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SHAH CEMENT

Padma poised to spoil Eid

Ferry ghats at Daulatdia devoured; travellers spend up to 10 hours to cross the swelled-up river

HASAN JAHID TUSHER and ZAHANGIR SHAH

Eid holidaymakers en route to south and southwestern districts might have to put up with hours of delays if two out-of-service ferry landing stations at Daulatdia ferry terminal are not made operational soon.

This is feared as passengers endured lengthy delays yesterday after three out of the four ferry landing stations at the terminal remained closed due to erosion by the Padma.

However, the authorities managed to resume ferry services at a landing station around 7:00pm yesterday, just a month after it was eroded by the river.

Witnesses said at least 10-kilometre-long tailbacks were created at Daulatdia and Paturia ferry terminals since early yesterday. Hundreds of vehicles, including buses and trucks, were stranded on both sides of the river.

It took a vehicle up to 10 hours to cross the Padma which

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PHOTO: JAHANGIR SHAH

The mighty Padma continues to devour its bank near the Landing Station-2 at Daulatdia ferry terminal. Ferry movement on Paturia-Daulatdia river route has been severely disrupted, as three of the four landing stations at the terminal are out of service. Inset, a long queue of buses waiting to cross the river at Paturia ferry terminal in Manikganj. The photos were taken yesterday.

RISHA MURDER Obaidul 'confesses' his crime

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Arrestee Obaidul Khan yesterday confessed to a Dhaka court of stabbing to death Suraiya Akhter Risha, a student of Willes Little Flower School and College, late last month.

Metropolitan Magistrate Ahsan Habib recorded Obaidul's statement at his chamber, said court sources.

The magistrate later sent the accused to jail in the murder case.

Inspector Ali Hossain of Ramna Model Police Station, also the investigation officer of the case, produced Obaidul before the court.

The suspect told the magistrate that he stabbed Risha after failing to persuade her into a romantic relationship with him, added the sources.

A Dhaka court placed Obaidul on six-day remand in the case on Thursday, a day after police arrested him from Domar upazila in

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JnU to get new campus in Keraniganj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will build a new campus of Jagannath University (JnU) in Keraniganj with all modern facilities, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid said yesterday.

The decision was made at the cabinet meeting, with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair, the minister told a hurriedly called press briefing at his ministry.

"The new campus will be an addition to the current infrastructure and other resources of the university in Old Dhaka," he said, adding the new campus would have academic buildings, a library, a laboratory, an auditorium,

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15% income tax on private univs illegal

Declares High Court

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday declared illegal the government orders that imposed 15 percent income tax on private universities and private medical, dental and engineering colleges.

The court also scrapped the three orders on the imposition of tax issued by the government on these private institutions in 2007 and 2010.

The bench of Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif and Justice Bishmadev Chakraborty came up with the verdict after hearing 46 separate writ petitions filed by 12 private universities and a student challenging the legality of the government orders.

The HC also directed the National Board of Revenue to refund the money collected from the writ petitioners from 2007 as income tax.

Private universities, medical, dental and engineering colleges need not to pay income tax now to the government following the HC verdict, Barrister Omar Sadat and Barrister Sakhawat Hossain, two lawyers for the writ petitioners, told The Daily Star.

The HC had earlier stayed the effectiveness of the government orders imposing income tax on the institutions that moved the writ petitions at different times between 2007 and 2014, they said.

Delivering the verdict, the HC observed that by imposing 15 percent tax the government has violated equal protection of law for the young citizens

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Education must have a sea change to meet dev goals

Says Unesco report's Bangladesh part

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh is expected to achieve universal primary education in 2055 and universal lower secondary education in 2075 while universal upper secondary education not until the next century.

The new Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report by Unesco came up with this findings.

The GEM report showed the potential for education to propel progress towards all global goals outlined in the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

It also showed that education needs a major transformation to fulfil that potential and meet the current challenges facing humanity and the planet.

"Schools, communities and businesses [in Bangladesh] all need to think about

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Giant pandas are no longer 'endangered'

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

The giant panda, an animal that has become an icon of the conservation movement, is no longer an endangered species, it has been declared.

After its population was estimated to have grown by more than 16 percent in just over a decade, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) upgraded its status to "vulnerable".

The reasons for the animal's comeback is simple — a conservation programme by the Chinese

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Special security planned for foreign projects

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government plans special security measures for all foreign-aided projects following requests from development and bilateral partners who have been unnerved by the recent rise in militant attacks.

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PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 6

Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha	
AZAN	4-35	12-45	4-30	6-20	7-45
JAMAAT	5-10	1-15	4-45	6-25	8-15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A huge bull at an agro-farm in Keraniganj on the outskirts of the capital. Owners of this farm claim that the animal has been reared in a natural way. They are asking Tk 10 lakh for it. Inset, a fattened cow in Pabna.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Drugged, about to die

Illegal fattening regime leaves many cattle with only months to live

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, from Pabna and PORIMOL PALMA in Dhaka

Anwar Hossain Ratan, a farmer from Malanchi village of Pabna, bought two bulls for Tk 2.6 lakh a year ago when they weighed 3 to 3.5 maunds each.

Now, the cross-bred bulls -- one 26-month and the other 28-month-old -- weigh around 10 maunds

each. Ratan expects to sell them for around Tk 6 lakh before the Eid-ul-Azha.

He claimed that he had fed the bulls with rich fodder like wheat dust, rice and oil cake regularly and administered medicines prescribed by veterinarians.

"As my bulls didn't have any diseases and were properly fed, they grew faster," Ratan said.

When pressed to know if he had used any steroid or hormone to fatten his cattle, Ratan said he used hormonal medicine Metaphetrol 100cc with AD3 vitamins a few months ago, the use of which is illegal if not prescribed.

Veterinarians said cattle traders usually use steroids and hormonal medicines three months before the Eid to speed up the growth of cattle

and make them look fatter for higher prices, despite a ban on their use in cow fattening.

A lot of the times the cattle die just after three months of getting the drugs.

Nearly 50 lakh cattle are slaughtered during Eid-ul-Azha in Bangladesh.

In Sirajganj and Pabna, two

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Congratulations

Noman Weaving Mills Limited, one of the sister concern of Noman Group, has been awarded with "National Export Trophy" Gold for Consecutive Three years 2008-09, 2010-11 & 2011-12 for being the HIGHEST EXPORTER of Bangladesh in Textile Fabrics category.

Heartiest congratulations to our mentor Mr. Abdullah Mohammad Zubair, Deputy Managing Director, Noman Group for being honored with "National Export Trophy" Gold on behalf of the Group. His Leadership, integrity, determination and dedication have paved our way to many milestones. Yet every milestone is a beginning of a new journey of excellence.

All members of Noman Group



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