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Long tailbacks on highways

Eid, puja holiday makers suffer on roads to home

STAR REPORT

Thousands of homebound passengers met with long tailbacks on major highways yesterday due to poor communications infrastructure and stranded faulty vehicles on the roads.

A large number of buses and trucks were on the roads ahead of Eid-ul-Azha and Durga Puja -- two major festivals of Muslims and Hindus.

While the usual gridlock on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway intensified in the last two days, ferry services at Mawa in Munshiganj nearly collapsed yesterday as river erosion badly damaged all the three old ferry terminals.

The BIWTA authorities transported vehicles through two makeshift terminals, but their capacity was quite inadequate. This caused untold sufferings to thousands of passengers bound for 20 south-eastern districts.

Ratul Hasan started at 6:00am from the capital's Gabtoli for Kushtia. His wife and two daughters were with him.

After six hours, they reached Radna bypass in Tangail, SEE PAGE 19 COL 2



Vehicles stuck in a long tailback on Jamuna bridge yesterday noon, as work to plug cracks on the bridge continues .

PHOTO: STAR



AHRC slates harassment of 4 journos

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Asian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) has urged the government to stop the police from harassing the four journalists of the Bangla daily Amar Desh and a staff of the newspaper.

In a statement yesterday, the AHRC expressed deep concern that the five are under imminent threat of detention and subsequent torture by the police.

The five are Sanjit Chowdhury, assistant editor, Syed Abdal Ahmed, executive editor, Zahid Chowdhury, city editor, SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

BDR CARNAGE CASE

Abused amid horror

Wife of army officer tells court of torture on females, children after being confined by mutineers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An army officer's wife, who was taken hostage and tortured by the rebels soon after the 2009 BDR mutiny broke out, yesterday narrated how the mutineers tortured children and female members of the army officers' families during the rebellion.

"More than 15 jawans swooped on the captives soon we were brought in. It was a nightmare. They beat up, kicked, punched children and women, and dragged us on the floor by pulling our hair. Nobody showed any sympathy though some jawans were well acquainted with us," said Farah Jinat Munni.

Munni, wife of Lt Col Jahidul Islam, was testifying before the Metropolitan

Sessions Judge's Court in a case against 824 BDR men on charges of killing, arson and looting during the mayhem.

The carnage saw 74 people dead, including 57 top and mid-ranking army officials.

Soon after the two-day uprising started around 9:00am on February 25, the rebels forced Munni and her teenage daughter to the Pilkhana quarter guard at gunpoint, she said.

"Every time a separate group of jawans came [in the quarter guard], they tortured us. They hurled abuse and threatened to kill us," Munni told the court.

On the morning of February 25, Munni and her daughter of class IX had been standing in the balcony of their Pilkhana headquarters house when they first

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

DANDY DYEING CASE

Tarique, Koko among 10 summoned

STAR REPORT

A Dhaka court yesterday summoned 10 directors of Dandy Dyeing Ltd, including BNP Senior Vice-chairman Tarique Rahman to appear before it on November 14 in a case for defaulting on a loan.

Sonali Bank on October SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

DESTINY SCAM

SC upholds bail for Harun

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) yesterday upheld the High Court (HC) order that granted bail to Destiny Group President Lt Gen (ret'd) M Harun-Ar-Rashid in two money laundering cases.

Justice Md Shamsul Huda, chamber judge of SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

Tortured at Goods Hill

War crimes witness testifies against SQ Chy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A prosecution witness in a war crimes case yesterday said he was tortured at the Good Hill residence of Salauddin Quader Chowdhury's father in Chittagong after Pakistani army along with some civilians took him there during the Liberation War.

The Pakistani army while talking with each other later mentioned that Salauddin Quader was among the civilians, Nizamuddin Ahmed, 59, told the International Crimes Tribunal-1 in his

deposition.

Another son and a daughter of Fazlul Quader Chowdhury were teasing Nizamuddin while he was being tortured at that house, added the witness who is a freelance journalist.

Nizamuddin set up a camp for the freedom fighters at a demolished house on Hazari Lane from where he along with two of his friends was held in July in 1971.

The witness said they were taken to an army camp at Chittagong Stadium where SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

PADMA GRAFT PROBE

ACC to reply to WB queries soon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission will soon reply to the queries from the World Bank's external panel about the probe into the corruption allegations in the Padma bridge project, ACC Chairman Ghulam Rahman said yesterday.

He, however, did not elaborate. Referring to WB Country Director Ellen Goldstein's comment that the WB wants the ACC to speed up the probe, Rahman said, "We could not communicate SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

JS session begins Nov 14

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 15th session of the ninth parliament will begin on November 14. President Zillur Rahman yesterday SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

PRAYER TIMING			October 23
Fajr	4-50	5-25	
Zohr	12-45	1-15	
Asr	4-00	4-15	
Maghrib	5-36	5-39	
Esha	7-15	7-45	

Source: Islamic Foundation



What will police say now?

Tuhin, former organising secretary of Rajshahi University BCL, is one of those caught on camera brandishing firearms during a clash on October 2. Yesterday, he went to Boalia Police Station to meet his sub-inspector friend and stayed there for 20 minutes from around 1:00pm. Police earlier said the gun-wielding activists were out of trace.

PHOTO: STAR





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ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with Dr Kamal Hossain's comment that the ruling Awami League and main opposition BNP are the "feudal lords"?

Yes (49.3%)

No (49.1%)

No Comments! (1.6%)

TOTAL VOTES: 509

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with BNP leader Moudud Ahmed that the country's law and order situation has totally broken down?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

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অবারিত সমুদ্রের দেশে প্রসারিত ব্যাংকিং এবার পর্যটন নগরী কক্সবাজারে

বেসিক ব্যাংক-এর ৫৫ তম শাখার **শুরু** করা হয়েছে।

বেসিক ব্যাংক কক্সবাজার শাখার **শুভ উদ্বোধন করেন** ব্যাংকের সম্মানিত চেয়ারম্যান জনাব **শেখ আব্দুল হাই বাচ্চু**

বেসিক ব্যাংকের ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব কাজী ফখরুল ইসলামের সভাপতিত্বে অনুষ্ঠিত এ উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠানে বিশেষ অতিথি হিসেবে উপস্থিত ছিলেন কক্সবাজার-৩ (সদর ও রামু) আসনের দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত মহিলা সংসদ সদস্য জনাব এখিন রাখাইন, আওয়ামী লীগের কক্সবাজার জেলার সভাপতি জনাব একে আহমদ হোসাইন, দৈনিক কক্সবাজারের সম্পাদক মোহাম্মদ নুরুল ইসলাম। উক্ত অনুষ্ঠানে আরও উপস্থিত ছিলেন ব্যাংকের উপ-ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব ফজলুস সোবহান, জনাব এ কিউএম কিবরিয়া এবং জনাব এ মোনায়েম খান। এছাড়া উপস্থিত ছিলেন ব্যাংকের মহাব্যবস্থাপকবৃন্দ, গণ্যমান্য ব্যক্তিবর্গ, স্থানীয় উদ্যোক্তা এবং ব্যবসায়ী ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীরা।



বেসিক ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

শতভাগ রাষ্ট্র মালিকানাধীন ব্যাংক