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Safety concern stops witnesses from testifying

4 yrs since Ramu violence, only one out of 18 cases sees progress

MOHAMMAD ALI JINNAT with ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Many of the witnesses in the Ramu violence cases are unwilling to give deposition before court out of concern over their safety.

"Police made me a witness in one of the cases. But I am not interested in giving testimony to court. Who will give me and my family protection if I give deposition to court," said Kamal Barua from Srikul in Ramu upazila of Cox's Bazar.

Nineteen cases were filed and three probe reports were submitted to the High Court over the mindless communal attacks on the Buddhist community in Ramu in 2012.

But even four years after the vandalism, trial proceedings in 17 of the cases are yet to start because of the absence of witnesses in Cox's Bazar courts.

Only one case has seen some progress as the court started recording testimonies of witnesses.

And one case was withdrawn by the plaintiff last year; no reasons were cited.

Asked, Sudhangshu Barua, the plaintiff and also a victim in Rajarkul union of Ramu, declined to comment on the matter.

Tarun Barua, general secretary of Ramu Bouddha Oikya O Kalyan Parishad, said, "The witnesses are not showing interest in giving testimony because of concern over their



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With no safety gears on, a power technician works in the maze of power, cable TV and internet cables on Northbrook Hall Road in Bangla Bazar of Old Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



Last of Israel's founding fathers dies

AGENCIES

Former Israeli president and elder statesman Shimon Peres, a joint winner of the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize and an influential figure in Israeli politics for 70 years, died in a hospital yesterday aged 93, two weeks after suffering a massive stroke.

A convinced campaigner for Middle East peace who remained energetic until his final days, Peres was mourned by world leaders and praised for his tireless engagement.

Peres was seen as Israel's last remaining founding father and held nearly every major office in a career spanning five decades.

He won the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize jointly with prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat for his

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WASTE GENERATED DURING EID-UL-AZHA

Huge business potential yet to be unlocked

HELEMUL ALAM

The waste generated during Eid-ul-Azha, including throw-away body parts of sacrificial animals, has huge business potential but remains largely untapped due to absence of proper management and public awareness, experts say.

This Eid, sacrificial animals produced an estimated 19,002 tonnes of waste in Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) and around 7,800 tonnes in Dhaka North City Corporation, according to statistics from the two city corporations.

The waste was removed within the 48 hours and dumped into the Matuail and Amin Bazar landfills.

A systematic use of the waste could have turned them into a resource, experts add.

Cow dung and the half-digested fodder in cattle stomachs could be used for making fuel, fertiliser and fish feed; cattle bones could be used for manufacturing capsule caps; and cattle blood could be used in chicken and bird feed.

The horns of cattle are used for making x-ray and cinema films, combs and buttons, and their fat for producing soap.

Their genitals, which locals do not usually eat, are

popular in many places like China, Thailand and Hong Kong and a huge amount of foreign currency could be earned by exporting them.

Mahbub Hasan, a former professor of Dhaka University and also an UNDP consultant, said it was possible to generate 10 megawatts of electricity from 600 tonnes of garbage through the "rapid organic conversion".

Rapid organic conversion is simply speeding up the natural process of decomposing organic materials.

"We have already given a proposal to the DSCC and it may be finalised soon. After that, we will execute the project as a pilot project in Ward-1," Mahbub said.

Secretary General of Bangladesh Meat Traders Association (BMTA) Robiul Islam said all body parts of cows or bulls and even their dung are quite useful.

He said the government should take an initiative to ensure their proper use.

According to the Bangladesh Export Promotion Bureau, the country earned Tk 1.7 crore by exporting different body parts, including genitals, of animals last year.

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This photo taken after the Eid shows people collecting cattle waste and discarded organs which has value in the manufacturing and fish and poultry feed industry. The photo was taken at the Matuail landfill. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

MEDICAL ADMISSION TEST

Govt to use device to stop question leak

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The health ministry has appointed an independent expert to manage this year's medical admission test, and decided to introduce a digital tracking device to prevent question paper leak.

"There will be a strong monitoring system. There is no possibility of leak," said Health Minister Mohammed Nasim at a view-exchange programme yesterday with Bangladesh Health Reporters Forum on medical admission test.

The admission test for MBBS will be held on October 7 and for Bachelor of Dental Surgery on November 4, he said at the ministry. A total of 90,426 candidates will take the tests against 11,264 seats in all public and private

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Moon was once part of the Earth



MAIL ONLINE

Scientists claim to have finally found proof which shows the moon was created during a spectacular collision billions of years ago.

While the Earth is thought to have formed more than 4.5 billion years ago, scientists believe the moon came millions of years later, after an object the size of Mars smashed into the young planet.

Now researchers say a layer of iron and other material deep in the Earth's interior is proof the moon formed from the remnants.

The giant impact hypothesis suggests that a huge protoplanet called Theia smashed into the Earth

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JSD'S POLLS SYMBOL

HC questions EC's decision

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday questioned the legality of Election Commission's decision to allocate moshal (torch) as a poll symbol to a Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) faction led by Hasanul Haq Inu.

In its rule issued upon the EC and Inu, the HC set four weeks for them to explain as to why the EC's decision of allocating the symbol to Inu's faction of the JSD

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SIBL
Social Islami Bank Limited
Shareholders' Meeting

PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 29

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
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JAMAAT 5-10 1-15 4-30 6-05 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

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Nine Kalyanpur militants buried

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nine militants, who were killed in a police raid in their Kalyanpur hideout two months ago, were buried in the city's Jurain graveyard yesterday.

Anjuman Mufidul Islam, a voluntary organisation, collected the bodies from the mortuary at Dhaka Medical

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অভিনন্দন

নারীর ক্ষমতায়নে অবদানের জন্য জাতিসংঘে ভবনে **ইউএন উইমেন** -এর পক্ষ থেকে **প্লানেট ৫০-৫০** চ্যাম্পিয়ন এবং **গ্লোবাল পার্টনারশিপ ফোরাম** প্রধানমন্ত্রী **শেখ হাসিনাকে** ৫০-৫০ চ্যাম্পিয়ন ও **এজেন্ট অব চেইজ অ্যাওয়ার্ড** দেওয়ায় **এসেনসিয়াল ড্রাগস কোম্পানী লিমিটেড**-এর পক্ষ থেকে এ বিরল সম্মানের জন্য **ডিজিটাল বাংলাদেশের রূপকার বঙ্গবন্ধু কন্যা জননেত্রী শেখ হাসিনা কে শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন**

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KELP সেফালোম্পোরিন ড্রাই ভায়াল প্রজেক্ট, বগুড়া
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