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Buet stalemate takes new turn

No classes held after Eid holidays; now students prepare to stage demo for removal of VC and pro-VC

WASIM BIN HABIB

The deadlock at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) appears to deepen further as the students resume demonstration today demanding removal of the vice chancellor and his deputy. Meanwhile, even though the Buet authorities insist the teachers to return to the classes, the latter stand rigid to their demand for removal of the duo. They think it is the only solution to the crisis. The teachers, however, did not declare any new programmes after they had called off their demonstration on July 31 following a High Court order. The court that day directed them not to stage any demonstration in the interest of smooth academic activities. Buet Teachers' Association launched the agitation along with work abstention on April 7, bringing 16 allegations against VC Prof SM Nazrul Islam and Pro-VC Prof M Habibur Rahman. The general students and officials joined the agitation in mid July. The virtually stagnant Buet reopened on Saturday after a 44-day closure but no classes have been held since then, hampering education of

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2



Dumping waste in the capital's Gulshan-Banani lake continues unabated despite outcries of the media and environmentalists. The authorities concerned seem to be reluctant to do anything to save the lake.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

9 forest staff suspended for poaching tiger cubs

UNB, Khulna

Nine forest staff of the Sundarbans west zone have been suspended for their alleged involvement in the poaching of three tiger cubs which were rescued in the capital on June 11. The staff are Koikhali Station Officer of Satkhira Range Alaaddin, Assistant

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

POLLS WITHOUT DISSOLVING JS AL keeps door open for talks with BNP

HASAN JAHD TUSHER

The ruling Awami League would like to have talks with the main opposition BNP on whether to dissolve the parliament ahead of the next parliamentary election. The party is, however, firm on the stance that under no circumstances the caretaker government system would be restored to oversee the election. The BNP demands that the caretaker government system has to be restored.

Opposition leader Khaleda Zia on Thursday said a general election could not be held without the parliament dissolved and the present government would be forced to reinstate the caretaker government system. Awami League leaders predicted that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina would form a "small cabinet" comprised of other party leaders ahead of the elections and that government would oversee the polls.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

ROW OVER UK VISA SPONSORSHIP Thousands of foreign students face expulsion

STAR REPORT

More than 2,000 non-European students, including many Bangladeshis, face deportation risk after the UK government revoked London Metropolitan University's right to sponsor visas of non-European students. Announcing the decision on Wednesday night, UK Border Agency said the university authorities had failed to address "serious systematic failings" identified six months ago, reports BBC Bangla on its

website. It means that the university's foreign students will have to find a new university within 60 days or be deported to their respective countries. News agency AFP adds: Amid alarm at the potential damage to the foreign student market in Britain -- worth an estimated \$22.2 billion-- the government rushed to reassure foreign students that it was an isolated case.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



Singapore minister due today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Singapore's Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Home Affairs Masagos Zulkifli Bin Masagos Mohamad arrives in Dhaka today.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3



Shanties close to rail lines in the capital's Khilgaon area. The illegal structures on both sides of the tracks were knocked down by the rail authorities, but new ones occupied the places in no time. The picture was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

ADB calls for removing rice trade barriers

Asks Asian nations to stabilise prices amid fear of crisis

AFP, Manila

Asia should cut rice trade barriers and stabilise prices, the Asian Development Bank said Thursday, as concerns grow of a supply crunch similar to one that led to the 2008 global food crisis. Asians, the world's top rice consumers and producers, bore the brunt as prices of the cereal spiked in 2007-2008 due in part to export limits

by producers and panic buying by big importers, the Manila-based bank said. Their governments need to reduce export restrictions, which an ADB study found were to blame for a 149 percent price surge four years ago, said Lourdes Adriano, an agriculture and food security expert at ADB. "To enhance resiliency and ensure that rice prices do not jump beyond the reach of the region's poor,

policymakers must think and act regionally," she said in a statement. Experts blamed the last food crisis on slowing production growth at a time of rising demand, bad weather, and competition from biofuels, triggering hoarding and export restrictions. The bank study was released after the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation early this month cut its global 2012 rice output forecast due

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

Motorcade of PM's aide attacked

20 hurt in Madaripur clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

The motorcade of Abdus Sobhan Golap, a special assistant to the prime minister, came under attack at Kalkini upazila of Madaripur yesterday triggering clashes between two groups of the ruling party. At least 20 people were injured in the clashes. The PM's special assistant was in the area to exchange greetings with the locals. He has been campaigning in Madaripur-3 constituency for the last six months as a

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

Woman, daughter murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

A four-year-old girl along with her mother was found killed at their house in Chapainawabganj on Thursday night. The deceased were identified as Nila and Nasima Begum, 30, wife of Saudi Arab expatriate Nasirul Islam. Razia Khatun, Nasima's mother, yesterday said at around 8:30am she found Nasima's body in the front porch with her throat slit

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

PRAYER TIMING September 1		
Fajr	Azan	Jamaat
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	6-20	6-25
Esha	7-45	8-15
Source: Islamic Foundation		

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ভূতের সঙ্গে
ভূতের আড্ডা
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