

Govt plans expansion of free education

Planning ministry meets soon to discuss free education for all in public institutions

REJAUUL KARIM BYRON
The government is planning to make education free for all at public institutions ranging from schools to universities. Besides, it plans to form a trust fund to provide stipend to the meritorious and deserving students at all levels. These moves have been initiated following a directive by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The planning ministry is now set to hold a meeting with Planning Minister AK Khandoker in the chair to chalk out how free education can be introduced soon. Currently, education is free for all at the primary level. At the secondary and

higher secondary level, around 18 lakh out of 45 lakh female students receive government stipend under a certain criterion. The students who receive the stipend get free education as well. The total number of students covering all kinds of schools, colleges and universities presently stands at around 85 lakh, with more than half of it under private education system. However, the students of the private sector would remain out of the free education once it is introduced. A planning ministry high official said the prime minister has given a broad guideline in the light of which the high-

powered meeting will fix the principles and strategies for implementing the initiative. The official added the meeting would formulate detailed guidelines whether all schools and colleges included in the MPO would come under this initiative. The finance minister, education minister, the prime minister's adviser for finance and other high officials will attend the meeting, which will soon discuss the matter. Planning ministry sources say the prime minister in her handwriting issued the directive on April 20 while presiding
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Waste of tanneries and sewage have been flooding Moneshwar Lane in Hazaribagh in the capital for the last three months rendering the lane unusable.
PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL



Irene Khan joins The Daily Star
The Daily Star takes great pleasure in announcing the appointment of Irene Khan as Consulting Editor from today. She will be assisting the paper in improving its coverage in areas of human rights,
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ANTI-GOVT MOVEMENT BNP may hold long march

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
BNP sits tomorrow to discuss the anti-government programmes its chairperson is going to announce at a rally at Paltan Maidan on May 19. Its national standing committee will meet at Chairperson Khaleda Zia's Gulshan office also to discuss whether to participate in the Chittagong City Corporation election. Standing committee member Lt Gen Mahbubur Rahman last night told The Daily Star that they will discuss all important issues including anti-government movement and CCC polls. Addressing rallies in Barisal and Rajshahi, Khaleda said she would unveil programmes against the government at her party's
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SSC exams results today

BSS, Dhaka
The results of this year's Secondary School Certificate (SSC) and its equivalent examinations-2010 held under ten educational boards will be published today, sources at education ministry said yesterday. Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid is expected to announce the results at a press conference at 1:00pm in the ministry. The SSC results will be available in the educational institutions, in the website www.educationboardresults.gov.bd and email address of the
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PM'S MALAYSIA VISIT Dhaka for more manpower export

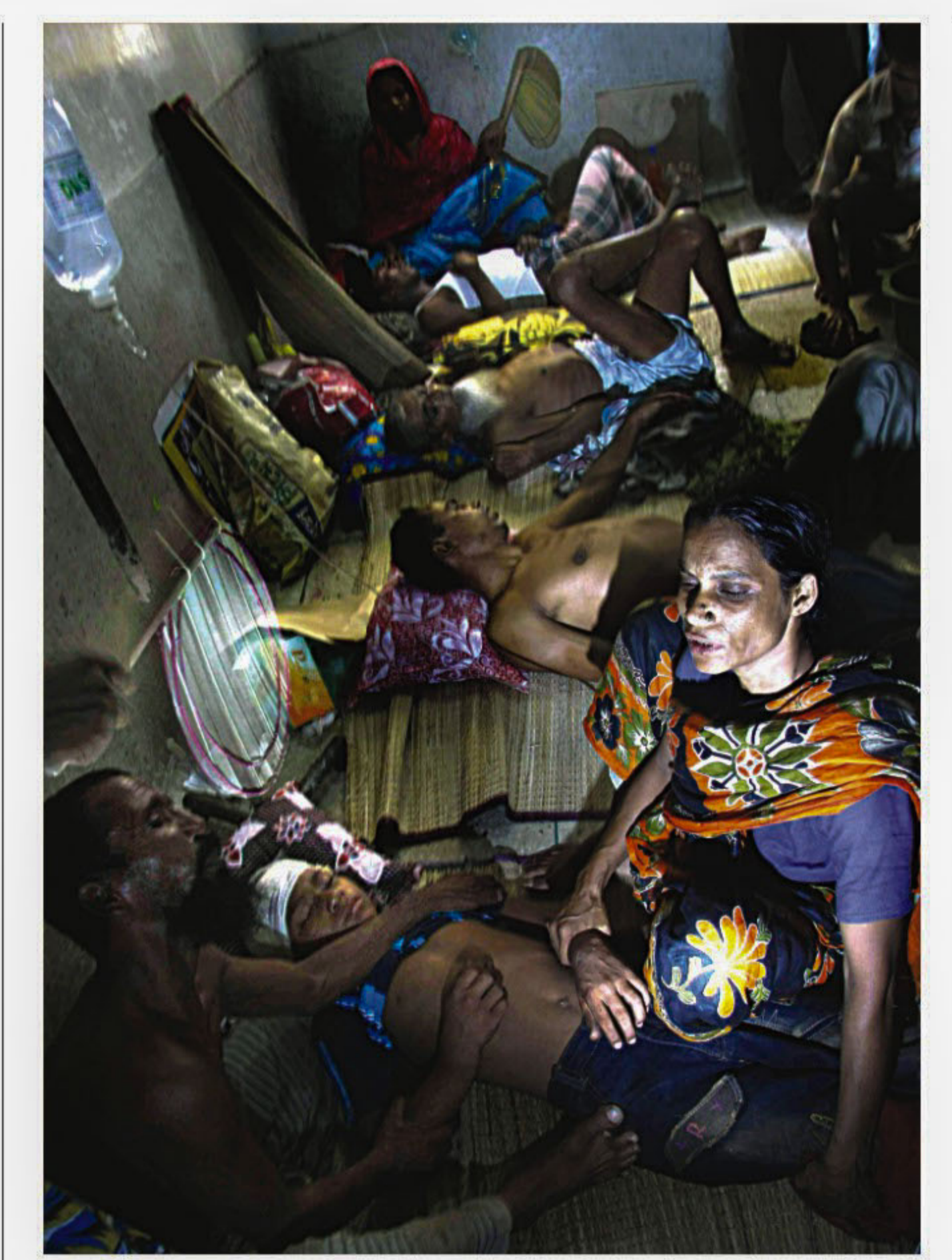
PORIMOL PALMA
Bangladesh earning the status of a labour-source country will be high on the agenda during the prime minister's visit to Malaysia. Sheikh Hasina will raise the issue while holding bilateral talks with her Malaysian counterpart Abdullah Bin Ahmad Badawi on the sidelines of the three-day World Islamic Economic Forum meeting starting on May 18. Once Bangladesh becomes a labour-source country, Malaysian employers will be able to recruit Bangladeshi workers regularly instead
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Hasina leaves for S Korea, Malaysia today

BSS, Dhaka
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina leaves Dhaka for Seoul today on a six-day official visit to South Korea and Malaysia. A Thai aircraft carrying the prime minister and members of her entourage will take off from Hazrat Shahjalal (R) International Airport in the afternoon. On her way to Seoul, Hasina will make a six-hour stopover in the Thai capital Bangkok. The Bangladesh delegation
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BOAT CAPSIZE Death toll 17 as 6 more bodies found

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj
Six more bodies were recovered yesterday morning, after a motorboat capsized in Dhaleshwari River in Kishoreganj Wednesday night, raising the death toll to 17. The deceased were identified as Safia Khatun, 8, Monowara Begum, 26, Nurchan Begum, 35, Abdul Barik, 70, Azmat Ali, 50, and Tanvir Miah, 10. Most of them hailed from Bazitpur upazila in the district. Subrata Kumar Saha, officer-in-charge of Bazitpur Police Station, told The Daily Star that the administration with the help of locals recovered the bodies around 10:00am as those were floating along the stream. Earlier eleven more bodies were recovered on Wednesday and Thursday.
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Patients stay on the hallway floor at Dhaka Medical College Hospital as the premier public hospital in the country receives more patients than it can accommodate.
PHOTO: RASHED SUMON

PATIENT'S DEATH DMCH doctors assaulted, ward ransacked

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Relatives of a patient yesterday vandalised an emergency ward of Dhaka Medical College Hospital and assaulted its doctors and nurses alleging that negligence in treatment led to the patient's death. The violence caused panic among the doctors, nurses and patients. Regular activities in the ward came to a halt for about an hour. Former Dorichar union parishad chairman Bazlur Rahman, 45, of Mehendiganj upazila in Barishal was rushed to DMCH around 3:00pm after he was injured in a road accident at Manohardi in Narsingdi around 11:00am, DMCH sources said. Witnesses said soon after the on-duty doctors declared Bazlur Rahman dead, around 50 of his relatives got furious
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Cops free cab drivers amid violent protests

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Tejgaon police released the eight taxi drivers they detained Thursday following violent demonstrations in front of Tejgaon Police Station by fellow taxi drivers yesterday. Police charged truncheons on the drivers injuring at least 15 as the protesting drivers laid siege to the police station and set up barricades on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue for over half an hour around noon. The demonstrators also ransacked five taxis as the drivers of those vehicles did not join the picketing. Tejgaon Police Station Officer-in-Charge Mahbubur Rahman, however, said they freed the drivers after their relatives gave them an undertaking. The OC said a few drivers tried to stage demonstration at the police station. Police failed their attempt to enter the station building, he said.
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Girl, youth killed in BSF shooting

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon
Indian Border Security Force (BSF) yesterday shot two Bangladeshi nationals, including a child, dead, on Ratnai border under Baliadangi upazila of the district. The victims were identified as Mojibor Rahaman, 20, son of Sharif Uddin and Parul, 10, daughter of Jasimuddin of the same upazilas. Other two persons received severe bullet wound at the same time. Major Muminuzzaman of 20
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CAAB chief may be sent back to BAF

RASHIDUL HASAN
Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh chief Air Commodore Sakeb Iqbal Khan Majlish is likely to be sent back to the Air Force, top CAAB officials said. Air Commodore Mahmood Hossain, who was made CAAB chief for three months during the tenure of the last caretaker government, might replace Sakeb, they said.
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Govt permits yarn import thru' Benapole

STAR REPORT
The government has finally opened Benapole land port for import of yarn, ignoring the demand of the local spinning mill owners. National Board of Revenue (NBR) yesterday issued a notification (SRO-262/2009) withdrawing ban on yarn import through Benapole port. As per the notification, four counts of yarn--82/1, 100/1, 100/2 and 120/1--can be imported through the port. NBR sources said the
SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

দুর্জয় SME লোন

জামানত ছাড়াই

২৫

লাখ টাকা ঋণ*

SME খাতের জন্য সবচেয়ে বড় অঙ্কের জামানতবিহীন ঋণ সুবিধা

- ৩ বছরের বেশি পুরনো ব্যবসা প্রতিষ্ঠানের নামে ৩ থেকে ২৫ লক্ষ টাকা পর্যন্ত ঋণ
- সর্বোচ্চ ৫ বছর পর্যন্ত মাসিক কিস্তির সুবিধা
- বাজারের সবচেয়ে সুবিধাজনক ইন্টারেস্ট রেট

২৪-ঘণ্টা ফোন ব্যাংকিং: ০৯৮৯৯ ২০০০০০

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