



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

**Showbiz**

CELEBRATING GREATNESS

**FOR THE LOVE OF CAMERA**

Violence by lawyers on court premises takes the desire for publicity to an insane level

PAGE 7

**BREXIT TALKS**

May says there's "some way to go" but she is "optimistic"

PAGE 8

## ROHINGYA REFUGEES

# Kids in dire need of food, healthcare

Living conditions, diseases threaten 3,20,000 children



STAR REPORT

Desperate living conditions and waterborne diseases are threatening more than 320,000 Rohingya children who have fled to Bangladesh since late August, says Unicef.

"Many Rohingya refugee children in Bangladesh have witnessed atrocities in Myanmar no child should ever see, and all have suffered tremendous loss," Unicef Executive

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

**INFLUX** | **5,89,000** AND COUNTING



A Rohingya refugee girl, who crossed the border from Myanmar two days before, ducks under a barbed wire to reach the Kutupalong camp near Cox's Bazar on Thursday.

## MYANMAR EXODUS

# Rape being used as a weapon of war

THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION, Cox's Bazar

Rape is being used as a weapon of war in the Rohingya crisis, with no woman safe from the risk of sexual attack as the Myanmar nationals are driven out of its homeland, according to experts in the field and those caught up in the crisis.

Doctors treating some of the hundreds of thousands of Rohingyas who have fled to Bangladesh from Myanmar in recent weeks have seen dozens of women with injuries consistent with violent sexual attacks, according to UN clinicians.

And women interviewed by the Thomson Reuters Foundation tell of violent rape by Myanmar security forces as they flee their homes, part of a mass Rohingya exodus.

"The Burmese [Myanmar] military has clearly used rape as one of a range of horrific methods of ethnic cleansing against the Rohingyas," said Skye

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

## DEPRESSION IN BAY

# Nonstop rain cripples life

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unremitting rain, triggered by a depression in the Bay, drenched the entire country yesterday, flooding many streets and neighbourhoods of the capital and disrupting communications in different parts of the country.

The met office yesterday recorded 76mm of rainfall in Dhaka between 6:00am and 6:00pm. The highest 96mm rainfall was in Noakhali's Hatiya.

Maritime ports of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Mongla and Payra hoisted cautionary sign no three as the depression formed in the Bay, according to the met office.

The rain is likely to continue today and the weather will not improve before tomorrow, officials said.

Met forecasts light to moderate rain and thunder showers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally

SEE PAGE 12 COL 5

## Pollution biggest killer

9m deaths in 2015 globally; India, Bangladesh saw largest increase in deaths, says Lancet report

AGENCIES

Pollution claimed the lives of nine million people in 2015, one in every six deaths that year, according to a report published yesterday.

These premature deaths accounted for 16 percent of all deaths worldwide that year -- three times more deaths than from AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria combined and 15 times more than from all wars and other forms of violence, found the research published in The Lancet medical journal.

Almost all the deaths, 92 percent, happened in low- and middle-income countries, it said, with air pollution the main culprit, felling 6.5 million people, reports AFP.

Most of these deaths were caused by non-infectious diseases linked to pollution, such as heart disease, stroke and lung cancer.

Bangladesh and Somalia were the worst affected while Brunei and Sweden had the lowest numbers of pollution-related deaths, according to the BBC.

Almost half of the total toll came from just two countries -- India and China.

In rapidly-industrialising countries such as India, Pakistan, China, Bangladesh, Madagascar and Kenya, pollution can account for as many as one in four deaths, researchers said.

"Pollution and related diseases most often affect the world's poor and powerless, and victims are often the vulnerable and the voiceless," said co-author Karti Sandilya of Pure Earth, an anti-pollution NGO.

With global welfare losses of about \$4.6 trillion (3.9 trillion euros) per year, the economic cost of pollution-related deaths and disease is also concentrated in the developing world.

"Proportionally, low-income countries pay 8.3 percent of their gross national income to pollution-related death and disease, while high-income countries pay 4.5 percent," said the researchers.

SEE PAGE 12 COL 5

**KEY POINTS**

- 92pc of the toll happened in low- and middle-income countries
- Air pollution the main culprit, felling 6.5 million people
- Bangladesh and Somalia were the worst affected

## Afghan mosque attacks kill 72

AGENCIES

Suicide attackers in Afghanistan killed at least 72 people at two mosques yesterday -- one in the Afghan capital of Kabul and the other in the central province of Ghor, reports Reuters.

At least 39 people died and 45 were wounded in an assault on the Imam Zaman Shiite mosque in Kabul, Afghan Interior Ministry spokesman Najib Danish said.

The attacker detonated his suicide vest in Imam Zaman mosque in the early evening, police said.

At least 33 people were killed and 10 were injured in an attack on a Sunni mosque in Ghor province, west of Kabul, Danish said.

Abdulhai Khatebi, Ghor provincial spokesman, said the attacker detonated his suicide vest during worship services in the late afternoon. The mosque is in the province's Doleena district, according to CNN.

The two attacks are the latest in the country, where Afghan and coalition forces have been squaring off for years with Islamic militants, including the Taliban and ISIS -- both Sunni movements.

SEE PAGE 12 COL 4

## DU GHA UNIT ADMISSION

# Question leaked hours before test

Electronic device used; 2 BCL leaders arrested; 12 admission seekers jailed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two Chhatra League leaders and an admission seeker at Dhaka University were arrested yesterday over leaking the question paper of the university's honours admission test.

A mobile court also jailed 12 examinees under "Gha" unit for a month each for using an electronic device during the one-hour exam that began at 10:00am.

A number of students alleged that some admission seekers received e-mails containing questions of the English part of the exam around eight hours before the exam began.

Copies of the answers to these questions were sent to the mobile phones of some admission seekers around 9:30am, said complainants.

The Daily Star obtained a copy of the e-mail, containing 24 MCQ questions, which was sent at 3:19am yesterday. Each of the questions in the e-mail matched with those of the actual question paper.

The DU authorities, however, brushed off the allegation of question leak, claiming that there was no chance anybody could do so on the night before the exam as the question paper was printed yesterday morning.

"We have not received any complaint about question leak,"

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



Cars drive through a flooded Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue after heavy downpours in the capital around 4:00pm yesterday. From 6:00am to 3:00pm, the Met Office recorded 53mm rain in Dhaka city caused by a land depression over Odisha and adjoining areas.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

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