

**Did you know?** The Weihe Grand Bridge is a part of a high-speed railway line connecting Zhengzhou and Xi'an in China, and has the longest span of any bridge in the world. Opened in 2010, it is 79,732 meters (261,590 ft) long, crossing the Wei River not once but twice.

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## Govt out to eliminate opposition

BNP tells diplomats, donors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Accusing the government of flagrant violation of human rights, BNP leaders and pro-BNP professionals yesterday urged the international community's attention to what they said its (govt's) bid to establish one-party rule in the country again.

The Awami League government wants to destroy all

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

## AL questions BNP's hartal support

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League yesterday said BNP extended its support to the countrywide hartal for December 26 called by Sammilita Olama Mashayekh Parishad as the main opposition wants to protect the war criminals from trial.

The ruling party said the BNP-Jamaat alliance supported the dawn-to-dusk strike also to recover the cantonment residence that

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Prayer Timing		
December 13		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-15	5-50
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-19	5-22
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation



Government workers remove the tangle of internet and cable TV wires hanging from utility poles at Karwan Bazar in the capital yesterday disrupting internet service and cable TV service to many homes and organisations.

PHOTO: STAR

## HANGING CABLES Symbolic start to drive

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The crackdown against overhead Internet and cable TV wires on city thoroughfares began yesterday with cables from a pole at Karwan Bazar removed.

Cable operators claimed the removal of wires caused 150 cable operators to become dysfunctional whereas Internet service providers said thousands of Internet users experienced disruption to Internet services.

Many subscribers in the city's Mirpur, Tejgaon, Bijoy Sarani, Nikunjo, Gulshan, Banani and Khilkhet could not watch satellite channels

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

## Follow rule

Asks govt; admission won't be allowed after September in private universities with temporary campuses

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The private universities, which failed to start educational activities at their permanent campuses as yet, will not be allowed to enrol new students from October next year.

Once the period is over, they will not be permitted to publish advertisement for enrolling students, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid said announcing the government decision at a press conference yesterday.

Students pursuing education in these institutions and those to be enrolled before next September, however, will be allowed to complete their ongoing courses, he added.

The education ministry arranged the conference in its conference room to inform its decision regarding implementation of the recently passed Private University Act-2010.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## Steps far less than what planet needs

Green campaigners tell of UN deal at Cancun

AFP, Cancun

A climate deal reached in Mexico has revived faith in UN-backed talks after last year's debacle in Copenhagen, but environmentalists warn the new measures are far less than what the planet needs.

After two exhausting weeks meeting in the resort of Cancun, more than 190 nations hammered out an accord that puts into operation a new climate fund administering billions of dollars in promised aid to poor nations.

Negotiators gave Mexico high marks for guiding the talks, after fears that last year's chaotic summit and vague agreement

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

## Three jute go-downs gutted by fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three go-downs of Abdul Latif Bawani Jute Mill were gutted in a blaze at Demra in the capital last night.

Fire brigade sources said the fire originated from one go-down around 8:30pm and soon engulfed two adjacent go-downs.

On information, firefighters rushed to the spot and doused the flames after about three and a half hours.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

## Sugarcane sale through SMS

New system introduced for govt mills

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called upon entrepreneurs to invest more in agro-based and other small and medium industries.

Hasina made the remarks when she inaugurated a digitised 'e-purji' system at her office yesterday.

E-purji system -- jointly implemented by prime ministers office-run Access to Information programme (A2I) and UNDP -- is the issuance of permit through Short Message Service (SMS) to the growers for selling sugarcane to the 15 state-owned sugar mills.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6

**OnlinePoll** ✓

Do you agree with BNP Secretary General that the PM violated the parliamentary norm and traditions by making 'scurrilous' remarks about Khaleda Zia's wealth at the parliament in her absence?

Yes (77.8%)  No (21.7%)  
 No Comments (0.5%)

**Total votes: 2830**

**TODAY'S POLL**

What is the reason behind the unrest in the garment sector in your opinion?

Please cast your vote at [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

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