

Building Karnaphuli Multi Lane Road Tunnel with Ultimate Safety



HIGHEST SELLING 12 CEMENT for more than years



Yaba trade cuts across professions

Doctor among 3 held with 1200 pills on Dhaka-Ctg highway

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

The seizure of yaba pills by law enforcement agencies has dominated headlines in recent times. More concerning is that the individuals found involved in the illicit trade include a lawyer, a jailer, a cricketer, police and narcotics officials and many students, among others.

This time a physician, along with his two cohorts, was apprehended for the same offence.

The incident took place at Chandina upazila in Dhaka-Chittagong highway on Friday night. The arrestee, Mostafa Kamal Kazol, 38, who claimed to be a physician, was caught while carrying 1,200 yaba pills from Teknaf.

Mostafa was enrolled in the 24th BCS (Health) and now studying at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) as a post-graduate student, said Mohammad Ali Mahmud, officer-in-charge of Chandina Police Station.

According to police, Mostafa had graduated from Rajshahi Medical College in 2005 and was currently working as a physician at a private clinic in the capital's Mohammadpur area.



SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



There is hardly any activity at Naniarchar Bazar, usually one of the busiest places in the otherwise quiet hills of Rangamati. Policemen patrol the streets, left, as an eerie silence descends upon the upazila after six people were killed in gun attacks in just two days. Family members of Tapan Jyoti Chakma, who was killed on Friday, in tears at his funeral in Khagrachhari. The pictures were taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANVIL CHAKMA/ COLLECTED



BANGABANDHU-1 Pre-launch test done successfully

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The test run of the country's first geostationary communications satellite, Bangabandhu-1, has been successfully completed yesterday, said the BTRC.

"We learned that the test run was successfully completed and the data collected from the test needs to be analysed, which will take a couple of days," Shahjahan Mahmood, chairman of the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission told The Daily Star yesterday.

He said the data has been sent to the US launching firm Space Exploration Technologies Corporation (SpaceX) headquarters in Los Angeles.

Mahmood said they were hopeful that the launch would happen within a few days. Learning about the successful test, the BTRC, which leads the government's much-hyped project, rearranged the government delegation's travel plans to Florida. The delegation flies this evening.

Six officials of the BTRC and satellite project left Dhaka yesterday and 42

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

'Tell Supreme Court I'm critically ill'

Khaleda to her lawyers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday asked her lawyers to bring the matter of her "serious illnesses" to the notice of the Supreme Court during the hearing on two appeals against the High Court bail order in the Zia Orphanage Trust graft case on Tuesday. "Madam told us, 'Tell the Supreme Court I'm critically ill'. Her health is deteriorating gradually as she is staying in a damp environment in the jail," Khaleda's lawyer Abdur Rezzak Khan told journalists after meeting her in the old Dhaka Central Jail on Nazimuddin Road.

The former attorney general along with senior Supreme Court lawyers Khandker Mahbub Hossain, Zainul Abedin, AJ



SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

'An act of aggression'

Yemen slams UAE for 'occupying' sea and airports on Yemen island

AGENCIES

United Arab Emirates (UAE) forces have occupied sea and airports on Yemen's remote island of Socotra, a day after deploying four military craft and more than 100 troops there, according to a Yemeni government official.

Condemning the move as an "act of aggression", the official said UAE soldiers also blocked Ahmed Obeid bin Daghr, Yemen's prime minister, and 10 ministers from leaving Socotra on Friday.

"The UAE has occupied the airport and seaport of Socotra island, despite the Yemeni government's presence there. What the UAE is doing in Socotra is an act of aggression," the official told Al Jazeera.

Saudi Arabia has pledged to send investigators to Socotra, according to the official.

Socotra, a UNESCO heritage site home to some 60,000 people, has a 3,000-metre-long runway, ideal for fighter jets and large military aircraft.

The UAE recently leased the island for 99 years and has confirmed carrying out military operations there.

Residents of the island said the flag of the UAE and images of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, often known as MBZ, now adorn official buildings.

The deployment of Emirati troops on Thursday coincided with a rare visit to the strategically important island by Daghr.

Hundreds of islanders gathered to welcome him on Thursday.

They denounced UAE presence on the island and chanted slogans in support of President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi and a unified Yemen.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Dhaka calls for OIC reform

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has underlined the need for bringing a major reform to the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) for further strengthening the 57-country body and spread the benefits of the group to all Muslims across the world.

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali put forward the proposal at the inaugural session of the two-day 45th Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) which began in Dhaka yesterday at Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC).

"A number of countries [who are] not OIC members, have a large number of Muslims as their

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

China unveils longest sea-crossing bridge

CNN ONLINE

As we drive down the eerily deserted Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge, the murky waters of the Pearl River Delta stretch as far as the eye can see. There is no land in sight.

Spanning 34 miles (55 kilometers), this is the longest sea-crossing bridge ever built. Guo Xinglin, assistant director and senior engineer at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Authority, meets us half way along. As we are buffeted by a strong wind, the tough conditions his construction crew experienced, as they perched on precarious platforms,

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



35 sued over murder of Narsingdi UP chairman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

A case has been filed with Raipura Police Station over the murder of Banshgari Union Parishad Chairman Sirajul Hoque in Narsingdi.

The victim's son Ashraful Hoque filed the case against five named and 30 unnamed people on Friday night, Delwar Hossain, officer-in-charge of the police station, told The Daily Star.

The named accused are involved in ruling Awami League politics, said locals.

The case mentions that the chairman was shot dead by rivals over establishing supremacy in Banshgari area.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

CARELESS CHILDCARE Going home all smiles

AMIR HASAN SHAHRIAR, Chittagong

Childbirth is tough for every mother, but for Rokhsana, it was toughest as she experienced the trauma of 'her' baby's death before getting her daughter back alive.

Rokhsana and her baby girl were released from Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) yesterday morning after 22 days of uncertainty. Before that, she was mistakenly handed over the wrapped body of a baby boy at Childcare Hospital, a private clinic, where her newborn daughter was undergoing treatment.

"I am the happiest person in the world now. Words cannot describe my feelings," Rokhsana told The Daily Star.

She was seen staring at her baby's face with an ocean of affection in her eyes and a big smile on her face while leaving the hospital.

Rokhsana, wife of Md Mohiuddin, a Dubai

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Rokhsana Akhter smiles as she leaves Chittagong Medical College Hospital with her newborn yesterday. The mother was given the lifeless body of a baby last month by a private hospital in the port city after a mix-up by the authorities.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

North Korea goes back to future by 30 minutes

AFP, Seoul

North Korea went forward in time by 30 minutes yesterday, state media said, to match its clocks with those of the South following last week's inter-Korean summit.

Leader Kim Jong Un promised the move during the meeting at Panmunjom in the Demilitarized Zone that divides the peninsula, when he and the South's President Moon Jae-in pledged to pursue denuclearisation and a peace treaty.

"The time-resetting is the first practical step taken after the historic third north-south summit meeting to speed up the process for the North and the South to become one," said the official KCNA news agency.

In Panmunjom, Kim had said he found it

a "painful wrench" to see clocks at the summit venue showing different times for the two neighbours, KCNA reported earlier.

Kim expressed "his resolution to unify the two times... as the first practical step for national reconciliation and unity", it said, and the North's parliament on Monday adopted a decree to put the move into effect from yesterday.

Seoul welcomed the decision as a "symbolic move" towards better inter-Korean ties.

North and South are now vastly different societies, one a democratic member of the OECD club of developed countries, and the other an impoverished, hereditary one-party state left isolated by its pursuit of nuclear weapons.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING MAY 6

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN	4-15	12-45	5-00	6-34	8-00
JAMAAT	4-50	1-15	5-15	6-38	8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

United Hospital

Call **10666 9852466**

24/7 Appointment Desk

For Appointment, Emergency & Ambulance