



## FRUIT CRUSHING GOES ON

An official, *top*, checking to see if the mangoes are treated with formalin. The samples were collected from a mango-laden trucks in Rabna Bypass area of Tangail town yesterday. The official said the test should have been done in the lab. Litchi vendors, *bottom left*, sitting idle at their shop in Kalitola of Dinajpur with no customers as fear of contaminated fruits keep buyers away. Police working with a mobile court stop fruit-carrying trucks, *middle*, in Rabna Bypass area of Tangail town. A mobile court destroys "formalin-tainted" grapefruits, *bottom right*, on Dhaka-Mawa highway late Monday night. Another mobile court uses a road roller, *top right*, to crush chemically treated fruits in Mirzapur of Tangail yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR



## Qaisar behind killing

FROM PAGE 16  
She added she was at her father's house in Mouzzpur on the 12th of Bangla month of Ashwin and her father had slept at his neighbour Siraj Miah's house along with his fellow freedom fighters Siraj Miah, Wahed Ali and Sattar.  
As they heard the next morning that Pakistani army had gone to the neighbour's house in search of freedom fighters, they rushed there and found Alauddin of Sultanpur and Rawshan of their village with the army men, she added.  
"When 20/25 people were taking my father and his friends away, I saw a man in white shirt and pants. His name was Qaisar Razakar. He had a pistol on his waist," said Majeda.  
The witness said as her father and the three others were taken to Jagadishpur camp, she, Siraj's wife and son Nilbanu and Renu and several other neighbours followed them.  
"When my father and his friends were

being tortured in front of Jagadishpur camp, we tried to go near. But Razakar Qaisar intercepted us and pushed us down," she said.  
Then the detainees were taken to the bank of the Sonai river, she further said.  
"We begged for the life of the detainees touching the feet of Qaisar Saheb, but he pushed us aside. We saw the detainees made to stand in a row and the Pakistani army men gunned them down and dumped their bodies into the river," said Majeda.  
When Qaisar and his accomplices had left the area, they tried to find out the bodies but found none, said emotion-choked Majeda.  
Majeda said after the killings, they had left Bangladesh for India and taken shelter at a freedom fighters' camp and informed the freedom fighters about the killings for taking action against Qaisar.  
But they did not find Qaisar after independence as he had already fled. At the last part of her testimony, Majeda

identified Qaisar at the courtroom.  
After lunch break, Qaisar's lawyer SM Shahjahan completed Majeda's cross-examination with a suggestion that his client was "not involved" in any such incidents and the witness had given "false testimony."  
Majeda rejected the defence claim.  
Earlier in the day, the prosecution "tendered" the statement of Anaiullah, 25th prosecution witness in the case, as his statement, which he gave to the investigation officer, was similar to the testimony of 23rd and 24th witnesses.  
On Sunday, Ambia Khatun and Anowara Begum testified that the Pakistan army and their local collaborators had killed four people, including their family members in Habiganj following a signal by Qaisar.  
The three-member tribunal led by Justice Obaidul Hassan with members Justice Md Mozibur Rahman Miah and Justice Md Shahinur Islam adjourned the proceeding until today.

## Locals, cops were in action

FROM PAGE 16  
Locals also claimed that some of the police personnel on that day had actually spurred the locals on by crying out "burn everything down".  
The DB personnel visited the spot in Mirpur yesterday after six cases filed in connection with the incident were handed over to them for investigation.  
Senior Assistant Commissioner Towhidul Rahman of DB tried to pacify the angry residents of the camp assuring them of an impartial investigation.  
The Biharis also alleged that local ruling party lawmaker Illias Mollah had instigated the "attack" since they did not comply with his demand for illegal electric connections to a nearby slum.  
Meanwhile, around 300 Biharis staged demonstrations yesterday blocking a road in Kurmitola area from 8:00am to 4:00pm to protest the

killing of 10 people of their community.  
They also demanded punishment for the ruling party men who they alleged were involved in the clash and arson.  
Drenched in rain, protester Salma Begum told The Daily Star, "There is no one to look after us. Our sons are on the run to avoid arrest and there is no one to provide us with food. Our people have died, but ironically it is our people who are behind bars."  
Another group of demonstrators were locked in a clash with transport workers at Mirpur-11 around 1:45pm and vandalised at least six vehicles. One person was injured.  
Ziauzzaman said no one was detained in this connection.  
Ruling party MP Jahangir Kabir Nanak yesterday exchanged views with Bihar leaders of Mohammadpur Geneva camp.

He said a vested group was trying to put the government in trouble creating chaos. "The Biharis are also showing off their strength," he said.  
The residents of Mohammadpur Bihari Camp had been observing hunger strike demanding better security, compensation for the affected families, immediate release of arrested Biharis, proper investigation into the incident, and arrest of lawmaker Illias Mollah and Jubo League activists involved in the incident.  
At least nine members of a family were burnt to death when eight Bihari homes at Kurmitola camp in the city's Mirpur area were torched. Another person injured with rubber-bullet pellet died in hospital the same day.  
The brawl over setting off fire-crackers during Fazr prayers led to the clash and arson Saturday morning.

## Fighting erupts

FROM PAGE 1  
Mosul and the border with Syria where ISIL also has fighters engaged in that country's three-year-old civil war.  
The overnight attack on Baquba, which was pushed back by security forces but left 44 prisoners dead at a police station, marked the closest that fighting has come to the capital.  
The jihadists, ever ready to stir up sectarian tensions, have vowed to march on Baghdad and the Shia shrine city of Karbala to its south.  
In Tal Afar, fresh clashes killed dozens of civilians and combatants yesterday, a government official said. Militants controlled most of the town but pockets of resistance remained. Soldiers, police and armed residents held on to parts of its airport, the deputy head of the provincial council, Nureddin Qabalan, said.  
Further south, the police and army abandoned the Iraqi side of a key crossing on the border with Syria, officers said.  
Syrian rebel groups opposed to ISIL, who already controlled the other side of the Al-Qaim crossing, advanced across the border to take over.  
The Iraqi army already abandoned the Rabia border crossing further north to Kurdish forces last week.  
The swift advance of the militants has sparked international alarm, with UN envoy to Baghdad Nickolay Mladenov warning that Iraq's territorial integrity was at stake.  
"Right now, it's life-threatening for Iraq but it poses a serious danger to the region," Mladenov told AFP.  
"Iraq faces the biggest threat to its sovereignty and territorial integrity" in years.  
The violence has stoked regional

tensions, with Iraq accusing neighbouring Saudi Arabia of "siding with terrorism" and of being responsible for financing the militants.  
The comments came a day after the Sunni kingdom blamed "sectarian" policies by Iraq's Shia-led government for triggering the unrest.  
The prime minister of Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region told the BBC it would be "almost impossible" for the country to return to how it was before the offensive, and called for Sunni Arabs to be granted an autonomous region of their own.  
Alarmed by the collapse of much of the security forces in the face of the militant advance, foreign governments have begun pulling out diplomatic staff from the capital.  
US President Barack Obama announced that around 275 military personnel "equipped for combat" were being deployed to Iraq to help protect the embassy in Baghdad and assist US nationals.  
Washington has already deployed an aircraft carrier to the Gulf, but Obama has ruled out a return to combat in Iraq for US soldiers.  
As the US weighed its next move, Secretary of State John Kerry said on Monday that drone strikes could be used.  
Washington has ruled out cooperating militarily with Tehran, but the two governments -- which have been bitter foes for more than 30 years -- held "brief discussions" on the crisis in Vienna.  
Doubts are growing that the Iraqi security forces can hold back the militant tide, despite military commanders trumpeting a counter-offensive.  
Soldiers and police fled en masse as the insurgents swept into Iraq's second city of Mosul a week ago, abandoning

## Embassy shifts 50 to safety

FROM PAGE 1  
Over 14,000 Bangladeshis are working in Iraq, mostly in the construction sector, according to the Bangladesh foreign ministry. Most of the expatriates are based in Baghdad, Basra, Karbala and Najaf.  
They are trying to carry on with their jobs at grave risk to their lives as they have spent hefty sums to find employment abroad.  
"I had to spend Tk 3 lakh to migrate to Iraq three months ago. Now I am feeling insecure at my workplace," Bangladeshi migrant Hasan Ahmed told this newspaper over the phone from Mosul on Monday.  
If the situation worsens, Hasan's employer will leave Iraq and he will be left without a job.  
"I have been going through a crisis in my life. If I want to be safe, I should return home now. But I cannot earn enough money to ensure a comfortable life in Bangladesh," he mentioned.  
Like Hasan, many other Bangladeshis are now facing uncertainty over their jobs in Iraq since the rebels launched attacks at different parts of the Middle Eastern country.

The Bangladesh envoy, however, claimed that all the Bangladeshis were yet safe. The embassy gets around 80 to 90 phone calls per day from different parts of Iraq, he added.  
"We're keeping in touch with our people with the assistance of Bangladeshis across the country. We have asked everybody to stay safe and not to go outside," said the ambassador.  
Around 4,000 Bangladeshis are employed in a South Korean company in Baghdad, he mentioned, adding that the firm had taken all safety preparations, including closing its production

and moving employees to safer places.  
However, a Bangladeshi employee of the company informed this correspondent through an e-mail that many foreign workers, including Bangladeshis, had already resigned.  
In the light of such a move, the company management decided that it would not allow anyone to go on leave, he added.  
It may be noted that on Saturday the Bangladesh authorities clamped a suspension on the export of manpower to Iraq until a return of normalcy there.

negative experiences in maths classes, it may make learning that much harder." The study included 216 identical twins and 298 same-sex fraternal twins who participated in the Western Reserve Reading and Maths Projects, an ongoing long-term study of twins in Ohio.  
Children entered the project in kindergarten or first grade, and were assessed during a maximum of eight home visits.  
This latest study included data from the last two home visits, when the twins were between about nine and 15 years old.  
All of the twins completed assessments of maths anxiety, general anxiety, maths problem solving and reading comprehension.  
The researchers used statistical tools to see how these various measures of anxiety, maths and reading ability were related between fraternal twins and

## Behind fear of maths

FROM PAGE 16  
genes can cause a greater 'maths anxiety' in children who were already struggling in the subject.  
To examine this theory, researchers examined how twins differ on measures of maths anxiety.  
It provides a revised view on why some children may develop a fear of maths that makes it more difficult for them to solve problems and succeed in school.

But although a genetic predisposition was important, it only accounted for about 40 percent of the problem.  
Much of the rest was explained by the different environments in the school, in the home and in social circles.  
"Genetic factors may exacerbate or reduce the risk of doing poorly at maths," said the study's principal investigator, Prof Stephen Petrill.  
"If you have these genetic risk factors for maths anxiety and then you have

polls in future, said EC officials.  
Voters can know their voter numbers and polling stations through SMS as well.  
The parliamentary constituency fell vacant as its Jatiya Party lawmaker Nasim Osman died on April 30.  
Four candidates, including Nagorik Oikkyo adviser SM Akram, also former

convenor of Narayanjanj district unit Awami League, and Selim Osman of Jatiya Party, are contesting the polls.  
The EC is planning to formulate a uniform electoral code of conduct for candidates of all kinds of elections.  
Currently, separate electoral codes of

## Voters' details to be on website

conduct exist for national elections and other local government polls like upazila, city corporation, municipality and union parishad.  
The plan is in its initial stage. It needs huge discussions and scrutiny before forward steps can be taken, an election commissioner told The Daily Star.

conduct exist for national elections and other local government polls like upazila, city corporation, municipality and union parishad.  
The plan is in its initial stage. It needs huge discussions and scrutiny before forward steps can be taken, an election commissioner told The Daily Star.

conduct exist for national elections and other local government polls like upazila, city corporation, municipality and union parishad.  
The plan is in its initial stage. It needs huge discussions and scrutiny before forward steps can be taken, an election commissioner told The Daily Star.

conduct exist for national elections and other local government polls like upazila, city corporation, municipality and union parishad.  
The plan is in its initial stage. It needs huge discussions and scrutiny before forward steps can be taken, an election commissioner told The Daily Star.

conduct exist for national elections and other local government polls like upazila, city corporation, municipality and union parishad.  
The plan is in its initial stage. It needs huge discussions and scrutiny before forward steps can be taken, an election commissioner told The Daily Star.

conduct exist for national elections and other local government polls like upazila, city corporation, municipality and union parishad.  
The plan is in its initial stage. It needs huge discussions and scrutiny before forward steps can be taken, an election commissioner told The Daily Star.