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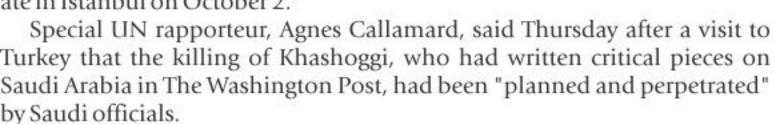
Return to KSA or face 'bullet'

Crown prince threatened the journalist, reveals NYT; UN expert says the murder 'planned, perpetrated by Saudi officials'

AFP, Washington

US lawmakers threatened Thursday to take tougher action against Saudi Arabia over the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi amid a new revelation that the kingdom's powerful crown prince spoke of going after him with a "bullet."

President Donald Trump faces a Friday deadline set by Congress to determine if Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman ordered the assassination of Khashoggi, who was strangled and dismembered after entering the kingdom's consulate in Istanbul on October 2.



Prince Salman

"Evidence collected during my mission to Turkey shows (a) prima facie case that Mr Khashoggi was the victim of a brutal and premeditated killing, planned and perpetrated by officials of the state of Saudi Arabia," Callamard said, according to a UN statement.

The New York Times, citing officials who had seen US intelligence, said that Prince Mohammed had warned in an intercepted conversation to an aide in 2017 that he would go after Khashoggi "with a bullet" if he did not return to Saudi Arabia from the United States.

US intelligence understood that the ambitious 33-year-old heir apparent was ready to kill the journalist, although he may not have literally meant to SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

IT'S NOT ON FIRE



A water bus plying the Gabtoli-Badamtoli route emits pitch black smoke, polluting environment on the way and giving rise to the question if it is properly maintained. In 2010, BIWTC initiated two waterbuses but could not attract enough passengers mainly due to a lack of landing facilities, inadequate trips and higher fares compared to buses. Four other vessels added in 2013 were no success too.

ANISUR RAHMAN

2 cops arrested for abducting three youths





Abdullah Al Mamun Moshrafigur Rahman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Two police officers, who allegedly abducted three youths from Gazipur's Kaliakair upazila for ransom, were arrested yesterday.

They are Abdullah Al Mamun of Kaliakair Police Station and Moshrafiqur Rahman of Mirzapur Police Station in Tangail. Both are assistant sub-inspectors.

The two were arrested a day after their withdrawal from respective police stations for abducting the youths and threatening them to kill in "crossfire unless they paid Tk 30 SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

Delhi renews Teesta water pledge

Dhaka seeks Indian push for Rohingya repatriation; two FMs aim to take ties to new high; 4 deals signed

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

India would work for early signing of the long-pending Teesta water sharing agreement, the country's External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj yesterday assured visiting Bangladesh Foreign Minister AK Abdul

She said this after Momen requested early resolution of the issue during the 5th meeting of the Joint Consultative Commission (JCC) between Bangladesh and India held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Bhavan in New Delhi.

A press release issued by the foreign ministry in Dhaka said Momen also sought India's cooperation in ensuring early repatriation of the hundreds of thousands Rohingya refugees, who fled Myanmar after a brutal military crackdown in 2017.



Sushma appreciated the humanitarian gesture of Bangladesh in supporting the large number of displaced people and assured Momen of India's continued support for safe, speedy and sustainable return of the refugees to Myanmar, according to SEE PAGE 12 COL 5

politics 'inappropriate' REUTERS, Bangkok Thailand's King Maha

PM bid

Vajiralongkorn yesterday called his elder sister's bid to run for prime minister in March "inappropriate" and unconstitutional, likely sinking her candidacy for a populist opposition party. Princess Ubolratana

Thailand king

'sinks' sister's

Says her entry into

Rajakanya Sirivadhana Barnavadi, 67, stunned the nation when she yesterday announced she would be the sole prime ministerial candidate for the party, which is loyal to ousted expremier Thaksin Shinawatra, in the March election.

Her candidacy instantly threatened to upend the SEE PAGE 2 COL 2 RELATED STORY ON PAGE 8

The material has the potential to create clothing for sports from running to alpine skiing, which adapts and keeps people the ideal tem-

When conditions are warm and moist, the

SEE PAGE 12 COL 2

AL picks 41 for reserved seats in JS

UNB, Dhaka

The Awami League has picked 41 woman candidates for the election to the reserved seats of the 11th parliament, which will be held on March 4. The ruling party final-

ised the contenders at a joint meeting of Awami League Parliamentary Board and its Local Government Nomination Board, held with AL President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair at the Gono Bhaban.

AL General Secretary SEE PAGE 12 COL 1



PRAYER TIMING FEBRUARY 9 Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 5-30 12-45 4-15 5-52 7-15 AMAAT 6-05 1-15 4-30 5-56 7-45 SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



The Dhaka International Trade Fair drew a huge crowd yesterday as it was the weekend and the annual show ends today. The venue at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar was teeming with visitors every day and exhibitors say they have met their marketing targets at the event.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Scientists develop fabric that can cool or heat itself



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

A new fabric created by a team of US scientists could be used to cool or warm up its wearers depending on how hot, cold or sweaty they are.

perature.

fabric allows heat to pass out, and when

RAPE OF ROHINGYA WOMEN

Myanmar sees no evidence

Submits report to UN; HRW terms the claim hollow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Myanmar has denied that its armed forces raped Rohingya women and girls in a campaign of ethnic cleansing that forced some 750,000 Rohingyas of Rakhine to flee to Bangladesh since August 2017.

"Despite repeated accusations that Myanmar Security Forces committed a campaign of rape and violence against Muslim women and girls residing in Rakhine State, there is no evidence to support these wild claims," Myanmar said in its report submitted to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on February 4.

In November 2017, the UN requested Myanmar to submit a report on the situation of women and girls from northern Rakhine State by May last year. Nearly eight months after the deadline, Myanmar government submit-

ted the report, denying the allegations. It noted that six rape cases had been filed -- all from before the 2017 operations that forced over 750,000 Rohingyas out of Myanmar to Bangladesh. "There have been no evidence and sufficient grounds to convict anyone."

Human Rights Watch termed Myanmar's denial of rape hollow and darkly risible denial to a very painful truth.

Skye Wheeler, researcher of HRW Women's Rights Division, said the overwhelming evidence compiled by HRW and other human rights organisations, the media, and the UN uncovered gruesome accounts of rape, killings, and

SEE PAGE 12 COL 1