



4G IN THE OFFING

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'SUDDENLY IGNITED'

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ON THE CUSP OF HISTORY

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Ride-apps to get govt nod

Draft guideline outlines fare, security conditions; it's likely to be placed before cabinet today

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

The road authorities open the door to app-based transport service providers like Uber and Pathao but on two key conditions -- fares cannot be more than that of taxi services and security cannot be compromised.

The government will fix or re-fix the fares if there is any discontent among passengers over those, according to the proposed guideline for the ride-hailing services.

The apps used by the service providers must have facilities so that both passengers and drivers can send signal to the police control room in case of emergency, it mentioned.

Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) has prepared a draft of the "Ride-sharing Service Guidelines 2017" and sent it to the Cabinet Division, said ministry sources.

It is likely to be placed before the cabinet today for approval, they said.

With 10 sections and 45 sub-sections, the draft has been prepared when around a dozen app-based services, including Uber, Pathao, Cholo, Amarbike, Ezzyr and taxiwala, are

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Fog halts flights for 10 hours

Ferry disruptions continue

STAR REPORT

Persisting dense fog has been disrupting travel by air, river and road for the last four days.

Flight operations at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport were halted for 10 hours since early yesterday, causing delay in all domestic flights and diversion of three international flights, insiders said.

At Shah Amanat International Airport in Chittagong, three international flights and several domestic flights were delayed for the same reason, said officials of different airlines.

Passengers travelling by road and river also had to suffer and were stuck for

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RELATED STORY ON PAGE 2



Menacing Mockbul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former Awami League lawmaker Mockbul Hossain yesterday threatened that the heads of demonstrating students and interns of MH Samorita Medical College and Hospital would be blown off.

Mockbul, founding chairman of the college

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Disease in diagnosis

Medicare in Ctg suffers for some errant diagnostic centres

MOSTAFA YOUSUF, Ctg

The quality of medical care in the port city is getting a bad name in recent times, leading to immense patient sufferings. And the diagnostic centres are partly to blame.

Healthcare is characterised by the treatment of the patient by taking into account the clinical reports, rather than just the symptoms of a disease. Getting the right diagnosis is a key aspect as it helps doctors decide on subsequent steps.

Bakteyar Hossen Saimon from Noapara village of Raazan upazila in Chittagong thought the worst was behind after his mother's gall bladder removal at Delta Hospital in Chittagong in the first week of June.

But a few days after the procedure, a diagnostic report showed the presence of malignancy

(adenocarcinoma) that had spread and that she would require chemotherapy to heal.

"We were absolutely devastated by the news. Thinking about what to do next, I decided to go to Christian Medical College (CMC) at Vellore, India for a second opinion."

Zippering through the visa procedure, they flew out the very next week. "To our surprise, the medical report of the Department of Hepato Pancreato Biliary Surgery of CMC showed no evidence of cancer."

Mitu Chakraborty, 42, a resident of Akbar Shah in Chittagong, shares a similar narrative. She had heard of varying blood work results from her acquaintances before and so she gave blood samples at Popular Diagnostic and Nuclear Medicine and Allied Science on September 5.

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Pranab Mukherjee in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former Indian president Pranab Mukherjee reached Dhaka yesterday on a five-day private visit.

Foreign Minister AH

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Tigers take on Zim as new era starts

SPORTS REPORTER

The cold and fog may not allow the sun to shine bright on the skies of Dhaka today but the Tigers will be hoping for a bright start to the new year following a rather gloomy atmosphere since their disastrous tour of South Africa which ended on a lowly note.

From the surprising departure of Chandika Hathurusingha following his resignation in the middle of the South Africa tour to dropping two of the most exciting prospects in Soumya Sarkar and Taskin Ahmed from the squad due to a lack of form, the first series of the new year is expected to throw the challenge of being regrouped to the Tigers.

And that challenge starts today as the hosts take on Zimbabwe in the first game of the tri-nation ODI series, starting at 12:00pm at the Sher-e-Bangla National stadium in Mirpur, with the other team in the competition being Hathurusingha's Sri Lanka.

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An elderly man gets overwhelmed by emotions during the Akheri Munajat or final supplication on the last day of the first phase of the Biswa Ijtema. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Akheri Munajat offered in Bangla

This is for the first time; divine blessings and forgiveness sought for the mankind

ABU BAKAR SIDDIQUE, Gazipur

Hundreds of thousands of Muslims raised their hands seeking divine blessings for mankind and forgiveness, as the first phase of the Biswa Ijtema concluded yesterday with the Akheri Munajat or final supplication conducted in Bangla on the Turag.

This is the first time the munajat was conducted in Bangla since 1980.

The Imam of Kakrail Mosque in the capital, Hafez Mohammad Zobayer, conducted the Munajat. In his 35-minute prayers beginning at 10:40am, Zobayer sought forgiveness and blessings for mankind and that they refrain from selfish acts and jealousy.

the prayers as Indian scholar and top leader of Tabligh Jamaat Mawlana Saad Kandhalvi, who conducted final supplications for the last three years (in Arabic and Urdu), could not join the congregation this year.

Tabligh Jamaat has been organising the Biswa Ijtema, also called the World Muslims' Congregation, every year since 1946. In 2011, the organisers split the congregation into two phases to deal with overcrowding, ensure better management and security.

The second phase of the 53rd edition of the Biswa Ijtema will begin on January 19 and conclude on January 21 with another Akheri Munajat.

Security was beefed up at the venue and

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3 SLAIN 'JMB MEN' Rab identifies one as Mezba

He'd been missing for two months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One of the three suspected Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh operatives killed during Friday's Rab raid in the capital's Nakhalpara has been identified as Mezba Uddin of Comilla, said Rab.

His fingerprints matched

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