

Did you know?

The Taj Mahal in Agra, India, considered to be the finest example of Mughal architecture, employed twenty thousands of artisans and craftsmen in its construction and took over two decades to build.



TURN ON DIGITAL SAMSUNG
Experience a brand new range of Samsung Electronics & Appliances at Transcom Digital
TRANSKOM DIGITAL
TURN ON TOMORROW

Two more die from chemical factory fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Wednesday's chemical factory fire in Dakkhin (South) Jatrabari claimed two more lives.

Rimu Begum, 26, and Sheuli, 21, succumbed to their injuries at the Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital early yesterday. With this the death toll in the fire incident rose to nine.

Injured Aminur Begum, 25, and Bishu Miah, 20, are undergoing treatment at the intensive care unit. Aminur Begum has 90 percent of body burn while Bishu 38 percent.

The magistrates assigned by the deputy commissioner's office, Dhaka yesterday handed over five bodies--Shahinur, 30, Kohinur, 32, Sumi, 13, Aleya, 25, Aklima, 22--to their relatives.

The bodies of Shokhi, 17, and one unidentified person were at Sir Salimullah Medical College morgue till 8:00pm

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

STORING CHEMICALS

5 warehouses fined, asked to shift

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two mobile courts yesterday fined five warehouses Tk 9.4 lakh for storing inflammable chemicals at Tipu Sultan Road, Lalbagh and Bangabandhu Avenue in the city without obtaining licence from the fire brigade.

The courts realised the fine instantly and ordered the owners to shift their warehouses from residential areas to a safer place.

One court led by Mohammad Al Amin, an executive magistrate of Dhaka district administration, launched the drive against illegal storage of chemicals in Old Dhaka around 12:00 noon.

The court, teamed up by members of Rab and fire service officials, found a warehouse of around ten thousand chemical containers at HR Corporation on Tipu Sultan Road and fined its owner Tk 5 lakh for operating without licence.

The court also realised an undertaking from its owner to move the store within

seven days.

Fire service officials said the recovered chemicals are used for dying and are not blacklisted for storing in residential areas.

Following the devastating fire at Nimtoli on June 3 this year, which killed at least 121 people, the government banned storing of 20 types of combustible chemicals in the capital's residential areas, and asked the traders to move such stores to safer places within September 30.

The drive comes, as many chemical traders are still operating flouting the government order.

However, the magistrate said the owners have started shifting them since the drive began on October 3. He also urged the traders to remove the stores given their social responsibility.

SK Traders and Chemi Colours Limited on Bangabandhu Avenue are the two other factories that have been fined Tk 2 lakh each. They, too, were operating without licence.

Upon undertaking, the court gave them 15 days to shift their stores.

Some three hundred containers of combustible chemicals, used mostly for dying, were recovered from these two stores, fire service officials said.

Another mobile court headed by magistrate Anwar Pasha led the drive in Lalbagh and fined two warehouses -- Ripon Perfumery and Shipa Traders -- Tk 20,000 each for operating without licence. The court also ordered the owners to move their stores out of the residential area.

Mohammad Al Amin, who led the drive at Tipu Sultan Road and Bangabandhu Avenue, said fire service authority will file regular cases against the owners if they fail to move their stores within the deadline set by the court.

The drive against illegal storage of chemicals will continue, said Zahurul Alam, assistant director of fire service and civil defence. He, however, did not give the next date of the drive.

Population census in mid-March

ALPHA ARZU

The government is going to carry out the 5th Population and Housing Census from March 15 to 19 next year, using digital technology for the first time.

The census will be conducted with a new approach to identify the total number of physically challenged, indigenous, floating and also people migrating from rural to urban areas and abroad.

"The cabinet has already approved the date for the census", said Planning Minister AK Khandker at a view-exchange meeting with journalists held at the Statistics Building in the city's Agargaon area yesterday.

The census will be conducted in three phases. The first one will mainly focus on collecting basic characteristics of all households and population. Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR) machine will be used for this purpose.

Post-enumeration quality check will be done in the second phase to determine the coverage and content error of the main census.

During the final phase, socio-economic data will be collected from one percent of the total population. Long questionnaire related to the main census will be used for this purpose and the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



Peruvian Mario Vargas wins Nobel in literature

AP, Stockholm

Peruvian Mario Vargas Llosa, one of the most acclaimed writers in the Spanish-speaking world who once ran for president in his homeland, won the 2010 Nobel Prize in literature yesterday.

The Swedish Academy said it honoured the 74-year-old author "for his cartography of structures of power and his trenchant images of the individual's resistance, revolt and defeat."

SEE PAGE 7 COL 5



PHOTO: COURTESY

A mobile court raids a shop storing combustible chemicals on Bangabandhu Avenue in the capital yesterday. The court fined the owner Tk 2 lakh and allowed 15 days to move to a safe location.

RECRUITMENT ANOMALIES IN HEALTH DEPT Case, complaints against CS follow heartbreak

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A Pabna court issued a show cause notice to the district's civil surgeon yesterday after a jobseeker filed a case against the official for violating the freedom fighters' family quota in hiring office staff.

Another jobseeker filed a complaint against the same civil surgeon the same day accusing him of taking a bribe of Tk 2 lakh from her, promising a job.

Md Mojibar Rahman, son of freedom fighter Golam Sarwar of village Sholonga of Santhia

upazila, who applied for a post of an office assistant and typist, filed the case with the Assistant Judge's Court of Pabna against Civil Surgeon Dr AK Ashrafuzzaman for not giving him the job.

"I am a freedom fighter's son and applied for the post under the freedom fighters' family members' quota. There was no other candidate for the post under the quota. According to the rule, I have the right to get the job. But the civil surgeon selected candidates violating the quota in exchange for illegal profit," Mojibar

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Police worship power here Indian ex-celebrity cop Kiran tells conference

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police worship power instead of serving common people in the countries like Bangladesh, said Kiran Bedi, a Ramon Magsaysay awardee and internationally renowned prison reformer from India, to the reporters yesterday.

Frequent incidents of human rights violation occur in developing countries as police do not discharge their duties impartially, she said at a conference styled "Locked up and forgotten" that ended at Police Staff College, Mirpur in the capital.

The home ministry and German Technical Cooperation

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

2nd ODI at the mercy of rain

SPORTS REPORTER

Weather permitting the second one-dayer between Bangladesh and New Zealand will take place at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur today.

The match faces a possible washout due to persistent rain and it will be a big disappointment for the holiday crowd if the sun doesn't shine.

The forecast of more rain is certainly bad news for New Zealand.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

OnlinePoll

Do you agree with BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia that war crimes trial is a conspiracy to throw the nation into chaos?

Yes (49.9%)
No (50.0%)
No Comments (0.1%)

Total votes: 5318

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think nepotism will be stopped in the government recruitments following the PM's latest warning?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing

October 8		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-45	5-20
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	4-15	4-30
Maghrib	5-53	5-56
Esha	7-30	8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation

Guards gave armoury keys to BDR rebels

Duty officer at Pilkhana Central Quarter Guard tells court

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The grisly BDR mutiny at Pilkhana would not have taken place had the border guards on duty at the Central Quarter Guard not allowed the rebel soldiers in, and given away the keys of the armouries to them.

"If only one guard had obstructed the mutineers who attacked the quarter guard around 9:00am and tried to save me, the information of the mutiny would have reached the Darbar Hall and so many innocent people wouldn't have died," Lt Col Reazul Karim, the then duty officer at the quarter guard, told a special court yesterday.

The mutiny broke out at the Darbar Hall around 9:30am, half an hour after a group of 10 to 15 armed mutineers attacked the Central Quarter Guard and armouries.

Soon, other mutineers joined the group and took up around 3,500 firearms and a huge amount of bullets within an hour, Reazul said.

It was the duty of the commander and other guards to stop the mutineers from entering the quarter guard, he added.

The 11 accused jawans, who were on duty at the Central Quarter Guard before the mutiny broke out, said during cross-examination that they had arms but no ammunition when the mutineers approached them. They had nothing to do, as around 15 rebels equipped with firearms suddenly attacked and beaten them.

Nayek Kamruzzaman, an accused, said he even served Reazul and his two children with food and water during the mutiny.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

ALMOST EVERY KID BORN WITH A DREAM TO BE A PILOT
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
STATE OF THE ART FACILITIES
NEW AIRCRAFT . SKILLED FACULTY
PRIVATE & COMMERCIAL PILOT LICENSE
SSC-HSC OR EQUIVALENT IS REQUIRED
ADMISSION GOING ON!
WWW.AIRANGAVIATION.COM
ARIRANG FLYING SCHOOL A CONCERN OF YOUNGONE
HOUSE 42, LAKE DRIVE ROAD, SECTOR 7, UTTARA, DHAKA 1230, BANGLADESH
+88 02 8953859, FAX +88 02 8913609, +88 01914228998 / 01926996725
INFO@AIRANGAVIATION.COM