



We avail 56 flights (weekly)
for outbound shipments.

FedEx
Express
Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.
Licensee of Federal Express Corporation
Every Package Matters

Call: 9565114 (24-hour Call Center)

TRANSTEC®
Refrigerator & Freezer



Sadar Road, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206

RU students unhappy at acquittal of Salehi

RU CORRESPONDENT

Different student organisations of Rajshahi University (RU) expressed discontent at the judgment into the Prof Taher murder case and rejected the verdict that acquitted the "main" killer of the RU teacher.

Only leaders and activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir rejoiced at the acquittal of Mahbubul Alam Salehi, former president of RU Shibir and also suspected to be one of the masterminds behind the gruesome killing of RU geology and mining department professor Taher Ahmed.

A Rajshahi Speedy Trial Tribunal on Thursday sentenced to death four persons, including RU teacher Dr Mia Mohammad Mohiuddin, for killing Prof Taher and acquitted two.

The RU unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday rejected the judgment and demanded immediate reinvestigation into the case.

BCL RU unit President Ibrahim
SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

THURSDAY'S INCIDENT 8 'outsiders' held at Sholoshahar

CU CORRESPONDENT

Police have arrested eight 'outsiders' for their alleged involvement in Thursday's incident at Sholoshahar Railway Station.

The law enforcers raided the Sholoshahar area Thursday night following a case filed with Panchlaish Police Station by Mohammad Chan Mia, a shop owner at the railway station, and arrested the eight.

The identities of the arrestees could not be known.

Another two cases were also filed with Panchlaish Police Station and Government Railway Police (GRP), Chittagong, on the day.

Meanwhile, Chittagong University (CU) authorities yesterday suspended all classes of the university for three days from today.

The decision was taken at an emergency meeting of the CU syndicate in the evening as the railway authorities expressed their inability to restore shuttle train service before repairing the damaged tracks and signals.

The railway authorities said they will do their best to restore shuttle train service by Monday next.

CU Proctor Prof Jasim Uddin.
SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Nor'wester lashes Chandpur, boy killed, 10 hurt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur

A nor'wester lashed East Sahadepur union under Kochua upazila of the district Thursday night, killing a boy and injuring 10 others.

Victim Nabir Hossain, 5, son of Swapan Mia of Bhuiyan village, was killed when a big tree fell on their house at around 7:30 pm. Most family member of Swapan Mia were injured in the incident.

Nabir was rushed to Kochua Health Complex where the doctors declared him dead later at night.

Hundreds of trees were toppled and at least 20 houses were destroyed during the storm.

MOVE TO INCREASE REVENUE

City, municipal bodies to charge annual fees from pvt institutions

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The caretaker government has made new laws empowering city corporations and municipalities to collect annual fees from private hospitals, paramedical institutes, tutorial schools, and coaching centres set up within their jurisdictions.

From now on, such private institutions will have to be registered with respective city corporations and municipalities by paying certain amounts of fees to run their businesses.

Private institutions that are already registered will have to re-register under the new laws.

President Iajuddin Ahmed on

May 14 promulgated two ordinances on formations and functions of city corporations and municipalities with the new provisions aimed at widening the tax nets of the two tiers of local government system, in an effort to increase their revenue earnings.

According to the new provisions, city corporations and municipalities now may order the huge number of private hospitals, paramedical institutes, tutorial schools, and coaching centres, already established within their jurisdiction, for re-registration in exchange for certain amounts of fees.

"Without getting registered, none of the organisations can run

its business within the area of jurisdiction of respective local governments," the new laws on city corporations and municipalities stipulate.

According to the laws, business organisations must renew their registrations annually by paying stipulated fees to respective city corporations or municipalities. The laws also contain provisions for punishing business organisations if they run their businesses without registrations, and if they dodge annual tax payments.

"If an individual establishes a tutorial school, a coaching centre, a private hospital or a paramedical institute without getting registered

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

SCBs plan 3 special increments, to up retirement age

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Four state-owned commercial banks (SCBs) plan to give three special increments to their staffs before implementation of a separate pay scale, and increase retirement age to 60 from 57.

Chief executives of these banks at a meeting recently decided to forward a proposal to the boards of directors of the SCBs for approval.

The meeting also decided to

form an asset management company and formulate service rules, 2008, as part of efforts to improve standard of services of the banks.

The SCBs that have become public limited banks recently are now working out new strategies to compete with other private commercial banks as part of their reform process.

Executives of these banks decided that the banks would go for reforms on their own, but at

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Abducted trader freed in Rajshahi

UNB, Rajshahi

A mango trader, kidnapped here Thursday evening, was rescued by BDR personnel at Muktarpur in Charghat upazila yesterday morning.

BDR sources said a gang of criminals picked up mango trader Rafiqul Islam of Dholaipar in Dhaka from Joypur in Charghat upazila while he was going to a mango orchard in Yusufpur area of the upazila.

They took him to a place at gunpoint and demanded Tk 2 lakh from his family over phone for his release.

As the kidnappers were taking Rafiqul to another place near the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



A student signs on a register at a mass signature collection booth at TSC of Dhaka University yesterday. World Peace and Cultural Federation set up the booth as part of its campaign against corruption.

Myanmar to allow all aid workers: UN chief

AFP, Naypyidaw

Myanmar's junta leader yesterday agreed to allow access to all foreign aid workers to help with the relief operation after Cyclone Nargis, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said.

Ban made the announcement after more than two hours of talks with Senior General Than Shwe, the reclusive leader of the country's military regime whose refusal to let them in has set off international outrage.

The decision could ease a three-

week standoff since the cyclone tore into Myanmar on May 2-3, leaving at least 133,000 people dead or missing and around 2.5 million more in need of immediate aid.

International aid groups reacted cautiously, stressing that they would need full access to the devastated Irrawaddy Delta hit hardest in the disaster -- something the United Nations said was believed to be the agreement.

"He has agreed to allow all aid workers regardless of nationalities," Ban told reporters in the

remote new capital Naypyidaw following closed-door talks with Than Shwe, who heads one of the world's poorest and most isolated nations.

Asked if this was a breakthrough, Ban said: "Yes, I think so." There was no immediate confirmation from Myanmar. But a senior UN official who attended the meeting said Than Shwe had accepted access to the delta.

"The general said he saw no reason why that should not happen ... as long as they were genuine

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

1 killed, 20 hurt as Bandarban villagers clash

UNB, Bandarban

One person was killed and 20 others were injured in a clash between two groups of villagers at Muslim Para under Lama upazila of the district yesterday.

Police said both the groups, equipped with lethal weapons, clashed over felling of trees at the village at noon, leaving a villager named Rahmat Ali dead and 20 others injured.

On information, police went to the spot, brought the situation under control and arrested three

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



Seasonal fruits, especially jackfruits, are in good supply in Chittagong Hill Tracts districts. The photo was taken yesterday at Khagrachhari Bazar.

Blow for Brown as opposition wins British by-polls

AFP, London

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown suffered another severe blow to his authority Friday as his Labour Party saw the Conservatives seize a seat it has held for two decades in a by-election.

Just three weeks after trouncing Labour in local elections, the Tories recorded their first by-election victory since 1982 to win control of the Crewe and Nantwich constituency in northwest England.

The extent of the victory was far greater than expected, with the centre-right party's candidate Edward Timpson receiving 19 percent more votes than Labour's Tamsin Dunwoody, whose late mother had held the seat.

The winning margin represented a swing from the last election in 2005 of nearly 18 percent.

Conservative leader David Cameron hailed the victory as "the end of New Labour", the term given to the revamped centre-left party under the stewardship of Brown's predecessor Tony Blair as he took it into office in 1997.

"Just like in the local elections, just like in the London mayoralty election, thousands of people came to vote for the Conservative Party for the first time," he added.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Govt working to update national forest policy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is working to update the national forest policy and amend age-old forest laws to properly equip the forest wing for conservation and extension of the country's woodland.

The changes in the policy and laws will also reduce instances of people being harassed while selling their trees, Raja Debashis Roy, special assistant to the chief adviser on environment and forest issues, yesterday said.

"The government will update the national forest policy and amend and modify the existing forest laws as these have become very necessary," Devasish said during a press conference at the

Press Information Department yesterday, a day before Tree Plantation Campaign and Tree Fair, 2008 kicks off.

Discussions will be held at public domains in a couple of months to get people's opinion in this regard before finalising the policy and the laws.

"The process of receiving permission for selling trees is complicated and there were instances of corruption," the special assistant said pointing out the need to change the provisions.

He stressed the need for institutional reform in the forest department. "We are working on these issues and we hope the future governments will carry these forward."

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

'Save CHT forest, stop evicting hill people'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Environmentalists yesterday called on the government to stop the encroachment of forest land in the name of industrialisation.

They during a press conference yesterday also demanded that the indigenous people's land rights be established through an effective land commission in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) and the proper implementation of the CHT peace treaty.

Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) organised the conference styled "Forests endangered, indigenous people tortured in the name of development" at Dhaka Reporters Unity to describe the current situation of the forests in

danger. Speaking at the conference, Bapa President Prof Muzaffer Ahmad said forests are our national assets and the indigenous people have been conserving the forests for decades but these forests are now on the verge of destruction.

He also said the forests and rivers of the country are being ruined in the name of industrialisation. This is polluting the environment and causing severe natural disasters.

"Development should be human and environment friendly but some non-government and business organisations ignoring facts are destroying our common properties and are also evicting

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Prayer Timing		
May 24		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-40	6-45
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

tutor in your pocket

The Daily Star Classifieds
On Mobile or Computer
cellbazaar.com
Help: 01713238381-5

City IT 2008
COMPUTER FAIR

May 24-30
9 am - 7 pm

BCS COMPUTER CITY
IDB BHABAN, DHAKA

Sponsored by: LITEON, Transcend, ASUS

Media Partner: B.D. TV, ইন্ডেক্স

The Daily Star Coming out tomorrow - Star Campus

Linking Young Minds Together

The Daily Star offers campus based weekly magazine 'Star Campus' - the ultimate magazine for the young generation - a common platform for the college and university students and academicians - to share their ideas, thoughts, dreams, opinions and views.

Star Campus is an endeavour to bring into the center stage the visionary aspects of our college and university students, alongside their lifestyle, cultural trends and their multidimensional talents.

Star Campus is a magazine broadly based on campus life! It contains articles, academic news, achievements, travelogues, interviews, book reviews, quiz, milestones, academic tips, profiles of educational institutes, cultural and extra-curricular activities in campus, jokes, cartoons, photographs and much more. This is a magazine Of the Students, By the Students and For the Students.

Star Campus helps link young minds together.

All Asians 2008 Clash of the Titans