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Long-term Gaza truce takes hold

AFP, Gaza City

Celebrations erupted in Gaza yesterday as a long-term ceasefire agreed by Israel and the Palestinians went into effect, ending 50 days of the deadliest violence in a decade.

The agreement, which came into effect at 1600 GMT, involves an immediate halt to the violence in Gaza, which began on July 8 and has claimed the lives of 2,143 Palestinians and 69 on the Israeli side.

The number includes an Israeli who was killed by a mortar round in the last hour before the fighting stopped.

The Palestinians said it was a "permanent" truce, while a senior Israeli official described it as "unconditional and unlimited in time."

The United States gave full backing to the truce announcement.

"We strongly support the cease fire announcement," State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said, promising a statement from Secretary of State John Kerry later in the day.

As the ceasefire took hold, thousands of Palestinians flooded on to the streets of Gaza City, some firing joyfully into the air, among them gunmen from Hamas, AFP correspondents said.

Mosques used their loudspeakers to broadcast

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



This lane on Panthapath which leads vehicles to Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue has been in this sorry state for months as it was dug up for repairs underneath and not mended properly. The photo was taken near Bashundhara City shopping centre.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

Panthapath battered with potholes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The sides of the main road from Russell Square to Sonargaon intersection resemble the shores of a river -- rugged, muddy, and at some points sandy, and filled with dirty puddles.

It seems the sides of the roads have never been repaired and are only meant for parking.

A huge roadside hole filled with garbage at the turn from Sukrabad onto Panthapath lies as a warning sign that the journey ahead would not be smooth with numerous potholes on both sides of the road.

The condition of Panthapath turns worse if one uses the left lane past Bashundhara City to get onto Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. The entire lane lacks carpeting and commuters experience nothing less than a rollercoaster ride there.

Dangerous plan to spread yaba

RAFIUL ISLAM

Just days before his arrest on Sunday, Abdullah Jubayer had set up a makeshift factory in Chittagong to make a small quantity of yaba tablets on a test basis. The test mission successful, he was then all set to produce the contraband pill in the capital to ensure its uninterrupted flow in the local market.

Detectives, who interrogated Jubayer yesterday, the first day of his seven-day remand, said the 28-year-old hired some Myanmar nationals who have expertise in making the drug.

They were supposed to come to the capital to train the local gang members after the



Abdullah Jubayer

factory had been set up.

The idea was to reduce the risk of smuggling the tablet from Myanmar and maximise profit by locally producing it, said the detectives.

The plan failed, however, on Sunday as police arrested Jubayer and his three accomplices and seized tools of a yaba-making machine and 55,000 pieces of the tablet in the capital's Khilgaon area.

According to the detectives, Jubayer was born in Myanmar to a Bangladeshi couple who are originally from Chittagong's Banskhali but settled there decades ago. They later returned to Chittagong.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Nazrul -- in waves and ripples

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

The Rebel Poet, he who wrote of love and sang of human endurance, passed into the ages today 38 years ago. There was

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



KATH MAYUR IN KAPTAL

The photo of a rare Grey Peacock Pheasant in Kaptal National Park of Rangamati. Locally known as "Kath Mayur", it is one of the rarest and most beautiful birds of Bangladesh. There had only been one recent sighting of the species in the same area a few years ago. A motion-triggered camera-trap of wildlife researchers of Jahangirnagar University, led by Prof Monirul Khan, captured the photo this month.

PHOTO: PROF MONIRUL KHAN

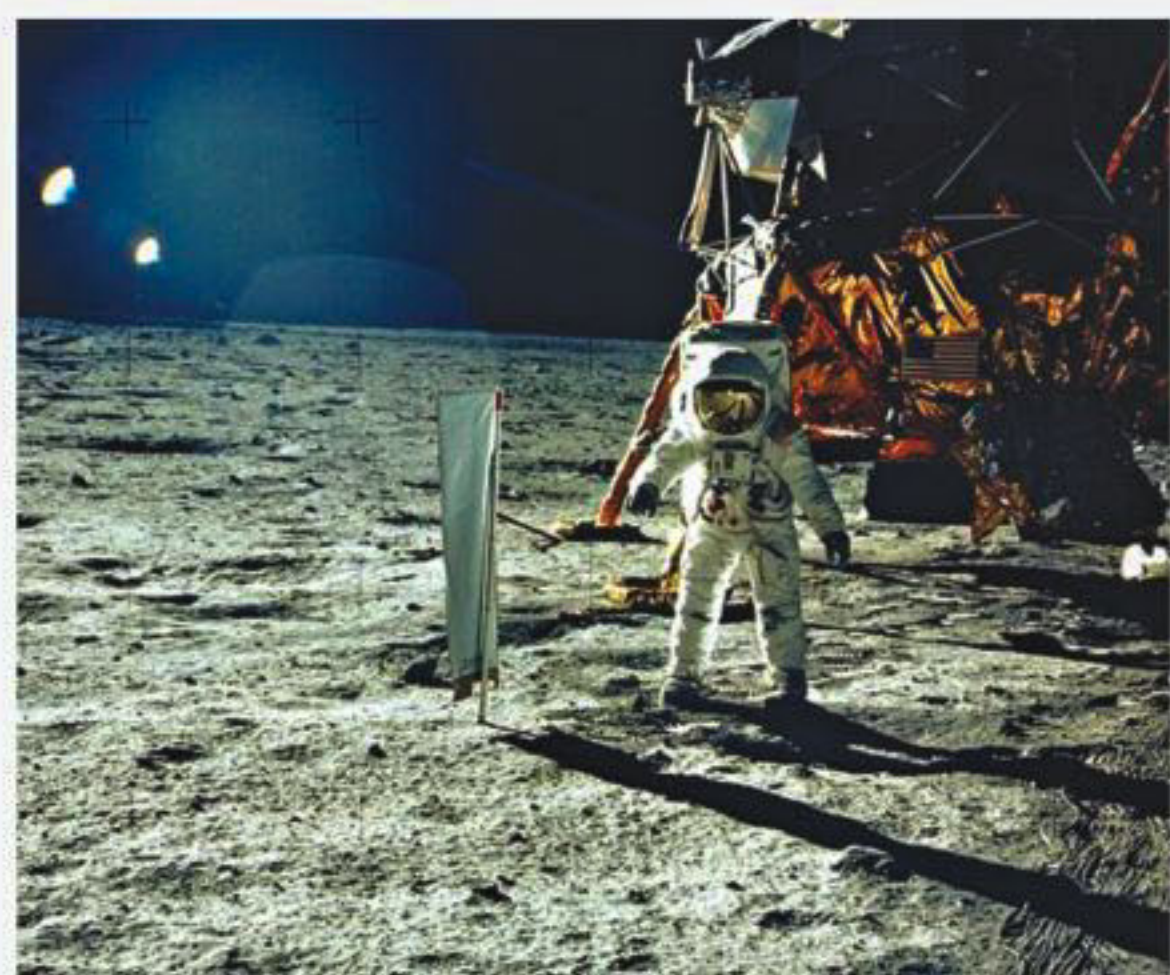
Moon smells!

Apollo astronauts describe lunar aroma
SPACE.COM

The moon has a distinctive smell. Ask any Apollo moonwalker about the odiferous nature of the lunar dirt and you'll get the same answer.

With Nasa's six Apollo lunar landing missions between 1969

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



Tofail calls Tarique 'black sheep'

STAR REPORT

Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed yesterday came down hard on BNP Senior Vice-chairman Tarique Rahman, calling him "black sheep" for his recent comments on the Awami League and the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. "No one in Bangladesh will believe that the Awami League is a party of black sheep. Only a black sheep

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Tk 1CR LOAN SCAM 6 Oriental Bank officials jailed

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Six officials of now defunct Oriental Bank Ltd were sentenced in absentia to seven years' imprisonment for embezzling Tk 1 crore in the name of loan disbursement.

Bakkar Hossain, who took the credit in connivance with the bank officials, was also jailed for 10 years.

Judge Aminul Islam of Special Judge's Court-4 in Dhaka fined the seven convicts Tk 1 crore each as well.

The punishment of the fugitives will come in effect from the day of their arrest or surrender, the judge said.

The convicted Oriental Bank officials are Shah Mohammad Harun, senior vice president; Abul Kashem Mohammad Ullah, senior assistant vice president; Fazlur

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Inqilab news editor in jail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday rejected a bail petition of Rabiulla Rabi, news editor of Bangla daily Inqilab, and sent him to jail in connection with a case filed for running a report on the daily's online version.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

PRAYER TIMING August 27		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fazr	4-30	5-05
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-33	6-36
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি



সংশ্লিষ্ট সবার অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, আনন্দ শিপইয়ার্ড অ্যান্ড স্লিপওয়েজ লিমিটেডের সাবেক উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক (ভোট অ্যান্ড কাস্টমস) মো: আনোয়ার হোসেনকে কোম্পানি বিরোধী কাজের জন্য মামলার প্রেক্ষিতে গত ৪ আগস্ট ২০১৪ তারিখে পল্টন মডেল থানা পুলিশ গ্রেফতার করে আদালতকে প্রেরণ করে। আদালত জামিন নামঞ্জুর করে তাকে জেল হাজতে প্রেরণের নির্দেশ দেন। দীর্ঘদিন ধরে কোম্পানি বিরোধী কর্মকাণ্ডে লিপ্ত থাকায় তাকে চাকুরি থেকে বরখাস্তের পাশাপাশি তার বিরুদ্ধে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হয়।

এমতাবস্থায় কোম্পানি সংশ্লিষ্ট সবাইকে তার ব্যাপারে সতর্ক থাকার অনুরোধ করা হলো। এমনকি আনোয়ার হোসেন এবং তার পরিবারের সঙ্গে আনন্দ শিপইয়ার্ড সংশ্লিষ্ট কারোর ব্যবসায়িক সম্পর্ক স্থাপন এবং সব ধরনের লেনদেন থেকে বিরত থাকার অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। অন্যথায় তার দায়ভার কোম্পানি কর্তৃপক্ষ বহণ করবে না।

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ফোন: ৯৩৫২০৩১-৩, ৯৩৩০৬০৯, ৯৩৩১৫১০ ফ্যাক্স: ৮৮০০-২-৮৩১২৬৮১

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with TIB that the government should seek public opinion and views from experts before amending the constitution to restore the parliament's authority to impeach SC judges?

Yes (84%)
No (16%)

TOTAL VOTES: 189

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia that the government is restoring parliament's authority to impeach Supreme Court judges with an intention to conceal its misdeeds?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT
www.thedailystar.net