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Rubber dam inflates hope in Dinajpur

KONGKON KARMAKAR, Dinajpur

An inflatable rubber dam being built on the Atrai river in Dinajpur will be completed by the end of this year, facilitating irrigation using surface water instead of underground water as well as fish cultivation.

The dam -- 135-metre long and four-metre high -- will create a 44-km long reservoir in the river that usually dries up in the lean season.

In this type of dams, cylindrical rubber fabrics are placed across channels, streams and weir or dam crests to raise the upstream water level when inflated.

Agriculture extension officials say around 7,000 hectares of land in nine unions of two upazilas in the district will be irrigated using water from the reservoir for cultivation of rice and other crops.

Besides, the reservoir will facilitate round-the-year fish cultivation in the river.

Till now, about 5,000 hectares of land in the areas are under the irrigation system using underground water. But continued depletion of underground water causes problems every year.

Against this backdrop, implementation of the project involving more than Tk 15.54 crore began in December

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A rubber dam is being built on the Atrai in Dinajpur to create a reservoir in the river that usually dries up in the lean season. The photo was shot last week.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

AL council deferred

Hanif cites 'political situation' as reason

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ruling Awami League will not hold its national council next month due to the present political situation in the country, party Joint General Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif said yesterday.

"The council meeting might be held in December," he told newsmen after a meeting with AL's organising and joint secretaries at the Dhanmondi office of the party chief.

The present committee with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Syed Ashraf Islam as president and general secretary respectively will complete its three-year tenure on July 23.

Hanif, however, did not

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The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think opposition will be able to compel the government to restore a non-party government system to oversee the next general elections by forming all-party action committees?

Yes (65.5%)
No (31.8%)
No Comments! (2.7%)

TOTAL VOTES: 406

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the government will be able to resolve the labour unrest in the garment industry?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT facebook.com/dailystarnews

CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY HC clears trial of civilians

Kamaruzzaman's review plea rejected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday rejected a writ petition that challenged the provision for trying civilians for crimes against humanity committed during the Liberation War.

Earlier last month, two judges of a High Court bench had delivered dissenting orders on the petition.

Meanwhile, the International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday disposed of Jamaat leader Muhammad Kamaruzzaman's petition for reviewing his indictment order but made "minor alterations" in

the charges framed against him.

PETITION REJECTED

The High Court bench of Justice M Moazzam Husain yesterday summarily rejected the petition after hearing arguments from Attorney General Mahbubey Alam and petitioner's counsels TH Khan and Fakhru Islam.

Morshedur Rahman Chowdhury from Chittagong had filed the petition in April challenging the government's incorporation of the words "individual or group of individuals" in The International Crimes

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Govt failure led to conflict between state organs: BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday said the organs of the state are now fighting against each other as the government has totally failed to run the country.

"The government is responsible for the situation as it destroyed all the democratic institutions and made everything partisan," he told a protest rally in front of BNP's

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PADMA BRIDGE 'GRAFT' ACC quizzes whip's brother

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday interrogated contractor Nixon Chowdhury, younger brother of Jatiya Sangsad Whip Nur-e-Alam Chowdhury Liton, in connection with alleged irregularities in appointing a consultant for the Padma bridge project.

The ACC summoned Nixon, owner of Rita Constructions, to its head office and quizzed him to see whether he had been involved in landing the Canadian company SNC-Lavalin Group Inc the job of consultant for the project, sources said.

Nixon had close links with Bangladeshi national Ismail Hossain, an official of the Canadian company, who was arrested by Canadian police several months ago, said sources.

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Male tea drinkers at cancer risk

BBC ONLINE

Men who are heavy tea drinkers may be more likely to develop

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PRAYER TIMING June 20

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-50	6-55
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

BDR MUTINY HR Watch against 'mass trial'

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

An international rights body has called for an immediate halt to the "mass trials" of alleged border guard mutineers, as, what it said, it raised the question of fairness.

The US-based Human Rights Watch (HRW) urged the Bangladesh government to establish an independent investigative and prosecutorial task

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Pedestrians wade across a road, which got waterlogged after a down-pour, at Kapasgola in the port city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

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NOTICE

This is a notification for all concerned.

B.I.T.'s second campus in Uttara is now complete - therefore the Head Office will be re-located there -- the new session will begin from August 2012.

In Uttara the classes will be from Play Group to Advanced Level.

In Gulshan, the classes from Play Group to Class V will remain where they are located.

Girls' Section will have classes from Class I - Class X.

Parents who have been wait-listed for admission, may now complete the formalities.

For information, please contact

Gulshan Office
G.C.E. Section, House # 2, Road # 128
Gulshan - 1, Dhaka
Tel. No.: 8810044, 9886016

Uttara Office
Plot # 13, Road # 1/A, Sector # 14
Uttara Model Town, Dhaka.
Tel. No.: 8957721 - 3

Office Hours: Sunday - Thursday (09.00 AM - 01.00 PM)

BCL, Shibir clash at KMC

23 hurt; classes suspended

A CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

At least 23 persons were injured yesterday morning as activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Islami Chhatra Shibir clashed on the campus of Khulna Medical College (KMC).

Thirteen of the injured are BCL men while the remaining are Shibir activists.

Police and Rapid Action Battalion were deployed on the campus since the incident to avoid further untoward situation.

Meanwhile, all classes were cancelled following the incident.

The academic council of the college called a meeting soon after the incident and a three-member probe committee was formed.

The committee suspended five Shibir activists

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