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WHAT COMES FIRST  
**Tourism or livelihood?**

SANJOY KUMAR BARUA with SAIKAT DEWAN

Around 300 indigenous families fear that they would lose their Jhum land as a special tourism zone is going to be established in Alutila of Khagrachhari.

The Khagrachhari district administration has recently proposed acquiring 699.98 acres of land in three mouzas under Sadar and Matiranga upazilas after Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) made a decision to set up the zone to promote tourism.

The Daily Star obtained a copy of a letter that said the district administration had sent a detailed report on the proposed land to the BEZA.

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A Jhum land at Alutila in Khagrachhari where a special tourism zone is going to be established following the acquisition of around 700 acres of Jhum land. About 300 indigenous families would lose their Jhum land if the zone is set up there. Below, one of the families stands near their house which has posters on it against the move.

PHOTO: SANJOY KUMAR BARUA

**Holy Ashura**  
October 12

UNB, Dhaka

Holy Ashura, commemorating the martyrdom of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA), grandson of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SM), will be observed on October 12 as the Muharram moon was sighted in Bangladesh sky yesterday.

The National Moon Sighting Committee took the decision at a meeting after reviewing reports on the sighting of moon received from different parts of the country.

Joint Secretary of Religious Affairs Ministry Hafiz Uddin presided over the meeting held at the conference room of Islamic Foundation's Baitul Mukarram office in the evening.

Chief Information Officer AKM Shamim Chowdhury and Islamic Foundation Secretary Alfaz Hossain were, among others, present at the meeting.

On 10th of Muharram in

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NEW YORK TIMES REPORT  
**Trump may have avoided paying taxes for years**

REUTERS, Washington

Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump declared a \$916 million loss on his 1995 income tax returns and the large tax deduction may have allowed him to avoid paying federal income taxes for up to 18 years, the New York Times reported on Saturday.

The Trump campaign, in a statement responding to the Times report, said that the tax document was obtained illegally and that the New York Times is operating as an extension of the presidential campaign of Democratic rival Hillary Clinton.

The Times said it had obtained Trump's 1995 tax records and that they showed he received the large tax benefits from financial deals that went bad in the early 1990s.

The newspaper said that tax experts it hired to analyze Trump's records said tax rules which are especially advantageous to wealthy filers would have let Trump use his \$916 million loss to cancel out an equivalent amount of taxable income over an 18-year period.

The Times said that although Trump's taxable income in subsequent years is as yet unknown, a \$916 million loss in 1995 would have been large enough to wipe out more than \$50 million a year in taxable income over 18 years.

Trump has declined to release his tax records, unlike previous presidential nominees in modern history, saying his taxes are under a federal audit. Experts say he could still release them publicly if he wished.

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**22-day hilsa fishing ban from Oct 12**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has imposed a ban on catching, selling, hoarding and transportation of hilsa in different rivers for 22 days from October 12 to protect hilsa breeding.

Around 7,000 square kilometres area of rivers in 27 districts have been earmarked as the breeding ground of the hilsa, according to a fisheries and livestock ministry's note yesterday.

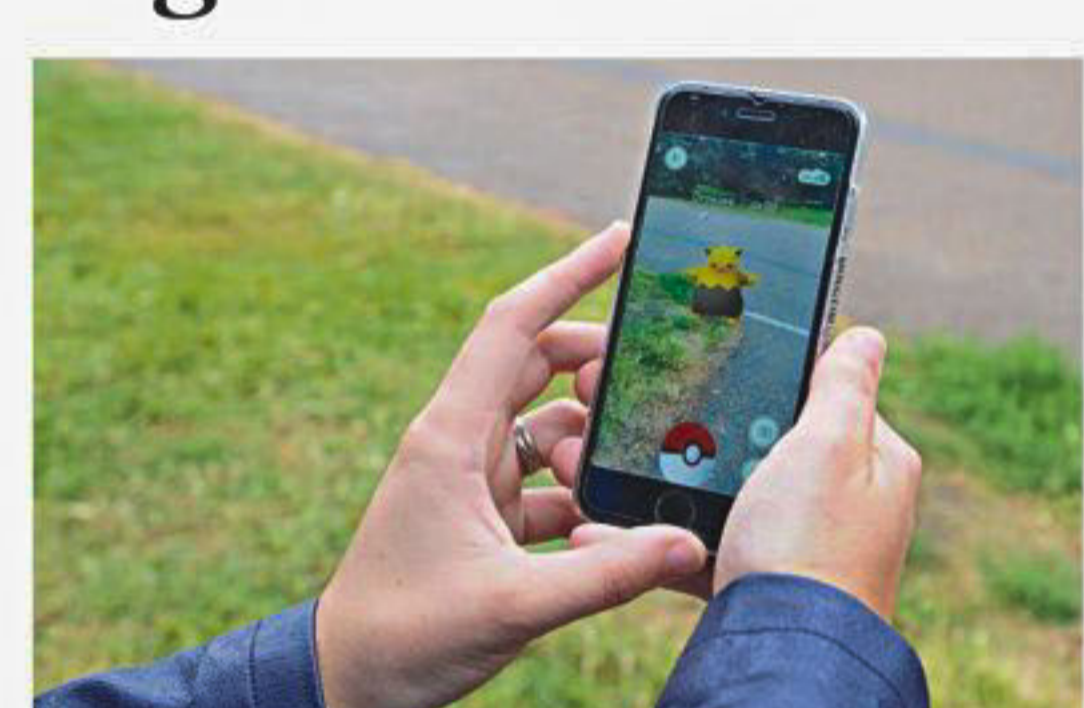
The areas are from Shaher Khali of Mirsarai upazila to Haitkandi point, Uttar Tajumuddin to Poshchim Syed Awlia point in Tajumuddin upazila, Lota Chapali point of Kolapara upazila, and Uttar Kutubdia to Gandarmara point in Kutubdia upazila.

The 27 districts are: Chandpur, Laxmipur, Noakhali, Feni, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Barisal, Bhola, Patuakhali, Barguna, Pirojpur, Jhalakathi, Bagerhat, Shariatpur, Brahmanbaria, Dhaka, Madaripur, Faridpur, Rajbari, Jamalpur, Narayanganj, Narsingdi, Manikganj, Munshiganj, Khulna, Kushtia and Rajshahi.

Apart from rivers of those districts, all the coastal areas and estuaries will be under the purview of the ban.

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*University offers degree in Pokemon*



AGENCIES

Students are being allowed to play mobile phone game Pokemon Go as part of their degree course.

Salford University in UK says the game, in which players seek out virtual animated characters in real-world locations, will make its business information technology course more 'accessible'.

But critics claim the move is indicative of the dumbing down of degrees - a charge Salford lecturer David Kreps denies.

He said: "We want new students to feel that our subject is accessible and easy to grasp."

"Pokemon Go fits perfectly with that. It uses various information systems that are accessed over the internet, a digital camera and a GPS location sensor."

"While we will be asking students to play Pokemon Go, it will get a little more complicated."

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**Police foil BNP rally in capital**

Allege party leaders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday allegedly prevented a protest rally of a BNP city unit at capital's Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB).

"Gandaria BNP organised a rally in the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh, protesting the government's initiative to take control of

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**PRAYER TIMING**  
OCTOBER 3

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	4-45	12-45	4-15	5-53
JAMAAT	5-20	1-15	4-30	5-56
				8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

**Security of citizens' data must be ensured**

PM tells EC at launch of smart NID cards

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the Election Commission to ensure the security of the data being used for preparing smart national identity (NID) cards, saying there should be a firewall in such a digital project to check forgery.

She was inaugurating the distribution of smart NID cards at a function in the capital's Osmani Memorial Hall.

Hasina said: "There are adequate technologies in the country and it's very much necessary to utilise them to check forgery in using the smart NID cards."

The EC launched distribution of the much-awaited machine-readable smart NID cards among 10 crore citizens, replacing the existing paper-laminated cards.

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina hands Bangladesh cricket team captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza his smart national ID card at a function in the capital's Osmani Memorial Auditorium yesterday. The distribution of the more secure cards kicked off at the event.

**Brexit to start before April**

Says British PM, hopes it will lead to a 'smoother process of negotiation' with Brussels

AFP, Birmingham

Prime Minister Theresa May said Britain would start the formal process for leaving the EU before April as her governing Conservative Party opened its annual conference yesterday.

Though many Conservatives headed to the congress in Birmingham, central England still jubilant about Britain's June referendum vote to leave the European Union, the centre-right government has come under increasing pressure to define what shape Brexit will take.

Before yesterday, May had only repeatedly insisted that Britain would not invoke Article 50 of the EU's Lisbon Treaty -- starting a maximum two-year departure process -- before January.

"I've been saying that we wouldn't trigger before the end of this year so that we get some preparation in place," she told BBC television.

"We will trigger before the end of March next year."

May said she hoped the announcement would lead to a "smoother process of negotiation" with Brussels.

However, European powers keen to dampen euroscepticism in their own backyards have been taking an increasingly hard line, warning that Britain cannot expect special treatment on trade and immigration.

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