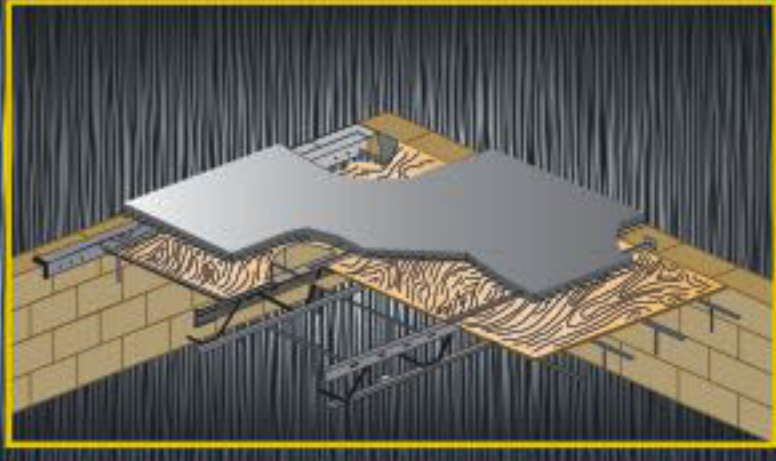


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Check illegal entry into int'l airports

PM orders tightening aviation security

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed the ministries of civil aviation and home to show zero tolerance against illegal entrances at the international airports in order to ensure the global standard of aviation security.

She also directed the home ministry to immediately arrest anyone who enters or tries to enter the airports violating the law.

The prime minister's directives came after Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon raised the issue of airport security at an informal discussion after the cabinet meeting, a minister told reporters after the meeting.

Insiders said Menon informed the premier that usually ruling party men rush to the airports to see off or receive VVIPs, especially ministers, state ministers, lawmakers, ruling party top brass and influential officials violating the rules.

He also said even motorcycle showdown is arranged to give the VVIPs 'protocol' hampering the aviation security.

Contacted, Menon said they reviewed aviation security like many other countries after a Russian passenger plane was destroyed by a bomb. He added a British minister and the British High Commission in Dhaka have recently informed the government about reviewing the aviation security.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



The 1.1km Kadamtali flyover was opened to the public yesterday on a test basis after its construction was completed a few days ago. The flyover, which will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, is expected to ease traffic congestion in the port city and reduce pressure on Dewanhat bridge nearby. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

2 senior US officials due next week

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Two top US diplomats are coming to Dhaka next week to discuss bilateral issues, including security ties.

Counsellor of the Department of State Thomas A Shannon and Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs Nisha Desai Biswal will arrive in Dhaka on December 13 on a day's visit, sources at the foreign ministry and the US embassy in Dhaka told The Daily Star yesterday.

Their visit carries special significance as they are flying in at a time when Dhaka is facing growing threat from violence, with the IS "claiming responsibility" for almost all the recent terror incidents, added the sources.

Officials said the "sudden and very short notice" visit is going to take place on the back of the successful Ticfa meeting in Washington last month. The US side at the meeting showed interest in boosting

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

Last chance to save planet

UN chief urges strong deal as 'clock ticking to catastrophe'

AFP, Le Bourget

Ministers from around the planet yesterday launched a five-day scramble in Paris to answer "the call of history" and strike a deal to spare mankind from climate disaster.

The 195-nation UN talks in Paris have been billed as the last chance to avert the worst consequences of global warming: deadly drought, floods and storms, and rising seas that will obliterate



ate islands and densely populated coastlines.

"The clock is ticking towards a climate catastrophe," UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told ministers, who face a Friday deadline to reach an accord that has proved elusive in more than two decades of wrangling.

"The world is expecting more from you than half-measures and incremental approaches," Ban warned.

"It is calling for a transformative

agreement. Paris must put the world on track for long-term peace, stability and prosperity."

He added: "The decisions you make here will reverberate down the ages."

Environment and foreign ministers, including US Secretary of State John Kerry who landed in Paris yesterday, were urged to rise to the moment and rip out hundreds of bracketed words or sentences in the draft accord that denote disagreement.

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Do more against IS

Obama urges Muslims, vows to destroy militants

AFP, Washington

US President Barack Obama vowed Sunday that America would destroy the Islamic State group and hunt down its followers at home or abroad, in a rare address from the Oval Office to a jittery nation.

He urged Muslims in America and around the world to "decisively and unequivocally reject the hateful ideology that groups like ISIL and al-Qaeda promote."

Facing questions about his leadership and strategy, Obama harnessed the highest



trappings of US power to calm a country rattled by a rampage in California that killed 14 people.

"After so much war, many Americans are asking whether we are confronted by a cancer that has no immediate cure," Obama said in a solemn speech, adding that the San Bernardino massacre was evidence of an "evolving" and increasingly home-grown threat.

As a father of two daughters, Obama said,

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



PRAYER TIMING
DECEMBER 8

Fazr Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5-15	12-45	3-45	5-19 7-00
JAMAAT 5-50	1-15	4-00	5-22 7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Indians gather on the Panchagarh and Cooch Behar border, holding aloft placards demanding reopening of the Chilahati-Holdibari transit route. Railway lines at Chilahati station, inset. The photos were taken on November 26.

PHOTO: STAR

CHILAHATI-HOLDIBARI Demand for reopening border route

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Locals formed a human chain in front of Chilahati land customs office in Domar upazila yesterday, demanding the reopening of Chilahati-Holdibari transit route.

Launched in 1947, the activities of Chilahati-Holdibari land port were in operation until the Indian authorities unilaterally closed their Holdibari land customs station in June 2002.

In November, the authorities of Bangladesh and India decided to use the route through Chilahati in Domar and Holdibari in

SEE PAGE 13 COL 4



East meets West in hybrid building

BBC ONLINE

China is known for its replicas of famous sights, but one new creation has gone a step further by combining two landmarks into one building.

Half of the structure, located in the northern city of Shijiazhuang, is a copy of Beijing's Temple of Heaven, but the other half is the whitewashed rotunda of the US Capitol building.

The structure is four-storey high and stands in

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

FENI MUNICIPAL POLLS AL mayor candidate to be elected unopposed

PRABIR BARIUA CHOWDHURY

One more Awami League-backed mayoral candidate, in Feni Sadar, is set to be elected unopposed after his lone opponent, a Jatiya Party-nominated candidate, withdrew his nomination yesterday.

Earlier, four AL mayor aspirants in Madaripur's Shibchar, Gopalganj's Tungipara, Feni's Parshuram, and Chandpur's Chengarchar municipalities had become all set to be elected

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Ensure witness protection

HC asks govt to ensure presence of witnesses in criminals cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the government to take necessary steps to formulate a law to ensure security and presence of the witnesses of criminal cases before the trial courts on the scheduled dates.

The court also asked the home and law secretaries to include necessary rules in the law so that public prosecutors and police remain accountable for absence of witnesses.

The HC bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Amir Hossain passed the order on a suomoto move considering security concerns of witnesses of the criminal cases during the hearing of a bail petition filed by a murder accused.

Additional Public Prosecutor of the Court of Metropolitan Sessions Judge, Dhaka Asaduzzaman Rochi had earlier told the HC that the accused was influential and

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

আন্তর্জাতিক পর্বত দিবস-২০১৫ উপলক্ষে
র্যালি, পার্বত্য মেলা ও সাংস্কৃতিক অনুষ্ঠান

স্থান : পার্বত্য চট্টগ্রাম কমপ্লেক্স, ৩৩ বেইলি রোড (অফিসার্স ক্লাব সংলগ্ন), ঢাকা

অনুষ্ঠানমালা:

মেলা : ১১, ১২ ও ১৩ ডিসেম্বর ২০১৫, সকাল ৯:০০টা - রাত ১০:০০টা

র্যালি : ১১ ডিসেম্বর ২০১৫, সকাল ৯:০০টা

সেমিনার : ১১ ডিসেম্বর (সিরডাম মিলনায়তন), সকাল ১০:০০টা - বেলা ২:০০টা

সাংস্কৃতিক অনুষ্ঠান : ১১, ১২ ও ১৩ ডিসেম্বর ২০১৫, সন্ধ্যা ৬:৩০টা - রাত ৯:০০টা

আপনারা সকলে আমন্ত্রিত
আয়োজনে : পার্বত্য চট্টগ্রাম বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়