



Did you know? The Karnak Temple Complex comprises of a vast conglomeration of ruined temples, chapels, pylons and other buildings. It is located near Luxor, some 500 km south of Cairo, in Egypt. One of most famous aspects of Karnak is the Hypostyle Hall, measuring 50,000 sq ft with 134 massive columns arranged in 16 rows.



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Govt's reality-check for war crimes trial

Gathering info on preparation of Jamaat, allies to face or foil trial

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

The government and ruling Awami League are collecting information about the strength of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami and its allies across the country, apprehending that forces which opposed the country's liberation war might resort to militant attacks to foil war crimes trials.

The war crimes prosecution team so far charged five top Jamaat leaders, four of whom are already in custody, while an arrest warrant petition against the other is pending for the tribunal's approval. The

government also sent a list of 40 suspected war criminals to all immigration ports last month, to make sure that they cannot leave the country.

An influential policymaker of the government told The Daily Star Wednesday that the government is fully aware about the financial, manpower, and weapons strength of Jamaat and its allies, and is taking appropriate measures to thwart any possible attack.

The ruling party will gather information on all identified war criminals down to the village level while the government

will prepare a list of the anti-liberation forces, their collaborators, and militants at every upazila and district.

A top home ministry official said different intelligence agencies are gathering information about sources of domestic and international funding for Jamaat and other anti-liberation elements.

A number of NGOs, private educational institutions, and financial institutions have already been under surveillance, he said preferring not to be named.

AL Presidium Member Obaidul

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Bangladesh, India eye greater connectivity

Railway networks to be expanded

REZAUL KARIM

Bangladesh and India will extend their railway network along the international border to improve connectivity between the two countries.

Communications ministry sources said India is going to extend railway network to two more places along its border with Bangladesh -- Sabroom in southern Tripura, 135 km from Agartala, and Akhaura in western Tripura, just 6

km from Agartala railway station.

Bangladesh operates regular train services on its side up to Akhaura and various other places, opposite several sub-divisional towns in the Indian state of Tripura.

Railway officials said a team of officials of Indian Railway Construction Company (IRCON) recently visited Dhaka and held talks with officials at the communications ministry as well as railway officials to finalise alignment

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Purchase body okays grain import, river dredging plans

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cabinet committee on purchase yesterday approved Tk 468 crore purchase proposals for various items including rice, wheat and river dredger.

Presided over by Finance Minister AMA Muhith, the meeting was held at the Cabinet division conference room.

Sources said Tk 205.53

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DUBAI FIRE Four dead Bangladeshis identified

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh mission in Dubai yesterday confirmed that four Bangladeshi workers were killed in the tragic factory fire in the wee hours of Tuesday.

"Of the 11, four are Bangladeshis, six Indians and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



JS body slates 'anomalies' in Biman's hajj operations

RASHIDUL HASAN

Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister GM Quader yesterday came under fire for his alleged involvement in irregularities in awarding Ausban Aeronautical the contract to provide hajj flights.

The parliamentary standing committee on the ministry

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Man shot dead in the city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Alleged extortionists shot dead a contractor in the capital's Moghbazar area last night and also injured a pedestrian.

The deceased, Mohammad Swapan, 35, was riddled with four bullets as he went to buy medicine from a pharmacy near his Ambagan residence in Moghbazar around 8:30pm.

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Yes (13.8%)
 No (84.8%)
 No Comments (1.4%)

Total votes: 435

TODAY'S POLL

Would you support if the government decides to increase the Eid holiday from three to five days?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

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Iftar & Sehri timing for Dhaka & neighbouring areas

Today's Iftar 6:37 pm

Ending time for tomorrow's sehri 4:09 am

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Prayer Timing

August 13

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-25	5-00
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-37	6-44
Esha	8-00	8-30



Source: Islamic Foundation

Yesterday's severe gridlock on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue gives a glimpse of Dhaka city. The photo was taken from Banglamotor intersection.

PHOTO: STAR

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