

Dhaka still

FROM PAGE 3
Hatirjheel, enjoying its serenity. Many were seen boarding buses to travel the entire area while some took a ride on the water taxi.
Seven-year-old Kiran was elated as she took a ride on a water taxi with her parents.
“She does not want to go home,” said her father Mohammed Khalil. The Keraniganj resident said his office will start tomorrow [today] and that was why he visited the city with his wife and daughter yesterday.
Meanwhile, many residents just strolled around the city without being worried about traffic or crowd -- an otherwise rare phenomenon. Many also enjoyed rickshaw rides on almost empty roads.
Iqbal Hossain, a Mirpur resident, took his twin daughters -- Isha and Tisha -- to Dhaka University. “I wish Dhaka were always like this,” said the businessman. “This crowd and traffic-free Dhaka experience is one of a kind.”
“We too wish the same,” the twins chimed in cheerily.



The Sylhet-Tamabil road has long been in deplorable conditions -- with inadequate initiatives to keep it in shape -- particularly for those visiting Jaflong and other tourist attractions. The photo was taken at Jaintapur bazar recently.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Pigeon lover becomes

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Before this Eid-ul-Azha, he sold three goats, two bulls and three pairs of pigeons for Tk 7 lakh.
Naturally enough, Faysal's success has inspired others.
Twenty-eight-year-old Hedaiful Islam Sagar from Shakpala in the town is one who has followed in Faysal's footsteps. “Faysal is really helpful,” says Sagar, who earns up to Tk 20,000 per month from his own flock. “I learnt so much from him about the different breeds, what food to give them, about medicines and how to care for my pigeons.”
Sagar is one of more than fifty people of all ages who have started farming pigeons because of Faysal. “Some of them earn more than I do,” Faysal laughs.
But Faysal's business interests did not end there. In 2012 he diversified. He farms parrots including Indian ring necks, Australian rosellas and South African love birds. He has added three Haryana goats, two Nepalese bulls, five Australian cows, and 24 Indian garole sheep.
“Faysal is an enterprising young man who found success through his own efforts, with hard work,” says a friend Atiqul Islam, who has made his rooftop available to house Faysal's ever-growing flock.
In fact, it is not only accommodation requirements that have expanded. Faysal employs three people these days to look after his farm. The pigeon breeder who now has property worth more than Tk 75 lakh is also working on adding a fish farm.
“What I learnt is that for any educated person who doesn't find a job, mental strength is one's capital,” Faysal says. “Invest that in hard work. Sincere, personal efforts can bring success.”
“Initially I was afraid for my son,” reflects his mother Fatima Begum. “But he has done well with pigeons. He has inspired many. I feel proud of him. It's a good thing to be proud of, isn't it?”

Jatka sold openly in Barisal wholesale market

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

The Port Road wholesale fish market in Barisal city has become flooded with jatka (hilsa measuring less than 10 inches long) despite a government ban on catching and selling of the small fish all year around.
During a visit to the market, which is also the largest fish landing station of Barisal division, it was seen that huge amounts of jatka were being sold openly. Most of the hilsa in the market were as little as 7 to 8 inches long, and the supplies mainly came from Bhola district, particularly its Char Fasson, Lalmohan, and Manpura upazilas.
Bimol Chandra Das, district fisheries officer (DFO), said there is a per-

manent ban on catching and selling jatka, while the government bans the fishing of all types of hilsa for eight months (November to June).
“At this time of the year, it is not easy for fishermen to get hilsa. So, they use the illegal current net (mesh size lower than 4.5 centimetres). As a result, jatka get caught in huge numbers,” he said.
Asked about the initiatives to spot the illegal fishing and selling, he said it is the duty of law enforcement agencies to conduct drives against jatka sale.
Usually, the fisheries department and the district administration conduct the drives with the help of law enforcers, but the law enforcement agencies also act on their own.

Jalil Mia, a fisherman from Bhola who came with his catch in the market, said, “When we fish, some jatka get caught. And if they do, we have no other option except for selling them.”
This correspondent found at least seven to eight traders at the market who were selling jatka as small as 6 to 9 inches long, for Tk 200 to Tk 400 every four pieces or Tk 600 a kg.
Wishing anonymity, a seller said, “What should I do? I am a fish trader. I would not sell jatka if there were no supplies of it.”
Niroy Hossain Tutul, president of Port Road Matsya Arotkar Samity, said, “We warned fish traders against selling jatka but its catching has to be stopped in the first place.”



A trader selling jatka at Port Road wholesale fish market in Barisal city.

PHOTO: STAR

RAJSHAHI DIVISION 39 mega projects underway

BSS, Rajshahi

Around 39 mega projects are being implemented involving over Tk 1,25,250 crore in almost all eight districts under Rajshahi division, aiming to improve its socio-economic condition at present.

Of these, Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant (RNPP) is being built on 990 acres of land at Ishwardi in Pabna district with an estimated cost of over Tk 1,13,092.92 crore.

This was revealed at a special development coordination meeting relating to progress of the ongoing development projects in the division. The meeting was held recently at the conference hall of deputy commissioner (DC) in Natore.

Abul Kalam Azad, chief coordinator (SDG) of Prime Minister's Office, attended and addressed the meeting as the chief guest with Aminul Islam, commissioner-in-charge of Rajshahi Division, in the chair.

RNPP is being implemented by the Russian Rosatom State Atomic Energy Corporation. Each construction stage of the plant is closely being supervised both by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Regulatory Authority (BAERA).

The construction of Bangabandhu Silicon City (hi-tech park) is progressing fast at a cost of Tk 281.91 crore on 31.63 acres of land in Rajshahi city. Upon its successful completion by June 2019, the park will create employment for more than 14,000 youths.

The meeting was told that Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Novo Theatre is being constructed

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Education ministry order violated to hold fair



Stalls for a handicraft fair being installed at Brojomohun Institution in Barisal. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Like previous years, a trade fair is going to be held on the playground of a Barisal city school, violating a restriction imposed by the education ministry.

Dakshinanchaliy Shilpi Parishad, a local cultural organisation, is set to hold the month-long handicraft fair, scheduled to begin at Brojomohun Institution on September 1. The school will remain open during the fair.

Permission from the Ministry of Commerce, and the local chamber of commerce and industry is necessary for holding such a fair.

As a school ground is the venue, approval from the Ministry of Educational is another prerequisite.

Following a report published by The Daily Star on December 28 in 2009, the education ministry issued a circular saying that any fair or show cannot be held at the school without its prior permission.

Al Imran, one of the coordinators of the fair organising committee, said he is unaware of the ministry restriction.

“We have been holding the fair there for the last five years with permission from the school authorities and commerce ministry. The school authorities never informed us about the education ministry restriction.”

Imran said they already paid a fee of Tk 3.8 lakh to the school authorities for using the venue.

Lutfar Rahaman, head teacher of the school, said, “I joined the school in 2013. I did not know about the restriction.”

About the fee, he said the money is used for development of the institution as per the decision of the school management committee.

Mahbub Morshed Shamim, chairman of the management committee, said he took the charge six months ago.

They got permission from the commerce ministry to hold the trade fair, he said.

The fair will not hamper regular academic activities as no loudspeaker will be used, he added.

The students' guardians, however, expressed dismay at commercial use of the school ground. It will distract students, said Pankaj Gupta, one of the guardians.

The fair will definitely hamper education as it will continue for a whole month, he added.

Students assemble and play on the ground before and after school hours, said another guardian wishing not to be named.

Besides, other outdoor games are held there, he said.

It takes several months to renovate the playground after the fair, he said, adding that such an event has been tarnishing the beauty of the campus.

During a visit, this correspondent found almost a six feet wide drain being dug on and around the playground to tackle waterlogging during the fair. Besides, stalls are being installed.

Fair organising committee coordinator Al Imran said there will be at least 80 stalls.

Many students said they face nuisance during the fair as visitors throng the place.

Mokhsedul Islam, deputy director, Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education that is under the education ministry, said nobody approached them to seek permission for the fair.

Brojomohun Institution, which is an MPO-listed school, was established by Mahatma Ashwini Kumar Dutta in 1984. Students from class III to X study there.

ঘাটাইল ক্যান্টনমেন্ট পাবলিক স্কুল ও কলেজ			
শহীদ সালাহউদ্দিন সেনানিবাস, ঘাটাইল, টাঙ্গাইল			
নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি			
ক্র/নং	পদের নাম ও বিষয়	বেতন স্কেল ও বয়স	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা
১।	প্রভাষক-৭ জন (বাংলা, ইংরেজি, পদার্থ বিজ্ঞান, রসায়ন বিজ্ঞান, জীববিজ্ঞান, উচ্চতর গণিত ও আইসিটি) সহকারী শিক্ষক-১ জন (বাংলা)	প্রভাষক : ৯ম গ্রেড টাকা-২২০০০-৫৩০৬০ এবং সহকারী শিক্ষক : ১০ম গ্রেড টাকা-১৬০০০-৩৮৬৪০ বয়স অনুর্ধ্ব ৩৫ বছর	প্রভাষক : সংশ্লিষ্ট বিষয়ে স্নাতকোত্তর ও স্নাতক (সম্মান) উভয় পর্যায়ে ন্যূনতম ২য় শ্রেণি/সি/জিপিএ ২.৭৫ এবং এসএসসি ও এইচএসসি পরীক্ষার ১ম বিভাগ/জিপিএ ৪.০০ থাকতে হবে। সহকারী শিক্ষক : সংশ্লিষ্ট বিষয়ে বিএডসহ স্নাতক/স্নাতকোত্তর পর্যায়ে ন্যূনতম ২য় শ্রেণি/বিভাগ অথবা সি/জিপিএ ২.৭৫ এবং এসএসসি ও এইচএসসি পরীক্ষার ১ম বিভাগ/জিপিএ ৪.০০ থাকতে হবে।
২।	হিসাবরক্ষণ কর্মকর্তা - ১ জন	৯ম গ্রেড টাকা-২২০০০-৫৩০৬০ বয়স অনুর্ধ্ব ৩৫ বছর	হিসাববিজ্ঞান/ফিন্যান্স ও ব্যারিং বিষয়ে স্নাতকোত্তর/সিএ ও স্নাতক (সম্মান) পর্যায়ে ন্যূনতম ২য় শ্রেণি/সি/জিপিএ ২.৭৫ এবং এসএসসি ও এইচএসসি পরীক্ষার ১ম বিভাগ/জিপিএ ৪.০০ থাকতে হবে।
বেতন ও অন্যান্য সুযোগ-সুবিধা: প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিয়মানুযায়ী বেতন, উৎসাহ ভাতা, বাড়ি ভাড়া, উলস ভাতা, পোশাক ভাতা, শ্রেণিশিক্ষক ভাতা, বৈশাখী ভাতা, পরিবার নিরাপত্তা প্রকল্প সুবিধা, প্রতিভূত ফান্ড ও গ্র্যাডুইট সুবিধা দেয়া হবে। আশ্রয়ী প্রার্থীকে ০৪ কপি সত্যায়িত ছবি, সকল সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত কপি, ৩০০/- (তিনশত মাত্র) টাকার পোস্টাল অর্ডারসহ দরখাস্ত আগামী ২০ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৮ তারিখের মধ্যে অধ্যক্ষের কার্যালয়ে পৌঁছাতে হবে।			

Language

FROM PAGE 5
Pakistani army.
He was elected president of the district unit of Communist Party of Bangladesh in 1973 and he had been in the post till 1988. He was a CPB member until his death.
Shamsul Haque's body was kept at the town's Central Shaheed Minar where people from all walks of life paid tributes to him.
His namaz-e-janaza was held on the central Eidgah field in the town's Khojabari area. Later, he was buried in central graveyard in the area with state honours yesterday.
Shamsul Haque was born in Khatapara village of Aditmar upazila in Lalmonirhat on October 13, 1929.

Lost

I have lost a signed cheque leaf No-1660481 Dutch-Bangla Bank, Jubilee Road Branch, Ctg, A/C No-142.103.29375. A GD was filed with Uttara West Thana. GD No. 1141, Date 17/08/2018, Md. Noor Hassan. D-248

Khaleda urges nation to

FROM PAGE 3
by the jail authorities in the evening, at the request of the IG of prison.

The BNP secretary general went inside the jail at around 4:00pm and came out at 5:00pm.

After getting confirmation from the jail authorities, Fakhru spoke with the acting chair of BNP, Tarique Rahman, who has been staying in London since late 2008, about the visit.

He also talked with members of BNP's standing committee.

Following the instruction of Tarique Rahman and suggestions from the standing

committee members, it was decided that Fakhru alone will meet Khaleda.

Party insiders said Fakhru was a bit emotional as he exchanged greetings with Khaleda after a long gap.

Asked whether they discussed any organisational or political issues, Fakhru replied in the negative.

Prior to this, Fakhru visited Khaleda in jail on April 6.

On February 8, Khaleda landed in jail after a special court sentenced her to five years' rigorous imprisonment in the Zia Orphanage Trust graft case.

BNP cannot deny involvement

FROM PAGE 3
indication of a deep-rooted conspiracy ahead of the national election,” added Rizvi.

Referring to AL General Secretary Obaidul Qader's comment that BNP will be in serious trouble after the verdict in September, Rizvi wondered how Qader came to know that the verdict will be delivered in September.

“Qader's remark has exposed the government's evil plan regarding the verdict.”

Incumbent IGP Javed Patwary, who was the additional IGP of CID in 2008, submitted

an inquiry report saying Harkat-ul-Jihad al-Islami led by Mufti Hannan and Mawlana Taj Uddin carried out the attack. In the probe report, BNP and Tarique Rahman were not mentioned, claimed Rizvi.

The BNP leader said now the government is trying to influence the verdict to implicate Khaleda and Tarique, in order to hold another “lopsided” election.

“The government is planning a destructive game of holding the next election without the participation of opposition parties,” Rizvi said.

Renewable energy

FROM PAGE 3
Author and noted renewable energy expert Sajed Kamal said renewable energy revolution is gaining ground across the world due to the imminent fossil fuel crisis and environmental hazards of the conventional energy production.

“Some countries, such as Germany, Denmark and Sweden, have even set their goals of becoming 100 percent renewable energy powered nations by 2050 -- a trend that other countries are starting to follow,” he said.

Bangladesh has a good future in solar power generation as the country can use its land to produce food and power simultaneously. If it can be done, the land will be used properly, added Sajed, a former teacher at Boston University.

He said the global energy scenario is undergoing a rapid transition -- towards the renewable energy with growing opportunities and advantages, like plummeting costs, efficiency, durability and environmental stewardship.

Dhaka University Prof Badrul Imam said the government has set a goal to produce 10 percent of its total electricity from solar power within 2021, but the current production is only around 2 percent, which is frustrating.

Eminent rights activist and environmentalist Sultana Kamal said for setting up solar panels, land should not be an issue as those can be placed anywhere and at any angle, like on rooftops or walls.

“It's a matter of political goodwill. If we consider public interest, expanding use of renewable energy is a must,” she said.

Noted economist MM Akash, also a DU professor, said the government should give highest priority to solar power generation.

Eminent educationist and Bapa President Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed, DU Prof Saiful Huque and Bapa General Secretary Abdul Matin also spoke at the seminar.