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The 14th Dalai Lama says he could be the last but Tibetan Buddhism will carry on
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World's first 'Golden Rice' ready for trial

Production of the vitamin A enriched rice to start soon

REAZ AHMAD

Bangladeshi rice scientists are all set to conduct field tests of the world's first vitamin A-enriched rice, popularly known as Golden Rice, before taking the variety to production phase.

The success in vitamin A-rich rice comes in quick succession of the world's first three zinc-rich rice varieties that Bangladesh released over the last couple of years.

Upon completing a successful trial of the genetically engineered Golden Rice in its transgenic screen house, Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) is now taking the variety -- GR-2 E BRRI dhan29 -- to confined field trials in the coming Boro season this November.

BRRI officials told The Daily Star that open-field and



Regular rice next to Golden Rice. The golden one has beta carotene, a source of vitamin A. PHOTO: COURTESY OF IIRI



CATCHING UP WITH GREEN POWER

Use of solar panels to generate electricity has become quite popular among the Bedes, a gypsy community, as it does not require them any additional fuel cost. In the photos taken recently, a solar cell leans against a support in front of the arced hovel of a Bede family in Mawa and inset, a solar cell is attached to a pole amid a cluster of Bede tents along the Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Sonargaon.



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

An alarming breach of security at Dhaka airport

Woman gets on plane without boarding pass

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The US-Bangla Dash-8 was taxiing towards the runway at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport for its domestic flight to Chittagong when the cabin crew discovered something odd. The plane has 72 seats and there had been 71 boarding cards issued, yet all the seats were occupied.

Minutes before the take off, around 8:00pm on Tuesday, the aircraft halted on the tarmac and they asked all the passengers to hold their boarding cards up high.

All but one complied.

Samia Islam, a 22-year-old student of computer science of East West University, claimed to have lost her boarding pass.

The discovery baffled the cabin crew and passengers of flight BS-109. How could she manage to get on board without a boarding pass?

Samia managed to dodge all the formalities at the domestic terminal of the airport, when each of the other passengers, including Pulak Kanti Barua, had their boarding passes checked four times before they could

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Foreign missions still on high alert

Spain, Japan cancel programmes

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Despite the recent safety and security measures for foreigners in Bangladesh, countries like the UK, Australia, and Canada are still advising their citizens to maintain "high degree of caution" in their travel alerts.

Several foreign missions in Dhaka, including the embassies of Japan and Spain, have even cancelled their scheduled programmes "due to unavoidable situation".

The Bangladesh ministries of home and foreign affairs at a joint briefing on Tuesday elaborated the steps for the security of diplomats and other foreigners working in remote areas across the country.

Nearly 2,24,000 foreigners are in Bangladesh.

"Unfortunately, the Embassy of Japan has decided to postpone the Study in Japan seminar in Mymensingh, due to unavoidable situation. We will announce again when the seminar is rescheduled," according to an announcement of the embassy yesterday.

The seminar was scheduled for October 19.

The Spanish embassy cancelled its National Day reception scheduled for this evening at Hotel La Meridian.

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali was supposed to attend the reception as chief guest. But the embassy in a note verbale informed the foreign ministry about the cancellation, embassy sources said.

The Australian, British and Canadian high commissions in their updated alerts have asked their citizens to exercise "a high degree of caution" in Bangladesh.

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15 IS suspects held in 1 year

Claimed police in press briefings, statements after the arrests

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Since September last year, about 15 suspects have been arrested for "having or trying to establish contacts" with Islamic State (IS), according to police press releases and briefings at different times.

On September 18 last year, cops arrested seven members of banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) for "establishing contacts" with IS.

A police press release said the arrested were Abdullah Al Tasnim, Nayeem Ali, Sikandar Ali, Mahmud Ibn Bashar, Masum Billah, Fuad Hasan and Ali Ahmed.

Just a week later, police arrested Asif Adnan, 26, and Fazle Elahi Tanzil, 24, two suspected members of militant organisation Ansarullah Bangla Team. They were allegedly planning to go to Syria through Turkey with the help of a UK citizen of Bangladeshi origin.

According to police, the UK citizen, Samiun Rahman alias Ibn Hamdan, was

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এই প্রাপ্তি সবার, এ অর্জন দেশের

Train delayed for 4 hours as driver sleeps

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

What happens when a train driver is fatigued, having worked late into the night, and has a train to drive in the morning?

He snores away in his quarter while passengers wait in their compartments wondering when his sleep will be over.

It may sound strange but this is what happened yesterday when the driver of an intercity train, his assistant and the guard fell asleep when the train was supposed to start off from a Sylhet station at

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None can destabilise country thru' killings

Says prime minister

UNB, Dhaka

Claiming that a vested quarter was behind the recent planned killing of two foreigners, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said no one will be able to destabilise the country by carrying out such activities.

"Bangladesh has consolidated its position on the international stage in such a way that no one will be able to destabilise the country with such incidents," she told a function at the Defence Services Command and Staff College.

The programme was organised to mark the inauguration of the newly-built Sheikh Hasina Complex, an academic building of the college, at Mirpur Cantonment.

The PM urged all, including the members of the Armed Forces, to remain alert so that no one could hold up the pace of country's development.

Referring to the killings of foreign nationals, an Italian in Dhaka and a Japanese citizen in Rangpur, Hasina said the



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Sepp Blatter 'provisionally suspended' for 90 days

CNN.COM

The bad news just keeps coming for Sepp Blatter after FIFA provisionally suspended the president of football's world governing body.

Already facing an investigation by Swiss authorities over allegations that he signed an "unfavourable" contract and made a "disloyal payment" to UEFA president Michel Platini, Blatter faces a 90-day suspension.

"They have not taken any decisions against him. But they have decided to wait on major decisions to

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“সবই জনগণের প্রাপ্য। এটা জাতির সম্মান, মানুষের সম্মান।”

- মানবীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী, গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

মানবীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রীর সাথে আমরাও বিশ্বাস করি দেশের সব মানুষ একতাবদ্ধ থাকলে যেকোনো অর্জন সম্ভব।

জাতিসংঘের পরিবেশ বিষয়ক সর্বোচ্চ পুরস্কার 'চ্যাম্পিয়ন অব দ্যা আর্থ, ২০১৫' অর্জন করায় মানবীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রীরকে ইউনাইটেড কমার্শিয়াল ব্যাংক লিমিটেড -এর পক্ষ থেকে উচ্চ অভিনন্দন।

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