

EVACUATION FROM YEMEN Biman flies 337 Bangladeshis home today

STAR REPORT

Two special flights of Biman Bangladesh Airlines will carry home today 337 Bangladeshis, who were evacuated recently from strife-torn Yemen and brought to south Indian port city of Kochi by two ships yesterday.

The first flight will reach Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 4:15am and the second one at 4:30am from Kochi, a four-hour flight from Dhaka.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam will receive them at the airport, according to a foreign ministry statement yesterday.

An Indian Navy spokesman told our New Delhi correspondent, "The Bangladeshi nationals reached Kochi at around 1:30pm [local time] by two Indian passenger ships from Djibouti and were given a rousing welcome by Naval and Cochi Port Trust officials in the presence of Naval band."

Two warships of the Indian Navy escorted the ships -- MV Kavaratti and MV Corals -- carrying the Bangladeshis.

The 337 Bangladeshis reached Djibouti from Yemen on April 5 and departed from the African country on April 12.

Apart from the Bangladeshis, 65 Yemenis of Indian origin were in the two ships.

Talking to The Daily Star, Enamul Huq Chowdhury, minister (press) at Bangladesh High Commission in New

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



'EVERY DAMN DAY' ... If the slogan on Tamim Iqbal's t-shirt has anything to do with his performance then the Tigers opener can do what he did on Friday. PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

RU VC vs CITY AL VC told to say sorry, or quit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rajshahi city unit of Awami League yesterday threatened to wage movement against the Rajshahi University vice-chancellor for his removal if he did not apologise within seven days for Thursday's "untoward incident" at the VC's office.

In a press conference at the party office in the city's Kumarpura around noon, the city unit leaders alleged that RU VC Prof Muhammad Mizanuddin misbehaved with AL Rajshahi city unit General Secretary Dablu Sarkar and some other leaders who went to the VC's office for a pre-scheduled meeting on Thursday.

"We went there to attend a closed-door meeting with the VC to let him know about some allegations against him. But he misbehaved with us and later blamed us for assaulting

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

Plagued by perennial problems, Dhaka and Chittagong -- our two major cities -- go to polls on April 28. What will a mayoral hopeful do to solve those problems if elected? How all the modern amenities will be ensured? What is his vision for the future of the city?

Looking for the answers, The Daily Star has talked to a mayoral candidate.

Home for all

Mayor hopeful Kafee offers high hopes for Dhaka north-dwellers

PANKAJ KARMAKAR

It was a winter night a few years ago. Abdullah Al Kafee was crossing a footbridge at Farmgate in the capital. Suddenly, he saw a newborn down at the roadside. Wrapped in just a piece of thin cloth, the baby was shivering in the cold. The mother was lying nearby.

Kafee instantly vowed to work for ensuring home for all in the city if he ever got the chance, he told The Daily Star in an interview recently.

Backed by the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), he is now running for mayor of Dhaka North City Corporation.



CITY POLLS 2015
PLEDGES & PRIORITIES

"Around 45 lakh people live under the open sky or in slums of Dhaka. If elected, I will do my best to make sure that no one has to sleep on streets anymore," said the candidate.

In 1984, Kafee joined Chhatra Union when he was an HSC student. He got admitted to Dhaka University two years later and became the chief of Chhatra Union's DU unit in 1991. He was also included in the student organisation's central committee.

Spending over 22 years in banking profession, Kafee became a member of the CPB last year.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



Dhaka North's mayoral candidate Abdullah Kafee talks to a voter while campaigning in Mohammadpur Shia Masjid area yesterday. PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Six of a family die in car crash

Three of them kids; driver also killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Two brothers, Monwar Hossain and Monir Hossain, along with their families, were on their way to attend the wedding reception of a nephew at their village home in Atigram union yesterday. Three of their children and a granddaughter -- all aged below five -- were very happy to make the trip in a rented car, an opportunity that came rarely to them.

Halfway through the trip, their car got crushed and mangled by two buses from opposite sides. Six of them and the driver were killed.

The accident took place at Barobarua under Dhamrai upazila in Dhaka around 2:15pm.

Only Monir and his three-year-old daughter Angkita survived the crash.

Monir suffered minor injuries while Angkita was injured critically. Angkita is now undergoing treatment at Enam Medical College Hospital in Savar.

The dead are Monwar Hossain, 45, son of Shamsher Ali of Narikul village of Manikganj, his wife Farida Begum, 30, his son Towhid, 2, and daughter Toa, 5; Monir's

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1
PHOTO ON PAGE 2

Khaleda campaigns for Tabith

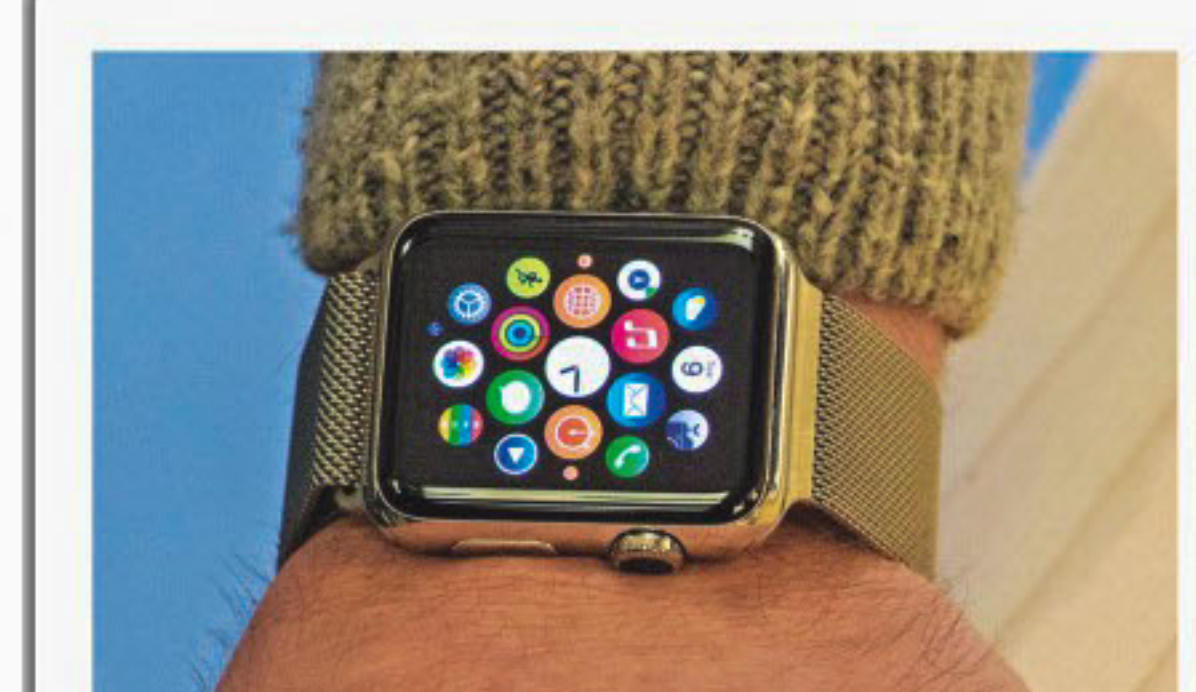
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia joined the campaign for party-endorsed mayor candidate Tabith Awal yesterday and spent a busy day visiting different areas in Dhaka North City Corporation.

Her motorcade came out of her residence around 4:15pm unannounced because "the government might create obstacles to her campaign if it was scheduled earlier," according to party sources.

Khaleda's presence

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Glance journalism!

AFP, Washington

With the Apple Watch expected to sell in the millions, news organisations are refocusing their efforts to become part of that tiny screen.

In the news business, this is now called "glance journalism."

The Apple Watch, expected to catapult to the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

Mob kills 2 'robbers'

Dacoit dies in 'gunfight'

STAR REPORT

Two suspected robbers were beaten to death in Savar, while the chief of an inter-district robber gang was killed in a "gunfight" with police in Magura yesterday.

Locals beat the two "robbers" to death while they were fleeing after committing a robbery at Vakurta village in Savar on the outskirts of Dhaka, reports our correspondent.

The identities of the men could not be known immediately. The bodies were sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsies, said police.

The villagers said at least five robbery incidents took place at Hindupara in the village last week. They also alleged that police did not take any step even after the law enforcers were informed about the matter.

Some 12-15 "robbers" attacked the house of Liton Chandra Das around 2:30am yesterday. The gang then

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

ISIS 'carries out' its first deadly Afghan blast

At least 33 people killed

AFP, Kabul

The Islamic State group claimed to have carried out a deadly suicide attack in eastern Afghanistan yesterday that killed at least 33 people and injured more than 100, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani said, in what, if verified, would be the first major attack claimed by the jihadist group in the country.

"Who claimed responsibility for horrific attack in Nangarhar today? The Taliban did not claim responsibility for the attack, Daesh (ISIS) claimed responsibility for the attack," President Ghani said on a visit to northeastern Badakhshan province.

A person purporting to be an ISIS spokesman said in a call to AFP that the group claimed responsibility for the bombing outside a bank in the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad.

An online posting allegedly from the group made the same claim, which could not be immediately verified.

"Thirty-three dead bodies and more than 100 wounded were brought to the hospital," Dr Najeebullah Kamawal, head of the provincial hospital, told AFP.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia talks to staff of a shop at the DCC Market in Gulshan-2 during a campaign for her party-favourite Tabith Awal yesterday. PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

BNP means destruction

Says PM

UNB, Dhaka

Comparing BNP with the ghost, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said this party has become synonymous with destruction and oppression because of its negative activities.

"BNP means destruction, oppression and pain, pain for the nation ... BNP wants to take the country backwards like ghost as ghost always walks backward," she said.

The PM said this while inaugurating Laksham-Chinkia double line section on Dhaka-Chittagong rail route and Chittagong Rail Station Remodelling through Videoconferencing from her official residence Gano Bhaban.

She said the BNP never believes in the country's liberation and the welfare of the people. "Their (BNP) main objectives are just to

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

PRAYER TIMING APRIL 19					
	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	4-35	12-45	4-45	6-24	7-45
JAMAAT	5-10	1-15	5-00	6-28	8-15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

electromartltd
Electro Mart Limited