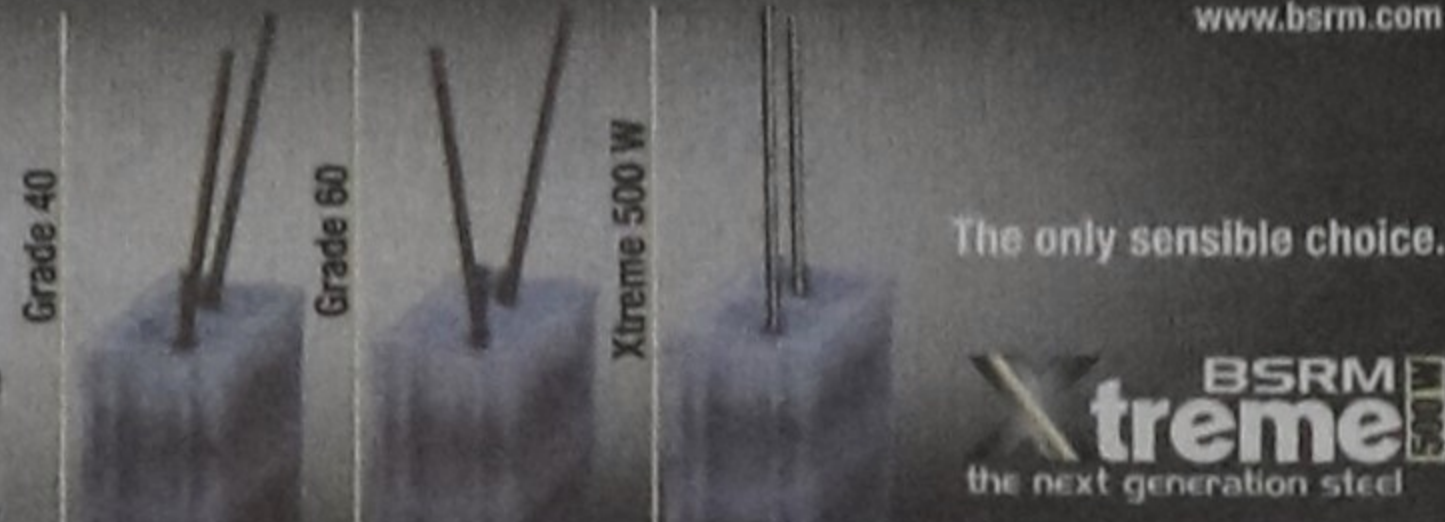


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RAJUK MOVE TO FREE PARKING SPACE 15 shops knocked down at Kalabagan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk) bulldozed at least 15 shops on the Mirpur road yesterday in Kalabagan and Dhanmondi areas as part of its ongoing drive to retrieve car parking spaces from illegal occupants to ease nagging traffic congestion in the capital.

Rajuk bulldozer smashed around ten shops including Helvetia, a fast food restaurant, on the ground floor of Alta Plaza on the Mirpur road at Dhanmondi.

The second-day demolition drive saw the bulldozer roll and pull down the structure of Life Pharma that occupied the parking space at Zobaidda Super Market at Kalabagan.

Rajuk authorised officer Aminur Rahman Suman said Laz Pharma in the same building was also on the demolition list but after the shop owner produced a High Court (HC)

stay order they spared it.

"Laz Pharma occupied a 300 square feet area of the car parking space on the building's ground floor," he said.

Executive magistrate Rokon-Ud-Dowla led the Rajuk team during the demolition drive.

Western Grill, a fast food shop, runs its business in the basement of Kashba Centre at Dhanmondi, which is a designated car parking space.

The same restaurant also occupies a part of the parking space on the ground floor. Rajuk men hammered the basement walls and the bulldozer knocked down its stairs.

Interestingly, Rajuk doesn't have copies of approved designs of a number of buildings mentioned on the demolition list.

Suman said, "Designs of those buildings were approved a long time back and Rajuk has no mechanism to find out the official copies."

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



Rajuk bulldozes shops on the ground floor of a building on Mirpur Road in Dhanmondi yesterday. The shops were erected at the designated place for parking cars.

Drama over demolition

TAWFIQUE ALI

As the Rajuk bulldozer began to roll towards Alta Plaza at Dhanmondi to knock down its ground floor designated for car parking space, Salahuddin Matin -- owner of the plaza -- dashed out, made an eye contact with the driver and gestured him to go away.

He then went over to machine man of Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk) Belal and whispered something into his ear.

Belal assured him and asked the driver of bulldozer to move away from the spot.

The entire episode appeared to be an indication of 'underhand dealings' between the owner of Alta Plaza and a section of Rajuk staff.

As Rajuk inspectors Nazrul Alam, Nazrul Islam and authorised officer Aminur Rahman Suman arrived at the scene, Matin told them he

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

13,536 qualify for 29th BCS written test

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Public Service Commission (PSC) yesterday published the preliminary test results of the 29th Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examinations with a total of 13,536 candidates qualifying for the written test.

Around 1.23 lakh applicants sat for the first-round examinations at 92 centres across the country on August 14, vying for 1,581 posts, said PSC sources.

SEE DETAILS AT www.thedailystar.net

Mamun denied bail in tax dodging case

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday rejected a bail petition of businessman Giasuddin Al Mamun in connection with a case filed against him for dodging Tk 14 crore in income tax during 2000 to 2007.

Judge AK Roy of the Special Judge Court-2 passed the order following a petition seeking bail submitted by Mamun's lawyers. During the hearing, Mamun was

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

ADB grants \$744m for meltdown fallout

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Asian Development Bank board yesterday approved \$744 million loan for Bangladesh so that the country can face the world economic recession fallout.

"ADB is extending the loans to help Bangladesh government overcome the impact of the global economic crisis and implement public policy reforms," said an ADB press release yesterday.

The support includes a \$500 million loan under the counter-cyclical support facility (CSF) and three loans totalling \$244 million under the public expenditure support facility (PESF).

The ADB press release said the \$500 million

CSF loan would support the government's efforts to mitigate the worst effects of the global economic crisis in the short term and to continue its development programmes.

The \$244 million PESF loans will support government measures to introduce economic and social policy reforms essential for achieving higher and more inclusive long-term growth and strengthening social safety net programmes, the press release added.

"The CSF loan will provide crucial support to the government as it acts to stimulate Bangladesh's economic recovery and push ahead with its social safety net programmes to cushion the impact of the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

MPs urged to join Oct 17 poverty meet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speaker Abdul Hamid called on lawmakers yesterday to join the campaign against poverty at Bangabandhu International Convention Centre on October 17.

"Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and the main

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

Import of 2 lakh MT urea okayed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cabinet committee on public purchase yesterday approved the import of two lakh metric tonnes of urea fertiliser to ensure its supply in the next Boro season.

Two proposals of the power, energy and mineral resources ministry were also approved at the cabinet

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Prayer Timing		
October 14		
Fajr	Azan	Jamaat
5:45	5:45	6:20
Zohr	1:45	2:15
Asr	5:15	5:30
Maghrib	6:45	6:50
Esha	8:15	8:45

Source: Islamic Foundation

Vandalism on streets

Students go on rampage, damage cars, set ablaze bus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unruly university and college students yesterday set ablaze a bus, vandalised 20 vehicles and put up barricades on roads in separate clashes in the capital's Kakoli, Mohakhali and Mirpur.

Police detained 38 students of Jagannath University (JNU) for vandalising 10 vehicles at Kakoli bus station and counters of Provati and Banasri Paribahan following arguments with transport workers on Monday over bus fare.

The law enforcers also seized a BRTC double-decker that carried the students.

In another incident, students of Titumir Government College set fire to a bus of Bengal Paribahan and damaged at least seven others after a brawl with the company staff over bus fare. They also put up barricades on the road in front of the college at Mohakhali disrupting vehicular movement for over an hour.

Besides, students of Mirpur University

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Security of Pakistani nukes questioned

AP, Islamabad

An audacious weekend assault by Islamic militants on Pakistan's army headquarters is again raising fears of an insurgent attack on the country's nuclear weapons installation.

Pakistan has sought to protect its nuclear weapons from attack by the Taliban or other militants by storing the warheads, detonators and missiles separately in facilities patrolled by elite troops.

Analysts are divided on how secure these weapons are. Some say the weapons are less

secure than they were five years ago, and Saturday's attack would show a "worrisome" overconfidence by the Pakistanis.

While complex security is in place, much depends on the Pakistani army and how vulnerable it is to infiltration by extremists, said a Western government official with access to intelligence on Pakistan and its nuclear arsenal, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the subject.

Analysts say a more realistic scenario would involve militant sympathizers getting work as

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Form trust fund for free education PM directs ministry

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the education ministry to work on forming a trust fund in an effort to ensure free education in the primary and secondary level.

"I want to make education free to ensure that nobody is deprived of education," she was quoted to have told a meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecneec) at the NEC conference room.

Prime Minister and Ecneec Chairperson Sheikh Hasina presided over the meeting that approved five development projects of Tk 1,486 crore, including a Tk 688 crore secondary education stipend project (SESP). Two other stipend projects are already in operation.

Replying to a question at a press briefing after the meeting, Planning Secretary Habibullah Majumder said the prime minister has asked the education ministry of making stipend for school students a permanent arrangement instead of the existing temporary ones.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

OnlinePoll

Do you think the new timing for different offices, organizations and educational institutions approved by the cabinet will have a positive impact on the traffic congestion of the capital?

Yes (41.6%) No (55.9%)
No Comments (2.5%)

Total votes: 1128

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think senior ministers' absence in the House shows they are not sincere in keeping parliament effective?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

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- ৫ বছরেই উঠে আসবে বিনিয়োগকৃত অর্থ
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