



WEAVERS A Babui (Baya Weaver) is

to take off while another rests inside a nest on a tree in Cox's Bazar's Kutubdia recently.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON



Muhith defends uniform VAT

15pc for all services likely from next fiscal year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Consumers might be slapped with a uniform 15 percent value added tax from next fiscal year as Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday reiterated his determination to go ahead with his planned fiscal measure.

"We don't have any objection to differential VAT rates. My preference is to keep 15 percent VAT in the new VAT law [a bill pending with parliament] unchanged for some days," he said while speaking at a meeting with the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) at the Sonargaon Hotel in the capital.

At present, consumers pay different rates for different SEE PAGE 17 COL 2

SUNDARBANS FIRE 'Special alert' in Chandpai

A CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

The fire that broke out in Tulatola area in Chandpai range of the Sundarbans on Wednesday afternoon could not be fully doused.

some places as of yesterday, though firefighters and forest officials claimed that the fire was under control. This is for the fourth time

Smoke billowed from

that a fire broke out near Dhansagar station in Chandpai range under Sharankhola upazila since March 27.

The forest department SEE PAGE 17 COL 1

KALABAGAN MURDERS

Two FBI reps meet DB officials

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two representatives of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) yesterday met a team of the Detective Branch of police in the city to know about the investigation into the gruesome double murder in Kalabagan.

The FBI representatives offered their support to the DB particularly to carry out DNA tests on samples collected from the crime scene and a bag left by the killers,

SEE PAGE 17 COL 1

27 killed as air strikes hit Syria hospital

REUTERS, Beirut/Geneva

Air strikes destroyed a hospital and killed dozens of people in rebel-held areas of Syria's Aleppo including children and doctors, and the United Nations called on Moscow and Washington to salvage a "barely-alive" cease-fire.

The city of Aleppo is at the epicentre of a military escalation that has undermined peace talks in Geneva to end the five-year-old war and UN envoy

Stefan de Mistura appealed to the presidents of the United States and Russia to intervene.

Six days of air strikes and rebel shelling in Aleppo, which is split between government forces and rebels, have killed some 200 people in the city, two-thirds of them on the opposition side, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights says.

The Geneva talks aim to end a war that has killed more than 250,000 people, created the world's SEE PAGE 17 COL 2 **PRAYER TIMING**

APRIL 29 Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 4-20 12-30 4-45 6-29 8-00 JAMAAT 4-55 1-15 5-00 6-34 8-30

Tribute on the First Death Anniversary



Late Saifuddin Quader Chowdhury

(11.11.1951 - 29.4.2015)

former Chairman, Dacca Dying Limited former Managing Director, QC Shipping Limited former Managing Director, QC Trading Limited former Managing Director, Multiport Limited.

We made a journey together, we shared joy and sorrow together, in every venture we achieved together. Today, we seek blessings of your departed soul, seek fortitude from your guidance that you enlightened us when we strived together. May Allah (SWT) bestow you divine peace in eternity. In profound remembrance:

Board of Directors, officers & employees of

QC Group of Companies

pepsi

Introduced in 2005, Meena Media Award has stepped into the 12th year in 2016. The award recognizes excellence in promoting children's issues in the media. Submissions are solicited from Bangladeshi citizens working with print and visual media in two different age groups: Under-18 and 18 & above. News, articles, features, news photographs published in print/online media and news/programmes broadcast by radio and television that investigate and explore into children's issues or provide healthy entertainment for children are eligible to compete for the award. Entries are invited in the following seven categorise:

Reports (news reports, investigative reports, post editorials)



Weena

Print/Online Media Visual Media

Visual Media

Radio

- Creative (articles, features, stories, poems)

- Reports including videography (news reports, investigative reports)

- Creative contents including videography (features, documentaries, short film, animations, plays, songs)

- Report (news reports, investigative reports)

- Creative (features, documentaries, radio dramas, songs) - Online/print media

News Photography

For all categories prizes are:

A Crest, certificate and Taka 50,000 First Prize: Second Prize: A Crest, certificate and Taka 25,000 A Crest, certificate and Taka 15,000 Third Prize:

Entries should be published/broadcast between May 01, 2015 and April 30, 2016. Submission deadline: June 01, 2016

To download the details of the submission, eligibility criteria and application form, please visit www.unicef.org.bd or collect from the Reception Desk, UNICEF Bangladesh at

BSL Office Complex, 1 Minto Road, Dhaka 1000



Bicycle library for Afghan kids with no access to schools



ODDITYCENTRAL.COM

In a nation ravaged by war, where children have little to no access to quality literature, a school teacher is trying his best to make a difference.

Saber Hosseini, who teaches children in the city of Bamiyan, central Afghanistan, has converted his bicycle into a mobile library which he rides to remote villages.

"I came up with the idea for this project six SEE PAGE 17 COL 4

যেমন MOOD তেমন PEPSI Cricket

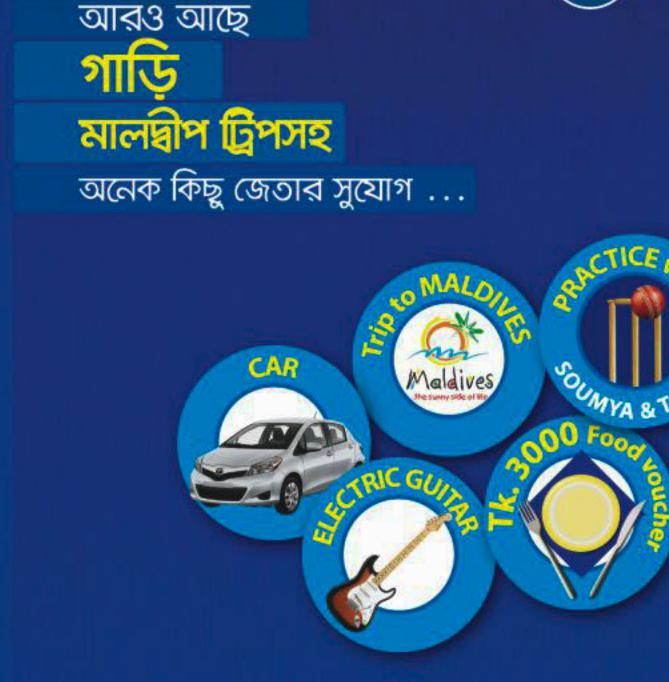












প্রতিদিন **১০০০** জন পাবে

৫০০ মি.লি. পেপসির ক্যাপের নিচের ইউনিক কোডটি 6969 নাম্বারে SMS করো

* অফারটি যেকোনো অপারেটরের প্রি–পেইড নাম্বারের জন্য প্রয়োজ্য * স্ট্যান্ডার্ড এসএমএস চার্জ প্রয়োজ্য * অফারটি ৩১ মে ২০১৬ পর্যন্ত চলবে * অফারটি ছাড়াও বাজারে ৫০০ মি .লি . পেপসি পাওয়া যাবে * অফারটিতে অংশগ্রহণ সম্পূর্ণ শ্বেচ্ছাপ্রণোদিত * শর্ত প্রযোজ্য বিস্তারিত জানতে ডিজিট করুন www.facebook.com/PepsiBangladesh-এ অথবা কল করুন ০৯৬১২২২৭২২২