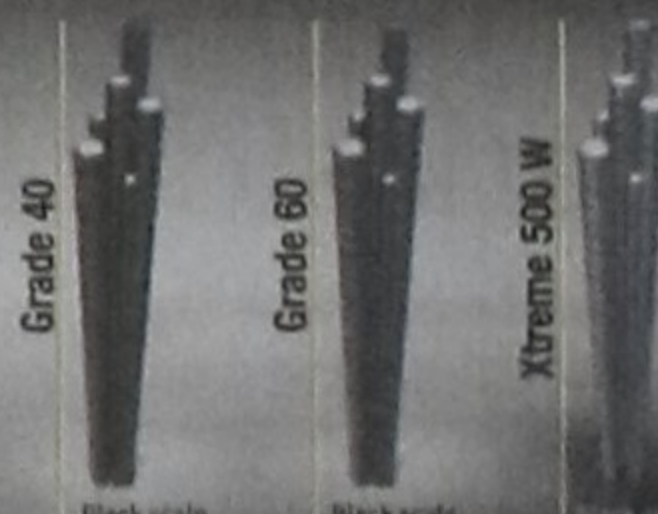


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Rush-hour traffic halts for hours on Dhaka-Mawa highway as two groups clashed following a dispute over two cattle markets in Keraniganj yesterday morning. Inset, Rab holds two persons with pistols during the fight.

PHOTO: SHAFIUL ISLAM

Clash over 2 cattle markets

2 bullet-hit; highway blocked for 4 hours

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least fifty people were injured and vehicular movement on Dhaka-Mawa highway remained suspended for four hours creating huge sufferings to the passengers yesterday following a clash between two groups of people at Rajendrapur area under south Keraniganj.

The injured, along with two bullet-hit persons, were rushed to the local hospital, local sources said.

Rapid Action Battalion personnel arrested two people, identified as Yousuf and Nurunnabi, with two foreign made pistols and six bullets from them.

The clash also created about 10 kilometres long traffic jam on the highway.

Witnesses and police said the clash ensued around

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

Hasina warns of subversive acts

Asks party men to show patience ahead of Bangabandhu verdict

HASAN JAHD TUSHER

Prime Minister and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina yesterday alerted her party colleagues to the possibility of subversive acts ahead of the apex court verdict in Bangabandhu murder case on November 19.

She also urged them to show patience and restraint in any situation that may follow the verdict.

Besides, she said, the ruling party should be prepared to take appropriate political measures and programmes if anything untoward happens.

She was presiding over an AL Central Working Committee (ALCWC) meeting at her official residence Jamuna.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, AL Joint General Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif said, "She [Hasina] has directed us to be on the alert for subversives trying to worsen law and order and cause panic among people over delivery of the verdict."

He said the working committee, highest decision-making body in ruling AL, hopes the nation would at last see justice through the judgement in Bangabandhu murder case.

The ALCWC also discussed in detail the current political situation, food security, administration's successes and failures so far, foreign policy, new pay scale and persecution of the opposition leaders during the last BNP-led alliance rule.

Hasina asked the party leaders not to talk much to the press about the verdict. She said they must not say or do anything that

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATES

Govt's giving them judicial horns to be challenged

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

A writ petition is likely to be filed today with the High Court challenging the legality of the amended rules of Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) empowering the executive magistrates to perform judicial functions.

Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB), a human rights organisation, will file the petition as a public interest litigation seeking a direction upon the government to revoke or cancel the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

A pardon called into question

Criticisms continue to pour in as president lets Sajeda's convicted son off the hook

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The presidential pardon of sentences against Shahadab Akbar, son of deputy leader of parliament Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, has come under criticism from various quarters.

Shahadab was sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment and fined Tk 1.6 crore in absentia in four cases filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission and National Board of Revenue during the tenure of the last caretaker government.

President Zillur Rahman has recently forgiven Shahadab, who did not surrender to the court in connection with any of the cases.

BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain at BNP central office yesterday told journalists that the presidential

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Driver killed, auto-rickshaw snatched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered bodies of an auto-rickshaw driver and a girl from the city's Pallabi and Gabtoli areas yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Golam Rasul, 35, a resident of Shekheret in Adabor and Lipi Akhter, 24, of Gabtoli.

Pallabi police said they recovered the driver's body by Baunia embankment around 2:00pm and sent it to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) morgue for autopsy. Morgue sources said he was strangled to death.

Family members of Rasul said he was missing since

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

OnlinePoll

Do you think suspension of all WB-funded projects over changes to Public Procurement Act will further affect our Annual Development Programme?

Yes (68.7%) No (28.2%) No Comments (3.1%)

Total votes: 706

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think Rajuk's drive to retrieve parking spaces by demolishing illegal shops at business centres in the capital was an eye-wash as illegal occupants have rebuilt shops there within a week?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

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Nasa confirms moon water

AFP, Washington

A "significant amount" of frozen water has been found on the moon, the US space agency said Friday heralding a giant leap forward in space exploration and boosting hopes of a permanent lunar base.

Preliminary data from a dramatic experiment on the moon

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

2 killed in Rangamati gunfight

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Two persons were killed and one was critically wounded in a gunfight among the armed cadres of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) and United People's Democratic Front (UPDF) at Lulongchhari under Jurachhari upazila on Friday.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

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Prayer Timing		
November 15		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	6-00	6-35
Zohr	1-45	2-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-22	6-25
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

QULKHANI

Mrs. Mahmuda Ahmed w/o Late Fakhruddin Ahmed and Director of Urmi Group breathed her last on Friday the 13th November 2009 at Lab Aid Specialized Hospital (Innalillahe Wa Inna Ilahe Rajeun). Her qulkhani will be held on Monday the 16th November 2009 at her residence 4 Paribag Road, (BTC Apartments) after Magrib prayers.

We, sons and daughters of the deceased request our relatives, friends & well-wishers to kindly attend the milad mahfil.

Fahmida Mahfuz | Ashfaque Ahmed
Asif Ashraf | Shamarukh Fakhruddin

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* ফ্লাই এ্যাশ বিহীন সিমেন্ট