HSC exams begin today Hartal tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The HSC and equivalent examinations begin this morning amid fears that SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



PRAYER TIMING

APRIL 1

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-40 12-45 4-45 6-21 7-45

electromartitd

Electro Mart Limited

JAMAAT 5-15 1-15 5-00 6-24 8-15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

More electricity from India

Projects for import get go-ahead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is going to import 600 megawatt more power from India to meet the country's demand for electricity.

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecnec) yesterday approved two projects that would cost Tk 1,600 crore for setting up gridlines for importing the electricity.

Of the power to be imported, 500 MW would come from Bahrampur in Indian state of West Bengal.

For this purpose, the Ecnec has also okayed a Tk 1,405crore project for increasing interconnection between Bheramara in Bangladesh and Bahrampur.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

ASK REPORT JAN-MAR 64 killed in 'crossfire', custody

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As many as 64 people were killed in custody of law enforcers and so-called crossfire in the first three months of the year, said rights organisation Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK).

Of them, 46 people were

killed in so-called crossfire
-- 15 by Rapid Action
Battalion (Rab), 24 by
police and seven by other
law enforcement agencies.

The number of people SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

Big boost for IT sector

Bangladesh to hook up with second submarine cable next year

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

A joint venture of two companies from France and Japan will construct the second submarine cable station in Kuakata of Patuakhali, which will serve as an alternative to the existing submarine

cable and ensure uninterrupted and secure ICT services.

Apart from increasing the country's internet bandwidth, the second submarine cable, known as SEA-ME-WE-5, will help the

ing restorable circuits to the clients.

French company Alcatel Lucent and Japanese NEC have been selected for setting

country earn additional revenue by provid-

up the landing station and doing other associated works.

The Post and Telecommunication
Division recently submitted a proposal to the cabinet committee on economic

affairs, seeking approval of the project to connect the nation to a second submarine cable. The proposal is likely to be placed in today's meeting.

The installation of the second cable station will be completed by 2016 and then the SEA-ME-WE-5 would start its commercial activity, said the telecom division.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



Do you agree with some experts that excessive use of chemicals and pesticides in farming and gardens is the result of poor campaigning and monitoring by the authorities?

TOTAL VOTES: 77
TODAY'S POLL
Do think it would be

justified for the government to impose one percent surcharge on the use of mobile phone?

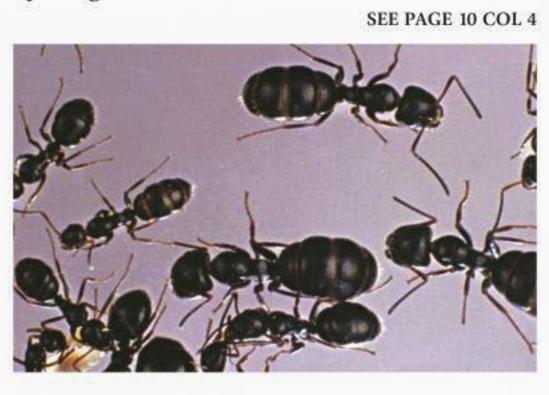
PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net



Ants grapple well with zero-gravity

BBC ONLINE

Ants carried to the International Space Station were still able to use teamwork to search new areas, despite falling off the walls of their containers for up to eight seconds at a time.







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