

A building requires around **5kg** of steel reinforcement per sq.ft. Then why **COMPROMISE ON SAFETY?**

BSRM Xtreme
Feel safe with Xtreme Inside

www.bsr.com

Philips 40" LED TV at Tk. 8,056*
Up to 18 Equal Monthly Installments available at 0% Interest

PHILIPS

For More Information:
9855366-8, 01712-665463

TRANSCOM DIGITAL
think electronics... think DIGITAL

Public woes compounded

Wasa embarks on rainy season as work goes on at snail's pace

TAWFIQUE ALI

The Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) has embarked on digging up 26 kilometre of road of the capital to lay utility pipelines but the work is progressing at a pathetic pace catching up the rainy season.

In addition to the misery, the Dhaka north and south city corporations (DCC) remain indifferent as usual about taking care of the roads left in a shambles by different utility agencies after development works.

For instance, the Wasa dug many roads in Uttara (sector-1, 4 and 5) last year to upgrade storm water drainage system which the DCC took a year to repair.

In March this year, the Wasa embarked on digging roads in Uttara and Gulshan which had been dug by another utility agency in February.

Thus, digging roads of the capital by different utility agencies one after another, instead of in a coordinated manner, is making public suffering perennial.

GULSHAN

Recently, the Wasa has started digging four kilometres of road in Gulshan to lay storm sewer lines with a view to diverting polluted water from falling in Gulshan-Baridhara Lake under a Tk 50-crore project.

Three kilometres of it stretches from United Hospital to Niketan Lake while the rest one kilometre is from Gulshan-I roundabout to the national shooting federation.

The entire development work in Gulshan that began late in February would take until June to complete, said

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2



The DIT Road at the capital's Rampura is in bad shape and needs immediate repair. Whenever it rains, water accumulates in potholes of the road, which is also narrowed with sewerage pipes waiting to be installed. The photo was shot recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



Free media 'negative'

Irked Mamata goes for state TV, newspaper

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Irked by "negative" media reporting, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee yesterday announced that her government would have its own newspaper and a television channel to properly highlight its work.

The announcement came following sharp criticism of Mamata government by

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

High food prices hit poverty goals

WB-IMF report fears about 1.02b continue to be extreme poor in 2015

AFP, Washington

High food prices have derailed ambitious aims to slash extreme poverty and hunger across the world by 2015, a World Bank and International Monetary Fund report said Friday.

Recent spikes in international food prices have stalled progress across several of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), an international program set up in 2000, the report said.

The developing world is "seriously lagging" on global targets related to food and nutrition, and child and maternal mortality rates are still unacceptably high, said the Global Monitoring Report.

As a result, the report said, 1.02 billion people will likely still be living in extreme poverty in 2015.

"High and volatile food prices do not bode well for attainment of many MDGs, as they erode consumer purchasing power and prevent millions of people from escaping poverty and hunger, besides having long-term adverse impacts on health and education," said Justin Lin, the World Bank's chief economist.

The United Nations set a 15-year timeframe in 2000 to achieve its goals of halving extreme poverty, boosting health and education and further empowering women across the developing world.

The report said the world was significantly off-track on reducing mortality rates of children under five and mothers, and would not meet its goals by 2015.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 3

WAR CRIMES TRIAL Team visits Ctg to tie up SQ Chy charges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A six-member probe team of the International Crimes Tribunal is now visiting Chittagong to investigate alleged crimes against

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

INDIAN RIVER-LINKING PROJECT Oppose bilaterally, internationally

Seminar urges govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government must oppose India's river linking project both bilaterally and internationally since it will destroy the environment and economy of Bangladesh, and threaten its very existence.

If the project is implemented, many rivers in the lower riparian Bangladesh will dry up with its disastrous impacts on agriculture, fishery and a range of other

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

Brow-raising copter trip

KAILASH SARKAR

A commissioner of the Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday went on a personal trip to Kuakata on a chopper with the chief of a company and received police escort there.

The incident received attention of facebook

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



The helicopter on which an ACC commissioner yesterday flew to Kuakata with the chief of a private company yesterday.

PHOTO: FACEBOOK



\$1 million for a penny

AFP, Chicago

One of the first pennies ever produced by the US Mint has reportedly been sold for more than \$1 million.

Bids for the 1792 Silver Centre penny reached \$1.15 million on Thursday night, according to Heritage Auctions, which conducted the sale. The US Mint itself was founded in April, 1792.

The Canadian Mint recently began selling a limited-edition glow-in-the-dark quarter featuring a dinosaur skeleton for around \$30.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7



PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Chittagong Nursing College -- although established in 2007, it has not seen its first batch passing out.

Ctg nursing college limping

Session jam, lack of teachers and facility make fate of over 350 students uncertain

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Session jam, teacher crisis, irregular classes and hence poor results have put at stake the future of 365 BSc course students of Chittagong Nursing College.

Established in 2007, the college is yet to produce its first batch of graduates.

As for the academic progress, only six out of 51 students of the second batch (session 2008-09) came out successful in the second-year mid-term exams, according to the results published on February 16.

This also plagued the third and fourth batches. Only 18 of 77 students of the third batch (session 2009-10) passed the first-year final exams while all the 88 students of the fourth batch (session 2010-11) failed in the first-year mid-term exams, said students.

The first batch (session 2007-08) is still languishing in the third year with the second and third batches in the second year and the fourth and fifth batches in the

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think it was justified for the prime minister to say that BNP leader M Ilias Ali might have gone into hiding on Khaleda Zia's instructions?

Yes (14.2%)
No (82.4%)
No Comments (3.4%)

TOTAL VOTES: 888

TODAY'S POLL

Would you support if BNP goes for non-stop agitation programmes including hartal over Ilias Ali's disappearance?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT facebook.com/dailystarnews

PRAYER TIMING April 22

Fajr	4-25	5-00
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-27	6-31
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation