

Did you know? The Incheon Bridge is a newly-constructed bridge in South Korea. The 21.38 km (13.3 miles) long highway project consisted of government-built sections at three ends and a 12.34 km (7.7 miles) section in the middle build the bridge section is 18,384 m (60,315 ft) long.



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WIKILEAKS RELEASE

Dark side of US diplomacy revealed

AFP, Washington

Whistleblower website WikiLeaks has unleashed a flood of US cables detailing shocking diplomatic episodes, from a nuclear standoff with Pakistan to Arab leaders urging a strike on Iran. The leaked memos describe a Chinese government bid to hack into Google; plans to reunite the Korean peninsula after the North's eventual collapse; the king of Saudi Arabia's call to the US to bomb Iran to halt its nuclear drive. The confidential cables, most of which date from 2007 to February this year, also reveal how the State Department has ordered diplomats to spy on foreign officials and even to obtain their credit card and frequent flier numbers. The memos, released on Sunday, recount closed-door remarks such as Yemen's presi-

dent telling a top US general: "We'll continue saying the bombs are ours, not yours" when discussing secretive US strikes on al-Qaeda. A description of Libyan leader Moamer Kadhafi said he required the near-constant assistance of a "voluptuous blond" Ukrainian nurse. According to another note that surfaced in The New York Times, the Saudi king considers Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari the greatest obstacle to progress in his country. "When the head is rotten it affects the whole body," King Abdullah bin Abd al-Aziz was quoted as saying. A separate US diplomatic cable described Ahmed Wali Karzai, a powerful brother of Afghan President Hamid Karzai, as "corrupt

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is welcomed by her Japanese counterpart Naoto Kan at the latter's office yesterday.

Khaleda's lawyers feel 'deprived of justice'

AG says they killed time on purpose

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After the Supreme Court dismissed Khaleda Zia's three petitions yesterday, her lawyers claimed that they were denied justice, while the attorney general said Khaleda's counsels killed time in the court for political purpose. TH Khan, principal counsel for Khaleda Zia, yesterday told reporters that they did not get justice, as the Appellate Division did not hear the contempt of court petition. "We prayed to the court to hear the contempt of court petition first and we sought time from the court for hearing other petitions, but the

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BNP won't return to parliament

Party MPs see lack of 'atmosphere'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP Parliamentary Party has turned down the Speaker's call for returning to parliament on grounds that the House lacks "proper atmosphere". It questioned the neutrality of the speaker of parliament and said he has failed to meet opposition parties' demands that include ensuring the security of the Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia. Zainul Abidin Farroque,

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Call for bridging rich-poor divide

UN climate talks begin

REUTERS, Cancun

A new round of UN climate talks opened yesterday with almost 200 nations meeting in Mexico in hopes of clinching an agreement on a narrow range of crunch issues dividing rich and emerging economies. The two-week conference at the beach resort of Cancun aims to agree on funds and approaches to preserve rain forests and prepare for a hotter world. It will also seek to formalize existing targets to curb greenhouse gas emissions. Fanfare is far below levels of last year's

Copenhagen summit which aimed to agree a new climate deal but ended instead with a non-binding agreement rejected by a clutch of developing countries. The long-running UN talks have pitted against each other the world's top two emitters, the United States and China, with US demands for greater Chinese emissions curbs echoing similar pressure on free trade and human rights. On the eve of the talks, Mexican President Felipe Calderon pointed to the economic opportunities from fighting climate change,

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19 MURDER ACCUSED Govt backs down on case dropping

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In the face of widespread criticism from various quarters, Dhaka Metropolitan Public Prosecutor Abdullah Abu yesterday requested a trial court to rescind its dismissal of businessman Afatabuddin murder case. The dismissal of the case had cleared 19 accused of murder charges, including two top-listed gangsters, both of whom are on the run. "I submitted the petition to the Environment Appeal Court to reinstate the



Afatabuddin

murder charges against 18 of the accused, including most-wanted criminals Shahadat Hossain and Khorshed Alam," the public prosecutor told The Daily Star yesterday adding that earlier he had requested the court to drop the charge only against the number one accused Osman Goni Sarkar, as the charge against him had been deemed politically motivated. Osman himself had also appealed for withdrawal of the charge against him. Ruling Awami

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Youth held for nuisance on Facebook

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A young engineer was arrested yesterday for harassing a female university student on the social networking site Facebook. Arrested Aleem Uddin, 28, an assistant engineer of Western Marine Shipyard in Chittagong, hails from Noakhali. Police said Aleem had opened a fake account of the victim, whom he termed his former girlfriend, on the networking site two months back. He started posting indecent pictures and abusive words using the profile.

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A minibus in flames on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue near Farmgate last night. At least 12 vehicles were set ablaze in different parts of the capital on the eve of the hartal called by BNP.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Bangladesh gets high remittances despite recession

Says World Migration Report 2010

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh, being one of the world's leading manpower exporting countries, became the country with remarkably high remittances from its expatriates workers compared to other developing ones despite the global financial recession, said the World Migration Report-2010 (WMR) released yesterday. The WMR-2010 titled "The Future of Migration: Building Capacities for Change" said remittances to developing countries declined by six percent last year but some countries such as Bangladesh, Pakistan and the Philippines benefited from an increase in remittances between 2008 and 2009 during the recession period. The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) released the report from Geneva and it will also be launched in Bangladesh soon after International Migrants Day-2010 to be observed on December 18, according to an IOM official from Switzerland. Although hundreds of millions of dollars are spent each year

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Transit rules likely next month

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government is set to prepare the rules for the transit and transhipment to India, Nepal and Bhutan in line with the World Trade Organisation protocol. Commerce Secretary Golam Hossain and National Board of Revenue (NBR) Chairman Nasiruddin Ahmed yesterday said they are hopeful of formulating the rules in December. The rules will mostly deal with the fees and routes for the transit and transhipment. A meeting to form a high-powered committee in this

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AUG 21 CASE CID seeks 4 more months for probe

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) yesterday submitted a petition to a Dhaka court seeking four months more to complete the probe into one of the two cases filed for the August 21 grenade attacks on an Awami League rally in 2004. The case was filed under the Explosive Substances Act. CID's Senior Special Superintendent Abdul Kahar Akhand, also the investigation officer of the case, submitted

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Prayer Timing		
November 30		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-10	5-45
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-19	5-22
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

মোটরযানের কর ও ফি ডাকঘরের পরিবর্তে ব্যাংকের মাধ্যমে আদায়ের জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

মোটরযান মালিক, চালক ও সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, গত ১৫-১১-২০১০ তারিখ হতে ঢাকা জেলা ও মেট্রোপলিটন এলাকার মোটরযানের সমুদয় কর ফি তথা ট্যাক্স টোকেন ইস্যু/নবায়ন, মালিকানা বদলী, ড্রাইভিং লাইসেন্স ইস্যু/নবায়ন, রুট পারমিট ইস্যু/নবায়ন ফি ডাকঘরের পরিবর্তে মিরপুরস্থ বিআরটিএ অফিসে স্থাপিত ব্রাক ব্যাংকের বুথ ও সাউথ ইস্ট ব্যাংকের ধানমন্ডি, সাত মসজিদ রোড, মোহাম্মদপুর, শ্যামলী, কাওরান বাজার, নিউ এলিফ্যান্ট রোড, কাকরাইল, মৌচাক, গুলশান, উত্তরা, বনানী, প্রধান শাখা, মতিঝিল ও কর্পোরেট শাখাসমূহের মাধ্যমে গ্রহণ করা হচ্ছে। আগামী ১লা ডিসেম্বর, ২০১০ তারিখ থেকে দেশের অবশিষ্ট জেলা ও মেট্রো এলাকায় অবস্থিত সাউথ ইস্ট ও ব্রাক ব্যাংকের শাখাসমূহের মাধ্যমে এবং ইকুরিয়া (কেরানীগঞ্জ, ঢাকা), চট্টগ্রাম, খুলনা ও রাজশাহী বিআরটিএ অফিসে স্থাপিত ব্রাক ব্যাংকের বুথসমূহের মাধ্যমে মোটরযানের কর ও ফি আদায় করা হবে।

ব্যাংকের শাখা ও বুথের মাধ্যমে মোটরযানের কর ও ফি জমা প্রদানের জন্য প্রথমবার গ্রাহককে সংশ্লিষ্ট বিআরটিএ অফিসে যোগাযোগ করতঃ প্রযোজ্য কর ও ফি এর মূল্যায়ন করতঃ ব্যাংক শাখা/বুথে জমা দিতে হবে। এজন্য গ্রাহককে কোন জমা বই বা ফয়েল পূরণ করার প্রয়োজন হবে না। কেবলমাত্র গাড়ি/লাইসেন্স এর মূল ডকুমেন্টসমূহ প্রদর্শন করতে হবে। পরবর্তীতে গ্রাহক সরাসরি উক্ত দুটি ব্যাংকের নির্ধারিত যে কোন শাখা বা বুথে প্রযোজ্য কর ও ফি জমা প্রদান করতে পারবেন। কর ও ফি জমা প্রদানের পর গ্রাহক তার জমাকৃত কর ও ফি জমা হয়েছে কী না তা বিআরটিএ'র যে কোন অফিস থেকে নিশ্চিত হতে পারবেন।

জিডি-৫০৯০ বিআরটিএ

OnlinePoll ✓

Do you agree with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina that BNP has called the hartal on November 30 to save Khaleda Zia's 'illegally grabbed' property?

○ Yes (46.9%)
○ No (52.8%)
○ No Comments (0.3%)

Total votes: 5660

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain that FBCCI president's suggestion to find alternatives to hartal is biased?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

The Daily Star

Standard Chartered

celebrating life

ANNOUNCEMENT

The hartal on November 30 will not affect our Award Giving Ceremony of The Daily Star-Standard Chartered "Celebrating Life" Contests 2010 which will be held, as planned, today at Osmani Memorial Hall. It is scheduled to begin at 6.30pm, after the hartal ends.

All participants and guests are requested to bring their invitation cards and not to bring any personal belongings or electronic devices such as bags, handbags, cameras and mobile phones since these will not be allowed into the premises. Strict security protocols must be maintained to ensure the safety of the Honourable President of Bangladesh, who will hand over the Celebrating Life Awards to the winners on 30 November 2010.