

'FREE AT LAST' Palestinian teen Tamimi is released from Israel jail after 8 months PAGE 8

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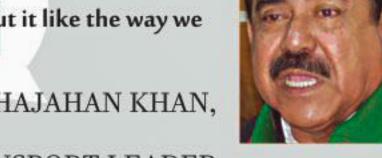
"Many bus owners recruit drivers considering relationship and recommendations of known people without properly examining their driving skill. By doing this, they [recruiters] are virtually giving them [unskilled drivers] the licence to kill."

JAHANGIR FAKIR, FATHER OF MIM



"A road crash has claimed 33 lives in India's Maharashtra; but do they talk about it like the way we

SHAJAHAN KHAN,





SHIPPING MINISTER AND TRANSPORT LEADER

RECKLESS DRIVING

takes two young lives

Bus ploughs through commuters, mostly students, waiting near ramp of Mirpur-Airport Road flyover killing 2, injuring 9; 100 vehicles vandalised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

During a mad race between two buses for passengers, one of the drivers slammed on the brakes near the ramp of the Airport Road flyover adjacent to the Armed Forces Medical College in Kurmitola.

While some people, mostly students, were about to get on the vehicle, the second bus came and ploughed into the crowd. The result: the loss of two young lives.

To the horror of passersby, two students of Shaheed Ramiz Uddin Cantonment College were killed on the spot. At least nine others were injured after being hit or run



Mim



Karim

Immediately after the incident around 12:30pm yesterday, students of the college went on a rampage, vandalising over 100 vehicles on the busy street in the capital.

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They are given licence to kill

Says grieving father, himself a bus driver

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

He has spent the last 30 years of his life at the wheel as a professional bus driver.

He believed his daughter Dia Khanam Mim would SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

AL upbeat, BNP apprehensive

CITY POLLS

Barisal, Sylhet, Rajshahi vote today

STAR REPORT

Voting in Barisal, Sylhet and Rajshahi city corporations begins this morning with all the mayoral candidates except for the ones from the Awami League casting doubts about fair polls amid arrests and harassment of their supporters.

The AL-nominated mayoral hopefuls, however, said a festive mood prevailed in the cities, and the voters would elect whoever they deem fit for the posts.

the three cities with around nine lakh voters.

It will continue till 4:00pm without any break. Voting materials were sent to all the polling stations yesterday. 1Pa A huge number of law enforcers and BGB personnel were deployed in the city corpo-

rations to maintain law and order. The elections appear to be a major chal-

lenge for both the AL and the BNP. The AL seeks to secure the mayoral posts in the three cities following its candidates' landslide victory in Khulna and Gazipur

On the other hand, the BNP wants to retain the mayoral posts in the three cities.

In the 2013 polls in Barisal, Sylhet and Rajshahi, BNPbacked candidates won all the three mayoral posts several months before the 2014 national elections.

Today's elections in the three cities have become the centre of attention in politics after Khulna and Gazipur city polls, held on May 15 and June 26, were marred by vio-Polling opens at 8:00am in 395 centres of lence and ballot stuffing.

> The polls are a challenge for the Election Commission, which drew a lot of flak over its role in the Khulna and Gazipur polls.

> BNP leaders have alleged that the AL might resort to "vote rigging" in today's elections like it did in the Khulna and Gazipur polls.

> The BNP candidates' polling agents had been driven out of all the polling centres in the two city elections, they claimed.

Days before those elections, BNP leaders

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

STAR REPORT

Two alleged drug peddlers were killed in separate incidents of "shootout" with Rapid Action Battalion in Munshiganj and Rajshahi early yesterday. In Munshiganj's Srinagar

upazila, Sohrab Hossain, a resident of the upazila and an alleged drug peddler, was killed in a "gunfight" with Rab. Mohitul Islam, a com-

pany commander of Rab-11, said Sohrab was accused in 13 cases for drugs, murder and abduction. The Rab official claimed

that the "shootout" took place when a Rab team raided Chhatrabhog area at : finally cross over into around 4:30am, after receiving information on a drug consignment hand-

Sensing Rab's presence, them. As they retaliated, spot as the others fled, claimed Mohitul, also an assistant superintendent of police, adding that two Rab · men were also injured. SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

2 more 'drug Yaba coming in peddlers' killed in 'shootouts' via new route

Smugglers bringing in the drug from Myanmar thru' Indian border with Sylhet region

DWOHA CHOWDHURY and MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

Drug dealers are now smuggling yaba from Myanmar into Bangladesh through the Indian border with three districts · in greater Sylhet using Mizoram, Meghalaya and Assam as the conduit route.

MEGHALAYA

SUNAMGANJ

SYLHET

MIZORAM C

The crazy medicine · first enters Mizoram, a northeastern state of : India, through hill roads and then makes · its way to Assam and . Meghalaya states in cars, buses or motor-· bikes.

The consignments HABIGANJO : Bangladesh mainly · through four points --: Zakiganj in Sylhet, : Madhyanagar and :Tekerghat in

the criminals opened fire at : Sunamganj and Balla in Habiganj.

Yaba dealers have recently started to take the route, Sohrab was left dead on the ; already infamous for smuggling Phensedyl, heroin and · cattle, as law enforcers stepped up vigilance at Teknaf in · Cox's Bazar, the easiest gateway of the drug, according to : peddlers and Rab and BGB officials.

Yesterday, Rab Director General Benazir Ahmed at a · programme in the capital said smugglers are carrying yaba SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

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