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Better care can cut maternal mortality rate

The Daily Star - UNFPA roundtable told

Prevention of adolescent marriages and pregnancies at a young age and encouraging mothers to deliver babies at maternity care facilities can help reduce the maternal mortality rate in the country, speakers at a discussion in the city said yesterday.

They stressed registering pregnant mothers across the country to bring them under antenatal and neonatal care.

The speakers also emphasised making gynaecologists, anaesthetists and technical personnel available at every upazila-level hospital in the country for safe child birth.

The comments came at a roundtable discussion, "Safe Motherhood: Achievements and Challenges", held at The Daily Star Centre.

The Daily Star organised the programme in collaboration with the UNFPA (United Nations Populations Fund). Country Representative of the UN body in Bangladesh Arthur Erken moderated the event.

Hashina Begum, UNFPA assistant representative (reproductive health), said the maternal mortality rate in the country dropped to 194 per lakh in 2010 from 574 in 1991.

She said, "One third of all mothers -- 32 percent in 2011 -- are now attended by skilled medical personnel at child birth, up from only five percent in 1991."

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



A crane pulls a bus out of the Turag in Ashulia, on the capital's outskirts, after it plunged into the river with 55 garment workers on board yesterday morning.

PHOTO: STAR

RMG worker killed in bus plunge

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A garment worker was killed and 30 others were injured when a bus carrying them plunged into the river Turag at Ashulia Bazar point on the outskirts of the capital yesterday morning.

Many workers managed to jump out of the bus before it slid down the road and plummeted to the river at about 7:45am.

The accident happened as the driver lost control over the steering while overtaking another bus, said workers, who escaped the accident unharmed.

The deceased was identified as Babul Miah, of Hatia upazila in Noakhali district. He was a supervisor of Cosmopolitan Industries Pvt Ltd (CIPL), located at Khejurbagan in Ashulia.

Quoting injured workers, Badrul Alam Sheikh,

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

Muhith favours death penalty for killer drivers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Finance Minister AMA Muhith believes killer drivers should get the capital punishment but for some reasons this cannot be enforced right now.

He said this while speaking at a condolence rally for late Awami League leader Iftekhar Hossain Shamim on Registry Maidan in Sylhet yesterday.



SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

Drama over jetty demolition

Shipping ministry's much-hyped drive to remove cement factory jetties from Shitalakkhya suspended as minister 'negotiates with factory owners'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Augrajatra.

Half a dozen high officials of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) were also present at that time while Munshiganj district administration deployed an executive magistrate to conduct the operation.

But soon, shipping Secretary Md Abdul Mannan Howlader instructed the eviction team to "go slow", as minister Shajahan Khan was in a negotiation at that time with the company owners.

The eviction team that was moved at

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

Youth shot dead by BSF

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) shot dead a Bangladeshi youth early yesterday at Azmatpur border in Shibganj upazila of Chapainawabganj.

The victim was identified as Durul Huda, 22, son of Jalal Uddin alias Guhu of Azmatpur village.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

Viruses can power small devices

BBC ONLINE

Scientists in the US have developed a way to generate electricity using viruses.

The researchers built a generator with a postage stamp-sized electrode and based on a small film of specially



The virus-based electrode produces a small current, enough to flash "1" on an LCD.

PHOTO: BBC ONLINE

SQ CHY'S TRIAL Anisuzzaman faces cross examination

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prof Anisuzzaman, who had testified against BNP lawmaker and war crimes accused Salauddin Quader Chowdhury, was cross-examined at the International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday for four and a half hours.

The Dhaka University emeritus professor on Monday narrated before the court Salauddin's involvement in the murder of Nutan Chandra Singh, founder of the herbal medicine factory Kundeshwari Oushadhalaya, and torture of Saleh Uddin, a student of Chittagong University, in 1971.

His deposition was

SEE PAGE 6 COL 2

HC for probe into 'land grab' by MP Aslam

The AL lawmaker tells court he didn't grab land as he, his family own Tk 5,000cr assets

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered the cabinet secretary to set up a high-powered committee to investigate the allegation of grabbing land of Govt Bangla College against Awami League lawmaker Aslamul Haque.

The two-member probe body headed by director general of Department of Land Record and Surveys has been asked to conduct the inquiry and submit a report to the court by June 15.

A deputy secretary of the law ministry will be the other member of the committee.

National daily Bangladesh Pratidin on May 5 reported that Aslamul, lawmaker from Dhaka-14 constituency, was in possession of four bighas of land of Govt Bangla College in the capital's Mirpur.

Three days later, advocate Manzill Murshid moved a

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6

Noab agrees on 8th wage board

BSS, Dhaka

The Newspaper Owners' Association of Bangladesh (Noab) yesterday agreed in principle on formation of the 8th wage board for the newspaper industry.

They agreed this in a meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her official residence Gono Bhaban in the evening.

After the meeting, PM's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad at a briefing told reporters that the

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

PRAYER TIMING		May 17
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-10	4-45
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-36	6-40
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

তিতাস গ্যাস ট্রান্সমিসন এন্ড ডিষ্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড

(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানি)

১০৫, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ
কাওরান বাজার বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা

গ্যাস অকুরন্ত নয়। গ্যাসের চুল্লিটি
কাজ শেষে নিভিয়ে ফেলুন।

জনসাধারণের জ্ঞাতার্থে সাধারণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

তিতাস গ্যাস টি এন্ড ডি কোং লিঃ এর আওতাধীন যোড়াশাল, সিদ্ধিরগঞ্জ, হরিপুর ৩৬০ মেগাওয়াট বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্রসহ, ঢাকা মহানগরীর দক্ষিণ পূর্বাঞ্চল, নারায়ণগঞ্জ, মুন্সীগঞ্জ এলাকায় গ্রাহকরা দীর্ঘদিন যাবত গ্যাসের স্বল্পচাপ সমস্যায় ভুগছিলেন। এই সমস্যা নিরসনকল্পে কোম্পানির নিজস্ব তহবিল হতে ৮৮৪.০ কোটি ব্যয়ে মনোহরদী-নরসিংদী ২০"Ø x ১০০০ পিএসআইজি x ২৫ কি.মি. একটি সম্বলন পাইপ নির্মাণের পদক্ষেপ গ্রহণ করা হয় এবং তা নির্ধারিত সময়ের ২ মাস আগে অর্থাৎ ১২/০৫/২০১২ তারিখে কমিশনিং করা হয়। এর পর অধিক পরিমাণ গ্যাস প্রবাহ নিশ্চিত হওয়ায় উল্লিখিত বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্রগুলোসহ ডেমরা, সিদ্ধিরগঞ্জ, জয়দেবপুর, নারায়ণগঞ্জ, মুন্সীগঞ্জ এলাকা এমনকি জয়দেবপুর স্টেশন-এর আওতাধীন এলাকায় গ্যাসের চাপ ও প্রবাহ উল্লেখযোগ্য পরিমাণ বৃদ্ধি পাওয়ায় এই সব এলাকায় গ্যাসের স্বল্পচাপজনিত সমস্যা দূরীভূত হয়েছে। এছাড়াও আরিচা, মানিকগঞ্জ এলাকায় গ্যাসের চাপ কিছুটা বৃদ্ধি পেয়েছে। বিগত দিনে স্বল্পচাপ সমস্যার সম্মুখীন সকল গ্রাহকদের অসুবিধার জন্য তিতাস গ্যাস আন্তরিকভাবে দুঃখ প্রকাশ করছে এবং এই পাইপলাইন নির্মাণকালে সহায়তার জন্য ঠিকাদারসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে আন্তরিকভাবে ধন্যবাদ ও কৃতজ্ঞতা প্রকাশ করছে।

তিতাস/জনসংযোগ-১৩১/২০১১-১২
জিডি-২১০৪

-কর্তৃপক্ষ

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think the drive to rescue missing BNP leader Ilias Ali has lost its pace?

Yes (90.5%)
No (6.6%)
No Comments (2.9%)

TOTAL VOTES: 580

TODAY'S POLL

Do you support BNP's Thursday's hartal protesting a court order that sent its leaders to jail in an arson case?

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