



The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

www.thedailystar.net

Your Right to Know

20 PAGES PLUS SHOUT PRICE: Tk 12.00



REGD. NO. DA 781 | VOL. XXV No. 234 | BHADRA 26, 1422 BS | ZILQAD 25, 1436 HIJRI

WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

SHOUT

ROBI, AIRTEL MERGING?

The 3rd and 4th carriers start talks to get closer to Grameenphone

PAGE B1

AUSTRALIA BUCKLES

Int'l pressure forces PM Abbott to take in 12,000 refugees

PAGE 8

Demo hits education

Public university teachers agitating for higher pay; protests over VAT at private universities

WASIM BIN HABIB

The ongoing teachers' movement over the new pay scale is disrupting academic activities at public educational institutions, especially at university and college levels.

Teachers yesterday staged fresh protests at several universities over the finance minister's remark on their movement, demanding that AMA Muhith withdraw his remark in 24 hours.

On Tuesday, they held demonstrations all over the country, protesting the "anomalies" in the new scale. Later in the day, speaking to journalists about the movement, Finance Minister AMA Muhith said, "The most educated section of our population has gone for such a movement due to their lack of knowledge."

Teachers of public universities have been pressing a four-point demand since May. Their movement has intensified after the new pay scale was approved on Monday.

Meanwhile, college teachers, also displeased with the eighth pay scale, have decided to observe a daylong stoppage and hold agitation programmes today at all the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Students of East West University blocking Badda-Rampura road in the capital yesterday, protesting the VAT slapped on private university tuition fees. Later, dozens were injured, some with rubber bullets, in a clash between them and police.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

35 hurt as students, cops clash over VAT

Pvt university deputy registrar injured as cops fire rubber bullets

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 35 people were injured in a clash between students of East West University and police in the capital's Badda area yesterday. The students were demonstrating against the VAT imposed on tuition fees of private universities.

Most of the injured were students of the university, said staff of a nearby hospital where the injured took treatment.

Some of those hurt, including the university's Deputy Registrar Mashfiqur Rahman, were shot with rubber bullets, said the institution's Vice-Chancellor Ahmed Shafee.

He alleged that police fired rubber bullets without any provocation.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

EU unveils bold refugee plan

Proposes to share 160,000 among member nations; Germany wants 'binding' quotas with no ceiling; UK staying out of the plan

AFP, Strasbourg

European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker unveiled major plans yesterday to force the bloc to share 160,000 refugees and ease the burden on border states from the worst migration crisis since World War II.

As pressure mounted for an emergency EU summit on the issue, German

Chancellor Angela Merkel urged the bloc to go even further, calling for a distribution of migrants with no limits on actual numbers.

Underscoring the difficulties transit countries such as Hungary face, at least 400 desperate migrants broke through police lines at the flashpoint town of Roszke on Hungary's southern border with Serbia,

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Khaleda, Jamaat behind losing GSP facility

PM tells Sangsad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Blaming Khaleda Zia and Jamaat for Bangladesh's losing the GSP facilities in the US market, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday told parliament that the BNP chief and the Islamist party were spreading propaganda abroad through lobbyists.

The PM, however, expressed her hope that Bangladesh would get the Generalised

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



SHRINKING SPACE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

Concerns should be taken seriously: UN

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The civil society's concerns about the shrinking space for public engagement should be taken very seriously, said Heiner Bielefeldt, UN special rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief.

"They indicate the urgent need to take action in order to improve the conditions for communicative public engagement rather than creating more legal and political insecurity for civil society activities," said the UN expert.

Bielefeldt made the observations in a 20-page press statement on his preliminary findings of his nine-day visit to Bangladesh. He said he would present a report containing his conclusions and recommendations to the UN Human Rights Council next year.



Bielefeldt

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

TOP QUOTE

"No longer do we want to see any divisions within the nation. Enough of clashes; we now want to get united like we did during the Liberation War."

AL GENERAL SECRETARY
SYED ASHRAFUL ISLAM
AT A DISCUSSION IN THE CAPITAL



With no walls or electricity, this shed serves as the classroom of Heart Beat School at Laxmipur of Rajshahi. Saving their pocket money, 24 university and medical college students run this school for street children.

PHOTO: MA SAYEED

CHANGE MAKERS



SCHOOL OF HOPE

Rajshahi youths educate city's underprivileged children

MA SAYEED with ANDREW EAGLE

"My father left my mother when I was two," says seven-year-old Shimu, unemotional, as though she were speaking of a routine matter. "When I was five I was caught by some men outside the shanty in the railway colony where I lived with my mother. They blindfolded and gagged me; and soon I could hear my mother crying."

"But nobody came to rescue us. I fell unconscious after that, and when I woke the

following morning I was there in our hut, but there was no sign of mother. I've been looking for her ever since," she says, increasingly teary-eyed.

Other slum-dwellers told Shimu that her mother committed suicide, but having never seen her dead body, Shimu is unconvinced. "Why would mother leave like that?"

In the midst of these desperate circumstances Shimu found a dream. "I want to be

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5



BANGKOK BLAST SUSPECT

Thailand asks Interpol to seek Dhaka's help

Bangladesh police unaware

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangkok English daily The Nation reported yesterday that Thai police have asked for help from Bangladesh through Interpol to locate the mastermind behind the fatal bomb blast after investigations indicated that "he might have fled to this South Asian country".

Thai designated police chief Pol Gen Chakthip Chaijinda said that the information about the possible whereabouts of Abu Dumar Abdulrahman or Izan, a Chinese national, had been confirmed through evidence and testimony from witnesses.

"We have already asked Interpol to inform Bangladesh about the latest development concerning the mastermind behind the bomb blast at the Erawan

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

Young people optimistic about future

Reveals survey

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

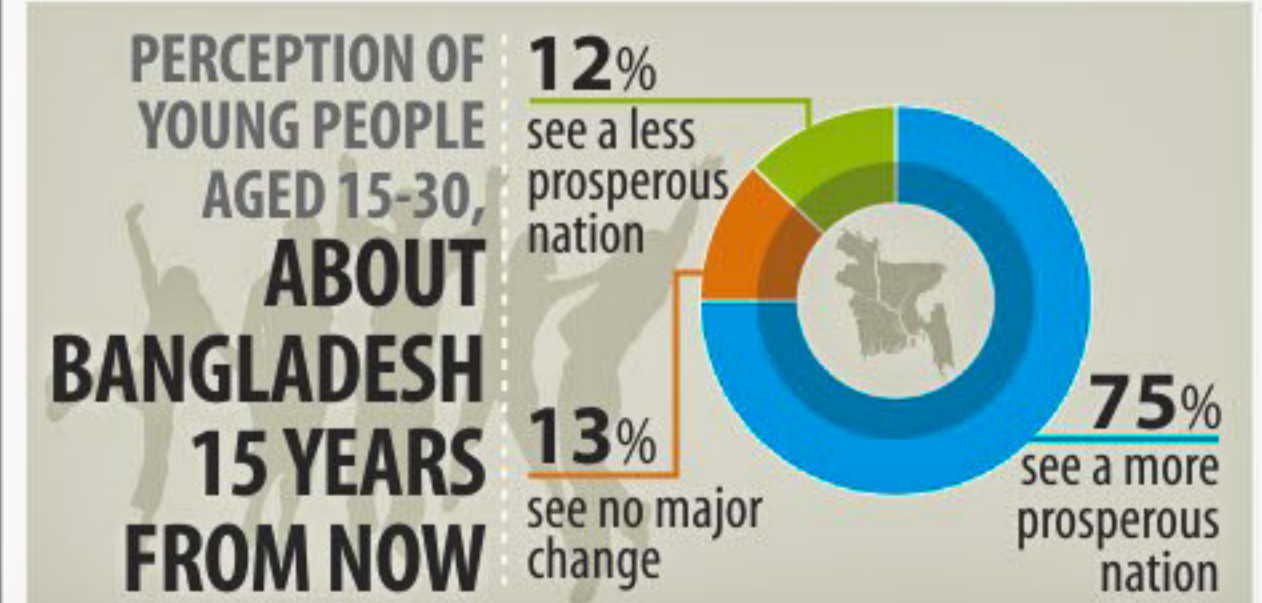
Seventy-five percent of Bangladeshi youths see the country as a more prosperous nation in the next 15 years and 60 percent think it is heading in the right direction, a survey has found.

The findings of the survey were presented at the launch of a report titled "Next Generation Bangladesh 2015 and Beyond" at the British Council Library on the city's Fuller Road yesterday.

The British Council, ActionAid Bangladesh and the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) commissioned the report.

Speaking at the launch, Tomas Doherty, assistant director of programmes at the British Council, said 94 percent of Pakistani youths in a similar survey conducted in 2013 said

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



BRB অন্যতম বিশ্বে...
...বাংলাদেশে শীর্ষে