

Did you know?

The Willis Tower, formerly named Sears Tower, is a 108-story 1,451 feet (442 m) skyscraper in Chicago, Illinois. At the time of its completion in 1973, it was the tallest building in the world, surpassing the World Trade Center towers in New York. Currently, Willis Tower is the tallest building in the United States and the fifth-tallest freestanding structure in the world as well as the fifth tallest building in the world to the roof.



World Cup THINK Big Mega Offer

32" LCD TV (3409) RSP: Tk. 75,000 World Cup Offer: 65,000

42" LCD TV (3609) RSP: Tk. 125,000 World Cup Offer: 105,000

47" LCD TV (3609) RSP: Tk. 175,000 World Cup Offer: 173,000

PHILIPS

TRANSKOM DIGITAL

think electronics... think DIGITAL

For More Information: 8855366-8, 01712 885483

Flood-tolerant aman developed

PORIMOL PALMA

Scientists have developed four new varieties of rice for aman season creating scope for increasing the yield of this monsoon crop and reducing reliance on boro production.

The new varieties are submergence-tolerant BRRI Dhan-51 and BRRI Dhan-52, and Hybrid-4 and Hira Dhan-10, both first ever hybrid rice varieties for aman season.

Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) in collaboration with International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) developed the two submergence-tolerant varieties, BRRI developed Hybrid-4 while a private company-- Supreme Seed-- developed Hira Dhan-10.

The National Seed Board has certified all the four new varieties allowing their cultivation at farmers' level, said BRRI scientists.

Asked about development of the new varieties, the scientists said they consider this a major breakthrough in Bangladesh's agriculture.

Normal yield of BRRI Dhan-51 and BRRI Dhan-52 is 5-5.5 tonnes a hectare, but when submerged, the yield is 4-4.5 tonnes, said Dr Khairul Bashar, head of Genetic Resources and Seed Division of BRRI.

"To ensure food security amid threats of climate change, the submergence-tolerant varieties are a breakthrough," he said.

Development of these two varieties took four years of joint efforts by BRRI and IRRI.

Dr Bashar further said BRRI with its own efforts for around eight years developed Hybrid-4, the yield of which is up to 7.5 tonnes a hectare.

Supreme Seed took five years to develop Hira Dhan-10, and its yield is six tonnes a hectare.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1



The BRRI Dhan-51, a variety of aman, in this field has survived even after remaining submerged for days. The photo was taken from Kurigram district last year.

Fire burns goods at city garment factory

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A fire last night burned huge goods at a garment factory in Tejgaon industrial area.

No casualties however were reported as the factory was closed.

Fire-fighters said the blaze started at Hong Kong Garment on the 2nd floor of a

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

EXTRA TOLL COLLECTION Drivers block Dhaka-Maowa link road

UNB, Keraniganj

Autorickshaw and van drivers blocked south edge of Buriganga Bridge-2 on Dhaka-Maowa link road yesterday protesting collection of extra toll from them.

Sources said the drivers put up barricade on the road at 9:00am halting vehicular movement on the road and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7



UN high official due tomorrow

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

UN Under-Secretary-General Anna Tibajuka arrives in the capital tomorrow on a brief visit to Bangladesh.

Tibajuka, also executive director of UN-HABITAT, will have talks with high officials

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Road crashes kill 15 Killer drivers stay out of reach

STAR REPORT

At least 15 people, including two physicians, were killed and 20 others critically injured in road accidents of Dinajpur, Sirajganj, Mymensingh and Bogra yesterday.

Of the dead, Dr Yousuf Ali and Dr Taiyabur Rahman were senior professors of surgery and gynaecology departments at Dinajpur Medical College and Hospital, reports our correspondent from Dinajpur.

Witnesses said the accident occurred when the Rajshahi-bound microbus carrying seven physicians collided with a truck coming from opposite direction at Kanagari village under Ghoraghat upazila.

The injured were rushed to Ghoraghat upazila health complex where the microbus driver succumbed to his injuries.

Of the wounded, the condition of Dr Shamsul Alam Chowdhury was critical, health complex sources said.

Road communication between Dinajpur and other parts of the country was temporarily snapped after the accident.

In another incident, four people, including two of a family, were killed in a head-on collision between a truck and a CNG-run auto-rickshaw in Ghurka area under Rayganj upazila, reports our Sirajganj correspondent.

The deceased were identified as Montu Kundu, 70, and his son Meghnath Kundu, 35, CNG driver Abdus Salam, 20, and Bahar Ali Akondo, 35.

The bodies were sent to hospital for autopsy. Police seized the truck but its driver managed to flee.

A case was filed with Solonga thana in this connection.

Our Mymensingh correspondent adds: At least two people including a madrasah teacher were killed in two separate road accidents in Sadar upazila yesterday, Our Mymensingh correspondent adds.

The victims were identified as Shamsul Alam, 50, and Idris Ali, 30.

Police said the accident occurred when a Dhaka-bound bus hit the vehicle, which Shamsul was riding on his way to the madrasah

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Killer drivers stay out of reach

30 died in road crashes last month; only 3 drivers caught, that too by passers-by

MUKHLESUR RAHMAN

At least 30 people were killed last month in 29 road accidents in the capital alone but only three drivers were detained with links to the incidents.

They all were caught by locals on the spot of the accidents. The other culprits have managed to elude arrest, as law enforcers seem less keen on tracking them down.

Police have to be occupied with maintaining law and order, which hinders them from going after the guilty drivers, said a high-up of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (Traffic) wishing anonymity.

DMP Joint Commissioner Shafiqur Rahman said 98 percent road accidents happen due to

rough driving while nearly 80 percent drivers in the capital don't have valid driving licences.

Another DMP high official said many cases of road accidents are settled out of the court without seeking any police action.

DMP ADC Walid Hossain said as many as 149 people were killed in road accidents in the last five months. The number was 142 in the same period in 2009.

However, police could not confirm the number of people arrested with links to the accidents that claimed the lives of 149 people.

The death of Buet fresher Khanjahan Khandaker Samrat in a road accident at Azimpur on May 27 came to the spotlight. The

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Energy saving bulbs up for change in 27 districts

UNB, Dhaka

The government yesterday distributed compact fluorescent lamps (CFL), popularly known as energy saving bulbs, to electricity consumers free of cost as part of its move on energy conservation in the wake of nagging power crisis.

A total of 55 lakh bulbs were distributed among the consumers in selected areas of 27 districts including capital Dhaka.

In the capital, Dhaka Power Distribution Company Ltd (DPDC) and Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd (DESCO) distributed the energy saving bulbs in different selected areas.

Other distribution entities like Power Development Board, Rural Electrification

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



Officials distribute energy saving bulbs to consumers free of cost at Islamiya Govt Primary School in the capital yesterday. A total of 55 lakh bulbs were distributed among the consumers in selected areas of 27 districts including Dhaka.

PHOTO: STAR

DEATH OF MOTHER, 2 KIDS 'Suicide' planned month back

Claims detained microbus driver; investigators not sure if it was murder or suicide

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Farzana made the decision to commit suicide about a month ago, said driver Al Amin, who was arrested Thursday for alleged link with the deaths the mother and her two kids.

During interrogation, Al Amin said he had joined as Farzana's driver around three months ago and since then she used to share with him the miseries caused by her husband and in-laws. At one stage she expressed her desire to commit suicide.

However, the investigators are yet to ascertain whether it was a case of suicides or murder.

Farzana and her two children, 12-year-old Pabon and 10-year-old Payel, were found dead in their Jurain house on June 11.

Detective police yesterday produced driver Al Amin and Abdul Jobber, employee of the pharmacy from where Al Amin bought sedative pills, before a Dhaka court. The court placed Al Amin on a five-day and Abdul Jobber on a two-day remand.

According to Al Amin Farzana had her two children drink the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

OnlinePoll ✓

Do you think the government plan to run electric train between Dhaka and Chittagong is realistic when the country is facing severe power crisis?

Yes (68.74%)

No (30.08%)

No Comments (1.18%)

Total votes: 851

TODAY'S POLL

Mayor-elect of Chittagong City Corporation Manjur Alam hopes to run his office with the advice of his predecessor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury. Do you think Mohiuddin will extend his support?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing

June 20

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-52	6-55
Esha	8-17	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

Tannery relocation soon

Dilip assures JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Relocation of tannery industries from the capital's Hazaribagh to Savar and Keraniganj will begin soon, Industries Minister Dilip Barua told parliament yesterday.

While replying to lawmakers' queries, he said floating a tender for setting up a state-of-the-art central effluent treatment plant (ETP) at the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Karzai sees sign of fresh battle

Worries over Afghanistan's newfound mineral resources

REUTERS, Tokyo

Afghan President Hamid Karzai said on Friday he was concerned about a looming battle over his country's untapped mineral resources and that Afghanistan's major donors should be prioritised in exploiting them.

US defence officials said this week that Afghanistan has untapped mineral deposits that could be worth more than \$1 trillion based on a recent study of a 2007 US survey and other information from the Soviet era.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

2 bullet-hit on Sylhet border

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Two Bangladeshi nationals sustained bullet wounds as Indian Khasias intruded into the country yesterday and opened fire on stone miners at Bichhnakandi borders in Gowainghat upazila.

Injured Lilu Miah, 30, son of Abul Quashem and Nasir Uddin, 23, son of Wahab Ali, of Bogaiya Muslimpara village, were admitted to Gowainghat

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

SUMMER SCHOOL

Canadian International School is offering a four week summer school program for students of ages 2-13. This program will run from July 1st through July 31st. Learning experiences will include English, French, ESL, computing, creative writing, story telling, dance, cooking, arts and crafts, sports, field trips and barbeque evening!!!

For Enrollment Please Contract

Canadian International School, Dhaka

9899638, 9890036, and 8860306