



"Like previous administrations, Democratic and Republican, we strongly oppose such unilateral measures..."



Antony Blinken on Israel's moves to advance settlements

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GOVT PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Mid-day meals likely for all from July

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

The government is planning to introduce the school feeding programme for students of all state-run primary schools in July with the hope that it will help increase attendance and

ministry is set to complete a feasibility test for the mid-day meals project this month and will start preparing a Development Project Proposal (DPP) next month, said Farid Ahmed, secretary of the ministry. State Minister Zakir Hossen told



The livestock ministry wants to provide 250ml of UHT (ultra-high temperature) milk to each student of 50 schools from this month. It will increase the number of schools to 300 in July and add eggs too.

reduce dropouts.

The mid-day meals ensure that the children get at least 30 percent of their required daily calorie intake at school, said officials.

The primary and mass education

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

PM, president-elect call on Hamid at the Bangabhaban

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and president-elect Md Shahabuddin yesterday met incumbent President Abdul Hamid at the Bangabhaban.

Prime Minister's sister Sheikh Rehana, wife of President-elect Dr Rebecca Sultana accompanied them, Press Secretary Joyal Abedin told UNB.

On their arrival, President Abdul Hamid and his wife Rashida Khanom welcomed them with bouquets.

President Hamid congratulated Shahabuddin for being elected president of Bangladesh.

The prime minister briefed the president about the activities of the

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina congratulating president-elect Md Shahabuddin with a bouquet at the Bangabhaban in the presence of outgoing President Abdul Hamid yesterday.

PHOTO: PID



Where Showbiz meets the Internet

We are pleased to present to our readers the third of our five-part, special supplement series.

This instalment of The Daily Star's Anniversary Supplement will feature a collection of articles highlighting Bangladesh's arts and entertainment industry, and how far it has progressed since last year.

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CHILDREN WITH CANCER

A parent's worst nightmare

High cost, lack of accommodation and centralised treatment main obstacles to proper care, experts say

NILIMA JAHAN

Young parents Ringku Mia's and Shifa Akter's world had turned upside down when their four-year-old daughter Farha was diagnosed with

stage-4 cancer that originated from a tumour in her kidney. Ringku stays in the hospital corridor.



Shifa's two-year-old has also gotten ill from spending her nights on the cold floor of the hospital, while Farha herself is having to share a hospital bed with three others.

Remembering the diagnosis, Shifa said when her child had abdominal pains around four months ago, they did not initially take it seriously. However, when Farha showed signs of jaundice and continued pain, they took her

to an unfamiliar city with no relatives to turn to, Shifa, mother of three, left her eldest daughter in the care of her sister back in Habiganj, while she and

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

Bangladesh left out of US democracy summit again

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has not been invited to the Biden administration's Summit for Democracy for the second time, while its South Asian neighbours -- India, the Maldives, Nepal and Pakistan -- made it to the list of invitees this year.

Dhaka had expressed displeasure when the US State Department published the list of 110 invitees to the first democracy summit held in December 2021. However, Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen was optimistic that the Biden administration would invite Bangladesh this year.

Even, the then US South

SEE PAGE 7 COL 7

2 BCL women 'torture' female student at IU

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A student yesterday filed a complaint with the Islamic University in Kushtia accusing two Chhatra League girls of torturing her for staying in a dormitory without informing them.

The accused are Sanjida Chowdhury, vice-president of the IU Chhatra League, and Tabassum Islam, an activist of the same Chhatra League unit. Sanjida is a student of statistics and Tabassum is a student of finance and banking.

According to the complaint, on the first day of the first-year honours class for 2022-23 session on February 8, the victim started staying at the room of a resident student in Deshratna Sheikh Hasina Hall as no seat was allocated to her. At night, Tabassum in the dining room of the dormitory wanted to know who among the freshers were residing at the hall.

As the victim raised her hand, Tabassum became angry. She asked the

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BUSINESS

Govt keeps borrowing from BB, fuelling inflation risks

STORY ON B1

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CRITICAL DOCUMENTARY

Tax officials raid BBC India offices

Opposition Congress party condemns actions; ruling BJP terms the raids lawful

AFP, New Delhi

Indian tax authorities raided the BBC's New Delhi and Mumbai offices yesterday, weeks after the broadcaster aired a documentary on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's actions during deadly sectarian riots in 2002.



Press freedom in the world's biggest democracy has suffered during Modi's tenure, rights activists say, and the opposition Congress party condemned the raids, saying there was an "undeclared emergency" in the country.

A spokesman for the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) accused the broadcaster of engaging in "anti-India propaganda" but said the raids were lawful and the timing had nothing to do with the government.

"India is a country which gives an opportunity to every organisation," Gaurav Bhatia told reporters, "as long as you don't spew venom."

"If you have been following the law of the country, if you have nothing to hide why be afraid of an action that is according to the law?"

In a statement on Twitter, the broadcaster said it was "fully cooperating" with authorities.

"The Income Tax Authorities are currently at the BBC offices in New Delhi and Mumbai and we are fully cooperating," it said. "We hope to have this situation resolved as soon as possible."

Police sealed off the BBC's New Delhi office,

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

AWARDED Superbrands BANGLADESH'S CHOICE 2023-24

GREE Air Conditioner

GREE AC receives Superbrands BANGLADESH Award

Gree VRF, Chiller and Split Air Conditioner has achieved the 'Superbrands' award (a prestigious symbol of the highest success of global brands) for 2023-2024.

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