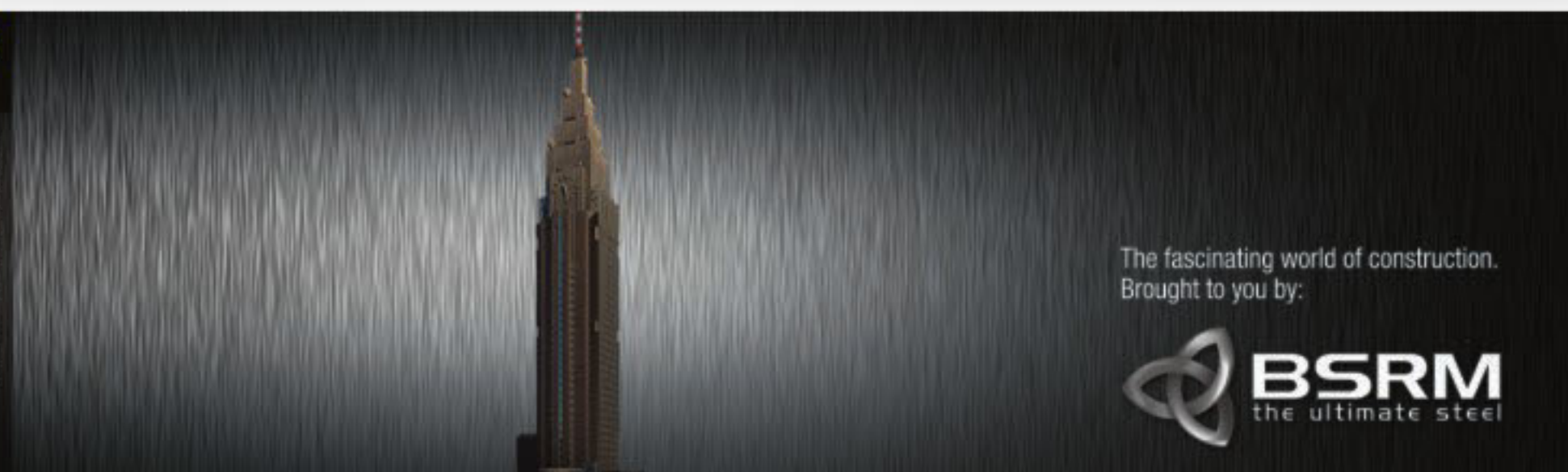


Did you know?

The NTT Docomo Yoyogi Building is a skyscraper located in the Shibuya in Tokyo, Japan. At 240 metres (790 ft) tall, it is the third tallest building in Tokyo. After the installation of a clock in 2002, the building became the tallest clock tower in the world.



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# Malaysia to hire 5,000 fishermen

Manpower export from Bangladesh set to resume

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Malaysia offers to hire around 5,000 fishermen from Bangladesh, which the government thinks would be the first step of reopening the door of the Southeast Asian country to Bangladeshi workers.

"Having received offers from the Malaysian side, our high commissioner in Kuala Lumpur inquired if we could send fishermen," Dr Zafar Ahmed Khan, secretary to the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment, told The Daily Star yesterday.

The workers would be hired to work in trawlers to catch fish in the sea, he said. With some training, Bangladeshi fishermen, mainly those from the coastal zones, can easily be made aptly skilled and professional in the trade, he added.

"We are now assessing the proposal and are hopeful to send such fishermen there," the secretary observed.

Referring to the Bangladesh high commissioner in Malaysia, he said the monthly salary of the fishermen would be equivalent to Tk 15,000 and the cost to go there would be only Tk 30,000, as the hiring companies would provide them airfare.

"We prefer sending them through government channels because it takes no time to

destroy a labour market when private recruiting agencies are involved," the secretary observed. He added Malaysia has demands for foreign workers also in manufacturing and plantation sectors.

Asked about Malaysia's stance on reopening the labour market for Bangladesh, Zafar said Bangladesh is making its diplomatic efforts to that end.

The country imposed a ban on hiring Bangladeshi workers in March last year, citing economic recession and instantly cancelled job visas of 55,000 Bangladeshis.

However, labour migration experts say it was the malpractice spree in recruitment process that prompted Malaysia to impose the ban.

"We hope the reopening process would start with the hiring of the fishermen," the secretary noted.

Speaking anonymously, an official at the Malaysian high commission in Dhaka said there was no official announcement about the matter.

Earlier, South Korea had hired some fishermen from Bangladesh who could not do well because of climatic conditions there, an official of the expatriates' welfare ministry said.

Some Bangladeshi fishermen also work in the Maldives, he added.



Despite good hilsa catch in the Bay, prices soar in the market. The demand for fresh hilsa and dried hilsa continues to increase. This photo taken at Firingibazar of Chittagong shows people spreading salt on a neatly formed pile of the fish for preservation.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

# PM for effective strategy to save biodiversity

UNB, New York

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the world leaders to formulate an effective strategy with genuine commitment and more investment to conserve biodiversity on earth.

"Biodiversity is worsening with increasing world population, poor people, poverty and adverse impacts of climate change and mindless exploitation of natural resources," she told the High Level Plenary Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at the UN Headquarters.

Hasina blamed the mankind's activities that results in massive extinction of species and destabilising nature's balance on the planet.

"We have ruthlessly exploited nature's bounty, upsetting the ecological balance, thereby placing our survival at risk," she said.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

# Produce Sayedee on Oct 12

Tribunal asks jail authorities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal yesterday directed the jail authorities to produce Jamaat-e-Islami Nayeb-e-Amir Delwar Hossain Sayedee before it on October 12.

The court also fixed the day for hearing on two petitions—one filed by the prosecution on July 21 for showing Sayedee arrested in connection with the allegation of crimes against humanity in 1971 and another by Sayedee on August 2 for not issuing the arrest warrant.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

# Bangladesh faces risks of terror finance

Global anti-money laundering body warns

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Bangladesh should amend laws against money laundering to plug the loopholes that allow international transactions in drug trade, terror finance and corruption, says a global taskforce.

In a draft report to the government, Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the world's lone anti-money laundering organisation, has observed that Bangladesh is a transshipment point for illegal drugs bound for markets in Europe, the USA and Canada.

"Bangladesh faces significant risk of money laundering and some risk of terrorism financing," said the report handed over to the government on September 15.

Prepared by the FATF's Regional Review

Group (RRG) to bring about some changes in the related laws and the Anti-Corruption Commission, the report notes, "The majority of illegal proceeds of crime in Bangladesh stem from trafficking of illicit drugs, human trafficking and corruption."

The government has agreed to amend two of the anti-money laundering laws and improve its capacity to detect financial crimes, a finance ministry official said.

The finance ministry yesterday sent the report to the law, foreign, and home ministries, and the Anti-Corruption Commission for their opinion.

Bangladesh will give feedback to the FATF by September 27.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

# Govt petitions for dropping murder case rejected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong tribunal yesterday turned down government petitions for withdrawing a case against former Chhatra League leaders for murdering police officer Bashir Ali.

The tribunal gave orders to continue the trial process in line with a Supreme Court directive after hearing arguments for the last two days.

The SC order would be the basis for trial, not a recommendation from the home ministry that claimed the case was filed for "political reasons," observed Judge M Shafiqul Karim of Chittagong Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal.

The court fixed September 28 for hearing of depositions of witnesses in the case.

Kamal Uddin Ahmed, public prosecutor (PP) of Chittagong metropolitan magistrate's court, and Ayub Khan, PP of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2



PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

Butchers sit idle hanging a few pieces of mutton in their shops at Hatirpul Bazar yesterday as the meat industry suffers due to the anthrax scare.

# Whistleblowers to be protected

Bill placed at parliament

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A bill was placed in parliament yesterday to protect whistleblowers and encouraging them to disclose information to authorities concerned.

The proposed legislation encourages a whistleblower to give the authorities information on activities against public health, security and environment, and illegal and criminal activities alongside embezzlement of public money, properties and misuse of power and irregularities in any organisation.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shafique Ahmed, who placed the bill, said the role of whistleblowers is very important to curb corruption.

"Whistleblowers' protection act is being used as a very effective tool to fight corruption in many countries," the minister said in a statement tagged with the copy of the bill.

The law minister also placed another bill to amend the Electoral Rolls Act to register Bangladeshi citizens living abroad in the voter list and meet their longstanding demand.

The proposed legislation styled "Public Interest Related Information Disclosure (Protection) Act, 2010" empowers a person to disclose information on ministries, divisions, departments or any other government offices, and all kinds of non-government organisations to authorities concerned.

It says competent authorities concerned may reward or honour a whistleblower for his information if it is proved correct in court.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6

# Rajuk knocks down illegal structures

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An eviction team of Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha removed around 500 illegal structures from Rajuk land during a drive in Uttara and adjacent areas yesterday.

The team, led by Executive Magistrate Md Rokonud-Doula, carried out the drive in Uttara at Road-16 of Sector-10 and along Ashulia Road.

Rokonud-Doula said the team removed unauthorised structures including a mosque and slum houses occupying the Rajuk land.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

# Properly boiled meat a way to avert anthrax

Say experts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Properly cooking meat in 120 degree Celsius temperature is an easy way to avert anthrax, said the experts in the capital yesterday at a seminar.

They also said the spore (germ) of anthrax cannot sustain in 120 degree Celsius.

But we are use to cook meat in a pot at 100 degree Celsius temperature which cannot ensure whether the anthrax

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

# Erosion hits flooded areas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Flood situation has improved in almost all the affected districts while river erosion has accelerated causing untold suffering to the people.

Thousands of people from Kurigram, Gaibandha, Sirajganj, Rangpur, Nilphamari, Madaripur, Faridpur and Chandpur have lost their homes and farmland to river erosion.

Chief engineer of Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) Saidur Rahman said, "We have received information regarding river erosion but we will get the final assessment in the middle of October."

"If at least 20 percent of the total landmass is not submerged, we cannot term it as havoc flood," he said. He claimed that the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

# Top outlaw killed in 'shootout'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

A leader of outlawed Biplobi Communist Party (BCP) was killed in a 'shootout' with the law enforcers in Harinakunda upazila of Jhenidah early yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Mozam Sardar, 32, son of Baburli Sardar of Pultadanga Taherhuda village in Harinakunda.

Jahangir Alam, officer-in-

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

# 7 hurt as bus catches fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A bus went up in flames in the city's Uttara last night leaving seven people injured after petrol from a container of a passenger spilled down its engine.

The Nilphamari-bound bus of Swapna-Shanta service from Syedabad caught fire at about 9:00pm, when petrol from a container of a passenger rolled down its engine at Abdullahpur bus stand in Uttara, said Khairul Islam, 21, one of the injured.

The wounded were whisked off to the burn and plastic surgery unit at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

"Some petrol spilled on the deck of the bus when the passenger carrying two containers accidentally hit one of them with his leg. The bus caught fire within seconds," Khairul added.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

# Currency forgery gang leader held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective Branch (DB) of police arrested the leader of a transnational gang involved in producing fake foreign currencies and recovered 53,500 fake Indian rupees from his possession at Banasree in city's Rampura on Tuesday night.

The detectives also traced the gang's involvement in financing a militant organisation in Bangladesh.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

**OnlinePoll** ✓  
Do you think PM should make her health adviser Syed Modasser Ali quit for his irresponsible remarks?  
Yes (91.5%)  
No (7.0%)  
No Comments (1.5%)  
Total votes: 847  
**TODAY'S POLL**  
Do you think the government will be able to implement the new rule that says if anyone found crossing the road instead of nearby footbridge or underpass would be taken to police custody for 24 hrs?  
Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

**Prayer Timing**  
September 23  
Fajr 4-40 5-15  
Zohr 12-45 1-15  
Asr 4-30 4-45  
Maghrib 6-05 6-10  
Esha 7-30 8-00  
Source: Islamic Foundation