

# FDI dipped last year

BOI sees no specific reason, hopes for a turnaround

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The actual foreign direct investment flow into Bangladesh went down by 4.53 percent year-on-year in 2014, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) said yesterday.

This was the first time the FDI flow to the country fell since 2010.

Bangladesh received an FDI of \$1.526 billion in 2014 against \$1.599 billion in the previous year, said the World Investment Report 2015 of the Unctad.

The Board of Investment (BoI) launched the report on the UN agency's behalf at the BoI office in the city. The study was also published globally.

"The FDI flow dropped very marginally. We see no specific reasons behind the drop. We had hoped that it would go up given the steps we have taken to simplify procedures for making investment in the country," said BoI Executive Chairman SA Samad.

Reinvested earnings (reinvestment by the foreign companies in Bangladesh) were up by nearly 42 percent year-onyear to \$988.79 million last year.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1 RELATED STORY ON B1



Police yesterday demolished illegal stalls hawkers had set up in front of the emergency gate of Dhaka Medical College Hospital. The hawkers, however, returned a couple of hours later. Related photo on page 2

PHOTO: **ANISUR RAHMAN** 

## Eviction drive only to show DMP boss

AL offices untouched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hawkers, who block the DMCH emergency gate with their stalls, are evicted when VIPs go there as if the authorities are more worried about how they look before the VIPs rather than keeping the gate clear for patients.

The hawkers always return soon after the VIPs leave.

Yesterday, Shahbagh police conducted an eviction drive as Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia would visit some places in Old Dhaka, including the Dhaka Medical College Hospital adjacent areas, to see the traffic management system, said a police officer preferring anonymity.

Police during the hour-long drive, which began around 12:10pm, demolished about 50 makeshift stalls near the hospital gate except an illegal office of ruling Awami League and two others of pro-ruling party organisations.

The three illegal offices remain SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

## Flag meeting today to get Razzak freed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT A flag meet-

ing between Bangladesh Myanmar is likely to be held today

over the return of Border Guard Bangladesh Nayek Abdur Razzak, who was taken away reportedly from the Naf river a week ago.

"A flag meeting may be held tomorrow [today] if the weather allows," BGB Director General Maj Gen Aziz Ahmed told The Daily Star over the phone yester-

He added that the meeting might be rescheduled to the next day if the weather was bad.

According to sources, the weather is key to holding the meeting since the BGB personnel will have to travel on boat down the Naf river to reach Myanmar's Maungdaw, where the meeting is sup-

posed to take place. According to Met office, heavy rain and strong wind

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Trafficking Victims

# 41 more back home from Thai shelter

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Forty-one more trafficking victims, who had been rescued by the Thai authorities from the Andaman Sea last month, returned home from Bangkok yesterday.

A Biman flight carrying them landed at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 7:30pm, said Shakil Mansoor, an official of International Organisation for Migration.

They were brought back after getting confirmation of their nationality through police verification.

The Bangladeshis were kept at Thai detention centres after being rescued from the sea.

Among the 41 returnees, 13 hail from Cox's Bazar, six from Jhenidah, five each from Narsingdi and Sirajganj, four from Satkhira, three from Magura, two each from Jessore and Bandarban, and one from Faridpur districts, said a press release of Bangladesh embassy in Bangkok.

The Bangladesh government paid their repatriation cost, including airfare, as per its commitment made at a Bangkok meeting on May 29, said Saida Muna Tasneem, Bangladesh ambassador in Bangkok.

Earlier, the embassy repatriated 80 Bangladeshis in two phases this month after mass graves were discovered along the Thai-Malaysia border on May 1.

Around 919 Bangladeshis, who were trafficked through the Bay of Bengal, had been sent back home since late 2013, the ambassador said.

The embassy has been working in close cooperation with the Thai authorities to ensure successive repatriation of the remaining Bangladeshis, she added.

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# Japan lifts dancing ban

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Japan has lifted a 67-year-old ban on dancing, to the delight of the nation's clubbers.

The ban forbids public dancing unless the venue has a license, and even licensed premises have to stop SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

# Bloody carjacking

Criminals shoot, beat up passengers, hijack car blocking road with truck

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Carjackers blocked a vehicle with a truck, beat up the people inside mercilessly, shot one of them, and made away with the car in the wee hours of yesterday in Tejgaon. The carjacking, which appeared to be taken out of a Hollywood movie

script, happened around 3:20am on the Tejgaon-Bijoy Sarani flyover. Ashik Abdullah Khan and his friend Sabbir Ahmed Bappy drove to the

popular Razzak Restaurant in Bangshal to have sehri like many others do in the month of Ramadan. On their way back to Uttara, they had a drive through Hatirjheel where

they were stopped by police at a checkpoint.

"Satisfied by their response our sentries at the checkpoint let them go, advising them not to be out so late," said Selim Mia, investigation officer of Tejgaon Industrial Police Station.

Little did the cops know then that their fears would soon come true. When Ashik and Bappy were halfway over the flyover, a flatbed with four

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### Rony was drunk while shooting

His counsel tells court COURT CORRESPONDENT

A counsel for Bakhtiar Alam Rony, son of ruling Awami League lawmaker Pinu Khan, yesterday told a Dhaka court that his client was drunk when he shot dead two people in the capital on April 14.

His client had no intention to kill any people, claimed advocate Kazi Nazibullah Hiru, adding that Rony committed the offence when he was drunk. So, he should not be placed

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A few of the 41 trafficking victims who arrived at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport last night from Thailand. They had been rescued by the Thai authorities from the Andaman Sea last month.

PHOTO: **RASHED SUMAN** 



#### **PRAYER TIMING** JUNE 25

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 3-39 12-45 5-00 6-53 8-17 JAMAAT 3-49 1-15 5-15 6-63 8-45 SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



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