

RESCUED FROM BAY 150 return home today

STAR REPORT
Myanmar today will repatriate 150 Bangladeshis who were rescued from the Bay of Bengal by its navy on May 21, says a Border Guard Bangladesh official. On that day, 208 boatpeople were rescued while being trafficked into Malaysia. The rest are believed to be Rohingyas. Initially, Myanmar authorities maintained that all the victims were "Bangladeshis". But following verification by Bangladesh's foreign and home ministries, only 150 were identified as citizens of this country, said Col Mohammad Khalequzzaman, BGB sector commander of Cox's Bazar. Among them, 55 are from Narsingdi, 34 from Cox's Bazar and the rest from 11 other districts, reports our Cox's Bazar correspondent. Khalequzzaman said the Myanmar Border Guard Police (BGP) would hand over the Bangladeshis to the BGB at the

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Closed for business? Asia's human smugglers go to ground

REUTERS, Sitwe
The rickety internet huts have fallen silent in the crowded camps of displaced Rohingya Muslims in western Myanmar, no one comes anymore to bargain for the release of loved ones being held for ransom in Thailand and Malaysia. "Before, every day at least 10 to 15 people would come here to negotiate with human traffickers," said Tun Win, a young man who offers a video-call service from one of the bamboo and thatch huts, "Now, it's nothing." For now at least, the smugglers who preyed for years on

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gives Indian PM Narendra Modi a bouquet at Shahjalal International Airport yesterday evening as the latter leaves Dhaka ending his two-day tour.

PHOTO: PID

Vajpayee honoured

On his behalf Modi receives Bangladesh Liberation War award from Hamid

UNB, Dhaka

Former Indian prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee was yesterday conferred the Bangladesh Liberation War Honour for his active role in the country's struggle for independence in 1971.

Visiting Indian PM Narendra Modi received

the award from President Abdul Hamid on Vajpayee's behalf at a ceremony held at Bangabhaban in the capital.

Addressing the programme, Modi said, "The entire life of Atal Bihari Vajpayee was for the country and general people. Today, Bangladesh is honouring Vajpayee, a great leader, for his contribution to Bangladesh Liberation War."

He expressed gratitude to Bangladesh for conferring the honour on Vajpayee saying, "During the Liberation War when freedom fighters were shedding blood, Indian citizens were also fighting side by side with them."

"Thus, they helped realise the dream of Bangladesh. Even though he (Vajpayee) was in

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Bangladesh's progress amazes Modi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Maintaining a steady six percent GDP growth is not an easy job, said Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, praising Bangladesh for the feat.

At a programme in the capital yesterday, he also highly admired Bangladesh for its economic growth, women empowerment and zero tolerance policy to terrorism.

Dhaka University and the Indian High Commission jointly organised the programme at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

Modi in his heart-touching speech said Bangladesh had achieved unparalleled feats in many fields, including the garment sector, and added that he became extremely happy to learn about the

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Indian media hail visit as historic

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Almost all the major print, electronic and online media of India came up with the assertion that it was a history in the making in terms of Bangladesh and India relation.

"Historic step", "Historic

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Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia shake hands when Khaleda called on Modi at Hotel Sonargaon yesterday.

PHOTO: MEA, INDIA

FIFA IN CRISIS Documents show details of Jack Warner 'bribes'

BBC ONLINE

A BBC investigation has seen evidence that details what happened to the \$10m sent from Fifa to accounts controlled by former vice-president Jack Warner.

The money, sent on behalf of South Africa, was meant to be used for its Caribbean diaspora legacy programme.

But documents suggest Mr Warner used the payment for cash withdrawals, personal loans and to launder money. The 72-year-old, who has been indicted by the US FBI for corruption, denies all claims of wrongdoing.

Fifa says it is co-operating with the investigation. And South Africa's Football Association has issued a detailed statement denying any wrongdoing.

The papers seen by the BBC detail three wire transfers by Fifa. In the three transactions - on 4 January, 1 February and 10 March 2008 - funds totalling \$10m (£6.5m) from Fifa accounts were received into Concacaf accounts controlled by Jack Warner.

At the time, he was in charge of the body, which governs football in North and Central America and the Caribbean.



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Ex-speaker Razzak Ali passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sheikh Razzak Ali, former speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad, died of old age complications in his Khulna residence yesterday afternoon. He was 87.

Born in Paikgachha of Khulna in 1928, Razzak left behind his wife and

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PRAYER TIMING

JUNE 8

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-05 12-30 5-00 6-45 8-15

JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-50 8-55

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Mozart music boosts your memory

MAIL ONLINE

Listening to Mozart can give your brain a boost, according to a new study.

People who heard the classical composer's music showed an increase in brain wave activity linked to memory, understanding and problem-solving, researchers found.

However, no such increases were found after the group

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