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in Short

Azam Khan on life support
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pop guru and freedom fighter Azam Khan has been on life support at the city's Square Hospital since yesterday morning.

Dr Kamruzzaman Chowdhury of the hospital told reporters that Azam's condition is very critical as his lungs were not functioning.

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Tannery wastes, both solid and liquid, stuck in a low land of Hazaribagh in the capital, exposing locals to severe health hazards. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Toxic tannery waste posing health risk

Factory relocation stuck in red tape

PINAKI ROY

Toxic waste from Hazaribagh tanneries continues to pollute the Buriganga river posing serious threat to human health as relocation of the factories is caught in bureaucratic tangle.

Reluctance of the owners to move those flouting High Court orders is also delaying the process.

The HC directives, demands of the civil society and campaigns by the media have all gone in vain as the tannery owners and the government have been blaming each other for not taking action in this regard.

In June 2009, the HC expressed frustration over industrial pollution, and observed that the government has not taken any step to prevent pollution by industries.

The court in its judgement ordered the authorities concerned to complete relocation of the leather industry to Savar by February 28, 2010.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

Lightning kills 7
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Seven people, including four of a family, were killed and 10 injured in two separate incidents of lightning in Delduar upazila of Tangail yesterday.

The deceased are Toaz Bepari, 50, his sons Afaz Uddin, 25, Hossain Ali, 22, and Kalu Bepari, 18, of Katulee village in the

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Surgery patients suffer at govt hospitals

Shortage of anesthesiologists delaying operations

MAHBUBA ZANNAT

Shortage of anesthesiologists in public hospitals is causing immense suffering to surgery patients across the country, as patients have to wait for months to get serial for operation.

In all, public hospitals have an estimated 1,000 anesthetists against the need for at least 15,000, said Mozaffar Hossain, joint secretary of Bangladesh Society of Anesthesiologists.

Although surgery is impossible without them, the number has not increased com-

pared to the number of surgeons in the last 30 years, he added.

Leaders of Bangladesh Society of Anesthesiologists say the government seems indifferent to the need for appointing more anesthesiologists.

Repeated appeals from the society and the directors of medical college hospitals to the health ministry for more anesthetists have gone in vain, they said.

Last year the society requested the ministry for the fifth time in the last few

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Iran's lake in death throes

Could disappear in a few years

AP, Iran

From a hillside, Kamal Saadat looked forlornly at hundreds of potential customers, knowing he could not take them for trips in his boat to enjoy a spring weekend on Oroumieh Lake, the third largest saltwater lake on earth.

"Look, the boat is stuck... It cannot move anymore," said Saadat, gesturing to where it lay encased

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

1 killed in Faridpur poll clash
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

An elderly man was killed and five others were injured yesterday in a clash between the supporters of two chairman aspirants in the elections to Shekhor Union Parishad in Boalmari upazila of the district.

The deceased was identified as Momrez Molla, 60.

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10 hurt in Chittagong hospital fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

At least 10 people were injured and properties worth around Tk 10 lakh burnt in a fire yesterday at Bangabandhu Memorial Hospital (BBMH) at the city's Khulshi.

Farid Ahmed Chowdhury, senior station officer of Agrabad fire station, said an electric short circuit around 12:15pm caused the fire on the fourth floor of the hospital and soon one side of the floor was

SEE PAGE 19 COL 6

No indigenous people in Bangladesh!

Govt official tells UN

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Government representatives at a United Nations special session have denied existence of indigenous people in Bangladesh.

They also protested a UN study report that says the government has not done enough to implement the Chittagong Hill Tracts peace accord.

Iqbal Ahmed, first secretary of the Bangladesh Mission in New York, on Thursday made the comment during the session on the 1997 CHT peace deal signed during the

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PRAYER TIMING May 28

Azhan	Jamaat
Fajr 4-05	4-40
Zohr 12-45	1-15
Asr 5-00	5-15
Maghrib 6-40	6-45
Esha 8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

মূল্য সংযোজন কর (VAT) পরিশোধ করুন
অভ্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ আহরণে অবদান রাখুন

সম্মানিত ক্রেতা,

- সেবা/পণ্য ক্রয়কালে মূসক-১১ চালানপত্র গ্রহণ করে মূসক ফাঁকি রোধে সহায়তা করুন।
- আপনার প্রদত্ত মূসক জাতীয় উন্নয়নে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা রাখে।

সম্মানিত বিক্রেতা,

- গ্রাহককে বিক্রিত পণ্য/সেবার বিপরীতে মূসক চালান প্রদান করুন।
- সংগৃহীত মূসক (ভ্যাট) যথাসময়ে সরকারি কোষাগারে জমা দিন।

মূসক সংক্রান্ত তথ্য জানতে বা যে কোন সহযোগিতার জন্য নিচের ফোন নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করুন:

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তেজগাঁও বিভাগ: ৮৮২৯৬৭৯, মিরপুর বিভাগ: ৮০৫৫৯৪৩,
টংগী বিভাগ: ৮৯৯১১৭০, গাজীপুর বিভাগ: ৭৯১১০০৮,
ময়মনসিংহ বিভাগ: ০৯১-৬৭৪৩৯।

প্রচারে: কাস্টমস্, এক্সাইজ ও ভ্যাট কমিশনারেট, ঢাকা (উত্তর), ঢাকা।

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