



REGD. NO. DA 781

Vol. XX No. 261

DHAKA SATURDAY OCTOBER 9, 2010

People's Right to Know www.thedailystar.net

SHAWAL 29, 1431 HIJRI • 24 PAGES PLUS STAR INSIGHT PRICE: TK 10.00

Ceaseless rain

paralyses life

4 die as house, wall collapse in Dhaka,

Barguna; another dies in tidal surge



PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

'AL MEN' ATTACK BNP PROCESSION

Boraigram upazila chairman killed

When city dwellers are relishing the weekend, these pushcart pullers strive with their loaded cart on a flooded street. In knee-deep water, they try hard to pull out the stuck

wheels of the cart from a pothole near Shantinagar yesterday. The area gets waterlogged like many other streets in the capital due to incessant rain and poor drainage system.

BNP calls hartal on Sunday in Natore

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Awami League activists yesterday beat to death Sanaullah Noor Babu, BNP-backed chairman of Boraigram upazila, during a BNP procession in Bonpara Bazar, Natore.

BNP has called a full-day hartal in Natore on Sunday along with three-day mourning and protest programmes from tomorrow following the incident, said Aminul Haque, general secretary of BNP Natore district unit.

Municipality Mayor Ishaq Ali and three jour-

nalists were injured in the attack launched around 11:00am.

Babu, also the president of BNP Bonpara municipal unit, was admitted to a local hospital at Bonpara and later shifted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital as his condition deteriorated. The doctors declared him dead at 3:30pm, said police, witnesses and hospital sources.

Around 50 AL activists equipped with firearms, sticks,

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Power crisis likely to end in 2012

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Incessant rainfall all through the day drenched

the entire country yesterday, flooding many

streets and neighbourhoods of the capital, and

district of Barguna and the capital in accidents

linked to the inclement weather caused by a

depression in the Bay of Bengal that has been

sweeping over the country for the last three

many parts of the southern districts and Cox's

Bazar were inundated, destroying numerous

mud houses and standing crops, and washing

breached by gushing rainwater in the southern

districts. Many villages in last year's Aila

affected areas were inundated anew. All over

the country normal life was severely disrupted.

The Met Office advised the maritime ports

Numerous flood protection dams were

away fish ponds and shrimp enclosures.

Thousands of people were marooned as

At least five people were killed in the coastal

ushering tidal surges in coastal districts.

Outages start to ease in Dec; govt eyes 11,000MW power during its tenure

SHARIER KHAN

A quarter of the persisting electricity crisis is likely to go by December with five new rental power projects coming into operation.

The government expects that by the end of next year, bulk of the load shedding will be averted and by the end of 2012, there will be no load shedding as dozens of new power plants will go into production by then.

This improvement will take place irrespective of an unchanged gas supply situation as most of the new plants will operate using heavy

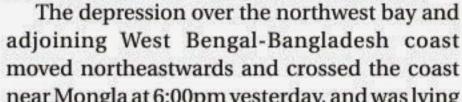
fuel oil or diesel. target would be achievable as the ministries

and government agencies linked with implementation of power projects are now working together, as never before, by reducing typical bureaucratic bottlenecks.

The combined drive is visible from the fact that a British company -- Aggreko -- signed two rental power deals in May for generation of 200 megawatts of power and succeeded in launching the two diesel-fired plants by August, he

Chairman of Power Development Board Alamgir Kabir said the government has added nearly 900 MW of power since January last year. But this was not enough to address the continu-According to Power Secretary AK Azad, the ing power crisis due to gas supply shortfall and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, and Mongla to keep

hoisted the cautionary signal number three.

near Mongla at 6:00pm yesterday, and was lying over Barisal, Noakhali and the adjoining area as a land depression, said a special bulletin of the Met Office. It is likely to move in a northeasterly direc-

tion further inland, and gradually weaken by giving precipitation. Squally weather may continue over the north bay and coastal areas, the bulletin added.

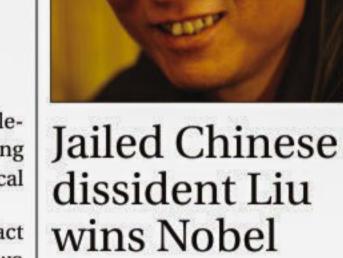
The low-lying areas of the coastal districts of Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Noakhali, Feni, Laxmipur, Bhola, Barisal, Patuakhali, Barguna, Chandpur, Pirozpur, Jhalakathi, Bagerhat, Khulna, Satkhira and their off shore islands and shoals are likely to be inundated by wind driven surges of heights 2 to 4 feet above normal astronomical tides, the bulletin cautioned.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



Sanaullah Noor Babu

iron rods and machetes swooped on the BNP procession and started beating the opposition Around 30 others including Bonpara menleaving many severely injured.



Peace prize

BBC ONLINE

Jailed Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo has been named the winner of the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize.

Making the announcement in Oslo, Nobel Committee

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Military rulers used them as weapon

Local govt bodies helped Zia, Ershad to consolidate power at grassroots level

SHAKHAWAT LITON

ANNOUNCEMENT

From today we launch a

special column titled "Tangents" by Ihtesham Kabir.

Consumed by our daily

grind, and perhaps too busy and distracted we fail to

notice life's beauty and kindness of the ordinary

people around us. The writer takes us on a tangent

and draws our attention to them through his sensitive writing and innovative

photography.

ups will remind us of the

human face of Dhaka, and

of the countryside, that

most of us no longer have

the eyes to see. His columns

will be published every

Saturday on page 2. We

hope our readers will enjoy

this unusual and sensitive

column. We invite our

readers to send us stories of

similar experience and

observation. We will publish

a select number of them.

EDITOR

We believe Kabir's write

Military dictators Ziaur Rahman and HM Ershad craftily used local government bodies to consolidate their power at the grassroots.

These local bodies helped them build power LOCAL GOVT base at union and upazila level. They formed BNP and Jatiya Party that went on to win parliamentary elections and helped them

indemnify their illegal regimes. Both the autocrats desperately tried to transform themselves into populist politicians and attained success -- to a large extent -- to

that end, thanks to the assistance from local government representatives.

At the beginning, the two, like military dictator Ayub Khan in the Pakistan period, gave priority over securing the support of local body

representatives. Capturing power in 1958, Ayub Khan promulgated the Basic Democracies Order in 1959 to establish a four-tier

local government system with union, thana,

district and divisional councils. Polls to union council were held in January 1960. A total of 80,000 councillors were elected. **SEE PAGE 15 COL 1**

What's your Priority?

Status, Convenience, Benefit or Wealth? We recognise it all.



Call Unilever Careline (02) 9872125

For more enquiries (Sat-Thu) 9:30 am - 5:30 pm