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WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

STYLE

HALT PERSECUTION

Malala Yousafzai asks Myanmar to stop inhuman treatment of Rohingyas

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'RECORDS DON'T INSPIRE ME'

Mominul Haque on being one fifty away from equalling AB de Villiers's world record

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Sky the limit

Govt must negotiate connectivity deals smartly to maximise gains

SAJJADUR RAHMAN with M ABUL KALAM AZAD and REZAUL KARIM

Nineteen hundred sixty-five was a year for the people of Bangladesh, West Bengal and northeastern region of India to remember for all the wrong reasons. After the Indo-Pak war that year, road, rail and waterway connections between the regions were cut off permanently. After Bangladesh's independence in 1971, only the inland water communications with India reopened. Forty-five years have gone by since and many rivers lost their stream while others changed course, but nothing concrete has been done to reestablish the transport connectivity inherited from the British Empire.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Needs to improve negotiation skill
- Fix fees and charges for providing services to other countries
- Should go for comprehensive and coherent transit and investment deal instead of multiple and fragmented ones
- Make the deals transparent and public
- Mobilise minimum \$7-10 billion funds to build infrastructure
- Involve Nepal and Bhutan in the discussion

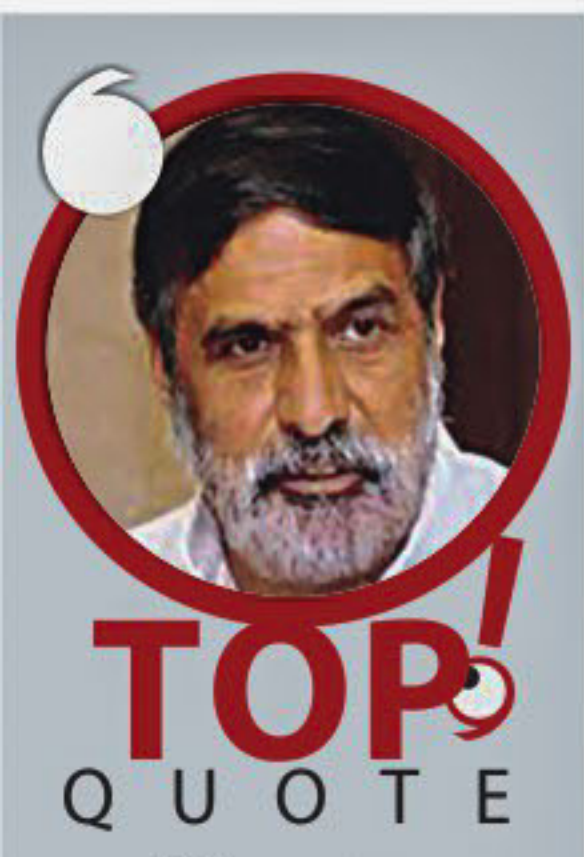
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ENCLAVES OF BANGLADESH, INDIA Exchange from July 31

DIPLMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh and India will formally begin exchanging 162 enclaves from July 31 midnight, ending nearly seven-decade sufferings of the residents. Launching the exchange of 111 Indian and 51 Bangladeshi enclaves, the two countries will start implementing the historic Land Boundary Agreement (LBA), which the Indian parliament ratified earlier last month. "Bangladesh and India agree that the Bangladeshi enclaves in India and

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TRAFFICKING VICTIMS Back home after months of ordeal

STAR REPORT

Their faces etched with agonies they underwent just to pursue their dreams. The joy of 150 trafficking victims of making it back home seemed to be overshadowed by the sufferings, torture and starvation they endured on way to Malaysia on a boat. Some said they witnessed horrifying and inhuman incidents during their journey, while a few others summed up their experience in one word: "nightmare." "We saw deaths before our very eyes," said one of the victims while getting into a bus at Ghumdhum in Naikhanchhari upazila of Bandarban. Uncertainty about their future was apparent on the faces of the victims, mostly below 18. The Myanmar Border Guard Police handed them over to the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) yesterday. They entered the Bangladesh territory through the Ghumdhum point around 2:00pm, reports our Cox's Bazar correspondent. The Myanmar authorities on May 21 rescued a total of 208 boatpeople on their way to Malaysia and claimed that all the victims were from Bangladesh. But following verification of their identities by the foreign and home ministries, only 150 were identified as Bangladeshis, said Col Khalequzzaman, commander of the BGB's Cox's Bazar

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CONGRESS SPOKESMAN ANAND SHARMA CRITICISING MODI FOR NOT TAKING WITH HIM ON HIS DHAKA VISIT THE CHIEF MINISTERS OF ASSAM, TRIPURA, MEGHALAYA

Miracle food made in Bangladesh

Cereal to help recover children with acute malnutrition fast



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Scientists at the icddr,b have developed a special food rich in protein and micronutrients that can help recover children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). The ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) is made of locally available ingredients -- rice, lentil, chickpea, milk powder, sugar and soybean oil. Its quality is similar to that of the standard RUTF -- Plumpy'Nut-

- produced commercially by a French company, says the icddr,b. "This RUTF is critically important for Bangladesh, as six lakh children under the age of five are suffering from severe acute malnutrition," Prof Tahmeed Ahmed, director at the Centre for Nutrition and Food Security at the icddr,b, said yesterday at an international symposium organised by it. SAM is a condition that can cause death

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NEWS ANALYSIS DEMOCRACY begins within party

SHAKHAWAT LITON

Khaleda Zia seems worried about the present state of democracy in the country. On Sunday she told Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi that "there is no democracy in Bangladesh" and sought his assistance for the restoration of democracy. Her approach is a reflection on our political culture of making complaints to foreign leaders and inviting them to interfere in the country's domestic politics. The assistance she sought from Modi during a meeting is aimed at having a fresh parliamentary election. The reason is simple. Only an election can make the BNP return to power. If it is about democracy, is an election enough to boost it? Even if the BNP goes to power, how will it improve the country's democracy when an acute deficiency of democracy is visible within the party itself? What is the present state of democracy in her party that has formed the government thrice since the restoration of democracy in 1990? Believe it or not, the countrywide non-stop blockade

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বিস্মিল্লাহির রাহমানির রাহিম

ক্ষুদ্র, মাঝারি এবং বৃহৎ ব্যবসায়ী উদ্যোক্তাদের আস্থার প্রতীক দি চিটাগাং চেম্বার অব কমার্স এন্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রির মাননীয় সভাপতি জনাব **মাহবুবুল আলম** দি ফেডারেশন অব বাংলাদেশ চেম্বার্স অব কমার্স এন্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রি (এফবিসিসিআই)'র **সহ-সভাপতি** নির্বাচিত হওয়ায়-

আমাদের প্রাণিত শুভ্বাঞ্ছন!

বর্তমান সরকারের রূপকল্প ২০২১ বাস্তবায়নে এফবিসিসিআই এক চিটাগাং চেম্বারের যুগপৎ অভিযাত্রায় তিনি সফল নেতৃত্ব দেবেন বলে আমরা আশা করি।

জাতীয় এবং আন্তর্জাতিক পরিসরভে চিটাগাং চেম্বারের মর্যাদা সমৃদ্ধ রাখা এবং অর্থনীতির অগ্রসর যাত্রায় চট্টগ্রামের অপার সভাবনাকে যুক্ত করার ক্ষেত্রে আমাদের অব্যাহত প্রয়াসকে চিটাগাং চেম্বারের সাবেক সুযোগ্য সভাপতি জনাব এম. এ. লতিফ এমপি-সহ যারা নিরন্তর অনুপ্রাণিত করে যাচ্ছেন এই গৌরবময় অর্জনের মুহূর্তে তাদের প্রতিও রইল আমাদের সবিনয় কৃতজ্ঞতা।

বোর্ড অব ডাইরেক্টর্স
দি চিটাগাং চেম্বার অব কমার্স এন্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রি

Exhausted by searing heat, these two birds seem panting in the summer noon yesterday. The country's highest temperature -- 39.4 degree Celsius -- was recorded in Jessore in the day. The maximum temperature in Dhaka was 36.0 °C. In Naryanganj, where the photo was taken, the weather was unbearable like the rest of the country. PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

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