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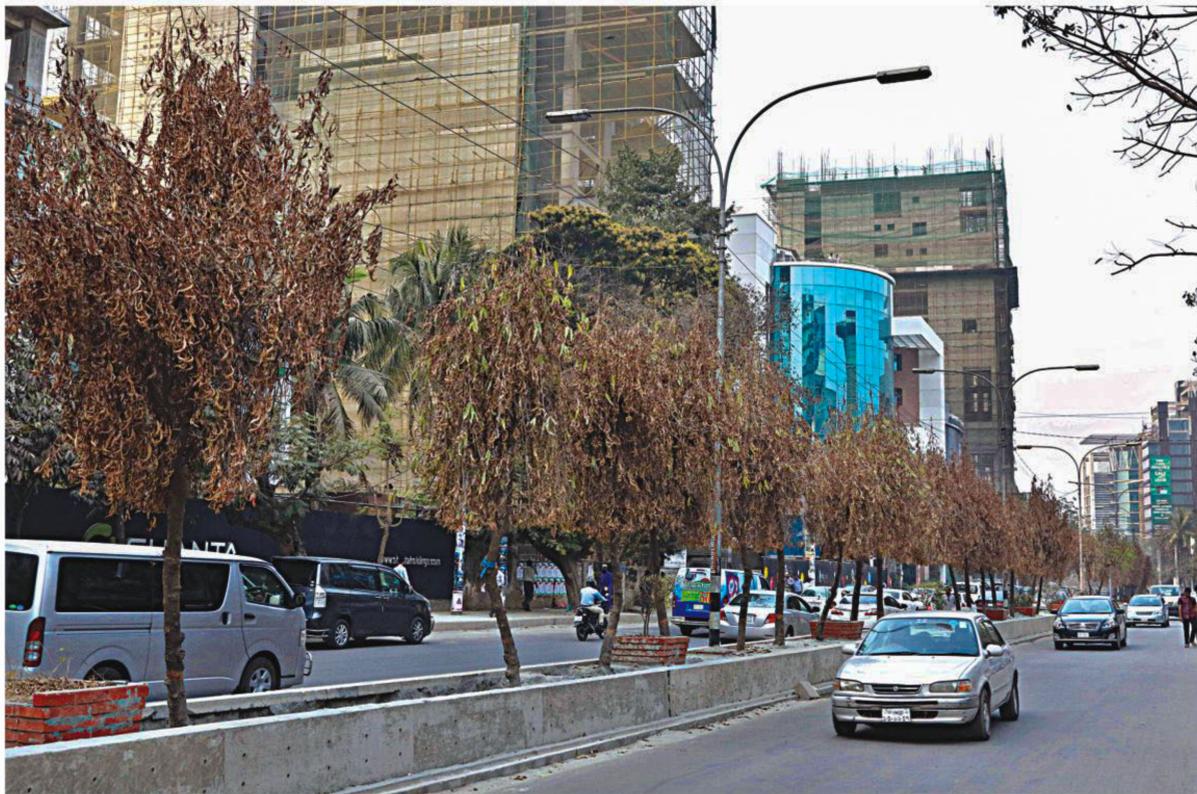
A good sign

Tobacco farmers switching to other crops, acreage drops to 1,500 hectares from 4,500 in 4 years

KONGKON KARMAKER, from Rangpur

Awareness of health hazards has put farmers in Rangpur off farming tobacco, though it was profitable, leading to the drop of acreage by almost one-third last year from that in 2012-13. According to statistics of the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE), Rangpur, tobacco was cultivated on around 4,500 hectares of land in 2012-13, which was the highest ever in the district. But then the acreage of tobacco has declined as farmers have been gradually switching to other crops despite challenges. Tobacco farming began spreading in Rangpur after 1971. It is now produced in Rangpur sadar, Haragachh, Taraganj and Gangachhara upazilas. Sixty-year-old Mozammel Hossain, of South Zigagari village in Taraganj upazila, started cutting down on his tobacco farming area two years ago. Three years back he cultivated tobacco on two acres of land that has been reduced to just 33 decimals this year. "Workers no more want to work on tobacco farms for the health hazards [they pose]." They feel sick after long hours in tobacco fields, Mozammel said, which was why he decided to grow any crop but tobacco. Like him, many other farmers decided to switch to other crops from tobacco. In 2013-14, the acreage of tobacco in Rangpur dropped to 2,522 hectares, the next year to 2,130 hectares and then to 1,595 hectares in 2015-16.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



Dead trees on the central reservation of Gulshan Avenue. Absence of maintenance has left most of the trees dead, which had been planted on the median strip as part of a city beautification programme. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Suspension on Farooki's Doob: What's going on?

FAHMIM FERDOUS

Mostofa Sarwar Farooki shook up the Bangladeshi film fraternity when he announced last year that he was making a film starring Irrfan Khan, one of the most internationally-sought after Indian actors. The India-Bangladesh joint venture project, titled "Doob" (No Bed of Roses), went on floors in March 2016. The film became the epicenter of attention again in November when an Indian newspaper reported that it was based on iconic Bangladeshi novelist Humayun Ahmed's life. Humayun Ahmed's wife Meher Afroz Shaon expressed deep concern in reaction, while Farooki clearly stated this was not a biopic, and that it was an original work of fiction (which he had written himself). Now, "Doob" is in the spotlight again, this time after the Bangladesh Film

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

AL wins 1st polls under new EC

Voting peaceful at Baghaichhari municipality; BNP candidate alleges subtle rigging

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

The ruling Awami League candidate yesterday won the polls to Rangamati's Baghaichhari municipality, the first under the newly formed Election Commission. AL's Jafor Ali Khan bagged 3,798 votes while independent candidate Azizur Rahman Aziz ranked second getting 2,125.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

Russia seeks 'post-West' order

Calls for 'pragmatic' ties with US as Pence courts jittery Europe

AFP, Munich

Russia yesterday called for an end to an outdated world order dominated by the West, even as US Vice President Mike Pence pledged Washington's "unwavering" commitment to its transatlantic allies in Nato. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov laid out a diametrically opposed global vision and offered "pragmatic" ties with the United States, just hours after Pence vowed to stand with Europe to rein in a resurgent Moscow. "I hope that (the world) will choose a democratic world order -- a post-West one -- in which each country is defined by its sovereignty," said Lavrov.

The time when the West called the shots was over while Nato was a relic of the Cold War, he said. In its place, Moscow wanted a relationship with Washington that is "pragmatic with mutual respect and acknowledgement of our common responsibility for global stability". The two countries had never been in direct conflict, he said, and were close neighbours across the Bering Straits. Moscow has been impatiently waiting for US President Donald Trump to make good on his pledge to improve ties which plunged to a post-Cold War low as Barack Obama slapped on sanctions over the

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

Most destructive 'weapon' of all time up for sale

AFP, Washington

Adolf Hitler's personal telephone, which the Fuehrer used to dictate many of his deadly World War II commands, will hit the auction block this weekend, the US house selling it announced. Originally a black Bakelite phone that was

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



WHEN WILL IT STOP?

Film posters and ads on walls are seen almost everywhere in the capital, making things look ugly. The authorities repeatedly ask people to stop this illegal practice but it continues unabated. The photos were taken near Moghbazar yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল
২০০, শহীদ সৈয়দ নজরুল ইসলাম সরণী, (পুরাতন ৮৬, বিজয়নগর), ঢাকা-১০০০
ফোন : ৯৫৫৫৫০৮, ৯৫৮৬৭২৭, ফ্যাক্স : ৯৫৫৫২৩৬
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বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের জ্ঞাতার্থে ও কার্যার্থে বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল কর্তৃক স্বীকৃত জার্নালের তালিকা প্রকাশ করা হইলঃ-

1. Bangladesh Medical Journal, 2. Bangladesh Medical Research Council Bulletin, 3. Journal of Bangladesh College of Physician and Surgeons, 4. Bangladesh Journal of Child Health, 5. Bangladesh Dental Journal, 6. Bangladesh Journal of Neuro-Science, 7. Chest & Heart Journal, 8. Medicine Today, A Professional Medical Journal, 9. Journal of Preventive and social Medicine, (JOPSOM) 10. Journal of Chittagong Medical College Teachers Association, 11. Journal of Dhaka Medical College, 12. Bangladesh Journal of Medical Science, 13. Bangladesh Journal of Psychiatry, 14. Medical Journal, 15. Journal of Oral Health, 16. Bangladesh Journal of Otorhinolaryngology, 17. Comilla B. M. A Journal, 18. Bangladesh Medical College Journal, 19. Journal of Comilla Medical College Teachers Association, 20. Journal of Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College, 21. Maa-Shi-shu-O-General Hospital Journal, 22. Bangladesh Private Medical Practitioners Journal, 23. Sylhet Medical Journal, 24. Journal of Medical Science of Research, 25. City Dental College Journal, 26. Jalalabad Medical Journal, 27. Journal of the Medical College for Women & Hospital, 28. Osmani Medical Teachers Association Journal, 29. Journal of Armed Forces Medical College, 30. University Heart Journal, 31. Ibrahim Medical College Journal, 32. Bangladesh Oncology Journal (BSRO), 33. Faridpur Medical College Journal (FMCJ), 34. Dinajpur Medical College Journal, 35. Journal of Bangladesh Society of Physiology, 36. Journal of the Bangladesh Society of Anesthesiology, 37. Cardio- Vascular Journal, 38. Bangladesh Journal of Community Ophthalmology, 39. BSMMU Journal, 40. Bangladesh Journal of Medical Biochemistry, 41. Bangladesh Journal of Cardiology, 42. Institute of Child and Mother Health Journal, 43. Bangladesh Dental College Journal, 44. Anwer Khan Modern Medical College Journal, 45. Journal of Uttara Adhunik Medical College, 46. Bangladesh Journal of Orthodontics of Dentofacial Orthopedics, 47. Journal of Khwaja Yunus Ali Medical College, 48. Northern International Medical College Journal, 49. Journal of Sylhet Women's Medical College 50. North East Medical College Journal, 51. Journal of Enam Medical College, 52. International Medical College Journal, 53. Birdem Medical Journal, 54. Update Dental College Journal, 55. Community Based Medical College Journal, 56. Bangladesh Journal of Dental Research & Education, 57. East West Medical College Journal, 58. Jahurul Islam Medical College Journal, 59. Journal of Paediatric Surgeon's of Bangladesh, 60. Euroasian Journal of Hepato Gastroenterology, 61. Delta Medical College Journal, 62. Dhaka Community Medical College Journal, 63. Rangpur Dental Journal, 64. Journal of Contemporary Dental Sciences, 65. Ibrahim Cardiac Medical Journal, 66. Bangladesh Critical Care Journal, 67. The Journal of Popular Medical College, 68. Islami Bank Medical College Journal, 69. Marks Medical Journal, 70. Bangladesh Journal of Cardiovascular & Thoracic Anaesthesiology (BACTA), 71. Dhaka Central International Medical College Journal, 72. Bangladesh Ophthalmic Journal, 73. Bangladesh Journal of Transfusion Medicine, 74. Journal of Oral Health & Bio Science, 75. TMSS Medical College Journal, 76. Journal of National Heart Foundation of Bangladesh 77. Barind Medical College Journal, 78. Journal of Sathkira Medical College, 79. Bangladesh Journal of Neurosurgery, 80. Journal of Cox's Bazar Medical College, 81. The Journal of Ad-din Women's Medical College, 82. Journal of Dr. Sirajul Islam Medical College, 83. JAMUMCTA, 84. MEDISCOPE, 85. JSWDC

১৯৬৬-৬৭

বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল
২০০, শহীদ সৈয়দ নজরুল ইসলাম সরণী
(পুরাতন ৮৬, বিজয় নগর) ঢাকা-১০০০

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BGB-BSF CONFERENCE
Border killing tops Dhaka's agenda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A five-day director-general level conference between Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) and Indian Border Security Force (BSF) opens in Dhaka today, with the Bangladesh side giving

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

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JAMAAT 5-55 1-15 4-45 6-07 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION