



Getting down from their vehicles stuck in jam, passengers walk to reach Paturia ghat in Manikganj yesterday. Right, people travel in an improvised vehicle on Dhaka-Tangail highway in Tangail Sadar. The vehicle is actually a pickup but it has been turned into a double-decker using wood, bamboos and ropes.



PHOTO: STAR

# Eid-ul-Azha

FROM PAGE 1  
The main Eid congregation will be held at the National Eidgah at 8:00am. All the preparations including overall security arrangements there are underway.  
In the case of inclement weather, the main Eid congregation will be held at 8:30am at Baitul Mukarram National Mosque.  
Arrangements have been taken so more than one lakh people, including five thousand women, can offer prayers at the National Eidgah.  
Arrangements have also been taken so the foreign muslim diplomats can participate in the Eid congregation at the National Eidgah.  
Senior Pesh Imam of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque Mawlana Muhammad Mizanur Rahman will lead the main Eid congregation.  
A total of five Eid congregations will be held at the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque --the first one will be held at 7:00am, second at 8:00am, third at 9:00am, fourth at 10:00am and the last one at 10:45am.  
Adequate water supply and security arrangements have already been made at the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque to facilitate the prayers.  
With the initiative of the National parliament secretariat, an Eid congregation will be held at the south plaza of the Sangsad Bhaban at 7:30 am.  
Two Eid congregations will be held at the Dhaka University central mosque -- the first at 8:00am and the second at 9:00am.  
Apart from these, two separate Eid congregations will be held at the ground adjacent to Salimullah Muslim Hall Main gate and Shahidullah Hall lawn of Dhaka University at 8:00am.  
Eid congregation will also be held at Dhanmondi Sobhanbagh Jame Mosque at 7:30am.

# 'Magic beans'

FROM PAGE 16  
A trial is already underway at a building on the Tata steelworks plant at Port Talbot.  
It is used in conjunction with simple solar thermal panels made from a sheet of metal that intensify the heat from the sun.  
Professor David Worsley, an engineer at the university, said: "In the summer, we've got this massive amount of hot air collected by solar thermal collectors.  
"We wanted to make a material you could put heat into and save it for the winter."  
While he was not involved in its invention, Professor Worsley and others at Swansea are working out how to incorporate it into buildings.  
"You drive hot air over it, it drives all the water off and in the winter all you do is introduce cold damp air. It absorbs the water and releases energy," he said.  
"It will keep the heat until you put some damp air on it — so you can time-shift solar energy from the summer into the winter. We are really excited by this."  
The two ingredients, vermiculite and calcium chloride, are both cheap — the expensive part in terms would come from installing the system to pipe the heat around the building.  
The material, called interseasonal heat storage, is being developed as a way to store energy by Tata Steel, supported by the Swansea University-led SPECIFIC team.  
"However, no decision on army

# 1.8m Muslims perform hajj

FROM PAGE 1  
They were spending the most important day of the annual hajj in prayer and reading from the Quran.  
Arafat is the site where Muslims believe the Prophet Mohammed (pbuh) gave his last sermon about 14 centuries ago after leading his followers on the pilgrimage.  
"I have the impression of standing exactly in front of God," said Khadem Ndyaye, 47, of Senegal.  
"Muslims came here from everywhere and we are all the same. If all the world was like that, there wouldn't be any war. Here, we feel that Islam is a religion of peace."  
Indian pilgrim Mohammed Arafan, 40, said he feels "chosen by God" for being able to perform the hajj.  
"It's beautiful to see the Muslims of the world pray together here."  
At midday prayer hundreds of thousands prostrated themselves, men and women side-by-side, in wide alleys that run between prefabricated pilgrim lodgings.  
For the first time in years, Saudi Arabia's Grand Mufti Abdul Aziz al-Sheikh did not give his traditional Arafat sermon.

Okaz newspaper cited health reasons but Sheikh still attended the sermon given in his place by Abdul Rahman al-Sudais, imam of Makkah's Grand Mosque.  
Under multicoloured parasols to protect against the burning sun, the mass of people move through broad streets which are closed to traffic around Mount Arafat.  
Throughout the day the faithful chant a traditional hajj incantation, "God, here I am."  
From a distance, the hill appeared a snowy white from the seamless two-piece white garment, ihram, worn by male pilgrims.  
They come from every corner of the globe, but Indonesia -- the most populous Muslim nation -- has the largest contingent.  
**SAFETY MEASURES**  
In stifling heat, trucks loaded with bottled water were stationed throughout, and pilgrims doused themselves.  
Empty bottles and leftover meals littered the ground as ambulances patrolled.  
After sunset they will move to Muzdalifah, halfway between Arafat and Mina, to gather 49 pebbles for a

symbolic stoning of the devil which begins today, in the last major rite of hajj.  
During that ritual in Mina last year a stampede killed roughly 2,300 people who were on their way to throw their stones at the Jamarat Bridge.  
Saudi Arabia issued a death toll of 769 but figures compiled from foreign officials in more than 30 countries gave a tally almost three times higher.  
Authorities announced an investigation into the tragedy but no results have ever been released, although a number of safety measures have been taken.  
Among these is the distribution of a bracelet which stores pilgrims' personal data. Roads have also been widened in the Jamarat area, newspapers reported.  
Pilgrims have told AFP they feel safe and noticed organisational improvements.  
**NO IRANIANS**  
Helicopters yesterday monitored the crowd flow from the skies, while on the ground, police on foot, motorbike, and all-terrain vehicles directed pedestrian movement.

At the sacred hill itself, police sometimes had to use their bodies to block the flow of pilgrims and avoid bottlenecks.  
Crown Prince Mohammed bin Nayef, the interior minister and chairman of the hajj committee, was in Mina to help supervise "the services being provided to the pilgrims," the official Saudi Press Agency said.  
Despite the safety and security measures which Sunni-dominated Saudi Arabia says it has taken, Shia Iran has angrily questioned the kingdom's custodianship of Islam's holiest places.  
Iran last year reported the largest number of stampede victims, at 464, and its 64,000 pilgrims are excluded for the first time in decades after the regional rivals failed to agree on security and logistics.  
Hundreds of thousands of Iranian faithful held an alternative pilgrimage on Saturday in the Iraqi Shia holy city of Karbala, according to an official at the shrine of Imam Hussein.  
Saudi Arabia yesterday said it launched a television channel to broadcast the hajj rituals in the Persian language, also known as Farsi, spoken in Iran.

# Erdogan says Turkey has 'duty' to defeat IS

AFP, Istanbul  
President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Sunday said Turkey had a duty to defeat the Islamic State extremist group, adding its operation inside Syria was a first step towards this goal.  
Turkey has sent dozens of tanks and hundreds of troops into Syria, in an unprecedented operation dubbed Euphrates Shield aimed at booting out both IS jihadists and Kurdish militia from the border area.  
The operation, launched on August 24, came after a string of bloody suicide bombings and rocket attacks inside Turkey blamed on IS.  
"It is the binding duty in front of our nation to finish off the organisation called Daesh (IS) in Syria and ensure it is unable to carry out actions inside our country," Erdogan said in a televised message for the upcoming Eid al-Adha Islamic holiday.  
"The Euphrates Shield operation is the first step towards this," he added.  
Erdogan said Turkey was now "much stronger, determined and more dynamic" than before the July 15 coup bid, which the authorities blame on the US-based preacher Fethullah Gulen. He denies the charges.  
Six Turkish soldiers have been killed so far in rocket attacks in Syria blamed on IS but Erdogan said that the Euphrates Shield would continue and "not one drop" of blood of Turkey's forces would be spilt in vain.  
Turkey had previously been accused of not doing enough in the fight against IS and its Western partners have applauded the operation.  
Turkey's operation is also targeting the Kurdish Democratic Union Party (PYD) and its People's Protection Units (YPG) militia, which Ankara regards as the Syrian branch of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) which has waged a 32-year insurrection inside Turkey.  
This has created strains with Turkey's NATO ally the United States, which works with the YPG on the ground in the fight against IS.

# A task almost impossible

FROM PAGE 1  
The Office of the Chief Inspector of Boilers, a government agency under the industries ministry, now comprises one chief inspector, two deputy chief inspectors and four inspectors. Of them, one deputy chief inspector is responsible for Chittagong region and another for Rajshahi region.  
More than 900 boilers are to be tested by one inspector. But one can inspect and certify a maximum of 70 boilers a month, said MA Mannan, chief inspector.  
"All together we can inspect and certify some 400 boilers a month," said Mannan, who himself goes to factories for boiler inspection on weekly holidays since he has office duties on workdays.  
A boiler is a closed tank in which

water is heated. The main function of a boiler is heating water to generate steam to be used for purposes such as space heating, sterilisation, drying, humidification and power generation.  
An inspection or hydraulic testing of a boiler in operation is required once a year, and an overhauling is needed at least once every three years. Usually it takes around half an hour for the hydraulic testing, two to three hours for general inspection and six hours for a complete inspection and certification, Mannan said.  
The authority of inspection sent a proposal in February to the industries ministry for recruiting 350 employees, he said, adding that he would sit with the ministry officials after Eid to expedite the recruiting process.

It will not be a problem for them to carry out the inspection and certification duties smoothly once they get adequate manpower, he said.  
The authority has also proposed to open eight new offices across the country -- one in six divisional headquarters each except Sylhet and Barisal, and one each in Gazipur and Narayanganj, the chief inspector said.  
Asked about the suspected explosion of a boiler on Saturday, he said a boiler can be exploded for a number of reasons.  
The major reason is a faulty pressure relief valve that releases extra pressure of steam from boiler, he said.  
A boiler can also be exploded if the water inside falls below a certain level, Mannan said.  
So far this year only one boiler

exploded at an auto rice mill in Naogaon. "There was no record of boiler explosion in fiscal 2015-16," he said.  
Earlier on Saturday, Mannan dismissed the reports that the fire at Tampaco Foils had been caused by a boiler explosion.  
His version, however, runs counter to that of Lt Col Musharaf Hossain, director (training, development and planning) of Fire Service and Civil Defence. He told reporters that the fire originated from a boiler explosion.  
Meanwhile, visiting the Tampaco Foils factory areas Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu said all boilers in that area would be inspected, reports our Gazipur correspondent.  
"Measures will be taken to fix problems in the boilers, if there is any," he said.

# Fire death toll 29

FROM PAGE 1  
workers were about to change shifts.  
Fire fighters and rescue workers had another tough day yesterday, as 22 fire fighting units battled to extinguish the blaze completely.  
They tried to move into the interior of the building. But the attempt was frustrated by thick smoke and broken chunks of concrete.  
A fresh fire broke out in the building's western part around 11:00am, forcing rescuers and volunteers to get out of the building.  
Talking to reporters in the afternoon, Lt Col Mohammad Mosharrar Hossain, director of Fire Service and Civil Defence, said the fire was largely brought under control.  
The rescuers, however, could not search the entire 40-year-old building as it had become risky because of large cracks.  
Lt Col Mohammad Rashidul Hasan, director of Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR), told this newspaper around 10:00pm that an assessment team of army personnel had visited the spot.  
The team will assess the damage and determine whether there is any need for engaging army personnel in the rescue operation.  
"However, no decision on army

deployment has been taken yet," he added.  
It was yet to be ascertained what caused the inferno as fire fighters couldn't advance into the building's interior.  
MA Mannan, chief inspector of boilers, told reporters on Saturday that an inspector, who had visited the site, found no damage to the two boilers of the packaging factory.  
However, senior officials of the fire service department had cited the explosion of a boiler as the cause of fire.  
Kazi Reazul Hoque, chairman of National Human Rights Commission, visited the spot yesterday, and talked to the families of the deceased and the missing ones.  
He said the owners cannot avoid their responsibilities.  
"The owners started the business 40 years ago and expanded it. But they may not have put in place necessary infrastructure.  
"Besides, we have to see whether the government agencies tasked with ensuring workplace safety have performed their duties properly," Reazul said, referring to the responsibilities of boiler and factory inspectors.  
He also said the commission would form a committee to see whether the

probe bodies were carrying out their investigations properly.  
Visiting the spot in the afternoon, noted jurist Dr Kamal Hossain demanded punishment to the persons responsible for the incident.  
He said they would seek court directives regarding the responsibilities of the persons concerned as well as compensations for the victims.  
Dr Kamal mentioned that the High Court had issued such directives in the cases of Tazreen Fire and Rana Plaza building collapse.  
Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu, who went to the spot in the morning, said action would be taken against those responsible for the incident.  
He assured that the government would provide all necessary assistance to the victims' families.  
The industries ministry yesterday formed a five-member committee, headed by Additional Secretary Dabirul Islam, to investigate the fire incident. It was asked to submit a report within 15 working days.  
On Saturday, four committees were formed to probe the incident.  
Meanwhile, different organisations have demanded stern action against the people responsible for the incident and proper compensation for the victims.

# Jahid's wife left days

FROM PAGE 1  
trainer of Gulshan and Sholakia attackers, was killed in a police raid in the capital's Rupnagar on September 2.  
Law enforcers rescued two other children -- a 14-year-old boy and a 10-month-old girl -- from the Azimpur house.  
On Saturday, the two baby girls were sent to the Victim Support Centre.  
The boy was taken in by detectives for questioning. He was under the custody of counterterrorism officials last night.  
Investigators think the suspected militant who died during the raid is the boy's father. And one of the three injured women caught from the scene could be his mother.  
Physicians who conducted autopsy of the dead said the suspect "committed suicide by slitting his throat".  
Sohel Mahmud, assistant professor of forensic medicine department at Dhaka Medical College, told The Daily Star that the cut on his throat was three inches long and one-and-half inches deep. It was caused by a sharp weapon.  
The man used to go by different names, including Shamsheh, Jamshed and Abdul Karim.  
Using the name Abdul Karim, he rented an apartment in Bashundhara residential area where the Gulshan café attackers lived for a while. He used the same name renting another apart-

ment at Pallabi, according to Masudur Rahman, deputy commissioner (media) of the DMP.  
"He rented the apartment at Azimpur about a month ago using the name of Jamshed," said Masudur.  
The 14-year-old, however, gave police another name of the man and a Rajshahi address which was found wrong, said Masudur.  
The police official said investigators believe one of the three injured women is the mother of the 10-month baby. Her husband, another suspected militant, was not at the den, he added.  
Meanwhile, two of the five policemen injured during the raid, were sent to Square Hospital for treatment yesterday while the rest went to Rajarbagh Police Lines.  
DMCH officials say the injured women were admitted to the hospital with the names Shaila, Sharmin and Khadija.  
Police, however, said the names were likely to be false.  
One of injured women was shot in her stomach while the two others were hacked on different parts of their bodies, said DMCH doctors.  
Police say they recovered five to six computers from the scene and those were apparently for communicating with other militants at home and abroad.