FROM PAGE 16

spondent yesterday.

removed," he said.

the moving train.

Dhaka six months ago.

FROM PAGE 16 Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed, Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan, State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid and Shipping Secretary Ashoke Madhab Roy witnessed the inauguration of unloading 65 containers from the ship.

Tofail said buyers from home and abroad would be benefited from the operation of the Pangaon container terminal. Booths of several banks, including

the state-run Sonali Bank, would be opened there for providing banking facilities to businessmen, he added. The shipping minister said the

container movement from India to Bangladesh would save time and Welcoming the arrival of the con-

tainer ship operated by Riverline

Logistics and Transport Ltd, Indian

High Commissioner to Dhaka Harsh

Vardhan Shringla in a message said:

Pangaon which is just over 20km from

"Today's event is significant as so

far the movement of ships under the

agreement was limited between sea-

Visakhapatnam. The Pangaon ICT

ment of goods to Northeastern

can also emerge as an alternative to

Ashuganj River Port for tranship-

It can also decongest the roads and

land custom stations through which

most of the bilateral trade have been

taking place now, the envoy added.

The first cargo ship under this

Chittagong to Visakhapatnam in

Scientists said that by classifying it

break up, and that it wouldn't just

be a matter of moving from a total

Zealandia as a continent is much

more than just an extra name on a

Zealand's official geological body

GNS Science wrote. "That a conti-

unfragmented makes it (useful)... in

exploring the cohesion and breakup

Finding data on the continent has

been difficult because so much of it is

invisible - the researchers said. They

"If we could pull the plug on the

have been attempting to do so for

oceans, it would be clear to every-

body that we have mountain chains

and a big, high-standing continent,"

Zealand TV station TVNZ.

lead author Nick Mortimer told New

Having the continent recognised

official body, and there is no codified

list of what continents exist. Indeed,

while most say that there is seven.

some people hold there might be four,

But recognising it as an impor-

tant part of the way that the Earth

if unofficial, step, Mortimer said.

"What we hope is that Zealandia

would be able to enter Bangladesh

He expressed his gratitude to

Sanjoy Basu, district magistrate of

the documents and arranging a

Short stories

His juvenile story books

South Dinajpur, for helping him get

morgue for preserving his mother's

writers should write more of those,'

"Chhotoder Chhoto Galpo" (short

Galpo Samagra" were much sought

after. Anisul Hoque's "Guddubabur

favourites among the children, said

Karima Aktar, a staff member of the

stall of Bishwo Shahitto Kendro to

enrich their literary palates by buying

collections of stories written by Syed

Rabindranath Tagore, Sarat Chandra

"Shreshto Bideshi Rupkatha" by

A musical contest for children was

held yesterday morning at the Bangla

On the 17th day of the book fair,

241 new books arrived, of which 32

Academy where singer Subir Nandi

Bandopadhyay and Kazi Nazrul

Hasan Hafiz and "Kishor Galpo

also selling well at Akkhar

was present as a guest.

are short story collections.

Sangkalan" by Selina Hosaain were

Mujtaba Ali, Syed Waliullah,

Chattopadhyay, Manik

Islam, among others.

Prokashni.

Booklovers were also swarming the

stories for children) and "Kishor

Chor Dhora" and "Ekjon Rakhal

Baloker Muktijuddho" were also

will appear on world maps, in

Wrong address

today with his mother's body.

schools, everywhere."

FROM PAGE 2

FROM PAGE 3

he said.

is made up would be an important,

isn't a matter of appealing to any

beneath the sea - and so mostly

list," the researchers from New

nent can be so submerged yet

of continental crust."

over 20 years.

"The scientific value of classifying

study how they are formed and

as a continent they would be able to

framework had sailed from

ports like Chittagong and

India," he said.

March last year.

FROM PAGE 16

of seven to eight.

Scientists

"For the first time a ship carrying

cargo has sailed from Kolkata to

Dhaka."

Locals took him to the DMCH with injuries to his head and limbs. His right arm and leg had to be amputated.

After months of treatment there, he was released a week ago but no one came to take him.

Helpless boy

today, Shah Alam, child development

manager at the NGO, told this corre-

shelter home on Thursday but decided

to wait for a couple of days as the

bandage on his arm was yet to be

stepfather, 12-year-old Robin left his

village in Kishoreganj and came to

to Gendaria from Kamalapur by train to

meet his friends. As he had no money to

buy tickets, he climbed the roof of the

train. At one stage, he fell off the roof of

Wanting relief from torture of his

On October 9 last year, he was going

"We would have taken him to our

Seeing The Daily Star report,

Hard to tackle

FROM PAGE 16

other vehicles to run on the streets spewing out emissions and agencies and individuals to transport and preserve construction materials in the open.

Asked about the role of CASE and Department of Environment (DoE) in containing such non-compliance, Munjurul said handing out financial penalties to those vehicles was not bringing out any results as long they were still permitted to run on roads in absence of proper enforcement of road transport fitness rules.

DoE statistics show mobile courts have fined as many as 3,000 unfit vehicles last year for polluting air. "But things would not improve

unless the unfit public transports are taken off the road." After years of indifference, a multiagency meeting recently decided to get

rid of rundown buses from the capital through a drive starting on March 1. Munjurul said punitive actions were taken against at least 100 brick kilns in the past year for gross non-compliance.

These actions range from clamping fines to cancelling licences. The CASE project director expressed deep frustration as the owners of the brick kilns did not care much about the situation and are getting away because

of their socio-political clouts. At times, they continue their business as usual even without any licence whatsoever.

Just a couple of days ago, DoE destroyed four brick kilns in Lohagara upazila of Chittagong as those were using banned "drum chimneys" and had no licence. Sensing presence of the DoE team, workers and owners of the brick

kilns fled away. Later, with support from fire service officials, the chimneys were destroyed. DoE also fined 28 brick kilns in Khagrachhari Tk 2 lakh each for operating without licence.

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society

Chairman Hafiz Ahmed Mazumder

Shah Alam said Robin would be

"We will consider sending him to

given all sorts of support at the shelter

the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the

Paralysed in Savar to get training

meant for physically challenged

assistance to the boy.

home.

people," he said.

Thursday, said DMCH staff.

According to a study conducted by him a few years ago, some 5,000 brick kilns, many of whom burn coal and firewood to produce 15 billion bricks a year, emit nearly nine million tonnes of greenhouse gases. DoE sources said over 6,000 brick kilns are in operation in the country and

over 1,200 of them are within 25km of the capital. Unofficial estimations have the number of legally and illegal-run kilns as high as 10,000 to 15,000. "Why should there be so many

unauthorised brick kilns in the country? Instead of pollutant Fixed Chimney Kiln, we need to ensure setting up of Improved Zigzag Kiln, Vertical Shaft Brick Kiln, and Hybrid Hoffmann Kiln, which are substantially cleaner, consume less energy and emit much lesser smoke," said a DoE official, wishing not to be named.

DoE officials said air is also polluted when roads are dug indiscriminately and construction work is carried out without following necessary instructions.

Munjurul said project implementation agencies, contractors and individuals must ensure that they do not transport and keep their construction materials in the open. "These materials have to be well packed inside lidded transport and should not be kept in the open".

1,000 Rohingyas

working to this end for the last couple of years.

He said some Rohingya refugees need emergency treatment, and it is not possible in this country. Besides, family members of some Rohingyas were already rehabilitated to different countries. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has selected the 1,000 refugees so that they can unite with their family members and those who need treatment get the facility.

Kubo said the UNHCR has to talk to the respective countries before rehabilitating them there. But prior to that, the agency has to take permission from Bangladesh so that it can start discussion with those countries about reha-

bilitation of Rohingya refugees. No refugees can leave Bangladesh without the government permission.

He, however, said there is a challenge and uncertainty of rehabilitating Rohingyas to other countries.

Earlier, in different times around 900 Rohingya refugees were rehabilitated to Canada, Australia and in the USA. But the Bangladesh government stopped the rehabilitation process in

According to the Bangladesh government, around 70,000 Rohingyas entered the country from Myanmar's Rakhine state in the last four months due to oppression on them. Earlier, around three lakh more Rohingyas took shelter in Bangladesh.

Kim Jong-Nam sought N Korea reform

Says Japanese author

AFP, Tokyo

The assassinated half-brother of North Korea's leader Kim Jong-Un was a courageous man who sought to reform his country, a Japanese journalist who wrote a book about him said yesterday.

Kim Jong-Nam, who was killed Monday at Kuala Lumpur's international airport, had regularly corresponded with Tokyo Shimbun senior writer Yoji Gomi. "Even if it put him in danger, he

Pyongyang through me or other added. media," Gomi told reporters. Gomi also said that Kim told him

he had never met his younger halfbrother who succeeded their father Kim Jong-Il and allegedly ordered his

assassination, sending female agents to poison him, according to South

Korea. Gomi's relationship with Kim began when he spotted him at Beijing's

total of seven hours.

international airport in 2004. They began to regularly exchange emails in 2010. Gomi also interviewed

Kim in Macau and Beijing in 2011 for a

Korea to carry out economic reforms similar to those pursued by China from the late 1970's. "He said that the only way that North Korea could survive would be to go through the series of reforms and liberalisation that China had carried out," Gomi said. "He was critical of the system that

The last contact was via an email

Gomi said that Kim wanted North

received in January 2012, just weeks

after the death of Kim's father.

wanted to tell his opinions to was in place in North Korea," Gomi | the road to the city from Shah

"He said that power should not depend on hereditary succession. That was not appropriate for a socialist society. The leader should be selected

through a democratic process." He did say, however that at their first meeting, in Macau in January 2011,

Kim was visibly nervous, sweating and fidgeting. Gomi also said he found Kim to be a polite "intellectual" with a sense of humour, unlike his reputation as a playboy gambler, though he acknowl-

edged he enjoyed drinking, especially

in Tokyo's fancy restaurants.

First polls

FROM PAGE 16 councillor in the municipality election. And 10,120 voters are expected to cast ballots.

The previous EC announced the schedule of the election in Baghaichhari on January 8.

District Election Officer Md Jamir Uddin told The Daily Star that all preparations had been taken for

holding a free and fair election. "We hope the election will be peaceful," he said.

Contacted, Sayed Tarikul Hasan, also offered medical and other superintendent of police in Rangamati, said additional police personnel were Besides, Rapid Action Battalion-10 deployed in the municipality area to donated a wheelchair to the boy on avert any untoward incident.

'Outlaw' killed

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Mofazzel Hossain, officer-in-charge of Pangsha Police Station, said they had arrested Moazzem in Ashulia in Dhaka early Thursday. Later, he was taken to Rajbari. As per Moazzem's statement,

police along with him went to Noura Bongram village to recover firearms and bullets. When the law enforcers reached

the village around 2:30am, cohorts of Moazzem opened fire. Police then retaliated, triggering the "gunfight". Moazzem was hit by bullets as he

tried to flee from police custody, the Ijaz Hossain teaches chemical police official said. engineering at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet). He was rushed to Pangsha Upazila

Health Complex where doctors declared him dead. Police claimed to have recovered a firearm and a bullet from the spot.

According to police, Moazzem was accused in several cases, including seven for murder.

In another incident, an alleged yaba trader was killed when two groups of yaba traders were reportedly exchanging fire in Kata Pahar area of Cox's Bazar Sadar upazila, reports our correspondent there.

Deceased Mostaq Ahmed alias Haji Mofiz, 25, was from Dakkhin Kalatoli area.

Acting on information that two groups of yaba traders were locked in a gun battle over establishing dominance in the area around 5:00am, a police team went to the spot and found Mostaq lying in a pool of blood, said Baktiar Uddin Chowdhury, officer-in-charge of Sadar Police Station.

Later, he was taken to Sadar Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

Police claimed to have recovered 2,800 yaba tablets, a firearm and bullets from the spot.

Mostaq stood accused in at least seven cases filed in connection with drug smuggling and possession of firearms, the OC added.

Red meat

FROM PAGE 3

"Initially, beef was on the menu, but I had to adapt due to the crisis and make changes," said Amir. In the meantime, on top of the

ongoing meat crisis, meat traders yesterday threatened to go on a nationwide strike unless their demands are met. Their demands include cancella-

tion of contract with the current lessee of the Gabtoli cattle market. Another of their demands is provi-

sion for legal import of cattle from Bhutan, India and Nepal.

"If our rightful demands are met, we'll be able to sell meat at Tk 300 per kg, as opposed to the current price of Tk 420 per kg," said Robiul Alam, secretary general of Bangladesh Meat Merchant Association (BMMA) that represents associations from the divisions.

The Ministry of Commerce and Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) have called on the leaders of Dhaka Metropolitan Meat Merchant Association (DMMMA) on Sunday to discuss their demands.

"We have been invited to the meeting on Sunday," Robiul, the BMMA secretary general told The Daily Star following a briefing at Dhaka Reporters Unity yesterday. "If our demands are not met by 15 days, we will go for a countrywide strike."

The BMMA leaders also said the strike would continue till Saturday and they would decide their next course of action after Sunday's meeting.

Quader FROM PAGE 3

behaviours. This is a different platform, he said,

adding that the Rajshahi divisional commissioner organised it, and it was a programme of the administration. "We don't need to drag the administration into politics." Quader also criticised the digital

banners the political leaders hung by Makhdum Airport. He observed that for self-

promotion, the local leaders printed the banners with big portraits of theirs, while those of Quader and other leaders like Jahangir Kabir Nanok and Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury were smaller, and those of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina the smallest.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs

Shahriar Alam and State Minister for

Divisional Commissioner-in-Charge

ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak attended

the programme, chaired by

Munir Hossain.

electronic engineering. "I like the campus a lot. The university authorities are helpful and look after us. The students are also cordial." "I have also learnt how to speak Bangla," smiled the Nepalese student.

Samsung heir arrested

FROM PAGE 16

City

In a fresh blow to the electronics giant's corporate image, a district court cited new evidence in approving the arrest warrant against vice-chairman Lee Jae-Yong, who oversees the family-run conglomerate in the absence of his ailing father.

Among other allegations, Lee is accused of paying nearly \$40 million in bribes to a confidante of President Park's to secure policy favours. "It is acknowledged that it is neces-

sary to arrest (Lee Jae-Yong) in light of a newly added criminal charge and new evidence," a court spokesman said in a statement.

Shares of many Samsung units took a hit on the Seoul stock market following the news, with the group's flagship Samsung Electronics sliding 0.4 percent. Its de-facto holdings firm, Samsung

C&T, dropped two percent and another key unit, Samsung Life Insurance, fell 1.4 percent. "We will do our best to ensure that the

truth is revealed in future court proceedings," the group said in a statement. Lee was already being held at a

detention centre after appearing in court Thursday as judges deliberated whether to issue an arrest warrant. He will remain in custody as he awaits a trial likely to begin within a few months. Prosecutors said they planned to

summon him today for further questioning, raising the prospect of Lee appearing in public in handcuffs -- a rare sight in the nation dubbed the "Republic of Samsung" due to the group's huge lobbying power. Lee, the son of Samsung group boss

Lee Kun-Hee, has been quizzed several times over his alleged role in the scandal. The 48-year-old, described as a key

suspect, narrowly avoided being formally arrested last month, after the court ruled there was insufficient evidence. But prosecutors on Tuesday made a second bid, saying they had collected

more evidence in recent weeks. His arrest, the first for a Samsung chief, will send shock waves through the group, which is a major part of the South Korean economy and includes

the world's largest smartphone maker,

"This is a blow to Samsung's image as a global player in the short term", HMC Investment Securities' analyst Greg Roh told AFP.

IBK Investment Securities' Lee Seung-Woo said that given the cloud over Lee, at a time when the firm is attempting a complicated restructuring, Samsung could refrain from pursuing long-term investments such

as overseas mergers and acquisitions. The company is already reeling from the debacle over the recall of its flagship Galaxy Note 7 device and reports have suggested it could face sanctions from overseas authorities if

Lee's father and grandfather repeatedly had close brushes with the law but

ties with Park to force local firms to "donate" nearly \$70 million to nonprofit foundations which Choi allegedly used for personal gain. Samsung was the single biggest

accused of separately giving millions of euros to Choi to bankroll her daughter's equestrian training in Germany. The court turned down prosecutors' demand for a separate arrest warrant for

the head of the Korea Equestrian scandal.

Samsung -- South Korea's biggest business group -- since his father suffered a heart attack in 2014. Prosecutors are probing whether

approval for the controversial merger of two Samsung units seen as a key step towards ensuring a smooth power transfer to Lee.

C&T and Cheil Industries was opposed by many investors who said it wilfully undervalued the former unit's shares. But the deal went through after

Samsung shareholder -- approved it.

Lee's arrest was seen as a blow to

Thursday said it would wrap up hearings on the impeachment case Friday next week, sparking expectations that it will reach a verdict around March 10.

Trump receives

were acceptable.

Samsung Electronics.

Russia was the hot topic of a lengthy

given by Trump on Thursday. The president insisted neither he

nor his campaign team had contacts with Russian officials in the run-up to last year's US election, contradicting an explosive report which he dismissed as "fake news."

the law by leaking information about the calls. Asked whether he or anyone on his staff had engaged in contacts with Russia

"No, nobody that I know of." "I have nothing to do with Russia," Trump said. "The whole Russia thing is

It was a full-throated denunciation of a bombshell New York Times report which said intercepted calls and phone records show Trump aides were in repeated contact with Russian intelligence officials well before the US election.

He stressed that the Times story centered instead on inappropriate action by US intelligence agencies, and he stepped up earlier attacks vowing to catch "low-life leakers" of potentially

"Those are criminal leaks" by people angry about Democrat Hillary Clinton's loss, Trump told reporters.

"The people that gave out the information to the press should be

The Washington Post meanwhile

reported that Flynn denied to FBI agents that he had discussed US sanctions on Russia with Moscow's ambassador.

If Flynn did discuss the sanctions, as Trump appears to believe, then the retired general could be looking at prison time because lying to the FBI is a felony, though the president defended him.

"What he did wasn't wrong," Trump

"I didn't direct him" to discuss sanctions, Trump added. "But I would have directed him because that's his job" to talk with foreign contacts.

Trump defended his political agenda and promised new executive orders regarding trade and immigra-

But most of his remarks centered on

"I would love to be able to get along with Russia," Trump said. "It would be much easier for me to be tough on Russia, but then we're not going to

The revelations about the Trump campaign and Russia have alarmed even Republican leaders, wary of the

Feinberg -- who has no national security experience -- to lead a sweeping review of

US intelligence agencies.

RU sees more int'l students

about their international fellows. "It's always a pleasure to make new friends. And if that person is from a different country, that's an added bonus. We get to learn from each other," said Nayeem Mollick Joy, a student of applied physics

some 37 applicants applied for the admission test under the 2016-17 session. Among them, 22 from Nepal, four from Somalia, one from Jordan and one from India applied for the undergraduate programmes and nine Somali students for postgraduate programmes. Of them, 25 were selected for

admission this session, they added. There are 35 seats reserved for

"I've been studying here for two years," said Jilani Ansari, a second-year

were never jailed. The scandal centres on Choi Soon-Sil, who is accused of using her close

Federation, citing his limited role in the Lee has effectively taken the helm of

Seoul's state pension fund -- a major Samsung's revenue is equivalent to

Park who is staging an uphill battle at the Constitutional Court to overturn her impeachment by parliament. The Constitutional Court on

stressed

Russia connections.

make a deal."

Trump's view on leaks has flipped since the 2016 campaign when he proclaimed "I love WikiLeaks" -- the

Clinton campaign emails. He also dismissed as a "joke" his suggestion that Russia was behind the damaging leaks.

FROM PAGE 5

and electronic engineering (APEE). According to the academic sources,

international students in each session -

students was lengthy and complex. But

and secured accommodation for the students, they have also renovated the international dormitory.

donor to the foundations. It is also

another Samsung executive, who is also

Samsung had paid Choi to secure state

The merger in 2015 of Samsung

about a fifth of the country's GDP.

FROM PAGE 16

and often rambling press conference

Trump instead accused members of US intelligence agencies of breaking

prior to the election, Trump proclaimed:

a ruse.'

"It's all fake news," Trump insisted.

classified information that led to Flynn's ouster.

ashamed of themselves."

The local students were also enthusiastic

 10 each in science and arts faculties, and five each in business and law, and five in Bangladesh studies.

student of applied physics and

we've made it simpler; that's why a good number of students are here." He said for ensuring comfortable

Lee is punished.

tion next week.

president's overtures toward Moscow. Various news reports say Trump plans to name New York billionaire Stephen

organization that published hacked

Prof Chowdhury Sarwar Jahan, said, "The quality of education at the univer-

> ties have declined." "Easy online-based admission process and friendly environment are the main reasons behind the increasing number of international students at RU," said Sub-registrar (academic section) AHM Aslam Hossain.

sity has improved a lot. We have also

introduced new departments, which

are attracting more students. On top of

that, political instability and irregulari-

"We admit the selected applicants temporarily after verifying their academic activities," he said. The names are then sent to the

education ministry who later forwards

the list to the home ministry for final

verification. The process takes more than six months. "With the home ministry's approval, students are then admitted permanently," he added. RU student adviser Prof Mizanoor Rahman said, "Previously, the admission process for the international

Contacted, pro-Vice Chancellor