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OFFER

Rail won't ease Eid rush much

Capacity slightly increased

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

Tens of thousands of people wishing to go home for the Eid holidays by train will have to face the same old difficulties for tickets.

It is the same old reason -- the passenger-carrying capacity of Bangladesh Railway remained unchanged against a steady rise in the demand for rail communications.

Ahead of Eid, around one lakh people will be able to travel on 43 trains -- 29 intercity trains and 14 mail trains -- that operate daily from Dhaka to different districts. Last year, 42 trains were in service.

Railway officials expect some 10,000 to 12,000 people will travel standing inside the coaches and on the roof of trains, mostly without tickets.

The railway authorities will introduce three special intercity trains that will operate on Dhaka-Dewanganj-Dhaka, Dhaka-Parbatipur-Dhaka and Dhaka-Khulna-Dhaka routes on July 26, 27 and 28. They were used last year as well.

However, these special trains will do little good to ease the sufferings of the passengers as they fall considerably short of huge requirement ahead of Eid.

Usually, the authorities put back into service old carriages and even freight wagons to increase the capacity of trains in service during the holiday season, said a railway official seeking anonymity.

Meanwhile, the railway has yet to recover some of the trains it lost during the countrywide violence inflicted by the Jamaat-e-Islami and its student front Islami Chhatra Shibir late last year.

Most of the damaged coaches were repaired and are already being used. But none of the six coaches that were torched in Dhaka and Rajshahi have been repaired.



Age-old trick ... Rundown train carriages are repaired at Kamalapur Rail Station so that they can be put into service ahead of Eid. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Ameerah quits UN

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

UN Under-Secretary-General Ameerah Haq is resigning from her position as head of the Department of Field Support of UN Peacekeeping Mission on health grounds.

Haq who joined the UN in 1976 has held the above position since 2012.

In a statement on Tuesday, UN Secretary



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IMPEACHMENT OF JUDGES JS wants to get the power back

Law ministry drafts proposal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The constitutional provision for the Supreme Judicial Council meant to impeach Supreme Court judges has undermined the power of the Jatiya Sangsad and people, the law ministry has said.

In a draft proposal for restoring parliament's authority to impeach judges, the ministry also slammed the martial law regime of Gen Ziaur Rahman for introduc-

tion of the provision in 1978.

After the bloody changeover of August 15, 1975, martial law was declared and Zia through a martial law proclamation amended the constitution to introduce the judicial council.

In 1979, the constitution's fifth amendment, passed in parliament under Zia's regime, ratified and validated all constitutional changes, including the introduction

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N'GANJ 7 MURDER Rab's Col Zia questioned for 4 hours

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government committee probing the seven-murder in Narayanganj questioned Additional Director General Col Ziaul Ahsan of Rapid Action Battalion for four hours yesterday.

At the secretariat, the committee asked him about the sensational abduction and murder of Narayanganj City Corporation panel mayor Nazrul Islam, his four

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Sick purposely? Medical certificates delay verdict in toxic syrup case

CHAITANYA CHANDRA HALDER and EMRAN HOSSAIN

The defence appeared to have submitted questionable medical certificates to Dhaka Drug Court yesterday and had the date for delivering judgment on toxic paracetamol syrup case deferred.

Judge Abdur Rashid set July 22 for delivering judgment and ordered defence lawyer Aminur Rahman to ensure presence of two accused that day.

Going through the certificates, this newspaper found that the documents had factual errors. Besides, there were inconsistencies in the statements of the defence lawyer and the physicians.

The physician who issued a medical certificate for accused Helena Pasha, director of Adflame Pharmaceutical,

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SHAMIM OSMAN Guilty, initially

More probe into
N'ganj polls sought

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An electoral enquiry committee has found some proof to back up the allegation that Awami League lawmaker Shamim Osman threatened a police officer at the time of Narayanganj-5 by-election on June 26.

Shamim Osman allegedly verbally abused and threatened a police officer, Bashir Uddin, after he had foiled an attempt by Osman

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Blood bags seized from a blood bank running in violation of regulations at Mohakhali in the capital.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Poison bank

Mobile court acts against illegal blood trading

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and
TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

A mobile court yesterday raided a blood bank in the capital's Mohakhali to find it operating in violation of safety standards, endangering thousands of lives, and punished six people including its four owners.

Led by AHM Anwar Pasha, an executive magistrate of the Rapid Action Battalion, it caught red-handed an agent collecting blood from a drug addict there.

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Giant hole at 'end of the world'

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

A mysterious crater has appeared at the "end of the world" in Siberia, leaving a pit 80m wide and so deep it has not yet

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



WE MOURN

Our most beloved father, Abdul Qayyum, passed away at the age of 94 on Sunday, 13th July, 2014 of the Christian calendar, 29th day of Ashar, 1421 of the Bengali calendar and 14th day of Ramadan, 1435 of the Hijri calendar (Innalillahi wa inna ilaihey rajeoon).

Father was the worthy son of a humble farmer, Late Al-Hajj Abdur Rashid hailing from Muhuripara Village under Cox's Bazar Thana. After attending schooling and intermediate studies at the Madrasa in Cox's Bazaar and Chittagong, he continued to further his knowledge by excelling in Arabic, Bengali and English. He then decided to pursue further education in Kolkata earning himself the distinction of being the first Bengali Muslim to ever secure a First Class



First degree in Commerce awarded by the University of Calcutta in 1945.

A proud son of the soil of Cox's Bazar, he held various important positions with the British-Pakistan-Bangladesh organisations and finally retired in 1974 as the Chairman of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC). He was President of the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in 1971. He was a philanthropist and contributed generously to many humanitarian service projects.

In retirement, he spent a lot of time reading and listening to music, both Bangla and classical western. He was passionate about Tagore's poetry and held Kazi Nazrul Islam in equally high esteem. One of his favourite verses from Tagor's Gitanjalee was :

এ অনন্ত চরাচরে সর্গ মর্ত ছেয়ে
সবচেয়ে পুরাতন কথা, সবচেয়ে গভীর ক্রন্দন
"যেতে নাহি দিব"।
হায়, তবু যেতে দিতে হয়, তবু চলে যায়।

It's the oldest cry resounding from earth to heaven
The solemnest lament, "I won't let you go!"
And yet, alas, we have to let go;
And yet, of course, we must go.

Though our beloved father is no more, he has left behind his values and ideals as a source, encouragement and inspiration for us to follow. We, his family members, seek the prayers and blessings of his extended family and relatives, friends and well-wishers. May the Almighty Allah grant him Jannatul Ferdous. Ameen.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Mahbooba, grandchildren, great-grandchildren & Extended Family.

Beloved Children : Mohammad Ali, Iqbal, Sheerin.

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think the government is sincere enough to stop harmful chemical-mixed fruits entering the country?

Yes

No

(15%)
(85%)

TOTAL VOTES: 263

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think setting up formal-testing booths at 236 kitchen markets by Dhaka Metropolitan Police would help stop use of harmful chemical in food items?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT
www.thedailystar.net

MIRPUR CUSTODIAL DEATH Six on the run, one cop remanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detained Sub-Inspector Jahidur Rahman Khan, who is accused of torturing garment waste trader Mahbubur Rahman Sujan to death, is now in the custody of the Detective Branch of police on a five-day remand.

A Dhaka court yesterday placed him and his source Nasim on remand for the same

duration.

Jahid's colleague SI Rakibul Islam of Mirpur Police Station yesterday filed a case against him, Nasim, ASI Rajkumar, constables Anwar and Rashidul and sources Palash, Faissal and Khokon in connection with Sujan's death.

Apart from Jahid and Nasim, all are "on the run", Rakibul

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SEHRI, IFTAR
TIMINGS

Ramadan	July	Sehri	Iftar
19	18		6-52
20	19	3-51	6-51
21	20	3-51	6-51

PRAYER TIMING
July 18

Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	3-55 4-00
Juma	12-30 1-15
Asr	5-00 5-15
Maghrib	6-52 7-02
Esha	8-15 8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation