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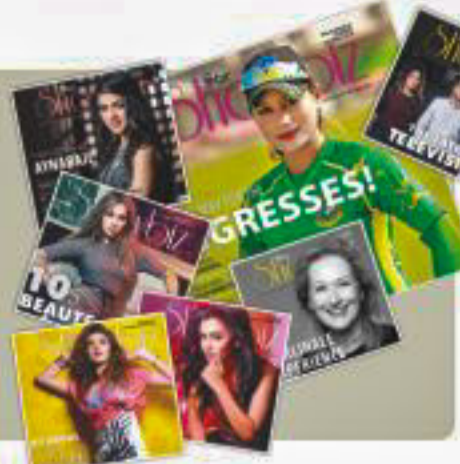
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TERROR ATTACKS

French PM mulls ban on foreign-funded mosques

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FUSSBALLGOTT RETIRES

After representing Germany for 12 years, Schweinsteiger retires from int'l career

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Tackle spread of militancy

DCs given guidelines at 4-day meet, asked to take all-out measures taking help of people from all walks of life

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

With the directive to make an all-out effort to combat militancy and terrorism, the deputy commissioners returned to their work stations from the capital as the annual conference of the DCs ended yesterday.

Though the conference was supposed to give priority to their problems in implementing government decisions at the grassroots level, the issue of terrorism and militancy dominated the four-day conference that began in the capital on Tuesday.

"The government has directed us to take measures to check militancy. We will follow the directives sincerely," Md Billal Hossain, DC of Sirajganj, told this correspondent.

He said their first priority would be to form ward-level anti-terrorism committees which would include newly elected union parishad chairmen. Cabinet Secretary Mohammad Shafiqul Alam said the main directives for

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- Database of all mosques to be prepared
- DCs made 336 proposals, 288 of them were placed
- DCs sought more power to try offenders
- DCs were asked to keep their family members at work stations
- DCs for filling up vacant govt posts
- Five woman DCs participated in the conference



A prison van carrying prisoners from Dhaka Central Jail enters newly built jail facility in Keraniganj on the outskirts of the capital yesterday. The authorities started shifting prisoners from the 200-year-old central jail in the capital's Nazimuddin Road to the new jail inaugurated in April. Inset, a convoy of prison van under tight security on Mayor Hanif Flyover. Story on page 16.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

In time, with less cost

A govt project on computer labs sets rare example of quick implementation

SAJJADUR RAHMAN

In a country where red tape and bureaucratic tangles often delay the process of implementing any project on time, a unique example has been set in completing a big government project.

The Information and Communication Division in 2014 took up the project -- "Sheikh Russel Digital Lab" -- to set up 2,001 computer labs and 65 language centres in high schools, colleges and madrasas across the country.

The total cost of the project was Tk

298.98 crore. Time allocated for implementing it was just two years, starting from January 2015.

The project has not only been completed six months before the deadline of December 2016, but also around one-third of the allocated fund worth Tk 96 crore has been saved.

The project authorities have now decided to set up 800 new labs and 100 digital classrooms in other schools with the surplus money.

"Prudent management and proper

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Students receive training in ICT skills at a computer lab set up at a college in Bagerhat under a countrywide project titled Sheikh Russel Digital Lab.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

US State Dept yet to confirm if Shazad a US citizen

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The US Department of State is yet to confirm if Shazad Rouf Arko, one of the nine militants killed in Tuesday's Kalyanpur operation, was a US citizen.

Police earlier said Shazad, an MBA student of North South University (NSU), had US citizenship though this newspaper could not verify it independently.

At the daily press briefing in Washington DC on Thursday, State Department

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BURDWAN BLAST Dhaka seeks extradition of accused

TIMES OF INDIA

Bangladesh has sought the extradition of Burdwan blast accused and alleged JMB operative Nurul Hoque Mondal alias Naeem, arrested by NIA in Kolkata last year.

Bangladesh Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan made the request during bilateral talks with

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MILITANT ATTACK ON CTG COURT 11 years on, case still under trial

ARUN BIKASH DEY and PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Cg

Eleven years on, the trial in a case for murdering two people in a suicide bomb attack by alleged JMB operatives on the Chittagong Court Building premises is yet to be completed, partly because of police negligence.

In the last two years, police "failed" to produce a single witness before the court for deposition, court sources said.

Police constable Rajib Barua and one Shahabuddin from Sitakunda upazila of Chittagong were killed and 16 others, mostly police, were injured in the attack on November 29, 2005.

Two cases -- one for murder and another for possession of explosives -- were filed with Kotwali Police Station.

In June 2008, a Chittagong court sentenced two members of the banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) to life in the explosives case.

The convicts are JMB Chittagong divisional commander Javed Iqbal alias Mohammad and Jahidul Islam Sumon alias Boma Mizan.

The murder case is now under trial at the court of Chittagong Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge-1.

Of the 77 witnesses, 28 have so far given depositions in the case.

The court last took deposition of witnesses on September 30, 2014. Since then, it fixed 16 dates for hearings but they did not happen as police could not produce any witnesses, according to court sources.

On July 21 this year, the court fixed September 5 for the next hearing and summoned 19 witnesses, including Rab and police officials, to appear before it on that day.

Hla Ching Pru, the then inspector of Detective Branch (DB) of Chittagong Metropolitan Police, submitted the charge sheet on May 18, 2006, accusing five JMB members.

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Clinton accepts nomination for US president

Slams Trump's vision on final day of DNC

AFP, Philadelphia



Hillary Clinton on Thursday night claimed her place in history as the first woman presidential nominee of a major US party, promising economic opportunity for all and rejecting Donald Trump's dark vision of America.

Pledging to be a president for "all Americans," the former secretary of state received thunderous cheers from thousands of delegates in the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia where she called for unity in a nation at a "state of reckoning."

Clinton repeated the convention's theme of "stronger together," declaring that her lifelong goal has been to ensure that Americans can use their talent and ambition to strengthen the nation.

"And so it is with humility, determination, and boundless confidence in America's promise, that I accept your nomination for president of the United States," she said, as her president husband Bill and their daughter Chelsea looked on.

While she soaked in the historic nature of her accomplishment, the 68-year-old Clinton spent much of the biggest speech of her career taking aim at her Republican

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Vegetable prices up as flood spreads

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prices of vegetables are on the rise as incessant monsoon rain and rising floodwater damaged vast farmland in some northern districts.

Take, for example, green chilli. The item was selling at between Tk 90 and 100 per kilogram at different city markets yesterday, up from Tk 60 a week ago.

Prices of eggplant, okra, pointed gourd, ridge gourd and leafy vegetables like red amaranth have also soared.

Eggplant of different qualities was selling at Tk 40-50 a kg, an increase by Tk 10-15 from a week ago. However, a few retailers were asking Tk 60 and above for a kg of eggplant on the grounds of offering better quality.

Retailers blamed supply shortages for the

price hike.

Apart from vegetables, prices of rice, onion, sugar and salt have also gone up over the last one month.

"The rainfall and flooding in northern districts is to blame for the spike in vegetable prices," said Mohsin Munshi, a vegetable retailer at Hatirpool kitchen market.

Mohammad Kamal Hossain, another vegetable retailer at the market, was found asking Tk 40 for each kg of pointed gourd.

He said prices of green chilli had been rising for the last three to four days due to poor supply.

Kamal last week bought each kg of green chilli at Tk 35-36 from Karwan Bazar wholesale market. He claimed to have purchased it at Tk 60 per kg yesterday.

"The prices of fresh produce fluctuate

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



The wholesale vegetable market in the city's Karwan Bazar. Prices of vegetables here have increased. Sellers say rainfalls and floods have damaged fields in northern region leading to the price hike.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

TOP QUOTE

"Let me ask you, have you even read the United States Constitution?... In this document, look for the words, look for the words, liberty and equal protection (under) law. ... You have sacrificed nothing. And no one."

KHIZR KHAN
FATHER OF A SLAIN MUSLIM-AMERICAN SOLDIER, TELLS DONALD TRUMP