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Yaba alert in capital

6 drug-peddlers held; huge number of tablets seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four days after the seizure of 1.44 lakh pieces of yaba tablets in Comilla, Detective Branch of police on Monday night arrested six drug traders with 45,000 yaba tablets in the capital's Kamalapur Stadium area.

Quoting the arrestees, Nazrul Islam Mollah, deputy commissioner of DB-North, said the six had bought the yaba tablets from a drug dealer, Nurul Huda of Teknaf in Cox's Bazar. They got caught in a DB raid before selling those drugs to trader Jewel at Azimpur and Ramjan at Khilgaon, he added.

DB police also seized a car and six mobile phones from their possessions.

Among the illegal drug items, the use of yaba has been spreading across the country at an alarming rate, and its smuggling has intensified, keeping pace with demand, said officials of the Directorate of Narcotics Control (DNC), police, the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB).

Yaba is produced mainly in China, Myanmar and India

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7



The mighty Padma devours buildings, ferry terminals and vast tracts of land at Mawa in Munshiganj. The river has been in this furious state for some months and only this week a passenger shed and an abandoned office of the Zila Parishad perished in it. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Stop import of chemical treated food

Writ filed with HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A businessman filed a writ petition seeking High Court directive on the government to stop the import, distribution and sale of all foodstuffs treated with formalin and other poisonous chemicals in the country.

M Helal Uddin, a director of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI), filed the petition

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

Myanmar to address Rohingya citizenship

Yangon told Obama during historic visit

STAR REPORT

The Myanmar government has reiterated its commitment to address the Rohingya issues including citizenship, according to US Deputy National Security Advisor Ben Rhodes.

"With regards to the Rohingya in the Rakhine State, they reiterated their commitment to not just calm the situation, but to address the underlying issues including returning displaced people to their home and addressing the issue of citizenship for



the Rohingya," the advisor said aboard Air Force One.

Ben Rhodes was addressing a press gaggle also joined by Press Secretary Jay Carney on way from Myanmar to Cambodia on Monday, a Whitehouse press release said. He was giving an update of US President Barack Obama's meeting in Yangon.

Obama became the first US president to visit Myanmar and the highlight of his six-hour trip was a speech at Yangon

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

Azmi defends father's role

Says Ghulam Azam backed Pak army for protecting country's sovereignty

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

War crimes accused Ghulam Azam's son yesterday claimed his father had praised Pakistani army and its auxiliary forces for their role to save sovereignty and independence of undivided Pakistan during the Liberation War in 1971.

Former Jamaat ameer's son Brig Gen (dismissed)

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

Mojaheed involved in mass killing

Prosecution witness from Faridpur testifies at war crimes tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami leader Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed was involved in the mass killing committed in four Hindu-dominated villages in Faridpur during the Liberation War.

Sixth prosecution witness Abdul Malek Mia said this during his testimony in the crimes against humanity case against Mojaheed before the



International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday.

He said Pakistani army men along with armed Razakars, some Biharis (non Bangla speaking people), one Hammad Moulana and Mojaheed went to the villages in the middle part of the Bangla month Jaistha during the war.

"These people were involved in looting, arson and killings [committed in the]

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

Hasina didn't demand Pak apology for '71 atrocities

Claims Khar

STAR DESK

Pakistan Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar has sought to dispel speculations that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had set a formal apology from Pakistan for 1971 war atrocities as a condition for accepting Islamabad's invitation to the D-8 summit later this week.

Khar has claimed no such condition had been placed when she visited Dhaka to invite Hasina on November 9, the Indian



Eleven birds were stolen from aviary B-10 at Dhaka Zoo early Monday. The birds were of three species and worth around Tk 4.25 lakh.

PHOTO: STAR

11 exotic birds stolen from zoo

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Burglars broke into a cage at Dhaka Zoo early Monday and escaped with 11 exotic birds.

The birds of three species -- six Ring Necked Yellow Parakeets, two Red Lorikeets and three Sulphur-crested Cockatoos -- were worth around Tk 4, 25, 000, said ABM Shahid Ullah, curator of the zoo.

According to guards, the birds were in their cage till 11:00 pm on Sunday. Then at 5:00am these were found missing, Shahid told this correspondent.

Three compartments of cage-10 showed signs of a burglary with hinges of the locks broken. The thieves might have entered the zoo by climbing the wall on its west adjoining some slums, or through the Botanical Gardens on the north, he said.

One guard and one ansar were on duty at the bird enclosure at the time. The guard was suspended and the ansar was "closed" for their negligence to duty. Another guard, who was not on duty at the time, was also suspended on suspicion of his links with the theft.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

Govt asks Myanmar to take back Rohingyas

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The government has once again asked Myanmar to take back the remaining Rohingya refugees and prevent their influx in future.

The request was made when Myanmar Ambassador in Dhaka Myo Myint Than met foreign ministry directors general Saida Muna Tasneem and Golam Sarwar at the ministry yesterday.


At the meeting, the foreign ministry officials informed the ambassador that Dhaka would support Myanmar both in OIC and the United Nations Human Rights Council, said sources.

They said the Myanmar government had already cleared a list of 2,415 refugees out of around 29,000 in two camps to take them back, and of them, 10 families had agreed to go back voluntarily.

In response, the Myanmar envoy said

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

The Daily Star

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ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with Information Minister Hasanul Haque Inu that Transparency International Bangladesh applied flawed research method for its survey on lawmakers' activities?

Yes

(11%)

No

(81%)

No Comments

(8%)

TOTAL VOTES: 403

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia that said her elder son Tarique Rahman leads a very honest life?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT

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67 Jamaat, Shibir men detained

N'ganj district ameer among them

STAR REPORT

As many as 67 leaders and activists of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir have been arrested on charges of vandalism and attacking police in Narayanganj, Chittagong, Gaibandha and Rajshahi in the last two days.

In Narayanganj, police arrested 52 of them in an over-night drive.

The arrests were made after Sub-Inspector Atiar Rahman of Narayanganj Sadar Model Police Station filed two cases on Monday night on charges of attacking law

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

Govt ready to resist Jamaat

Says home minister

A CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Home Minister Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir yesterday said the government had taken all out efforts to resist Jamaat-e-Islami and its youth wing Islami Chhatra Shibir.

He said police had so far arrested some 2,500 "criminals" and cases had been filed against 350 Jamaat-Shibir men under

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

Bus Rapid Transit gets go-ahead

Tk 2,040cr project on Airport-Gazipur route to be completed by 2016

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is going to introduce a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line by the year 2016 to ease traffic congestion on the 20-kilometre Gazipur-Airport road.

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecne) yesterday approved the Tk 2,040-crore Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport project.

A statement of the planning ministry said the initiative would create a new public transportation system in Gazipur-Tongi-Uttara region making the route safe, environment friendly and free of traffic congestion.

The 4-year project also includes construction of 31 bus stops, a BRT depot, seven flyovers and the Tongi Bridge. Besides, 50 buses would be procured

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PRAYER TIMING		November 21
Azan		Jamaat
Fajr	5-05	5-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-21	5-24
Esha	7-00	7-30
Source: Islamic Foundation		