



## Wage war on food adulteration

HC urges PM, orders govt to remove 52 items found substandard by BSTI

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Urging the prime minister to declare a war on food adulteration, the High Court yesterday directed the government to immediately remove from the market the 52 food items that have been found substandard by Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution.

"If necessary, the state may declare an emergency for preventing food adulteration," the HC observed, adding that food adulteration cannot be tolerated and there can be no compromise on this.

"We urge the government, the ruling party and the prime minister to declare a war on food adulteration the way it was done in case of narcotics."

**"If necessary, the state may declare an emergency for preventing food adulteration."**  
 THE HC OBSERVES

The substandard items include daily essentials such as salt, turmeric and chilli powder. Certain brands of vermicelli that see high demand during the Ramadan are also among the food products.

Besides, samples of certain brands of mustard oil, bottled drinking water, curry

SEE ONLINE FOR 52 ITEMS TO BE REMOVED



A jute mill worker sets fire to a stack of logs while another looks on during a blockade in Khulna's Notun Rasta Mor on the Dhaka-Khulna highway yesterday. Jute workers continued their protests for the eight consecutive day demanding arrears.

PHOTO: STAR

### JUTE WORKERS

## No pay scale in 9 years, no pay for months

8th national pay scale announced in 2015, but jute workers not getting it; they go on countrywide indefinite strike and road, rail blockade today

MARTIN SWAPAN PANDEY and MOUJUD AHMED SUJAN

On September 7, 2015, the cabinet approved the eighth national pay scale effective from July that year, and it has been implemented in almost all government offices and corporations.

But four years on, some 60,000 workers of the 22 state-run jute mills are still waiting, although all officials and employees under the jute ministry, including the Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation, are drawing their salaries under the new scale.

On top of this, the workers have not been paid for six to 12 weeks, with

**"We are not getting our wages. We are not getting the new pay scale. Isn't it a human rights and justice issue? We urge the National Human Rights Commission and the High Court to tell the government to clear our dues."**  
 A worker of Latif Bawany Jute Mills

### RMCH stops using 4 drugs on children

Extraordinary steps come after 14 became sicker

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) authorities yesterday suspended use of four drugs on children after 14 child patients experienced extreme side effects for taking those through intravenous infusion on Saturday night.

The authorities decided to examine the drugs supplied by state-owned Essential Drugs Company

## SHIPWRECK IN MEDITERRANEAN 37 Bangladeshis feared dead

STAR REPORT

Siraj Miah has not stopped shedding tears since hearing news of his son Liton Miah's death in the tragic boat capsized off the Tunisian coast on Friday night. In between mourning, he repeatedly demanded punishment for the travel agent who had planned Liton's journey to Italy.

"My son and others spent five painful months before leaving for Libya," he told our Sylhet correspondent over phone from Fenchuganj upazila yesterday.

Liton and six others from Sylhet division were victims of the tragedy that claimed the lives of 60 migrants. Thirty-seven other Bangladeshis are currently missing. Sixteen others, including 14 Bangladeshis, were rescued by the Tunisian Navy and fishermen.

Siraj Miah said three cousins -- Ahmed Hossain, 24, Abdul Aziz, 25 and Liton Miah, 24 -- with some others

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### NUSRAT MURDER Police super withdrawn for negligence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Superintendent of Police in Feni SM Jahangir Alam Sarkar was yesterday closed for negligence of duty over the murder of madrasa student Nusrat Jahan Rafi.

Following a decision made by the home ministry yesterday, Jahangir was closed and attached to Police Headquarters (PHQ), Sohel Rana, assistant inspector general (media and PR) at the PHQ told The Daily Star.

The decision came weeks after a PHQ probe committee found evidence against the SP and three other police officers in

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### Heat wave may ease a little today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The intensity of the heat wave, which currently sweeping across different regions of the country, may come down today at some places, according to a weather forecast.

"A mild heat wave is sweeping over Khulna division and parts of Tangail, Rangamati, Noakhali, Rajshahi and Pabna, and it may abate in a few regions," a bulletin by the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) reads.

The forecast is for 24

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