



Fifth-grader Sumaya Islam washes the feet of her mother at Rabeya Adarsha Government Primary School in Moulvibazar's Kulaura upazila on the occasion of International Mother's Day yesterday. As a way to show love and respect to mothers, Hasna-Momtaz Foundation organised the programme.

# Erdogan seeks to sway Trump in crunch talks

**AFF, Istanbul**  
 Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan meets Donald Trump tomorrow in Washington for the first time as president, hoping to entice the American leader into major policy shifts to solidify a crucial but increasingly strained relationship.  
 Ties became poisoned in the last months of the Barack Obama administration by venomous disputes over US support for Kurdish fighters in Syria and the presence in the US of the Islamic preacher Fethullah Gulen whom Erdogan blames for last year's July 15 failed coup.  
 But analysts say that Erdogan faces a major struggle to convince Trump to change tack, raising the prospect of long-term tensions between the US and NATO's main Muslim member.  
 Preparations for the visit were inauspicious, with Washington announcing for the first time it would arm Syrian Kurdish fighters who Ankara considers to be terrorists.  
 Ankara initially had high expectations of the relationship between Erdogan and Trump, preferring to forget the new US leader's most radical campaign utterances and banking on a strong personal chemistry between the two men.  
 The Turkish president was hugely encouraged when Trump congratulated him on winning the April 16 referendum on enhancing his powers, an enthusiasm that contrasted with the reticence of not just EU leaders but the US State Department.  
 Burhanettin Duran, head of the pro-government SETA think tank, described the meeting with Erdogan as a "golden opportunity" for Trump to "fix his predecessor's mistakes".  
 But Erdogan will now have to untangle a web of problems, which also include the arrest in the United States of Turkish Iranian businessman Reza Zarrab and the chief executive of Halbank Mehmet Hakan Atilla on charges of helping Iran violate sanctions.  
 "I am afraid the meeting could devolve into a diatribe of complaints ranging from the YPG to Reza Zarrab to Halbank," Aaron Stein, resident senior fellow at the Atlantic Council's Rafik Hariri Center for the Middle East, told AFP.

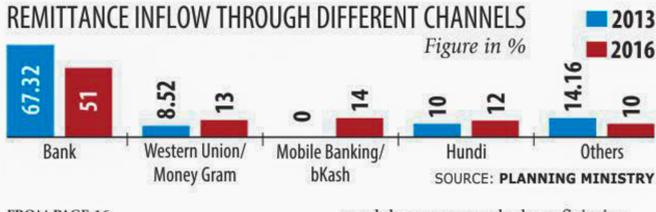
# Mohiuddin-led panel

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 the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.  
 The election was to the association group of the FBCCI, where Babosayee Oikyo Forum, the opposition panel convened by Kazi Iftaquer Hossain, president of the Bangladesh Garment Buying House Association, secured two directors' posts.  
 Earlier, in the polls to the FBCCI chamber group, Mohiuddin's panel won all 18 posts of directors unopposed.  
 Of the 1,905 voters, 1,666 cast their votes in the association group to elect the office bearers of the FBCCI. The number of voters in the chamber group was 458, an election board source said.  
 Under a neutral election board, 36 directors (18 from chamber group and 18 from association group) are elected. The 36 elected directors along with another 12 directors in the association group and 12 in the chamber group nominated by the government would elect the president and two vice-presidents on May 16.  
 The voting began at 9:00am yesterday and continued until 5:15pm without any break, said the election board source.  
 "No untoward incident happened during the election. No candidate complained about vote rigging or receiving any threats," said the election board chairman.  
 The elections used to be between two strong panels but over the last few instances one-sided elections have been the norm due to the absence of a strong opposition panel.

# Four die from electrocution in Bhola pond

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal**  
 Four people, including a woman and her son, died after being electrocuted in Uttar Jaynagar area of Bhola's Daulatkhan upazila yesterday.  
 The deceased are Sufia Begum, 40, and her son Abdur Rahman, 12, and Mohammad Fayeze, 20, and Sweety Begum.  
 Sufia and her son were having a bath in a pond near their house when an electric cable fell into the pond, said Enayet Hossain, officer-in-charge of Daulatkhan Police Station.  
 Fayeze and Sweety got electrocuted while trying to save Sufia and her son.  
 The four were rushed to Bhola Sadar Hospital where doctors declared them dead, the police official added.

# Govt moves to curb



**FROM PAGE 16**  
 bKash and hundi.  
 Banks used to channel 67.32 percent of the remittance flowing into the country in 2013, according to the survey. But it came down to 50.72 percent in 2016.  
 Mobile banking, which includes bKash, fetched 14.31 percent of the remittance last year, while it was nil in 2013.  
 Some 12.31 percent remittance was sent through the unofficial hundi channel in 2016, increased by more than two percentage point from 2013.  
 Money transfer companies such as Western Union and MoneyGram fetched 12.66 percent of the money remitted last year, which was 8.52 percent three years ago.  
 Kamal said remittance was entering the country through Western Union and bKash, which is again going to recipients through mobile financial services.  
 But this is not included in the central bank's accounts where the figures of the remittance moving through official channels are recorded.  
 "Unfortunately, the remittance which came through these channels has not been included in the central bank accounts," he observed.  
 "So, only on the basis of remittance coming through the banking channels it cannot be said that the total remittance is actually decreasing."  
 Under the planned policy, mobile financial services will notify the central bank when money enters Bangladesh through their channels. Then they will send the money to the beneficiaries.  
 The matter was discussed with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Finance Minister AMA Muhith, said the planning minister.  
 "The government is going to take two steps: first, it would recognise the money that comes through mobile financial services, and, second, the government would take alternative measures to discourage hundi.  
 The minister also talked about bKash which said no remittance had come through its channel.  
 "If bKash says this, will anybody believe?" asked Kamal. "That is not the issue though. We want bKash to do better business.  
 "We do not want to close their business; rather we will formulate regulations so that they can do business in a better way."  
 bKash CEO Kamal Quadir told The Daily Star that there was no bKash agent abroad. Some fake agents were abusing bKash name, he added.  
 "We welcome the government's policy initiative and would like to work with commercial banks to bring remittance," he noted.  
 He said bKash would work as last mile solution provider partnering with the commercial banks and distribute the remittance across the country.

# ACC has no

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 complaints, which are not related to ACC. "Among the cases we picked up last year, 70 percent were based on media reports. Of that, 37 percent were filed," he said, emphasising the role of investigative journalism with objectivity for reducing society's corruption.  
 About the risk involved in investigative journalism, Iqbal said no one in the country is free of risk and if the journalists do not take risks, it will be an injustice to the profession.  
 Journalists should not be worried thinking that she or he is in risk. The corrupt live in fear of getting exposed, he said, adding, "Their fear is your strength."  
 Journalists should dig up stories from every corner. Even if they find any corruption in ACC, they should write about that, he added.

Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul, president of a faction of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists, and Shyamal Dutt, editor of the Bangla daily Bhorer Kagoj, were also present. Justice Mamtaz Uddin Ahmed, chairman of Bangladesh Press Council, presided over the programme.  
 The speakers also thanked the media for playing a vital role in the Sunamganj haor flash flood and the Banani rape case, which prompted the authorities concerned to take action.

# Confusion over

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 independently.  
 Contacted on Saturday night, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan said they heard the news and were looking into it.  
 However, sources in the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police yesterday said Rizwan was not wanted in any of its cases.  
 The CTTC sources also questioned if Rizwan is a top militant, how he went abroad months back.  
 According to the intelligence source, Rezwan left for the UK on January 27.  
 Rizwan is a co-founder and the managing director of Lakehead Grammar School that has branches in the city's Dhanmondi, Gulshan and Banani.  
 Sources in the law enforcement agencies say some founders and teachers of the school had involvement in militancy.

# Protests against

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 "The rapists must be punished," she demanded.  
 Prof Rehman Nasir said, "Every day, we go through the news of rape in the country. But how many of the culprits are being tried or punished?"  
 Prof Sojib Kumar Gosh and Associate Prof Masum Ahmed, among others, addressed the programme.

# Two idols

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 vandalised the idols claiming that he was mentally ill, said police.  
 Ajit Shil, the caretaker of the Shibalay Temple, said, "I locked the temple at 10:00pm on Saturday and returned at 6:00am yesterday. On entering the temple premises, I saw two idols that were outside the building were vandalised. Besides, some parts of the vandalised idols were set on fire."  
 The two idols are of "Kal Bhairab" and "Nandi Keshara", he said.  
 "Nothing was stolen from inside the temple as it was locked."  
 A team of Criminal Investigation Department (CID) visited the spot yesterday around 9:30am. Bikash Sarkar, inspector (investigation) of Bandar Police Station, said they have collected evidence including fingerprints. He said police were investigating the incident.  
 The temple was established in 2005 on the property of Ajit's family. There was no security guard and close circuit camera on the premises.  
 The man who came to the temple to confess his involvement was identified as Md Sukkur, 40, said Inspector Bikash Sarkar, adding that police arrested him.  
 He had a trishul (trident) with him, which he claimed to have stolen from one of the idols, he said. He claimed that he vandalised the idols around 3:00am.  
 The inspector said Sukkur claimed that he was feeling guilty and wanted to confess.  
 "Primarily it seems that he was involved. He is a drug addict and not mentally sound. Besides, a Trishul was found in his possession. We would interrogate him to glean more information," said the inspector.  
 Chandan Talukdar, general secretary of Bangladesh Janmashtami Ujapan Parishad, protested the incident of vandalism.

# Dhaka losing

**FROM PAGE 5**  
 Culture is most neglected in the country, said Golam Kuddus, president of Sammilita Sangskritik Jote, an alliance of cultural organisations, adding that vast neighbourhoods like Uttara, Mirpur, Gulshan, Banani, and Khilgaon lacked a theatre.  
 Cultural organisations have mushroomed, but cultural activities have decreased, said Asaduzzaman Noor, minister for cultural affairs.  
 Noted educator of art history Prof Bulbon Osman, architect Khadem Ali, architect-planner Salma A Shafi, and CUS secretary Prof Nurul Islam Nazem, among others, spoke.

# 8 Bangladeshis

**FROM PAGE 16**  
 In another development, three Bangladeshi expatriates were killed and another was critically injured in a car crash in Northern State Parkway near New York city.  
 The dead are Shamsul Islam, 61, and Ataur R Dulal, 34, of Mymensingh, and Raihan Islam, 28, Bangladesh Consul General in New York Shameem Ahsan told UNB.  
 He said the injured, Al Amin Mollah, 36, of Bhairab Bazar in Kishoreganj, was admitted to Winthrop Hospital in Long Island, New York, in a critical condition.  
 Shamsul and Ataur were killed on the spot, while Raihan, who was driving the car, died at the hospital, Shameem said.  
 He said the New York Police department confirmed them about the accident on Saturday evening, and he would visit the hospital today as the authorities were not in a position to allow visitors due to a case involving the accident.  
 "I've talked to the victims' relatives. While conveying condolences on behalf of the Consulate General, we offered them possible support, including facilitating expeditious repatriation of the human remains," Shameem said.

# 2 policemen

**FROM PAGE 2**  
 also an accused in the case, took the infant with him to the court on April 30 and explained before the judge what was going on.  
 Astonished by Kashem's statement, the court summoned the IO to explain why and how he had included Rubel and Arifur in the charge sheet.  
 The IO was supposed to show up before the court on May 6 and explain hid action but instead he submitted a 10-day time petition claiming to be sick.  
 Metropolitan Magistrate Khurshid Alam on Tuesday ordered him to appear before his court on May 16.

# Top militant

**FROM PAGE 2**  
 A six-member special team headed by Additional SP of Rajshahi Sumit Chowdhury has been formed to interrogate her, said Rajshahi SP Moazzem Hossain Bhuiyan.  
 The police in the FIR described that militants exploded at least three IEDs targeting law enforcers during the raid while the Bomb Disposal Unit of police later found 11 IEDs inside the militant den.

# Santner sets up easy win

**FROM PAGE 1**  
 was up for the home side.  
 O'Brien's first ODI century came off 125 balls, with nine fours and five sixes, but the only batsmen to stay with him were Andrew Balbirnie (36) in a third-wicket stand of 86 and Gary Wilson (30) in a fifth-wicket partnership of 75.  
 Scott Kugegeijn, on his ODI debut, removed Ireland openers William Porterfield and Paul Stirling in his first three overs and returned to have Wilson caught in the covers by Ross Taylor to spark the Ireland collapse.  
 The other Blackcaps debutant, Seth Rance, finished the match with his first wicket, trapping last man Peter Chase leg before.  
 Ireland also gave a debut to off-spinning all-rounder Simi Singh, who came in for Stuart Thompson in the only change to the team that played Bangladesh in the opening game of the series on Friday.  
 Neil Broom was the star of the New Zealand innings, hitting 79 from 63 balls with nine fours and a six, to build on half centuries from Ross Taylor (52) and George Worker (50).  
 Porterfield won his second successive toss but it was New Zealand opener Luke Ronchi who got the innings off to a fast start with 37 from 26 balls, before he got a leading edge to a pull shot and was caught at point.  
 The wicket-taker was Barry McCarthy, who can surprise batsmen with his pace, and as a result he has a habit of taking early wickets. This one came from his 11th delivery and three balls later he had his second when  
 captain Tom Latham was caught behind for 15 to leave New Zealand 55 for two in the 10th over.  
 Worker and Taylor, however, were untroubled in the next 20 overs as they added 86 for the third wicket. Worker, in only his third international, was the more patient while Taylor scored at a run-a-ball.  
 Both reached their 50s, but both were out immediately afterwards, Taylor caught by the Irish captain at point and Worker, whose half-century took 88 balls, with just three fours, caught at deep mid-wicket.  
 Broom however ensured a big finish for New Zealand, who scored 130 off the last 15 overs.  
 The pick of the Ireland bowlers was Kevin O'Brien with one for 46 and although George Dockrell, the only spinner used, finished wicketless, he conceded only 42 runs.  
 Peter Chase could not continue his good early season form, going for 74 runs and taking his only wicket in the last over.  
**NEW ZEALAND:** 289 for 7 (Ronchi 37, Worker 50, Taylor 52, Broom 79; Murtagh 2-62, McCarthy 2-59)  
**IRELAND:** 238 all out in 45.3 overs (O'Brien 109, Balbirnie 36, Wilson 30; Kugegeijn 3-41, Santner 5-50)  
**Result:** New Zealand won by 51 runs.

# Baki, Disha

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 The result means that Bangladesh have already leapfrogged their previous best haul in the event -- one silver medal and a bronze in Indonesia in 2013 -- within just two days of this year's Games with a silver and a gold.

# Bawling

**FROM PAGE 16**  
 "My boy was crying from the very beginning and I felt a little bad," Tomoyo Watanabe, the mother of Zentaro, told AFP.  
 "But as I watched my baby crying, I was praying for him to grow up healthy and strong after this event."  
 The "crying sumo" is held at shrines and temples nationwide, to the delight of parents and onlookers.  
 "The cries of babies are believed to drive out demons and protect the infants from troubles," said priest Hiroyuki Negishi.  
 The ceremony is believed to date back more than 400 years.  
 The rules vary from region to region -- in some places parents want their offspring to be the first to cry, in others the first to weep is the loser.  
 In the Sagami-hara event, which has been running since 2011, the babies accompanied by parents and grandparents were first taken before a Shinto altar and purified by the priest.  
 Pairs of toddlers were then brought into the sumo ring -- where most of them were bawling even before facing off against their rival.

# Salim Osman

**FROM PAGE 1**  
 Latif High School in Narayanganj doing squats holding his ears and being humiliated in the presence of Salim went viral on the social media.  
 The management of the school forced Shyamal to resign on an unproven allegation that he had hurt "religious sentiments" of Muslims.  
 But a probe committee of education ministry found the allegation false and he was reinstated as headmaster of the school.  
 Following an HC order, a judicial inquiry was carried out into the matter which also concluded that the allegation was false.  
 It also found that Shyamal was beaten up and forced to do squats holding his ears.  
 Upon receiving the report, the HC directed the chief judicial magistrate of Narayanganj to immediately transfer the general diary lodged for public humiliation of the headmaster to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court in Dhaka.