



The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION



REGD. No. DA 781 | Vol. XXIX No. 346 | Poush 21, 1426 BS | **Your Right to Know** | JAMADIUL AWAL 8, 1441 HJRI | 20 PAGES PRICE: Tk 12.00

New 'poison' in old bottles

With innovations, narco trade and smuggling unstoppable in Akhaura border area

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN and MASUK HRIDOY, back from Akhaura

October 9, 2019. Anwarpur village, Akhaura. The two correspondents went to the house of Abu Rayhan, near Hirapur High School, posing as Phensedyl users.

Rayhan agreed to sell them Phensedyl but on one condition: "You have to drink it in front of me and hand me the empty bottle."

He took the caps off the bottles using a special tool without breaking the seals. When he got distracted looking around to see if anyone was watching, these correspondents managed to pour the liquid on the ground.

"You are lucky as you got pure Phensedyl. Most of the time, these bottles are filled with

Move ahead with proper values, ideals

PM asks BCL leaders

STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday stressed on fostering Chhatra League with proper values and ideals in order for the country to get its future leaders.

While addressing the 72nd founding anniversary and reunion of the pro-Awami League student wing in Dhaka's Suhrawardy Udyan, the PM also declared the new leadership of BCL.

Al Nahean Khan Joy and Lekhak Bhattacharjee was made the president and general secretary of the organisation.

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RECOVERED IN B'BARIA		
	Jan to Sept 2019	2018
Eskuf	3,073	5,637
Phensedyl	2,136	7,813

*Units are measured in bottles

SOURCE: DISTRICT POLICE

a mixture of Indian cough medicine Eskuf, sugar syrup and energy drink," he said.

Rayhan earlier worked as an associate of drug dealers Kaptan Mia and Kajol. Police arrested Kaptan on October 5 while Kajol surrendered on October 14, according to law enforcement sources.

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Royals reach play-offs

SPORTS REPORTER

Rajshahi Royals became the second team to confirm their place in the play-offs of the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) with a six-wicket win against bottom-placed Sylhet Thunder under lights at the Sylhet International Cricket Stadium in Sylhet yesterday.

The disappointment for Sylhet Thunder continued

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Fury, tears, alarm

Thousands mourn slain Iran commander; Trump says US trying to stop, not start, a war

AGENCIES

Tens of thousands of Iraqis, many chanting "Death to America", yesterday mourned a top Iranian commander and others killed in a US drone attack that sparked fears of a regional proxy war between Washington and Tehran.

The killing of Iran's Major General Qassem Soleimani on Friday was the most dramatic escalation yet in spiralling tensions between Iran and the United States, which pledged to send thousands more troops to the region.

Iraqi political leaders and clerics attended the mass ceremony to honour 62-year-old Soleimani and the other nine victims of the pre-dawn attack on Baghdad international airport.

US President Donald Trump said he

had decided to "terminate" Iran's military mastermind to prevent an "imminent" attack on US diplomats and troops.

"We took action last night to stop a war," he insisted. "We did not take action to start a war."

But a furious Iran has vowed revenge for the killing of Soleimani, the chief architect of its military operations across the Middle East.

"The response for a military action is a military action," Iranian ambassador to the United Nations Majid Takht Ravanchi told CNN, calling the strike an "act of war".

"By whom, by when, where? That is for the future to witness."

In the hours after the strike, the US reached out to Iran, with which it has had no direct diplomatic ties for decades.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards said

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ALARMING! ROAD CRASHES IN 2019



» 51.53pc rise in crashes

» 17.75pc rise in deaths

» 50.04pc of those killed were pedestrians, 22pc drivers and helpers

» Dhaka saw the highest number of accidents, Mymensingh the highest number of deaths

» Buses, trucks and covered vans responsible for 39pc accidents, motorcycle for 19pc

FACTORS

Illiterate and unskilled drivers

Faulty vehicles and roads

Weak traffic management

Carelessness of commuters

Lack of political will

Poor enforcement of law

Year	Number of accidents	Death	Injured
2019	4,702	5,227	6,953
2018	3,103	4,439	7,425
2017	3,349	5,645	7,908



Recommendations

» Continuous media campaign to increase public awareness

» Implement govt decision to incorporate road safety issues in textbooks

» Train drivers to make them skilled

» Build dedicated roads for slow-moving vehicles

» Keep footpath useable

» Correct faults in road design

» Enforce law strictly

SOURCE: FROM ANNUAL REPORT OF NIRAPAD SARAK CHAI



Supporters of the Hashed al-Shaabi paramilitary force attend the funeral procession of Iraqi paramilitary chief Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, Iranian military commander Qassem Soleimani, and eight others in Baghdad's district of al-Jadriya, near the high-security Green Zone, yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

DU yells, 'Period not a dirty word'

Recently installed pad vending machines on campus ensure easy access to menstrual hygiene

ASHIK ABDULLAH APU

In a country where menstruation still faces myriad social, cultural and religious stigmas, which are big barriers to ensuring menstrual hygiene, a unique and much-needed initiative shines a light of hope for the women -- sanitary napkin vending machines.

Dhaka University students have taken the first step forward by installing these machines on their campus.

Ten vending machines installed at 10 different spots of the university have made menstrual hygiene more accessible and cheaper for around 12,000 female students.

Each pad costs Tk 10, which is lower than that at markets or pharmacies.

Members of Dhaka University Central Students' Union



of women don't use sanitary napkins or are too shy to even talk about it. A girl still cannot ask for a pad directly but has to ask the seller in writing.

"We have to come out of the socially moulded

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Remembering Fondly

Samson H. Chowdhury
25 September, 1925 – 5 January, 2012

Anita Chowdhury and family

