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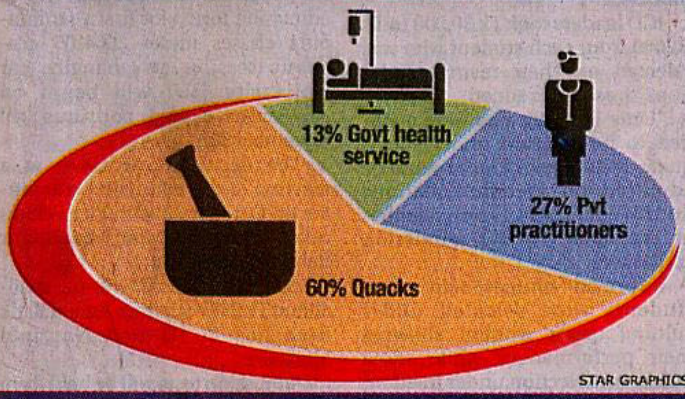
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Poor health service leads patients to quacks

Reveals survey on key health sector programme

PATIENTS' (NO) CHOICE



REJAUL KARIM BYRON

People are increasingly turning to unqualified practitioners instead of government and private doctors for treatment, marking a drift away from government health services over the last five years, says a survey on service delivery under the Health and Population Sector Programme (HPSP).

According to its startling finds, unqualified practitioners are the major providers of curative health care. Last year, as many as 60 percent of health service users preferred unqualified medical practitioners, 27 percent used private qualified practitioners and only 13

percent turned to government health services.

"If the poor want service, they (government doctors) give them a kick, but if the rich want service they give them a sofa to sit," said a respondent of the survey. The respondents said the government doctors work in private clinics more than they do in government hospitals and think all the time about private practice.

The proportion of households who rated government health and family planning services as 'good' decreased significantly from 38 percent in 1999 to 10 percent last year, says the survey. In the same

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Durga Puja ends

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The five-day Durga Puja, the biggest festival of Hindus, ended yesterday through celebration of Bijoya Dashami and the immersion of Durga idols across the country.

Hundreds of Hindu devotees joined a long Bijoya Dashami procession with idols of the deity Durga and her children--Lakshmi, Saraswati, Kartik and Ganesha--in the capital and paraded the main streets before immersing the idols in the Buriganga river.

Authorities took tight security measures to escort the procession.

Hindu community leaders CR Dutta, Nim Chandra Bhoumik and the leaders of Bangladesh Puja Ujjapan Parishad (BPUP), Bangladesh Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad, Mahanagar Sarbajaneen Puja Committee, Bangladesh Hindu Youth Welfare Foundation, and

PHOTO: STAR

Hindu devotees immerse Devi Durga idols into the Buriganga river yesterday afternoon at the end of their biggest religious festival Durga Puja.

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JS SESSION

AL to turn heat on Rab, price hike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The upcoming parliament session, scheduled for October 28, is likely to be stormy as the main opposition is poised to raise protest over issues like skyrocketed price of essentials, law and order slide and deaths in Rab custody.

The government has plans to pass the much-talked about bill regarding election in the reserved seats for women in this session.

Besides, two other bills, one pertaining to granting the World Bank immunity and the other one to bring amendments to the definition of contempt of court, are in line to be placed in the same session.

It is still uncertain whether in line with the opposition lawmakers' demand discussions on the issues would at all be allowed as Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed has hinted

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More ammo hauls in Bandarban

AK47, anti-aircraft ammunition seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) personnel seized a huge cache of arms and ammunition including anti-aircraft ammunition from a remote hilly village under Naikhangchhari upazila in Bandarban in the early hours yesterday.

The arms and ammunition include one AK47 rifle and two

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Compensation that insults the dead

1923 law, a death, points to ponder

TAWTIQUE ALI

Taka 21 thousand is what Siddiqur Rahman has received as compensation for his son's death from on-the-job injuries.

Sixteen-year-old Md Alam, while working at SR Steel Complex at Shyampur Industrial Area, was injured when molten iron spilled out of the furnace onto him on December 6, 2003.

The liquid iron, melted at an extremely high temperature of 1200

to 1500 centigrade, splashed on his head and rolled down to his back.

After clinging on to life for almost a week, Alam died on December 12.

The victim's relatives had reported the death to Shyampur Police Station before the DMCH handed over the body to them.

Later a Dhaka labour court had taken cognisance of the incident and filed a case of its own.

Dhaka's Second Labour Court

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Rail links with Dhaka snapped for 7 hours as train derailed

UNB, Narsingdi

Seven wagons of a goods train derailed at Amirganj station in Narsingdi yesterday, disrupting Dhaka-Chittagong and Dhaka-Sylhet rail links for seven hours.

Railway sources said the Chittagong bound freight train from Tejgaon went off the track at about 6:00am, blocking the routes. Rail communications resumed when a relief train from Dhaka removed the

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SUPREME COURT REOPENS TODAY

Bar postpones CJ's court boycott

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As the Supreme Court reopens today after a 50-day annual vacation, the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) has postponed Chief Justice's court boycott programme until Eid vacation following his assurance of settling the debated issue of judges' appointment.

The SCBA yesterday at a meeting, however, requested the Chief Justice (CJ) to ask the newly appointed 19

judges not to attend today's post-vacation get together of judges and lawyers and take initiative before the Eid vacation to resolve the issue.

If the newly appointed judges are present at the function, the SCBA will boycott the programme, according to the meeting's resolution, which was sent to the CJ.

The Jatiyataibadi Ainjibi Oikya Parishad, a pro-government lawyers' platform, at a meeting rejected

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NAVANA GROUP

নিশ্চই আপনারও বাড়ির একটা স্বপ্ন আছে!

আমার বাড়ির সামনে থাকবে একটা

ছোট লন - সেখানে দেখব আলোর

মাতামাতি, জানালা ঘেমে একটা

কাঁঠালচাঁপা- বৃষ্টির সময় তার সবুজ

পাতা নাচবে আমার সামনে-এসবই

স্বপ্ন সেই বহুকালের। আমার স্বপ্ন

এবার সত্যি হতে চলেছে। স্বপ্ন আর

সাধের সীমানায় নাভানা ...



আপনার স্বপ্নের
খোঁজে নাভানা'র
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২.৫, ৩, ৫
এবং
১০ কাঠা



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