



**TACKLING THE TERROR**  
Highlights of The Daily Star roundtable titled "Extremism and Challenges for Bangladesh"  
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**NEPAL ELECTS NEW PM**  
With big tasks ahead, Communist leader Oli is chosen to steer the quake-hit nation  
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**TOUR POSTPONED, PASSION NOT**  
Australia may have cancelled Bangladesh series, but a diehard fan is stuck to the itinerary  
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## Local polls to be partisan

*Proposal goes to cabinet today; amended law to allow political parties to nominate candidates*

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

The LGRD ministry seeks changes to the local government laws for allowing political parties to nominate candidates in local body elections. It will place a proposal to this effect at today's cabinet meeting for approval. LGRD Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain told The Daily Star yesterday. If the laws are amended, elections to zila, upazila and union parishads, city corporations and municipalities will be partisan just like the parliamentary polls. Currently, grassroots leaders of political parties can contest local body polls but they cannot use their parties' electoral symbols. And the parties extend support to them but cannot openly campaign for their men. The changes will remove the restrictions on political parties in nominating candidates and engaging openly in electioneering for their favourites. According to the proposal to be made, political parties registered with the Election Commission will be allowed to contest the local body elections by nominating their candidates. The Jamaat-e-Islami may not be able to contest local body polls as its registration with the EC has been scrapped by the High Court. The matter is now pending with the Supreme Court. In defence of making the polls partisan, the LGRD minister said, "The new system will further strengthen democratic

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**Bars installed on a street in Hatirjheel project area to prevent non-motorised vehicles from using the street have become a trap for motorbikes. Locals claimed that they welded a metal frame over the bars so that motorbikes could pass. Motorists complained that their vehicles lose traction going over the bars which sometimes cause traffic mishaps.**  
PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## SHOOTING A BOY 'Missing' MP now seeks HC bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amid police "failure" to find him in the last nine days, ruling Awami League lawmaker Manzurul Islam Liton yesterday sought anticipatory bail in a case filed for shooting a minor boy in Gaibandha's Sundarganj upazila. Liton's lawyer AM Ariful Islam submitted the bail petition to the High Court on the lawmaker's behalf. Moksadul Islam, principal counsel for the petitioner, told The Daily Star that Liton might be in Gaibandha now and that he would appear before the HC when the petition would be heard. He said his client sought anticipatory bail, as the lower court might not grant him bail due to reported sensation surrounding the



Liton

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## MURDER OF HOSHI Bullet found on Rangpur killing spot

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Police yesterday recovered one more projectile of a bullet from the spot in Rangpur where Japanese national Kunio Hoshi was shot dead on October 3. Joynal Abedin, additional superintendent of Rangpur police, said one of their teams found the projectile around 2:00pm while searching the scene in Alutari village of Kaunia upazila. The bullet could have been used in the murder of



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## Faiza finds home



PHOTO: COLLECTED

The newborn, rescued by a stray dog last month, has found a new home. She was taken from Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) to Chhotomoni Nibas, a government-run shelter for lost or abandoned children at Azimpur in the capital yesterday. The child, now 28-days-old, has been named Faiza by physicians at the DMCH where she was being treated since being rescued.

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## MINA STAMPEDE Dhaka in dark about handover of bodies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Seventeen days have passed since the deadly Hajj stampede but Saudi Arabia has still kept Dhaka in the dark on handing over of the bodies of Bangladeshi victims. "The Saudi government hasn't yet said anything on whether they will send back the bodies of our hajjis or not," Religious Affairs Secretary Chowdhury Md Babul Hassan said. "We have no information if families of the victims will get back the bodies at all," he told reporters at his secretariat office yesterday. He heavily criticised the Saudis for their "rigidity" in sharing information on the casualties. "The Bangladesh Hajj mission there is not allowed to collect any information

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## Mission Syria Charge sheet states plans of 3 arrested 'IS suspects' to recruit fighters, join jihad

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Three suspected militants, who were among those arrested in the last one year for alleged IS links, had plans to recruit jihadi fighters and go to Turkey disguised as Tablighi Jamaat men en route to Syria, reads the charge sheet against them. Since September last year, about 15 suspects have been arrested for "having or trying to establish contacts" with Islamic State (IS), according to police press releases and briefings at different times. In July this year, detectives pressed charges against three of the detainees -- Samiun Rahman alias Ibn Hamdan, a British citizen of Bangladesh origin who allegedly fought in Syria, and his two recruits Asif Adnan Shuvo and Fazle Elahi Tanzil. The Daily Star has obtained a copy of the charge sheet. "They planned to recruit 8/10 fighters and go to Syria. For this, they decided to go to Turkey first, disguised as members of Tablighi Jamaat [an Islamic movement to spread faith]," reads the charge sheet, submitted to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka on July 22. Shuvo and Tanzil were supposed to be the first recruits to

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**MG!**

"Everybody is waiting ... when the Awami League government would quit."

JATIYA PARTY CHIEF HM ERSHAD AT A MEETING AT HIS BANANI OFFICE

## Bribe-taking govt official withdrawn

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Controller of the Office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports (CCI&E) Md Shahidul Haque, who was filmed taking bribes from service seekers, was withdrawn from his office yesterday and attached to the commerce ministry. "We have withdrawn him from his current post and office and attached him to the ministry on the probe committee's recommendation. The committee will submit its primary report to the ministry tomorrow [today]," said Hedayetullah Al Mamoon, senior secretary to the commerce ministry. "The ministry yesterday assigned four other officials to the probe committee for further investigation," Mamoon added. The footage was showing that Shahidul was taking money



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**Palestinian father Yehya Hasan mourns holding the body of his daughter Rahaf during a funeral for the toddler and her pregnant mother yesterday at the al-Nusairat refugee camp in Gaza. The mother and daughter were killed in an air strike by Israel.**

## Fresh unrest hits Gaza

*Air strike kills woman, toddler; rights groups accuse Israel of deliberately killing protesters; unrest indicates another uprising*

AGENCIES  
An Israeli air strike in Gaza killed a pregnant woman and her toddler yesterday as Palestinian unrest spun further toward a full-scale uprising. After days of unrest elsewhere, Gaza has been drawn into the violence since Friday, with clashes along the border leaving nine Palestinians dead, including teenagers, from Israeli fire. Overnight, Israel said it targeted "two Hamas weapon manufacturing facilities" after Gaza militants fired two rockets and following attempts by Palestinians to violently cross the border. One of the rockets had hit an open field in southern Israel and the other was intercepted. Israel's retaliatory air strikes demolished a house in the northern area of Zeitun, killing Nur Hassan, 30, and her two-year-old daughter Rahaf, Gaza medics said, and trapping three others under the ruins. Meanwhile, Israel's government is facing serious questions over its use of force in the latest outbreak of violence with protesters after a number of videos appeared online showing soldiers shooting at Palestinians. Amnesty International yesterday told Al Jazeera that some of the recorded incidents amounted to "extrajudicial killings", while Human rights Watch was "strongly

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