



# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

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**MUSLIMS IN FRANCE**  
Sabria Chowdhury depicts how the society and government treat them  
PAGE 15

**STOCKS END HIGH**  
Market gained 40 points yesterday amid protests, Bangladesh Bank intervention  
PAGE B1

**STRAUSS-KAHN'S REGRET**  
Calls his encounter with the NY hotel maid a "moral failing"  
PAGE 7

## Bus fares, CNG price hiked

Analysts fear bad impact on consumer spending

	INCREASE	NEW PRICE
	CNG +5 Taka	Tk 30 Per c. metre
	Bus +5 Paisa	Tk 1.60 Per km
	Minibus +5 Paisa	Tk 1.50 Per km
	CNG Auto +14 Paisa	Tk 7.64 Per km
	Inter-district Bus +5 Paisa	Tk 1.20 Per km

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Less than 24 hours into the hike in fuel prices, the government yesterday increased bus and auto-rickshaw fares, and the price of compressed natural gas.

Bus and minibus passengers now have to pay an additional 5 paisa per kilometre while CNG-run auto-rickshaw passengers 14 paisa per km, according to the revised fares that came into effect midnight last.

The per km fare on buses is now Tk 1.60, which was Tk 1.55, while the fare on minibuses is Tk 1.50, upped from Tk 1.45.

The minimum fare on buses (Tk 7) and minibuses (Tk 5) remain unchanged.

Bus fare between Dhaka and its neighbouring districts like Narayanganj, Munshiganj, Gazipur, and Manikganj, was fixed at Tk 1.50 per km.

Diesel-run inter-district buses will also charge extra 5 paisa per kilometre at Tk 1.20.

The communications ministry reset the transport fares following a proposal of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority, ministry sources said.

This was the second transport fare hike in four months. On May 19, the government hiked the transport fares by 30 percent.

Yesterday, the government raised price of CNG by Tk 5 per unit, a day after Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



Police vehicles burn at Bijoy Nagar in the capital yesterday afternoon after Jamaat men went berserk being unable to hold a rally demanding the release of its top leaders from jail. More photos on page 5

PHOTO: STAR

## Jamaat men run riot

Torch 28 vehicles, smash over 200; Azhar among 80 held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Several hundred activists of Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday fought pitched battles with police in the capital after law enforcers obstructed their

rally, leaving at least 100 injured and halting traffic for hours.

During the clashes, the party men set fire to at least 28 vehicles, smashed around 200 others and

vandalised dozens of roadside shops, police said.

Law enforcers arrested 80 Jamaat members including ATM Azharul

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

## BNP may call hartal for Thursday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The top leadership of the main opposition BNP late last night decided to call a nationwide dawn to dusk

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

## Distance saved fragile Dhaka

Sikkim quake a warning for the unplanned city

PINAKI ROY

Even the vulnerable and unplanned buildings in Dhaka sustained Sunday's Sikkim earthquake, as it awakened by the time it struck Bangladesh.

The capital felt a "weak" (3.0 to 4.0 on Richter scale) jolt while the northern districts shook "lightly" (4.0 on Richter scale).

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) made a map following the earthquake Sunday evening to measure the intensity of the quake in different areas. The USGS initially measured it at 6.8 on Richter scale but later revised it at 6.9.

The quake that had its epicentre in Sikkim of India killed at least 71 people in India and Nepal. In Bangladesh, the nearly two-minute quake damaged a number of structures but claimed no life.

Dhaka is one of the top earthquake-prone cities in the world, earthquake expert Prof Humayun Akhter said. "Sunday's quake was a wake up call for Bangladesh," said Asaduzzaman, Dhaka zone director of Geological

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

## Troubles brewing in silence

Quake toll rises to 71

SYED ASHFAQUL HAQUE

Indications are strong for major earthquakes to strike South Asia, geological experts observed yesterday, a day after a 6.9 magnitude quake in Sikkim rattled the region, killing 71 people in India and Nepal.

A number of below-surface cracks, geologically known as faults, have made the region the most quake-prone in the world, with Bangladesh seen as the top-risk country.

While in silence, which geologists see as the lull before the storm, the faults accumulate energy over hundreds of years for release. The longer they stay calm the deadlier

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

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