

## NEWS IN *brief*

### Time to deposit Hajj money extended until July 1

UNB, Dhaka

The time to deposit Hajj money has been extended until July 1.  
The money includes airfare and moallam fees for the pilgrims under both government and non-government managements.  
The government took the decision yesterday for

### SC acquits Pankaj in graft case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) yesterday upheld a verdict of High Court (HC) that acquitted Awami Swechchasebak League General Secretary Pankaj Debnath in a corruption case.  
A five member-bench of the Appellate Division of SC headed by Justice SK Sinha passed the order after dismissing an appeal filed by the Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) against the HC verdict.  
On August 26, 2007, a special court sentenced Pankaj Debnath to 13 years' imprisonment in a case. The ACC filed the case on charge of accumulating wealth worth over Tk 64 lakh illegally and concealing information from it about Tk 4.64 lakh.  
The HC delivered a verdict scrapping the jail sentence on August 2, 2010.

### Four held with porno CDs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) seized around 4,000 porno CDs and arrested four youths in this connection in Raojan upazila in the district yesterday afternoon.  
The arrestees are Javed, Akhter, Sohail and Jahed. Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-7 raided four shops Shah Amanat Video, Ali CD Collection, Haque Video and HN Music in Amir Market at Kaptai Road. It arrested them and seized the CDs

### Anniversary of Badhyabhumii Smritipith observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The fifth founding anniversary of Mirpur Jalladhana Badhyabhumii (killing field) Smritipith was observed yesterday.  
On the occasion, a discussion, organised by Liberation War Museum, was held at Mirpur Section-10 in the capital.  
At the programme, people described the stories how their near and dear ones were killed by ethnic cohorts of the Pakistani occupation forces in 1972. Akku Chowdhury, a trustee of Liberation War Museum, spoke among others.  
The programme also featured a cultural performance and hoisting of the national flag.  
The killing field was excavated in 1999 by the

### LAND GRABBING CASE Court orders arrest of Bashundhara chairman

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued arrest warrants against Bashundhara Group Chairman Ahmed Akbar Sobhan Shah Alam and nine others on charge of grabbing land in South Keraniganj.  
Shah Alam was accused of grabbing some 20 decimals of the land using forged documents in connivance with the nine locals of South Keraniganj -- Md Liton, Abdul Karim, Samsuddin, Rahim Miah, Mofazzal Hossain, Sheikh Farid, Akhtar Hossain, Md Anis and Abul Hossain.  
The magistrate also directed the officers-in-charge of South Keraniganj and Badda police stations to submit reports on the arrest warrants' execution by July 30.  
A resident of Kumli village in South Keraniganj, Abed Ali, filed the case with the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court on May 7.  
That day the court had directed the South Keraniganj OC to submit the case's investigation report. Placing the report on June 18, police said the charges were found true.

### CTG SHRINE LOOT Zulfiqar gets 4 months bail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Lt Col (sacked) Zulfiqar Ali Majumder, accused in a case filed after Tk 2.07 crore was robbed from a Chittagong shrine last year, was released from Chittagong Jail on a four-month bail yesterday.  
The High Court granted the bail to the former Rab-7 commanding officer on June 17.  
The bail order was received by Chittagong Judicial Magistrate Masud Parvez yesterday.  
On November 4, 2011, Rab-7 members, including Zulfiqar, allegedly looted the cash from the Talsara Darbar Sharif in Anwara upazila, keeping the Pir (spiritual leader) hostage at gunpoint.



Transformers and electrical equipment worth crores of taka slowly lose their worth as they are carelessly left out in the open at Demra and Siddhirganj power plants in the capital. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

### 4,000 HAWKERS' REHABILITATION

## HC seeks explanation from govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday asked the government to explain in three weeks why it should not be directed to rehabilitate some 4,000 Dhaka City Corporation-enlisted hawkers at the capital's Osmani Udyan and Muktangan.  
The rule was issued following a writ petition jointly filed by Bangladesh Hawkers Federation President MA Kashem and General Secretary Harun-Ur Rashid yesterday.  
In it the duo sought HC directive on the government to rehabilitate the hawkers who were passing subhuman lives after being recently evicted from south Dhaka in a drive to ease the city's traffic congestion.

The petitioners' counsel Manzill Murshid told the court that the government had a master plan to rehabilitate hawkers of the capital at eight places, including some portions of Osmani Udyan and Muktangan.  
The plan, taken up in 1997-98, had not been implemented. If the hawkers were rehabilitated at some portions of Osmani Udyan and Muktangan, no traffic jam would be created there, he said.  
The HC bench of Justice Naima Haider and Justice Farid Ahmed issued the rule after a hearing on the petition.  
Deputy Attorney General Mokhesur Rahman and Assistant Attorney General Nusrat Zahan represented the government.

## 2 workers die after falling from bldg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two construction workers died after falling from under-construction buildings in Pallabi and Bashundhara residential areas of the capital yesterday.  
Mithun Sarker, 18, a carpenter, fell from the third floor of a ten-storey building at Pallabi around 1:00pm.  
At Dhaka Medical College Hospital, his maternal uncle Taposh Sarker said Mithun had worked in the building of Bitopi Builders Limited opposite Purobi Cinema Hall. He slipped and fell down from a lift with one side open.  
Co-worker Utpol rushed him to the hospital where he was declared dead, Taposh said.  
In Bashundhara residential area, construction worker Mizan, 26, slipped from the edge of a balcony on the second floor of a six-storey building while he with other workers were setting up aluminium railings.  
He was taken to DMCH where he was declared dead around 12:45pm, said co-worker Imran Hossain.  
Contacted, Officer-in-Charge of Vataara Police Station Syed Ziauzzaman said police will inspect the building to assess whether the authorities had taken any measure for workers' safety.

## BNP-Jamaat activists killed 22,000 AL men

Alleges Hasina

UNB, Dhaka

**Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina hands over a cheque for Tk 2 lakh to the family of Bimal Shil, who survived an arson attack in Chittagong's Banskhalhi that left 11 members of his family dead, at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.**

PHOTO: PID

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday alleged that BNP-Jamaat men killed around 22,000 leaders and activists of Awami League during their tenure.  
She said BNP not only unleashed such brutalities against AL leaders and workers but also against members of the minority community.  
Hasina said this while handing over a cheque of Tk 2 lakh to the family of Bimal Shil, who survived an arson attack in Chittagong's Bankshali that left 11 members of his family dead, at her office in the capital.

Bimal Shil, his wife Sheuli Shil, son Shourav, and daughter Mamata were also present at the PMO.  
In 2003, during the regime of BNP-Jamaat government, 11 members of Bimal's family were killed in an arson attack allegedly by BNP men.

BNP activists set fire to the house of Tejendra Lal Shil, Bimal's father, at midnight on November 18, 2003, leaving all 11 members of the family inside the house dead.

Bimal, his wife, and children survived as they were away on that night.  
Sheikh Hasina said the Banskhalhi incident is an example of the brutalities of the BNP-Jamaat government.

Prime minister's international Affairs Adviser Gowher Rizvi, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Sheikh M Wahiduzzaman, Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad, were present among others.



## Army man 'killed' wife's paramour

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

An army man yesterday confessed before a Rajshahi court that he had killed the man who was allegedly having an extra-marital affair with his wife.  
Ziaur Rahman, 34, a lance corporal of Bangladesh Army, who made the confession, was arrested from Rangpur cantonment on Wednesday.  
Court Inspector Nazrul Islam said Ziaur killed Abul Kalam Azad, 59, an assistant general manager (AGM) of Bangladesh Postal Department, at Banaswar in Puthia on June 15.  
Ziaur told the court that he committed the killing being incensed at Azad's illicit relations with his wife, the inspector said.  
Azad, a married man with three daughters, was having the relationship with the woman for about five years, while Ziaur married her only three months back, the arrestee said.  
Ziaur said he stabbed Azad to death at his [Ziaur's] house, took the body to the nearby Narod river by an auto-rickshaw, and burnt it.  
Abdur Razzak, a sub-inspector of Puthia Police Station, recovered body the next day and filed a case against some unknown persons in connection with the killing the same day.  
Ziaur was produced before Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate Emdadul Haque yesterday.

## Drive against pvt auto-rickshaws on hire starts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police and Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA), following a High Court directive, yesterday launched a drive against privately-owned CNG-run auto-rickshaws which were illegally running on hire.  
However, till 6:00pm yesterday, neither the BRTA chairman nor the deputy commissioners (DC) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (traffic) could provide the number of auto-rickshaws seized or against which cases had been filed.  
On June 14, the HC in its own move directed the government to stop the illegal practice following a report of The Daily Star.

## JUSTICE MANIK'S REMARKS Pro-BNP lawyers for judicial council

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pro-BNP lawyers yesterday urged the chief justice to constitute a Supreme Judicial Council to examine the Speaker's "allegation" that Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik had violated the constitution.  
There is no way other than forming the council to protect the image and dignity of the judiciary and people's confidence in it following the Speaker's ruling, Rafiqul Islam Mia, president of Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum (JAF), a body of pro-BNP lawyers, told a press conference organised by JAF at Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA).  
SCBA President Zainul Abedin, JAF Secretary General Mahbubuddin Khokon and former SCBA secretary Bodruddoza Badal, among others, were present on the occasion.  
On June 18, Speaker Abdul Hamid ruled that Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik had violated the constitution by making "derogatory remarks" about parliament and the Speaker.  
Putting the onus on the chief justice, the Speaker said, "We will support whatever steps the chief justice may take with regard to such behaviour by a court. Hopefully, that will prevent a recurrence of such incidents."

**Human chain**  
Paribesh Bachao Andolon will form a human chain; Venue: Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University; Time: 11:00am.

**Views exchange meet**  
Bangladesh Tourism Board will organise a views exchange meeting; Venue: Ruposhi Bangla Hotel; Time: 4:00pm.

**Central council**  
Jatiya Samik Jote-Bangladesh will arrange its central council; Venue: Colonel Taher auditorium; Time: 10:00am.

**Festive programme**  
Kendriya Kachi-Kanchar Mela will organise a festive programme; Venue: the Mela auditorium, Segunbagicha; Time: 10:30am.

**Training**  
Bangladesh Mahila Parishad will arrange a training programme; Venue: Biam Auditorium; Time: 9:00am.

**Discussion**  
Bangladesh Sangskritik Academy will

**WEATHER TODAY**

### Rains likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at most places over Rajshahi, Khulna, Dhaka, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and at many places over Rangpur and Sylhet divisions in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.  
Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions, Met Office said.  
Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.  
**The sun sets in the capital today at 6:49 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:12am.**  
Country's highest temperature 33.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Khulna and lowest 22.3 degrees at Feni.  
Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.7	27.0	75	71
Chittagong	32.0	25.3	88	82
Rajshahi	33.4	27.0	72	91
Rangpur	32.0	26.8	83	79
Khulna	33.5	26.6	96	89
Barisal	32.5	26.1	84	78