

Grenade, 150 bullets found in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira
Police yesterday seized a grenade, 150 bullets, four magazines and three bayonets dug out by construction labourers from a plot behind Samrat Plaza in the town.
Police said the labourers while digging the plot of Asheq Ahmed of Gurnantali in Shyamnagar upazila found a sack that contained the ammunition.
The officer-in-charge of Kotwali Police Station said the grenade is a dud. He however said criminals might have hid them there.

MONGLA PORT

Deploy Rab to free it of Mafioso, goons

JS body asks shipping minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary body yesterday asked the home ministry to deploy Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) troops at Mongla Port to free it from Mafioso's clutch, as police could do little to slacken the grips.
At a meeting yesterday, it also

advised the shipping ministry to implement within the next 30 days a set of recommendations it made, aimed at bringing the port back to normal operation.
The Jatiya Sangsad (JS) standing committee on shipping ministry also questioned the ministry's sincerity to make the port functional.

One of the JS body's recommendations is for downsizing the port staff from over 4.5 thousand at the moment to 2,000 men.
The second seaport of the land is overburdened with a too large staff, remarked the lawmakers and
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JOURNALIST MURDER

Special drive on to net prime suspect

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Police launched a special combing operation in the city and elsewhere in Khulna division Saturday evening to nab Jamaat-e-Islami leader Shahabuddin Laskar, named by the monitoring cell of home ministry as the mastermind and financier of the murder of Dainik Sangram's Khulna bureau chief Sheikh Belaluddin.
President of ward No 23 unit of Jamaat-e-Islami, Shahabuddin has been absconding since State Minister for Home Affairs Lutfozzaman Babar directed police to arrest him after reviewing the
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Kaptai hydel plant faces water crisis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Gradual receding of water level at the country's lone hydroelectric project in Kaptai dam has resulted in minimising its contribution of electricity to the national grid in recent days.
Three out of a total of five units in the dam have remained closed due to receding of water for the past few days, bringing down the power generation to 80 to 90 megawatts (mw) while the dam is supposed to generate 230 mw daily with all its five units running.
If water continues to recede for a few more days and there is no rain, two other units will also face closure, sources said.

A minimum of 85 to 90 MSL (mean sea level) reservation of water is needed for smooth operation of the two units while the level has come down to below 80 MSL, they added.
"We can not keep the water at standard level for smooth operation of the five units. To supply water to up-land peasants, we have to face scarcity of water during the dry season", said an engineer at the office of the project manager in Kaptai.
"An agreement between the farmers and the government is needed to find a solution, striking a balance between farmers' interest and the power generation," said an official concerned.

AL wants to know source of BNP meet funds

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League (AL) General Secretary Abdul Jalil yesterday said his party wants an official accounting of the source of crores of taka that the BNP has spent on union representatives' conferences.
"We shall write a letter to the BNP inquiring by what right it has spent this huge amount of public money and bring them to trial," he said.
Jalil was speaking at a discussion on the occasion of Independence Day, organised by Jatiya Sramik League at Bangabandhu Avenue in front of the AL office.
A large portion of money spent in the name of union representatives'
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PHOTO: STAR
The ransacked room at Allama Iqbal Kashgari Hall of Dhaka Alia Madrasa is left in a mess after Islami Chhatra Shibir men attacked JCD workers yesterday.

8 hurt as JCD, Shibir clash in Alia Madrasa

DU CORRESPONDENT

At least eight activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Islami Chhatra Shibir were injured in clashes between the two organisations over a missing cellphone at Alia Madrasa in the city's Bakshibazar area early yesterday.
The Shibir men attacked the JCD activists at a room of Allama Iqbal Kashgari Hall of Dhaka Alia Madrasa leaving at least four JCD men injured. Four Shibir men were also injured in a counter attack by the JCD.
Nasir Uddin, publicity secretary of the madrasa unit JCD, was rushed to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) with serious head injuries. Three other injured JCD
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Morshed off to Islamabad to attend ACD dialogue

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan left for Pakistan yesterday to attend a two-day ministerial meeting of the Asian Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), where he will discuss plans for forming a fund to support infrastructure development and currency management in Asia.
This will be the fourth ministerial meeting since the ACD ministers first met in Cha Am, Thailand in June 2002.
ACD Ministerial Meetings provide a forum for dialogue for promotion of greater cooperation among Asian countries in trade, investment, finance, services and other specific areas.
A major plan to float a US\$ 40-50 billion fund will be discussed to outplay the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in supporting infra
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Prayer Timing		
April 4		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-40	5-15
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-21	6-24
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation