

Canon

EOS 50 D
15.1 Megapixels
6.3 fps Shooting Speed
3.0" LCD, 9-POINT
Cross Auto Focus
Integrated Clearing System
Live View with Auto Focus
Digic 4 Imaging Processor

EOS 1000 D
10.1 Megapixels
2.5" LCD
3.1 fps Shooting Speed
Integrated Clearing System
Live View Shooting
Digic III Imaging Processor

Powershot G10
14.7 Megapixels
3x Optical Zoom, 3" LCD
38mm Wide, RAW
Digic 4 processor
Optical Image Stabilizer
Face & Motion Detection
Select & Track

1 YEAR WARRANTY
Available from Ready Stock
Call For Price!!

Distributor for Bangladesh
J.A.N. ASSOCIATES LTD.
11/1, Istama Arcade (2nd Fl), Road 5, Dhanmendi R/A, Dhaka 1205, Tel: 9664101, 8611444, Fax: 880-2-8610410, E-mail: jan-akt@global.net.bd
Canon Display Centre: SGR-29, BCS Computer City, IDB Bhaban, Dhaka. Camera Service Centre: SR-130, BCS Computer City, IDB Bhaban, Dhaka. Tel: 8124941

PHILIPS
Audio System/
DVD Player

TRANSCOM
DIGITAL

On any Audio System/DVD Player
5% Discount

Customer Care Center: 8855369-9, 01712 885493, www.transcombd.com

Abul Hossain sees no risk in Jamuna Bridge

But wishes to rename it after Bangabandhu

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Communication Minister Syed Abul Hossain yesterday said cracks in the Jamuna Bridge will cause no problem to the bridge and its longevity but wants to rename the bridge after Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Panic related to the cracks spread without any reason and there is no problem in trains and heavy vehicles using the bridge, he said.

The communication minister told these to reporters after visiting Jamuna Bridge in Tangail yesterday.

He said the government will take necessary steps to repair the cracks as soon as

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

A name-only college

Khaleda Medical College runs without logistics, manpower 3yrs into inauguration

MAHBUBA ZANNAT

Even three years after its establishment, the government run Begum Khaleda Zia Medical College in Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city is yet to become a full-fledged medical college.

College officials say that a severe lack of logistics, manpower and sheer administrative bottleneck has led to the current situation at the medical college.

The medical college, set up in 2005, doesn't have cardiology, neurology, neurosurgery, gastroenterology, nephrology or psychology departments though some 1050 students study here at present.

Dr Abdul Kader, Principal of the medical college said, "As the medical college was not established under a project, unlike the Comilla and Faridpur Medical Colleges, the development of this college and hospital has not followed requirements."

The changes in the hospital did not

take place as should have been since it was turned into a medical college, he said.

Assistant Registrar of the department of medicine Dr Shahjada Selim said, "The students need to start their clinical classes at least from the third year. But absence of all these departments at the hospital hinders the education system here."

Teachers have been recruited for the departments of neurology, neurosurgery, cardiology and gastroenterology but as these departments have not been set up here and no patients with these problems get admission to this hospital, the students are not able to get any clinical classes on these branches, he said.

Teaching posts for the departments of nephrology and psychiatry are yet to be created, he added. Classes on these two subjects are not being taken though the academic curriculum clearly mentions a schedule for these classes, a group of teachers pointed out.

At present the students have begun their fourth year classes and clinical classes need to be started in this year of study but the hospital doesn't have the facilities to do so. The hospital also lacks a morgue and so some practical classes are not held.

The students however attend some lectures on different topics at different medical colleges in the city. However, those classes are not enough, say teachers.

As there are no teachers in the department of psychiatry, teachers of the National Institute of Mental Health take some classes at Khaleda Zia Medical College.

Teachers say that through these kinds of arrangements, the students are achieving theoretical knowledge but not clinical knowledge, which should be a part and parcel of medical education.

"Their education, if it continues in this

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

'Poor' businessman elected AL MP

Affidavit to EC shows his annual income Tk 18,000

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A newly elected lawmaker from Moulvibazar is a businessman with an annual income of only Tk 18,000.

Of the four lawmakers from the district -- all from the Awami League-led grand alliance -- two others are also businessmen, each earning around Tk 2.4 lakh annually.

The other legislator is a lawyer with an annual earning of Tk 1.83 lakh.

All this information was provided in the affidavit attached to their nomination papers for contesting the December 29 parliamentary polls.

Md Shahabuddin, elected from Moulvibazar-1 (Baralekha-Juri) constituency, is a businessman, and he owns immovable property worth Tk 10 lakh and moveable property worth Tk 6.08 lakh.

His annual income is Tk 18,000 from farming, according to the affidavit.

Nawab Ali Abbas Khan, who represents Moulvibazar-2 (Kulaura and part of Kamalganj) constituency, is a lawyer who earns Tk 1.70 lakh from his profession and Tk 12,960 from farming. He has three acres of agricultural land and moveable assets worth Tk 64,000. His wife has 10 tolas of gold ornaments.

Syed Mohsin Ali, who returned from Moulvibazar-3

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

2 cops hurt in bomb attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unidentified criminals hurled a bomb at two policemen on patrol duty at Dayaganj in the capital last evening that left both the cops injured.

Assistant Sub-inspector (ASI) Moshir Rahman, 35, and constable Saiful Islam, 32, of Sutrapur Police Station were the victims.

Police officials said ASI Moshir and constable Saiful came under attack when they were standing next to their motorbike in Dayaganj area. The bomb was hurled from a distance and the policemen could not identify the attackers.

Moshir sustained injuries to his left leg while Saiful was wounded in the abdomen, police said.

They were rushed to the Police Lines Hospital at

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Joy arrives

Rehana returns to London

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sajeb Wazed Joy, son of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, arrived in Dhaka from the USA with his family while his aunt Sheikh Rehana returned to London early yesterday.

Joy along with his wife Christine Overmayer and daughter Sophia landed at Zia International Airport at around 2:30 am and was driven straight to their Sudha Sadan residence in Dhanmendi, Awami League sources said.

Officials of Sudha Sadan were at the airport to welcome Joy.

This is Joy's first visit to Bangladesh after the Awami League-led grand alliance won a landslide victory on the December 29 parliamentary elections and formed the government.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Rehana, her daughters Ruponti and Tulip, son Bobby and his wife Peppi left Dhaka for London in the early hours.

Rehana and Ruponti came to Bangladesh on Dec 13, as Hasina kicked off her election campaign while others arrived later.



Israeli artillery shells explode over the Gaza Strip town of Jabalia as seen from the Israeli-Gaza border. Inset, An Israeli boy is being taken to a hospital after a rocket launched from Gaza hit the coastal Israeli city of Ashqelon yesterday.

BOGRA BY-POLLS
Charge-sheeted BNP leaders seek party tickets

HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU, Bogra

Bogra district BNP president Rezaul Karim Badsha and general secretary Saiful Islam Saiful -- both charge-sheeted accused in the Jubo Dal leader Anifur Sheikh Mohon murder case -- are seeking BNP nomination to contest the seats vacated by party chairperson Khaleda Zia.

Khaleda Zia won Bogra-7 (Gabtoli-Shahjahanpur) and Bogra-6 (Sadar) seats in the parliamentary polls and later vacated those, retaining only the Feni seat.

Jubo Dal leader Mohon's mother Monjuara Begum, meanwhile, told journalists that she is yet to see any justice meted out after her son was killed so brutally.

She alleged that the leaders and workers of the four-party alliance killed her son and sought proper trial of her son's murder from the present government.

Chhatra Shibir cadre Mizan and Jubo Dal cadre 'Cocktail' Alam along with some other miscreants stabbed Mohon to death at Satmatha in the town at around 12.30 pm on November 22, 2006.

Mohon was Bogra Town Jubo Dal's ward no 1 regional committee's organising secretary.

Md Ataur Rahman Shambhu, Jubo Dal's organising secretary, was injured at the time when a cocktail he was carrying exploded. He filed a case with Bogra Sadar thana the next day

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

SL troops move in for the kill
Capture highly strategic Tamil Tiger-controlled causeway

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lankan security forces were ready to deal a "decisive blow" to the remaining Tamil Tiger rebels following the capture of the highly strategic Elephant Pass, the defence ministry said yesterday.

After four days of fierce fighting, government forces on Friday established full control over the causeway, which links the Jaffna peninsula with the rest of the mainland.

"The fall... has deprived the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) the most crucial strategic ground at the 'Jaffna gateway' following an eight year occupation," the ministry said.

"Troops are now poised at launching a decisive blow at the remaining LTTE strong points

at Mulliyian, Chempiyanpattu, Chundikulam and Kaddaikadu."

The ministry had already declared that the ethnic rebels were facing near "extinction" after security forces captured their main political headquarters of Kilinochchi last week.

"The end-game of LTTE's protracted separatist cause is reaching its final stages, as the advancing security forces overrun the most fortified LTTE northern garrison" at the Elephant Pass, the ministry said.

The Tamil Tigers, who have been fighting since 1972 for a separate homeland, had held the pass since April 2000, and its loss is another huge blow to the separatists after the fall of Kilinochchi last week.

"Our forces have recorded another historic

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Khulna Medical College closed
15 hurt as Chhatra League, Shibir clash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Classes of Khulna Medical College (KMC) were suspended since die yesterday after a fierce clash between the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS).

Sources said at least seven persons were injured, four of them critically, in the clash Friday night when the BCL men made an attempt to set a room of Shibir leaders on fire at a hall of the college.

Following the clash, students left all the three

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Zimbabwe floor reckless Tigers

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh batsmen cooked up yet another debacle as they suffered a 38-run loss to Zimbabwe in the opening match of the Gramteenphone Tri-nation Cup cricket tournament at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

Chasing only 206 for a win, the batting dipped to a new low when they were bowled out for 167 runs in 46.2 overs in reply to Zimbabwe's fighting 205 for nine. The visitors bowled and fielded out of their skins to win a one-day match against a Test nation after more than a year. Bangladesh have virtually been knocked out of the tournament as they now need to beat Sri Lanka in their only remaining match.

Zimbabwe captain Prosper Utseya, who opened the bowling, was immediately rewarded when his second delivery trapped Zunaed Siddiqui leg-before for a duck. The think-tank tinkered with the line-up again sending Mushfiqur Rahim to bat at three, but he misjudged a straight Ed Rainsford delivery and was

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

BPC working on fuel price-cut

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC), a state-owned organisation, moves quickly to reduce fuel prices following a decision of the new cabinet.

The Awami League-led grand alliance government in its maiden cabinet meeting on Wednesday decided to reduce fuel prices, particularly diesel.

The cabinet decision came, as it was an election pledge of the grand alliance to reduce the prices of agri-inputs through providing subsidy.

Conveying the cabinet decision, AL spokesman and LGRD Minister Syed Ashrafur Islam said the decision was made as part of efforts to fulfil their election pledges.

According to sources, the Energy Division asked the BPC to look into the recent trends on the international market and calculate how much the prices could be reduced.

The petroleum price on the global market has come down

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

17 killed in Pakistan sectarian violence

AFP, CNN, Peshawar/Islamabad

Seventeen people have been killed and 30 wounded in clashes between Sunni and Shia groups in villages in the

Prayer Timing

January 11	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-30	6-05
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-36	5-40
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

5 killed, 50 hurt in road crash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

At least five people died and 50 others were injured as two passenger buses collided head-on on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway at Kuttapara under Sarail upazila of the district yesterday.

According to police and witnesses, a Dhaka-bound bus of Hanif Paribahan from Moulvibazar collided with a Madhabpur-bound local bus from Brahmanbaria at around 8:00am, killing the five, including the drivers of the buses, on the spot and injuring 50 others.

Three of the dead were identified as Hanif Paribahan bus driver Mohammad Jahangir Alam Mia, 35, local bus driver Mohammad Malai Mia, 40, and bus passenger Mohammad Harij Mia, 42. Identity of the rest two could not be known.

On information, Police from Sarail, highway outpost and the fire fighters from Brahmanbaria district headquarters rushed to the spot and rescued the injured with the help of local people.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Pro-BNP bus owners' office occupied by AL men

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Pro-Awami League bus owners' group yesterday forcibly captured the office of district bus minibus owners' association in Natore (NBMOA), dominated by pro-BNP bus owners' group.

Witnesses said some 50 people of pro-AL bus owners' group and another 100 party cadres barged into the office of the association in Kanaikhal area at about noon and asked NBMOA leaders to go out of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



Bangladesh Inland Road Transport Authority uses a digger to dredge the Turag at Ashulia. The authorities will dredge up to Demra in the capital.

CTG KIDNAP
7 remanded
Their political links not known yet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The seven detainees, arrested on Thursday night in Comilla in connection with the abduction of two businessmen, were placed on a two-day remand yesterday.

Sources said the police produced them before the court in the afternoon seeking their seven-day remand.

Sub-inspector Aziz Ahmed of Panchlaish Police Station, the investigation officer of the case, said they would ask the police stations in the localities of the arrestees to provide

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2