



ISLETS OF MEMORY

The Liberation War from Ahmed Sofa's point of view

PAGE 7

PAEAN FOR THE PAINTER

Today is the 83rd birth anniversary of Qayyum Chowdhury

PAGE 11

MARCH IS NOT OVER

First black president of the US marks Selma anniversary

PAGE 15

Govt prepares to tackle swine flu

Risk heightens as H1N1 outbreak hits India; medical teams working at border points

PORIMOL PALMA

Bangladesh is preparing to tackle swine flu as the outbreak of the deadly H1N1 virus in neighbouring India has claimed more than 1,300 lives in the last two months.

Medical teams are keeping round-the-clock watch on travellers at all 27 international air, land and sea ports in Bangladesh that shares a long porous border with India, health ministry officials told The Daily Star yesterday.

"The ministry has made it mandatory to screen all travellers from India at the ports," said Dr AKM Shamsuzzaman, director (communicable diseases) at the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

People need not worry but they should remain cautious, he said.

Seven archways and 70 hand-held thermal scanners, which the ministry purchased in the wake of Ebola outbreak in Africa last year, are now being used to screen travellers

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

SYMPTOMS

Fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people may have vomiting, diarrhoea and respiratory problems without fever.



PRECAUTIONS

Wash hands regularly with soap. Cover face with handkerchiefs while sneezing. Get vaccinated before travelling to the places affected by H1N1.



DRUGS

Government has an emergency drugs stock to treat 600 patients. Process underway to procure more by March. Vaccines available in market.



PHOTO: AFP

The Tigers will have to work like a team if they fancy a win in their today's crunch World Cup game against the wounded English Lions.

Tigers look for a 2011 encore

Bangladesh take on England in Adelaide today

BISHWAJIT ROY From Adelaide

Bangladesh may well have two opportunities to sneak into the quarterfinals, but make no mistake, today's match against England at the Adelaide Oval will be looked upon as a do or die encounter by both sides.

Having been thrashed in three out of the four games in this World Cup, England are struggling to get into their groove. On the contrary, Bangladesh are fresh from a record win against Scotland and they will be hoping to make the most of England's rough patch.

Skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza has described this match as one of the most important matches in the history of Bangladesh's cricket and going by his statements in pre-match press conference yesterday, there's no doubt that Mashrafe wants to win this one desperately.

Going into the match, there are two issues that the Tigers will need to decide on with regards to their line-up. The team management is reportedly looking to exploit England's weakness against spin by including Arafat Sunny in place of Nasir Hossain. Mashrafe even told reporters yesterday that he wanted an extra spinner in the side. If Sunny is included, then Bangladesh will finally go into a World Cup game without eight batsmen in the side.

Imrul Kayes, who replaced the injured Anamul Haque, is expected to

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open alongside Tamim Iqbal today. Imrul has good memories against England. In the 2011 World Cup he scored a defiant half-century to turn the tides in Chittagong.

The pitch at Adelaide is expected to be flat and has runs written all over it. Mashrafe reckons that a score of around 270 to 280 would be the minimum target that

either side would be looking for.

Rain is the other factor that could play a role in today's game. The weather forecast predicts brief showers in the morning. However, clear skies are expected in the afternoon.

With five points from four matches, only a point will be enough for Bangladesh to make it through to the next round. While England have won 13 out of the 15 encounters between the two sides, the encouraging aspect for Bangladesh is that they have won two out of the last three encounters.

The last win came in the last match in Chittagong where Mahmudullah Riyad and Shafiq Islam shared a brilliant half-century stand for the ninth wicket towards the end to create history.

That win however, wasn't enough to take the Tigers through to the next round. Four years on though, they have another opportunity and the 160 million fans back home hope that they can make the most of it; for this time it's all or nothing for the Tigers.



JUSTIFYING CUSTODIAL TORTURE Cops want legal bar removed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police have sought cancellation of a legal provision that bars them from justifying torture and inhuman treatment of anyone in custody even in circumstances like war and political unrest.

The Jatiya Sangsad passed the Torture and Custodial Death (Prevention) Act in 2013, making torture in the hands of law enforcers or government officials a punishable offence.

The police headquarters proposed scrapping the act's Section 12 that says no excuses like war situation, threat of war, political instability, state of emergency, or orders of senior official or the government authorities will be acceptable for any crime under this law.

They also recommended incorporating a new section that says: "If a false case is lodged against any person affecting him/her adversely, the complainant will be given half the punishment prescribed for the crime."

The Daily Star obtained a copy of the set of proposals the

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

"If the blockade-hartal is not stopped, there should be more shoot at sight."

LAW COMMISSION MEMBER
M SHAH ALAM
SPEAKING AT A ROUNDTABLE
IN THE CITY



The crude bombs recovered from three alleged hide-outs of Islami Chhatra Shibir deep inside a forest in Nunachhara of Sitakunda in Chittagong yesterday. Inset, some of the weapons recovered.

PHOTO: STAR

Bombs, arms seized in Ctg

Police detain 3 BNP, Shibir men for their suspected link

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong police busted three "dens of Shibir", the pro-Jamaat students' platform, at a remote hilly area of Nunachhara under Sitakunda upazila in Chittagong early yesterday.

During the six-hour drive, they recovered 70 petrol bombs, 50 crude bombs, four light guns, three rocket flares, 24 cartridges, and 12 locally made weapons, police said.

Shibir has setup makeshift tents in the remote hilly areas, around four-kilometre off Nunachhara bus stand, to impart arms and bomb-making training to its members, police said.

They have been using the places in the deep forest since 2013 to carry out subversive acts on Dhaka-Chittagong highway and in Chittagong city, the law enforcers claimed.

Bottles of cooking oil, bags full of rice, and some utensils were also recovered from the tents during the drive that ended at 6:00am. No one was arrested.

Before conducting the raid, police had detained a BNP leader and two Shibir members in the adjoining

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

SEE PAGE 8 COL 1

11 held for FDR forgery

Brac Bank officials foil attempt to draw Tk 90cr

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A gang of 11 men have been arrested from a branch of Brac Bank in the capital's Gulshan in connection with a Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR) fraud worth Tk 90 crore, police and the bank said yesterday.

"They have been doing this type of forgery for years. We suspect they are

organised fraudsters," Abdul Barik, sub-inspector of Gulshan Police Station, told The Daily Star after primary investigation.

Police identified Kazi Shahdat Hossain, 47, as the gang leader. Other members of the gang were identified as Mahbubur Rahman Kajal, 30; Shahjahan, 52; Selim Ahmed, 44; Delwar Hossain, 45; Korshed Alam,

34; Shahbur Rahman Bablu, 65; Nazrul Haq, 42; Sabbir Rahman, 40; Sirajul Islam, 34, and Hasibul Hasan, 34.

Asked whether any bank official was involved in the attempted fraud, Barik said police were investigating the matter.

Zara Jabeen Mahbub, head of

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