



TRIBUTE TO JOYA PATI

Ranada Prasad's daughter
dedicated life to humanity

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'HACKING' IN US POLLS

Obama vows to take legal
action against Russia

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Labour market badly hit by oil price fall

Experts suggest vigorous move
to protect migrant workers

PORIMOL PALMA

Bangladesh's job market in the Middle East is likely to face a major blow with the continuous fall in oil prices and economic slowdown in the region. This gloomy economic state is already affecting the migrant workers there.

With revenues from oil exports going down and the impact of wars in Syria and Yemen on the Arab countries, the governments of the region have begun slashing subsidies on oil, electricity and water.

Results of such policy shifts are evident. The UK-based Business & Human Rights Resource Centre in a report on November 5 said the governments in the Gulf region have been unable to pay contractors in the construction industry.

"Recent instances of stranded workers across the Gulf abandoned without pay, accommodation and food, sometimes for months on end, are a clear demonstration that current worker protections are wholly inadequate," it said.

Bangladeshi migrants, along with Indians and Pakistanis, were unpaid by a few Saudi companies, which left them stranded since August.

"These are alarming signs for the foreign workers. They are the ones affected first and the most in any crisis," said Professor Rashed Uz Zaman at the department of international relations of Dhaka University.

WHY IS OIL PRICE FALLING?

The oil price that was more than \$130 per barrel in early 2008 began falling and went below \$50 in 2009. Taking an uptrend since then, the price hovered around \$100 line, but mostly below it until mid-2014.

The oil price took a sharp downtrend and mostly remained below \$50 a barrel since then.

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Evicted from the disputed land of Sahebganj-Bagda farm in Gaibandha on November 6, Santals have taken shelter at makeshift camps in nearby Joypur and Madarpur villages. The photos were taken in Joypur yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Life in tents

How evicted Santals living
in cold spell

PINAKI ROY and KONGKON KARMAKER, Gaibandha

The tents have no flaps. It is very difficult to sleep when wind blows at night, said Taramoni Murmu, standing in front of her tent at a makeshift shelter in Madarpur village.

"Look where and how we live now. Two families have to sleep in this tent," she said, showing the inside of the tiny tent. They use straws to put their heads down.

Nearly 2,000 Santals and a few Bangalee families were

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NATION CELEBRATES

VICTORY DAY

STAR REPORT

The nation celebrated the 46th Victory Day amid festivity yesterday, paying homage to three million martyrs and freedom fighters of the Liberation War.

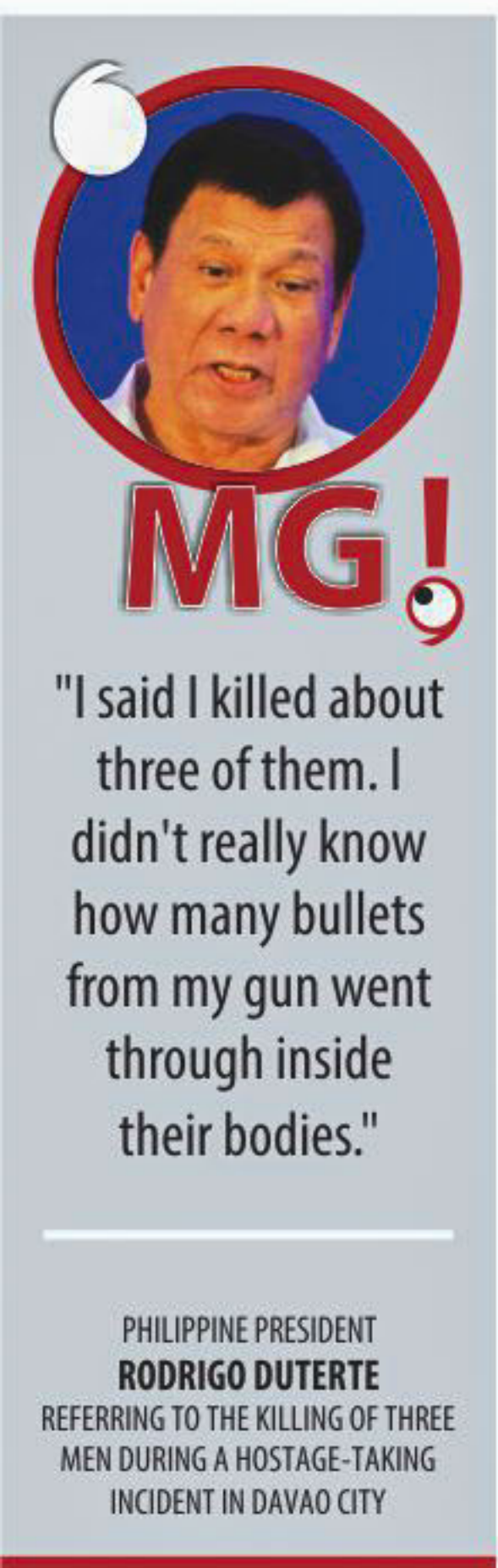
President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina placed wreaths at the National Memorial in Savar in the morning to pay tributes to the martyred freedom fighters.

As part of the day's programmes, a colourful parade was held at the National Parade Square in the capital's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar.

President Abdul Hamid took salute and inspected the parade as the chief guest. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, freedom fighters and top officials of the armed forces and law enforcement agencies were present.

In his message on the occasion, the president said, "The government has set Vision 2021 and Vision 2041 for transforming Bangladesh into a developed country. I'm hopeful that we would be

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ROHINGYA ABUSE IN MYANMAR UN gets reports of killings every day

REUTERS, Geneva

The United Nations is getting daily reports of rapes and killings of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar and independent monitors are being barred from investigating, the UN human rights office said yesterday.

UN human rights chief Zeid Ra'ad al Hussein said in a statement that the government, led by Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, had taken a "short-sighted, counterproductive, even callous" approach to the crisis, risking grave long-term repercussions for the region.

At least 86 people have been killed, according to state media, and the United Nations has estimated 27,000 members of the largely stateless Muslim Rohingya minority have fled across the border from Myanmar's Rakhine state into Bangladesh.

"The repeated dismissal of the claims of serious human rights violations as fabrications, coupled with the failure to allow our independent monitors access to the worst affected areas in northern Rakhine, is highly insulting to the victims and an abdication of the Government's obligations under international human rights law," Zeid said in the statement.

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Ocampo stood by Bangalees in '71

PRABIR BARUA CHOWDHURY

Rabindranath Tagore fondly gave her a name -- Vijaya.

Jorge Luis Borges, a key figure in 20th century Spanish literature, described her as "the quintessential Argentine woman".

World remembers writer and critic Victoria Ocampo for, among many other things, publishing *Sur* (South), the most powerful and longest-running literary magazine of her time in Latin America.

This December, we are, however, recalling the legendary Ocampo, the lynchpin of Argentinean intellectual circles, all for a different reason.

In the turbulent months of 1971 as the people in the then East Pakistan were struggling to liberate their land from Pakistani subjugation, Victoria Ocampo led and inspired Argentine and Venezuelan intelli-



gentsia to denounce the unjust war, seeking succours for war refugees.

Ocampo, who was introduced to Bengal, Bangla and our parts of the world and its culture through the prism of Tagore, her guest in Villa Miralrio back in 1924, played a significant and effective role through campaigning for Bangalees and drawing attention of the international community to the brutality of the marauding Pakistan army.

Ocampo stirred Latin American conscious alerting world leaders that the refugee crisis in Bangladesh's Liberation War was not just an internal issue, but rather a global crisis.

Tagore had been invited to Peru to attend the 100th anniversary celebrations of its independence from Spain. En route by ship,

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Haunted by war images

Covering the Liberation War
changed a journalist's life

SHAKHAWAT LITON

For the young TV journalist, it was an opportunity of a lifetime to cover the events of the Liberation War of Bangladesh.

Twenty-five-year-old Pramod Mathur did not have to think twice to accept the offer from Visnews, a British TV news agency.

He was hired by Prem Prakash, chief of Southeast Asia bureau of Visnews, as a news cameraman. It was early December in 1971 when Mathur prepared for the trip to Dhaka along with a press team.

He was trained as a news cameraman by Visnews during a course in journalism in 1968-69 but he never imagined what was waiting for him.

His trip began on December 11 when the Indian army was tightening the noose slowly but surely around its final goal, Dhaka. He accompanied the bureau chief on a flight to Kolkata from Delhi. While waiting for the next leg of their



Pramod Mathur

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3 of a family killed in road accident

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Around 10:00pm yesterday, which was a holiday, five of a family came out of their home in Cox's Bazar's Maheshkhali upazila to go to nearby Dulahazra Safari Park, having absolutely no idea about the tragedy to befall them.

After spending some time in the park, the family was going back to the home, but the human haulier they were in collided head-on with a speedy Cox's Bazar-bound bus near Segunbagan area of Chakaria upazila on the Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway around 1:00pm, killing three of them and another person.

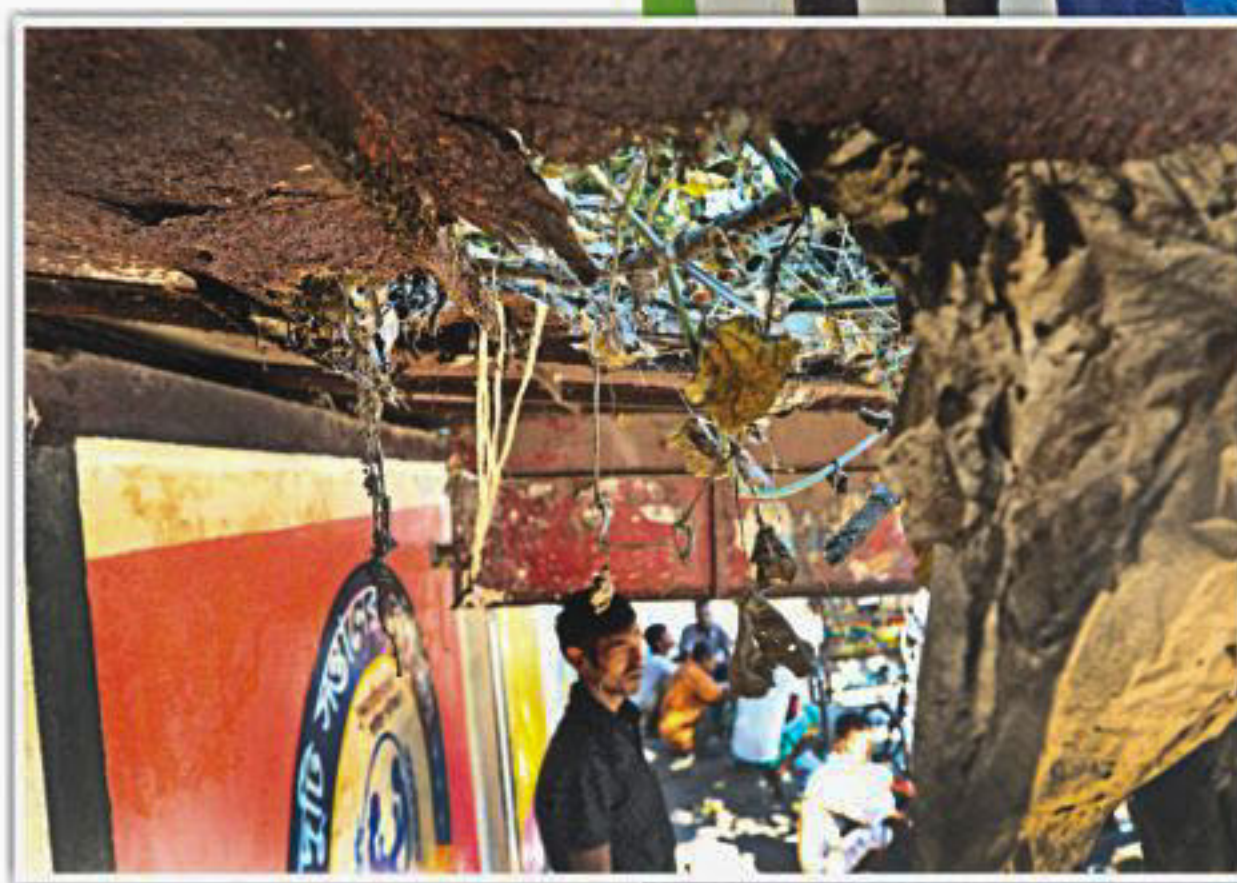
The accident left at least nine others, including the other two members of the family, injured.

All the victims were

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It is supposed to protect passengers from sun and rain. But this ramshackle passenger shed has instead become risky for people as it is apparently on the verge of collapse. The photos were taken recently.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



7-murder comes up in N'ganj polls campaign

Slain councillor Nazrul's wife
threatened, asked to quit polls

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

The councillor election in ward no-2 of Narayanganj has drawn attention of voters as the wife of slain ward councillor Nazrul Islam is running against a contestant who was primarily implicated in the sensational seven-murder case.

Selina Islam Beauty, wife of slain Narayanganj City Corporation councillor and panel mayor Nazrul Islam, is going to contest the December 22 election against Iqbal Hossain whose name was dropped from the charge sheet.

Iqbal is facing another case, according to his affidavit submitted to the Election Commission.

Seven people, including Nazrul and senior lawyer Chandan Sarkar, were abducted from Dhaka-Narayanganj link road on April 27, 2014. Later, their bodies were found floating in the Shitalakkhya.

Beauty, also the plaintiff of the seven-murder case, alleged that Siddhirganj thana

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