



2013 HONDA CRZ

The quirky reinterpretation of 80s icon -- the CRX

SEE SHIFT

HISTORY MAKER'S FATE

Tajuddin Ahmed played a vital role but the forces of anti-history struck him down

PAGE 6

INDONESIA ELECTION

The party of Jakarta Governor Joko Widodo claims victory

PAGE 8

JUSTICE DELAYED, NOT DENIED

3 pharmaceutical owner-officials jailed over children's death from toxic syrup more than two decades back

CHAITANYA CHANDRA HALDER,
EMRAN HOSSAIN and TUHIN
SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

In the first-ever instance of conviction for drug adulteration in the country, a court yesterday awarded 10 years' rigorous imprisonment to an owner and two officials of Adflame Pharmaceuticals.

Adflame director Helena Pasha; Mizanur Rahman, manager and her brother, and Nrigendra Nath Bala, production officer, were also fined Tk 2,00,000 each under the Drug (Control) Ordinance, 1982.

Adflame's Paracetamol syrup Flammodol containing toxic chemical diethylene glycol was responsible for the deaths of a number of children between 1982 and 1992.

The case statement brought charges of killing 76 kids.

"The accused have committed a heinous crime against the society, children and humanity as well," said the Dhaka Drug Court's judge, Abdur Rashid, in his verdict.

They deserved the highest punishment, he added. "For that reason, they have been handed down the maximum sentence [under the ordinance]."

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



AT A GLANCE

Children died between 1982 and 1992

Never-ending HC stays prevented the cases coming to trial

One of the four cases reopened in 2009 upon Star inquiry, culminating in the landmark judgment

Two other cases still stuck in HC stays, one company was not even sued

Judge finds drug adulteration a 'crime against society, children, and humanity'



Star's report foiled Happy; yet feel bid to deny justice sentence too soft

Victims' families react

EMRAN HOSSAIN

The country's top state law officer apparently knew nothing about the matter until Sunday, two days before the

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Just 10 years' imprisonment for the guilty seemed inadequate for the families who lost children to

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



Winner one, win for all

Prof Hanif the unsung hero

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Hundreds of children died from renal failure between 1982 and 1992, but the reason for the disease had been unknown until a brave physician revealed that toxic paracetamol was causing the deaths.

Instead of using propylene glycol, five pharmaceutical companies used lethal but cheap diethylene glycol in producing paracetamol syrup, kidney specialist Prof Mohammad Hanif had said in 1992.

The pediatrician, who since 1982 had seen children die, arranged a test of Adflame's Flammodol at a US laboratory. The sample tested positive for diethylene glycol, leading to prosecution of four out of the five companies. The other firm, City Chemical, was never prosecuted allegedly for its warm relations with the then BNP government.

Over the course of two decades, Rex Pharma secured an acquittal in 2003. Cases against Polychem and BCI Bangladesh have been stayed since 1994.

The trial in the Adflame case resumed in

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Prof Hanif



PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Helena Pasha, top, and Mizanur Rahman being taken to jail after their conviction yesterday.



Relatives of Hasan Baker, a 60-years-old Palestinian, grieve during his funeral in Gaza City yesterday. A series of Israeli air strikes earlier killed seven people in Gaza, including five members of the same family.

PHOTO: AFP

Truce calls fall on deaf ears

Death toll his 620; 1 lakh displaced

AGENCIES

Israel pounded targets across the Gaza Strip and Hamas continued its rocket fires yesterday as top US and United Nations diplomats pursued talks on halting the fighting that has claimed more than 600 lives.

UN chief Ban Ki-moon yesterday demanded that Israel and Hamas halt the spiralling violence as he led diplomatic efforts to end bloodshed that has killed 620 Palestinians.

Following top-level truce talks in Cairo, the UN secretary-general headed to Israel to deliver his message in person as the 15-day conflict showed no sign of easing.

"My message to Israelis and Palestinians is the same: Stop fighting, start talking and take on the root causes of the conflict so that we are not at the same situation in the next six months or a year," he said.

SEE PAGE 8 COL 6

Yunus calls for Gaza ceasefire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dr Muhammad Yunus and several other Nobel Peace laureates in a statement have called upon the international community to help secure an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

"As Nobel peace laureates, we join others worldwide who are calling on the international community to secure an immediate ceasefire to prevent any further deaths among Israelis and Palestinians," read the statement dated July 18.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



UK to work with Bangladesh

Hasina meets Cameron in London



PHOTO: AFP

British premier David Cameron greets PM Sheikh Hasina outside 10 Downing Street in London yesterday.

UNB, London

Voicing his government's firm confidence in the present Awami League government, British Prime Minister David Cameron yesterday said they would work together with Bangladesh for ensuring its socio-economic development.

RELATED STORY ON PAGE 8

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

WATER IS PRECIOUS WATER IS LIFE

The team of

GREEN PROJECT W.S.T.® LIMITED

UNFCCC registered CDM project PoA 9940



GRAMEEN KNITWEAR LTD.

UNFCCC registered CDM project CPA 9940-0001

Proudly announce the first textile technology project in the world under the title of:

"ENERGY AND WATER SAVING PROMOTION PROGRAMME FOR TEXTILE DYEING PROCESS OF BANGLADESH TEXTILE AND GARMENT INDUSTRIES" registered on 15th July, 2014.

Firstly, we express our thankful regards to our partners

-PEAR Carbon Offset Initiative, Ltd. Japan and supported by Japanese Environmental Ministry

-Japan Quality Assurance Organization

Moreover, we are grateful to the following bodies for their utmost support in the project

-National CDM Committee of Bangladesh

-Ministry of Environment of Bangladesh

-BGMEA, Special thanks to former President of BGMEA Mr. Shafiul Islam (Mohiuddin) & former Vice President of BGMEA Mr. Faruque Hassan

Furthermore, we are indebted to the dyes and chemical manufacturers and suppliers those who are continuously developing the dyeing industry through their innovative products.

BEZEMA, CHT, Clariant, Dyster, Huntsman.

Finally, we are extremely thankful to the 'Honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh' for the national approval of this project on 9th March, 2014.

We urge all dyeing houses in Bangladesh not just to conserve water and energy as an option, but to make it a mandatory feature in the dyeing process.

https://cdm.unfccc.int/ProgrammeOfActivities/poa_db/QJNMFBRX2GAUEILHCTK950PQWSV3Z6/view

