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Ctg public library in bad shape

SHAHENOR AKTHER URMI, Ctg

The divisional public library in Chittagong city has turned risky for its users and employees due to its dilapidated condition.

Located at KC Dey Road in Nandan Kanon of the port city, the government run library was established in 1989. It was damaged in earthquakes in 2003 and 2004.

The Public Works Department (PWD) in 2005 repaired the damaged pillars and walls, Assistant Librarian Abbas Ali said adding that despite the repair cracks are still visible in the walls.

"We have requested PWD to repair the rest of the pillars. Otherwise, they will be damaged in the event of any moderate earthquake in the future," Abbas said.

Masudul Alam, a sub-divisional engineer of PWD, said, "We repaired four pillars of the library in 2005, as they went down into the ground by an inch."

"We could repair only four pillars with the money the government allocated. If we could retrofit all the pillars, the building would be saved from any big damage," he said.

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The Chittagong divisional public library, inset, is in a very bad shape and needs immediate overhaul. Following earthquakes in 2003 and 2004, numerous cracks have appeared on its walls, but the government is yet to allocate enough fund to repair the building properly.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS



It's hard to accept WB proof

Muith on Padma bridge graft

STAR REPORT

Finance Minister AMA Muith yesterday said there are problems in the World Bank's proof of corruption in the Padma bridge project due to its complicated investigation procedure.

"There are some clauses which make the investigation difficult. Earlier I have said the

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Raise voice against conflicts, intolerance

Citizens urged at roundtable to overcome political crisis

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Citizens must speak out strongly against "political confrontation" in the country and press the two major political parties to foster the culture of tolerance, said discussants at a roundtable yesterday.

Alluding to the ruling Awami League and the main opposition BNP, they said the political crisis was deepening by the day due to a lack of tolerance and respect among the parties. People should act to pressurise them to raise their tolerance

level and respect each other for the sake of democracy.

The roundtable styled "Ongoing political crisis and citizens' concern" was organised at the Jatiya Press Club by the Sushashoner Jonno Nagorik (Sujan), an organisation working for good governance.

Former Dhaka University vice-chancellor Prof Emazuddin Ahmed emphasised dialogue between the

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Opposition may join JS budget session

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP-led opposition may join the budget session beginning from May 27 after boycotting it for the last three years.

"This time, we are thinking positively about joining the parliament's budget session. We are trying to convince the party leadership to join the House," said a BNP lawmaker wishing

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GRABBING OLD DHAKA PALACE HC summons judge, 4 others

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summoned a judge of a district court and four others to appear before it on May 17 over an allegation of occupying "a former Hindu zamindar's palace" at Nawabganj in Dhaka.

The five are: Abul Hossain Mamun, a judge in Feni district court, his brothers Abul Kalam Khandaker, and Abu Ashfaq, also a local BNP leader and chairman of the upazila, their uncle Hashem and the Thana Nirbahi Officer (TNO) of Nawabganj.

The court issued a suo moto order following a report published yesterday in an English daily over the alleged grabbing of the historic palace and directed the

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Heat wave to continue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The severe heat wave coupled with regular power outages and polluted water supply has left residents of the capital in total suffering this week.

Many are suffering from water-borne diseases like cholera, diarrhea and dysentery caused by drinking unhygienic water, sherbets or sugarcane juice and eating stale food.

Many others are suffering from colds caused by excessive sweating in the

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SAYEDEE'S TRIAL NBC footage doctored, says defence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

During cross-examination of a witness, the defence of Sayedee said footage presented as evidence had no relevance to the case against the Jamaat nayebe-ameer and that it was submitted only to stir emotions.

Mizanul Islam, a defence counsel of Delwar Hossain Sayedee at the International Crimes Tribunal-1, said the footage from the US broadcaster NBC's 1972 news report was heavily edited and distorted.

In response, witness Mohammad Helal Uddin, who is the investigation

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PHOTO: AFP

Actress Ino Menegaki, acting as high priestess, holds the torch carrying the Olympic Flame yesterday during the lighting ceremony in ancient Olympia, where the Olympic Games were born in 776 BC. Story on page 18.

HC for keeping Wonderland as open space

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a rule upon the government to explain in two weeks why it should not be directed to preserve the land of Wonderland amusement park as an open public space.

Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) on Monday demolished the main entrance and boundary wall of the park to free around four acres of land of Gulshan central playground following what they said was a Supreme Court verdict.

The HC in response to a writ petition directed the authorities concerned not to lease the land of the park situated in the capital's Gulshan area to anybody till disposal of the rule.

It also ordered the chairman of Rajuk and administrators of Dhaka City Corporations to continue their eviction activities until further order.

The HC bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik and Justice Jahangir Hossain Selim came up with the rule and order following a writ petition

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The Daily Star

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ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with BNP leader Moudud Ahmed that the government has to take initiative to reach a consensus on next national elections under a neutral government?

Yes (85.1%)

No (12.8%)

No Comments (2.1%)

TOTAL VOTES: 524

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the Speaker's explanation for not accepting Sohel Taj's resignation from the Jatiya Sangsad is justified?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT

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PRAYER TIMING May 11

Fajr 4-10 4-45

Juma 12-30 1-15

Asr 5-00 5-15

Maghrib 6-36 6-40

Esha 8-00 8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

Market Highlights

5% Off on Purchase of Packaged Goods Worth Tk. 1,000

Item	Shwapno Price (Tk.)	Market Price (Tk.)
Beef	245	270
Ruhi Fish	160	200
Miniket Rice (Premium)	37	42
Miniket Rice (Standard)	34	40
Nazirshail Rice (Premium)	45	50
Deshi Moshur Dal	106	112
Onion	19	23
Sugar	55	58

*Prices of fish, meat, rice, dal, onion and sugar all are per kilogram.

Item	Shwapno Price (Tk.)	Market Price (Tk.)
Surf Excel (500 gm)	86	90
ACI Aerosol Insect Spray (475 ml)	238	250
Harpic Power Plus (750 ML)	86	90
Nestle Corn Flakes (275 gm)	295	310
Horlicks (450 gm jar)	299	315
Marks Milk Powder (1000gm)	490	500
Pran UHT Milk (500ml)	38	40
Maggi Masala Noodles (496 gm)	119	125

Item	Shwapno Price (Tk.)	Market Price (Tk.)
Dove Shampoo (400ml)	371	390
Int. Lux White (100gm)	25	26
Sunsilk Black Shine (400ml)	257	270
Colgate Toothpaste (100 gm)	43	45

• Conditions apply.
• 5% discount is not applicable on fish, meat, dal, vegetable, edible oil and baby food items.
• Prices in Chittagong and Sylhet may vary.

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