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Fasten seatbelt, stop jaywalking

Drive starts today to fine rules breakers

MUKHLESUR RAHMAN

Make sure you fasten your seatbelt in your car from today. Or else you might be fined up to Tk500.

If you are walking, stick to the pavements and use footbridges or zebra crossings to get to the other side. Even pedestrians will be fined for jaywalking.

Bangladesh Road Transport Authority starts a drive today against motor vehicle ordinance violators exercising executive power, said BRTA Chairman Mohammad Ayubur Rahman. BRTA would coordinate the efforts of Rab, police and the district administration in the drive.

Even though the drive aims to reduce accidents, most motorists and pedestrians are unaware of the drive due to poor



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Cops guilty, but no custodial deaths

Claims govt probe report for HC on 2 deaths in city

ASHUTOSH SARKAR and MUKHLESUR RAHMAN

A home ministry probe report claims two persons who died mysteriously on July 1 in the capital were not killed in custody but holds police responsible for one's death.

The investigation blames an assistant sub-inspector and a constable of Darussalam Police Station for the death of Mujibur Hossain and recommends punitive action against them.

Directed by the High Court on July 5, the ministry investigated the alleged custodial deaths of Mujibur of Darussalam and Mizanur Rahman of Gulshan.

Earlier, two rights bodies filed a public interest litigation with the HC with an aim to stop custodial deaths.

Mujibur allegedly died in custody of Darussalam police and Mizanur died in an alleged shootout with Gulshan police.

"The death of Mujibur, who drowned in the Turag river, cannot be considered a death in custody. But Assistant Sub-inspector of Darussalam Police Station Md Abu Sayem and constable Ziaur Rahman Bhuiyan can be charged with his drowning," the report says.

It adds they (Sayem and Ziaur) can be charged with serious neglect of duty and concealment of the facts about Mujibur from the higher authorities.

The Office of the Attorney General received the probe report on October 29 and would soon submit it to the HC for a decision in this regard, insiders say.

The report says Mizanur was hit by bullets during a chase by police when he was fleeing on a hijacked car. Mizanur and his associate Manik were injured in the shootout with law enforcers, it adds.

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Lottery for admission

24 schools in city to enrol children thru' lottery, instead of admission test

WASIM BIN HABIB

The government has taken an initiative for introducing lottery system for admission into class I at the 24 state-owned high schools in the capital next year.

It believes this would end the psychological torment a pre-schooler has to go through to get a spot in those schools.

Viqarunnisa Noon School, one of the reputed and most sought-after schools in the country, decided to go for lottery to admit class I students in 2011. The system is already being used by Holy Cross School and College, Mohammadpur Preparatory High School, Herman Mainer College, YWCA School and College.

Every year children aged between five and six years wade into battle for admission in reputed schools. They undergo enormous pressure of memorising information difficult to remember at the tender age. They have to prepare for weeks before they finally appear for the test at their parents' desired schools.

Apart from guidance at home, many parents send their children to coaching centres, which take a handsome amount of

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OnlinePoll

Do you think mid-level leaders' pressure on BNP top leadership to launch a tougher anti-government movement to resist the 'eviction' of Khaleda Zia from her Dhaka cantonment house is justified?

Yes (40.4%)
 No (59.1%)
 No Comments (0.5%)

Total votes: 2221

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the government should accept the private company's proposal to set up an amusement park on one-third of the zoo land?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing

November 1		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-55	5-30
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-30	5-34
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

Tortured domestic help rescued

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab members yesterday rescued a minor domestic help, tortured severely by her employers, from a house on Dilu Road in the capital's Ramna area.

The law enforcers arrested her employers Moshir Rahman Titu, a trader, and his wife. They were handed over to Ramna police.

The victim, ten-year-old Sohagi Akhter, daughter of Aynal Hossain of Gopalganj, was admitted to One Stop Crisis Centre (OCC) at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Dr Bilkis Begum, coordinator of OCC at the DMCH, said there were injury marks all over Sohagi's body.

The victim told the law enforcers that Titu's wife Lima Begum often beat her severely with iron rod for making small mistakes. Lima poured boiling water on her on Saturday.

Assistant Superintendent of Police Kudrat-e-Khuda of Rab-3 said Titu's neighbours informed them over the phone that a domestic help had been tortured severely at his house.

Rab-3 sent to the area its intelligence team that confirmed the information.

Titu and his wife Lima told

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Ten-year-old Sohagi, a domestic help who had been tortured by her employers at their Dilu Road residence, was rescued by Rab yesterday and taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Cuts, bruises and burn injuries were all over her body. The Daily Star decided not to show its readers the photos of her horrifying wounds.

PHOTO: STAR

Govt mulls specialised police for campus: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday underscored the need for creating separate specialised police forces to reduce load on general police personnel and improve law and order situation.

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Step down

Khaleda asks govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday asked the Awami League government to step down immediately instead of piling up misdeeds and failure.

"No master will be able to protect this government," she said adding her party will run the country again forming the next government and all the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Muhith terms graft a nat'l shame

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The finance minister yesterday said 'mass resistance' is a must to eliminate corruption from the country.

"Corruption has become a matter of 'national shame' now. And to eliminate corruption

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