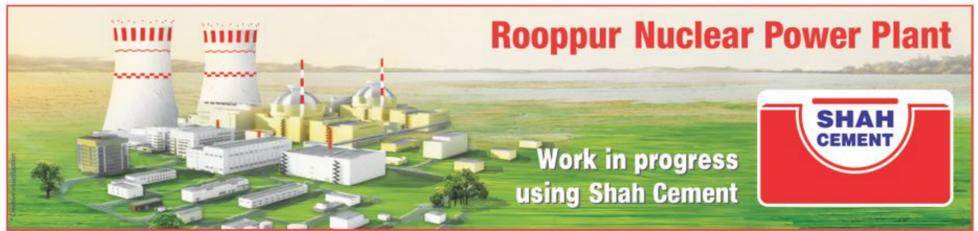




THE COLOSSUS RISES OUT OF THE MIGHTY PADMA

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Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant

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Saudi purge 'widens'

Reports say founder of one of the kingdom's biggest travel companies detained, no-fly list drawn up

REUTERS, Riyadh

An anti-corruption probe that has purged Saudi Arabian royals, ministers and businessmen appeared to be widening yesterday after the founder of one of the kingdom's biggest travel companies was reportedly detained.

The Saudi stock index was down 1.1 percent in early trade, and Al Tayar Travel plunged 10 percent in the opening minutes after the company quoted media reports as saying board member Nasser bin Aqeel al-Tayar had been held by authorities.

The company gave no details but online economic news service SABQ, which is close to the government, reported Tayar had been detained in an investigation by a new anti-corruption body headed by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

Dozens of people have been detained in the crackdown, which has consolidated Prince Mohammed's power while alarming much of the traditional business establishment. Billionaire Prince Alwaleed bin Talal, Saudi Arabia's best-known international investor, is also being held, officials said at the weekend.



Detained billionaire Prince Alwaleed bin Talal

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SAUDI PRINCE KILLED IN HELICOPTER CRASH -- PAGE 8



In the lap of his sister, an 18-month-old severely malnourished Rohingya child, Zahid Hasan, waits to see a doctor. The photo was taken at the Balukhali refugee camp in Cox's Bazar yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

NBR to award 84 families as tax icons

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

For the first time, the National Board of Revenue has recognised 84 families across the country as "Kar Bahadur Paribar" or tax icon families for paying taxes regularly for a long time.

The NBR published a list of the families last night. They would be honoured tomorrow, said NBR sources.

Among the families, 16 are from Dhaka, eight from Chittagong and the rest from other districts. No family from Rangamati and Khagrachhari was nominated for the honour.

While placing the budget for the fiscal 2017-18 in parliament, Finance Minister AMA Muhiith disclosed the government plan to recognise the families, whose members have been paying taxes for a long time, as "Tax Icon Families".

Khwaja Tajmahal's family is at the top of the "Tax Icon Families" from Dhaka, followed by ABM Shafiq Alam's family and

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Keep parliaments free from all interventions

MPs from C'wealth states urge CPA members

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Senior lawmakers from Commonwealth countries yesterday called upon the member states to keep parliaments free from all sorts of interventions to deliver the benefits of democracy to the people in the best possible way.

They said freedom should be sought every day and people's participation in the democratic process should have to be ensured through representative parliaments to promote democracy and good governance.

The parliamentarians were addressing a workshop titled "Democracy must deliver: Role of parliament in addressing the challenges" in the city's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre. The event was part of the 63rd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC).

The eight-day annual conference of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) began on November 1 with participation of about 540 MPs.

The workshop set out four recommendations for the CPA general assembly, to be held today at the same venue. Among the recommendations is making parliamentarians equipped and enabled to reach decisions on law-making.

"The principle of accountability of executive to parliament must be made a workable one. This will happen only when executive becomes completely separate from parliament. If the political executive emerges from parliament, this accountability of the executive to parliament will seriously suffer," said TN Thongdok, speaker of Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly of India.

According to him, the conflict between freedom and development is a "political conflict" and there is no fixed model for striking a balance between the two.

"The bottom line, however, is that democracy alone can deliver faster and equitable development despite challenges," he added.

Zambia's Deputy Speaker Catherine Namugala said parliamentarians must enjoy a certain level of freedom to ensure that democracy is delivered.

"Is there any country in the Commonwealth that has changed the total

ORPHANAGE GRAFT CASE SC clears way for trial of Khaleda Zia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld a High Court order that cleared the way for the Senior Special Judge's Court-5 of Dhaka to continue trial proceedings of Zia Orphanage Trust corruption case against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia.

A five-member bench of the Appellate Division of the SC headed by Justice Md Abdul Wahhab Miah, who is discharging responsibilities of the chief justice, dismissed a leave to appeal petition filed by Khaleda challenging the HC order.

There is no legal bar for the Senior Special Judge's Court-5 of Dhaka to continue trial proceedings of Zia Orphanage Trust graft case against Khaleda following the apex court order, Anti-Corruption Commission lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star.

The SC also fixed Thursday for passing order on her another petition seeking its order to allow her lawyers to further

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BANGLADESH-CHINA 1320MW PROJECT Cabinet okays 2 power plants

BSS, Dhaka

The cabinet yesterday approved the draft of a joint venture agreement between Bangladesh's Rural Power Company Ltd and Norinco International of China to build two power plants to produce 1,320 MW electricity.

The approval was given at the weekly cabinet meeting at

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Paintings by an Indian elephant auctioned off

REUTERS, Budapest

Paintings created by an Indian elephant who enjoys wielding a brush were auctioned off by a Hungarian travelling circus on Saturday.

Three of 42-year-old elephant Sandra's abstract canvases, with coloured lines flowing across them resembling rivers, fetched about 40,000 forints (\$150) each.

A painting depicting Sandra herself, done by a Hungarian painter, sold for 260,000 forints. The money will be offered to an elephant sanctuary in Malaysia.

Sandra paints with her trunk purely for pleasure, according to her owner and trainer Florian Richter, a horse acrobat and circus director.

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SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 7

	Fazr Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	5-00	12-45	3-45	5-25 7-00
JAMAAT	5-35	1-15	4-00	5-30 7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

8th Death Anniversary of **Mir Zahir Hossain**



7th November, 2017 marks the 8th Death Anniversary of **Mir Zahir Hossain** (1947-2009) former Managing Director of Mir Akhter Hossain Ltd., Mir Cement Ltd., Mir Concrete Products Ltd., Mir Real Estate Ltd., Mir Telecom Ltd. He was also the former Chairman and one of the founders of NCC Bank Ltd., former president of Bangladesh Association of Construction Industry (BACI) and general secretary of International Federation of Asian and Western Pacific Contractors' Associations (IFAWPCA).

His hard work, vision, work ethics, perseverance and philanthropic sense has set the path of establishment for Mir Group of Companies. May we all strive to achieve the standard of success that he was able to.

On this occasion we mourn his loss and we remember him at his element: an enthusiastic perfectionist in business and general people welfare. Please keep him in your prayers. May Allah bless him with eternal peace and a place in heaven.

All Members of the Mir Family



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