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SECOND EDITION



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No sign of stability in rice market

Private sector import hits 4-year low as 28pc import duty discourages importers amid rising price in global market

FY2012-13	FY2013-14	FY2014-15	FY2015-16	FY2016-17
29,000 tonnes	3.75 lakh tonnes	14.90 lakh tonnes	2.57 lakh tonnes	1.2 lakh tonnes

REAZ AHMAD and REJAUJ KARIM BYRON
Rice import by the private sector has dropped to a four-year low at a time when its prices have shot up in the domestic market. Traders imported only 1.2 lakh tonnes of rice till mid-June in the current fiscal year against 2.56 lakh tonnes in the previous fiscal year. Its import has not dipped so low since 2012 when 29,000 tonnes of rice were imported. Importers blame the existing 28 percent tariff on rice import for the decline. As the domestic rice market has become

volatile, the government is trying to replenish its depleting stock through quick import. But it hasn't yet made any move to encourage rice import by the private sector. Last week, the government decided to import parboiled rice from Vietnam for more than Tk 39 a kg. The state-run Trading Corporation of Bangladesh recorded 47 percent hike in the prices of coarse rice this month compared to that in the corresponding month last year. **TARIFF DISCOURAGING IMPORT** Government statistics show letters of credit
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An elderly homeless woman, who covered herself in a plastic sheet to take shelter from the rain, peeks out to see if the rain has stopped. Downpour flooded streets, disrupted traffic on roads and caused untold sufferings to the city dwellers, especially the homeless and Eid shoppers, yesterday. The photo was taken in front of the Curzon Hall on the Dhaka University campus.
PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

REPORTER'S Diary

HASAN JAHID TUSHER, from Rangamati
For the last six days, I have been reporting from Rangamati on the aftermath of the landslides. The district saw 118 of its people perish in the disaster. I have visited the affected areas and saw at close quarters the ravaged homes, roads, shops and government establishments. I have tried to focus on all the aspects involving the affected people and their sufferings. Now I am writing this piece to share my personal feelings that I had to keep aside while reporting. On the fateful morning of June 13, the people of Rangamati woke to scenes of apocalypse. Many lost their near and dear ones. There are families that have been completely destroyed. Many families have only one or two members alive.
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Man drives van into crowd of Muslims

British newspaper reports death of Bangladeshi; Bangladesh mission yet to confirm; 10 hurt

AGENCIES
A van ploughed into a crowd of Muslims near a London mosque early yesterday, leaving one person dead and injuring 10 others in the second terror attack this month in the British capital, reported AFP. Prime Minister Theresa May condemned the "sickening" incident, saying Britain's determination to fight "terrorism, extrem-

ism and hatred... must be the same, whoever is responsible". The 48-year-old driver of the van, a white man who police believe acted alone, was detained by people at the scene before being arrested on suspicion of attempted murder. The dead man was identified as an "elderly Bangladeshi man", British newspaper the Telegraph reported in its online edition.
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Rangamati still alarmed as rain yet to let up

People keep streaming into shelters; crisis of clothes, space

HASAN JAHID TUSHER and ANVIL CHAKMA, from Rangamati
As it continued to rain yesterday, people kept coming to the shelters for landslide victims in Rangamati. They feared further landslides due to the rain and streamed to the shelters on the advice of the local administration. Some of the 19 shelters in the district are already overcrowded. The people were being served meals twice a day but most of them were facing a crisis of clothes and space. Many of
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Heavy rains throw city life out of gear

People suffer in traffic jams on inundated roads

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Yesterday, it was the same old story of inexpressible misery that the city dwellers endure when city traffic system collapses after rain. Thousands of city dwellers suffered as vehicular movement halted for hours on waterlogged Dhaka streets during rush hours just three days ahead of the Eid holidays. The Gulistan-Nawabpur intersection in the city is among the busiest which thou-



A man breaks down in tears while another looks on after a van hit pedestrians near a North London mosque yesterday, killing a person and injuring eight others.
PHOTO: AFP

3 of a family die from electric shock

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Bachchu Miah could only stare at the bodies of his family members in front of his Lalbagh home in the capital. He could not say anything after losing his three family members. The three died from electrocution at their home yesterday morning. His mother Amena Begum, 55, wife Shirin Begum, 30, and elder daughter Afrin, 9, passed away. As it had been raining since yesterday morning, Bachchu, a tea vendor, was
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