

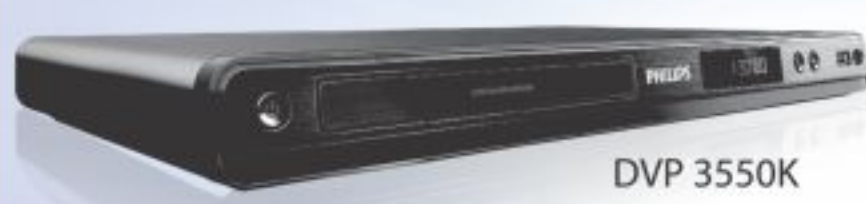
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TEESTA WATER Bangladesh must get its due share

STAR CORRESPONDENT

Considering the number of people dependent on the Teesta, Bangladesh should get an equitable share of the river water.

Professor Dr Fakhru Islam, a teacher of Rajshahi University, said this at an international meeting on "Framework for Cooperation on South Asian Trans-boundary Water" held in the capital yesterday.

He noted 21 million people in Bangladesh depended on the river while in India it was only eight million. But the neighbouring country keeps around 85 percent of Teesta water during the lean period.

In his presentation, he showed that the Teesta water did not cross 6,000 cuses over the lean period from 1993 to 1999 at Dalia point in Bangladesh as India had blocked the flow at Gazoldoba.

Rangpur, where 70 percent people live below the poverty line, becomes seriously affected by the shortage of Teesta water in dry season.

Donor organisations should place some restrictions on releasing fund for the construction of any barrage or

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The Dhaka-Chittagong highway in the capital's Jatrabari has long been in bad shape. Whenever it rains, water accumulates in the potholes that have developed on the road owing to a lack of repair and maintenance. The photo was shot on Friday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

FERTILISER SCAM JS team in Ctg, starts probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

An investigation team formed by the parliamentary standing committee on the industries ministry yesterday visited Chittagong and collected samples of imported fertilisers for chemical analysis with a view to ascertaining whether they could be used by farmers.

The seven-member probe team led by Kamal Ahmed Mazumder, MP, visited the jetty of Chittagong Urea Fertiliser Limited (CUFL) where the imported fertilisers have been lying for the last nine months.

The fertilisers were brought from Vietnam through Swiss-Singapore Overseas Enterprise under the arrangements of the state-run Bangladesh Chemical Industries

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Lawmaker's car attacked 2 injured; youth held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A youth attacked Awami League lawmaker Ekabbar Hossain in Gazipur while he was travelling in his car, injuring his personal secretary and the driver yesterday.

The lawmaker's personal secretary Shamim-al-Mamun and the driver received minor injuries when trying to resist the attacker.

Ekabbar, lawmaker from Tangail-7, and the others in the car -- his

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Teletalk's 3G service opens

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has made much progress in implementing its vision of 'digital Bangladesh', said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the inauguration ceremony of Teletalk's 3G service yesterday.

Hasina unveiled the long-awaited 3G service, at the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, by making a video call to President Zillur Rahman and a school student.

Hasina said, with the introduction of 3G, people will get high-speed internet service, which will enhance information and data transfer system.

The prime minister also said ICT (information and communication technology) could be employed to take the multidimensional trend of development to the grassroots level speedily and at low costs.

"To utilise the huge capabilities of ICT, we made the commitment to build 'digital Bangladesh' by 2021 in our election manifesto," she said.

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DESTINY SCAM Gen Harun denied bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday rejected two bail petitions filed by Destiny Group President and former army chief Lt Gen (ret'd) M Harun-Ar-Rashid in connection with two money laundering cases.

Meanwhile, a Dhaka court yesterday fixed October 17 for hearing two petitions seeking a 20-day remand for top three Destiny Group officials, including Harun, and its Chairman Rafiqul Amin in the same cases.

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) filed the cases with Kalabagan Police Station on July 31 against the

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

We will defy Taliban, go back to school

Says shot friend of brave Malala

DAILYMAIL ONLINE

The best friend of the 14-year-old Pakistani girl shot in the head by the Taliban yesterday vowed to defy the extremists again and return to school with her.

Shazia Ramzan watched in horror as classmate Malala Yousafzai was shot beside her on their school bus, before the gunman turned and shot her too.

Speaking exclusively to The Mail on Sunday, brave Shazia, also 14, who was hit



Malala Shazia

in the shoulder and hand, said: "She will recover and we will go back to school and study together again."

As Shazia sat up in her hospital bed, Malala was yesterday still critically ill in a hospital in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, after being shot by the Taliban gunman as she travelled home on a school bus in Mingora in the strife-torn Swat Valley on Tuesday.

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RAMU VIOLENCE Chittagong DC attached to ministry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The government yesterday withdrew Chittagong Deputy Commissioner (DC) Mohammad Jaynul Bari and attached him to the public administration ministry.

The reason for his withdrawal could not be ascertained immediately.

Jaynul Bari was transferred to Chittagong from his previous posting in Cox's Bazar 15 days ago.

The authorities transferred Jaynul from Cox's Bazar before the mayhem took place in Ramu. He was staying in the district

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Counterfeit Bangladeshi taka and Indian rupee notes recovered from different areas in the capital are put on display for newsmen at the Media and Communication Centre of Dhaka Metropolitan Police yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Fake currency 'factory' busted

10 held with Tk 10 crore, note-making equipment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two factories making fake bank notes were seized and 10 people with Bangladeshi and Indian fake notes were arrested by Detective Branch of police in the capital's Demra and Kamrangirchar on Saturday.

Forger gangs have become active in preparation for spreading Tk 100 crore in fake notes at different markets ahead of Eid-ul-Azha, said DB officials.

Meanwhile, State Minister for Home Shamsul Haque Tuku yesterday said fake note detectors would be installed at cattle markets across the country to check the spread of fake notes. He said this at a meeting of the anti-militancy national committee at the Secretariat.

Mahbubur Rahman, DB deputy commissioner (west), at a press briefing at Media and Community Service Centre yesterday said the DB had seized Tk 2.5 crore and

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The Daily Star

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ONLINE POLL

Do you think the government is sincere about finding the real instigators of Ramu violence?

Yes

38.6%

No

58.8%

No Comments

2.6%

TOTAL VOTES: 735

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think it was justified for the prime minister to allege that a fresh plot is being hatched to bring to power unelected force?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT

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YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT

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PRAYER TIMING		October 15
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-45	5-20
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-15	4-30
Maghrib	5-45	5-50
Esha	7-15	7-45
Source: Islamic Foundation		

Life after death? Neurosurgeon says he's been there

AFP, Washington

Eben Alexander's quick trip to heaven started with a headache.

It was November 2008 and a rare bacterial meningitis was fast on its way to shutting down the University of Virginia neurosurgeon's neocortex -- the part of the brain that deals with sensory perception and conscious thought.

"For seven days, I lay in a deep coma," he recalled. Yet at the same time, Alexander "journeyed

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Eben Alexander

UN warns of looming food crisis next year

THE GUARDIAN ONLINE

World grain reserves are so dangerously low that severe weather in the United States or other food-exporting countries could trigger a major hunger crisis next year, the United Nations has warned.

Failing harvests in the US, Ukraine and other countries this year have eroded reserves to their lowest level since 1974. The US, which has experienced record heat waves and droughts in 2012, now holds in reserve a historically low 6.5 per-

cent of the maize that it expects to consume in the next year, says the UN.

"We've not been producing as much as we are consuming. That is why stocks are being run down. Supplies are now very tight across the world and reserves are at a very low level, leaving no room for unexpected events next year," said Abdolreza Abbassian, a senior economist with the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). With food consumption exceeding the amount grown for six of the past 11

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