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Date with disaster

Loaded to the brim, the pick-up truck on the airport road not only exposes both men and machines to fatal accidents but also makes mockery of extant load limits.

Star photo: Sk Enamul Haq

Protests in Saudi Arabia wake up Dhaka officials

By Staff Correspondent

Protests by Bangladeshi workers in Saudi Arabia are forcing Dhaka to deal with devious recruiters who trick people out of their money with promises of lucrative jobs abroad.

Saudi Arabia has asked officials in Dhaka to investigate the practices of recruitment agencies to prevent more people from being duped.

The Welfare Association of Repatriated Bangladeshis employees held an emergency meeting on January 7 to discuss the protests in Saudi Arabia.

Khaleda urges FBCCI to act neutrally

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia yesterday urged the Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FBCCI) to act neutrally for the greater interest of the country, reports BSS.

Khaleda said this when a delegation of FBCCI led by its President Abdul Awal Mintoo called on her at her Minto Road official residence.

Law's labour lost Crooks' creativity defeats the very objective of women, children act

By Chaitanya Chandra Halder

The Special Law for Prevention of Women and Children Repression is being misused to settle personal scores and rivalry, judicial officers and legal experts say.

Manik was accused under Section 9 (c) of the Special Law on charges of 'gang-rape' of a cousin.

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Police want assault suspects to be detained for a month

By Staff Correspondent

Police prayed for a one-month detention of the two arrested, in charges of sexual assault on a lady during the New Year's celebration, officials said yesterday.

JU teachers gun for VC's office

By JU Correspondent

Teachers' politics at Jahangirnagar University (JU) has apparently taken a new turn in view of the upcoming election for a three-member panel for Vice Chancellor (VC) of the university scheduled to be held on January 22.

VC group and Pro-VC group. These two groups have now formed two different panels for the VC election.

Awami League teachers and a section of pro-BNP teachers, led by Prof Sharif Enamul Kabir, are to announce yet another panel soon.

Association (JUTA) and Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association (FBUTA).

Fearless lady catches snatcher

By Staff Correspondent

A woman risked her life to catch a mugger yesterday when an armed gang swooped on her in Mallbagh area, reports UNB.

Port users cry over congestion

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Jan 13: Chittagong port users have expressed concern at congestion situation at the port's jetties and its outer anchorage.

being provided with the privileges enjoyed by Bangladeshi vessels during congestion period, the BSAA chairman mentioned in the letter.

Munshiganj AL leader shot dead

MUNSHIGANJ, Jan 13: A ruling party leader was shot by a terrorist gang at Sipahpara in sadar thana today, reports UNB.

Police said some terrorists led by one Mostafa fired 10 shots in legs of sadar thana Awami League vice-president Abdul Bareaque Dewan on his way home after renewing licence of his gun.

Tanguar battle won

By Special Correspondent

The government has finally decided to declare the Tanguar Haor, the 9725 hectare fresh water lake in Tahirpur, Sunamganj as a Ramsar site to protect the wetland's rich biodiversity.

Last year a Blacknet Stork, fishermen farming the wetland wounded a very rare specie. A few hundred Blacknets survive in Tibet only. The migratory birds from the Himalayas use Bangladesh as a 'transit point' during their journey to and from the mountains.



Telecom tangle. Tightly tangled telephone cables at a business hub in Narayanganj poignantly speak of the state of affairs in Bangladesh. Star photo: A K M Mohsin

Shell extends Sangu drilling plan

By Staff Correspondent

Shell Bangladesh Exploration has extended its drilling programme in the Sangu gas field in the Bay of Bengal under Block 16.

A Shell press release yesterday said that during the drilling of an appraisal well, 'South Sangu-1' Shell discovered gas-bearing sandstone at a depth below 3300 metres.

The Land Ministry overrode Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF) declaration in April, proclaiming it as an Ecologically Critical Area (ECA).

The report identified the main issues of the Tanguar Haor-- the decline of fisheries production due to over-fishing, depletion of natural resources like reed lands and swamp forest, which threatened the birds like Pallas's eagle, decline in the number of migratory birds and against such backdrop, a growing threat of conflict between the local community and the leaseholder of fisheries over the question of resources.

Three Nikunja murder suspects arrested

By Staff Correspondent

Police arrested three more men yesterday in connection with Tuesday's killing of a joint secretary near Jagannath Hall on Dhaka University campus.

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5 pc duty on import of rice

BENAPOLE, Jan 13: The government has imposed a five per cent import duty on rice, reports UNB.

Police, public foil mugging attempt

Passengers of a minibus with the help of Detective Branch (DB) of police foiled a snatching attempt by the vehicle's driver and members of his staff at Palashi in the city yesterday morning.

40 shanties gutted in city

By Staff Correspondent

At least 40 shanties were gutted in a fire in the city's Shahjahanpur area yesterday.

Prayer Timings table for January 14