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Smart helmets could save lives

Kurigram polytechnic student invents motorcycle safety system

ABDUL WAHED with ANDREW EAGLE

Despite the law enforcement efforts, many motorcyclists in Bangladesh often ride without a helmet. Now an enterprising polytechnic student from Kurigram has invented a "smart helmet" with the potential to succeed in promoting helmet use. Reliant on Bluetooth technology, the smart helmet will not allow a bike's engine to start unless the helmet is on the rider's head. Without a helmet, a motorbike fitted with this technology is going nowhere.

An electronic technology student at Kurigram Polytechnic Institute, Motiur Rahman, from Chattuol village in Dinajpur's Bochaganj upazila, invented the smart helmet system as an entry for the Skill Competition 2017 held at the institute in October. He won first prize.

"Most motorcyclists aren't interested in



using helmets," Motiur observes. "Many die in road accidents, from head injuries. I thought: What if riders were compelled to use helmets by the functioning of the motorbike itself?"

Motiur took his idea to the institute's laboratory and with the help of more senior

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PHOTO: COLLECTED

An elephant and her one-and-a-half-year-old baby were electrocuted early Saturday in Chittagong's Lohagara. The animals died when they became entangled in the wires placed by a farmer to protect his paddy field.

Lift duty on gold import

TIB urges govt to curb gold smuggling, bring discipline in sector

STAR REPORT

The Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) yesterday urged the government to gradually lift the duty on gold to free the nation from its smuggling and bring about transparency in its trade.

Reducing import duty and framing a policy on gold would encourage its import through legal channels, TIB said. That would reduce smuggling and create a facilitating environment for trade in the country where Tk 25 crore worth gold is traded a day, the civil society organisation observed.

Currently, import duty of gold is Tk 3,157 to Tk 3,162 for each bhoir (11.664 grams). Under the Baggage (Import) Rules 2016 by the

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Flies more germ-laden than assumed



ANI, Washington DC

You may want to rethink gobbling down those potato fries that have been sitting out at your next picnic as according to a team of researchers, the disease-carrying potential of flies may be greater than previously thought.

In a study of the microbiomes of 116 houseflies and blowflies from three different continents, researchers found, in some cases, these flies carried hundreds of different species of bacteria, many of which are harmful to humans. Because flies often live close to humans, scientists have long suspected they played a role in carrying and spreading diseases, but this study, which was originally initiated at Penn State's Eberly College of Science, added

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Take action against doctor responsible

HC orders BMDC about the physician who left a twin inside a woman's womb

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed Bangladesh Medical and Dental Council (BMDC) to take appropriate action against Sheikh Hosne Ara, who performed a caesarean operation on Khadiza Begum and delivered a baby leaving its twin inside the womb in Comilla's Gouripur.

The BMDC will take action on the basis of the investigations conducted by two probe committees led by the civil surgeon of Comilla. Hosne Ara cannot do any surgeries until the BMDC takes the action, Assistant Attorney General Arobindu Kumar Roy told

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Nepalis vote after 18 years

AGENCIES

Nepalis across the country's mountainous north voted yesterday in elections that could herald change after 20 ruinous years marked by a bloody Maoist insurgency, a devastating earthquake and crippling political instability.

More than a decade after the end of a civil war between Maoist peasant guerrillas and security forces, Nepal is hoping this election - the first parliamentary polls since 1999 - will complete its long

journey from a monarchy to become a federal republic, reported Reuters.

More than two million people -- around 65 percent of eligible voters -- cast their ballot for representatives in new national and provincial parliaments.

The two-phase elections will establish the country's first provincial assemblies as laid out in a post-war constitution that aims to devolve power from the top-heavy central governments to seven newly created provinces.

Nepal's tumultuous transition from

monarchy to democracy has been marred by crippling instability that has seen 10 leaders hold power in 11 years -- some of them more than once -- hampering development and recovery from the earthquake that struck in 2015.

The areas that were worst hit by the quake, which killed 9,000 and destroyed half a million homes, voted on Sunday, with many expressing hope that sluggish reconstruction would be kickstarted by the political change.

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SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 27

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN	5-10	12-45	3-45	5-19	7-00
JAMAAT	5-45	1-15	4-00	5-22	7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Try Jamaat for crimes against humanity

Experts urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Experts yesterday called upon the government to ensure trial of Jamaat-e-Islami as an organisation for committing war crimes during the Liberation War.

Academics and researchers, also witnesses to the 1971 war, from home and abroad, urged the international community to build a coalition to try former Pakistani military men for being instrumental in carrying out gruesome genocide.

The call was made on the concluding day of the two-day international seminar titled "1971: Genocide-Torture and Liberation War". Centre for Genocide-Torture and Liberation War Studies and Bangladesh Itihas Sammilani jointly hosted the event at

the Bangla Academy.

At the programme, experts from the USA, the UK, India, Cambodia and Bangladesh conducted five scholarly sessions on the relevance and meaning of genocide.

War crimes researcher Shahriar Kabir said the government has been trying individuals for crimes against humanity. "Time has come now to try Jamaat and other similar Islamist parties who had committed genocide in the name of religion in 1971."

In this regard, he referred to the Nuremberg trials held between 1945 and 1949 when a tribunal not only tried individuals, but also pronounced verdicts against seven organisations and their leaders, including top leaders of Nazi Party, for

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১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকার নোটের প্রধান ৪টি নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্য

জাতির জনক বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান এর প্রতিকৃতি সম্বলিত ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকার নোট লেনদেনের সময় নিম্নবর্ণিত ৪টি নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্য খেয়াল করলে আমরা সহজেই আসল নোট চিনতে পারব :

০১। নিরাপত্তা সূতাঃ ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের নিরাপত্তা সূতায় বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের লোগো এবং নোটের মূল্যমান মুদ্রিত আছে যা নোট কাঁচ করে ধরে নড়াচড়া করলে দেখা যাবে। ২০১৭ সালের জুন মাস হতে মুদ্রিত ১০০ ও ৫০০ টাকার নোটে চুলের বেনী আকারে মুদ্রিত নিরাপত্তা সূতার একটি অংশ নোটের নড়াচড়ায় লাল হতে সবুজ রংয়ে পরিবর্তন হবে এবং বাংলায় লেখা নোটের মূল্যমান দেখা যাবে।

০২। রং পরিবর্তনশীল কালিঃ ১০০ ও ১০০০ টাকার নোট চিত করে ধরে নড়াচড়া করলে রং পরিবর্তনশীল কালিতে মুদ্রিত অংশ সোনালী হতে সবুজ এবং ৫০০ টাকার নোটে এটি লালচে হতে সবুজ হবে। তাছাড়া, ১০০০ টাকার নোটের পিছনে বামদিকে হালকা নীল রংয়ের BANGLADESH BANK লেখাটি নোট নড়াচড়া করলে দেখা যাবে।

০৩। অসমতল ছাপাঃ ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমানের প্রত্যেক প্রকার নোটের সম্মুখ ও পশ্চাৎ পৃষ্ঠের ডিজাইন, মধ্যভাগের লেখা, ইংরেজী ও বাংলা সংখ্যায় লেখা নোটের মূল্যমান, ৭টি সমান্তরাল সরলরেখা এবং এর ঠিক নিচে অবস্থিত ছোট ছোট বৃত্তাকার ছাপ খসখসে অনুভূত হবে।

০৪। অতি সূক্ষ্ম আকারের লেখাঃ ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমানের নোটের পেছনের পৃষ্ঠের বৃত্তাকৃতি অংশে অতি সূক্ষ্ম আকারে BANGLADESH BANK লেখাগুলো আতশী কাঁচ ছাড়াও স্মার্ট ফোনের ক্যামেরা প্রয়োজন যতো জুম করে নিচে প্রদর্শিত অংশের ছবি তুলে তা পুনরায় জুম করে দেখা যাবে।





ব্যাংকনোটের ব্যবহার সম্পর্কে সচেতন হোন

নোট জালকারীচক্রের প্রতারণা থেকে নিজেকে রক্ষা করুন এবং এসকল নোট জালকারীকে ধরিয়ে দিন। আসল নোটের নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্য সম্পর্কে নিজে জানুন এবং অপরকে জানতে সহায়তা করুন ॥

স্বল্পমূল্যের বিভিন্ন ব্র্যান্ডের জালনোট সনাক্তকারী মেশিন (UV) এবং আতশী কাঁচ দ্বারাও জালনোট সহজে পরীক্ষা করা যায়।

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