



PHOTO: STAR

EASING EID HOMEGOERS' HASSLES

Clockwise from top, newly launched semi-nonstop intercity train "Panchagarh Express" on Dhaka-Panchagarh route ready to start its journey. Prayers being offered during inauguration of the much-awaited second Meghna bridge on Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Munshiganj. Traffic on the four-lane bridge. Chandra flyover on Dhaka-Tangail highway in Gazipur. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the train service and bridges through a videoconference from her official residence Gono Bhaban yesterday.



Shop owners' association fined Tk 1 lakh in Ctg

CU CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court yesterday fined Chattogram Shopping Complex Shop Owners' Association Tk one lakh for not attaching price tags to products in shops.

The mobile court led by Executive Magistrate and Assistant Commissioner of Kattoli Circle Md Towhidul Islam and Executive Magistrate Md Ali Hasan went to the market in guise of customers to monitor it in the morning.

To their surprise, the magistrates found that most of the shops had no price tags in their products, and they were charging exorbitant prices from customers ahead of Eid, said magistrate Towhidul.

Later they conducted a drive in the market and fined the shop owners' association Tk one lakh. They also asked the association to ensure that all products have price tags attached within 24 hours.

"If they fail to do so we will fine each shop individually in future drives," the magistrate added.

Earlier on Friday night, the same court also fined Mimi Super Market Shop Owners' Association Tk one lakh for charging extra prices.

BIWTC's special steamer service to southern districts from May 30

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) will start a 13-day special steamer services from Dhaka towards the southern region on May 30, ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr -- expected to be celebrated on June 5.

Under the service, five additional vessels will be added to the fleet of two steamers.

The Eid special service will continue till June 11, said Sheikh Md Nasim, deputy general manager (commercial/passenger) of BIWTC in Barishal.

The five steamers -- PS Maksud, PS Turn, PS Lepcha, MV Modhumoti and MV Banglaee -- will carry passengers from Sadarghat Launch Terminal

in Dhaka to Chandpur, Barishal, Jhalakathi, Hularhat in Pirojpur and Morelganj in Bagerhat.

According to schedule, PS Turn and MV Modhumoti will leave Dhaka at 6:30pm and 7pm on May 30 for Morelganj and Hularhat respectively.

MV Banglaee will depart from Sadarghat terminal on May 31, June 3, 5, 8 for Morelganj, Hularhat and Barishal ends.

PS Lepcha is scheduled to leave Dhaka on June 1, 3 and 8 for Morelganj and Barishal.

MV Modhumoti will leave Sadarghat on June 1, 2, 4, 6 and 9 for Hularhat and Barishal. PS Turn will depart from there on May 30, June 4

and 7 for Barishal ends.

On June 7 and 9, PS Maksud will start from Dhaka towards Barishal.

BIWTC officials said the fares will remain as usual.

Accordingly, on Dhaka-Barishal or Barishal-Dhaka routes, a BIWTC vessel will charge Tk 1,050 for a class I cabin seat, Tk 630 for a class II cabin seat and Tk 170 for a deck seat, said Syed Abul Kalam Azad, assistant general manager in-charge of BIWTC in Barishal.

BIWTC stations at Barisal and Narayanganj were asked to provide special tug boats and be prepared to receive emergency calls during the service, said the official.



People lay nets near the banks of Halda to collect fish eggs. Broodfish released sample eggs, inset, in the river yesterday. Experts and egg collectors are hopeful that spawning would begin in full swing within days. The photos were taken from Hathazari upazila.

NEWS IN brief

President returns today

BSS, Dhaka

President Abdul Hamid will return home today after an 11-day visit to London and Germany for health checkup and eye treatment.

A VVIP flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines carrying the president will land at Dhaka airport at 10:15am, President's Deputy Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad told the news agency.

Hamid completed his checkups at Moorfields Eye Hospital and Bupa Cromwell Hospital in London. Besides, he had another medical checkup at Frankfurt.

Inner Wheel announces schedule of 5th South Asian Rally

CITY DESK

The 5th South Asian Rally of International Inner Wheel, a global organisation of women, will be held in Dhaka on March 20-21, 2020.

Around 850 Inner Wheel representatives from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Thailand, Philippines and Bangladesh are expected to participate in the two-day event that is taking place for the first time in Bangladesh, said a press release.

Dilruba Ahmed, convener of the rally, made the announcement during a logo unveiling ceremony held at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel Dhaka on May 19.

The rally will be jointly hosted by Inner Wheel Districts 345 and 328 in Bangladesh.

Man electrocuted in Ctg

CU CORRESPONDENT

A man was electrocuted while cleaning the rooftop of his house in Madanhat area of Shitalpur under Sitakunda upazila of Chattogram yesterday morning.

The deceased was identified as Mohammad Shafi, 45, son of Md Ahan Miah, said police.

Shafi got electrocuted when he went to clean the rooftop around 6am, said Mohammad Alauddin Talukdar of Chittagong Medical College Hospital police outpost. He was rushed to CMCH where physicians declared him dead around 11am.

Khabir Uddin Molla passes away

CITY DESK

Alhaj Khabir Uddin Molla, managing director of Crown Cement Group and Molla Salt Industries, died at Apollo Hospitals Dhaka yesterday. He was 84.

He was buried at his family graveyard in Munshiganj, following the first namaz-e-janaza at Baridhara Jame Mosque, second one in Narayanganj and third in Munshiganj, said a press release.

Khabir Uddin was a leading entrepreneur and had been actively involved in business for over 55 years. He was also involved in different social activities.

Christian co-operative starts new dev project

CITY DESK

The Christian Co-Operative Credit Union Ltd in Dhaka inaugurated another development project yesterday.

The project was inaugurated by Archbishop George Kocherry, an ambassador of Vatican, at Bandura Multipurpose Building in Nawabganj of Dhaka, said a press release.

Babu Markus Gomes, president of the organisation, presided over the programme, while Hubert Gomes, one of the presidents of Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council, was present among others.

Ray of hope as broodfish release sample eggs in Halda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Broodfish released sample eggs in Halda, the lone source of natural carp breeding in South Asia, yesterday.

This is the second time the fish laid eggs in the river this month. The first time was on May 5. The sample eggs were released at various points at dawn.

The repeated releasing have made egg collectors hopeful for a big haul during spawning season.

"Following last night's [Friday] heavy shower and gusty wind, we went to the river at dawn on wooden boat and began our collection," said Mohammad Elias, an egg collector from Uttar Madarsha.

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Three killed as truck crashes into auto-rickshaw in B'baria

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Three people were killed and three persons injured as a truck crashed into a CNG-run auto-rickshaw carrying them on Dhaka-Sylhet highway in Bijoynagar upazila yesterday.

Sarail Bishwa Road Highway Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Hossain Sarkar said the incident took place in Satbaro area after the Dhaka-bound truck rammed the auto-rickshaw from the opposite direction around 1:30pm.

The deceased are Shanta Roy Chowdhury, 30, from Adair village in Madhabpur upazila of Habiganj; Abu Taher, 60, from Haluapara village in the upazila; and Billal Uddin, 40, from the same area.

Auto-rickshaw passenger Billal died on the spot and Shanta and Abu Taher were declared dead at Brahmanbaria General Hospital.

The injured -- Faisal Mia, 25, Farzana Akter, 20, and Jumman Mia, 28 -- were taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The victims were going to Madhabpur upazila in Habiganj, the police official said.

Police seized the truck but the driver and helper managed to flee, he added.

Our Dinajpur correspondent adds, an elderly man was

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

BGB-BSF to work for curbing border crimes

BSS, Rangpur

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) and Indian Border Security Force (BSF) at a battalion commander-level flag meeting yesterday put emphasis on curbing cross-border crimes jointly to maintain peace on common international borders.

"Initiated by the BSF side, the event was held inside India near boundary pillar No. 493/7S opposite to Singhimari border outpost of BGB in Hatibandha upazila of Lalmonirhat under jurisdiction of Rangpur BGB-61 battalion," said a press release.

The two-and-a-half hour flag meeting was held among the officials of Rangpur

BGB-61 battalion and Gopalpur BSF-47 battalion of Cooch Behar in West Bengal from 10:30am.

Commanding Officer of Rangpur BGB battalion Lt Col Mohammad Shariful Islam led the 10-member BGB delegation. Acting Commandant of the Gopalpur BSF battalion Shudhank Raturi led his 10-member BSF delegation.

The BGB and BSF officials discussed bilateral border issues like cross-border crimes, conducting joint patrols, firing on borders, exchange of information, drug trafficking, smuggling of cows and identification of smuggling routes and other issues.

Bus driver arrested over harassing female passenger

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

Police arrested a bus driver in Barishal yesterday over sexually harassing a female passenger a week ago.

A Barishal court sent the accused, Al Amin, to jail after police produced him before it, said Agailjhara Police Station Officer-in-Charge Afzal Hossain.

SI Tayeb Mia, investigation officer of the case, said a relative of the woman's friend filed the case on May 24.

According to the case statement, the 20-year-old employee of a shopping complex in Dhaka, was returning to the capital from her friend's Barishal house on May 18.

When the bus reached Gabtoli bus terminal, she was the only passenger inside. Taking advantage, the driver touched her in an inappropriate way. Somehow, she managed to get off the bus after crying for help. Afterwards, she informed the matter to the complainant, said the police officer.

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