

Did you know?

Christ the Redeemer is a statue of Jesus Christ in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The statue is 39.6 metres (130 ft) tall, including its 9.5 metre (31 feet) pedestal and 30 metres (98 ft) wide. It weighs 635 tons (700 short tons) and is located at the peak of the 700 metres (2,300 ft) Corcovado mountain.



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3,500km new power line for Khulna region

Ecneec okays project

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecneec) in its meeting yesterday approved Tk 2,169 crore in seven projects including one for setting up 3,500 kilometres new electric lines in Khulna division. Ecneec meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair okayed rural Electrification Extension in Khulna Division project worth Tk 393 crore which will end in 2013. According to the proposal, the lines at greater Khulna will be set up through nine 'Palli Bidyutayan Samity's'. The Power Division said 1.48 lakh new subscribers will get electric connections and it will require additional 36 megawatt of electricity. Due to power shortage, setting up electricity lines in the rural areas remained suspended for

long. But the government has taken fresh initiative to expand it recently. Earlier, Ecneec approved power line expansion in other divisions. Khulna was the last in the process. SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME Ecneec also gave nod to school feeding programme in the poverty-prone areas involving Tk 1,143 crore. The project will be completed by June 2014 by the Department of Primary Education under the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MoPME) with half of the assistance from the World Food Programme (WFP). Under the project, each student of primary schools in the project area covering 86 upazilas of all the six divisions across the country would be given 75 grams of fortified biscuits every day. SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



WHAT IS YOUR KEY TO SUCCESS? Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina hands over the key of a car to captain Shakib Al Hasan during a reception to the national cricket team members at the Gonobhaban last night. She announced that each of the 20 players will get a plot and a car for their historic victory against New Zealand.

BCS PRELIMINARY 14,470 selected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Public Service Commission (PSC) yesterday published the results of the 30th Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) preliminary SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Prayer Timing		
October 20		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-50	5-25
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-36	5-39
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

Fresh attack on Ahmadiyyas

4 houses vandalised in Tangail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Two Ahmadiyyas were seriously injured and four houses vandalised in a fresh attack on the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat community by religious bigots in Ghatail upazila of Tangail on Monday afternoon. The injured, Shamsul Haque Akanda, 60, and his wife Hasna Banu, 50, of Chandtara village of the upazila were taken to Tangail General Hospital. Hasna was shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) a few hours later as her conditions became more critical. "About 12 to 15 extremists led by one Sattar stormed into our SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

Rafique slates different judgments on same charge

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Barrister Rafique ul Huq yesterday said different courts give different judgments on the same charge, as the judges act out of their political bias. The senior lawyer also noted that human rights in a country cannot be ensured unless the higher courts act independently. "The rule of law must be there to ensure human rights. SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Govt mulls law to restrict tree felling

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is planning to formulate a law restricting wholesale felling of trees as part of its policy to mitigate climate change, Law Minister Shafique Ahmed has said. "There could be a provision that two trees have to be planted if one fells one tree," he said, emphasising that the environment must be protected to save mankind. Shafique was addressing the launching of a report on climate change discourses in Bangladesh at the National Press Club in the capital yesterday as the chief guest. Dushtha Shasthya Kendra (DSK), a local NGO, came up with the report. The minister observed that although no major research has been done to assess the impact of climate change on Bangladesh, the reality is, country's food production, water resources, health and livelihoods are already being affected and will continue to be affected. This is all because the industrialised countries have emitted too much of carbon, he said, adding, the government is "very much aware" of this, and is working to address the adversities. Dr Mihir Kanti Majumder, environment secretary, said the government has already taken a number of initiatives including drawing SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

ATTACK ON TRAIN 16 more held in Sirajganj

A CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Police in separate drives yesterday arrested 16 more people in connection with the October 11 attack on the intercity train Drutajan Express and setting it ablaze near a BNP rally venue here. The arrestees include former president of district Jubo Dal Rakibul Hassan Ratan, nayeb-e-ameer of Rayganj upazila Jamaat-e-Islami Ruhul Amin, local Jamaat leader Momotaj Uddin, BNP leader SEE PAGE 15 COL 5



A PARK INDEED

Since being designated as a children's park in the early nineties, this strip of land at Naya Bazar in Old Dhaka has been anything but a place for the kids to play. Trucks used it as a parking lot till newspaper reports in 1996 forced Dhaka City Corporation to reclaim it and install slides, seesaws, swings and other playground equipment. But because of the same DCC's neglect, the amusement tools soon rusted and vanished, and the park became a dumping ground for construction rubbish and sewer sludge. The prime minister's recent order to recover the capital's playgrounds highlights how the little ones in this densely-populated city grow up without much access to outdoor play.

Photo: STAR

Attack on Chechen parliament kills 6

BBC ONLINE

At least six people were killed and 10 others injured as attackers stormed parliament in the restive Russian republic of Chechnya. At least two security personnel and a civilian worker died -- along with at least three attackers, two of whom are thought to have blown themselves up. Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov said all the militants were dead. Correspondents say the incident in the capital Grozny is a reminder that the region is far from stable. Last year Moscow declared victory against Chechen separatists and there had been a relative lull in the violence under President Kadyrov, the Moscow-backed strongman. But the whole North Caucasus is seeing an insurgency led by Islamist rebels, correspondents say. Militants struck at about 0845 (0445 GMT), attacking policemen guarding the parliament building, Mr Kadyrov told Russian news agency Interfax. "As a result of co-ordinated actions, a special operation lasting 15-20 minutes was carried out to eliminate the militants and free the MPs and technical staff who were inside," he said. SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

OnlinePoll

Do you agree with BNP leader SQ Chowdhury that army should decide on Khaleda Zia's Dhaka cantonment house issue and it has no relation with politics, administration and judiciary?

- Yes (44.7%)
- No (54.5%)
- No Comments (0.8%)

Total votes: 1209

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think gov't's plan on talks with Islamic parties excluding Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Oikya Jote about constitutional changes will be effective in dispelling confusion over state religion?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

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