

Canon  
Delighting You Always

Distributor for Bangladesh

J.A.N. ASSOCIATES LTD.



Branch: SR-130, BCS Computer City, IDB Bhaban, Dhaka. Phone: 8124941  
Elephant Road: Shop- 606-607, Level-6, Multiplan Centre, Elephant Road, Dhaka  
Printer Service Centre: SGR-28, BCS Computer City, IDB Bhaban, Dhaka. Phone: 01727-021635  
Camera Service Centre: SR-130, BCS Computer City, IDB Bhaban, Dhaka. Phone: 8124941  
Canon Display Centre: SGR-29, BCS Computer City, IDB Bhaban, Dhaka

TRANSTEC®

India-FreeTechnology

CHIEN CHANG CENTER  
TRANSTEC  
TRANSCOM  
ELECTRONICS



# Lagoons of deadly fishes

Regular drive a must to stop breeding in all 16 water bodies

HELEMUL ALAM

It was 3:00pm on Monday. A man and a woman were busy catching fish in a lagoon in the waste treatment plant in Pagla of Narayanganj. The lagoon was just next to another lagoon where poison was applied on August 30 to kill the fish in it as they were contaminated with heavy metals.

Noticing The Daily Star correspondent the two packed up their gear and started to flee with a bag half full of fish. They took the fish to their home half a kilometre away.

"I am not a fisherman... I am just catching fish which I eat regularly," claimed Dulal, who was catching fish along with his wife.

Like Dulal about 30 people of the area are involved in catching the deadly fish a major portion of the catch end up at different kitchens, said locals.

The Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) in association with the department of fisheries applied chemicals in two of the 16 lagoons of the plant to kill the fish as part of their yearly drive. The dead fish were later collected and burned.

"Wasa will carry out another drive soon and permission to kill fish in the other lagoons has been sought at the Wasa head office Monday," said Executive Engineer of Wasa Kamrul Hossain Bhuiyan. Wasa killed the fish of the 16 lagoons in July last year, said another official.

The drive was not very successful as the number of fish in the lagoons grew within a short period of time and fishing started again. There is a nexus of

security guards and fishermen, locals said.

A shopkeeper in the area told The Daily Star that around 30 people of the area, including areas surrounding Dhaka Match Factory, Nichandapur and Kadamtali, are involved in catching fish in the lagoons and selling them in Pagla kitchen market, Match Factory kitchen market and Jatrabari kitchen market.

A section of ansars of Wasa, who

are supposed to prevent fishing in the lagoons, allows people to catch fish at night taking Tk 100 to Tk 200 bribe, he said.

One person can catch at least 15kg fish a night, said Basir, a resident of Rasulpur.

Executive Engineer Kamrul refuted the allegation of ansars' involvement. "It is a false allegation... the 20 ansars deployed to prevent fishing round the clock are doing their best. Sometimes it is

not possible to guard the entire area with a few ansars," he said.

"We have submitted a proposal to build proper boundary walls and when the walls are done we will be able to prevent fishing," he said.

Wasa banned fishing and fish cultivation in the lagoons around 10 years ago as the fish of the lagoons contained too much metal. The lagoons contain human

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



STAR FILE PHOTO

Dhaka Wasa last week poisoned deadly fish in two of its 16 lagoons of the Pagla water treatment plant in Narayanganj. The effort often goes in vain as locals fish in the other lagoons and sell the toxic catch in nearby markets.

Storm lashes two upazilas of Jamalpur: 20 hurt

UNB, Jamalpur

At least 20 people were injured and over 200 houses damaged as storm lashed two upazilas of the district early yesterday.

The affected upazilas are Melandaha and Madarganj. In Melandaha, the storm hit Rikhrirpara, Telipara, Chinapara, Paharpatal and Gumpara villages at around 3:00am, damaging over 200 thatched houses and injuring ten people.

Of the injured, two were admitted to the upazila health complex while the rest given first aid.

The storm swept Bajiterpara village of Madarganj upazila at the same time, leaving 10 people injured and damaging some thatched houses.

The injured are undergoing treatment at the upazila health complex.

Tigers' final ODI today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh cricket team have one last chance to salvage pride when they take on world champions Australia in the third one-day international at the TIO Stadium in Darwin today.

The Tigers have already lost the series 0-2 and have to save face after two consecutive drubbings.

They were easily beaten by eight wickets in the second one-dayer while in the first game, the Tigers were bowled out for 74 and lost by a demoralising 180 runs.

The batting has been to blame, as they have scored 74 and 117 in two games while the bowling has lacked penetration.

The match, to be telecast live on STAR Cricket and Super Sport, will begin at 6:00am.

Sehri, Iftar timings

Ramadan	Sep	Sehri	Iftar
5	6	6-15	
6	7	4-21	6-14
7	8	4-21	6-13

Prayer Timing

September 6		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-21	4-27
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-15	6-25
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

# Zardari likely to win today's presidential polls

AFP, Islamabad



Pakistan's presidential hopefuls began a final push for support yesterday on the eve of an election that slain opposition leader Benazir Bhutto's widower is expected to win.

Asif Ali Zardari is the frontrunner in a three-way race to take power in a country riven by Islamic militancy and economic turmoil.

Security will be raised on election day, officials have told AFP, and Zardari has already moved house due to fears of attempts being made on his life, just nine months after Bhutto was killed at a campaign rally.

Tensions rose further after a failed assassination attempt on Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani, whose car was hit by sniper fire on Wednesday as it drove to meet him at an airport.

Zardari will face a multitude of problems if he wins a secret ballot among lawmakers and takes charge of a nuclear-armed state

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8



PHOTO STAR

Eid shoppers crowd Gausia Market area yesterday, the first weekend in Ramadan. City dwellers start early shopping as it gets difficult for them to visit the popular malls while the items become pricey days ahead of Eid.

N'ganj factory owners demand adequate gas supply

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU, Bogra

Industrialists from Narayanganj's Araihazar, Rupganj and Bhulta belt

yesterday called for adequate gas supply to their units immediately for smooth production.

They said if factories cannot rev

to full production, it would be hard for them to pay their workers.

About 700 small and big facto

ries including spinning, weaving

and dyeing mills, chemical facto

ries and steel mills are grappling

with immense production losses

due to inadequate gas supply or

low gas pressure, they said at a

press conference at the Jatiya Press

Club.

Araihazar and Rupganj

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

'Anti-graft drive slows down as govt now giving priority to poll'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) Chairman Prof Muzaffer Ahmad yesterday said the caretaker government's anti-corruption drive is slowing down as it is now giving more importance to the parliamentary election to be held in December.

The caretaker government is now more busy with holding the next parliamentary election. The anti-corruption drive is now getting less priority," Prof Muzaffer told reporters after a debate award ceremony.

About the effectiveness of the anti-corruption drive since many accused are getting released on bail, he said the bail system

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Prices of veg, oil fall

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The prices of some commodities, including green chilli, aubergine and cucumber, came down in the kitchen markets yesterday.

However, the prices of other commodities remained stable. The price of non-brand edible oil dropped further in the wholesale and retail markets in the city.

The price of green chilli that witnessed a soaring price of Tk 100-120 per kg went down to Tk 65-100 per kg in the retail markets yesterday.

The price of aubergine came down by Tk 10-15 per kg yesterday. A kg of aubergine was sold at Tk 35-65 per kg yesterday while the price went up to Tk 45-80 a kg two days ago.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

450 Bangladeshi job seekers without food, water in Riyadh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, CTG

Detectives yesterday arrested topnotch criminal Jahangir Alam who was reportedly the bodyguard of detained Shibir cadre Nasir.

Son of late Hafizur Rahman, Jahangir, 50, hails from Dharmapur of Fatickchari upazila. He was wanted in eight cases.

Acting on a tip-off, a DB team led by Assistant Commissioner (AC) Wahidul Hoque Chowdhury

raided the Majjertek area under Kurnaphuli Police Station at around 3:00pm and arrested him.

Police said Jahangir sent hired killers to kill expatriate businessman Gunnar Mia and his brother-in-law Rashed in the Kurnaphuli Market area on Tuesday.

On receiving the information, the law enforcers from Kotwali

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

heroic story as a Vietnam war prisoner, "a man who found his strength in a tiny dark cell miles from home."

McCain's speech ushered in the critical phase of the US election, a frenetic cross-country marathon including three face-to-face debates, which will decide whether he, or Democrat Barack Obama moves into the White House.

"In the end, it matters less that you can fight. What you fight for is the real test," said McCain, exactly two months from election day.

McCain, who has a reputation of bucking party's orthodoxy, promised he and vice presidential

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7



John McCain

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

McCain accepts nomination, to fight for political change

A publication of The Daily Star

Star  
FASHION  
EID 2008

Now on Sale

This full 4-colour 112-page attractive fashion magazine studded with innumerable colourful trendy designs and latest collections is out to guide your choice for Eid.

Available at the following places in Dhaka:

DHAKEBUNDI: Gyankothi Road # 4, Ph # 02-22351 and 02-22352, Prolak, Pitom Shabon, Market, Ph# 8112441.	Elgon Bitam (News Corner), Ph # 01712-000558, Jonakhi Sheraton Hotel, Ph# 8111918813391
ETCATERA: Concord Royal Court, Plot:270/G, Road: 27, Ph# 9138432	Ext-4457
NANDA: Nanda Road #27 (Old), House # 37, Ph# 8127085, 8112471, 8112471	BALIY ROAD: Sagar Pub, Ph# 01712-278944
NEWSPAPER: Alta Plaza, Ph# 01819154848	MOTIJHEEL: Hotel