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It cannot be tolerated

PM accuses BNP-Jamaat of pushing the country towards destruction

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the BNP-Jamaat alliance had indulged in a dirty game to fully destroy the country, and sought cooperation of all to stop this criminalisation.

"When we are moving the country ahead, evil efforts are there to push it towards destruction, and this can never be tolerated," she said while addressing a programme at Osmani Memorial Auditorium.

It cannot be tolerated that people will pay the price or be killed for someone's political wrong decision or personal failure, she added.

Before addressing the function, the PM handed over the Ekushey Padak-2015 to 15 eminent personalities in recognition of their glorious contributions to respective fields.

Hasina, also chief of the ruling Awami League, sharply criticised the BNP-Jamaat alliance for burning people to death in the name of hartals and blockades.

These days, announcements (of hartal and blockade)

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Bandaged from the waist to his neck, truck helper Mamun lies in his bed at the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Arsonists torched his truck in Bhuapur of Tangail yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

What's in a name?

KONGKON KARMAKER,
From Joypurhat

Mujibur Rahman Devdas is one of the recipients of Ekushey Padak this year.

But his name does strike us as a different one. Anyone somewhat ingrained in this culture would agree that Devdas, a name usually given to Hindus, sounds strange when juxtaposed with 'Rahman', a surname usually given to Muslims.

Yet, a former university teacher and a Muslim by faith, he had taken the name Devdas in 1971 to shake off his religious identity and to stage his symbolic protest at the Pakistan Army's brutal repression on Hindu minorities and pro-liberation forces in Rajshahi.

But this decision had cost him dearly. The

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We are not at war with Islam: Obama

The terrorists do not speak for a billion Muslims, says the US president

AFP, Washington



US President Barack Obama has urged Western and Muslim leaders to unite to defeat the "false promises of extremism" and reject jihadists' claims to represent Islam.

In a speech on violent extremism, Obama refused to describe the militants as Islamic or Muslim extremists.

"The terrorists do not speak for a billion Muslims," Obama told delegates from 60 countries at a White House summit on countering radicalism on Wednesday.

"They try to portray themselves as religious leaders, holy warriors," he said.

"We are not going to give them the religious legitimacy they seek. They are not religious leaders, they are terrorists," he added.

In the wake of brutal jihadist attacks in Europe and the Middle East, Obama said more must be done to prevent groups like Islamic State and al-Qaeda from recruiting and radicalising.

The battle, he said, was as much for hearts and minds as one waged by the military on the ground and in the air.

The "ideologies, the infrastructure of extremists, the propagandists, the recruiters, the funders who radicalize and recruit or

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

2 killed in BGB, police firing

STAR REPORT

An alleged drug trader was killed in a "gunfight" with Border Guard Bangladesh in Cox's Bazar while another was killed in a similar incident involving police in Mymensingh yesterday.

They dead are Hossen Ahmad, 32, and Rafiqul Islam Khokon, 40.

With the two, 33 people are known to have been killed in such incidents after the countrywide blockade began on January 6.

BGB claimed Hossen was a yaba smuggler in Teknaf area. However, Hossen's mother Dhalu Bibi denied it. She

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PRAYER TIMING

FEBRUARY 20
Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 5-20 12-30 4-30 6-03 7-30

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

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

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WE MOURN

Al-Haj Ehsanul Hoque Mirza
(1952 - 2015)

Al-Haj Ehsanul Hoque Mirza, Chairman of ALM Steel Building Technology Ltd, passed away at Square Hospital in the capital Dhaka, on 18 February, 2015. (Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi raijin) at the age of 63 years. We are deeply shocked at his death.

He left behind his mother, sister, spouse, one son, one daughter, niece, nephews, grand sons, grand daughters, lots of relatives, friends and well wishers.

Late Al-Haj Ehsanul Hoque Mirza was the Chairman of Shamsuddin Mia & Associates Ltd, & Capital Land Mark Ltd. He was also the Director of Janata Jute Mills Ltd.

All his relatives, friends and well wishers are requested to attend his doa mahfil to pray for the salvation of his departed soul. The doa mahfil will be held today at Purana Paltan Jame Masjid after Asar prayers.

ALM Steel Building Technology Ltd. **alm**
House # 466(4th Floor) Road # 31, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206. www.alm.com.bd



The future flight

MAIL ONLINE

A Transformer-style 'flying car' being developed by an Arizona company could soon spell the end of runways.

The company's vision is to build a vehicle with four rotors that will allow it to take to the air anywhere like a helicopter - and then switch to fly like a normal plane.

While this 'SkyCruiser' vehicle is still some way from development, the technology could soon become a reality in a functioning prototype dubbed the 'SkyProwler'.

The SkyProwler has four horizontal propellers that allow it to perform vertical take-offs and landings, and to hover in mid-air.

"This opens up flying to a much larger range of possible terrains, from backyards and rough fields, to a boat on the sea," the company writes on its Kickstarter campaign.

Users can instruct the aircraft to retract its landing gear and pull its four rotor props into the sides

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

ONLINE 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?

Yes (23%)

No (77%)

TOTAL VOTES: 528

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with AL leader Syed Ashraful Islam that all the acts of sabotage and violence happening in Bangladesh are part of global religious terrorism?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT
www.thedailystar.net

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ই-মেইল: manoj.biswas@bb.org.bd

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ই-মেইল: manoj.biswas@bb.org.bd

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