

BE SAFE BSRM

After a house is built
You Cannot Change Everything!

Easy to Change Impossible to Change

Be sure about the steel used inside.

Life is precious. Be Safe. **BSRM Xtreme**
Feel safe with Xtreme Inside

Get Philips DVD Player only at Tk. **400***
Up to 12 Equal Monthly Installments available at **0%** Interest

DVP 3550K

For More Information:
9855366-8, 01712-665463

12 Months 0% Interest
12 Months 0% Interest

PHILIPS

TRANSCOM
DIGITAL
think electronics... think DIGITAL

GRIDLOCK Govt moves to increase traffic men

BSS, Dhaka

The Police headquarters has been asked to increase manpower in the traffic department for tackling the nagging traffic snarls. "To ease traffic system, the home ministry has taken a plan to raise strength of traffic force," Home Minister Shahara Khatun told BSS.

The government is very much sincere to ease traffic congestion and

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

Miscreants cut off medical student's fingers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Miscreants on Friday night chopped off two fingers of a medical student in Dhamrai near the capital.

Mohsin Hossain, the victim, is an MBBS first-year student at Enam Medical College in Savar. He is undergoing treatment at the college hospital.

The miscreants assaulted Mohsin at

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

REPAIR AT RISK OF LIFE

A man repairing an air conditioner on the 6th floor with no safety gear except for a rope -- one end of which is tied to his waist while the other end held by a co-worker on the roof.

Whenever the worker takes a break he is pulled up the rope. Most repairmen never bother about safety while their employers also do not train them or provide them with necessary equipment. The moments had been recently captured at Dewanhat in Chittagong.

PHOTO:
ANURUP KANTI DAS



EC search committee lawful

Insists law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Shafique Ahmed has brushed aside any questions about the legality of the search committee formed to recommend names to the president for appointment as chief election commissioner and election commissioners.

"It was formed in accordance with the law," said the minister answering to journalists'

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

FOOD DEPT Body to probe question paper leak

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday formed a three-member probe body to investigate the leak of question papers for two recruitment tests of the food department.

The tests for the posts of sub-assistant food inspector and lower division assistant-cum-computer typist were held on Friday.

The committee headed by Abdul Awal Hawladar,

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

RAJUK FLATS IN UTTARA Applications to be invited next month

TAWFIQUE ALI

The Rajuk will invite applications next month for allotment of flats at an apartment complex to be built in the third phase of Uttara Residential Model Town.

The town planner has already issued a work order to a consortium of two real estate developers this month for construction of 5,056 flats in Block-A of Sector-18.

"We are going to invite applications within February, as a guideline is expected to get ministerial approval soon," said Md Nurul Huda, chairman of Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk).

The construction work will commence after arrival of some equipment from South Korea within a week. The flats would be ready in three years for handover.

The floor space of each of the three types of flats would be 850, 1050 and 1250 square feet.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

Leprosy on the rise, silently

RIZANUZZAMAN LASKAR

When rash first appeared on his belly, a 38-year-old factory worker dismissed it as an allergic reaction to something he might have eaten recently. His wife also going with the instinct handed him an ointment.

But when the red bumps did not go away even after weeks, and instead began to spread in the legs, arms and on the face, the man began to worry. He saw a doctor, who had no explanation for the condition, and then another, who made the startling yet correct diagnosis of leprosy.

In Bangladesh, most people consider leprosy as a plague buried in the past, a disease relegated to biblical times or, perhaps, to the poorer section and the remotest parts of the country.

While the incidence of infection has

been declining in some parts of the country, it has actually been on the rise in many other parts, including the capital.

Leprosy or Hansen's disease (HD) is a chronic mild infectious disease caused by a germ similar to that which causes tuberculosis. It attacks the nerves of the hands, legs and face and, if left untreated, can take away the ability to move the fingers, toes and eyelids ultimately leading to loss of limbs and sight.

The longer the disease is left unaddressed, the more likely it is that the deformities, so often associated with leprosy, will occur.

Redefining leprosy as a curable disease is crucial for helping doctors identify undetected cases. But drawing attention

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

Gilani laments 'trust deficit' with US

AFP, Davos

Pakistan's prime minister yesterday said there was "a trust deficit" between Islamabad and Washington as he criticised the resumption of US drone strikes on his country's tribal belt.

Speaking the day after over 100,000 people massed in Karachi to protest the strikes, Yousuf Raza Gilani said they only served to bolster militants.

"Drones are counter-productive. We have very ably isolated militants from the local tribes. When there are drone attacks that create sympathy for them again," Gilani told reporters at the Davos forum.

"It makes the job of the political leadership and the military very difficult. We have never allowed the drone attacks and we have always maintained that they are

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited
ONLINE POLL

Do you think that the latest monetary policy of the Bangladesh Bank will bring any significant changes in the present economic condition?

Yes (10.2%)
No (87.5%)
No Comments (2.3%)

TOTAL VOTES: 352

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with the prime minister that the democracy faced trouble whenever BNP was in power?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT
www.thedailystar.net
YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT
facebook.com/dailystarnews

PRAYER TIMING January 29

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5:35	6:10
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	4:15	4:30
Maghrib	5:46	5:50
Esha	7:15	7:45

Source: Islamic Foundation



Badrul Alam, a student of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology and a BCL activist, under treatment at Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College and Hospital for the injuries he suffered in an attack by a group of Islami Chhatra Shibir members on January 16. The photo was shot on January 19.

PHOTO: SUBRATA DAS

SHIBIR ATTACK Shahjalal student may lose right leg

SUST CORRESPONDENT

"He is going to be partially paralysed," said a distressed Asad Uddin Mahmud, assistant registrar at Orthopaedics division of MAG Osmani Hospital.

The patient he was talking about is Badrul Alam, a third year student of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology and another victim of brutality committed by Islami Chhatra Shibir.

"There were some deep cuts on his body -- five on his right leg, one on the left leg, two on his right hand, and some on his

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

ANNOUNCEMENT

To Promote Bangla Culture

The Daily Star

Dhaka English Medium Schools
Cultural Programme 2012

Due to unavoidable circumstances **The Daily Star-Dhaka English Medium Schools Cultural Programme 2012** has been deferred from today, 29 January, to tomorrow, 30 January 2012, at 6:30pm at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy premises.

Liaquat Ali Lucky, Director General, Shilpakala Academy will be the chief guest and Mahfuz Anam, Editor and Publisher, The Daily Star will welcome the audience.