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HIJACK ON HIGHWAYS

Transport owners demand security

Ask govt to act on their demand in 3 months

KAILASH SARKAR and SAIDUN NABI

Rampant incidents of hijacking of goods-laden vehicles through killing drivers and helpers on highways have left vehicle owners, businessmen and transport leaders deeply worried.

Their frustrations deepen as neither are the looted goods and transport recovered nor are the criminals arrested. Worse, police often refuse to take cases in these connections.

More than 400 drivers and helpers of goods-laden trucks and covered vans are killed by robbers and goods worth around

Tk 200 crore are hijacked on the highways every year, claimed vehicle owners and leaders of transport organisations yesterday.

Owners and transport leaders of Dhaka and Chittagong at a press conference at Chittagong Press Club also accused the law enforcers of being reluctant to move against the criminals and harassing the victims.

They placed a 16-point demand, giving the government a three-month ultimatum to fulfill them. They warned that they would wage a "tougher movement" should the government fail to meet the demands.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

BLAST IN HILLS

Tragedy thrust upon them

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

While his classmates prepare for upcoming exams, critically injured Jibon Chakma lies on a hospital bed trying to come to terms with the fact that his right leg might be amputated from his knee to save his life.

Jibon, a victim of last week's bomb blast in Rangamati, was to undergo a third round of surgery yesterday which was postponed because of severe bleeding in his leg.

Earlier, physicians at Physicians National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic

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Jibon Chakma, on his bed at Pangu Hospital in the capital, awaits surgery that could leave him without a leg. He along with Kamonasish Chakma, inset, and Babu Dhan was injured in a bomb attack in Rangamati last week.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON



UK minister arrives in capital today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Alistair Burt, UK's foreign office minister for South Asia, will arrive in Dhaka today on his first official visit to Bangladesh.

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WAR CRIMES TRIAL

15-16 Hindus murdered

Third witness testifies against SQ Chy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The third prosecution witness against Salauddin Quader Chowdhury told International Crimes Tribunal-1 that he had heard from a freedom fighter that Salauddin and his

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

KKR win maiden IPL title

STAR REPORT

Kolkata Knight Riders clinched their maiden Indian Premier League title as they beat defending champions Chennai Super Kings by five wickets in a nerve-racking final in Chennai yesterday.

Chasing 191,

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3
MORE ON PAGE 16

Outages, crime spiral upset AL, allies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of the ruling Awami League (AL)-led 14-party combine yesterday expressed their resentment over the deterioration of law and order, fall in prices of jute and rice, and load shedding situation in the country.

At a meeting of the combine, they also criticised the role of Towfique-e-Elahi Chowdhury, power and energy adviser to

the prime minister, in the power sector.

The meeting held at the party president's Dhanmondi political office decided to hold the next meeting of the combine in the presence of the ministers for power, agriculture, food and finance. Starting at 11:30am, yesterday's meeting lasted for two hours.

Leaders of the 14-party, notably Amir Hossain Amu, Tofail Ahmed, Abdul Jalil,

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

Fair polls possible

Says CEC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad yesterday said free and fair parliamentary polls

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30 injured as RMG workers clash with police

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

At least 30 people including 10 law enforcers were injured as garments workers clashed with police in Sonargaon upazila of Narayanganj yesterday.

The workers of Sinha Group, who were protesting an attack on a trade union leader, blocked the Dhaka-Sylhet highway for three hours suspending vehicular movement that caused immense sufferings to the commuters.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4



Police and workers of Sinha Garments clash on the Kanchpur Bridge on Dhaka-Chittagong highway yesterday after the workers went wild hearing about one of their leaders being attacked by criminals.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

FURNACE OIL SCAM

BPC finds some irregularities

DWAIPAYAN BARUA and MD FAZLUR RAHMAN, from Ctg

The committee for sale of furnace oil of state-run Padma Oil Company Ltd has been flouting its parent company Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation's (BPC) instructions regarding approval for delivering the fuel to different companies, said a BPC official yesterday.

The committee's non-adherence to the guidelines gave rise to a nexus of corruption in Padma Oil centring sale of furnace oil, said the official on condition of anonymity.

The comment of the BPC official came a week after Rapid Action Battalion in Chittagong seized 3.4 lakh litres of furnace oil that was heading for the black market on May 20.

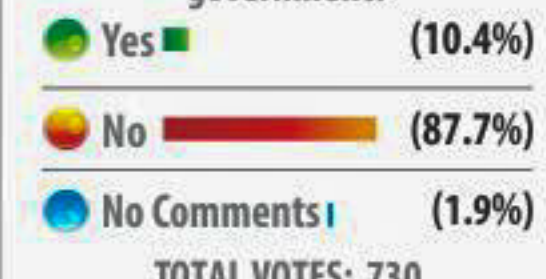
SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with the prime minister that next general election will be held in a neutral manner under the present government?



TODAY'S POLL

Do you think BNP's decision not to join the budget session of the Jatiya Sangsad is justified?
PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT
www.thedailystar.net
YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT facebook.com/dailystarnews

PRAYER TIMING

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4:05	4:40
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	5:00	5:15
Maghrib	6:43	6:47
Esha	8:05	8:35

Source: Islamic Foundation

সাতক্ষীরায় বেসিক ব্যাংকের ৫০তম শাখার শুভ উদ্বোধন করা হয়েছে।
বেসিক ব্যাংক সাতক্ষীরা শাখার শুভ উদ্বোধন করেন ব্যাংকের সম্মানিত চেয়ারম্যান জনাব শেখ আব্দুল হাই বাচ্চু। ব্যাংকের ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব কাজী ফখরুল ইসলামের সভাপতিত্বে অনুষ্ঠিত এ উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠানে উপস্থিত ছিলেন ব্যাংকের অতিরিক্ত ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব শেখ মনজুর মোর্শেদ, উপ-ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব ফজলুস সোবহান, সাতক্ষীরা জেলা আওয়ামী লীগের সাধারণ সম্পাদক জনাব নজরুল ইসলাম, আশাশুণী উপজেলা চেয়ারম্যান এবিএম মুস্তাকিম, সাতক্ষীরা সদর উপজেলা ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান এসএম শওকত হোসেন, সাতক্ষীরা চেম্বার অব কমার্সের সহ-সভাপতি শেখ মহসীন। এছাড়া উপস্থিত ছিলেন ব্যাংকের মহাব্যবস্থাপকবৃন্দ, গণ্যমান্য ব্যক্তিবর্গ, স্থানীয় উদ্যোক্তা এবং ব্যবসায়ী ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীরা।

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