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**in Short**



**Indian army chief due tomorrow**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Indian Army Chief Gen V K Singh arrives Dhaka tomorrow on a five-day visit.

"During the visit, the army chief will gift two howitzers to the Bangladesh Army

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

**2 brutally killed in Dinajpur**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Police recovered two decapitated bodies from a paddy field near Dhapa River in Kaharol upazila of Dinajpur district yesterday morning.

Of the dead, one was identified as Md Kajal 32, son of AKM Fazlul Haque of Gobindaganj upazila in Gaibandha district.

Md Arman Ali, officer-in-charge of

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

**1 dies in Rangpur poll clash**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A man was killed and five were injured in a clash over union parishad elections in Pirgachha upazila of Rangpur yesterday evening.

Abdul Kuddus, 35, succumbed to his injuries at Rangpur Medical College Hospital (RMCH) at 9:15pm.

Aslam Iqbal,

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

**The Daily Star**



**Integral Energy Limited**

**ONLINE POLL**

Do you think BNP chief's condition for talks with the government on caretaker government issue is justified?

Yes (68.6%)

No (29.0%)

No Comments (2.4%)

TOTAL VOTES: 331

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you agree with BNP chief Khaleda Zia that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has made wrong and confusing interpretations of the Supreme Court verdict on the caretaker government issue?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

**PRAYER TIMING** June 18

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-50	6-55
Esha	8-15	8-45

Sources: Islamic Foundation

# Foresters fight uneven battle with loggers

EMRAN HOSSAIN, back from southwestern districts

The gang of illegal loggers could not but laugh when three forest officials equipped with sticks challenged them on a canal under Patkosta forest camp deep in the Sundarbans.

"Hush! Don't even utter a word," commanded the leader of the 13-member heavily armed gang. Tying up the foresters at gunpoint, they felled trees until their three boats were full of logs.

Before leaving, the gang locked the

forest officials in the hull of the latter's boat and released the boat on the canal. They floated for five hours until they were rescued by fishermen.

One of the three foresters, currently stationed at a forest camp in Satkhira, sounded pathetic as he shared his experience. "The Department of Forest (DoF) lacks the minimum policy to ensure security of the forest and its protectors," he observed.

He said arms were withdrawn from the

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

Two forest department boats damaged by cyclone Sidr has been left outside the Kaikhali Forest Station in Satkhira since 2009. They are now irreparable. Officials of the station now rent boats with money from their own pockets to perform their duties.

PHOTO: EMRAN HOSSAIN

# Hope against hope for Rumana's eyes

*Doctors in India to give report today; assaulter Sumon confesses 'bid to kill her'*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rumana Manzur, the Dhaka University teacher who was brutally assaulted by her husband, is coming back home as doctors in India could not give much hope about her eyes, said family sources.

The doctors are expected to give the official report today and until then the family cannot confirm whether Rumana has permanently lost her vision.

"We are preparing to take her home as the doctors have already said that we can try further if we want. We will decide about

that at home," said Rumana's cousin preferring not to be named.

He said The University of British Columbia, where Rumana was studying on commonwealth scholarship, has expressed will to contribute to her better treatment, said Rumana's cousin, adding that they took Rumana to Arvind Eye Centre in Pondicherry for a second opinion of Indian doctors on her eyes.

Rumana was taken to Sankara Netralaya in Chennai for better treatment on June 14.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

# PARTY 'INFO LEAK' Khaleda unhappy

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia expressed unhappiness over the leaking of party decisions before the party formally announced them or even before she approved them.

During a recent meeting with the party's top leaders at her Gulshan office, she expressed surprise over disclosure of decisions that had not even been discussed at meetings of the party's national standing committee.

Party insiders said Khaleda herself raised the

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

# Saleh won't return

*Says top official of Saudi Arabia where the embattled Yemeni president is undergoing treatment*

AFP, Riyadh

Embattled Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, being treated for shrapnel wounds in Riyadh, will not return home, a top Saudi official told AFP yesterday, contrary to Sanaa's claims that he will return soon.

"The Yemeni president will not return to Yemen," the official said, requesting anonymity.

"It has not been decided where he will stay," the official added, apparently suggesting that Saleh might eventually leave Saudi Arabia for another country.

The official did not specify whether the decision not to return home was taken by Saleh himself.

The veteran leader was flown to Riyadh on June 4 on board a Saudi medical aircraft, a day after he was wounded in a bomb explosion at a mosque inside his Sanaa presidential compound.

He has not been seen in public since the attack.

Reports on the condition of Saleh's health have been sketchy, but Bahrain's King Hamad was reported to have called him on Thursday, two days after Saudi King Abdullah had a phone conversation with him.

In Saleh's absence, his deputy Abdrabuh Mansur Hadi has been coming under intensive local and international pressure to heed the demands of

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4



PHOTO: STAR

Pineapples at Madhupur upazila in Tangail are ready to be sent to Jessore.

**Bumper harvest of pineapple**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Madhupur upazila of Tangail district is having a bumper yield of pineapples this season.

Madhupur Garh is famous for producing Giant Q and Honey Queen varieties of pineapple and wholesalers from across the country are thronging there with the sweet and sour juicy fruit hitting the market.

Local pineapple farmers are happy to have the good harvest thanks to fair weather and rain

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

# Jamuna urea factory shut for 3 months

*No sign of resuming production as gas crisis persists*

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Jamuna Fertiliser Company Limited (JFCL), country's largest urea producing company, remains shut for nearly three months due to gas crisis.

The state-owned company with a daily production capacity of 1,700 tonnes was shut on March 26 following a government order.

Authorities yesterday said they are unsure as to when they can resume operation.

Sources said production at the fertiliser unit remained suspended for around 240 days on 13 occasions since January last year thanks to gas shortages and technical glitches.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 4

# Global food prices to be high, volatile

*Predict FAO, OECD for next decade*

AFP, Paris

Food prices will be high and volatile for the next decade, driven by rising incomes in emerging nations and demand for biofuel, a joint OECD and FAO report forecast yesterday.

Although prices will probably fall from high levels reached earlier this year, long-term price increases of up to 20 percent for cereals and 30 percent for meat can be expected, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and Food and Agricultural Organisation warned.

"A slow growing supply set against

expected high demand underlies the projection of high and more volatile agricultural commodity prices," they said in their Agricultural Outlook 2011-2020.

The report, published before a meeting next week of G20 agricultural ministers, places the blame for increased volatility on tight markets rather than speculation.

The report forecasts that higher energy prices and limits on land and water resources will constrain increases in yields and overall production, while growing populations and rising incomes in

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

# CU student commits suicide

CU CORRESPONDENT

A student of Chittagong University (CU) committed suicide by hanging himself from a ceiling fan at his rented house on Khawja Road under Chandgaon Police Station in the port city on Thursday evening.

Lokman Mahmud, a third year student of Law Department, hailed from Ali Akbar village in Kuliarchar of Kishorganj district.

Police said they found

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

The foundation stone, laid by the then prime minister Khaleda Zia in 2005 for the construction of Dayaganj-Jurain road in Dhaka, was found demolished yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

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