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Whirlpool advertisement featuring a woman holding a fan and a car, with text 'Beat the HEAT of Summer' and 'TRANSTEC' logo.



Nazrul's death anniversary today

The nation observes the 31st death anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam today. Various socio-cultural organisations are set to place wreaths at the poet's grave on the Dhaka

Flood inflicts Tk 10cr loss on Tangail fishery

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Fish farmers in Tangail are facing a possible financial doom as the recent flood inflicted a massive damage on their ponds and fishes in 12 upazilas of the district. Thousands of ponds in the district were inundated during the flood which washed away cultivated fishes of different species, fry, and fish eggs worth crores of taka.

Tk 1 lakh from different local NGOs, only to see his product get washed away by the flood. "Now I don't know how I will repay the loan," he said. Fish farmer Arfan Dewan of Bahimhati village under Mirzapur upazila said his cultivated fishes worth about several lakhs of taka were washed away.

pying 920 hectares of land space in 12 upazilas. The most affected upazila is the district headquarters with 1,378 water bodies damaged occupying 95.77 hectares of land, in Gopalpur 815 ponds were damaged on 65.40 hectares of land, in Bhuapur 1,111 on 150.69 hectares, in Mirzapur 212 on 34.43 hectares, in Nagarpur 508 on 78.68 hectares, in Delduar 559 on 52.74 hectares, in Sakhipur 139 on 24.37 hectares, in Basail 510 on 82.35 hectares, in Ghatail 542 on 45.96 hectares, in Dhanbari 1,000 on 55.86 hectares, in Kalihati 1,253 on 231.96 hectares, and in Madhupur upazila two water bodies on 4.45 hectares of land.



A fish farmer in Gopalpur of Tangail tries to save his stock from raging floodwaters by encircling the entire water body with nets on a bamboo structure.

Duta calls for combined efforts to restore normalcy

The Dhaka University Teachers Association (Duta) yesterday said combined effort from students, teachers and the government could bring back normalcy in the country and improve the existing situation within a short time. The Duta in a press release also urged all to act patiently in bringing normalcy back at all educational institutions, which were closed following an incident at Dhaka

Rangs Group bins DU link reports

Protesting a news item published in different newspapers on Saturday stating Rangs Group Chairman Abdur Rauf Chowdhury's involvement with the recent incidents in Dhaka University, the group said the chairman is seriously ill and has been undergoing treatment abroad for the last three months. Terminating the information in the news item imaginary, baseless, fabricated and incorrect, Amanullah Chowdhury, director

CPJ concerned at harassment of journalists

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) has expressed concern over reported assault, detention and harassment of journalists by security forces while enforcing curfew in Dhaka and five other divisional cities. The New York-based organisation in a statement on its website on Thursday said it is deeply concerned about warnings to the media from members of the military-backed interim government, which has resulted in widespread self-censorship, particularly among broadcast outlets. "Journalists must be free to report independently on the



A woman cooks meal sitting on a bed while her help washes dishes standing in ankle-deep floodwater. This house in Goshala, Sirajganj, has been inundated for three weeks.

Fresh case filed against 3 RU teachers

1,500 CU students sued. The three detained senior teachers of Rajshahi University (RU) were sued in a fresh case yesterday. The case was filed with Motihar Police Station under the emergency power rules (EPR). The state made the plaintiff of the suomoto case that mentioned "some other unnamed teachers and students" as accused.

Judicial probe body starts work tomorrow

The one-member judicial inquiry commission, formed on Saturday to investigate the August 20 untoward incident on Dhaka University campus, will start its work tomorrow. Retired High Court judge Justice Habibur Rahman Khan, who is the sole member of the commission, yesterday visited its temporary

Worthy leadership after emergency must for smooth anti-graft drive

The nation needs true leadership so that the anti-corruption drive can go on smoothly after the emergency is lifted and an elected government takes over. Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Chairman Lt Gen (rtd) Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury said yesterday. Without a worthy leadership, the benefits achieved so far through the commission's work might be lost, the ACC chief said at a monthly luncheon meeting hosted by Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) in Dhaka. Mashhud in his speech on "Efforts of ACC to make a corruption-free Bangladesh" said the independence of the anti-graft commission should not be only on paper, but it should reflect through the commission's work. The ACC boss admitted that freeing Bangladesh from corruption might not be a doable task at least for the time being. "We should

India blames militants, launches manhunt

Hyderabad bombings toll rises to 42. Indian security forces launched a manhunt yesterday for those behind twin bombings in the southern city of Hyderabad that killed 42 people, with officials pinning the blame on Islamic militants. More than 50 others were injured in the blasts late Saturday, which ripped through a packed street restaurant in this mixed Hindu-Muslim city and an outdoor amusement park auditorium where hundreds were watching a sound and light show. Federal authorities deployed

Dhaka rejects Delhi's claim of Bangladesh link

Foreign Affairs Adviser Iftakhar Ahmed Chowdhury yesterday rejected the Indian claims of a Bangladeshi link with Saturday's twin bomb blasts in the Indian city of Hyderabad, describing them as "baseless". "The allegations are baseless, I reject them," he told journalists at the foreign ministry on allegations made by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Rajasekhara Reddy earlier yesterday. Reddy in Hyderabad alleged that "all available information point towards the terrorist groups of Pakistan and Bangladesh". The adviser said he would contest Reddy's claims.

Flood death toll crosses 700

The flood-related death toll went up to 702 yesterday since July 30 this year and most of the casualties were caused by drowning in floodwaters. A number of rivers saw rise in water levels yesterday but experts do not expect more flooding in the country. A total of 619 people were drowned including eight yesterday due to the floods which inundated a huge portion of the low-lying lands of the country. Snakebites caused death to 48 people while 15 people died of respiratory tract infections (RTI) and 13 of diarrhoea. A number of water-borne diseases including diarrhoea, RTI, conjunctivitis and skin diseases also spread across the flood-hit areas as soon as the floodwater

2 lensmen hurt in fall from SC building

Treatment arranged at CMH. Two photojournalists suffered serious injuries when they fell from the corridor connecting the first floors of the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court Bar Association building yesterday. Shawkat Jamil Khan, senior photographer of The Daily Star, and Mizanur Rahman Khan, staff photographer of The Independent, were taking pictures when the lawyers were coming out of the Supreme Court following hearings of the cases in which detained Awami League President Sheikh Hasina is accused. Jamil was admitted to LabAid

Australian pvt airline chosen for hajj trips

Biman Bangladesh Airlines Limited yesterday selected Australia-based Ausban Aeronautical Services for carrying hajj pilgrims this year. The Board of Directors of Biman approved the selection that will end an uncertainty over carrying of hajj pilgrims, sources said.

Sharif won't be allowed to return home

Says Musharraf. PTI, Islamabad. Refusing to abide by the recent Supreme Court judgement, President Pervez Musharraf said that exiled former prime minister Nawaz Sharif would not be allowed to return to Pakistan to take part in the general elections slated for later this year. "The government will neither allow the Sharif brothers to come back nor would they be given a free hand if they chose to return. If Nawaz Sharif is not honouring his 'exile' deal, the government will put him behind bars or send him back to Saudi Arabia," The News

Ex-Jamaat MP's SUV seized

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) seized a luxurious sport utility vehicle (SUV) worth around Tk 2 crore of former Jamaat lawmaker Shahjahan Chowdhury of Chittagong in the early hours yesterday. The ACC's Chittagong office seized the SUV, Range Rover V8, manufactured by UK-based Land Rover, from a service centre of Pacific Motors Ltd in Dhaka. Sources said Shahjahan, the former lawmaker from Chittagong-14 constituency, imported the 4398cc vehicle at Tk 50 lakh under the duty-free facility offered to the lawmakers. The price would be around Tk 2 crore if 300 percent import duty is imposed as per the rule, sources added. Shahjahan did not include the SUV in his wealth statement submitted to the ACC, Chittagong on February 20.



The Anti-Corruption Commission seizes a luxurious vehicle of former Jamaat-e-Islami MP Shahjahan Chowdhury from a service centre in Dhaka yesterday. The SUV was imported under the duty-free privilege for the lawmakers.

Sylhet courts start recording depositions of witnesses

The Sylhet courts dealing with the two cases filed in connection with the 2004 grenade attack on British High Commissioner Anwar Chowdhury started recording statements of prosecution witnesses yesterday. Speedy Trial Tribunal Judge Diproman Sarker and Additional District and Sessions Judge Ferdous Ahmed yesterday recorded the deposition of Nayek Shamsuzzaman, who was on duty with other policemen on the day of the incident, in the murder case and in the case filed under the Explosive Substances Act. The deposition of some other

Prayer Timing August 27 table with columns for Azan and Jamaat and rows for Fajr, Zohr, Asr, Maghrib, Esha.