



Access. At FedEx, we believe you should have fast easy access to global business opportunities. With a worldwide delivery network, including 280,000 team members in over 220 countries and territories, we are committed to providing you with the best shipping experience possible - from the moment we answer your call to the moment we deliver to your customer.

To see how FedEx will work behind the scenes to help your company access the opportunities of the global market, visit experience.fedex.com or call 9565114.

FedEx
Express
Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.
Behind a great experience



Turn up your experience with extreme entertainment

- LCD full HD display, 1920 x 1080p
- Pixel Plus
- Dynamic contrast
- Virtual Surround Sound
- Smart Picture and Smart Sound
- 1000 page Hypertext
- Dual HDMI input
- Brightness: 450cd/m²
- Contrast: 1000:1

Category : LCD HD TV
Model No. : 37PFL7482
42PFL7482
47PFL7482

PHILIPS
sense and simplicity

TRANSFORM ELECTRONICS

Quality science education a must for prosperity

Scientists, educationists tell The Daily Star roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country has no alternative to using science education as a tool for improving the living standards of the people and for dealing with the economic and environmental challenges it faces, experts said.

Alarmed at the decline of the quality of science education and student enrolment for it, key scientists and educationists of the country yesterday stressed the need for sensitising the government to allocating a larger budget for the

sector to enhance teachers' capacities and update the curricula.

Science textbooks need to be simplified, teachers' salaries need to be raised, and science graduates need to be motivated to become teachers, said speakers at a roundtable titled 'State of Science Education in Bangladesh', jointly organised by The Daily Star and Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS), which was held in the conference room of the newspaper office in the capital.

The speakers also suggested

introducing a terrestrial television channel dedicated to broadcasting educational programmes, saying the move will help both teachers and students by reducing the latter's dependence on private coaching centres.

BAS President Prof M Shamsher Ali, who is also a renowned educationist, chaired the event where four keynote papers on related topics were presented.

Scientists at the discussion identified weak curriculum and textbooks, weak teaching and

assessment methods, lack of properly trained teachers and laboratory facilities, poor salaries of the teachers, and students' sliding interest as some of the main reasons for qualitative and quantitative decline of science education.

They underscored the need for recruiting quality teachers and building capacities of the existing ones through tele-education using ICT based materials, for resuming the government's stalled PhD programmes, and for organising

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

2 killed in 'shootouts'

STAR REPORT

A drug and arms peddler and a robber were killed in "shootouts" with the law enforcers in Jhenidah and Comilla districts Friday night and early yesterday.

The dead were identified as Bidhan Kumar Paramanik, 26, son of Sadhan Kumar Paramanik of Purandapur village in Mohehpur upazila of Jhenidah, and Ali Ahmed of Chandina upazila of Comilla.

Officer-in-charge of Mohehpur Police Station told our correspondent that the gunfight played out at a jute field near Birshreshtha Hamidur Rahman College at Hat Khalishpur Bazaar of Purandapur village at about 9:00pm on Friday as drug peddlers opened fire on a DB team posing as buyers after their identity was betrayed.

Police later found Bidhan lying dead at a distance. They also recovered two light guns (LG), four rounds of bullet and 190 bottles of contraband phensidyl syrup from the spot.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Release Khaleda to create talks atmosphere

Delwar asks govt UNB, Dhaka

BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain yesterday reiterated the demand for immediate release of party chairperson Khaleda Zia to make way for joining the dialogue with the government and the general election.

Delwar said BNP is a pro-election party and wants to participate in the general election. "But, the atmosphere for the dialogue and the election must be created by releasing Khaleda Zia and her two sons," he said.

He said BNP leaders and workers and the people in general are demanding release of Khaleda Zia the way Sheikh Hasina was freed.

Delwar alleged the government wants to destroy the nationalist forces to implement its "blueprint". "Today, people have understood the government's conspiracy and blueprint," he said, adding, "The four-party alliance along with the people will face all the conspiracies."

About the local elections, the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

TRUCKERS' STRIKE Export, import thru' Bhomra land port stalled

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sathkira

Export and import through Bhomra land port in Sathkira remained suspended yesterday as Indian truck drivers went on strike for indefinite period protesting attacks on transport workers.

No Indian truck entered the land port since 10:00am yesterday after the strike was called, sources said.

Locals attacked several truck drivers after an Indian citizen was killed in a road accident at Ghojadanga land port in India at about 9:00am yesterday.

The angry mob also gouged out an eye of a truck driver after the incident, sources added.



Participants of a roundtable on the state of science education in Bangladesh held at The Daily Star conference room yesterday. The discussion was jointly organised by The Daily Star and Bangladesh Academy of Sciences.

17 Tamil Tigers killed in fresh fighting

Lanka tightens use of mobile to fight terrorism

AFP, AP, Colombo

Sri Lanka yesterday tightened mobile phone regulations and forced service providers to maintain full details of phone users as part of anti-terrorism moves.

Phone operators were told to check the identity of subscribers before signing them up, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission chief Priyantha Kariyapperuma said.

New and current subscribers also need to keep a certified copy of the letter issued by the operator for inspection by police and military, in order to prove the ownership of the phone connection, he said.

"The rules were brought in on

the request of the defence ministry, because mobile phones are misused for terrorist activities. The government is finding it difficult to trace the real owners," he told AFP.

Separatist Tamil Tiger rebels, who are fighting for a separate homeland for minority Tamils from the majority Sinhalese community, are known to use several mobile phone connections under different names to evade detection.

Mobile telephones have also been used to remotely detonate bombs.

Kariyapperuma announced the new rules would go into effect "immediately" but said existing users would be given "some reasonable time" to get their paper-

work sorted out.

Sri Lanka, which has a population of 20 million people, has 12 million telephone subscribers, of which 10 million are mobile phones, Kariyapperuma said.

Meanwhile, scattered fighting across Sri Lanka's embattled north and an attack on a passenger bus in the south killed 17 Tamil Tiger rebels and four civilians, the military said Saturday.

Suspected rebel gunmen fired at a passenger bus in southern Sri Lanka, killing a 9-year-old boy and three women, the military said in a statement. Meanwhile, clashes broke out in the Mannar, Vavuniya and Welloya regions surrounding

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Israeli jets using Iraqi airspace to practise Iran strike

Claims Iraqi website

AFP, Baghdad/ Tehran

An Iraqi website has claimed that Israeli warplanes have been using Iraqi airspace to practise for possible bombing of Iranian nuclear facilities.

Nahrainnet.com, quoting unnamed sources in the Iraqi defence ministry, said that for the past month Israel has been using US bases in Iraq to conduct overflights.

Defence Ministry spokesman Major General Mohammed al-Askari dismissed the report on Friday.

"We have no information about

Israeli jets using Iraqi airspace for rehearsals," he told AFP.

In Jerusalem, meanwhile, an Israeli military spokesman told AFP he was aware of the report and said, "I have no information on this."

The US military did not comment on the report.

Nahrainnet.com, a news portal, said the defence ministry sources were told by retired army officers that Israeli jets had been entering Iraqi airspace from Jordan and landing at an airport in Haditha in the western province of Anbar.

The report said its sources

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

People to resist move to foil local polls

Says Ershad

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Jatiya Party (JP) Chairman HM Ershad yesterday said his party will contest the local body elections and people will resist any move to foil the polls.

The JP chairman was addressing a Barisal divisional conference of the party at the Barisal Auditorium.

Referring to the BNP-led four-party alliance's decision to stay out of the polls, Ershad said if any quarter tries to oppose the elections it would face resistance from people.

He directed party leaders and activists to make necessary preparations for taking part in the local body polls.

Over 1,000 party leaders and activists attended the meeting, presided over by president member Golam Kibria Tipu.

JP Secretary General Ruhul Amin Hawlader, and president members Kazi Zafar and SM Alam, among others, were present.

Spices get dearer

Cooking oil still selling at higher prices

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prices of spices increased throughout the week in the capital after the government had raised fuel prices while various edible oils were still selling at higher prices despite a lower rate fixed by the government three days earlier.

Meanwhile, in the absence of any monitoring mechanism at grocery markets, most shoppers are being cheated as the sellers have been selling palm oil to them in place of soybean oil.

Over the past week, retail prices of all sorts of spices except dry chilli witnessed a rise -- ranging between Tk 10 and 50 per kg, said market sources.

Prices of ginger and garlic increased by Tk 10 per kg. Yesterday at retail markets ginger was selling at Tk 70 to Tk 80 a kg while garlic at Tk 30 to Tk 40.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Bus runs over police SI

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A sub inspector (SI) of Kafur Police Station was crushed under the wheels of a speeding bus near the Institution of Engineers in the city last night.

The deceased, Rafiqul Alam, 40, along with his friend Masud, was going to Kafur Police Station riding a motorbike from his Donia residence.

When he reached near the Engineers Institution, a Mohammadpur bound passenger bus hit his bike from behind. Rafiq fell to the ground and was run over by the bus. His friend Masud, however, escaped unhurt.

Shahbagh police seized the bus and arrested its driver Syed Abdul-Mamun and helper Sobel.



PHOTO: STAR

Students of Dhaka University yesterday burn the effigy of a Razaker, collaborator of the occupation forces in the War of Liberation, at TSC intersection, protesting against Jamaat-e-Islami men beating up a freedom fighter Friday.

Robber beaten to death after UP member killed by gang

UNB, Ctg

Villagers caught nine robbers and beat one of them dead after the gang killed a union parishad (UP) member at Burungchhara in Anwara upazila of the district early yesterday.

Police said the robbers swooped on the house of Burungchhara UP member Nurul Islam at around 2:00pm and started looting valuables at gunpoint.

As Nurul Islam tried to resist the robbers, they stabbed him in the chest and abdomen. He died instantly.

Hearing screams of the family members, villagers rushed to the spot and caught them. They beat up the robbers, resulting in death of a gang member.

The remaining eight robbers were later handed over to the police.

| Prayer Timing | | |
|---------------|-------|--------|
| July 13 | | |
| | Azan | Jamaat |
| Fajr | 4-10 | 4-45 |
| Zohr | 12-45 | 1-15 |
| Asr | 5-00 | 5-15 |
| Maghrib | 6-55 | 7-00 |
| Esha | 8-17 | 8-45 |

Source: Islamic Foundation

বিমান বাংলাদেশ এয়ারলাইন্স **Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd.**
BIMAN HEAD OFFICE, BALAKA, KURMITOLA, DHAKA-1229, BANGLADESH. CABLE: AIPBANGLA
TELEX: 642649 DABG BJ. PHONE: 9617400-19, 9612260-7, FAX: 96-02-6513005

Career Opportunity

Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd. invites applications from interested competent candidates for appointment of the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of the company. The position demands the following requirements:

1. Age limit: 45-55 years.

2. Knowledge & work experience:

- 10 years experience in commercial aviation including minimum 5 years as a Senior Executive in a reputed airline
- Knowledge of international aviation & safety regulations
- Knowledge of airlines marketing techniques
- Experience in local & international market
- Knowledge of aviation agreements and labour laws
- Proven record of leadership & ability to work as a team player
- Ability to deal and negotiate with foreign airports, other airlines, and airlines services providers, regulators, insurance companies, suppliers of aircraft & aircraft spares & all other forms of airlines industry benchmarking.

3. Salary: Negotiable. Candidates are encouraged to mention salary expectation.

Interested candidates are requested to apply by 21 July 2008 to the following address:

DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER
HUMAN RESOURCES
BIMAN BANGLADESH AIRLINES LTD
"BALAKA" KURMITOLA, DHAKA-1229

GD-3196

Greetings

Valerie A. Taylor, the Chief Coordinator of CRP, recently handed over the MOTHER TERESA GOLD MEDAL Award 2007 to Ms. Tazneen Aman, the Vice Chairperson of Mercantile Bank Limited. Justice Habibur Rahman Khan and Dr. Anwara Begum, Vice-Chancellor of ADUST were also present. Ms. Aman also received "Begum Rokeya Shining Personality Award-2007" earlier this year. She is the director of Aman Spinning Mills, Mousumi Enterprises, Arena HRI and board Member of Aman Foundation and Presidency University.

Our heartiest Congratulations to Ms. Tazneen Aman.



মার্কেটাইল ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
Mercantile Bank Limited
efficiency is our strength