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# Libya bans Bangladesh workers

BELAL HOSSAIN BIPOB

Employment dearth forces many Bangladeshi expatriates in Libya to take risky voyage through the Mediterranean Sea for jobs in some European countries, especially Greece and Italy.

Some are leaving Libya by their own choice, while some are lured by others to take on such perilous journeys for European countries, said migrants and officials at Bangladesh embassy in Tripoli.

However, the Bangladeshis' exit route might be closed now as the Libyan official government on Saturday banned their entry into that country.

"Bangladeshi workers will be banned from entering Libya," reports Reuters quoting Hatem Uraibi, spokesman for Libya's internationally recognised government, which has been based in the east since losing control of the capital Tripoli last year.

"They [Bangladeshis] come for work for Libyan firms but then embark on illegal migration [to Europe]. The ban is part of government efforts to fight illegal emigration," Hatem alleged.

ASM Ashraful Islam, counsellor (labour wing) at the Bangladesh embassy in Tripoli, yesterday confirmed to The Daily Star about the Libyan authorities' decision.

Ashraful however claimed he had no idea of the Bangladeshis' illegal move towards the European countries

SEE PAGE 13 COL 3



Abdul Kadar is seen inside a police van in 2011. Then a Dhaka University student, he was tortured in police custody and made accused in false cases. Yesterday, about four years after his ordeal, a court gave three-year jail sentence to the police officer responsible. Story on Page 1.

# Salahuddin's wife reaches Kolkata

The BNP leader 'suffering memory loss'

RASHIDUL HASAN and PRABIR BARUA CHOWDHURY

Hasina Ahmed, wife of BNP leader Salahuddin Ahmed, last night reached Kolkata en route to Shillong to see her husband, who is now being treated at a hospital under police custody.

"Hasina Ahmed and her younger sister's husband Mahbub Kabir reached Kolkata around 11:15pm," said Shyru Kabir Khan, a member of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's press wing.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

# Probe finds no molestation at Mohammadpur school

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amid protests over alleged sexual assault of a grade-I student of Mohammadpur Preparatory Higher Secondary School, the probe committee formed by the school authorities has said no such incident took place at the institution.

The probe report, however, says a male staff gagged the student, brandished a knife and took her to a quiet place inside the school

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

## SECRETARY-LEVEL MEET

# India seeks duty benefits on exports of 225 items

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

India yesterday sought duty benefits from Bangladesh for 225 of its products under the South Asian Free Trade Area (Safta).

"Currently, India has been enjoying

duty benefits on exports of 25 products to Bangladesh under the Safta. They demanded removal of 225 Indian products from the negative list so that they can enjoy duty benefits on those products as well," said Manoj Kumar Roy, additional secretary to the

Bangladesh commerce ministry.

The demand came at a commerce secretary-level meeting between the two countries at Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka.

Since November 2012, India has

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

# Ananta 'received death threat' weeks before his murder

STAR REPORT

Blogger Ananta Bijoy Das had received a death threat over the phone from an unknown number some 21 to 25 days before his murder in Sylhet city, according to his friends.

Three friends with whom Ananta had shared the matter told a correspondent in Sylhet about the death threat. They wished not to be named.

Police had already sought details of Ananta's cell phone call list and texts

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

# Rab arrests 5 kidnappers

Industrialist paid them Tk 2cr for son's release

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Rapid Action Battalion yesterday arrested five alleged kidnappers 11 days after they had realised Tk 2 crore from an industrialist and released his abducted son.

The elite force arrested the five from different areas in Uttara and recovered Tk 1.8 crore from their possession.

Eight-year-old Abeer, only son of Shahadat Hossain Shameem, managing director of TNZ Group of Companies, was kidnapped from Banani on May 2.

Maj Maqsoodul Alam of Rab's media wing told The Daily Star that the elite force arrested gang leader Mizanur Rahman Mizan, Rezaul Karim, Nazrul Islam, Jahiruddin Md

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3



## PRAYER TIMING

MAY 18

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-10 12-45 5-00 6-36 8-00

JAMAAT 4-45 1-15 5-15 6-40 8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## US FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

# Clintons earn over \$25m in a single year

Obamas have just \$1,000 in savings

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Hillary Clinton is facing criticism from both Republicans and Democrat presidential rivals after it emerged she

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2



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Mr. Azharul Islam the Founder and the Executive Chairman of Aftab Group has been re-elected as the Chairman of Uttara Bank Limited and Mr. Iftekharul Islam the Chairman & Managing Director of Aftab Group has been re-elected as the Vice-Chairman of Uttara Bank Limited. We heartily congratulate them for their success.

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