



INFLATION GOES UP

The rate rises to 6.36pc in July due to non-food price increase

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NEW HENDRIX DOCU

The 1970 Atlanta Pop Festival is to be the subject this time

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PROTEST FOR RUBEN

Mexico outraged over journalist Ruben Espinosa's murder

PAGE 8

Yet another savagery

Boy 'pumped' to death for quitting workshop job



Rakib

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It's a murder most horrid.

Thirteen-year-old Rakib's only "fault" was that he left his old garage job and joined elsewhere. And for this, he had to die a cruel death allegedly at the hands of his former employer.

Garage owner Md Sharif and his uncle Mintu Khan stripped naked the boy, inserted a high-pressure air pump nozzle into his rectum and filled the body with air.

Rakib's intestines tore apart and lungs burst as air filled the abdomen, police said, quoting doctors.

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Suspension not enough

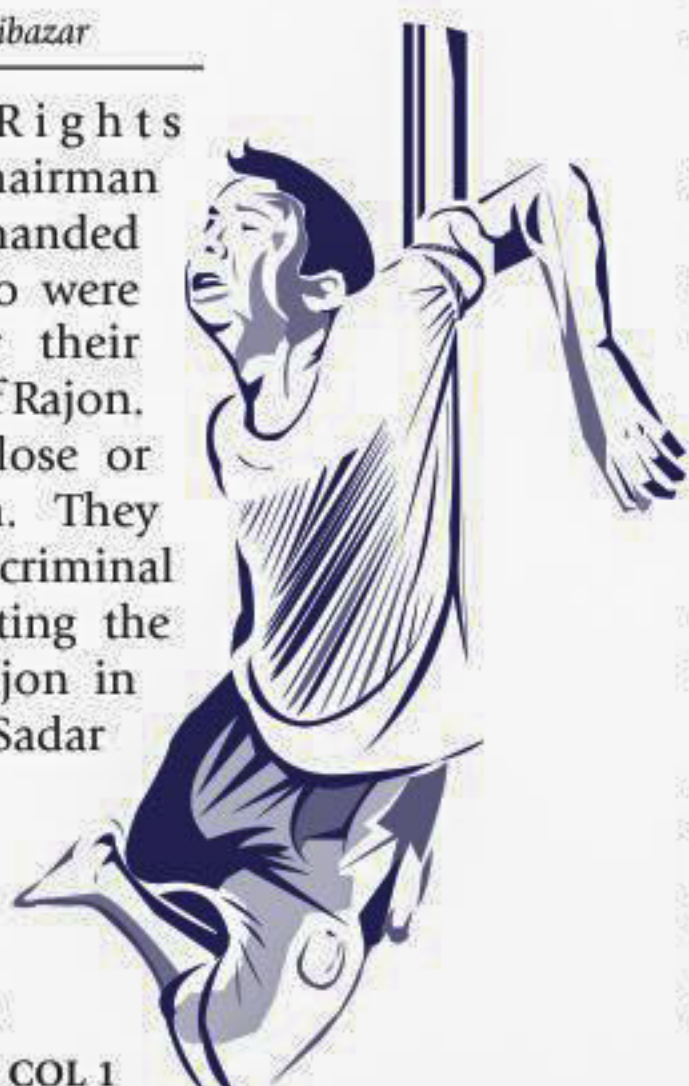
Rights boss demands trial of errant cops over Rajon killing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairman Mizanur Rahman has demanded trial of the policemen who were closed or suspended for their negligence over the killing of Rajon. "It is not enough to close or suspend these policemen. They must be brought to trial in criminal court," he said while visiting the family of Samiul Alam Rajon in Bhadeali village of Sylhet Sadar upazila yesterday.

On July 8, the thirteen-year-old died of brain haemorrhage after being tortured by a group of brutes

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Boy's body found in travel bag

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The body of a minor boy was found in an abandoned travel bag in front of Dhaka Medical College in the early hours yesterday.

The boy, aged around eight to nine years, was beaten to death, said sources at the DMC morgue after an autopsy there.

There were numerous injury marks on the body, the sources added.

Locals found the abandoned black suitcase and reported it to police.

Being informed, Shahbagh police recovered the bag around 1:20am in front of the Nursing Institute at the DMC and sent it to the morgue for an

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Traffic chaos at the Shahidullah Hall intersection near Chankharpool in the capital yesterday afternoon after processions crossed the area to join a discussion at Suhrawardy Udyan. Dhaka South City Corporation organised the programme to mark the 40th death anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

New zinc-rice arrives

This second variety more productive, to be cultivated next year

REAZ AHMAD

Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) has developed a second breed of zinc-rich rice which grows faster, gives better yield and is of better nutritional values than its predecessor.

Named BRRI dhan72, the second high-zinc Aman variety was developed two years into the release of the world's first biologically fortified (biofortified) high-yielding variety zinc rice -- BRRI dhan62 -- in August 2013.

The National Seed Board released



the new rice breed on July 12 and the seeds will be made available to farmers for cultivation in the Aman season

(June-November) next year.

BRRI dhan72 has a yield of 5.7 tonnes per hectare against 4.5 tonnes of BRRI dhan62. The latest breed is also nutritionally richer with 22.8 milligram zinc content a kilogramme, over 3mg higher than what BRRI dhan62 contains.

Biofortification is the process of breeding crops to increase their nutritional values. This can be done either through conventional selective breeding or through genetic engineering.

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Issuance of Umrah visa to resume

Saudi assurance for Bangladeshis

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Saudi Arabia will resume issuing Umrah visas to Bangladeshis pilgrims after the upcoming Hajj season.

Nizar bin Obaid Madani, state minister for foreign affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, assured his Bangladeshi counterpart Shahriar Alam of it during a

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A vegetable trader waits for customers at Karwanbazar kitchen market yesterday. Prices of vegetables have shot up at the capital's kitchen markets over the last few days. Traders blame it on supply dearth due to downpours and flooding in some districts.

PHOTO: STAR

Veg prices spike on 'poor supply'

Traders say rain, floods to blame

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Vegetable prices have shot up in the capital's kitchen markets due to a fall in supply as many of the major vegetable growing regions lost crops for heavy rainfall over the last two weeks, claim traders and agriculture officials.

In some city markets, the price of green chilli soared to Tk 100 a kg yesterday from Tk 70 a week ago, while brinjal prices went up to Tk

70 from Tk 50 per kg.

Prices of leafy vegetables also rose.

"It has happened mainly because of fall in supply. Heavy downpour has affected vegetable production in many areas," said Kawsar Hamid, a vegetable retailer at Karwan Bazar.

Yesterday, he sold snake gourd for Tk 70 a kg, compared to Tk 60 a day back.

Anis Mia, a vegetable retailer at

Tejturi Bazar, said the prices of most vegetables went up by Tk 10-15 a kg in the last one week.

Triggered by Cyclone Komen, torrential rains flooded crop fields in 30 districts in the country's southeast and southwest parts.

Around 20 percent of 87,815 hectares of vegetable fields in these districts were damaged by waterlogging and flash floods, according to the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE).

Crops in two major vegetable growing districts -- Jessore and Jhenidah -- were damaged heavily due to heavy rains.

Vegetable fields in other districts, including Comilla, Narsingdi, Meherpur and Kushtia, were also affected, said DAE Director General Md Hamidur Rahman.

Heavy rainfall took its toll on the production of green chilli, snake

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Govt to relocate secretariat to trade fair site

Purbachal new fair venue

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government plans to shift the secretariat to the current location of International Trade Fair at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar.

The fair venue will be relocated to a permanent exhibition centre at Purbachal.

Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal told reporters after an Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecne) meeting yesterday the secretariat would be relocated to the vacant land of the trade fair venue.

The public works and housing ministry has already sent a Tk 2,300-crore project proposal to the Planning Commission to that end. The draft proposal has been discussed several times at the pre-Ecne meeting.

A planning ministry high official said several concerns were discussed at the meetings.

One of the major concerns is if the new structure might damage the aesthetic appeal of the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, designed by world famous architect Louis I Kahn. Another concern is related to the security of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Gono Bhaban, the official residence of the premier.

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TOP!
QUOTE

"Growing incidents of child abuse and killing are a matter of concern. It's a sheer human rights violation. . . . It should be investigated if these incidents are taking place due to negligence of the police administration or other

NHRC CHAIRMAN
PROF MIZANUR RAHMAN,
WHILE VISITING SAMIUL ALAM RAJON'S FAMILY IN SYLHET YESTERDAY

Trafficking victim back home dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The body of Abdur Rashid, a trafficking victim, was brought home yesterday.

Rashid died in a Malaysian detention centre on June 5.

Rashid, 45, hailed from Narsingdi's Velanagar. His body was taken to his village where he was buried after Asr prayers yesterday.

Rashid's brother Abul Kashem alleged that Rashid

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US watered down trafficking report

Allege rights activists

REUTERS, Washington

In the weeks leading up to a critical annual US report on human trafficking that publicly shames the world's worst offenders, human rights experts at the State Department concluded that trafficking conditions hadn't improved in Malaysia and Cuba. And in China, they found, things had grown worse.

The State Department's senior political staff saw it differently -- and they prevailed.

A Reuters examination, based on interviews with more than a dozen sources in Washington and foreign capitals,

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