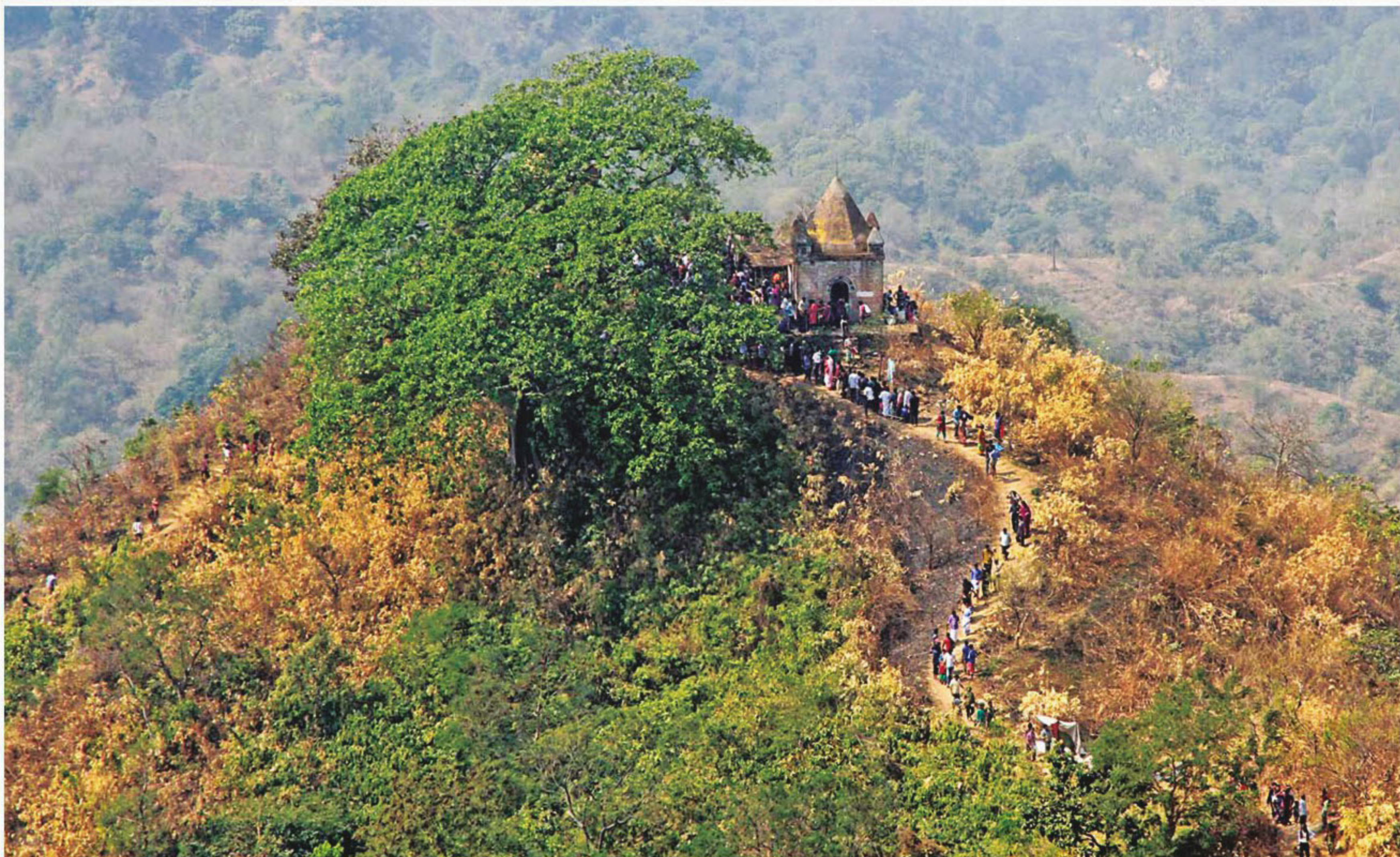
The visiting European Union parliamentary delegation has expressed concern over the ongoing political violence in Bangladesh.

The EU delegation was in a meeting with eminent civil society members and representatives of different UN bodies in Bangladesh.

The meeting was held at the EU office in the capital yesterday. It was part of a series of meetings that the delegation members of the European Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights are holding with people concerned in Bangladesh.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, Transparency

SEE PAGE 8 COL 2



A stream of people head towards the Chandranath temple at the peak of a hill in Sitakunda of Chittagong. A fair is being held there to mark Shiva Puja. The temple is one of the places of pilgrimage for the Hindus.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTO DAS

Target 9,000MW power

Govt okays appointment of consultant to prepare master plan on Maheshkhali energy hub

SHARIER KHAN and REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The economic affairs committee of the cabinet yesterday approved appointment of a consultant to formulate a master plan to generate 9,000 megawatts of power in Maheshkhali, going a step forward with the government's vision to convert the island into the country's largest energy hub.

The committee also approved appointing a joint venture of German, Indian and Bangladeshi companies to make a feasibility study and a layout plan to install five large coal-powered plants totalling around 6,000MW and one 3,000MW power plant to be fired by imported liquefied natural gas (LNG) there.

The joint venture, comprised of Steag of both India and Germany and BCL of Bangladesh, sought Tk 20.5 crore for the job in an open tender floated last year.


It would act as the implementation consultant for the first of the five 1,200MW coal-fired ultra super critical power plants to be built jointly by the Power Development Board (PDB) and Chinese CHDHC.

Currently, the government is processing acquisition of 5,000 acres of land as per the plan.

The Maheshkhali site is within 10-15 kilometres of Matarbari where another coal-fired 1,200MW power project is being built with Japanese soft loan. The Matarbari plant comes with a massive \$4.5 billion price tag and includes setting up of a deep-sea port dedicated to handling imported coal.

While all coal plants will be fed with imported coal, the government has another project to set up an LNG terminal in Maheshkhali to facilitate

SEE PAGE 8 COL 5



Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think that the newly passed formalin control law would help control the use of this hazardous chemical in food?

Yes (36%)

No (64%)

TOTAL VOTES: 306

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think that the ruling Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina, and BNP chief Khaleda Zia would respond to the call of UN secretary general to sit in a dialogue to resolve the ongoing political crisis?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net



Facebook to allow users share in VR

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Facebook videos and photos will one day be shared in virtual reality (VR).

The company bought Oculus, which makes the most famous virtual-reality headset, for \$2 billion last year. Since then, many have wondered what the company will do with the business.

SEE PAGE 8 COL 4


Foreign envoys review situation

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Diplomats from different countries yesterday held a meeting to review the ongoing political situation in Bangladesh.

At the meeting at Australian High Commissioner Greg

SEE PAGE 8 COL 1



PRAYER TIMING

FEBRUARY 19

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 5:20 12:45 4:30 6:03 7:30

JAMAAT 5:55 1:15 4:45 6:07 8:00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Ghashful-Founder Shamsun Nahar Rahman Paran Passed Away



We announce with great sadness that our beloved Mrs. Shamsun Nahar Rahman Paran, Founder of Ghashful passed away on 18/02/15 at 6:55 AM at Apollo Hospital, Dhaka (Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi rajiun). She was a pioneer in her activism towards community development and women's empowerment. We are grateful to her lifelong contribution. She was the wife of late Mr. Md. Lutfur Rahman (Tax-Adviser). She is survived by four daughters, one son, eleven grand children and three great grand children.

She founded Ghashful as the first registered NGO in Chittagong. Ghashful received the President's Award in 1990 as the Best NGO. Her organization also received Prime Minister's Award for Best NGO in Family Planning in 1997. We request all her well wishers, friends and relatives to pray for her departed soul. Her 2nd Namaj-e-janaza will be held at "Baad-Zuhar" today (19/02/15) at Chittagong Jamiutul Falah Mosque Maidan.

Her kul khani and Milad-Mahfeel will be held at "Baad-Asar" on coming Saturday (21/02/15) at House 7, Road 117, Gulshan, Dhaka.

Ghashful Family