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STRANDED BANGLADESHIS 160 more leave Yemen on Indian ship

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One hundred and sixty Bangladeshis boarded an Indian ship in Al Hudaydah city of strife-torn Yemen yesterday to take temporary shelter in Djibouti before heading home.

SM Mahbulul Alam, counsellor at the Bangladesh high commission in Kuwait, also said thirteen Bangladeshis who were already in the African country are set to reach home early today.

Two flights of Fly Dubai and Turkish Airlines left Djibouti with the 13 on board around 5:00pm local time, he told The Daily Star over the phone yesterday.

Ten more Bangladeshis may land in Dhaka today on another flight, he added. A total of 32 Bangladeshis were evacuated from Yemen to the African country recently.

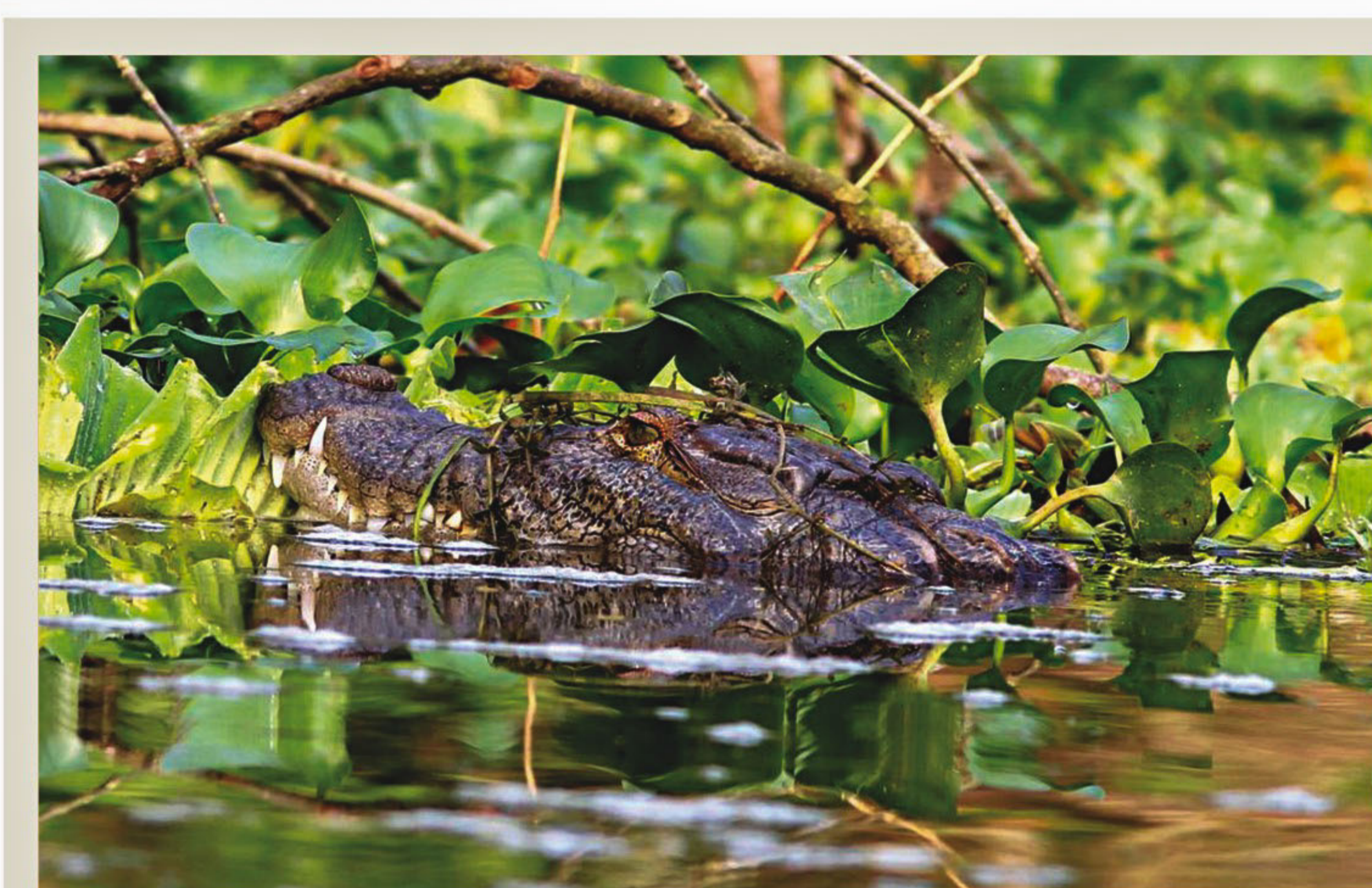
Meanwhile, around 50 to 60 other Bangladeshis were still waiting at the Aden seaport yesterday to embark on a ship to go to Djibouti. They had gone there hearing that an Indian ship would take them to Djibouti.

One of them, Emdad Hossain, yesterday told private television channel Jamuna that the ship was yet to reach the port.

Mahbulul said the Bangladeshis would board another Indian ship by tomorrow.

The counsellor is now staying in Djibouti with a team of

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A Marsh Crocodile at Chitwan National Park in Nepal. This particular species of the reptile was abundant in freshwater wetlands and rivers of Bangladesh but disappeared since the 50's largely due to destruction of habitat and poaching.



MARSH CROCODILE
We lost them
50 years ago!

SAYAM U CHOWDHURY

After a wonderful bus ride through the hills and along a wide stream dotted with rocks and gravels, we reached the Jungle Safari Lodge at Chitwan National Park in Nepal well before the dusk when the sky was still slaty-blue. As we walked to the riverbank next to the elephant breeding centre, a pair of black francolins shrilled from the grassland; a yellow-breasted bunting flew off a tree stump and perched back on

PHOTO: SAYAM U CHOWDHURY

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Nazrul's family for fresh investigation

Protests dropping names of 5 accused from the N'ganj 7-murder case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Family members of slain city panel mayor Nazrul Islam yesterday demanded withdrawal of Investigating Officer Mamunur Rashid Mandal of the sensational seven-murder case.

They also called for a reinvestigation of the case by a new IO.

The demands came a day after the police submitted the charge sheet of the case to a Narayanganj court.

Speaking at a press conference at her Siddhirganj residence, Nazrul's widow Selina Islam, also the plaintiff, alleged that the charge sheet did not contain the names of five people who had been named as

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MACHINE-READABLE PASSPORT One month's time for IRIS

Government threatens contract cancellation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday gave Malaysian outsourcing company IRIS one more month to accelerate enrolling expatriates in Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Malaysia for Machine-readable Passport (MRPs) or face contract cancellations.

The ultimatum was issued at an advisory committee

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No guarantee of final Iran deal

Says Khamenei as Rohani demands lifting of all sanctions at once

AFP, Tehran

Iran would not sign any final agreement unless "all economic sanctions are totally lifted on the same day."

"What has been done so far does not guarantee an agreement, nor its contents, nor even that the negotiations will continue to the end," Khamenei, who has the final word on all matters of state, said on his website.

And President Hassan Rohani added that

SEE PAGE 17 COL 2



Parvez, 12, working at a balloon factory in Kamrangirchar of the capital. Handling toxic dye and inhaling harmful fumes, the child works away to meet the high demand of balloons ahead of Pahela Baishakh. Child labour apparently takes a back seat in Kamrangirchar when there is money to be made quickly. The photo was taken a week ago.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

BARAPUKURIA MINE GRAFT HC extends stay on Khaleda case for six months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday extended its stay by six months on the proceedings of Barapukuria coalmine corruption case against BNP chief Khaleda Zia.

The bench of Justice Md Nuruzzaman and Justice Zafar Ahmed passed the order following a plea moved by Khaleda's lawyers AM Mahbul Uddin Khokon and Badruddoza Badal.

The status of the case has not been changed although it was filed illegally, the lawyers told the court.

The Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case on February 26, 2008 accusing Khaleda and others of causing a loss of Tk 159 crore to the state exchequer by awarding a contract for operating Barapukuria coalmine to a Chinese company through abuse of power.

Later, the HC stayed the case proceedings for several times and issued a rule on the government and the ACC to explain why the case against Khaleda should not be scrapped.

The last time the court extended the order for six months was on September 2, 2014.

The court was set to deliver the verdict on Khaleda's petition, which challenged the legality of the case, for three times -- March 10, 15 and April 5.

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Truck attacked in Joypurhat

Labourer injured as petrol bombs hurled

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A man suffered burn injuries as criminals hurled petrol bombs at a truck in Joypurhat's Panchbibi upazila early yesterday.

The victim, Shahidul Islam, son of Ajar Ali of Bulupara village under Joypurhat Sadar upazila, is a day labourer.

Doctors said he sustained around 9 percent burns.

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'SHOPLIFTING ABROAD' Junior diplomat not given certificate

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The junior foreign ministry official charged with shoplifting during overseas training was not awarded any certificate for permanent entry into the foreign service as part of a punitive measure.

The foreign affairs ministry yesterday awarded certificates to 11 young diplomats upon successful completion of their two years' probationary period.

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Youth shot dead by 'human traffickers'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

A youth was shot dead allegedly by human traffickers at Maheshkhali upazila early yesterday.

The dead is Lutu Mia, 22, of Sonadia Purbo Para in the upazila.

Locals and police sources said a trawler with some 40 people was anchored in Bay at Sonadia Purbo Para and was taking more people in from nearby villages to go to Malaysia illegally.

On information, a group of locals went there and tried to stop the trawler. Seeing them, the traffickers started to open fire, leaving Lutu critically injured, added the sources.

The traffickers and the fortune seekers fled.

The youth was rushed to Maheshkhali Upazila Health Complex where

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Artificial clouds to end droughts

MAIL ONLINE

With a 'mega-drought' forecast to hit the US in the coming decades, parched states are turning to increasingly radical solutions to fill their reservoirs.

Arizona is leading the way with plans to create artificial rain clouds by flying planes over the Rockies and seeding the sky with silver iodide.

They hope the technology will allow them to mitigate some of the worst impacts of climate change -- but not

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