

THE DAILY Star ON FRIDAY

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WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

STAR WEEKEND

SILENCING DISSENT

How section 57 of the ICT Act is being abused

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RONALDO MAKES IT 5

Ronaldo equals Messi's record with his fifth Ballon d'Or

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No talks to bring BNP to polls

Says PM, rules out snap polls; rejects Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel capital



"I'm not quite clear whether the BNP chairperson was showing mercy or if she was seeking it for her attempt to kill me by launching the 2004 grenade attack. What offence have I committed that I need her pardon?"

AGENCIES

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday ruled out the possibility of any special initiative on her part to ensure BNP's participation in the next general election.

"I'm not going to pour butter in an improper saucepan... the election will not wait for the absentees," she was quoted by BSS as telling a press conference at the Gono Bhavan.

The BNP will have to decide for itself if it would run in the election, she said. "But I don't think the BNP will repeat the mistake of 2014 [of boycotting the election]."

Hasina made the remarks responding to repeated questions by journalists on the issue, when she reminded everyone of the "utter misconduct and humiliation" she faced from BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia ahead of the 2014 elections as she tried to reach out to her, only to get a cold shoulder.

Talking about US President Donald Trump's decision to recognise Jerusalem as Israel's capital, she said.

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Book binders put together textbooks for primary and secondary-level school and madrasa students in the capital's Shyampur yesterday. National Curriculum and Textbook Board is set to distribute 35.43 crore books among about 4.3 crore students on January 1.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



BASIC BANK SCAM Bacchu asked not to leave country

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission has asked former BASIC Bank chairman Sheikh Abdul Hye Bacchu not to leave the country so that his interrogation continues without any interruption.

On Wednesday, ACC investigators quizzed Bacchu in at least 10 out of 57 cases filed over the embezzlement of Tk 2,044 crore from the state-run bank.

"At one stage of the grilling, we asked him not to leave the country. We also asked him to produce...

SEE PAGE 17 COL 3

Fear grows for new uprising

Muslim world, all US allies condemn Trump's Jerusalem embassy move; clashes erupt in West Bank, Gaza; UNSC to meet today

AFP, Ramallah

US President Donald Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital sparked Palestinian protests, clashes and a call for a new intifada yesterday as fears grew of fresh bloodshed in the region.

Trump's announcement also prompted an almost universal diplomatic backlash that continued yesterday, with fresh warnings from Turkey, the European Union and Russia.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu however lavished praise on Trump, saying his name would now be associated with Jerusalem's long history and urging other countries to follow his lead.

The Israeli military deployed hundreds more troops to the occupied West Bank amid uncertainty over the fallout, while clashes between Palestinians and Israeli security forces erupted in various areas.



In a speech in Gaza City, Hamas leader Ismail Haniya called for a new intifada, or uprising.

Protests were held in West Bank cities including Ramallah, Hebron and Nablus, as well as in the Gaza Strip.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2 SEE EDITORIAL

Rivals kill 2 students in Moulvibazar

Police suspect BCL infighting behind killing; BCL claims they were not its activists

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Two students died of their injuries at Moulvibazar Sadar Hospital last evening, around half an hour after they were hacked allegedly by some rival Chhatra League men on Moulvibazar Government High School ground.

The dead, Shahbab Rahman, 23, was from Hospital Road in Moulvibazar town and Mahi Ahmed, 18, was from Durlobpur village in Moulvibazar Sadar upazila.

Shahbab was a student of Moulvibazar Government College and Mahi was an SSC candidate of the school.

Police said an altercation broke out between supporters of two BCL factions on the school ground around 7:00pm. At one stage, Shahbab and Mahi were hacked by rival Chhatra League men with sharp weapons.

SEE PAGE 17 COL 3

Stop attacks on Rohingyas

US House of Rep says in a resolution, slates ethnic cleansing in Rakhine; China reiterates its call for dialogue to resolve crisis

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The US House of Representatives has condemned the "ethnic cleansing of the Rohingyas" and passed a resolution by a two-thirds voice vote "calling for an end to the attacks" against the Muslim minority in Myanmar.

The resolution is the first step in congressional actions that could eventually include a stand-alone sanctions bill severing US military ties with Myanmar and putting financial pressure on it.

Passing the resolution on Wednesday, the House called for immediate restoration of humanitarian access to the Rakhine State where horrendous atrocities by the Myanmar military have forced over 625,000 Rohingyas to flee to Bangladesh.

"This is a moral issue and a national security issue," House Foreign Affairs Chairman Ed Royce, a Republican from California, said on the House floor.

"No one is secure when extremism and instability is growing in this part of the world."

In his statement, House Democratic Whip Steny H Hoyer said, "This slaughter must end, and our resolution ought to send a strong message to Burmese leaders that their commitment to restoring democracy will be judged by their respect for the individual rights and freedoms of all people living within Burma's borders, no matter their faith or ethnicity."

The bipartisan resolution, introduced by Democratic Congressman Joe Crowley of New York and Republican Representative Steve Chabot of Ohio,

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WITH A BAR OR A SCOOP

WITH A BEAT ON A LOOP

THROWIN' GOSSIP & FLOOP JOINING HEARTS THAT NEVER COOP

L - 1ST FLOOR
H - 76/A, R - BANANI 11
DHAKA 1213
(WE ARE OPENING ON DECEMBER 9 AT 10:00AM)

COME JOIN IN OUR LUXURY ICE CREAM PARLOR WHERE HEARTS BEAT TOGETHER

LOVELLO cafe creamery
Hearts Beat Together