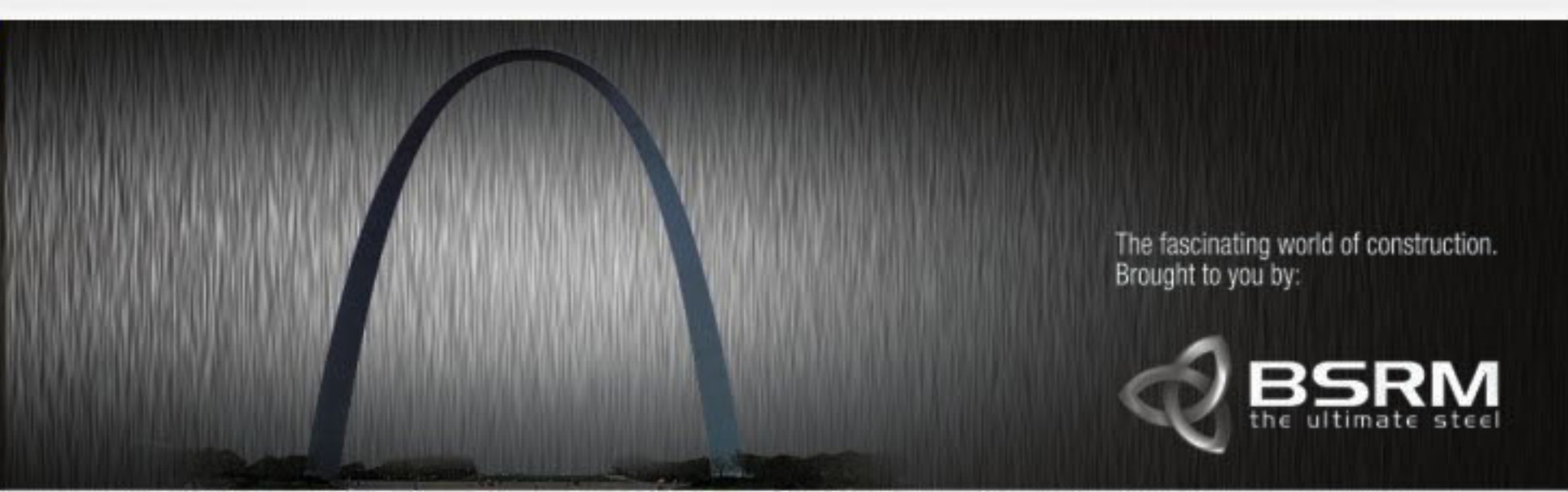


Did you know?
The Gateway Arch is an integral part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial and the iconic image of St. Louis, Missouri. It stands 630 feet (192 m) tall, and is 630 feet (192 m) wide at its base, making it the tallest monument in the United States.



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Cairn can sell gas to third party

Govt may allow it this week; company to undertake \$100m scheme in Bay to increase gas flow to Ctg

SHARIER KHAN
The government may approve this week an incentive to British company Cairn allowing it to sell gas to a third party other than Petrobangla from any newly discovered gas fields in the offshore areas near Kutubdia, a highly placed Petrobangla source said.
This is the first such move in the country where gas sales is completely in control of the government. The incentive is being given by amending the production sharing contract (PSC) with Cairn for Block-16 because the company's latest find in that block appears to have very small prospect of being commercially viable.
"Without this incentive, Cairn will not proceed to spend any more money for exploration and development in this block," said the source.
"If the incentive is given, we believe Cairn will take enough initiatives that will help increase gas production in Chittagong region by next year. This is the fastest option for the government to increase gas supply to Chittagong," he said. Besides, Petrobangla will

also bag some good profit if the company can sell gas to a third party at a higher price.
Cairn discovered and developed the small offshore Sangu gas field in 1996 and had hard luck finding any commercially useful gas field ever since. It has however found another small prospect in Magnama, situated near Kutubdia island in the Bay of Bengal. Cairn last year conducted a three-dimensional seismic survey in Magnama at an investment of \$18 million and is now studying the results.
The amendment to PSC initialled nine months ago is an incentive for Cairn to carry out exploration and development in the offshore Magnama, and drill two wells in the rapidly depleting Sangu gas field.
The British company is now ready to invest \$100 million for drilling a development well in Sangu, another in South Sangu and an exploratory well in Magnama.
An official of Cairn said, "We are hoping this will give us the incentive to go ahead. If we find gas, we can then negotiate its price with prospective customers in Chittagong, and that price is going to be higher than the maximum

RMG worker crushed under bus

Protesters block road
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Agitated garments workers put up barricade on Nabinagar-Kaliakoir road at Palashbari in Ashulia for two hours following the death of a garment worker in a road accident yesterday morning.
Selim Reza, 26, a worker of Pearl Garments at Palashbari

College girl killed in fire

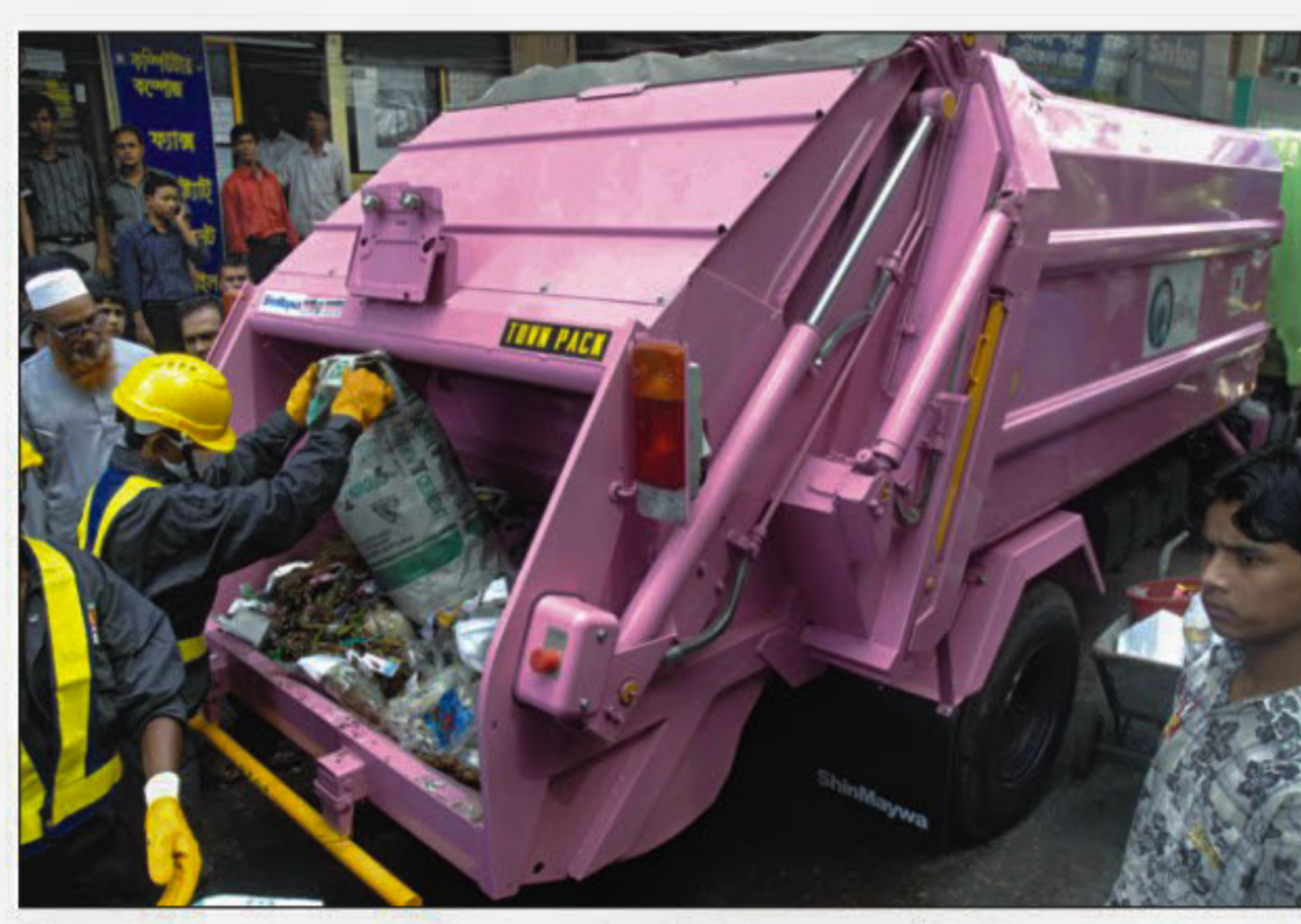
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A student of Government Titumir College was killed and five others sustained injuries as fire broke out at a Chinese restaurant in the city's Gulshan area last night.
The deceased Rukhsana Akhter, 20, Honours (English) second-year student, sustained severe burn injuries when she and around 70 others were attending a birthday

DCC gets 100 eco-friendly garbage trucks

HELEMUL ALAM

The Dhaka City Corporation will soon press into service 100 environmentally friendly garbage trucks to reduce pollution and carbon emission in the capital.
Of the vehicles, 35 are trash compactors with a capacity of up to five tonnes. They also include 20 arm-roll carriers with a capacity of seven tonnes and 45 containers with a capacity of up to five tonnes.
Tariq Bin Yousuf, project director of DCC Landfill Improvement Project, said they received the vehicles from the Japan government last month under the project, Improvement of Solid Waste in Dhaka City towards Low Carbon Society.
"We have started using three compactors and three arm-roll carriers in parts of the city on a trial basis. We will use all the vehicles gradually," he said.
He said the environmentally friendly vehicles could help reduce emission of one tonne of carbon dioxide a day in Dhaka.
The Dhaka City Corporation now has around 300 garbage trucks including the open ones and other equipment. We will replace those gradually," he said.
Open trucks are not good environmen-



These Japanese garbage trucks have already hit the streets of Dhaka on trial giving hope to city dwellers that they one day would not see garbage trucks littering as they trundle along the streets of the capital.

tally as they leave garbage and liquid waste on the streets while carrying those to dumping sites. But trash compactors and arm-roll carriers are free of this limitation, he said.
Compactors have a mechanism to coagulate solid waste. It can also separate liquid and solid waste, he said.
The compactors will collect waste directly from secondary collectors in the

PM administers CCC mayor's oath today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Newly elected Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) Mayor M Manjur Alam and 55 councillors will take oath of office today.
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will administer the oath to the mayor at a ceremony to be held at the Prime Minister's Office at 10:30 am.
Awami League (AL) TRADER'S DEATH IN BANGSHAL
Family on the run
Male family members of businessman Sabed Hasan, who died Friday during a police raid in Bangshal, are on the run as police implicated them in a snatching case.
Local traders of Bangshal kept their shops closed



Nearly one kilometre stretch of the Patenga beach, highly valued by the dwellers of Chittagong city as a recreational spot, is now occupied by illegal shops.

Indo-Pak talks must go on

Both sides say after Islamabad dialogue ended in 'failure'
AFP, New Delhi

India and Pakistan said yesterday they would press ahead with a dialogue to build ties shattered by the Mumbai carnage after talks in Islamabad ended in an acrimonious stalemate.
The statements came after a visit by Indian Foreign Minister SM Krishna to Islamabad ended Friday on a sour note over what his counterpart, Shah Mehmood Qureshi, said was India's "selective focus on terror".
The dialogue process "must go on" despite the chilly atmosphere, the Indian Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao said.
"There is a gap in perception... but these are not unbridgeable divides," Rao said, but she underscored strongly that action by Islamabad to counter Islamic militant threats against India remained New Delhi's top concern.
Pakistan's Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani said Pakistan also wanted the talks process to continue.
"We want dialogues, they (India) too want dialogues so when there will be talks then we will discuss all issues," Gilani told reporters at Baloki, near the eastern Pakistani city of Lahore.
However, Rao told India's NDTV network a "terror machine" directed against India involving "state and non-state actors" continues to exist in Pakistan.

OnlinePoll ✓
Do you think an influential racket involving top government officials is behind the leak of questions of the recruitment test for public high schools teachers?
Yes (86.1%)
No (11.4%)
No Comments (2.5%)
Total votes: 317

TODAY'S POLL
Do you think PM's warning not to give party tickets in future if found involved in graft is enough to discourage MPs from getting involved in corruption?
Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing July 18

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-15	4-50
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-54	6-58
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

Rajshahi road crash kills 6

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

At least six people, including an unidentified woman, were killed and three others injured in a road accident in Godagari upazila of the district yesterday.
The deceased were identified as Tariquul Islam, 48, Mohammad Ali, 36, Mohammad Alish Ali, 30, Dedarul Islam, 25, and Fardeen, 12.
The woman who succumbed to her injuries at Godagari hospital could not be identified immediately.
The accident occurred at around 9:45am on Chapainawabganj-Dhaka highway when a Rajshahi-bound bus

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