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Jannati finally gets bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Young entrepreneur Jannati Hossain, who was detained eight months ago over the death of her friend and business partner Mostamsir Ashraf in a car crash, was granted bail by the High Court yesterday.

Delivering the judgment, the court said although there is no evidence of planned killing in this case, the trial court will examine whether there is any element of murder charge in it.

"With my daughter getting bail after a struggle of nine months I feel I am

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

City polls by early May

Schedule to be announced next week, says CEC

PANKAJ KARMAKAR

The Election Commission is likely to announce the schedules for Dhaka and Chittagong city corporation polls next week, said EC sources.

"We are preparing to hold the polls in the last week of April or the first week of May. So, the schedule may be declared next week," said a top EC official, seeking anonymity.

The commission at a meeting with officials of different ministries and law enforcement agencies yesterday discussed some probable voting dates like April 22, 23, 27 or 28, sources present at the meeting said.

Emerging from the meeting, Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad told reporters that elections to the DCCs and the CCC would be held before the month of Ramadan and they might declare the polls schedule this month.

As per the lunar calendar, the Ramadan begins after June 17.

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This pangolin, a kind of ant-eater, is locally known as *bonrui* -- ruhi fish of the forest -- and is hunted for its meat.

PHOTO: SANJIDA SHARMIN



The scaly strange thing

INAM AHMED

One fine morning the man came with his strange booty. He called it Bonrui -- forest ruhi fish.

I had never seen anything like this. Yes, it had the scales like a fish. Its whole body was covered in scales. But then it had four legs and a tail too. How could it be a fish then?

As I searched for an answer, the man freed the strange animal. It looked at us with its black unblinking eyes and then with total disregard for us started

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The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think that the government should approve the police's proposal for immunity for its members from prosecution for torture?

Yes (09%)

No (91%)

TOTAL VOTES: 93

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think violence against women and child marriage are still rampant in Bangladesh?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

Arson attacks on court, govt offices

Nighttime buses resume trips

STAR REPORT

Government offices continued to face pro-hartal supporters' wrath as two offices in Barisal and another in Jhenidah were torched yesterday, the fifth day of the BNP-led combine's hartal.

In Barisal, unidentified criminals set fire to a room of the court building inside the compound of Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court in the city around 9:00pm.

Witnesses said the fire spread quickly to another room of the tin-shed building.

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First man-made landscape found

MAIL ONLINE

Discarded stone tools made by early humans have formed a vast "carpet" in part of the Sahara desert in what

SEE PAGE 9 COL 5



HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT 2014 UK worried about media freedom

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The British government has observed that some of the steps taken recently by Bangladesh government have generated concerns about civil society space, media freedom, and government power to suppress criticism or dissent.

The observation was made in the Annual Human Rights and Democracy Report 2014 released in London yesterday. The report is available on the website of UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Saying the Bangladesh government has proposed revisions to the foreign donations act (pending parliamentary

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PRAYER TIMING

MARCH 13

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN	5-05	12-30	4-30	6-12	7-30
JAMAAT	5-40	1-15	4-45	6-15	8-00

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MULTIMEDIA

HOLI AT SHAKHARI BAZAR

Every year people from all parts of Dhaka visit the old town to celebrate the festival of Holi. The celebrations transcend religious and communal boundaries. It doesn't matter whether you know the person next to you or not, you would still greet them and smear some colour on them, because that's the spirit of Holi. Photo: Durshan Chakma

China's Xiaomi to set up 100 'experience' stores in India in 2015

The Daily Star

'DCC, CCC polls before Ramadan'

Elections to Dhaka and Chittagong city corporations will be held before the month of Ramadan, says Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad.

4 killed, 50 trapped in Bagerhat cement warehouse roof collapse

At least 50 workers are feared trapped at the building site collapse in Mongla cement factory of Bagerhat on Thursday.

Bangladesh's economy to grow by 6pc: IMF

A mission of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) today forecast that Bangladesh's

SPORTS

Wenger thrilled as Arsenal knock Man United out of FA Cup

Mash's Best

Bangladesh captain Mashrafe Bin Tanvir brushed the 15-run victory against England as the best achievement in his career. "It's a very part of my Bangladeshi life and I don't want to dismiss any of them, but if you consider the condition and the tournament, I must say this is the biggest achievement in my career so far."

BUSINESS

Govt opts for western VAT rate

ADP fund to be slashed

Australian master chef