

Did you know?

Ivan the Great Bell Tower is the tallest of the bell towers ringing the Moscow Kremlin complex, with a height of 81m (266 ft). It was built for the Assumption, Archangel and Annunciation Cathedrals, which do not have their own belfries, and is said to mark Moscow's precise geographic centre.

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ADULTERATED FOOD, PRICE SPIKE Cops asked to sue traders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday directed the police to file criminal cases under the Special Powers Act-1974 against the traders responsible for food adulteration and price spirals.

Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB) filed a writ petition as public interest litigation. An HC bench comprised of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Justice Sheikh Md Zakir Hossain passed the order after hearing the petition.

The highest punishment for offence under this act is death.

The bench ordered the secretaries to the ministries of commerce, industries and health to continue the mobile courts' operation across the country for the next two months.

It directed the inspector general of police, director general of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and Dhaka metropolitan police commissioner to provide sufficient forces to the mobile courts as per requirements.

The court also issued a rule upon the government to explain within three weeks why it should not be directed to take effective measures to prevent food adulteration and random increase of food prices.

In its writ petition, HRPB yesterday stated that the operation of mobile court has been closed after the drive against Rupchanda soyabean oil.

On August 12, huge quantity of Rupchanda soyabean oil was seized from Karwan Bazar for arbitrarily increasing its price.

During the hearing yesterday, petitioner's lawyer Manzill Murshid told the court that some businessmen and dishonest

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PHOTO: HASIBUR RAHMAN BLU

The contractor was paid in full for completing the bridge during the last BNP-led government but locals of Rangilaghat in Shahjahanpur upazila, Bogra, said the construction never finished. Fazlul Haq Ratan, the contractor and convener of BNP Shahjahanpur unit, claims he had finished it.

Charge framing against Rid Pharma officials adjourned

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday for the second time adjourned the hearing on charge framing against Rid Pharmaceuticals' managing director and four officials till September 6 in a case of manufacturing toxic paracetamol syrup.

Judge Mohammad Abdul Majid of the Drug Court passed the order following time petitions submitted from both the prosecution and the defence.

In the petition, the prosecution said he could not consult with the complainant of the case about the facts. On the other hand, lawyers for Rid Pharma managing director Mizanur Rahman and his wife Sheuly Rahman, also a director of the company, prayed for adjournment of the hearing.

Earlier on July 12, the same court adjourned the hearing following a time petition submitted by the lawyers of Mizanur Rahman and Sheuly Rahman.

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DCC official 'commits suicide'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) official allegedly shot himself and committed suicide early yesterday at his Banani residence in the city.

Deceased Shahidur Rahman, 45, was an officer on special duty (OSD) since 2009. Police suspect the victim took his life out of frustration, as he was an OSD for long.

Shahidur shot into his head with his licensed gun around 6:00am, said Kamal Uddin, officer-in-charge (OC) of Gulshan Police Station.

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HC pulls for Bhola forest Slaps injunction on felling trees, making roads

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a three-month injunction against felling of nearly 15,000 trees in the forest and wildlife reserve on Kukri Mukri char to construct a road to link the island with Bhola.

The court gave a ruling upon the respondents to show cause why the environment and forest ministry's letter issued on May 16 to allow felling of trees shall not be declared illegal.

The HC directive came after Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA) filed a writ petition yesterday seeking a court order to prevent cutting of trees on the island.

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JMB active despite arrest of top brass Law enforcers fear backlash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law enforcers fear a backlash from Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) despite detaining the top brass of the banned militant outfit in recent months.

Rab and police officials said the JMB is still a concern for them as some dedicated operatives are active in the organisation. Some of the militants have training on making high-powered explosives like belt bombs.

The JMB is reportedly in a shambles due to arrest of its chief Saidur Rahman, military wing chief Shiblu and acting chief Anwar Alam alias Nazmul over one and a half months since July 12.

The officers said Sohail Mahfuz, who is oldest among three serving JMB Majlis-e-Sura members, might have taken over as its helmsman.

"Sohail Mahfuz is known as an arrogant person. He might

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Two money changers shot

Tk 18 lakh robbed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mugging gang sprayed bullets, exploded bombs near a money exchange firm in city's DIT Extension Road at Fakirapool area and looted over Tk 18 lakh in local and foreign currencies last night.

The injured employees of Mondian Money Exchange are manager Khandaker Reazul, 45, cashier Rezaul Karim, 50, and owner of a nearby shop Mohammad Masud, 45. They were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Raquibur Rahman, a witness, said when he was going

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Assault of OC angers cops MP denies allegation

A CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Police personnel have expressed resentment at the assault on a police officer by a ruling party lawmaker on Sunday night in Jessore.

Wishing anonymity, a number of law enforcers said they felt insecure and humiliated at the incident.

Awami League lawmaker Sheikh Afil Uddin, who allegedly assaulted Enamul Huq, officer-in-charge of Sharsa Police Station, claimed that the police officer brought false allegations against him to tarnish the image of the ruling party.



Sheikh Afil Uddin

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Passenger alert!
There are just so many puddles to cross in the city. The lady passenger survives the turn turtle of the rickshaw on Road-34, Gulshan yesterday.

PHOTO: ZAHEDUL I KHAN

PAKISTAN FLOODS 3.5m kids at health risk

BBC ONLINE

Up to 3.5m children are at high risk from deadly water-borne diseases in Pakistan following the country's floods, a UN spokesman has said.

In southern Pakistan, floodwaters continue to cause havoc with floods surging from the province of Sindh to neighbouring Baluchistan.

This has led to more people fleeing their homes.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon has left Pakistan after saying the floods were the worst disaster he had seen.

"Up to 3.5 million children are at high risk of deadly water-borne diseases, such as watery diarrhoea and dysentery," Maurizio Giuliano, spokesman for the UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), is quoted as saying by the AFP news agency.

"What concerns us the most is water and health. Clean water is essential to prevent deadly water-borne diseases. Water during the flood has been contaminated badly. There is a shortage of clean water," he added.

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OnlinePoll ✓

Do you support the government's plans to unfreeze the 1,500 bank accounts frozen during the last caretaker government's anti-corruption drive?

☐ Yes (17.3%)
☐ No (80.5%)
☐ No Comments (2.3%)

Total votes: 394

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the government will be able to bring the six remaining assassins of Bangabandhu back from abroad?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing
August 17

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-11	4-21
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-34	6-44
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

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THREAT ON PM Warrant to arrest two BNP leaders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court last night issued arrest warrants against BNP's standing committee member Rafiqul Islam Mia and Vice-Chairman Shah Moazzam Hossain for allegedly threatening to kill Prime

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Iftar & Sehri timing for Dhaka & neighbouring areas

Today's Iftar
6:34 pm

Ending time for tomorrow's sehri
4:11 am

OBITUARY



Mr. Atif Rahman (Bipu), son of Mr. Rezaur Rahman, Managing Director of Bengal Airlift Group and former President of Dhaka Club Ltd and Mrs. Koukab Reza, Senior Teacher of Wills Little Flower School and College, passed away on the morning of August 16, 2010 at Mount Elizabeth Hospital, Singapore. He was forty years old.

He left behind his wife, a son & a daughter, father, mother and only younger brother Mr. Arif Rahman and numerous relatives to mourn his death.

Late Atif Rahman was Deputy Managing Director of the Bengal Airlift Group. Besides, he was CEO of Air Alliance Ltd, the Service Provider of UPS in Bangladesh, Sponsor Director of Bengal Knitex Ltd, Bengal NFK Textiles Ltd, Bengal Travel & Tours Ltd, Bengal Airlift Aviation Ltd and Premier Leasing & Finance Limited.

He was Managing Director of Ace Bangladesh Ltd & Ace Aviation Services Ltd.

Late Atif Rahman's Namaj-e-Janaza will be held on Wednesday the August 18, 2010 after Zohr prayers at Gulshan Azad Mosque.

All relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to kindly attend the Janaza and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

His colleagues, all officers and employees of the entire group are grieved at the sad and untimely demise of Mr. Atif Rahman.

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