

JUST A HOOK TO SOME LOVED ONES' SAFETY TO US



Rooppur, Country's Largest and the First Nuclear Power Plant
Proud to be a part of a new era in progress

Rooppur project work in progress using Shah Cement

'Yes' to Catalonia

90pc voted to leave Spain; Madrid under international pressure after police violence



AFP, Madrid

Spain came under international pressure yesterday to resolve a spiralling crisis with its Catalan region after a banned independence referendum was marred by shocking scenes of police violence.

The country's central government vowed to stop its northeastern region breaking away from Spain after Catalan's leader claimed that 90 percent of voters backed independence in Sunday's referendum, which Madrid says is unconstitutional and a "farce."

Abroad, the focus was on Sunday's violence, which saw SEE PAGE 12 COL 1



A man sleeps on a bench next to a pile of discarded bins near a local ward councillor's office in the capital's Motijheel area recently. The two Dhaka city corporations installed 6,700 such small bins at the roadside last year to keep the city clean. However, many of those have already become completely useless mainly because of lack of maintenance.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



Indian finance minister flies in today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Indian Finance Minister Arun Jaitley will arrive in Dhaka today noon as businessmen of the two countries are set to meet to discuss increasing bilateral trade and investment alongside signing of two agreements.

Jaitley will be accompanied by Subhash Chandra Garg, secretary, Department of Economic Affairs under the Indian finance ministry, other senior Indian officials and a 30-member high-level business delegation from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries and FICCI will discuss trade and investment this evening in presence of Arun Jaitley and Bangladesh Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu. Finance Minister AMA Muhith is also likely to attend the programme.

The Indian minister may visit Dhakeswari National Temple tomorrow morning. Then he will meet Muhith to sign the agreements.

One agreement is expected to be signed for the implementation of \$4.5 billion third Line of Credit announced by India during Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to the neighbouring country in April this year, according to an Indian official statement issued yesterday.

The "Joint Interpretative SEE PAGE 13 COL 7

US trio wins Nobel prize in medicine



AFP, Stockholm

US geneticists Jeffrey C Hall, Michael Rosbash and Michael W Young were awarded the Nobel Medicine Prize yesterday for shedding light on the biological clock that governs the sleep-wake cycles of most living things.

The team's work revealed the role of genes in setting the "circadian clock" which regulates sleep and eating patterns, hormones and body temperature, the Nobel Assembly said.

"Their discoveries explain how plants, animals and humans adapt their biological rhythm so that it is synchronised with the Earth's revolutions."

All life on Earth is tuned to the rotation of our planet. Scientists have long known SEE PAGE 12 COL 1

POWER TARIFF AT RETAIL LEVEL Desco proposes 6.34pc hike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd (Desco) yesterday sought 6.34 percent retail power tariff hike to avoid losses.

At a hearing at the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (Berc), the power distribution company said the retail tariff should be raised to Tk 7.40 a kilo-watt hour unit from existing Tk 7.20.

The company supplying power to areas such as Uttara, Gulshan and Mirpur in the capital said it had been incurring 5 percent loss because of the gap between the increases in the retail and bulk tariffs in 2015. If the bulk tariff is raised this time, it will have to count extra expenses while providing electricity to consumers.

Ruhin Hossain Prince, a member of the Communist Party of Bangladesh, said the proposed tariff hike would have multiple effects on consumers. "So, the tariff hike must be stopped."

The Consumers Association of Bangladesh opposed the power tariff hike proposal, saying Desco could easily operate with its current tariff rate.

Desco supplies power to 3.49 percent consumers in the country, according to the annual report of the Power Division for the year 2015-16.

The Berc yesterday said it would carry out a feasibility study to find the economic impact of an increase in tariff on consumers.

An economic impact analysis is required to raise the power tariff, said Monowar Islam, chairman of the Berc.

Over the last eight years, retail power tariff has been increased seven times - the last being in September 2015.

The Berc will have to announce its decision within 90 working days after the power tariff public hearings to be concluded tomorrow.



Revolutionary leader Jasim Uddin dies

REAZ AHMAD

The stark contrast between the haves and have-nots has been there throughout human history.

Yet there are many young people - even in today's post-Soviet world - who dream of bridging the baffling gap between the prosperous and the impoverished.

But as they grow old and become 'wiser' (in a material sense) many ditch the idea of a revolution.

However, in our part of the world - a man, well SEE PAGE 12 COL 4

Paris experiments with 'car-free day'

AFP, Paris

Parisians were encouraged to roller-blade, bike or stroll through the City of Light on Sunday for a "car-free" day intended to leave the streets vacant for slower, clean forms of transport.

Sunday marks the third time the French capital has experimented with a car ban, but it is by far the most ambitious with the zone set aside for pedestrians or cyclists covering the entire historic heart of the city - 105 square kilometres (40 square miles).

"This initiative requires an enormous amount of preparation," city mayor Anne Hidalgo told Le Parisien newspaper on Sunday. "Particularly because this year the zone has been enlarged to the whole of Paris."

SEE PAGE 12 COL 4



Fishermen spend time mending nets near Karnaphuli bridge area in Chittagong yesterday as a 22-day ban on catching hilsa has been in force across the country since October 1.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Rice traders asked to get licence by October 30

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Food officials have not been properly monitoring the market for long, allowing a section of unscrupulous traders to do business of essentials like rice and wheat without having licence and hoard them.

A meeting of district and divisional-level food officials held in the city yesterday acknowledged the issue and decided to follow rules strictly from now on.

Amid concern over hoarding of rice, the food ministry yesterday asked all importers, wholesalers, retailers and millers of rice and wheat to obtain licence from the Directorate General of Food by the end of this month.

The meeting, chaired by Food Minister Qamrul Islam, made a decision to issue a circular in this regard by October 10, asking all unregistered traders of rice and wheat to secure the licence by October 30 SEE PAGE 13 COL 7

PREMIER cement **Tigers Profile**

Taskin Ahmed

Taskin Ahmed burst onto the scene during the 2014 home series against India with a five-wicket haul in the second ODI in Dhaka, his international debut. In doing so, he had announced himself as one of the new breed of Bangladesh fast bowlers who could hurry the batsmen with pace and consistently get the needle up above 140 kph.

The tall fast bowler can extract bounce from most surfaces. He has enjoyed a fair amount of success in the ODI format, with 43 wickets from 29 matches at an average of 27.97. The high-point came in March 2017 in Dambulla, when he took a hat-trick with the last three balls of the innings in the second ODI against Sri Lanka.

The story is quite different, however, when it comes to Test cricket. He has played only five matches in the format, having made his debut against New Zealand in Wellington in January 2017. Taskin has taken just seven wickets from five matches at a grim average of 97.42. His action makes it easy for batsmen to pick up his length and since there is no need for batsmen to take risks in the longer version, he has found it hard to take wickets and will need to improve if he wants to become a regular in the side.

কদমতলী ফ্লাইওডার
বিনিমানে আমরা
গরিত অংশীদার

আমরা প্রমাণে বিশ্বাসী