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### **INDIA AT FULL STRENGTH**

India name a full-strength squad for the one-off Test against Bangladesh

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#### **QUEBEC ATTACK**

The shooting suspect is a Trump fan

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### JAZZ & BLUES FEST SHINES

Second evening sees big crowd, Miles Davis tribute and Danish surprise

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# Trump hits back to stop defiance

Fires acting attorney gen who refused to defend orders banning refugees; bureaucrats told to quit if they do not agree with order

Lawsuit filed in Washington state against travel ban

US diplomats circulate memo critical of immigration order

**SALLY YATES** 



AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump has fired the acting attorney general, a holdover from the Obama administration, after she ordered Justice Department attorneys not to defend his controversial immigration orders.

In a sharply worded statement, the White House called Sally Yates "weak on borders and very weak on illegal immigration" and also criticised Democrats for not yet confirming the appointment of attorney generaldesignate Jeff Sessions.

"The acting attorney general, Sally Yates, has betrayed the Department of Justice by refusing to enforce a legal order designed to protect the citizens of the United States," the White House said in a statement.

"This order was approved as to form and legality by the Department of Justice Office of Legal Counsel," it said.

"Tonight, President Trump relieved Ms Yates of her duties."

Federal prosecutor Dana Boente will serve as acting attorney general "until Senator Jeff Sessions is finally confirmed by the Senate, where he is being wrongly held up by Democrat senators for strictly political reasons," it said.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2 OBAMA, EU CHIEF SLAM TRAVEL BAN -- PAGE 8



Bent and dented and with a duct-taped plastic sheet as windscreen, this illegal battery-run three-wheeler plies between Mohammadpur and Lalbagh in the capital. The photo was taken on Monday.

## Citizenship to Rohingyas can help solve crisis

Says visiting Rakhine commission

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The visiting Rakhine commission yesterday stressed the need for granting citizenship to Rakhine Muslims and ensuring their dignity to find a lasting solution to the current crisis.

"Yes, this is the key to have a better situation there," said commission delegation leader Ghassan Salame.

He was talking to reporters after attending a discussion meeting in the capital's Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS).

Salame, a former Lebanese minister for cultural affairs and also a former special adviser to the UN secretarygeneral, said he does not think that only religious elements compelled Rohingyas to flee their motherland.

"This is not a war of religion. There are other issues," he added.

The BIISS organised the discussion following the visit of the three-member delegation to two Rohingya refugee RELATED STORIES ON PAGE 2, 3 SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

## 20 shortlisted for five EC posts

Search committee picks them from 125 names turned in by 26 parties

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

Twenty people were shortlisted yesterday for election commissioners' posts.

A search committee, formed recently for the constitution of the commission, picked them from around 125 names recommended by 26 registered political parties, which also had held talks with the president recently.

"The names were shortlisted after scrutinising the persons' background, service record, honesty, and competency," Cabinet Secretary Mohammad Shafiul Alam said yesterday. He was talking to reporters after the third panel meeting at the Supreme Court Judges' Lounge.

He, however, said the committee would not disclose the names which were shortlisted and those which had been recommended.

These fish, some weighing as much as 2kgs, are being

sold at a kitchen market in Tongi yesterday. The sellers

claim that these are hilsas caught in the Padma or the

buyers claim that these fish don't taste like hilsas and

that they are from Myanmar.

Meghna and ask for Tk 1,000-1,200 per piece. However,

Now, the panel will pick 10 names from the shortlist and submit those to the president, who, on the prime minister's advice, would appoint the chief election commissioner (CEC) and four other commissioners this month.

Apart from the names proposed by the parties, the members of the panel could themselves come up with other names on the basis of "experience".

The committee would complete the process before February 8, Alam said, adding that it would keep working after taking opinions from civil society members.

Unverified sources in the ruling Awami League said the party gave five names, including those of former principal secretary Abdul Karim, former senior secretary Monzur Hossain, former inspector general SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

TATA MOTORS

## Nature of police demand changes

They now press for more power, repeal of law on custodial death

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

Moving away from asking only for little things, police in the last three police weeks have been demanding more power and repeal of the Torture and Custodial Death (Prevention) Act, which concerned rights activists and legal experts.

Until 2014, police used to ask for things like upgrading posts, mobile phone bills, uniform allowance, medical facilities, funds for buying computers and vehicles, and residential facilities.

But in the last three years, they have been placing demands, either before the prime minister or the home minister, for mobile courts under the SPs, separate division under the home ministry to be run by police officials, and scrapping of the act.

Their focus shifted due to the government's growing dependence on police, who are often used for the government's political agenda, legal experts and rights activists said.

During the just concluded police week, the prime minister spent around five and a half hours on the opening day with the police and listened to some policemen. An

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



"We are constrained to pen our view that the enforcement agencies have shown blatant inefficiency and negligence in executing tribunal's order duly and speedily."

INT'L CRIMES TRIBUNAL-1





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PRABIR DAS