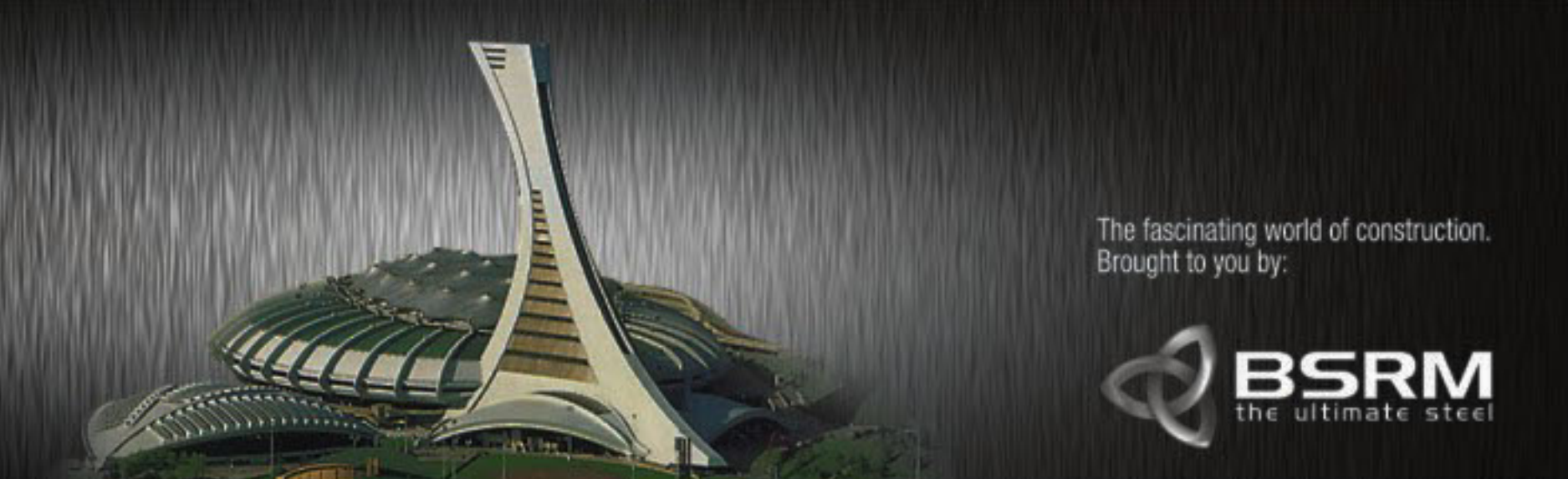


## Did you know?

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## PM warns culprits at airports

*Asks for an end to harassment of passengers*

UNB, DHAKA

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday warned of stern action against those who will be found guilty of harassing passengers at international airports in the country.

She also directed the authorities concerned to remain alert so that none involved in terrorism and militancy can enter into Bangladesh territory through the airports.

"We'll give all technological and logistics support to improve the services at the airports. If services for the passengers are not improved

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

# JS body blasts civil aviation ministry

*It was blamed for plight of 600 passengers stranded in Riyadh, Dubai, Dhaka*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary body yesterday blasted the civil aviation ministry for refusing Biman's plea to give a Boeing aircraft extension of waiver for registration, causing hundreds of passengers stranded at home and abroad.

The parliamentary standing committee on civil aviation and tourism ministry said all the members of the body were "very much angry" with the ministry's top officials' attitude.

The ministry top officials want to "create an image crisis for the government", the committee members observed at a meeting held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhavan.

Nearly 600 passengers were stranded last week at hotels in Riyadh, Jeddah and Dhaka after Biman was forced to use a smaller aircraft

on two routes.

The problem arose on June 14 when the ministry refused to give a 24-year-old leased Boeing 747-200 extension of waiver for registration, which forced Biman to halt its flights with that aircraft.

The plane was running on Dhaka-Jeddah and Dhaka-Dammam-Riyadh routes.

On June 19, Biman however resumed flights with the leased Boeing after the ministry awarded verbal permission to use the plane for carrying passengers between Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia, officials say.

"After five days of passengers' sufferings, the ministry has given verbal permission to fly the same aircraft. We asked the secretary to the ministry where the question of security has

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## Akhtar-ul Alam passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Veteran journalist and a diplomat Akhtar-ul Alam passed away last night due to kidney failure in United Hospital of the capital, at the age of 71.

He worked as an acting editor of the vernacular daily

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

## Family savings scheme for women reintroduced

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has re-introduced five-year Family Savings Certificate (Paribar Sanchoyopatra) for women offering 11.04 percent interest.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

# AL's Ctg feud comes to fore

*2 factions observe party anniversary separately*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The long-term division and factional feud in Bangladesh Awami League (AL) Chittagong city unit has become apparent with Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) poll ended last week.

Now it is obvious as the two factions led by AL lawmaker Nurul Islam and incumbent AL city unit president and ex-CCC Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury separately observed the party's 61st founding anniversary yesterday.

Mohiuddin-led faction of AL city unit organised a discussion meeting marking the party's 61st founding anniversary at Muslim Institute hall at around 5.00pm yesterday.

Mohiuddin Chowdhury presided over the meeting where Chittagong University's Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Abu Yusuf Alam was chief discussant. AL city unit GS Inamul Hoque Danu, organising secretary Badiul Alam, joint secretaries Ibrahim Hossain Babul and Khorsheed Alam Sujon and member advocate Iftekhar Saimul Chowdhury spoke among others.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 2

## E-voting from next election

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Electronic voting system will be introduced in the next general election to prevent rigging, said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday at a discussion marking Awami League's 61st founding anniversary.

"We will take measures to ensure electronic voting in future so that not a single vote is rigged," said Hasina, also the president of the ruling party.

AL organised the discussion at city's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre with party presidium member Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury in the chair.

Referring to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's repeated claims of vote rigging

SEE PAGE 7 COL 6



A factory of ACI Ltd, a portion of which is situated on encroached upon foreshore of the Shitalakkhya River at Godnail in Narayanganj. Inset: A labourer, hired by Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA), knocks down an illegal structure in the factory compound with a sledgehammer during an eviction drive yesterday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ



## SHITALAKKHYA DRIVE

# Eviction team attacked

Four cases to be filed against ACI Ltd

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The eviction team of Narayanganj district administration and Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) yesterday came under attack by the workers of Advanced Chemical Industries (ACI) Ltd at Godnail of the district.

The team went to knock down an illegal factory of ACI.

A total of 11 labourers and one BIWTA official were injured in the attack, said executive magistrate Zahirul Islam, who led the eviction team.

The joint authorities of district administration and BIWTA are conducting the eviction as part of its ongoing drive to rescue the Shitalakkhya.

Four cases would be filed in this connection against the chairman of ACI Ltd, its General Manager Ishtiaque Ahmed and hundreds of unidentified people with Siddhirganj Police Station on charge of attempt to murder and obstructing government officials in discharging their duties, said Islam.

Of the cases, one would be filed by BIWTA, two by injured labourers and one by police, said the magistrate.

Alamgir Kabir, deputy director of BIWTA, told The Daily Star that they would file the case today.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

## Hail young scientists

*Jute genome decoding hero introduces his team*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Young boffins of Bangladesh who worked passionately to decode the jute genome proved it again that brilliance and dedication can turn dreams into reality.

They had the zeal because it was a huge matter of pride

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

## 1 killed in 'crossfire'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An alleged criminal was killed in a gunfight between his cohorts and Rapid Action Battalion members at Manikdi in Dhaka cantonment area yesterday.

Identified as Yusuf Ali Alias

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

## Mahmudur taken to 'unknown place'

*Claim family, his lawyers*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Family members and lawyers for detained Mahmudur Rahman, acting editor of the recently closed daily Amar Desh, yesterday alleged that he has been taken to an unknown destination from the custody of the detective

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

# Metro rail tops govt's priority

*PM tells JS plans to make jam-free Dhaka*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday informed parliament about various measures including selection of a priority project for construction of metro rail to ease traffic congestion in the capital.

A study titled Dhaka Urban Transport Network Development, has been completed for development of transport management in Dhaka Metropolitan area. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) funded and managed

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

## Tk 6.32cr for beggars

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has proposed an allocation of Tk6.32 crore in the next fiscal year to begin a project for rehabilitation of beggars by providing them with employment, education, training and shelter.

Minister of Social Welfare Enamul Haque Mostafa Shahid stated this yesterday in the parliament while replying to queries of lawmakers.

The government would conduct a survey to get an estimate of beggars in the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## Two rental power deals signed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Power Development Board yesterday signed contracts with two local companies to install two rental power plants with a capacity of 217 megawatt.

Summit Narayanganj Power Ltd will set up a 102MW power plant at Madanganj in Narayanganj and Khulna Power Company Ltd (unit 2) another 115MW plant at Goalpara in Khulna, according to the contracts.

The furnace oil-fired plants must be operational within 270 days of signing of the agreement.

The plants are likely to add electricity to the national grid from March 2011, just before the irrigation period, said PDB Chairman ASM Alamgir Kabir.

"The government is making quick decisions to ease the

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

## 'SUICIDE' OF MOTHER, 2 KIDS Father denied paternity

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Heart-racking information came out during the remand interrogation of the in-laws of Farzana Akter Rita, who with her two children were found dead in their Jurain house on June 11.

During the interrogation, Shafiqul Kabir, Farzana's father-in-law, said his son Rashedul denied paternity of Pabon and Payel during an altercation on May 6.

Shafiqul admitted that they remained silent when the children in tears were seeking a little support from the people present during the altercation as Rashedul verbally divorced Farzana and asked her to leave the house with the children.

Detective police were interrogating Farzana's parents-in-law, her sisters-in-law Sukhon and Kabita and Kabita's husband Delwar Hossain Patwari, who had been placed on three-day remand each from yesterday.

The Detective Branch (DB) of police have formed a special team to arrest prime accused Rashedul Kabir and Smriti and sent their photos to every immigration check post so that the two cannot leave the country, said a DB official.

During her interrogation, Noor Banu said at one stage of the altercation on May 6, she slapped Farzana on her face, which turned the situation worse.

After that Farzana's maternal uncle Abbas Dewan, his two

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7



## Bridging economic development with your financial aspiration. DBL is now at Khilgaon, Dhaka

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Yes (25.06%)

No (72.61%)

No Comments (2.33%)

Total votes: 774

TODAY'S POLL

Speakers at a workshop on civil-military relations have sought more transparency in army spending. Do you support this?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing

June 24

	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