

Did you know?

Hagia Sophia is a former Orthodox patriarchal basilica, later a mosque, now a museum in Istanbul, Turkey. From the date of its dedication in 360 until 1453, it served as the cathedral of Constantinople except between 1204 and 1261.



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Cabinet talks tailbacks

Host of proposals, no immediate solution

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

The cabinet yesterday informally discussed the traffic congestion situation in the city but failed to find any immediate solution to the problem, which eats up huge work hours and money every day.

A number of ministers and state ministers even came up with clatrap proposals at the meeting chaired by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

A minister proposed to remove rickshaws from the city, one suggested withdrawal of CNG-run three-wheelers, while another opted for stopping private buses from plying in the roads, highly placed sources told The Daily Star.

However, one or two of the cabinet members urged the premier to launch hourly shuttle train services between Narayanganj and Gazipur to ease population pressure on the capital. They argued that a large number of people and vehicles travel between Gazipur and Narayanganj every day contributing to traffic jam, the sources added.

If the shuttle trains were launched, the traffic jam would reduce largely, they opined.

The ministers and state ministers discussing the situation however found no immediate solutions and a few of them even told the premier that traffic jam is nothing new in the capital.

The prime minister directed the authorities concerned to take effective measures to reduce traffic jam. She also gave her

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Indigenous people press for rights

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Indigenous people demanded constitutional recognition of the ethnics at a rally in celebration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous People at the Central Shaheed Minar in the city yesterday.

Constitutional recognition will remove all the barriers that come in the way of ensuring the basic rights and improving the social status of Adivasis, said Sanjeev Drong, general secretary of Bangladesh Indigenous People's Forum (BIPF).

Prof Mesbah Kamal, general secretary of Bangladesh Adivasi Adhikar and Research and Development Collective, said it is necessary to appoint representatives from the Adivasi communities in the recently formed committee for constitutional amendment

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A performance by Adivasis at the capital's Central Shaheed Minar on the occasion of International Day of the World's Indigenous People yesterday. See City in Frame on Page 20.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

HC cancels jail sentence on Lobi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A High Court bench yesterday overturned a 13-year jail sentence on former BNP lawmaker Ali Asghar Lobi in a case filed by the Anti-corruption Commission.

The HC bench of Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Husain and Justice AKM Zahurul Hoque overturned the conviction as the allegations brought against Lobi had not been proven, said Lobi's lawyer Advocate Shah Monjurul Hoque.

On October 07, 2007, a special judge's court sentenced Lobi to imprisonment

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BB finds Islami Bank Foundation at fault

Probe states it operates illegal micro-credit programme

ALPHA ARZU

The Islami Bank Foundation, an organisation funded by Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited, has been found operating an unauthorised micro-credit programme during a Bangladesh Bank investigation in Maylast.

Any micro-finance institution or non-government organisation has to obtain permission from the Micro-credit Regulatory Authority (MRA) of BB to run the credit programme.

Islami Bank Foundation is yet to get an MRA licence.

According to MRA Act, 2006, an NGO

authority would face maximum Tk 5 lakh fine or one year in jail or the both if found running unlicensed micro-credit activities.

In 1991, the Islami Bank established a fund dubbed Sadaqua Tahbil, which later was reorganised as Islami Bank Foundation and registered as an NGO.

The foundation's micro credit programme is funded under the IBBL's corporate social responsibility (CSR) policy. The CSR mandates spending money for health, sanitation, non-formal education, orphanages, poverty alleviation and plantation.

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RMG UNREST Six female workers arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch of police early yesterday detained six female workers of a readymade garment factory from city's Tejgaon area in connection with July 30 unrest.

The detainees are Shahnaj Sanu, Asma Begum, Parul, Shahnaj Begum, Rupa and Parveen, workers of Floret Fashion Wears Pvt Ltd at Tejgaon Industrial area.

DB police said they raided different parts in Tejgaon and its adjoining areas and

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JUNIOR SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

19 lakh students to sit maiden exams

WASIM BIN HABIB

The Junior School Certificate (JSC) examinations for students of class eight, first of its kind in the country, will begin on November 1.

Around 19 lakh students will sit for the examinations to be held under the eight general education boards and one madrasa education board with uniform questions, education ministry sources said.

Dhaka education board, which will oversee the examinations, fixed the date and worked out other details of the examinations, and informed the education ministry about it, board sources told this correspondent yesterday.

The National Education Policy 2010,

approved by the cabinet on May 31, states that there will be a public examination named Junior School Certificate Examination for students of class eight, and it will be conducted by the education boards.

From now on, there will be no junior scholarship examination or class final examination for class-eight students.

Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of results of the JSC examination. And students must pass it to get enrolled in class nine, education ministry officials said.

The examination will be held in nine subjects, each with 100 marks. Pass mark has been fixed at 33 for each subject.

The subjects include Bangla first paper

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Top aide to Dakat Shahid arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch (DB) of police arrested two criminals including the second-in-command of absconding top listed criminal Dakat Shahid and recovered a pistol and 16 bullets from their possession in capital's Wari on Sunday.

The criminals were identified as Nurul Islam alias Babu

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



Students suffer high humidity during exam at Badrunnessa Govt Girls' College in the capital yesterday amid power cut. The government has drawn a lot of flak for frequent power outage but still the sector caught no ray of hope.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

CRIMINAL CASES 4 Jamaat leaders denied bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday rejected bail petitions of Jamaat-e-Islami Secretary General Ali Ahsan Muhammad Mojahid, its Nayeb-e-Ameer Delwar Hossain Sayedee, assistant secretaries general Mohammad Kamaruzzaman and Abdul Quader Molla in four criminal cases filed with different police stations.

The cases were filed with Paltan, Bimanbandar and Ramna police stations in February and June this year and February 2004 on charges of vandalising president's vehicles, preventing police from discharging their duties and making an attempt to kill late Prof Humayun Azad.

Of the cases, three were filed with Paltan on February 12 and

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Samin source of inspiration for many

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Just a few days ago, walking was an ability lost forever to Samin.

Saiful Islam Samin, a fourth-year student of Dhaka University and assignment reporter of the daily Prothom Alo, lost both the legs when a train ran over him two years ago.

All his dreams fell apart let alone the career as a journalist after the very moment of the accident.

But yesterday a more mature and confident, energetic and proactive Samin came walking at a press conference, thanks to prosthetic legs.

Well, no he did not go abroad for the artificial limb replacement surgery. Endolite Bangladesh, a prosthetic, orthotics and physiotherapy centre on Iqbal road in Mohammadpur, performed this hi-tech replacement procedure.

The surgery cost Samin Tk 22.5 lakh, fully arranged by Prothom Alo and Mass Communication and Journalism Fund of Dhaka University. In India the surgery costs Tk 35 lakh while in Singapore Tk 60 lakh.



SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

OnlinePoll

Do you think the revised policy for taxi service will bring any qualitative improvement to the service?

- Yes (23.2%)
- No (75.6%)
- No Comments (1.2%)

Total votes: 814

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think all schools and colleges in the capital should declare early Eid vacation to help ease traffic congestion?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

এই গরমে প্রতিদিন ইফতার ও সাহুরীতে এক গ্লাস রুহু আফিজা সারাদিনের রোজার ক্রান্তি দূর করে...
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ইঞ্জিনিয়ার্স ইনস্টিটিউশন, বাংলাদেশ (আইইবি)
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ফোন : ৯৫২৯৪৮৫, ৯৫৬৬০০৬, ৯৫৬৬১১২, ফ্যাক্স : ৯৫৬২৪৪৭
নির্বাচন-২০১০ এর খসড়া ভোটার তালিকা পর্যালোচনা ও সংশোধন
ইঞ্জিনিয়ার্স ইনস্টিটিউশন, বাংলাদেশ-এর সম্মানিত কর্পোরেট সদস্যদের জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, আইইবি'র ২০১১ ও ২০১২ মেয়াদের নির্বাচনের লক্ষ্যে প্রণীত খসড়া ভোটার তালিকা ইতোমধ্যেই সকল কেন্দ্র ও উপকেন্দ্রে পাঠানো হয়েছে। উক্ত ভোটার তালিকা সদস্যদের পর্যালোচনার জন্য সদর দফতর ও সংশ্লিষ্ট কেন্দ্র/উপকেন্দ্রে ১৪ আগস্ট, ২০১০ পর্যন্ত সংরক্ষিত থাকবে।
ইনস্টিটিউশনের কর্পোরেট সদস্যগণ সদর দফতর এবং কেন্দ্র/উপকেন্দ্রের দাপ্তরিক সময়ের মধ্যে পর্যালোচনা করে প্রয়োজনীয় সংশোধনী প্রস্তাব ১৪ আগস্ট ২০১০ তারিখের মধ্যে সংশ্লিষ্ট কেন্দ্রের সম্মানী সম্পাদক, উপকেন্দ্রের সম্পাদক ও ইআরসি'র সাধারণ সম্পাদক অথবা ২০ আগস্ট ২০১০ তারিখের মধ্যে সরাসরি সদর দফতরে সম্মানী সাধারণ সম্পাদকের কাছে পাঠানোর জন্য অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।
২০ আগস্ট ২০১০ এর মধ্যে খসড়া ভোটার তালিকা সম্পর্কে কোন মতামত বা সংশোধনী না পাওয়া গেলে তা চূড়ান্ত বলে বিবেচিত হবে।
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