



GOURMET INSECTS

Are insect dishes the answer to global malnutrition?

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TORTURE WITH IMPUNITY

Saira Rahman Khan discusses causes and remedies

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TRIBUTE TO THE BARD

William Shakespeare's birth and death anniversary today

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Danger overhead

Authorities remain silent despite HC order to remove risky, illegal hoardings

TAWFIQUE ALI

Billboards in the capital have started collapsing with the approach of the storm season while authorities are sitting on a High Court order for removing risky hoardings.

Around 90 percent billboards on roofs and 75 percent on roads in Dhaka are illegal.

Deaths and damage of property due to fall of poorly mounted billboards has been a regular phenomenon particularly during the storm season. For instance, a giant billboard collapsed on Mirpur Road near Dhanmondi Road-8 during the storm in the early hours Wednesday.

An HC bench on April 29 last

year revoked an earlier stay on demolishing hazardous rooftop billboards and asked the Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk) and the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) to knock down all illegal billboards.

However, Rajuk has not removed a single rooftop billboard since while DCC removes a scanty number on an irregular once-a-week basis.

Rajuk Chairman Md Nurul Huda said they could not initiate the removal process due to lack of manpower.

"We will take measures once our request for more manpower is approved," he said.

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The metal structure, right, for the hoarding is illegal and it is putting an extra load on a building on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. The residents and pedestrians are equally exposed if the metal base succumbs to stormy wind. Inset, another illegal billboard above traffic at an intersection on North South Road.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



JAMUNA EROSION

Steps taken a day after vandalism

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Things have finally started to move for the people of Shaghata union of Gaibandha, as the authorities concerned have decided to start the Jamuna riverbank protection work from today.

The move came a day after people of the union

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Meghna death toll rises to 33

Some still missing; sunken launch salvaged

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Five more bodies were recovered from the sunken launch MV Bipasha yesterday, raising the death toll to 33.

The launch sank around 1:30am on Thursday after colliding with a stone-laden trawler that had already tipped over in the Meghna at Char Kakoria under Sarail upazila of Brahmanbaria.

Salvage vessel MV Rustom reached the spot Thursday

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e-textbook for students

PM launches tomorrow govt website with 106 books

WASIM BIN HABIB

The government is going to launch a website with digital versions of textbooks for primary and secondary students to give them free access to textbooks online.

At least 106 textbooks of primary and secondary levels have been converted to e-books, electronic version of textbooks, published by the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) and

uploaded on www.ebook.gov.bd with the technical assistance of Access to Information (A2I) of Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to launch the website at the PMO tomorrow.

Students can log on to the website and flip through the e-books just like the printed ones. Besides, they can also download any page they want.

The e-books have options to zoom in on pages and bookmark any of those, said A2I programme officials. Anyone can download the contents for free and read those also on mobile phones, they said.

The students, who take the primary terminal and secondary examinations abroad, will benefit greatly from it as they will be able to download textbooks from the website.

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DEATH IN CUSTODY

2 Tangail cops held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Two police officers were arrested yesterday for allegedly beating to death Moniruzzaman Rubel, son of a police officer, during interrogation in a motorcycle stealing case on Thursday.

The arrestees are Sub-Inspector (SI) Mosharrar Hossain and Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI)

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BIWTA rescue vessel Rustom pulls out MV Bipasha from under the Meghna at Sarail upazila of Brahmanbaria yesterday afternoon.

PHOTO: STAR

Lightning kills 6

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

The bodies of six labourers, who drowned after being struck by lightning while crossing the river Titas on a boat, were recovered from a channel between Akhaura and Brahmanbaria sadar upazilas on Thursday.

The deceased are Md Afu Mia, 25, Md Ameer Hossain, 40, and Md Abdul Hakim Mia, 32, of Chinair Uttarpara village under sadar upazila, Jamal Mia, 35, of Banpalashia village under Tarakanda upazila of Mymensingh, Md Yakub Mia, 32, and Md Abul Kalam, 25, of Dubaura

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Amini finds missing son

Blames law enforcers for 'abduction'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Son of Fazlul Haque Amini, chief of an Islami Oikya Jote faction, popped up near Dhaka Alia madrasa early yesterday after having been reported missing since April 10.

Speaking at a press conference at Lalbagh madrasa around 11:30am, Amini claimed abductors in a car dropped his son Abul Hasanat in front of Alia madrasa at 4:00am.

He alleged that law enforcers abducted Hasanat on April 10 and released him yesterday.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had ordered the

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Murder for money

Rajshahi Medical College student held for killing friend; dumped body recovered 18 days after murder

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A bone-chilling story about how two would-be doctors murdered their friend has been revealed 18 days after the killing in Rajshahi Medical College.

Rapid Action Battalion personnel and police recovered the decomposed body of Mahub Alam Russel, 24, behind a bush near Charu Mama's canteen in the medical college. Russel had been a student of the economics department of Rajshahi Government College and he had an electronic appliance business.

Rab arrested one of the suspected mur-



Russel, the victim



Joy, murder suspect

derers, Jotirmoy Sarkar Joy, 25, a final-year student of RMC, at his relative's house in Tarash of Sirajganj early yesterday. He confessed the killing to law enforcers and led them to where he and his cohort

had hid Russel's body. During the recovery of the body around 4:00pm yesterday, law enforcers produced Joy before journalists and the incredible and gruesome story of the murder was told.

Joy, Russel and Sabbir Hossain, 26, another final-year student of RMC from

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INDO-BANGLA BORDER 80pc survey done to end disputes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Bangladesh and India have completed 80 percent of the joint survey along their international border as part of the efforts to resolve the long-standing boundary dispute within this year.

As a first step, the two countries are expected to complete identification of adversely-held enclaves within a month, a senior Indian official, who requested anonymity, said.

There are around 130 Indian enclaves in Bangladesh and 95

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শাখা স্থানান্তর

আরও উন্নত এবং আধুনিক সেবা প্রদানের লক্ষ্যে

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