



IS YOUR FOOD SAFE?
No scope to adulterate veg, fruits with formalin: food safety authorities
PAGE 3

EXPORT INCENTIVE
Five new sectors to get incentives, rates of four go up after recent changes
PAGE B1

POST-BANNON ERA
His departure tips trade scales in favour of White House 'globalists'
PAGE 8

MOON RIDE on the cards

Rain, flood turn roads to home awfully rocky for Eid holidaymakers

M ABUL KALAM AZAD and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Excessive rains and flooding twice in just four months have left most of the roads in a miserable state, which could make people's journey home for Eid-ul-Azha a nightmare.

If rain continues and the flood situation doesn't improve shortly, the road

networks will be further damaged, compounding woes of travellers. Many roads are currently under floodwater.

The condition of roads usually turns bad every rainy season. But the situation is more appalling this year due to heavy downpours and flooding. Many roads are in such a state that movement of

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

CHOKING POINTS ON 5 HIGHWAYS

- DHAKA-TANGAIL HIGHWAY**
Passengers may face difficulties because of potholes and expansion work of two-lane highway. Traffic movement will be disrupted at different points of the 50km stretch from Rasulpur of Chandra to Elenga.
- DHAKA-BARISAL HIGHWAY**
Passengers and vehicles using ferry services may face problems on Paturia-Daulatdia and Shimulia-Kawrakandi routes. Three pontoons at Kathalia terminal have been submerged. Ferries on Paturia-Daulatdia route are taking additional time due to strong currents. The condition of 30km road from Mostafapur to Joyosree is poor.
- DHAKA-CHITTAGONG HIGHWAY**
City dwellers heading to the port city may face traffic gridlock near the Kanchpur bridge. The road abruptly narrows down to just two lanes from eight lanes right before the bridge. There could be a similar situation near the two-lane Meghna bridge.
- DHAKA-MYMENSINGH HIGHWAY**
There will be congestions on the 12km stretch from Tongi bridge to Joydebpur Chourasta as the four-lane highway is reduced to two-lane there. Besides, haphazard parking of vehicles and dumping of waste along the highway further narrow down the road.
- DHAKA-BOGRA HIGHWAY**
Buses bound for Kurigram, Dinajpur, Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha, Nilphamari, Panchagarh, Rangpur and Dinajpur will face trouble while crossing the dilapidated Hatikumrul-Bogra-Gobindaganj road.



PHOTO: KONGKON KARMAKER

WARPED BY WATER... With the trackbed washed away by rushing flood water, the tracks of the Dhaka-Dinajpur railway at Kaugao now look like those of a roller-coaster. The tracks were submerged for three days since Sunday last week. This picture was taken yesterday. Rail officials say they would be able to fix about 15km of the damaged tracks a day before Eid-ul-Azha and restore rail communication to the region.



Selection questions & Smith's 'bouncer'

SPORTS REPORTER

When Australia disembarked in Dhaka on Friday night to mark their first Bangladesh tour after a gap of 11 long years, they were whisked off to a posh hotel not far away from the airport. Security was so imposing that few got the opportunity to take a glimpse of the famous 'baggy greens'.

But a vibrant day after a quiet night spiced up the upcoming two-Test series yesterday at the home of Bangladesh cricket in Mirpur, where a brief visit of the touring side was as animated as the explosion that centred around the announcement of the home squad for the first Test.

The talking point of the day was obviously the return of all-rounder Nasir Hossain and the exclusion of Mominul Haque in a 14-man squad for the first Test, starting at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium on August 27. The press briefing in Mirpur turned noisy the moment the selection panel, led by Minhazul Abedin, announced the squad. The selectors also did not consider Mahmudullah Riyad, tipped as one of the five pillars of Bangladesh's recent success story, in the squad. But the axing of Mominul sparked the biggest debate and at one stage chief selector Abedin, who was confronted with a volley of questions, asked the critical press to listen to the opinion from an all-consuming Bangladesh coach Chandika Hathurusingha, who is also a

MORE ON PAGE 14

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Unplanned dev threatening Sundarbans localities

Says Sultana Kamal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rights activist Sultana Kamal yesterday alleged that lives of people, who live in and around the Sundarbans, are being jeopardised due to unplanned development and industrial works near the mangrove forest.

As many as 20,000 people have so far lost their houses in erosion on both sides of the Pashur river triggered by filling up of the creeks connecting to the river, she said. Several village markets and important establishments were also lost to the erosion.

Sultana Kamal, convener of the National Committee to Protect the Sundarbans, was speaking

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

I think he did not do it right

Says Justice Khairul about CJ's observations in the 16th amendment verdict

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some of the observations in the 16th amendment verdict may have been given "out of antipathy" towards the government and parliament although judges are bound by oath not to do anything out of antipathy or affection, Law Commission Chairman Justice ABM Khairul Haque said yesterday.

"If you [journalists] and the people of the country think that his [chief justice] speech [observations], which was uncalled for, stemmed from antipathy, then think about the fate of the judgment," said Khairul, who was chief justice from September 2010-May 2011.

He was speaking at a discussion titled "National Mourning Day, 16th Amendment and Sheikh Hasina's Politics of Development" at the city's Cirdap auditorium.

Bangladesh Heritage Foundation, a non-profit, organised the programme with its chairman Wali-ur Rahman in the chair.



SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

Flood hits new areas in North

Onrush of water from upstream is to blame; 200 schools closed in Manikganj; PM to visit Dinajpur, Kurigram today

STAR REPORT

Although water levels in the Teesta, Dharla and Jamuna in the northern districts continued to fall, new areas in Rajshahi and Natore went under floodwater yesterday.

The ongoing mid-term examinations of government primary schools in all but Singair upazila of Manikganj were postponed due to flood.

Floodwater inundated low-lying areas in Shibchar upazila of Madaripur. Three pontoons in the district's Kathalbari ferry terminal were submerged as the Padma was flowing 30cm above the danger mark at Shibchar point.

According to Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre, the Ganges-Padma and Kushiyara rivers were showing rising trend while the water in the Brahmaputra, Jamuna and Surma rivers was receding.

In Rajshahi, floodwater entered Bagmara upazila town as the onrush of water from upstream continued yesterday, inundating inter-upazila roads, rural

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



FLOOD AT A GLANCE

Population affected	57.18 lakh
Families affected	13.22 lakh
People in shelters	2.97 lakh
People dead	98
Crops affected	4.68 lakh hectares
Districts affected	27

SOURCE: MINISTRY OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT & RELIEF



We Deeply Mourn

We mourn the death of **Mrs. Rabeya Khatun**, wife of Late Fazlul Karim and mother of Mr. Mohammad Obaidul Karim (Chairman, ORION GROUP), Mr. Md. Ebadul Karim (Chairman, Beacon Pharma Ltd.), Mr. Md. Rezaul Karim (Managing Director, Kohinoor Chemical Co. BD. Ltd.) and Mrs. Farzana Amin, who left us on Friday, August 18, 2017 (Inna Lillahe WaInna Ilayhi Raji'un) at 8:10 pm in Apollo Hospital.

All members of ORION Family mourn on her death. We pray for the salvation of the departed soul. May Almighty Allah give her family members the strength and forbearance to overcome this irrevocable loss.

A Dua' Mehfil will be held on Friday, August 25, 2017 after Asr' Prayers, at Gulshan Society Mosque, Road 63, Gulshan, Dhaka. You are cordially requested to join the Dua' Mehfil.

May Allah grant her Jannatul-Ferdous.

Ameen.

ORION GROUP

