

Did you know?

The Gateway Arch is an integral part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial and the iconic image of St. Louis, Missouri. It stands 630 feet (192 m) tall, and is 630 feet (192 m) wide at its base, making it the tallest monument in the United States.



The fascinating world of construction. Brought to you by:



Whirlpool Amazing Triple Offer
Unbelievable Saving up to Tk. 17,600* on Whirlpool Refrigerator

With specific models of Whirlpool Refrigerator:
Cash Discount up to Tk. 3,200*
Free Whirlpool Microwave Oven worth Tk. 6,900
Exchange Offer: Trade in used refrigerator***, Tk. 7,500*
Unbelievable Saving up to Tk. 17,600*

TRANSKOM DIGITAL
Your Trusted Electronics Retailer
For More Information: 8855368-8, 01712 665483

Stimulus for Aus farmers

Govt to spend Tk 26cr to help marginal farmers including Boro losers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday launched a Tk 26 crore stimulus package for marginal farmers to boost the upcoming Aus production and recover the losses in Boro season due to recent flash floods in some districts.

The floods in greater Sylhet, Kishoreganj and Netrakona damaged around 1.56 lakh metric tons of Boro crops in 40,000 hectares of land, said Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury at a press conference at the ministry yesterday.

She said the ministry has already disbursed Tk 25.96 crore to deputy commissioners of 51 districts to distribute it among 3,46,100 small and marginal farmers.

Under the stimulus package, which is the first ever for Aus production, each farmer would get 20kg of urea, 10kg each of TSP and MOP fertiliser per bigha of land for free, she said.

"With this package, 1.16 lakh metric tons of additional Aus will be produced which will help largely to overcome the boro loss," said Matia, adding that it was not possible to meet the losses in haor area without the stimulus package.

The minister warned that negligence and anomalies in

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8



Farmers are busy harvesting Boro paddy with the expectation of fair price for the crops this season. The photo was taken near Ashulia on the outskirts of the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Reckless buses kill two

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A madrasa student and a cultural activist were run over by buses near Shishu Mela on Mirpur Road and on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue in the capital yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Sanaullah Raju, 15, a class-X student of Jamia Abu Bakar Siddique Dakhil Madrasa of Mohammadpur, and Anisuzzaman, 35, an actor of Dhaka Padatik Natya Goshthi.

A bus of Labbayek Paribahan heading for Farmgate hit Anisuzzaman from behind around 10:00pm when was crossing the avenue at Banglamotor intersection.

Critically injured Anis was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

One of his co-artists said Anis was returning to his Jafrabad home after completing his day's work at their Eskaton office.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5



US deputy secy of state due today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

US Deputy Secretary of State James B Steinberg will arrive here today on a brief visit to discuss a range of important bilateral and multilateral issues with high government

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

PM opens projects to build 52,500 flats

Blames Rajuk for unplanned growth of city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday laid the foundation stone for construction of flats at Uttara Model Town formally kicking off a Rajuk plan to build 52,500 flats for lower and lower middle-income people under three massive projects.

Two hundred and sixty high-rises with 22,512 flats will be constructed on 214 acres of land at Uttara Sector-18. Three types of flats -- 850 square feet, 1,050 sqft and 1,250 sqft -- will be built under the Tk 8,625 crore Uttara Model Town Phase-3 Project.

Moreover, 20,000 flats will be built under Purbachal New Town Project and about 10,000 under Jhilmil Residential Project of Rajdhani

Unnayan Kartripakha (Rajuk)

The PM said people will get the flats on hire-purchase basis. They will own those by paying money as rent of the flats.

She directed Rajuk to give priority in allotment of flats to people affected by the projects, and keep flats reserved for people who made significant contribution to various fields like literature, art and sports.

Turning to unplanned growth of the capital, Hasina blamed Rajuk for this. It permitted construction of buildings without proper plan, she mentioned.

The prime minister asked Rajuk to ensure all kinds of civic amenities like schools, day care centres and lakes at its new projects including

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

ACHIEVING MDGS UN chief terms Bangladesh a model country

UNB, Dhaka

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said many countries around the world have many things to learn from Bangladesh for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as the country has made remarkable progress in different fields.

He made the remarks on Tuesday when a parliamentary delegation led by Speaker Abdul Hamid met him at the UN headquarters in New York, a message from Bangladesh Mission in New York said.

Praising Bangladesh's achievement in MDGs and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Row over oath continues

Lawyers loyal to AL, BNP put pressure on CJ

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice Mohammad Fazlul Karim yesterday said he would take steps soon to resolve the crisis regarding the swearing in of two High Court judges.

But the CJ did not say if he himself would swear them in, said a group of pro-Awami League lawyers after meeting the CJ at his Supreme Court office yesterday afternoon.

Former Supreme Court Bar Association secretary AM Amin Uddin, one of the lawyers, told The Daily Star that the chief justice has no option but to have judges Ruhul Quddus and Md Khasruzzaman sworn in since their appointments are still valid.

Incumbent SCBA President Khandaker Mahub Hossain, who was elected from pro-BNP-Jamaat lawyers' panel, had said on Tuesday that lawyers would put up resistance if the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Abul refuses to give project documents to JS body

RASHIDUL HASAN

Communications Minister Syed Abul Hossain yesterday refused to submit documents of a development work of the railway department before a parliamentary standing committee meeting challenging the committee's jurisdiction.

The parliamentary standing committee on communications ministry then placed the issue before the speaker of the House and formed a three-member sub-committee headed by Zillul Hakim to work on it.

"We asked the communications minister to place

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



RANGERS REIGN: Rajshahi Rangers players run for joy after beating Kings of Khulna by six wickets in the final of the Destiny Group NCL T20s at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday. (Story on page 17)

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

WAR CRIMES TRIAL Scanty logistics slow down investigation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Investigation for the trial of crimes against humanity committed during the Liberation War slows down thanks to shortage of logistics,

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

DEMONSTRATION FOR WATER, POWER AL men attack BNP rally: 10 hurt

UNB, Dhaka

BNP demonstration for utility services came under attack at Rajabazar in the city yesterday by ruling party activists that left at least 10 people wounded.

Demonstration, as part of a two-day programme launched by the main opposition party, was held at seven points in the city demanding electricity, water and gas supply. Spot accounts of the incident at Rajabazar said BNP activists of ward No 39 and 40 assembled at Boubazar of Rajabazar and the ruling party activists attacked them around 3:30pm.

The attackers coming through different lanes chased the demonstrators with brickbats, sticks and rods.

Tariqul Islam Bahalul, Giasuddin Milon, Shahidul Islam, Mofazzel Mia, Shahjahan Raj, Golam Sarwar, Sirajul Islam, Swapan and Bachhu were injured in the attack and later rushed to the Al Rajee Hospital at Farmgate.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

OnlinePoll

Do you think the government's decision to give more power to upazila nirbahi officers will have positive impact on development works?

- Yes (52.8%)
- No (45.4%)
- No Comments (1.8%)

Total votes: 722

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the Election Commission will be able to hold Bhola-3 by-elections peacefully?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Militancy a cooked up issue

Claims Nizami

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami yesterday claimed that the country's mainstream Islamic parties don't have any link with militancy.

The militancy issue was cooked up to bring foreign forces to Bangladesh just like Afghanistan, said Nizami, blaming its creation on Mossad and RAW.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

দক্ষিণ খান শাখার নাম পরিবর্তন করে আজমপুর শাখা নামকরণ প্রসঙ্গে

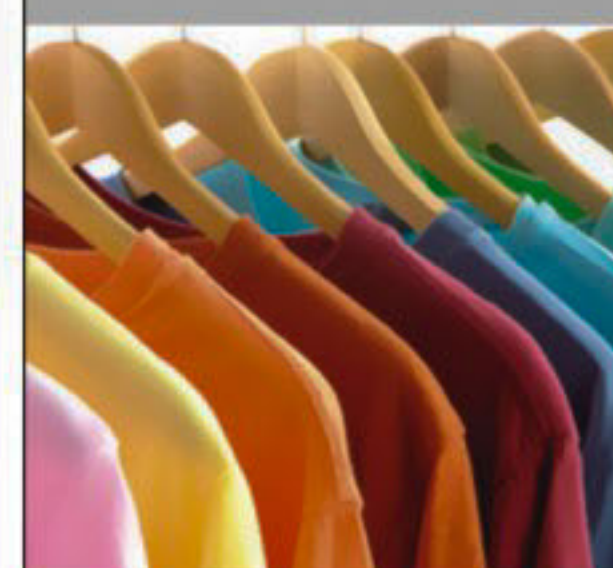
বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের প্রধান কার্যালয়ের ব্যাংকিং প্রবিধি ও নীতি বিভাগ তাদের প্রেরিত পত্র নং বিআরপিডি (পি-৩) ৭৪৫ (৫২)/২০১০-১২১১ তারিখ ৩১.০৩.২০১০ -এর মাধ্যমে আমাদের আবেদনের প্রেক্ষিতে ফার্স্ট সিকিউরিটি ইসলামী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড এর দক্ষিণ খান শাখা, ঢাকা এর নাম পরিবর্তন করে আজমপুর শাখা, ঢাকা নামে অনুমোদন দিয়েছে।

বিস্ময়টি সকলের অবগতির জন্য প্রকাশ করা হল।

www.fsibibd.com

ফার্স্ট সিকিউরিটি ইসলামী ব্যাংক লিঃ
فارسٹ سيكيوريٹی اسلامي بنك ليميتيد
FIRST SECURITY ISLAMI BANK LTD.

AFTAB GARMENTS LIMITED [Circular Knitting, Sewing & Finishing] (A CONCERN OF AFTAB GROUP)



"Aftab Garments Limited" concern of Aftab Group, is equipped with world's advanced and branded garments machinery such as Japanese Fukuhara Circular Knitting machine, Italian Protti Flat Knitting machine, Brother's Plain Machine, Pegasus Flat Lock and Over Lock machine.



International and local buying agents are requested to contact directly.

AFTAB GARMENTS

HEAD OFFICE: UTTARA BANK BHABAN (4th & 5th Floor), 90 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000. Tel: +880-2-7161805, 01913-529448, 01714-035037
01714-103877, Fax: +880-2-7161805, E-mail: info@aftabgarments.com, FACTORY: AFTAB INDUSTRIAL PARK, Vannara, Mouchak, Gazipur.
AFTAB GROUP KAKRAIL OFFICE: 67/9 Kakrail (3rd & 4th Floor), Dhaka-1000, Web: www.aftabgroup.com.bd, www.iftekharulislam.com