

Did you know? Aswan Dam refers to two dams in Egypt. Today the name refers to the High Dam, which is the newer of the two. The former cataract and the Old Aswan Dam is about 1,000 kilometres (620 m) (686 kilometres (426 mi)) up-river and south-southeast of Cairo. The new Aswan High Dam is further 4 kilometres (2.5 m) upriver from the older dam.



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Pricey foods show future

Report at UN meet warns climate change already taking its toll

AFP, Cancun

Surging prices for staple foods in 2008 and 2010 may be just a foretaste of the future as the impacts of climate change and population growth combine, a report issued at the UN talks in Cancun said on Wednesday.

Between 2010 and 2050, the price of corn, also called maize, could rise by 42-131 percent, that of rice by 11-78 percent, and that of wheat by 17-67 percent, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) said.

These prices are dependent on a range of 15 scenarios whose factors are the state of the global economy, population growth and

changes in rainfall and global temperatures, the think-tank said.

"Climate change will cause lower rice yields all over the world in 2050, compared to a future without climate change," IFPRI warned.

"One of the climate change scenarios results in substantial declines in maize exports in developed countries, but small increases in yields in developing nations. Wheat yields will fall in all regions, with the largest losses in developing countries."

The report said that investing in agriculture in poor countries now was a key to easing the problem. Farmers that have more income have

Boy dies in custody

Family alleges torture by cops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A teenage boy died in police custody at city's Jatrabari five days into his detention on November 30 at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) allegedly from police torture claimed his family members, yesterday.

The victim Sagor alias Soheli, 17, was an employee of a workshop at Nayanagar.

Police, however, denied the allegation saying that locals handed over the boy to the police in the early hours of November 26 on charges of mugging.

However, Nurul Islam, brother of the victim said police had picked Sagor, along with four others, during the pre-hartal mass arrest while



A relative of Sagor breaks down in tears at Dhaka Medical College morgue yesterday after receiving the body. Injury marks were found on the body and the relatives claim police tortured Sagor to death.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

HOSPITAL FEES

HC stays govt decision for 3 months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday stayed for three months a government decision to distribute half of the user fees taken from patients of government hospitals among their staff.

The court also issued a ruling on the government to explain within three weeks why it should not be directed to keep the user fees unchanged and ensure better

TRANSIT FACILITY

Talks before fixing rules

Govt forms core group to hold seminars, brainstorming sessions late in the month

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government will organise seminars and brainstorming sessions to discuss and present study reports on transit with India, Nepal and Bhutan.

A core group was formed to decide by December 25 on the issues for the brainstorming sessions starting at the end of this month, Commerce Secretary Golam Hossain said after an inter-ministerial meeting yesterday.

Four experts will be appointed to figure out the transit and transshipment fees, identify probable corridors and routes, and assess the

possible pressure on the traffic system and other environmental issues.

They will present study reports in the in-house brainstorming sessions.

A daylong session is likely to be held on December 27, said the commerce secretary.

The finance minister and the prime minister's adviser on economic affairs, among others, are expected to attend the sessions, he said.

The core group, headed by Tariff Commission Chairman Dr Malibu Rahman, includes representatives from the National Board of Revenue and the foreign, shipping,

Russia to host 2018 WC football

BBC ONLINE

Russia has been chosen to host the 2018 World Cup football and Qatar has been selected to stage the 2022 tournament.

The Russian bid was picked ahead of England, Spain-Portugal and Holland-Belgium to host the 2018 event.

Qatar got the better of the United States, Australia, Japan and South Korea to stage in 2022.

Both decisions were made yesterday following a secret

PDB rolls out 2 pvt coal power projects

SHARIEF KHAN

The Power Development Board yesterday held a pre-bid conference with around eight companies over two private coal-fired power projects to be undertaken in Chittagong and Munshiganj.

This is the first PDB venture for such private power projects in which the winning contractors will not only invest for the 150 to 300 megawatt power plants but also arrange coal supply and transport, and acquire project sites with government help.

A top PDB official said the two projects are in addition to a 1,320 MW coal-fired project to be undertaken through a private-public project

(PPP) arrangement between the PDB and a successful private bidder, and also another 1,320 MW coal-fired power project to be undertaken through a joint venture between India and Bangladesh.

The Chittagong PPP coal-fired power scheme is however facing uncertainty over its site selection. The PDB had initiated acquisition of 1,200 acres of land in Anwara which is now being resisted by some powerful land grabbers. "The land grabbers are spending money on instigating people to resist this project saying that it will destroy the ecology," said a PDB official.

At yesterday's meeting, the PDB asked the

PM returns home after 3-nation visit

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina returned home yesterday night concluding a three-nation tour that took her to Russia, Belgium and Japan.

She left Haneda International Airport in Tokyo by Dragon Air at 9:30am and reached Dhaka at 8:00pm after a two-hour stopover at Hong Kong.

Cabinet members, Awami



Indigenous artistes perform at the opening ceremony of Cultural Diversity Festival at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city yesterday.

CHT ACCORD IMPLEMENTATION

Santu criticises 'govt inaction'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samiti (PCJSS) president Jyotirindra Bodhipriya Larma yesterday called upon the indigenous people to strengthen the movement for implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) peace accord to establish their rights.

"Although 13 years have elapsed since signing of the accord, no government has taken steps to implement it. The present government is also dilly-dallying. So we all have to form a greater unity to strengthen our movement to press the government for its full implementation," he said.

He made the call at a discussion organised by the PCJSS marking the 13th anniversary of the accord at the Diploma Engineers' Institute in the capital yesterday.

"Despite election pledges, AL government has not taken any effective measure to implement the accord in last two years. Rather, it has taken some initiatives that go against the interest of the indigenous people," he noted.

According to him, an ill-motivated section has formed the United People's Democratic Front (UPDF), and they are patronising them to foil the treaty.

Santu Larma, as he is popularly known, termed the United

Prayer Timing		
December 3		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-15	5-50
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-19	5-22
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

বৈচিত্র্যের বিকাশেই ঐক্যের বন্ধন | Unity in Diversity

Cultural Diversity Festival '10
02-05 December, Bangabandhu International Conference Centre

EXHIBITION & FAIR
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm | 02 December 2010
10:00 am - 8:00 pm | 03 - 05 December 2010

CULTURAL SHOW
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm | 02 December 2010
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm | 03 - 04 December 2010

সাংস্কৃতিক বৈচিত্র্য উৎসব '১০
০২-০৫ ডিসেম্বর, বঙ্গবন্ধু আন্তর্জাতিক সম্মেলন কেন্দ্র

হস্তশিল্প প্রদর্শনী ও বিক্রয়
সন্ধ্যা ৬:৩০-৮:০০ | ০২ ডিসেম্বর ২০১০
সকাল ১০:০০-৮:০০ | ০৩-০৫ ডিসেম্বর ২০১০

সাংস্কৃতিক অনুষ্ঠান
সন্ধ্যা ৬:৩০-৮:০০ | ০২ ডিসেম্বর ২০১০
সন্ধ্যা ৬:০০-৮:০০ | ০৩ ও ০৪ ডিসেম্বর

Organized by:
Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs & Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Facility, UNDP

Myanmar, Thailand to build deep seaport

PEOPLE'S DAILY ONLINE

Myanmar and Thailand are cooperating in building a deep seaport, industrial zone and road and rail link to Thailand in southern Tanintharyi region following the signing of a framework agreement on the Dawei deep seaport and its related infrastructure.

The framework agreement between the Myanmar Port Authority and the Italian-Thai Development Public Company, endorsed in Nay Pyi Taw last month, is targeted to complete in 10 years in three phases and the project is to be carried out under a build-operate-transfer (BOT) system for 60 years which is extendable.

The Italian-Thai Development Public Company, which won the contract for the project is seeking appropriate partners for the implementation of the giant project according to the Weekly Eleven News yesterday.

OnlinePoll ✓

Do you support the just signed transit deal that allows India to use Ashuganj river port and roads without any fees or service charges?

Yes (10.0%) No (89.5%)
 No Comments (0.5%)

Total votes: 1262
TODAY'S POLL

Do you think BNP's politics is now centred on its Chairperson Khaleda Zia's previous house issue?

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