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Your Right to Know



'FUNDAMENTAL BEDROCK'
Defence Secretary Mattis says of Nato as he seeks to reassure allies

PAGE 8

FOUR POINTS
BY SHERATON
Dhaka Gulshan

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ate or indicators, a bumper tied with a rope, and a windscreen that has six pieces -- travel on cities would launch a crackdown on such vehicles from next month.

PHOTO: RaSHED SHUMON

Old, unfit buses to be scrapped next month

Get rid of 20-year-old vehicles in crackdown on unlicensed, underage drivers

Amakar

ed are going to t over 20-year-old illegal drivers in to reduce congested on streets. Corporation (DSCC) ld The Daily Star a meeting with Road Transport and Dhaka deputy the Nagar Bhaban

n the city streets, n causes of traffic discipline in the city the decision," he

the DSCC, BRTA,

BRTC and Dhaka deputy commissioner's office would be enforcing the law, the mayor said.

"We will form a working group in this regard and this group will work in this month ...," he said.

According to BRTA rules, a person has to have a minimum educational qualification of class-VIII-pass, to be eligible for getting a driving licence but this rule is not followed in many cases, said the mayor.

Transport workers said there were many drivers who do not have any educational qualifications and that they had become drivers by learning from other drivers.

With no institutional driving lessons learnt or knowledge about traffic rules, underage drivers of public transport, mostly human hauliers, are exposing city dwellers to accident risks.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

PM, Merkel to talk fighting terrorism

Dhaka-Berlin joint declaration during Hasina's Germany visit

Diplomatic Correspondent



Dhaka and Berlin are expected to sign a joint declaration to fight terrorism and violent extremism at the summit meeting of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Munich on Saturday.

The PM, who is scheduled to fly off to Germany tonight to attend the Munich Security Conference (MSC), will discuss with Merkel a host of bilateral, regional and international issues.

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali yesterday said the PM and the German chancellor, on the sidelines of the 53rd MSC, will exchange views on development cooperation, trade and investment, mutual cooperation to achieve Sustainable Development Goals, reduction of climate change risk, current refugee and migration crisis in Europe, global terrorism and violent extremism.

The two leaders are also expected to discuss the sudden rise of extreme nationalism and right-wing political forces

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

Lost in the maze of misfortunes

12-yr-old boy loses limbs falling from train roof; now stays abandoned at hospital

Shaheen Mollah and AKram Hosen

Wanting relief from torture of his stepfather and freedom, the teenage boy left his village in Kishoreganj and came to Dhaka six months ago. That freedom was short-lived as he lost his right limbs in a train accident and is now confined to hospital for having no one to take him home.

The 12-year-old, Robin probably had his

best days in the city playing with other street children and enjoying food and classes arranged by an NGO at Kamalapur Railway Station before the accident swept away all that from him.

On the fateful day nearly three months back, he was going to Gendaria from Kamalapur by train to meet his friends.

"Since I didn't have any ticket or money,

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



PHOTO: PaLASH KHAN

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