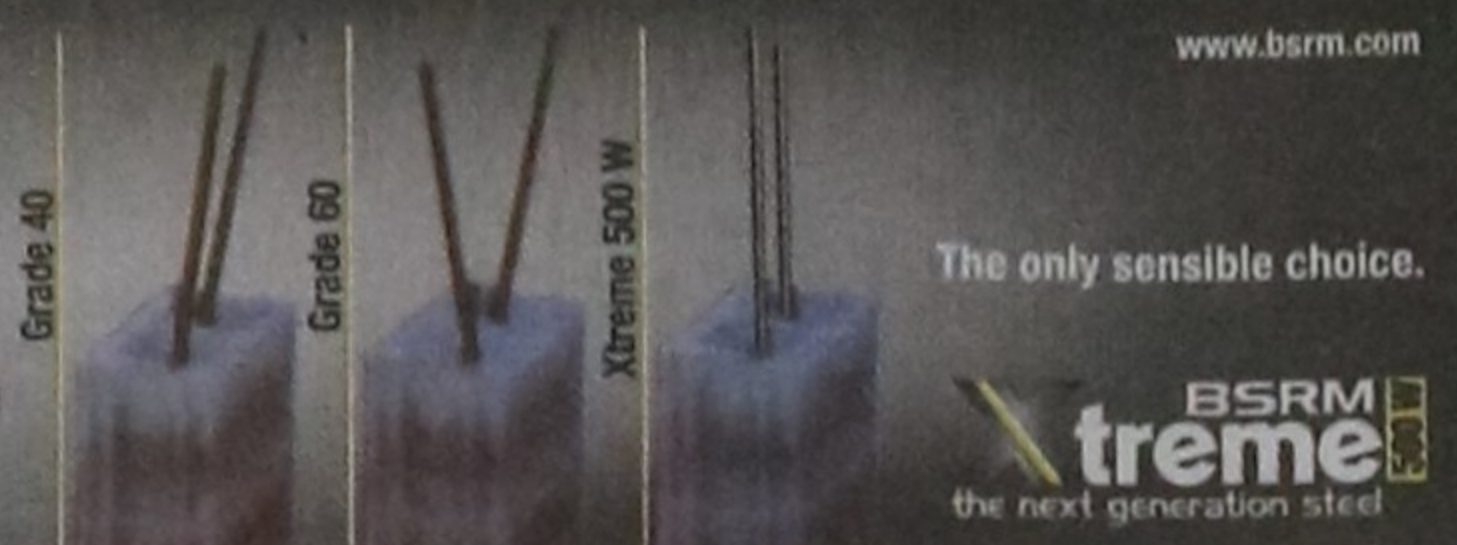


## Why Xtreme?

Re-scaled bar bonds better with concrete due to rust on the bar surface. As per ACI code, rust is good for bonding.



**End Offer 200% Off!**

Scratch & Win Offer: Buy TRANSTEC Refrigerator & Freezer

Win Blender/ Rice Cooker/ Dry Iron\*

**TRANSCOM**  
DIGITAL  
Your Trusted Electronics Retailer  
For More Information: 8855366-8, 01712 685463

## JS body to talk gas block issue with nat'l committee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary panel will meet the National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas and Mineral Resources to discuss the much-debated awarding of three offshore gas blocks to foreign companies.

The House standing committee on power, energy and mineral resources will have the view-exchange at its next meeting.

It made the announcement after its three-hour-long

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

## TCB sugar sale at Khulna in a mess

Most dealers use fictitious addresses, yet to start selling; ruling party men get most dealerships

QUAZI AMANULLA, Khulna

Most of the TCB-appointed sugar traders of Khulna, allegedly selected on political considerations, could not be traced despite frantic searches at the addresses they provided in their applications.

As consumers complained of not getting Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) allocated sugar at Tk 42, it was found that many of the 105 dealers appointed for Khulna

Metropolitan City did not sell the allotted sugar to general consumers. There are widespread allegations that they sold the sugar to the wholesalers and retail markets at premium rate.

Each of the dealers of Khulna metropolitan city had been allotted one metric tonne of sugar from September 7 for sale at Tk 42 a kg on condition that they must sell it in the shops they mentioned as their addresses.

The dealers were supposed to hang a red

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

## Outlaw killed in 'shootout'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

An outlawed party leader was killed in a 'shootout' between his cohorts and police at Gutudia village under Dumuria upazila in Khulna yesterday.

Identifying him as Mashbar Halder, 40, son of Noresh Halder of Gutudia village, Khulna Superintendent of Police Mohammad Shamsuddin said he was an armed cadre of New Biplobi Communist Party.

Sources said police raided Wapda Road acting on a tip-off where a gang of extremists

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## Swine flu drug still not found in market

Lists of pharmacies prepared to sell Oseltamivir, but they yet to get supply

MAHBUBA ZANNAT

Even after a week of the government's decision to make the anti-viral drug Oseltamivir available in the market, people are yet to get the swine flu drug at selected pharmacies at district and upazila levels.

Since no drugs have been supplied to the pharmacies till date, patients have no alternative but to go to public hospitals and health centres and queue for long hours seeking treatment.

Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) and Drug Administration gave contradictory information about the list of the selected pharmacies.

Asked about the list and why the drugs are yet to be made available, Director General of the DGHS Prof Shah Monir Hossain said he did not know any details about the list. He said Drug Administration is supervising the selection of the pharmacies.

But while talking to The Daily Star Director

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



A certain quarter put up a signboard claiming the Jhau garden, created by the Coastal Forest Department along the Kachubania beach in Teknaf, as their property.

PHOTO: STAR

## Muggers kill driver, take his taxicab

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Criminals snatched a taxicab after killing its driver at Ashulia on the outskirts of the capital yesterday.

Locals told reporters at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) that they had found the driver, Md Shamim, 35, stabbed and lying on Mirpur Road in front of Navana Tower at Ashulia. They took him to the hospital at around 12:30am.

And he succumbed to his injury at around 1:30am, hospital sources said.

Shamim, while struggling with death at the hospital, told the reporters that a gang of four got into his taxi from opposite the Fantasy Kingdom of Ashulia to go to Mirpur.

As the vehicle reached Mirpur road, the criminals stabbed him, pulled him out of the car and fled with the taxicab, he added.

## 123 more cases to be dropped

Govt scrutiny committee finds them 'politically-motivated'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday decided to withdraw 123 more 'politically motivated' cases filed during the last BNP-Jamaat coalition and the subsequent caretaker rule.

The decision came at a meeting of the government's scrutiny committee for recommendation of withdrawal of the politically motivated cases with its head State Minister for Law Qamrul Islam in the chair.

"As many as 241 applications were placed at the seventh meeting and of them 123 cases have been recommended for withdrawal," said Quamrul while briefing newsmen after the meeting at the home ministry.

The government has so far decided to withdraw 572 cases filed against the leaders of ruling Awami League and its allies and only Moudud Ahmed from main opposition BNP.

The state ministers said among the cases 225 were filed under the penal code and 16 under the Anti-Corruption Commission Act. The committee rejected 34 applications and kept 75 cases for further review at its next meeting.

Of the cases, nine were filed against former AL lawmaker Haji Mohammad Selim, two each against controversial AL leader Shamim Osman and his brother Nasim Osman, one each against Chittagong City Corporation Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury and former AL lawmaker Kaiser Hasnat.

Home Minister Sahara Khatun told parliament on last Thursday the government has so far decided to withdraw 449 "politically motivated" criminal cases completely and another 16 partially.

Replying to a query, Quamrul said no cases against the opposition leaders were submitted at yesterday's meeting. He how

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

## New Japan PM Yukio Hatoyama assumes office

AFP, Tokyo

Japan's new centre-left Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama acclaimed a turning point in history Wednesday as he took command of Asia's biggest economy with a pledge to return power to the people.

The 62-year-old scion of a political dynasty was installed by parliament a fortnight after his Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) ended more than half a century of conservative dominance in a stunning



SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

## Phensedyl found in ex-MP's car

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Narcotics Control Department (NCD) recovered 120 bottles of banned Phensedyl syrup from the private car of a former BNP lawmaker and arrested two people including its driver at Panthapath in the capital yesterday.

The car owner, Habibur Rahman Habib, was elected a lawmaker from Tala-Kalaroa

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## 30 hurt as Bhola AL factions clash

3 bullet-hit

OUR CORRESPONDENT, BARISAL

At least 30 people were injured including three with bullets in a factional clash of ruling Awami League in Bhola district town yesterday.

The bullet-hit were identified as Shahabuddin, 30, a tea vendor, Mainuddin, 35, a pedestrian, Mustafa, 32, a domestic help of Fazlul Qader Maznu Molla, sadar upazila chairman and district AL president. They were admitted to Bhola Sadar Hospital.

Sources said the clash erupted from K Jahan market of the town at about 1:00pm.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

## OnlinePoll

Do you think it is a good decision to deploy the army to tackle the traffic congestion in the capital?

☐ Yes (56.1%)  
☐ No (42.5%)  
☐ No Comments (1.4%)

Total votes: 1084

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think it is a good decision to try the murders and other heinous offences committed during the BDR mutiny at the speedy trial tribunal under penal code?

Please cast your vote at [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

## Sehri, Iftar timings

Ramadan	Sept	Sehri	Iftar
26	17		7-04
27	18	5-26	7-03
28	19	5-26	7-02

## Prayer Timing

September 17		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-26	5-35
Zohr	1-45	2-15
Asr	5-30	5-45
Maghrib	7-04	7-15
Esha	8-45	9-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

**31st Branch of Premier Bank Now in Mymensingh**

We span a bridge between tradition & modernism, to enhance our dynamic service countrywide.

## Grand Opening of 31st Branch of Premier Bank Ltd.

Today, 17 September, 2009

Mymensingh Branch: Premier Bank Ltd.  
Plot No. # 29 (1st & 2nd Floor)  
Choto Bazar, Kotoali, Mymensingh.

The Premier Bank Limited

**Premier Bank**  
service first

**ফাস্ট সিকিউরিটি ইসলামী ব্যাংক লিঃ-এর চট্টগ্রাম জেলার পথেরহাট শাখার**

অন-লাইন, এটিএম ও এসএমএস ব্যাংকিং সুবিধাসহ শরীয়াহ ভিত্তিক সম্পূর্ণ ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং কার্যক্রম নিয়ে

আজ বৃহস্পতিবার, ১৭ সেপ্টেম্বর চট্টগ্রাম জেলার পথেরহাটে আমরা আসছি

পথেরহাট শাখা  
নোয়াপাড়া, রাউজান চট্টগ্রাম।

**ফাস্ট সিকিউরিটি ইসলামী ব্যাংক লিঃ**  
فارسیت سیکوریٹی اسلامی بانک لیمیتد  
**FIRST SECURITY ISLAMI BANK LTD.**

23 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh. Tel: 880-2-9560229 (Hunting), 9550334, 7171029-30  
Fax: 880-2-9561637, 7162566. e-mail: info@fsibd.com, Swift Address: FSEBDDDH

[www.fsibd.com](http://www.fsibd.com)