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GOVT HOSPITALS ON EID HOLIDAYS

Many patients released

Limited services to be available for lack of on-duty doctors, nurses

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and SHADMA MALIK

Eight-year-old Hridoy had a surgery at Dhaka Medical College and Hospital two weeks ago after he had suffered severe injuries to his abdomen while swimming in the Gournadi, Barisal.

He had been under observation until doctors released him on Monday and advised his parent to bring him back after Eid for further treatment.

Like Hridoy, many patients of public hospitals have been released ahead of Eid mostly because a large number of doctors and nurses will be on leave during the holiday and so the hospitals will not be able to serve patients to their full capacity.

While many patients themselves want to go home to celebrate Eid, many fear facing health complications during the holiday and long hassle to get admission later to the hospitals that see huge rush of patients round the year.

Hridoy's mother Rahima Begum expressed concern as she talked to The Daily Star while looking for an autorickshaw outside the DMCH to go home at Kamrangirchar in Dhaka. Unable to walk, the boy was on a wheelchair beside her.

"It will be very difficult to get a bed [admission to the paediatric surgery department] again after the holiday," she said.

During visits to the DMCH, National Institute of Traumatology, Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation (Nitor), Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital and the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD), these correspondents saw patients being discharged and very few getting admission.

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Scared and perplexed, eight-year-old Hridoy, on a wheel-chair, was released on Monday after surgery and told to come back after Eid holidays. Inset, 50-year-old Mahfuza, a cardiac patient, sits in front of NICVD. She was also released on Saturday and told to return after Eid.

PHOTO: SHAHEEN MOLLAH

IRREGULAR MIGRANTS Bangladesh, EU finalise terms for return

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

After intense negotiations, Bangladesh and the European Union have finalised a draft agreement on the modalities on the return of irregular Bangladeshi migrants from 28 EU countries.

At the two-day negotiation that ended in the capital yesterday, the EU accepted Bangladesh's proposal to bring back all its citizens living illegally through a nationality verification process within a "logical time," said diplomatic sources.

"Both sides now will go to the internal procedure for signing a formal agreement on the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to determine the ways on their early return," said a senior official at the foreign ministry.

"It may take maximum two months to complete all formalities and internal procedures to ink an agreement."

Kamrul Ahsan, secretary

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Kalyan Party secy general 'goes missing'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Kalyan Party Secretary General MM Aminur Rahman has been missing since Sunday, said the party chairman Maj Gen (rt) Syed Muhammad Ibrahim.

"He went traceless after coming out of the party-office in Naya Paltan around 10:00pm on August 27," Ibrahim told The Daily Star last night.

Aminur's family members lodged a general diary with Paltan Police Station yesterday.

Police are looking into the matter, said Shiblee Noman, additional deputy commissioner (Motijheel) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

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Death of a dream

Family members of Rupa recounts her struggle to become a lawyer before being killed after 'gang-rape'

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU and MIRZA SHAKIL

Rupa Khatun was on the right track to realise her late father's dream.

Her father wanted her to become a lawyer one day and fight legal battles for the oppressed. So the 27-year-old from Sirajganj enrolled for LLB in a Dhaka college after her master's in 2014.

Life has been tough for her since early age. In the school and college years, she met her educational expenses by private tuition. Later, she joined a company to support her LLB study.

But both her life and her life's dream were cut short ever so cruelly.

On Friday night, three staffers of a bus she was on allegedly raped her before breaking her neck and throwing her body in a secluded area at Pashish Mile in Tangail. She was on way to Mymensingh, where she worked, from Bogra where she had gone to take an exam for a job.

"My father had the dream that one of his five children would become a lawyer. We couldn't do it, but she chased the dream," Hafizur Rahman, elder brother of the victim, told The Daily Star by phone.

Tangail police recovered the body around 11:00pm and arrested driver Habibur Rahman Habib, 40; supervisor Gendru Miah, 50; and three helpers -- Shamim, 30, Akram, 35, and Jahangir, 20.

Daughter of Jelhaj Pramanik of Asanbari village in Tarash upazila of Sirajganj, Rupa completed her master's in accountancy from Bogra Azizul Haque College in 2014. She started her LLB at Ideal Law College in the capital the next year.

"She was waiting for the LLB final exams in December," said Hafizur.

In her village home, relatives and neighbours have no words to console her mother who has been crying almost nonstop for the last few days.

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Rupa

EID HOLIDAYMAKING Trips on with little hassle

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With the Eid-ul-Azha only three days away, thousands of holidaymakers left the capital without facing much hassle at the exit points yesterday but were caught in traffic snarl-ups at different highways.

The bus and launch terminals and railway stations in the capital have already started witnessing crowds of home-goers. The rush of holidaymakers is expected to gain momentum in next two days.

Although the government has assured of taking adequate measures, transport operators fear the traffic on the highways may go haywire if it rains and the authorities fail to control vehicular movement at key points when traffic pressures intensify.

The exit points of the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

Digital piggy bank helps kids save

AFP, Zurich



In Switzerland, one of the world's wealthiest countries, financial planning starts young.

The country's number two bank Credit Suisse on Tuesday unveiled a piggy bank with built-in apps allowing children under 12 to set savings goals, check their balance and make payments.

"The financial education of children is a concern to people in Switzerland," Credit Suisse said in a statement, citing a recent study showing that 90 percent of parents in the wealthy Alpine nation want their children to learn how to handle money.

The study, conducted by the amPuls market

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Concern over observations

32 eminent citizens issue statement on 16th amendment verdict

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Thirty two eminent citizens yesterday expressed concern over the unexpected debate following "some irrelevant and uncalled for observations" made in the Supreme Court verdict of 16th amendment case.

In a press release signed by Md Moniruzzaman, general secretary of Charu

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PRAYER TIMING AUGUST 31

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-30 12-45 4-45 6-23 7-45

JAMAAT 5-05 1-15 5-00 6-26 8-15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

PRICES UP, PRICES DOWN

CARDAMOM	TK 2,000	↑
CUMIN	TK 400	↔
CINNAMON	TK 300	↑
CUCUMBER	TK 50	↑
ONION (LOCAL)	TK 50	↓
ONION (INDIAN)	TK 40	↓
RAISIN	TK 290-300	↔
GARLIC	TK 90-100	↓
GINGER	TK 80-90	↓
GREEN CHILI	TK 120	↑

INCREASE (Red arrow up), DECREASE (Green arrow down), STATIC (Blue double arrow)

SOURCE: PRICES BASED ON FINDINGS FROM VISIT OF 4 MARKETS IN THE CITY

PRICE PER KG

Kitchen market stable ahead of Eid

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN and ABDULLAH AL NAYEEM

The prices of essentials at the capital's major markets were steady compared to the previous week, much to the relief of city dwellers gearing up for Eid.

The more pleasant news is that the high prices of onions, which left many teary eyed, have started to drop.

However, to make food more savouring, people may have to cough up a bit extra as the prices of cardamom and cinnamon have shot up by Tk 100-150 and Tk 70-80 per kg.

But that could be made up for with onions, garlic and ginger, three essential ingredients of Bangalee cuisines, as their prices have dropped by Tk 10-20 per kg at capital's Kaptan Bazar, Karwan Bazar, New Market and Mohammadpur Krishi Market.

"Last week I sold onions for Tk 60 a kg. This week I bought it from wholesale market at Tk 45 and will be selling at Tk 50-55 a kg."

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গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

ঢাকা পরিবহন সমন্বয় কর্তৃপক্ষ

নগর ভবন ১৪-১৫ তলা (পূর্ব ব্লক)

৫, ফনিব্র রোড, ফুলবাড়িয়া, ঢাকা-১০০০

ওয়েবসাইটঃ www.dtca.gov.bd

স্মারক নং- ডিটিসিএ/প্রশাঃ/ট্রাঃম্যাঃকমিটি/১১৮/২০০৮ তারিখঃ ২৯/০৮/২০১৭খ্রিঃ

নির্মাণ সামগ্রী রাস্তা ও ফুটপাতে না রাখা সংক্রান্ত

গণবিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা পরিবহন সমন্বয় কর্তৃপক্ষের আওতাধীন এলাকায় (ঢাকা মহানগরসহ বৃহত্তর ঢাকা, নাগঞ্জ, গাজীপুর, মানিকগঞ্জ, মুন্সীগঞ্জ ও নরসিংদী জেলা) নির্মাণাধীন ইমারতের মালিক, বিভিন্ন প্রকার নির্মাণ কাজে নিয়োজিত নির্মাতা প্রতিষ্ঠান ও তাদের নিয়োজিত ব্যক্তিবর্গ/প্রতিষ্ঠান এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজে সম্পৃক্ত সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ইমারত নির্মাণ ও অন্যান্য উন্নয়ন প্রকল্প বাস্তবায়নকালে রাস্তা ও ফুটপাতে নির্মাণ সামগ্রী রাখার ফলে পথচারী ও যানবাহন চলাচল বাধার সম্মুখীন হচ্ছে। ফলে রাস্তায় যানজটের সৃষ্টি হয়ে জনসাধারণের ভোগান্তি বাড়ছে।

এ অবস্থা হতে উত্তরণের লক্ষ্যে সচেতন নাগরিক হিসাবে সংশ্লিষ্ট ভবন মালিক/নির্মাতা প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহকে নির্মাণ স্থান সংলগ্ন রাস্তা ও ফুটপাতে নির্মাণ সামগ্রী না রাখার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

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