

Special discount for Picnic party

Just dial
01912256723
and get
the products at your step

The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

76 pages Plus Star Campus

Real Flat TV (21PT 5007)
PHILIPS
sense and simplicity
TRANSCOM ELECTRONICS 8855388-8, 01712-866483

REGD. NO. DA 781

Vol. XVIII No. 34

DHAKA SUNDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2008

COMMITTED TO
People's Right to Know

www.thedailystar.net

FALGUN 5, 1414 BS

SAFAR 9, 1429 HIJRI

76 PAGES PLUS STAR CAMPUS PRICE: Tk 10.00

Satkhira grenades similar to ones used on Aug 21

SHARIFUL ISLAM

The 41 grenades seized in Satkhira on Friday night are identical to those used in the August 21 blasts at an Awami League (AL) rally in 2004.

Like the ones detonated to cause August 21 carnage, these too are of Arges brand and were supplied by Moulana Tajuddin, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) officials said yesterday.

Tajuddin is brother of former deputy minister and BNP leader Abdus Salam Pintu, who is now detained in a case filed for the blasts that left 24 AL leaders and workers killed and scores injured.

"The grenades recovered from Satkhira are similar in every detail with those used in the August 21

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

The 41 grenades recovered at Shimulia of Satkhira are displayed at the Rapid Action Battalion headquarters in the capital yesterday. The two persons arrested in this connection are also seen along with Rab personnel.

PHOTO: STAR



BIRD FLU

1.65 lakh fowls culling begins in city farm

STAR REPORT

The culling of some 1.65 lakh chickens at a poultry farm at Badda in the capital began yesterday after the detection of deadly avian influenza virus, which the officials say is the biggest ever culling in the country so far.

Meanwhile, reports from bird flu control room and our correspondents said 13,780 chickens

and other fowls were culled in Narsingdi, Shariatpur, Narayanganj and Jhenidah over the last two days.

The staffs at Omega Poultry Farm Limited at Beraid in Badda first suspected bird flu infection on February 10 when 20 chickens at the farm died suddenly.

"It alarmed us all because, usually, no more than one or two chickens die a day. And the number

of deaths doubled a couple of days later," Alif Ahmed Khan, chairman of the farm, told The Daily Star.

Suspending egg collection and chicken sale, staffs of the farm sent samples to livestock office for test last Wednesday.

The test at Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute the next day found the presence of deadly H5N1 virus of bird flu and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

IOJ reveals list of 'war criminals'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A faction of Islami Oikya Jote (IOJ) yesterday disclosed a list consisting names of 15 'war criminals', including Jamaat-e-Islami chief Matiur Rahman Nizami, who directly took part in the mass killings during the Liberation War.

Secretary to food and disaster management ministry is also

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

NATIONAL GOVT Pro-Saifur faction of BNP sits with parties

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN and RASHIDUL HASAN

Pro-Saifur faction of BNP and some other political parties on Friday started a discussion among themselves on forming a new political alliance to win the upcoming election.

According to sources, Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and Hafiz Uddin Ahmed of pro-Saifur faction of BNP, Anisul Islam Mahmud and Ziauddin Bablu of Ershad-led Jatiyo Party, Gonoforum leader

Pankaj Bhattacharya, Maj (ret'd) Abdul Mannan of Bikalpadhara, Anwarul Kabir Talukder and Kabir Hossain of Liberal Democratic Party, and a leader of Progressive Democratic Party (PDP) met secretly in the residence of a former BNP lawmaker in Gulshan area of the capital on Friday night.

In the exclusive meeting the leaders of political parties agreed in principle to form a new progressive, patriotic, nationalist alliance of parties to win the upcoming

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Suicide attack kills 37 as Pak polls campaign ends

AFP, Parachinar

A suicide car bomber struck a rally by slain Pakistani politician Benazir Bhutto's party yesterday, killing 37 people and increasing security fears with just two days until elections.

The blast in the northwestern tribal town of Parachinar bordering Afghanistan came on the final day of campaigning for Monday's polls and was the bloodiest in a series of attacks since Bhutto's murder in

December.

Security concerns over the elections have combined with allegations of widespread rigging to suck the life out of electioneering, widely seen as decisive for the future of key US ally President Pervez Musharraf.

"It was a suicide attack, there were people outside the candidate's house and they were waiting for food when this man attacked," interior minister Hamid Nawaz told AFP.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Sulphur-rich imported coal polluting air

JASIM UDDIN KHAN

The import of substandard Indian coal is being sanctioned by the government even though the polluting fossil fuel exceeds the sulphur level set by the government itself.

Overlooking the negative impact it has on the environment and ignoring the import policy that does not approve coal containing over 1 percent sulphur, the government has repeatedly suspended the import restriction

on coal that does not comply with the country's standards.

The government in an inter-ministerial meeting held at commerce ministry recently has once again suspended the restriction till June 30, 2008. This is the eighth time the government suspended the restriction on coal that contains over 1 percent sulphur.

This suspension in fact gives Indian coal exporters, mostly from Meghalaya, a commanding lead over other coal producers

across the globe. As a result, the country is being flooded with the cheap and environmentally hazardous Indian coal, observed industry experts.

Brick manufacturing and steel re-rolling plants in the country use around 7 million tonnes of coal annually, said industry sources.

The experts said even though the country has the potential to meet internal demands from several coalmines including

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Dhaka slates cartoon on Prophet in Danish paper

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh yesterday condemned the re-publication of cartoons of Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) by some Danish

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Announcement

Today's 76-page edition of The Daily Star includes a 52-page second instalment titled 'Towards a middle-income Bangladesh' of the three-part special supplement on the 17th anniversary of the daily.

We Fly For You
ROYAL BENGAL

SPECIAL FARES
DHAKA-CHITTAGONG
Tk. 3520
Inc. Tax

DHAKA-SYLHET
Tk. 3175
Inc. Tax

OUR SCHEDULE, up to 20 Feb 2008

Dhaka-Chittagong					Chittagong-Dhaka				
Flight No.	Days	Departure	Arrival		Flight No.	Days	Departure	Arrival	
4A 301	Daily	0830	0920		4A 302	Daily	0945	1035	
4A 303	Daily	1800	1850		4A 304	Daily	1915	2005	

Dhaka-Sylhet					Sylhet-Dhaka				
Flight No.	Days	Departure	Arrival		Flight No.	Days	Departure	Arrival	
4A 401	Daily	1100	1145		4A 402	Daily	1210	1255	

AVIANA AIRWAYS LTD.
FOR RESERVATIONS: 9882211, 9881122

Dhaka City Office: House # 56/C, Road # 132, (1st Floor), Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212, Tel: 9881122, 9882211
Chittagong City Office: Ayub Trade Centre (2nd Floor) 1269/B, Sk Mujib Road, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong-4100, Tel: 031-2514202
Sylhet City Office: Royal Bengal, House # 10, Lichu Bagan, Mojumdan, Sylhet, Tel: 0821-2831001, 0821-2831002
Visit our web site: www.flyroyalbengal.com

“বিদেশে চাকুরী নিয়ে যাচ্ছেন”
টাকা নিয়ে ভাবনা কিসের
আপনার জন্য রয়েছে আমাদের
ওভারসিজ এমপ্লয়মেন্ট লোন

বিদেশে চাকুরী নিয়ে যাওয়ার সময় অর্থের জন্য আর জমি/বাড়ী বিক্রি অথবা মহাজনের কাছে বন্ধক রেখে চড়া সুদে টাকা ধার নেবার প্রয়োজন নেই। এখন আপনার জন্য আছে সহজ শর্তে মার্কেটাইল ব্যাংকের “ওভারসিজ এমপ্লয়মেন্ট লোন”। বিদেশে জনশক্তি রপ্তানিতে মার্কেটাইল ব্যাংক- এর একটি বলিষ্ঠ উদ্যোগ। আমরা আছি আপনার পাশে।

বিস্তারিত জানতে হলে মার্কেটাইল ব্যাংকের যে কোন শাখায় যোগাযোগ করুন।

মার্কেটাইল ব্যাংক
Mercantile Bank Limited
দক্ষতাই আমাদের শক্তি

প্রধান কার্যালয়: ৬১, দিলকুশা বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০ ফোন: ৯৫৫৯৩৩৩, ফ্যাক্স: ৮৮০-৯৫৬১২১৩, www.mblbd.com

Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited
YOUR TRUSTED PARTNER

FIRST SECURITY BANK LIMITED

AGREEMENT FOR SHARING ATM/POS NETWORK & CARD PERSONALIZATION SERVICES

DBBL Extends Following Services To FSBL:

- ATM/POS Network sharing
- Card Personalization Services
Encoding and embossing
PIN generation and printing of PIN mailer
- Transaction Pre-Authorization Services through DBBL Switch

We look to further strengthening our partnership in the future