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THE FLOATING SCHOOLS of Chalan Beel

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU,
back from Chalan Beel

They don't go to schools, schools come to them.

Currently, some 2,000 underprivileged children are attending classes in 22 floating schools that move across the Chalan Beel in Pabna, Natore and Sirajganj districts.

The schools are locally called "Noukay School".

Recently, they have also started providing basic agricultural training to underprivileged women, and library facilities and computer training to those interested in the districts.

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Some underprivileged children attending a class inside a floating school locally known as "Noukay School" in Natore's Singra upazila. *Top left*, a floating school moving across Chalan Beel area to take students on board, *middle*, children heading for one such school, *middle*, and a signboard of the school, *bottom left*. The photos were taken in Natore and Pabna on July 20.

PHOTO: AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO WATCH VIDEO



Man attacks Belgium cops

2 wounded; machete-wielding assailant shot dead

AFP, Brussels

A machete-wielding man shouting "Allahu akbar" (God is the greatest) wounded two police-women in southern Belgium yesterday before being shot dead by police, with Europe on edge after a wave of jihadist attacks.

The attack outside the main police station in the city of Charleroi, around 60 kilometres south of Brussels left one of the policewomen with "deep wounds to the face" while the other was slightly injured, Belga news agency said.

Charleroi police said the attacker was shot and killed, while the two victims were out of danger.

Belgium has been on high security alert for months since suicide

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'Want to return, even risking harassment'

Says BNP leader Salahuddin in an interview with The Daily Star

SUBRATA ACHARJEE from Shillong

BNP leader Salahuddin Ahmed has said he wants to return home although it might put him at risk of harassment.

"Nowadays anyone in Bangladesh can be indicted in a case and can even be hanged. This might happen to me as well. But I am not afraid. At least my family members would be able to visit me if I land in jail at home," he told The Daily Star late last month at Sunrise Guest House in Shillong.

The 55-year-old politician has been at the guest house since June last year when a Shillong court granted him conditional bail in a case for trespassing.

He talked about various issues including politics in Bangladesh and his trial in the Shillong court.

Set up in a serene atmosphere, the guest house is a lavishly built two-storey building with a neatly furnished drawing room, four large bedrooms, plush bathrooms, a well-decorated library and a lush lawn at the front.

Apart from Salahuddin's two personal assistants, there are a manager,

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DMP to issue tenants' ID

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) is planning to issue identification numbers to all tenants, single or married, living in the city.

Each tenant will receive a tenant ID number that will enable the police to know the whereabouts of a particular tenant more efficiently, DMP Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia said at DMP's website re-launching programme held at the organisation's headquarters.

When a tenant moves in or out of a rental apartment or house, the house owner will use this ID number to inform the local police station. The police stations concerned will then update database accordingly.

The DMP has so far received around 20 lakh tenant information forms, the DMP chief said, adding that ID numbers will be issued after scrutinising the information provided in the forms. If innocent citizens are harassed by any police members during the ongoing block raids in the city, the police authorities will take action upon investigation, assured the city police boss. "Of course we'll see to it that people are not harassed."

The block raids are targeted against

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'Refugee Olympian' who helped save 19 lives at sea

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Almost every athlete at the 2016 Olympic Games will have an interesting backstory, but Yusra Mardini's is more extraordinary than most.

Mardini is in Rio to represent a team of 10 refugee Olympic athletes.

While any other 18-year-old's biggest achievements may be confined to the A-level results they leave school with, Mardini's is almost incomprehensible.

She and her sister are responsible for helping to

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Six die as boat sinks in Padma

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Kushtia

Fire service divers yesterday recovered six bodies of missing passengers of an engine boat that capsized on Friday in the River Padma in Kalukhali upazila of Rajbari.

The victims were identified as Rahmat Ali, 6, Raju, 6, Begum Khatun, 40, Farida Begum, 20, Halima Khatun, 50, and Dulal Uddin, 36 -- all from Kalukhali upazila

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PRAYER TIMING AUGUST 7
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-20 12-45 5-00 6-47 8-15
JAMAAT 4-55 1-15 5-15 6-50 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Syria rebels 'break Aleppo siege'

Key IS bastion Manbij falls to West-backed forces

AFP, Beirut

Syrian rebels yesterday claimed they broke a three-week government siege of second city of Aleppo, turning the tables on Russian-backed regime forces who are now on the defensive.

To the northeast, a Western-backed alliance of Arab and Kurdish fighters scored a

major victory against the Islamic State group in the town of Manbij after a fierce two-month battle.

The developments have rocked the key northern province of Aleppo, a microcosm of Syria's chaotic multi-front war that has killed more than 280,000 people.

Rebel and regime forces have fought for

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The ongoing expansion work of this culvert in DC Hall area of Chittagong city has narrowed down the road to such an extent that the authorities have to make it a one-way road. But vehicles continue to flout the rule, leading to a chaos in traffic movement. The construction has also added to the woes of pedestrians. The photo was taken on Friday.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

ঢাকা- আরিচা হাইওয়ে সংলগ্ন ও
সাতার ক্যান্টনমেন্টের সাথেই

সকল নাগরিক সুযোগ সুবিধা সহ এখনই
বাড়ী করার উপযোগী

৩, ৫ ও ১০ কাঠার
কিছু রেডি প্লট বিক্রয় চলছে।

*এককালীন মূল্য পরিশোধে বিশেষ ছাড়

নাতানা রিয়েল এস্টেট লিমিটেড
০১৮৪৭-১৫৯২৪৬, ০১৮৪৭-১৫৯২৩৮
০১৮৩৩-৩২৩৩৮৩১, ০১৮৪৭-২১৪০১৭