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WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

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GSMA STUDY

Mobile phone industry accounts for 6.2pc of Bangladesh's GDP

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BEHIND THE COUP

'Planned opposition purge' by Erdogan was catalyst for Turkey's military coup, say spies

PAGE 8

A lesson in law

Narayanganj 7-murder verdict sends out a stern message to criminals in politics, law enforcement agencies



Nur Hossain Tareque Sayeed Arif Hossain Masud Rana

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a bid to establish dominance in local politics and business, Nur Hossain, a local Awami League leader, planned to kill his archrival Nazrul Islam, panel mayor of Narayanganj City Corporation.

Nur hired Rab men to carry out the plot, as he had "good relations" with some members of the elite force in Narayanganj.

From an informant in Nur's gang, Nazrul's father-in-law Shahidul Islam came to know about the plot some 15 days before the seven-murder incident.

Nazrul and his family members then contacted an influential Narayanganj politician, who advised Nazrul to hide elsewhere for some days.

On his advice, Nazrul hid himself in an unknown location in the capital. But he had to travel to Narayanganj to appear before a court on April 27, 2014 in connection with a criminal case.

Later that day, Nazrul along with Moniruzzaman Swapan, Tajul Islam, Liton and his driver Jahangir Alam was returning to the capital in a microbus. As they reached Khan Shaheb Osman Ali Stadium at Fatullah, another microbus waylaid them. The five were abducted.

Senior lawyer of Narayanganj court Chandan Sarkar and his driver Ibrahim were also abducted and killed apparently because they witnessed the abduction.

Hearing the news of abduction, Nazrul's family members met the influential Narayanganj politician whom they had contacted earlier. The politician

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A student tries to scale a steel fence set up on a road divider while another waits for his turn on the Mayor Mohammad Hanif Flyover near the capital's Jatrabari area recently. Inset, another boy getting down from the fence with a bus approaching. Following several accidents, the authorities had built the fence to stop jaywalking. But many still continue to put their lives at risk this way.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Govt shelves plan to cut oil prices

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The historic drop in oil prices came as a blessing for the people in all the oil importing countries except Bangladesh.

The oil prices began to fall in the international market in June 2014, but the Bangladesh government slightly cut the fuel prices in April last year following demands from economists and businesses.

After that, a number of ministers, including Finance Minister AMA Muhith, on several occasions had said the prices would be lowered further.

However, Nasrul Hamid, state minister for power and energy, yesterday said the government was not slashing fuel prices as those were showing upward trend in the global market.

"We had planned to reduce fuel prices in two phases. But that is not happening as the oil price is showing upward trend in the global market," he told reporters at

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Finance Minister AMA Muhith, who is going to cross 83 years later this month, is fully energetic and engages himself in full business of the very critical ministry. During his tenures in last nine years, the country has made notable progress in socio-economic spheres. The Daily Star has taken an exclusive interview of Muhith. Please go to page B4 to read the full interview.

Target 8pc growth in next 5 years

Muhith tells The Daily Star



REJAUL KARIM BYRON and PORIMOL PALMA

Finance Minister AMA Muhith said he dreams of the country achieving 8 percent economic growth in the next five years.

"Bangladesh should never fall below 7 percent GDP growth from now onwards, for at least next five years. The target to reach 8 percent will surely

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

TALKS ON EC END President will now decide next course of action

RASHIDUL HASAN

President Abdul Hamid will decide his next course of action after scrutinising the proposals submitted by different political parties on the formation of a new Election Commission.

The president wrapped up his talks with political parties after meeting delegations from three parties at the Bangabhaban yesterday. Earlier, he held dialogues with 28 other registered political parties, including Awami League and BNP.

The president will now analyse the recommendations given by all the political parties to decide his

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Pressure mounts on Myanmar

OIC envoy seeks UN intervention to avoid Rohingya genocide; rights groups demand independent probe on 'state-sponsored attacks'

AGENCIES

Myanmar yesterday faced growing international pressure as a top Islamic body and a prominent body of rights groups separately demanded independent investigations on alleged state-sponsored attacks against Rohingya Muslims in its Rakhine state.

Asking the United Nations to intervene, Organisation of Islamic Cooperation's (OIC) Special Envoy to Myanmar Syed Hamid Albar said the crisis is no longer an internal issue but of international concern.

The conflict has left at least 86 dead and forced an estimated 66,000 people to flee into Bangladesh since it started on October 9, 2016.

The OIC pressure came as forty-one civil society organisations of Myanmar called for a "truly independent" international investigation into the situation in Rakhine, saying state-sponsored attacks against Rohingyas there have escalated in recent months.

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TOP QUOTE

"We don't want to see another genocide like in Cambodia or Rowanda...We have lessons from the past, for us to learn from and see what we can do"

OIC SPECIAL ENVOY SYED HAMID ALBAR ABOUT VIOLENCE AGAINST ROHINGYAS IN MYANMAR

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