

Did you know? The Atchafalaya Basin Bridge is actually two parallel bridges in the US state of Louisiana. With a length of 96,095 feet (29,290 m), it is the tenth longest bridge in the world in terms of total length.

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DCC sleeps on roads dug 6 months ago

HELEMUL ALAM

Roads in the city's Hazaribagh and Rayerbazar areas are left cratered for the last six months, causing sufferings to commuters.

The Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa), Dhaka, in February dug into roads around two kilometres from Jhigatala to Hazaribagh Bazar to set up storm sewers, but the roads were not repaired after the installation of the pipelines, locals said.

Both the Dhaka Wasa and the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) did not follow the guidelines DCC prepared in 2003 on the city's development works.

Wasa took more than four months to complete the installation task while it only gets a maximum period of 28 days to complete a work according to the guidelines. DCC also did not start repairing the roads within the shortest possible time as mentioned in the guidelines.

Monirul Islam, a resident of Hazaribagh, said the condition of the road from Dhaka tannery crossing to Hazaribagh Bazar is so severe that freight trucks often get stuck into the muddy road.

Drivers of non-motorised vehicles especially pushcarts have to virtually with their vehicles due to the poor condition of the road.

Badsha, driver of a pushcart, said it takes one hour to reach Beribadh from the crossing whereas it is hardly a way of 20 minutes. Traffic situation in the area has also become worse, he added.

Md Hossain, owner of Rumana Bostro Bitan at Hazaribagh market, said the sale at his shop dropped to 50 percent because of the incomplete road.



The horrible state of Tannery Road at Hazaribagh in the capital. The streets of the area are more or less in similar condition.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

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Attack on cops to snatch accused

3 cops injured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Three policemen were injured when criminals tried to snatch a person arrested in connection with a mugging case at Asadganj Sobhania Madrasa area in Chittagong yesterday.

Sources said a police team from Chittagong Police Station arrested Fazlul Karim, an accused in a mugging case, around 6:00pm. As police were loading him on to a police van, Fazlul's brothers and a few others attacked the law enforcers on duty and tried to take Fazlul away, said Assistant Commissioner of Police Shahnewaz Khaled.

Sub-inspectors Mohammad Mohsin, Sadip Kumar Das and Sukanta Kumar were injured in the attack, he said. Police had to fire shots in the air to control the situation.

Mohsin was undergoing treatment at Chittagong.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

FURNACE EXPLOSION

Another worker dies

Death toll reaches 3

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Another injured in Hasan Steel Mill furnace explosion at Kadamtoli succumbed to his injuries at Nirupom Hospital in Mohammadpur yesterday, reaching the death toll to three.

Madan Zadab alias Madan Babu, 50, an Indian engineer who used to work in the factory, was fighting for life at the hospital with 40 percent of his body burnt.

Azam Khan Faruki, SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

FEMALE DOMESTIC WORKERS

S'pore offers job to 45,000 Bangladeshis

PORIMOL PALMA

Singapore has proposed hiring 45,000 female domestic workers from Bangladesh on a pay higher than in the Middle Eastern countries.

Singapore is home to around two lakh Bangladeshi workers, but this is the first time it wants to hire female ones.

"Singapore needs 1.75 lakh female domestic workers. They would like to take 25 percent of them from Bangladesh provided we properly trained the jobseekers," said Nurul Islam, director of the Bureau of Manpower

Employment and Training (BMET).

A four-member delegation of Association of Employment Agencies Singapore (AEAS) made the proposal to Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain during its August 17 to 20 visit to Dhaka.

Led by its president Shirley Ng, the delegation also met BMET officials and leaders of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira) to discuss the proposal.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

One held with Tk 1.32cr in foreign currencies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs authorities at Shahjalal International Airport seized foreign currencies worth Tk 1.32 crore and detained a Singapore-bound passenger in this connection Thursday.

Jewel Rana, 35, son of Raham Ali of Naria in Shariatpur district, was carrying currencies of different countries including Japan, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Europe.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Dhaka too noisy

MAHBUBA ZANNAT

Aminul Haque has paid dearly for earning his bread and butter as he lost much of his hearing due to noise pollution at his workplace.

Aminul, 36, has been working at the production section of an export oriented garment factory for ten years now.

"As he is exposed to acute noise pollution for a long time at a stretch, his hearing is affected severely," said his physician Nazmul Islam, medical officer of the Department of ENT of Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

During the course of treatment, the doctor noticed the patient gradually losing his hearing. He also asked Aminul to find a job in a noise-free environment.

"Wherever there is noise pollution, the workers there invariably have their hearing impaired. But unfortunately, people give little thought to it for lack of awareness," he said adding that random honking in the capital makes the situation even worse.

According to the Noise Pollution (Control) Rules 2006, hospitals, educational institutions offices and courts are designated as silent zones where the rate of sound should remain within 50 decibels during the day.

But often the sound level crosses the 100 decibels mark in the capital, revealed a research of Work for Better Bangladesh (WBB) Trust. The sound level was measured from April to May 2009.

The study disclosed that the sound level reaches 94 decibels at Viqarunnesa Noon School and College and 105 decibels at Shahbagh where two major hospitals treat patients.

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Tanneries' waste cowhides are still collected, grinded, dried and mixed with poultry and fish feed despite a High Court three-month ban on such activities imposed in July. The photo was taken on the embankment in Hazaribagh in the capital.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Govt moves to find new manpower markets

5 teams formed to visit 17 countries

PORIMOL PALMA

Bangladesh plans to explore alternative and diversified overseas labour markets to boost the sector as some traditional destinations are getting saturated.

The Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment has already formed five delegations for visit to at least 17 countries in Europe, Australia, East Asia and Africa to search for employment opportunities, officials say.

"We have initiated the aggressive plan because quotas for our workers in some Middle Eastern countries are reaching the end," Expatriates' Welfare Secretary Dr Zafar Ahmed Khan told The Daily Star recently.

He said the ministry has assigned tasks to the delegates, who are doing necessary market analysis, consulting the Bangladesh missions in the countries concerned and will visit them in a month or two.

The countries listed as potential labour destinations include Japan, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Italy, Belgium, Germany, Spain, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Romania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

The initiative comes when both the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Implement DAP, relocate factories

Environmentalists demand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some eminent personalities yesterday stressed the need for implementing the Detailed Area Plan (DAP) that recommended relocating industries and chemicals factories out of the capital.

Chemicals factories are mushrooming alarmingly in the residential areas in absence of proper monitoring and posing threats to the lives of city dwellers.

The government has to take immediate steps to implement DAP to remove chemicals factories from the residential areas, the speakers said.

They were speaking on "We want inflammable and chemical risk-free locality: but how" organised by Bangladesh Poribesh Bachao Andolon (BAPA) at its office to mark three months of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

OnlinePoll ✓

Do you agree with Additional Attorney General MK Rahman that HM Ershad should be punished for illegal takeover?

Yes (77.4%)
No (20.7%)
No Comments (1.9%)

Total votes: 503

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think dropping of charges against ex-AL MP HBM Iqbal and MP Mohammad Nurunnabi Chowdhury Shaon in a killing case shows government's double standard in ensuring justice?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

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ঝুলন্ত তার/ক্যাবলসমূহ অপসারণের জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রীর কার্যালয়ের সম্মুখস্থ বৈদ্যুতিক খুঁটির সাথে ইন্টারনেট প্রোভাইডার, ক্যাবল অপারেটরসহ বিভিন্ন প্রতিষ্ঠানের স্থাপিত বিক্ষিপ্তভাবে ঝুলে থাকা তার/ক্যাবলসমূহ ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশনের স্থাপিত ভূগর্ভস্থ পাইপ লাইনে স্থানান্তরের কাজ অধিকাংশ প্রতিষ্ঠান কর্তৃক ইতিমধ্যে সম্পন্ন করা হয়েছে। কিন্তু কয়েকটি প্রতিষ্ঠান অদ্যাবধি কাজটি সম্পন্ন না করায় তাঁদেরকে আগামী ২৯/০৮/২০১০ ইং তারিখের মধ্যে ঝুলন্ত তার/ক্যাবলসমূহ ভূগর্ভস্থ পাইপ লাইনে স্থানান্তরের জন্য পুনরায় তাগিদ দেয়া হলো। অন্যথায় ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশনের সহায়তায় ঝুলন্ত তার/ক্যাবলসমূহ অপসারণ করা হবে। তার/ক্যাবল অপসারণ কালে কোন ক্ষয়ক্ষতি হলে তার দায় ডিপিডিসি বহন করবে না।

ডিপিডিসি কর্তৃপক্ষ।

Prayer Timing
August 28

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-17	4-27
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-24	6-34
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

Standard Chartered saadiq
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Iftar & Sehri timing for Dhaka & neighbouring areas
Today's Iftar
Ending time for tomorrow's sehri