

Did you know?

The New South China Mall in Dongguan, China has the highest gross leasable area of any mall in the world. It can room over 1,500 stores in approximately 7.1 million square feet of leasable space.



The fascinating world of construction. Brought to you by: **BSRM** the ultimate steel

Buy Whirlpool Microwave Oven. Get sure gift.*
Oven proof bowl/ Cooking Apron

TRANSKOM
DIGITAL
Your Trusted Electronics Retailer
For More Information: 8855366-8, 01712 665463

RU victim maimed for life

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lying on a bed in the National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (Nitor) yesterday, Saifur Rahman Badshah was yet to know that doctors suspect he might not be able to use his left arm ever again. Although he managed to survive the gruesome violence carried out on Rajshahi University campus by armed cadres of Islami Chhatra Shibir through Monday night into the early hours of Tuesday, he could not avoid getting stabbed in the neck, and slicing of the tendons of his legs and arms. He also did not know yesterday that he will have to limp

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

DMCH CLASS-IV EMPLOYEES
Probe confirms huge hiring irregularities

MAHBUBA ZANNAT

A health ministry probe report found massive irregularities and nepotism in the recruitment of fourth-class employees at the Dhaka Medical College and Hospital in January this year, a source of the ministry said. The probe report submitted to the health secretary yesterday said the recruitment process saw widespread nepotism and political influence. Joint Secretary (hospital and nursing) Omar Faroque of the health ministry headed the three-member probe committee. The committee members were, however, tight-lipped about the report.

"I can just tell you that massive irregularities were committed during the recruitment. Even the quota system was not followed. I cannot say anything more than that because we are still confused about the government's decision," said one of the committee members seeking anonymity. The recruitment process of third and fourth-class employees against 171 posts began on November 26 last year with newspaper advertisements. It was alleged that then Director Brig Gen Bazle Quader in association with some of the leaders of Swadhinata Chikitsak Parishad members and DMCH fourth-class employees' union

took Tk 3 to 4 lakh for a single post from many of the applicants. As the hospital employees and job seekers were filled with deep resentment at the irregularities, the health ministry on January 15 suspended the recruitment and formed a committee to investigate the issue. By the time DMCH Director Brig Gen Bazle Quader has been transferred and Monilal Aich Litu of Swadhinata Chikitsak Parishad has been ousted from the parishad for his alleged involvement in the recruitment trade. But before his transfer Bazle Quader signed some blank appointment letters

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Ahmadinejad declares Iran 'nuclear' nation

AFP, Tehran

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad boasted Iran was now a nuclear nation as he announced yesterday the production of its first highly enriched uranium on the anniversary of the 1979 Islamic revolution. "One day they said we cannot enrich uranium, but with the resistance of our leader, nation... and with the help of God, the Iranian nation has become nuclear," Ahmadinejad said. "They (Americans) want to dominate our region but the Iranian people will never let them do that," he said in a speech at Tehran's Azadi (Freedom) Square before a crowd of hundreds of thousands. "The head of the atomic energy organisation (Ali Akbar Salehi) said the first stock of 20 percent fuel was produced and delivered to scientists," he added. Iran had previously enriched uranium to just 3.5 percent but has started enriching it to the higher level required for a Tehran medical research reactor after snubbing a UN-drafted plan for

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

CU student killed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong University student was killed by unknown criminals at Sholoshohar Railway Station in the port city last night. The deceased was identified as AAM Mohiuddin Masum, a final year student of Political Science department of the university. Masum, son of Badc employee Fazlul Qader of Chokoria Upazila under Cox's Bazar district, was a resident of Alaol Hall of the university. Eight to ten criminals hacked Masum to death around 9:00 pm, said Panchlaish Police Station Officer-in-Charge Nabajyoti Khisa. He was waiting at the station for a university bound train, police said and added

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas meets Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Zia International Airport, Dhaka where he made an hour-long stopover en route to his country.

Ichhamoti dredging to start soon

BSS, Jessore

The delegations of Bangladesh and India have agreed in principle to dredge the border river Ichhamoti restoring its navigability and save the people of both countries from floods. The delegations also agreed that the dredging would start immediately from zero line after carrying out detail survey following the International Border Law.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Babar remanded in Kibria case

STAFF CORRESPONDENTS, Dhaka and Sylhet

A Habiganj court yesterday placed former state minister for home Lutfozzaman Babar on a six-day remand of Criminal Investigation Department in SAMS Kibria killing case. And on the same day, the High Court ordered the government to ensure that the former state minister is not tortured while on remand. Babar is in jail custody in Habiganj in the case concerning murder of the former finance minister. An HC bench comprised of Justice Nazmun Ara Sultana and Justice Md Rais Uddin passed the order upon a writ petition filed by Babar. His wife Tahmina Zaman filed it on behalf of him challenging remand prayer of the CID. The petitioner prayed to the HC to stay the remand prayer,

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



Move to ensure enforcement of fair rules

DU CORRESPONDENT

The Amar Ekushey Book Fair authorities have decided to strengthen the activities of its monitoring cell to ensure the observance of fair rules in all stalls. The authorities took the decision in the wake of allegation that a number of stalls have been selling books violating the fair rules. Despite

SEE PAGE 7 COL 3

Drive continues to retrieve parking space

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha (Rajuk) yesterday demolished parts of a number of buildings in the city's Rampura Road area to retrieve designated car parking space. A team led by Rajuk Executive Magistrate Rokon-Ud-Dowla knocked down unauthorised portions of the buildings including two apartments built by BDDL and Circle Housing companies. The drive is a part of the ongoing action to retrieve selected parking space used otherwise for commercial purpose. While carrying out the evictions, the authorities have

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

BCL yet to detect Shibir infiltration

RAKIB AHAMMED

Bangladesh Chhatra League has yet to take a formal step to detect alleged infiltration by Islami Chhatra Shibir even 48 hours after the Awami League general secretary's claim. BCL President Mahmud Hasan Ripon said they are enquiring in their 'own ways' to identify the Shibir infiltrators. "If any leaders' involvement with Shibir is proved, they will be ousted immediately," he told The Daily Star. Earlier on Tuesday, AL General Secretary Syed Ashraf Islam told reporters they found through investigation that some "identified pro-Shibir men" were given "important positions" in four Dhaka University hall units of BCL. His comments took most BCL leaders by surprise. The apparently frustrated leaders from hall units to the central committee believe a senior leader like Ashraf should not have publicly made such a "crucial" comment, putting the student body into a scuffle. He could have rather asked BCL for taking organisational action against the alleged Shibir men, said some top-rank BCL leaders. However, a number of BCL leaders echoed the AL general

SEE PAGE 7 COL 4

Indian hostel blaze kills 12 children

AFP, Guwahati

At least 12 children were killed in a massive fire yesterday, which gutted a school hostel in northeastern India made of bamboo and hay, a local official said. Most of the 62 students managed to escape from the blaze, which broke out just after midnight at a private hostel housing students attending the missionary school in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. Eight students were injured

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

let's talk love

NOKIA
Connecting People

This Valentine celebrate love with Nokia.

Buy any device from the selected range of devices and have a chance to win attractive Valentine gifts!

Offer available at:
Nokia Stores: Gulshan (Casablanca, Ground Floor, 114, Gulshan Avenue) • Bashundhara City (Level-5, Block-B) • Dhanmondi (Happy Arcade, 2nd floor, House-3, Road-3, Mirpur Road) • Uttara (North Tower, 5th Floor, Shop-506, Sector-7).
Nokia Solution Partners: Dhaka: Shoppers World (68/1, Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan-1) • 17/13 Paribagh, Hatirpool • Konifer Tower, Siddheswari More, Baily Road Chittagong: Sholoshohar, Gate No.-02, Nasirabad • 226 Sheikh Mujib Road, Agrabad • Highway Plaza, 1st Floor, Shop-211, Lalkhan Bazar

In remembrance on the first death anniversary of Rebecca Mahmud (Nilu).

At the ordain of Almighty Allah you left us to eternity on this day the 12th February, 2009. We still remember you and feel deeply shocked at your early death. Although you are not physically with us you live in our heart.

We pray to Almighty Allah for you eternal peace.

Grief Stricken Family Members.

OnlinePoll

Do you agree with BNP that a certain intelligence agency is assisting the government to implicate its Senior Vice-Chairman Tarique Rahman in the 10-truck arms haul case?

No (68.7%)
 Yes (30.0%)
 No Comments (1.3%)

Total votes: 1107

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with Home Minister Sahara Khatun that the country's law and order situation is now better than any other time in the past?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing

February 12

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-25	6-00
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	5-57	6-01
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation