

Country feels mild tremor

UNB, Dhaka
A moderate earthquake jolted Dhaka and other parts of the country yesterday morning.
The tremor, measuring 5.0 on the Richter scale, was felt at 8:11:12am, Met office sources said.
The epicentre of the earthquake was in Myanmar, 409km east of the Seismic Centre at Agargaon in the capital.

Bihar CM

FROM PAGE 16
extraction. There is a need for national silt management policy," the Bihar chief minister said.
Kumar expressed concern that the situation can only worsen if it was not dealt with effectively and the state would have to face more severe consequences in the coming years.
On Sunday, Kumar told reporters in Patna, capital of Bihar, that the silt deposited in the Ganges after the construction of Farakka was responsible for the floods and asked the federal Indian government to remove the dam or come out with a silt-management policy.
"The current flood situation has been caused by silt deposits of the river Ganga. This situation is the result of silt getting deposited in Ganga after construction of the Farakka dam. The only way to remove silt from the river is to remove the dam," Kumar told reporters after the review meeting on flood situation in Bihar.
"If the federal government has any option [other than removing the dam]," he then it should start working on it," he added.
In his Independence Day (August 15) address, Kumar had raised the issue saying that the depth of the Ganga had reduced following the silt deposition in the river due to the construction of dam at Farakka.

Emotion

FROM PAGE 16
was involved in Laxmipur BNP. But he had to leave his locality as a lot of cases were filed against him. He has now become a hawker," Fakhrul said.
The BNP leader was addressing a discussion at Dhaka Reporters Unity. Amar Desh Paribar in association with Engineers Association of Bangladesh, a pro-BNP platform, organised the programme demanding immediate release of Amar Desh acting editor Mahmudur Rahman and reopening of 35 web portals.
"My boys are now pulling rickshaws in the capital," said the BNP secretary general, his voice choking with emotion. Silence fell over the audience as Fakhrul tried to keep his emotion checked.
He alleged that his party men became victims of forced disappearances. Even the bodies of many of them have not been found.
Referring to a recent programme, he said the children of the abducted BNP leaders told that they wanted to celebrate Eid with their father. "Did the people fight for such a country?" he questioned.
About the government's move to enact the Digital Security Act, he said it is a move to prevent people from speaking freely.
"New laws are being enacted frequently. People would have to face life term imprisonment or pay one crore taka in fine even if they express something through gestures," said Fakhrul.
The cabinet on Monday approved a draft law with a provision of maximum punishment of life imprisonment for spreading negative propaganda through digital devices against the Liberation War and the Father of the Nation.
Fakhrul called upon journalists to decide on what role they should play under the circumstances.
About the proposed Rampal Power Plant, he said the government is setting up the coal-fired plant near the Sundarbans as "it has its own interest in the project".
To pursue its interest, the government is carrying out attacks on people who are staging protests against the power plant, he added.
On forging a national unity against militancy, the BNP leader said other political parties attached many conditions to the issue. He urged all parties to forget everything and get united for at least once to raise voice against militancy.

Narail court

FROM PAGE 1
before it despite summons.
On July 25, the court summoned Khaleda to appear before it yesterday. Rayhan Faruki, an imam of Chapail village in Naragati upazila, filed the case with the court on December 24, last year.
On February 2 this year, the court ordered a judicial investigation into the incident.
Addressing a discussion in Dhaka on December 21 last year, Khaleda said there was a "controversy" over the actual number of martyrs during the war, according to the case statements.
Indicating Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, she also said he did not "want" the Independence of Bangladesh. Rather, he wanted to be the Prime Minister of Pakistan, it added.
A huge criticism followed her comments.

Biman gets 15 extra

FROM PAGE 1
flights on August 4, it was forced to cancel at least 15 hajj flights due to shortage of hajis. Those flights could have carried over 5,500 pilgrims to Jeddah, Biman officials said.
Due to shortage of hajis, Biman flew flights with over 600 unoccupied seats. Hajj Agencies Association of Bangladesh and the Religious Affairs Ministry blame each other for their "irresponsibility and insincerity" that left many intended hajis unable to fly to Saudi Arabia, sources said.
Against this backdrop, the fate of over 6,000 hajis became uncertain unless Biman got extra slots.
Saudi civil aviation authority granted 112 slots to Biman to carry over 50,500 hajis but the cancellation of 15 flights caused concerns.
Biman then asked for more slots from the Saudi authorities citing visa issuance complications of hajis and the Saudi aviation authority gave the Biman slots. It however asked Biman to explain the complications in details, said highly placed sources in Biman.
Several hundred hajis, who have managed to get visas, were yet to fly since they could not get tickets. Hajj agencies had not confirmed their tickets and flight schedules, sources at Haab and Hajj Office at Ashkona Hajj Camp told The Daily Star.
A total of 1,01,758 Bangladeshis are expected to perform hajj this year, likely to be held on September 12 subject to the sighting of the moon.
Motahar Hossain said with its dedicated 51 hajj flights and 19 other scheduled flights, Biman so far carried 24,307 hajis to Jeddah and was hoping to carry the rest of the hajis using the extra hajj flights within the last date, September 5.
"It would not have been possible for Biman to carry all the aspirant pilgrims who are now in Dhaka, unless Biman got permission for more slots from the Civil Aviation Authority of Saudi Arabia," he added.
A Biman official said if dedicated hajj flights seemed not enough to send all hajis to Jeddah, they would still be able to send another 500 to 600 hajis to Saudi Arabia.

FRUSTRATED INTENDED PILGRIMS YESTERDAY FORMED A HUMAN CHAIN AND HELD A PROTEST RALLY IN TRISHAL OF MYMENSINGH AS THEIR HAJJ AGENTS HAD RESCHEDULED THEIR FLIGHTS FOUR TIMES.
Some 70 pilgrims, including 22 women from Sirajganj, Tangail, Jamalpur and Mymensingh, were confirmed to fly on August 5 by a hajj agency.
The date was rescheduled four times later by Ali Asharaf, proprietor of Mauna Travels and Tours in Gazipur, reports our correspondent from Mymensingh.
The pilgrims also held a protest rally and submitted memorandums to the prime minister and minister for religious affairs through Trishal upazila nirbahi officer.
Phones of the officials of the agent remained switched off for the last two days.

NY grand

FROM PAGE 16
committing the killings.
"The defendant's alleged actions strike at the very heart of our county's Muslim community," Queens District Attorney Richard Brown said in a statement on Monday. "Both victims were gentlemen of peace and their deaths are a devastating loss to their families and the community that they served."
Maulana Alauddin Akonjee, 55, and Tara Uddin, 64, were gunned down after they left their mosque on Saturday, Aug 13, in the Ozone Park neighborhood of Queens in an attack that shocked the area's largely Bangladeshi community.
Authorities have said the gunman's motive remains unclear and the possibility it was a hate crime is being investigated.
Morel, who has been held without bail since his initial court appearance last week, will be arraigned on the grand jury's indictment at a later date.
If convicted, he faces up to life in prison without the possibility of parole.
Akonjee, a father of seven, emigrated to the United States from Bangladesh several years ago. Community members who knew him well described the slain imam as a humble man who lived and breathed his religious faith.

UGC alerts students

FROM PAGE 16
universities named in the list. The government closed the operation of both the universities but they were still running their operations, said the UGC notice.
Moreover, Queens University is having disputes over ownership.
America Bangladesh University has 16 illegal outer campuses across the country apart from its campus on Progati Sarani in NORDA. The commission has already sent letters to the deputy commissioners concerned to evict the campuses as per a High Court verdict, said the notice.
IBAIS University is another troubled university, according to the notice. Its board of trustees are divided into two factions and have filed cases against each other.
Sylhet International University in Sylhet and Britannia University in Comilla have similar disputes over ownerships.
The UGC asked students not to get enrolled in the unapproved campuses of five universities -- BGC Trust University Bangladesh, Southern University Bangladesh, University of Science and Technology, University of Information Technology and Sciences and Prime University, said the notice.
"If a student gets enrolled in unapproved universities or illegal outer

Man kills

FROM PAGE 16
village.
Sujat, Jahanara's son, was admitted to Habiganj Sadar Hospital with critical injuries.
Police said the arrestee, Taher Uddin, and Jahanara's husband Gias Uddin, a Bangladeshi expatriate in Saudi Arabia, had been at loggerheads for a long time over the ownership of a piece of land in the village.
Their supporters had clashed with each other multiple times over the issue.
Police said last night Taher and Jahanara had an altercation in her home.
Taher attacked Jahanara with a sharp weapon. As Sharmin, Sujat and Shimul came to her rescue, they were stabbed too.
Jahanara, Sharmin and Shimul were dead on the spot.
Sujat was admitted to the hospital, added police.
Muktadir Hossain, officer-in-charge (OC) of Madhabpur Police Station, told The Daily Star that locals caught Taher and handed him over to police.

People suffer from strike

FROM PAGE 1
operating their vessels by employing "alternative workers".
Usually, around 70 launches leave the Sadarghat terminal every day for different destinations. But around 25 launches left the terminal yesterday, said officials of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) last evening.
The work abstention has aimed at a time when Eid-ul-Azha is only a couple of weeks ahead. Many traders may face trouble as their goods carrying cost is likely to increase if the strike is not called off.
"I have brought some readymade garment goods from a factory in Dhaka. Like every time, I was planning to carry the goods on a launch for my shop in Munshiganj. But now I have to use the road and carrying cost will be almost double," said Mohammad Rinku, who owns a small readymade garments shop.
During a visit to Sadarghat yesterday, it was seen that the regular hustle and bustle of the terminal took a desert look. The usual gatherings of passengers, launch operators, day labourers and vendors have all disappeared.
"The more passengers come to the terminal, the more our sales go up. As there are very few passengers today, our sale has drastically dropped," said Jamal Uddin, who sells bread and biscuits.
Talking to reporters at his office, Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan said the workers have enforced the strike out of the blue. Sudden enforcement of such a programme is irrational, he observed.
The Department of Labour is responsible to formulate and revise the wage structure of the workers, he informed.
Contacted, SM Ashrafuzzaman, director of the Department of Labour, said they were working to revise the wage structure of the waterway workers. But the process remains halted as vessel owners filed a writ petition with the High Court against it.
"We are observing our programme in a peaceful

AL bodies

FROM PAGE 2
Dinajpur correspondent found that the construction works were going on in full swing.
Former office secretary of AL's Kalai upazila unit, Goffar Hossain Delwar, was looking after the construction work of the Jubo Mahila League's 1440-square-foot office.
On July 29, a notice signed by Khalid Saiful, deputy divisional engineer of RHD of Joypurhat, was sent to Delwar, asking for removal of the structure within 10 days.
Delwar claimed that he took lease of the land from the Zila Parishad for Tk 11,520 for doing business.
Chief Executive Officer of Joypurhat Zila Parishad Abu Bakkar Siddique said a lessee can build a temporary structure, not a permanent one.
"We'll look into the matter seriously," he said.
Executive Engineer of Joypurhat RHD Sunil Kumar Saha said they have issued several notices in this regard.
They will request the deputy commissioner and the superintendent of police in Joypurhat to take necessary action to remove the illegal structure, he added.
PABNA SCHOOL FACES HASSLE
Atgharia upazila Jubo League has built a tin-shed house as its office right in front of Debottar Pilot Girls High School in Pabna, ignoring pleas from the school authorities.
"Female students feel uncomfortable to come to the school as they are sometimes harassed by outsiders," Abdul Quader, headmaster of the school, told our Pabna correspondent.
He also said he submitted a written complaint to the upazila nirbahi officer and the education office on August 16, seeking removal of the Jubo League office.
President of Jubo League of Atgharia upazila Ashraf Alam said they set up the office there temporarily. He claimed the land belongs to Pabna Zila Parishad.
Contacted, Upazila Nirbahi Officer Alimur Rajib said they would take necessary actions following investigation.

FRUSTRATED INTENDED PILGRIMS YESTERDAY FORMED A HUMAN CHAIN AND HELD A PROTEST RALLY IN TRISHAL OF MYMENSINGH AS THEIR HAJJ AGENTS HAD RESCHEDULED THEIR FLIGHTS FOUR TIMES.
Some 70 pilgrims, including 22 women from Sirajganj, Tangail, Jamalpur and Mymensingh, were confirmed to fly on August 5 by a hajj agency.
The date was rescheduled four times later by Ali Asharaf, proprietor of Mauna Travels and Tours in Gazipur, reports our correspondent from Mymensingh.
The pilgrims also held a protest rally and submitted memorandums to the prime minister and minister for religious affairs through Trishal upazila nirbahi officer.
Phones of the officials of the agent remained switched off for the last two days.

Gas disaster averted

FROM PAGE 1
air quality check at 9:00am.
If the level of ammonia is five ppm in the air, people could bear it. "But when we arrived here at night, we found it at 600 ppm," he added.
This correspondent yesterday found that leaves of many trees were burned in vast areas to the north and north-west of the factory.
A similar picture was seen in the airport area, around three kilometres from the factory.
There was still an acrid smell in the factory area around 3:00pm.
Simul Sen, a partner of AH Enterprise that cultivates fish in a nearby 300-acre pond, claimed that following the explosion, 10 tonnes of fish in the pond died till afternoon.
"When we came here this morning, we saw hundreds of dead fish floating all over the pond," added Simul.
Talking to this correspondent, Edris Ali, associate professor of Chemistry at Chittagong Mohsin College, said ammonia is a very corrosive gas and it slowly diffuses into the air.
It increases the pH level in water which impacts the aquatic ecosystem. Fish in ponds adjacent to the affected area is dying because of the high pH level in water, said Edris, who worked on several environmental projects.
Though ammonia in the affected area was dissolved in water, the toxic gas-mixed water would end up in water bodies, canals and river and eventually impact the aquatic ecosystem.
But in course of time, the high concentration of ammonia would diffuse into air and water, and its adverse impact would go away, he added.
Meanwhile, nine of the 52 people, admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital after falling sick from inhaling toxic gas, were released yesterday.
The condition of most of the other patients improved, said hospital sources.
DAP officials said the two-unit factory started production in 2006 with a production capacity of 1,600 tonnes of diammonium phosphate fertiliser a day.
There is a 5000-tonne mother storage tank from which ammonia is carried to two 500-tonne tanks through pipelines. And the raw material is supplied from the two tanks to the plant during production, they said.
Amal Barua, managing director of DAP, said one of the two 500-tonne tanks exploded on Monday night with around 250 tonnes of ammonia in it.
He said the lifespan of the container was 25 years and it was regularly monitored.
Asked about the reason behind the explosion, he said it was hard to say at this point why it happened.
PROBE COMMITTEES
The BCIC formed a 10-member technical committee, headed by BCIC Director (technical and engineering) Ali Akkas, to probe the incident.
The reason behind the gas tank explosion would be known after completion of investigation, BCIC Chairman Iqbal told reporters.
If it is found that the gas explosion occurred due to negligence of the officials concerned, the BCIC would take stern action against those responsible.
"We have communicated with the company that built the container. They wanted some information from us. We will send all information as early as possible," he said.
A BCIC source said a representative

Gas disaster averted

FROM PAGE 1
air quality check at 9:00am.
If the level of ammonia is five ppm in the air, people could bear it. "But when we arrived here at night, we found it at 600 ppm," he added.
This correspondent yesterday found that leaves of many trees were burned in vast areas to the north and north-west of the factory.
A similar picture was seen in the airport area, around three kilometres from the factory.
There was still an acrid smell in the factory area around 3:00pm.
Simul Sen, a partner of AH Enterprise that cultivates fish in a nearby 300-acre pond, claimed that following the explosion, 10 tonnes of fish in the pond died till afternoon.
"When we came here this morning, we saw hundreds of dead fish floating all over the pond," added Simul.
Talking to this correspondent, Edris Ali, associate professor of Chemistry at Chittagong Mohsin College, said ammonia is a very corrosive gas and it slowly diffuses into the air.
It increases the pH level in water which impacts the aquatic ecosystem. Fish in ponds adjacent to the affected area is dying because of the high pH level in water, said Edris, who worked on several environmental projects.
Though ammonia in the affected area was dissolved in water, the toxic gas-mixed water would end up in water bodies, canals and river and eventually impact the aquatic ecosystem.
But in course of time, the high concentration of ammonia would diffuse into air and water, and its adverse impact would go away, he added.
Meanwhile, nine of the 52 people, admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital after falling sick from inhaling toxic gas, were released yesterday.
The condition of most of the other patients improved, said hospital sources.
DAP officials said the two-unit factory started production in 2006 with a production capacity of 1,600 tonnes of diammonium phosphate fertiliser a day.
There is a 5000-tonne mother storage tank from which ammonia is carried to two 500-tonne tanks through pipelines. And the raw material is supplied from the two tanks to the plant during production, they said.
Amal Barua, managing director of DAP, said one of the two 500-tonne tanks exploded on Monday night with around 250 tonnes of ammonia in it.
He said the lifespan of the container was 25 years and it was regularly monitored.
Asked about the reason behind the explosion, he said it was hard to say at this point why it happened.
PROBE COMMITTEES
The BCIC formed a 10-member technical committee, headed by BCIC Director (technical and engineering) Ali Akkas, to probe the incident.
The reason behind the gas tank explosion would be known after completion of investigation, BCIC Chairman Iqbal told reporters.
If it is found that the gas explosion occurred due to negligence of the officials concerned, the BCIC would take stern action against those responsible.
"We have communicated with the company that built the container. They wanted some information from us. We will send all information as early as possible," he said.
A BCIC source said a representative

FRUSTRATED INTENDED PILGRIMS YESTERDAY FORMED A HUMAN CHAIN AND HELD A PROTEST RALLY IN TRISHAL OF MYMENSINGH AS THEIR HAJJ AGENTS HAD RESCHEDULED THEIR FLIGHTS FOUR TIMES.
Some 70 pilgrims, including 22 women from Sirajganj, Tangail, Jamalpur and Mymensingh, were confirmed to fly on August 5 by a hajj agency.
The date was rescheduled four times later by Ali Asharaf, proprietor of Mauna Travels and Tours in Gazipur, reports our correspondent from Mymensingh.
The pilgrims also held a protest rally and submitted memorandums to the prime minister and minister for religious affairs through Trishal upazila nirbahi officer.
Phones of the officials of the agent remained switched off for the last two days.

IDs of five

FROM PAGE 1
whether the militants were under the influence of drugs.
On the night of July 1, the five militants stormed the Holey Artisan Bakery, an upscale eatery in Gulshan's diplomatic zone, and killed 20 hostages, including 17 foreigners.
They next morning, the militants were killed in a commando operation launched to end the bloody siege. They have been identified as Nibras Islam Rohan Intiaz and Meer Saamel Mubasheer of Dhaka and Khairul Islam Payel and Shafiqul Islam Uzal of Bogra.
Saiful Islam, the Holey Artisan chef, was also found dead alongside the gunmen.
Though police suspected Saiful was an associate of the militants, his family all along has been saying he was never involved in militancy.
The six bodies are still kept at the Combined Military Hospital, Dhaka.
Police have also collected DNA samples from the bodies of nine militants killed in a special anti-terror operation in Kalyanpur on July 26.
The bodies are still in the mortuary at Dhaka Medical College.
Eight of them were identified after their fingerprints matched up with those stored in the Election Commission database. To confirm the identities scientifically, police collected DNA samples from seven families.
The sample from the family of the eighth militant will be collected soon while the ninth body remains unidentified.

Office of the Executive Engineer
Chittagong PWD Division-4
Agrabad CGO Building No. 1
Agrabad, Chittagong
Phone: 031-726161 Fax: 031-720329

Memo No. 178 Date: 23/8/16

e-Tender Notice (OTM)
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal <http://www.eprocure.gov.bd> for the procurement of:

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description of goods/works	Last selling date and time	Closing date and time	Opening date and time
63715	e-Tender/OTM-1/2016-2017	Construction of 6-Storeyed Barrack Building with 6-Storeyed Mat Foundation including Civil, Sanitary and Water Supply and Electrification Works at Monsurabad, Chittagong	28 September 2016, 5.00pm	29 September 2016, 12.00 noon	29 September 2016, 12.30pm

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.
To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any scheduled bank.
Further information and guidelines are available in National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk.eprocure.gov.bd).

Ahmed Abdullah Noor
Executive Engineer (CC)
Chittagong PWD Division-4
Agrabad, Chittagong
Phone: 031-726161
E-mail: ee_ctg4@pwd.gov.bd

GD-1704