

CIRCULAR WATERWAY

Navigability poor, yet no fund allocated for it

HELEMUL ALAM

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) has allocated no money for maintaining navigability of the Sadarghat-Ashulia circular waterway so far despite earning about Tk 6.73 crore in the last three years by leasing different landing stations.

and would lose the remaining attraction if the authorities don't take proper initiatives to do maintenance dredging. About 100 sand and brick carrying cargo boats and around 200 engine boats ply every day on the route, and the number almost doubles during the rainy season, says a BIWTA official.

Small cargo boats don't face this problem yet but big ones are facing a lot of problems, he added. Mohammad Amir Hossain, operator of an eight-foot-high cargo boat, said they face obstacles at different points in Chatbari and Birulia.

1 killed in train-truck collision

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushia

One person was killed and four others injured when a truck was rammed by a train on a level crossing at Mollabari under Sadar Upazila in Chuadanga yesterday.



Visiting US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Richard A Boucher calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office yesterday.

Zillur all set to be president

FROM PAGE 1 After filing Zillur's nomination paper, Abdus Shahid said they hope Zillur Rahman, also an AL lawmaker and deputy leader of the new parliament, will be elected president unanimously.

election could not be held because of the absence of an elected parliament. According to the constitution, the presidential election must be held within 30 days of the inaugural sitting of a new parliament.

Bangla Phone

FROM PAGE 1 The BTRC's hard stance discouraged Bangla Phone to seek any fresh permission, sources said. Since May 2007, the BTRC has issued two show cause notices asking the company why its licence should not be cancelled as it set up optical fibre network outside its licensed area.

year, the BTRC converted 26 DDCSP licences to national ISP (internet service provider) licences except for the one that belonged to Bangla Phone. Bangla Phone last year filed two more writ petitions, one against the its non-issuance of NOC against release of equipment and another for BTRC's intervention into and foiling the deal between Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board, now Bangladesh Telephone Company Ltd (BTCL), for swapping fibre-optic lines between Chittagong and Cox's Bazar.

BSF kills 1

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A Bangladeshi cattle trader was shot dead yesterday morning by Border Security Force (BSF) of India on Mondumala border of Baliadangi upazila in Thakurgaon. The victim was identified as Abdur Razzak, 30, son of Velshu Mohammad of Thakbosthi village under Baliadangi upazila of the district.

Egypt hopes for Gaza truce deal in days

AFP, Cairo

Egypt is hopeful that a Gaza truce accord between Israel and the Palestinian Islamist movement Hamas can be reached in the next few days, foreign ministry spokesman Hosam Zaki told AFP yesterday.

officials would return on Monday. Israel, which controls all border crossings except Rafah, which is managed by Egypt, has kept the densely populated strip closed to all but essential supplies since June 2007 when Hamas violently seized power, ousting forces loyal to Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas.

Advertisement for Bangladesh Police recruitment. Title: 'জন নিরাপত্তা বিধান ও সেবার মহান ব্রতে উদ্বুদ্ধ হইয়া বাংলাদেশ পুলিশে যোগ দিন'. Includes details on application process, exam dates, and recruitment numbers for various ranks like Constable, Sub-Inspector, and Inspector.