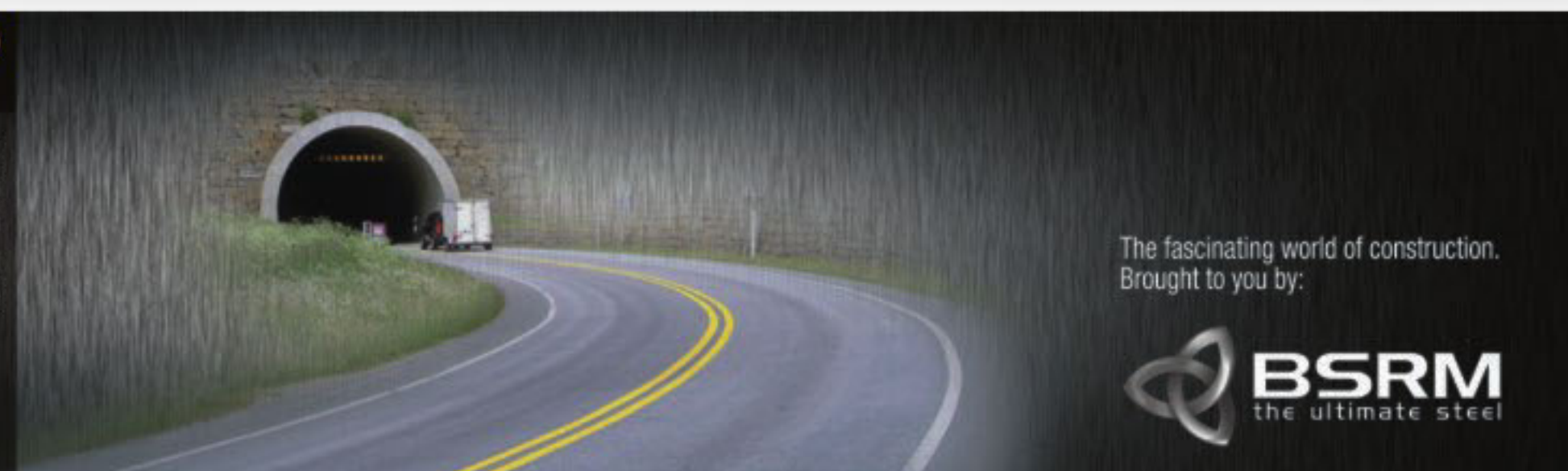


Did you know?

Laerdal Tunnel is a 24.5 km (15.2 mile) long road tunnel in western Norway. Construction was completed in 2000, making it the longest road tunnel in the world.



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45,866 Rohingyas off voter list

EC acts after scrutiny

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

The Election Commission has dropped the names of 45,866 Rohingya infiltrators from Myanmar from the draft voter list in six upazilas of Cox's Bazar after a thorough scrutiny.

District Election Officer Syed Amirul Islam said the Election Commission (EC) found that a huge number of Rohingyas got their names registered as voters in 12 upazilas of Cox's Bazar, Bandarban and Rangamati after the ninth Jatiya Sangsad elections by giving false information in October last year when the voter list was updated.

The EC in December last year suspended publication of the draft voter list following allegations.

Sources said the EC officials in a door-to-door visit scrutinised 72,684 voter application (information) forms as part of reviewing the updated voter list.

Of them, 24,011 applications were accepted and the rest 48,673 cancelled as the applicants failed to provide valid information in their applications.

Of the cancelled applications, some 45,866 are in Cox's Bazar, 2,220 in Bandarban and 587 in Rangamati.

Sources said the EC on July 21 this year separately published draft voter lists for the three districts. August 3 was the last date for making application for any kind of objection or demand regarding the draft.

Cox's Bazar Election Office sources said they received some 500 such applications till yesterday.

After disposing of the demands and objections by August 19, the final voter list is scheduled to be published on September 9.

EC sources said the Rohingyas got themselves enrolled in the voter list with the help of local representatives and influential persons.

In the voter list prepared in 2009, the total number of voters in eight upazilas of Cox's Bazar was 10,69,339. About one-lakh Rohingyas were dropped from the list then.

Cox's Bazar Deputy Commissioner Md Gias Uddin Ahmed said some union parishad chairmen and members helped Rohingyas enroll their names in the draft voter list by providing false nationality certificates.

As per the draft voter list, some 12,762 persons were dropped in Chakoria upazila, 4,154 in Pekua, 12,092 in Sadar, 6,052 in Ramu, 5,955 in Ukhia and 4,851 in Teknaf.



As the BIWTA conducts drives against river pollution and river encroachers, bags of fertiliser are still piled up in the open at its Narayanganj jetty. These bags were imported three years ago. During rain, the fertiliser seeps into the Shitalakkhya. PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



Ahmadinejad survives a scare

Motorcade hit by explosive

AFP, Tehran

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was unhurt after an explosive device, officially described as a

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Tk 2cr swindled out of 85 overseas jobseekers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A recruiting agency has swindled 85 migrant workers out of Tk 2 crore promising them jobs in Libya, alleged a group of migrant labourers yesterday.

Flower Trade International, a licensed recruiting agency, cheated migrant workers after taking Tk 2.2 lakh to Tk 2.5 lakh each for sending them to Libya, they alleged at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity.

Rights Jessore, a non-governmental human rights organisation, combating human trafficking claimed it has proof that the agency with licence number 195 conned at least 17 jobseekers.

Kawser Ahmed Topu, an official of the

agency, was arrested after the cheated jobseekers filed a case with Gulshan Police Station on July 8, said Binoy Krishna Mallick, executive director of Rights Jessore.

The other agency officials are on the run, he said.

The Daily Star tried to contact the agency officials, but found the cell phone switched off.

MA Nurunnabi Bhuiyan, one of the 17 migrant workers, in a statement said the agency initially took Tk 20,000 each from them and their passports in the middle of last year promising them jobs in Libya.

The agency's managing director KM Masudur Rahman, recruiting director Rakibul Hasan, office adviser Miraz Khan,

business associate M Kawser Ahmed Topu were involved in the financial dealings, he said.

The agency took Tk 2 lakh each from them and returned the passports with "visas" after a few days, saying their flights to Libya will be confirmed shortly.

But the agency changed the flight date seven to eight times.

"When we asked them about the changes in flight dates, Topu said we have to go to Nepal first as it is difficult to go to Libya from Bangladesh," Nurunnabi said at the press conference.

In October last year, they were taken to Nepal with tourist visas. They found out that another 85 Bangladeshis had already

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

104 detained in Algeria

Families of migrant workers seek govt help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Relatives of 104 Bangladeshi migrant workers held captive in a camp in Algeria have urged the government to bring them home.

The Algerian army captured the Bangladeshi nationals while they were trying to cross the North African country to go to Spain for jobs.

The migrant workers, held in Algerian territories over the last five months, might face imprisonment for trespassing unless Bangladesh government brings them home immediately, they said at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity in the capital.

"Thirty-five of the detainees are sick. They suffer from diarrhoea and skin diseases. They live in crowded rooms and get dry

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

BNP chief moves to settle feud among top leaders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia has finally moved to resolve a dispute among party's three standing committee members over formation of a Keraniganj unit committee.

Khaleda last night held separate meetings with Goyeshwar Chandra Roy, Vice-chairman Nazmul Huda and Joint Secretary General Aman Ullah Aman at her Gulshan office to settle the issue.

She talked to Goyeshwar for more than an hour from 10:15pm and asked him to work for the party instead of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Police notice on 2 BNP leaders stayed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday stayed for four weeks operation of a notice issued by Paltan police asking BNP leaders Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mian and Shah Moazzem Hossain to appear in the police station in connection with a charge of threatening Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The higher court also issued a rule upon the government to explain within two weeks why the notice of the Paltan police should not be declared illegal.

An HC bench of Justice Mohammad Anwarul Haque and Justice Syed Abu Kowser Md Dabirush-shan came up

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2



Even though the drought in the north is yet to seize, people of Bogra are enjoying the abundance of water where a fisherman is setting up fish traps at Poradaho Canal in Gabtoli upazila. PHOTO: HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU

PILKHANA MUTINY 448 more BDR men stand trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A BDR special court yesterday began trial of 448 border guards at their Pilkhana headquarters in connection with two mutiny charges.

The accused in two groups are facing trial separately. This brings to an end the process of putting on trial all accused members of the 11 BDR units at Pilkhana.

The Special Court-6 took cognisance of charges against the 448 BDR jawans --337 from different directorates and Rifles Sports Board, and 111 from Record Wing -- after the complainants placed those before the court and sought their arrest.

So far charges have been brought against a total of 4,101 BDR personnel including these 448 from different battalions and units at Pilkhana for their alleged involvement in the February 25-26 mutiny last year that left 74 people including 57 army officers killed.

Before adjourning the proceedings yesterday, the court headed by BDR Director General Major General Rafiqul Islam asked the authorities concerned to arrest and produce all the accused before it on August 10.

The court sat at the Darbar Hall at 10:40am and began trial of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Help manage Ramadan traffic mess

DMP asks traders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In an effort to ease city's nagging traffic congestion during the month of Ramadan, Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) authorities have urged traders' associations to deploy community police in front of their business centres until before the Eid-day.

They also called on the authorities of bus terminals to

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Prayer Timing		
August 5		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-20	4-55
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-47	6-50
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

OnlinePoll

Do you think road accidents are taking place due to the government's failure to implement strictly the preventive measures it takes?

Yes (89.1%)
No (9.1%)
No Comments (1.8%)

Total votes: 396

TODAY'S POLL

Do you support the Election Commission's decision to give the ruling Awami League and 16 other parties 2-month time extension to submit their financial transaction reports?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Govt seeks help of stakeholders

Ministerial body on Dhaka plan sits for first time

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government intends to implement the Detailed Area Plan (DAP) of Dhaka city with cooperation of all concerned to make the capital liveable.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Syed Ashrafur Islam said this at an inter-ministerial meeting yesterday.

The seven-member ministerial committee on implementation of DAP, led by Syed Ashrafur Islam, held its maiden meeting at the Secretariat to find out ways to implement the DAP.

The committee, however, did not take any decision but learnt about what DAP is and why

it is essential to make the capital liveable with planned development and conservation of environment, meeting sources said.

The committee heard a presentation on various aspects of DAP, said Abdul Mannan Khan, state minister for housing and public works, also a member of the ministerial committee.

The government would make efforts to implement the DAP with cooperation and consensus of all concerned, the state minister quoted the LGRD minister as saying.

Khondaker M Ansar Hossain, a planner-architect and consultant hired by Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk), presented the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Polluting dyeing factory sealed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Directorate of Environment in a drive yesterday sealed an under construction dyeing factory at Mirpur residential area in the city.

The owner and the workers were not found at the spot. The factory is situated on a 10-katha plot a densely populated area of Senpara Parbata.

The factory was being built ignoring threats to public health and environment.

Getting complaints from locals, Mohammad Munir Chowdhury, Director

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

চূড়ান্ত নোটিশ

গত ২১-০৬-২০১০ইং তারিখে "দৈনিক ইত্তেফাক", "প্রথম আলো" ও "ডেইলী স্টার" পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞপ্তিসহ বিভিন্ন সময়ে আলাপ-আলোচনা ও চিঠিপত্রের মাধ্যমে জেনোভালা মডেল টাউন (প্রাঃ) লিঃ এর "দি পিংকসিটি-জেনোভালা" প্রকল্পে কয়েকজন সম্মানিত গ্রাহকগণের জমি সংক্রান্ত আইনগত জটিলতা থাকায় বাড়ী নির্মাণ ও হস্তান্তর সম্ভবপর নয় বলিয়া জানানো হইয়াছিল এবং সেইসাথে উক্ত গ্রাহকগণের আংশিক বিনিয়োগকৃত টাকা লভ্যাংশসহ কোম্পানী হইতে ফেরত নেওয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হইয়াছিল। তারই ধারাবাহিকতায় তাহাদের মধ্য হইতে কয়েকজন সম্মানিত গ্রাহক তাহাদের আংশিক বিনিয়োগকৃত টাকা লভ্যাংশসহ কোম্পানী হইতে ইতিমধ্যে ফেরত নিয়াছেন।

এই পর্যায়ে অবশিষ্ট বিনিয়োগকারীগণকে তাহাদের আংশিক বিনিয়োগকৃত টাকা লভ্যাংশসহ (ব্যাংক সুদহারাে) অত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের ১৫ (পনের) দিনের মধ্যে কোম্পানীর প্রধান কার্যালয় হইতে ফেরত নেওয়ার জন্য চূড়ান্তভাবে অনুরোধ করা যাইতেছে। অন্যথায় কোম্পানী আইনগত প্রক্রিয়ার মাধ্যমে অর্থ ফেরত প্রদানের ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করিবে।

অনুরোধক্রমে কর্তৃপক্ষ জেনোভালা মডেল টাউন (প্রাঃ) লিঃ

দি পিংকসিটি-র হেড অব সেলস এন্ড মার্কেটিং জনাব শাহ আরিফ বিন হাবিব এর কাছ থেকে একমুদ্রা গ্রহণ করিয়া চেক গ্রহণ করবেন।

The Pink City