



The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

www.thedailystar.net

Your Right to Know

20 PAGES PRICE : Tk 12.00



REGD. NO. DA 781 | VOL. XXV No. 163 | ASHAR 14, 1422 BS | RAMADAN 10, 1436 HIJRI

THE DEFAULTS

State banks continue to top the chart; BASIC has the highest bad loan ratio
PAGE B1

'THE AMAZING GRACE'

Obama delivers thoughtful meditation on race at Charleston pastor's funeral
PAGE 8

FOR 'WE, THE PEOPLES'

Ban Ki-moon hopes the human family will come together to work for a safer future
PAGE 7



A mother and son look out their door in Jatrabari in the capital with over knee-high rainwater surrounding their home yesterday. Rain over the last few days, compounded by poor drainage system, has inundated their neighbourhood. Not relying on Wasa, they have prepared themselves for the rainy season by building a small wall at the door to keep the water out. But that too may not be enough.
PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Down in downpour

Dhaka dwellers date with nasty traffic, waterlogging; rain-triggered incidents claim 23 lives in Cox's Bazar, Bandarban so far

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Life in the capital and elsewhere in the country was in an utter shambles yesterday due to incessant rain for the last four days.

Thirteen more deaths in rain-induced incidents were reported in Cox's Bazar yesterday, raising the toll to 21 in the coastal district in the past couple of days. Two others were killed in Bandarban on Thursday.

Flash floods inundated more areas, leaving several thousand people marooned in Narayanganj and Chandpur.

In the capital, waterlogging and

traffic chaos caused untold miseries to city dwellers.

The met department forecast that rain was likely to continue today raises fears of a worse situation on the first weekday.

Almost all the roads, alleys and thoroughfares in Dhaka remained under rainwater for most of yesterday, largely due to inadequate and dysfunctional storm sewer system.

Filth and human waste coming out of the sewers added to the sufferings of the city people.

"My daughter and I got smeared with filth on our way back home from her school," said Afroza Shipon of

Mohakhali area.

"Is there any authority at all to take care of waterlogging?" she said in exasperation.

Hosne Ara Begum of Shantinagar area was frustrated over the city corporation authorities' failure to address waterlogging, though recurrent and persistent in her area.

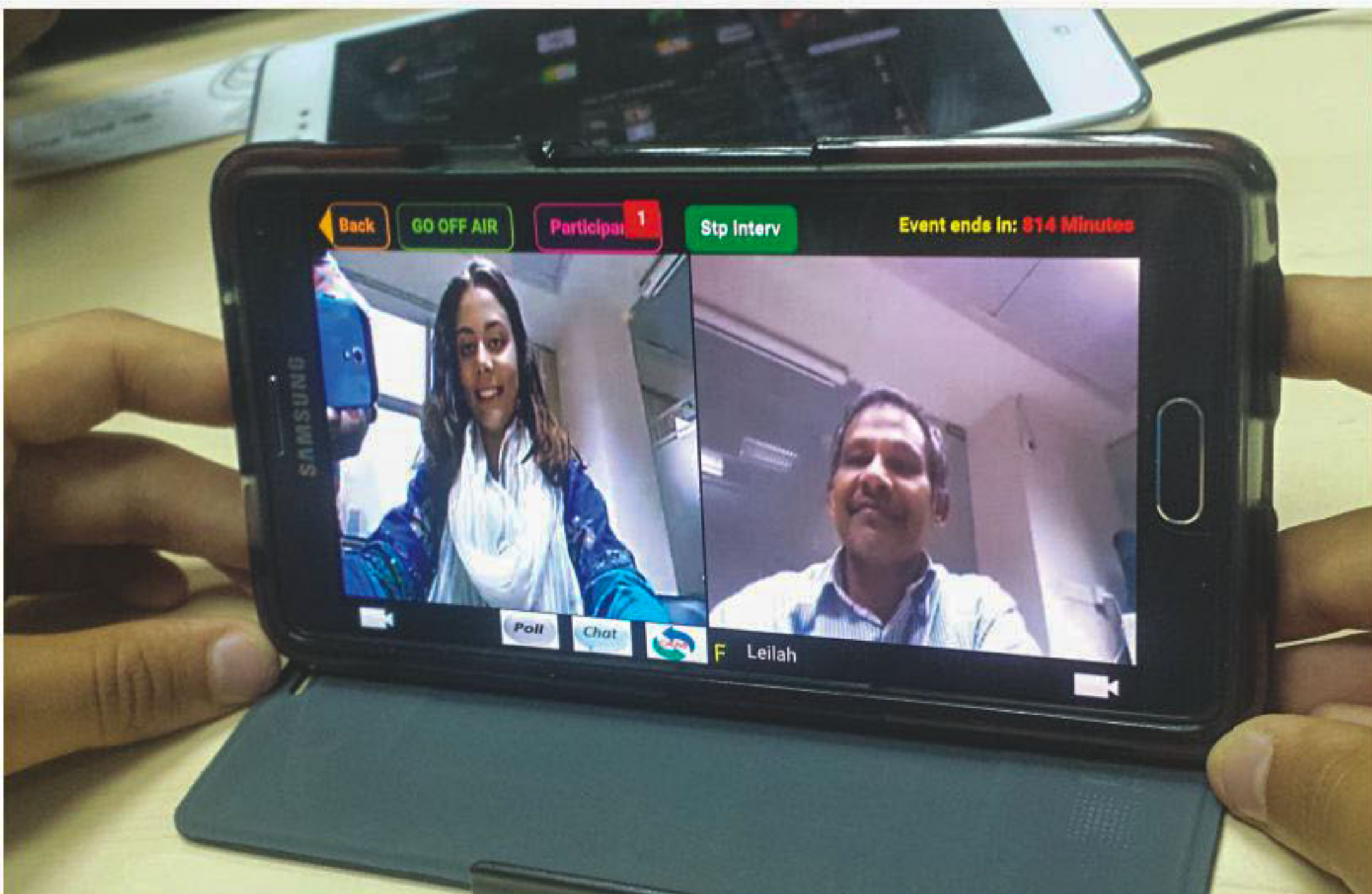
"With any amount of rain, the roads in the area get inundated. Traffic movement collapses and the residents suffer a lot," she said.

A similar situation was seen in Mirpur, Kalyanpur, Shewrapara, Mohammadpur, Shahjahanpur,
MORE ON PAGE 16 SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

MG!

"Khaleda Zia, the queen of arson, won't get any chance to contest the 2019 elections."

INFORMATION MINISTER
HASANUL HAQ INU
DURING THE BUDGET DISCUSSIONS
IN PARLIAMENT YESTERDAY



Shah Talukder having a mobile live broadcast session with his daughter Leilah Talukder. Shah showcased his broadcasting app YakSee at The Daily Star Centre yesterday.
PHOTO: STAR

Away yet not away

Bangladeshi techie launches mobile platform to revolutionise interactive live broadcasting

SHAMIM ASHRAF

Bangladeshi-American engineer Shah Talukder had definite reasons to feel proud when his daughter launched a language coaching programme for poor students back in his motherland four years ago. And he had reasons to be frustrated too when Leilah, in the US, had trouble communicating with her students in Bangladesh due to hartals, weather, or traffic jams.

Shah, who excelled in innovating new businesses for a number of key American tech compa-

nies, had his own Silicon Valley way to solve this. And in the process, he created a unique fully interactive live broadcasting platform, YakSee.

Leilah and her volunteer schoolmates at Los Gatos High School in California now do not need the students to travel to their class where they have an internet-enabled computer, or worry about political shutdowns or inclement weather preventing students from going to class in Bangladesh.

"Now this is going to bring anyone from anywhere into a global interactive broadcast session
SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

NEWS ANALYSIS

Disaster tackling disastrous

SHARIEF KHAN

How does Bangladesh handle a disaster like an oil spill? Why use utensils?

This is not a joke but the reality as we have found in two instances of major oil spills -- one in December in the Sundarbans and the other in Boalkhal in Chittagong this month. In both cases, our national strategy was to scoop out the oil using utensils. We do not need any other equipment or expertise. We deploy villag-



ers and ordinary workers to carry out such task.

In the first instance, on December 9, an oil tanker carrying 3.58 lakh litres of furnace oil sank in the world's largest mangrove forest, after being hit by a cargo vessel. Most of the oil spread beyond 70km stretch of the Shela and Pashur rivers.

The forest department deployed a few hundred boats for the clean-up. Workers collected around 70,000 litres of the oil using fishing nets, sponges and utensils.
SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

SWIPE & SAVE

15% MORE

Use your Visa Debit / Credit Card to pay and avail a 15%* discount on your bill.

MAINLAND CHINA Mainland China	Luam's THAI FAST FOOD Luam's
Village Village	Cilantro Latin Mediterranean Cilantro
Khana Khazana The Authentic Indian Restaurant Khana Khazana	Coentro Latin Mediterranean Coentro
sigree Sigree	SALT fine seafood! Saltz
VENI VIDI VICI Veni Vidi Vici	Emma / uelle's Emmanuelle's Restaurant
The Mughal Kitchen The Mughal Kitchen	KIVA HAN Coffee Boutique Kiva Han
The Mirage A Taste of Multi Cuisine The Mirage	Za'atar Za'atar
Mélange Mélange	The Farmers' Market The Farmers' Market
Spitfire BARBECUE AND GRILL Spitfire	Korai Gost Korai Gost
The Chennai Express The Chennai Express	

For more details on the exciting offers visit www.bd.visa.com



VISA everywhere you want to be

*Conditions Apply.