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# Govt to import 950 buses for city

*Public sufferings to continue as import process to take several months*

M ABUL KALAM AZAD and HASAN JAHID TUSHER

The government is going to purchase 950 buses in the shortest possible time to ease city dwellers' sufferings due to the severe shortage of public transport. The move was taken as part of the government's plan to replace all the run-down buses and minibuses within the next couple of years, communications ministry officials said.

"We are planning to purchase a large number of single and double-decker buses to phase out the run-down ones," Communications Minister Syed Abul Hossain told The Daily Star last week. He also said 100 single-decker buses were bought from China last month and they are now plying the city streets. The ministry will get 300 double-deckers costing Tk 204 crore from India. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina recently approved the decision that now awaits

the Planning Commission's vetting, ministry officials said. Plans are also being finalised to buy 100 single-decker air-conditioned and 50 articulated buses, popularly known as bendy buses, with an estimated cost of Tk 100 crore from India. The government also plans to buy some 300 buses from South Korea. Sources said the Korean government would give Tk 200 crore to buy those

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## Factory fined Tk 66 lakh for pollution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Environment (DoE) has fined Chaity Composite Ltd in Tripurdi, Sonargaon, Tk 66.24 lakh for polluting local wetlands and agricultural lands for the last five years. This is the highest amount the department so far penalised any industry with for polluting the environment, DoE sources said. Due to the pollution, the air of the area around the industry is now filled with obnoxious odours.

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## Dockers announce 10-day agitation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Dockers of Chittagong port yesterday announced a 10-day agitation programme starting from today demanding implementation of the decisions made regarding their earlier demands. They demanded reinstatement of the dockworkers fired during the caretaker government's tenure in the name of reformation, employing of labourers by rotation through a booking centre under Chittagong Port Authority (CPA), reintroduction of labour department, opening of the closed residential buildings and issuing identity cards to avoid hassles while entering the port. The agitation programme includes work abstention, sit-ins and rallies. Dock Bandar Samik Karmachari Federation made the announcement at a press conference at Chittagong Press Club. General Secretary of the dockers' federation Md Mahfuzur

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## Khaleda to perform Umrah in Ramadan

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will perform holy Umrah, possibly in the last week of Ramadan, as the royal guest of Saudi King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz. Saudi Chargé d' Affaires in Dhaka Sami Jamil A Al Hindi formally handed over the Saudi king's invitation letter to Khaleda Zia when he called on her at her Gulshan office yesterday evening. The BNP chairperson gladly accepted the invitation

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Arrested Shibir activists Shahdat, right, and Huda at the office of the Detective Branch of police in Dhaka along with the firearm and books recovered from Huda.

## Shibir plans 'subversive activities'

Claim cops

MUKHLESUR RAHMAN

Detectives questioning detained Islami Chhatra Shibir activists claim cadres of the group are gathering in the capital with explosives and firearms to carry out subversive activities in revenge for the recent arrests of Jamaat high-ups. A D C M o h a m m a d Moniruzzaman of Detective Branch yesterday told The Daily Star they arrested several Shibir activists in the last few days who revealed that some central leaders of Jamaat and Shibir are hatching the plot. The detective however declined to reveal the names of the central leaders for the sake of investigation. He said they recovered a foreign pistol from a Shibir office-come-mess at South Sayedabad in the capital and arrested Faridul Huda, finance secretary of Dhaka city unit of Shibir. Moniruzzaman added they made the recovery and arrest following information gleaned from Shibir cadre Abdulla Omar Nasir alias Shahadat Hossain, who was arrested in Rajshahi University area on July 23. Earlier, the detectives arrested Shibir leader Mia Mujahid, brother of Jamaat lawmaker Mia Golam Sarwar, Shakhawat, managing director of Beacon Group and former president of Feni district unit, his employee

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7



High tide floods the ramp and pontoon at Mohipur ferry terminal on Kuakata-Patuakhali Highway. A bus loaded with passengers is seen trying to get off the pontoon ignoring risks.

PHOTO: STAR

## MURDER CHARGE Gujarat state minister for home quits

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Facing charges of murder and imminent arrest, Gujarat State Minister for Home Amit Shah, a key aide of Chief Minister Narendra Modi, resigned today from the state ministry. "As I landed here in Delhi, I have received information that Amit Shah's resignation reached my residence in Gandhinagar (capital of Gujarat). On return, I will accept it and complete the formalities," said Modi, who is here to attend the National Development Council meeting. Asked by reporters whether the resignation amounted to Shah's acknowledging that he was guilty, Modi said, "He was accepting it because under the

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## A family loses everything

SHAHEEN MOLLAH

She was the last resort of help for her ailing parents, as the family fully depended on her income. Now that she is gone, her family sees dark days ahead. Beauty Akhter, 19, who was allegedly killed and then thrown from the eight-storey factory building of the Vertex Garments Ltd at Kalwala Para on Friday, did not want to get married just to help her parents. "She was a son to me, not a daughter. Our four-member family depended on her income alone," Beauty's father Abul Kalam told The Daily Star at his Mirpur house yesterday. "Several proposals came to me for her marriage but she didn't want to marry. She used to say, if I get married, who will look after the family," a weeping Kalam said. Beauty's father is suffering from heart disease, ulcer and gastric problems while her mother Hasina Begum is also suffering

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## Rab men beat up pedestrian

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two members of Rapid Action Battalion beat up a pedestrian at Shankar area in the capital last night over a trifle matter. Victim Afsar Sarwar, 52, a resident of the area, was rushed to Bitham Diagnostic Centre where he had his fractured left hand plastered after the incident. Afsar said the incident occurred as he approached a yellow cab driver and asked him to stop blowing the horn amid a standstill traffic jam around 8:30pm. But instead of stopping the driver rebuked him. The Rab personnel, who happened to be passengers of the cab, then got down from the vehicle and started beating him with sticks, said Afsar.

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**OnlinePoll**

Do you think the parliamentary special committee for constitutional amendment can achieve their six-point aims and objectives?

Yes (35.9%) No (60.3%) No Comments (3.8%)

**Total votes: 448**

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you think special parliamentary session should be called for the inclusion of BNP representative in the special committee to amend the constitution?

Please cast your vote at [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

**Prayer Timing**

	July 25	
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-20	4-55
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-50	6-55
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

আলানি দিরাপ্তা সর্বোচ্চ অধিকার

**বাখরাবাদ গ্যাস সিস্টেমস্ লিমিটেড**

(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানী)

প্রধান কার্যালয়ঃ চাঁপাপুর, কুমিল্লা-৩৫০০, ফোন-০১৮-৬৫৭৯১-৫/০৮১-৭৬২১৩-১৪

সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্নতা এড়ানোর জন্য যথাসময়ে গ্যাস বিল পরিশোধ করুন

**গ্যাস অপচয় রোধে বিশেষ বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

- অবৈধ গ্যাস ব্যবহার থেকে বিরত থাকুন। জাতীয় সম্পদ প্রাকৃতিক গ্যাস রক্ষা করুন।
- গ্যাস মূল্যবান প্রাকৃতিক সম্পদ। এ সম্পদ অফুরন্ত নয়। অতএব, গ্যাসের অপচয় রোধ করুন।
- আপনার সীমিত গ্যাস ব্যবহার সীমিত গ্যাস মজুদকে দীর্ঘায়িত করবে।
- প্রাকৃতিক গ্যাস মূল্যবান ও সীমিত সম্পদ। উহার ব্যবহারে যত্নবান ও মিতব্যয়ী হউন।
- কাজ শেষে চুলা বন্ধ করুন। গ্যাস অপচয় ও দুর্ঘটনা রোধে সহায়তা করুন।
- কলকারখানায় efficient যন্ত্রপাতি ব্যবহারপূর্বক স্বল্প গ্যাস ব্যয়ে বেশী উৎপাদন করুন।
- গ্যাস পাইপ লাইন বা গ্যাস সংযোগ স্থানে গ্যাস লিকেজ হতে দেখলে সাথে সাথে নিকটস্থ গ্যাস অফিসকে অবহিত করুন।
- নষ্ট চুলা যে কোন সময় দুর্ঘটনা ঘটতে পারে। সুতরাং দুর্ঘটনা এড়াতে সবসময় ভাল চুলা ব্যবহার করুন।
- অবৈধ গ্যাস ব্যবহারকারী যেই-ই হউক না কেন সে আইনের চোখে অপরাধী। সুতরাং তাকে ধরিয়ে দিন।
- গ্যাস অপচয় রুখব, সোনার বাংলা গড়ব।

কর্তৃপক্ষ

বিজি-১০৩৯/জুলাই ২০১০  
জিডি-৩২৭০

## Tehran to have world's first nuke fusion reactor

AFP, Tehran

A top Iranian official said yesterday that Tehran was conducting studies into building an experimental nuclear fusion reactor, which if successful would be the first such plant in the world. "Studies and examining the feasibility of a national plan titled 'Designing and building experimental nuclear fusion reactor and plant' are under way," Asghar Sedighzadeh, head of Iran's Nuclear Fusion Research Centre was quoted as saying by ISNA news agency. He did not elaborate. Early yesterday, Iran's atomic chief Ali Akbar Salehi said an eight-million-dollar fund had been set up to conduct "serious" research in the area of nuclear fusion. He said 50 people had been hired for the work, which the Islamic republic began nearly three decades ago but was initially "not very serious" about pursuing. "Fusion research has been launched seriously today," ISNA quoted Salehi as saying. "The start-up budget is 80 billion rials (eight million dollars)," he said. "It takes 20 to 30 years before this process can be commercialised but we have to use all the capacity in the country to provide the necessary speed for fusion research." Nuclear fusion has long been touted as the cheap, safe and clean energy source of the future, but efforts to harness it for power generation have so far failed to bear fruit.

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**বিজিএমইএ**

বিজিএমইএ কমপ্লেক্স, ২৩/১, পাছপথ লিংক রোড, কারওয়ান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫

**রঞ্জনামুখী তৈরি পোশাক শিল্পের সার্বিক পরিস্থিতি নিয়ে জরুরী আলোচনা সভা**

বিজিএমইএ'র সম্মানিত সদস্যদের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, আজ ২৫ জুলাই ২০১০ তারিখ বিকাল ৪:০০ ঘটিকায় বিজিএমইএ অডিটোরিয়াম, বিজিএমইএ কমপ্লেক্স, ২৩/১ পাছপথ লিংক রোড, কারওয়ান বাজার, ঢাকায় রঞ্জনামুখী তৈরি পোশাক শিল্পের সার্বিক পরিস্থিতি নিয়ে এক জরুরী আলোচনা সভার আয়োজন করা হয়েছে।

উক্ত জরুরী আলোচনা সভায় উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য বিজিএমইএ'র সম্মানিত সদস্যগণকে বিনীত অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।

সচিব