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Five hurt as bomb goes off in train

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

A bomb went off in a bogie of a train in Mobarakganj Railway Station of Kaliganj upazila in Jhenidah yesterday leaving five people injured.

The injured were Abu Bakar, 54, his wife Jobaida, 45, of Chuadanga, Tisha, 23, Toma, 8, and Suraya, 9 of Darshana. Jobaida was seriously injured. She was rushed to Jessore Sadar Hospital.

Police and locals said when the train, heading for Sagardari, reached Mobarakganj around 5:30pm the bomb exploded and the

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Agitating garment workers shot

1 killed, 25 others injured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A garment worker was killed and 25 others were injured as Ansars personnel yesterday opened fire on agitators demanding a pay hike at a sweater factory in Ashulia.

Several hundred protesting garment workers set fire to the Ansars camp at the factory "S Suhi Industrial Park Ltd" in Jamgara and blocked the Dhaka-Tangail Highway for half an hour.

The protesters also damaged five

vehicles on the road, vandalised window-panes and doors of the factory and torched a vehicle parked at the compound.

Police sources say they lobbed around nine teargas canisters to calm the situation.

Bullet-hit Al-Amin, 26, was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where he died during treatment. His colleague Rony also received a bullet and is undergoing treatment at DMCH.

The other injured were taken to local

hospitals and clinics, witnesses say.

The witnesses add the clash ensued when the agitating workers beat up general manager Anisur Rahman and assistant general manager (AGM) Kamal Uddin at the factory gate around 9:30am.

Earlier, the workers got agitated hearing that three fellow workers -- Manju, Liton and Abu Bakkar -- were not allowed to enter the workplace.

The workers say the three on behalf of them on Thursday handed over a petition

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ASIAN HIGHWAY BNP warns of agitation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP will launch a movement if Bangladesh connects itself with the Asian Highway since it would mean giving corridor to India, BNP Vice Chairman and former minister Maj (ret) Hafiz Uddin Ahmed said yesterday.

"It is not Asian Highway, rather it is an Indian highway because it is to enter Bangladesh from India and also have its exit to India. So, how could it be an Asian Highway?" he said.

"The (proposed alternative) route of the highway that enters Myanmar from Bangladesh should be selected."

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Wait until JS report on Tipai

FM asks India

UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni has asked the Indian Government not to proceed with the construction of Tipaimukh Dam until the newly constituted parliamentary team from Bangladesh visits the site and a comprehensive study regarding its impact on the environment is done.

The foreign minister, now in New York, raised the issue during a meeting with Indian State Minister for Foreign Affairs Pranee Kaur Thursday, according to a message received yesterday.

She mentioned that India has assured Bangladesh of not doing anything detrimental to its interest and "Bangladesh would like to believe that".

The foreign minister proposed a meeting of Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) and reminded the Indian state minister that joint assessment of the project should be done, as it is "widely believed that this would harm the environment of Bangladesh".

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Rag picker Badsha, top, who is not even a teenager, sniffs glue on the railway lines in Karwan Bazar in the capital while a few other children do the same not far away.

Street urchins sniffing glue

ERSHAD KAMOL

Just a few metres away from Tejgaon level crossing a group of teenage boys were found eagerly inhaling something from a polythene bag in a scrap shop. When approached, they were found in an intoxicated state.

Uzzal, a 16-year old boy, and his glue-sniffing mates were found disturbed by some unexpected queries from a stranger. At one stage, annoyed Uzzal said they were taking 'dandy', quite a popular name amongst the teenage drug addicts in the country.

'Dandy' is nothing but the vapour of solutions that are

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Climate aid pledges not coming in thick

Govt urges donors to send in more assistance

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Food and Disaster Management Minister Abdur Razzak yesterday called upon the western countries and international donor agencies to send more aid to developing countries like Bangladesh to address the challenges of climate change.

Some western countries and foreign donor agencies failed to keep their promise of sufficient financial and logistic assistance to Bangladesh, he said.

"They promised to give 0.7 percent of our total GDP in aid to face the challenges of climate change but no country except Denmark has given assistance to us," he added.

The minister was addressing a seminar on 'Climate Change Effect, Mitigation and Adaptation' organised by Civil Engineering Division of Institution of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB) at its old auditorium in the city chaired by IEB President Prof SM Nazrul Islam.

He urged the environmentalists, civil society members and media men not to create panic among countrymen about the adverse impact of climate change rather he emphasised creating mass awareness in this regard.

He also informed that the government had taken initiative to provide food to cyclone-affected people for the next three months.

The government is mulling over a plan to

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India to make mandatory disclosure of judges' wealth

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

The Indian government will soon table a bill in the parliament to make it mandatory for judges to disclose their assets and liabilities.

Law Minister M Veerappa Moily yesterday told the press that he had asked the law secretary to prepare a draft of the bill soon so that it could be sent for approval by the federal cabinet before it would be introduced in the parliament - possibly in the coming session which would start on July 2.

He said it was wrong to think that the judiciary was against such legislation. The government would take the

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Fresh swine flu suspect found

New health forms for inbound passengers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to distribute yellow coloured health forms among the inbound passengers in every flight soon to strengthen the screening programme for swine flu virus in the country.

Meanwhile, another person who returned from India was found with the symptoms of swine flu in Chuadanga district yesterday.

The government officials at a seminar held at Mohakhali yesterday said the health forms would be distributed in the flight as many inbound passengers somehow escape the health help desk at the airport.

Under the screening programme, the inbound passengers have to report their health condition and if any of them report swine flu like illness he or she is tested immediately, said Director of the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) Prof Mahmudur Rahman.

He said the government at its inter-ministerial meeting has

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Padma to have double-decker bridge

Says communication minister

A CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

The proposed Padma multi-purpose bridge will be a double-decker one and will also have a gas supply line on it, Communications Minister Syed Abul Hossain said yesterday.

Trains will run on the lower deck of the bridge and motor vehicles will use the upper deck.

The minister said the government has also decided to set up a 500-megawatt power plant and a container terminal at Shibchar of Madaripur on the bank of the Padma.

Abul Hossain was speaking at a rally in connection with starting construction of Sheikhpur bridge on Madaripur-Shibchar road over Beel Padma river at Shichar. Whip of the Jatiya

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

US okays historic climate change bill

AFP, Washington

The US House of Representatives has narrowly passed historic legislation to limit pollution blamed for global warming, handing President Barack Obama a major hard-fought victory.

By a 219-212 margin, lawmakers voted Friday for the first time in US history to limit heat-trapping carbon emissions and shift the US economy to cleaner energy in a move backers said will create jobs and restore Washington's shaky leadership on climate change ahead of global talks set for December.

Obama immediately hailed the vote, telling reporters at the White House that it amounted to "a victory of the future over the past" as well as "a bold and necessary step."

"The American people are demanding that we abandon the failed policies and politics of the past; we no longer accept inaction; that we face up to the challenges of our time. And today, the House has done exactly that," he said.

The "American Clean Energy and Security Act" aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 17 percent from 2005 levels by 2020, and 83 percent by 2050, create "green" jobs, and wean the US economy from oil imports.

The bitter, day-long debate pitted supporters who argued the bill would put a shine back on the battered US economy and foes who described the measure's more than 1,200 pages as a grim recipe for long unemployment lines.

"Just remember these four words for what this legislation means -- jobs, jobs, jobs, jobs. Let's vote for jobs," Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi exhorted her colleagues minutes before the vote.

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Up to 300MW being saved a day

Minister on daylight saving programme

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The daylight saving time is saving electricity of up to 300 megawatts a day, State Minister for Power Shamsul Haque Tuku told parliament yesterday.

The power saved is supplied to export-oriented industries, he said in answer to ruling Awami League lawmaker Tarana Halim's question.

Replying to a query from AL lawmaker Sharier Alam, the state minister said the government is looking to generate electricity-making use of wind and solar energy.

In the renewable energy policy, it has already announced financial incentive to promote power generation by alternative means like solar panels and windmills.

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OnlinePoll

Do you think installing speed limiter in vehicles will reduce road accidents?

Yes (62.09%)
 No (37.36%)
 No Comments (0.54%)

Total votes: 554

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think it was right for BNP to approach the UN for an independent enquiry into torture on political leaders and businessmen during the caretaker regime?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing

	June 28	June 29
Fajr	5:05	5:40
Zohr	1:45	2:15
Asr	6:00	6:15
Maghrib	7:54	7:57
Esha	9:19	9:45

Source: Islamic Foundation

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

With profound sorrow we announce the sad demise of our beloved

Syed Mohammad Wafiqullah

who passed away on Thursday the 18th of June 2009 in Los Angeles, USA.
 (Inna lillaha wa ina ilaihe rajeun.)

His namaza janaza was held on Friday 19th June 2009 after Juma Prayers and he was buried shortly thereafter in the Muslim section of Westminister Memorial Park, Orange County, California, USA.

He was 89 years old and led an active life till the very end.

All relatives, friends and well wishers are requested to kindly pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Syeda Abeda Wafiqullah

Rubina & Syed Mohammad Najeebullah and Fareen Asma & Syed Mohammad Saifullah and Samar, Zara, Haris Rubaba & Salman Fazlur Rahman and Shayan & Shazreh and Shanzay Naushaba & Firoze Hussain and Radia & Isaac, Samia Farrah & Ajaz Moosa