



**DEALS WITH DELHI**  
US says the Indo-Bangla agreements will boost regional connectivity  
PAGE B1

**'THE CHILDREN ACT'**  
Star reviews a book of Man Booker winner Ian MacEwan  
PAGE 12

**SUSHMA DEFENDS HERSELF**  
Amid opposition attack, Indian minister says she helped Lalit on humanitarian ground  
PAGE 8



Family members hold up the pictures of their dear ones who have been missing since going on a treacherous journey for illegal migration to Malaysia in recent months. They gathered at the capital's NHRC office yesterday.

## MAYA'S 13-YEAR JAIL FOR GRAFT SC scraps acquittal

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Relief and Disaster Management Minister Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya may face 13 years of imprisonment on graft charges as the Supreme Court yesterday scrapped the High Court verdict that cleared his name.



The apex court also ordered rehearing the appeal Maya had filed with the HC against the verdict of a lower court, which sentenced him for illegally amassing wealth worth Tk 6.29 crore and concealing assets worth Tk 5.90 crore.

A three-member Appellate Division bench, led by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha, passed the order in response to an Anti-Corruption Commission petition challenging Maya's acquittal.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

## No trace of 598

National HR Commission gets list of the missing; govt urged to find, rescue the trafficking victims

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 598 Bangladeshis have been missing since they, lured by traffickers, set out on perilous sea voyages between October 31, 2013 and April 15 this year to illegally migrate to Malaysia.

A Malaysia-based non-government organisation submitted a list of these trafficking victims to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of Bangladesh yesterday.

CARAM Asia Bhd, the NGO working on migrant rights, also asked the government to trace and repatriate them.

"We are very concerned about the rising

number of trafficking victims in Bangladesh. Unfortunately, we are yet to see any stern action from the government in this regard. Even there's no official data on the victims. So, we are now preparing a list of the missing people from across the country," said Mohammad Harun Al Rashid, regional coordinator of CARAM Asia.

He was talking to The Daily Star after handing over the list to Imam Uddin Kabir, deputy director of the NHRC.

Imam said they would first verify the claims and then decide on further actions.

Relatives of 12 of the missing people were present at the NHRC during handover

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

## Why Khaleda didn't meet Pranab

Now she shares 'the real story'

STAR REPORT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia said she could not meet Indian President Pranab Mukherjee during his 2013 Dhaka visit as she had faced a "life threat".

Jamaat-e-Islami had called a general strike then to protest the conviction of its three top leaders for the 1971 war crimes. "And had

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

KHALEDA CRITICAL OF DEALS WITH INDIA - PAGE 2

## NEWS ANALYSIS

### BNP'S TIES WITH JAMAAT Khaleda follows in Zia's footsteps

SHAKHAWAT LITON

Is Khaleda Zia doing politics going against the philosophy and ideals of BNP founder General Ziaur Rahman by forging and maintaining electoral alliance with the anti-liberation and fundamentalist force Jamaat-e-Islami?

To find the answer, one must revisit the history of BNP. Her reluctance to cut ties with Jamaat has a long, solid history. It goes back to General Zia - whose ascendancy to power as a military strongman after the August 15, 1975 bloody changeover was the beginning of the brightening future of the anti-liberation forces.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

## Flood-hit people face drinking water crisis

STAR REPORT

The need for drinking water and food is growing in the country's north and northeast where flood has forced thousands to move to embankments and roads.

Heavy rain over the last few days has caused the Jamuna, Brahmaputra, Teesta, Dharla, and the Dudhkumar to flow above their danger levels at several places.

With partial collapse of embankments, water rushed into low-lying areas and vast chars and devoured houses, schools and other structures. A huge area of cropland has gone under water in the flood-hit regions.

Many more areas of Rangpur, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions are now under threat as the flood

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



A homestead inundated by floodwaters at Bhagobatiapur village in Kurigram Sadar. More areas went under water in the past 24 hours due to flash floods triggered by monsoon rain and rise in water levels of the major rivers. Inset, people watch helplessly as the mighty Jamuna bursts its banks at Arjuna village in Tangail's Bhuapur.

PHOTO: STAR

## Three shot dead in Rangamati

A CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Unknown assailants shot dead three activists of United People's Democratic Front (UPDF) at Sadar union of Longodu upazila yesterday morning.

The dead are Juddo Moni Chakma alias Amit, 32, Rupomoy Chakma alias Sujay, 30, and Sumon Chakma, 25. Protesting the killing, the UPDF called a half-day hartal in the district for tomorrow.

Locals said some UPDF men, including the three victims, had gone to Bhaibonchora area on Saturday for their organisational activities.

Later, they went to the house of Juddo Moni and spent the night there.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

## CROSS-BORDER VEHICLE MOVEMENT Four nations sign deal today

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and M ABUL KALAM AZAD

Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal sign a deal today that would allow seamless movement of people, cargo and personal vehicles across the countries within the next few years.

The motor vehicle agreement will be inked in Thimphu, the capital of Bhutan, by the transport ministers of the four South-Asian countries.

Implementation of the treaty titled "Mo-

tor Vehicles Agreement for the Regulation of Passenger, Personal, and Cargo Vehicular Traffic with Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN)" may start in a limited scale early next year, according to sources.

After the deal signing, Bhutanese Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay will flag off a vehicle that will run through Bhutan-Gowahati-Shilong-Sylhet-Benapole-Kolkata route to survey the road.

The other possible routes are: Thimphu-

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

**TOP QUOTE**  
It's a shame when ruling party men try to free an accused person by barricading a road

POLICE CHIEF  
**AKM SHAHIDUL HAQUE**  
AT A PROGRAMME IN CHITTAGONG

**Surf excel** দাগ থেকে দারণ গল্প

“সকালের ঔষধে লাল আর রাতের ঔষধে নীল দাগ দিয়ে দিলাম। নানুর এখন আর ঔষধ খেতে ভুল হবে না!”

দাগ থেকেই তৈরি হয় এমন দারণ সব গল্প। তাই আজই শেয়ার করুন আপনার বাচ্চার গল্প আর নির্বাচিত ৩ বিজয়ী সপরিবারে ঘুরে আসুন

**বিজয়ী ল্যান্ড!** হংকং

কল ককনঃ ০৯-৬৬৬-৯৯৯-৬৬৬  
শেয়ার পাঠানঃ জি.পি.ও বক্স 80৩8 facebook.com/surfexcelbd

নিয়মাবলিঃ

- \* গল্পের সাথে ব্যক্তিগত মোবাইল নম্বর উল্লেখ করতে হবে \* গল্পে অশালীনতা বর্জনীয় এবং গল্প সর্বোচ্চ ১০০০ শব্দের মধ্যে হতে হবে
- \* যেকোনো প্রয়োজনে কর্তৃপক্ষ গল্পকারের সাথে যোগাযোগ করতে পারবেন
- \* গল্প নির্বাচনে বিচারক প্যানেলের মাধ্যমে চূড়ান্ত \* নির্বাচিত বিজয়ীর গল্পে ব্রিফট তৈরি এবং নির্দেশনা প্রদানে ইউনিলিটার-এর পূর্ণ স্বাধীনতা থাকবে
- \* ইউনিলিটার, অ্যাডকম এবং এই প্রোগ্রামের সাথে সংশ্লিষ্ট কোনো ব্যক্তি এই প্রতিযোগিতায় অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবে না \* যেকোনো প্রকার বিনামূল্যে সাহিত্যিকর্মে কপি গ্রহণযোগ্য নয় এবং এ সংক্রান্ত সকল দায়-দায়িত্ব প্রতিযোগীকেই বহন করতে হবে \* সেরা গল্প নির্বাচনে চূড়ান্ত সিদ্ধান্ত এবং প্রতিযোগিতার নিয়মাবলির যেকোনো পরিবর্তন, পরিমার্জন অথবা পরিবর্তন করার সর্বস্বত্ব ইউনিলিটার বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড সংরক্ষণ করে
- \* গল্প পাঠানোর শেষ তারিখ ১৮ জুন ২০১৫ পর্যন্ত।