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## Toni Morrison passes away

AFP, New York

Toni Morrison, the first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature, has died following a brief illness, her family said in a statement yesterday. She was 88.

"It is with profound sadness we share that, following a short illness, our adored mother and grandmother, Toni Morrison, passed away peacefully last night surrounded by family and

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## DU suspends 69 for forgery in admission tests

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University's disciplinary board has suspended 69 students on charge of committing forgery during admission tests.

The board, comprising the VC, deans, provosts and the proctor, took the decision yesterday during a meeting chaired by VC Prof Akhtaruzzaman, said a press release of the university.

All the suspended students took admission between 2012-2013 and 2017-2018 sessions, according to the press release.

The university authorities will issue a show-cause notice to the suspended students, asking them to explain within seven days why they should not be expelled.

Talking to The Daily Star, DU Proctor Prof AKM Golam Rabbani said they had expelled 15 students in January last year for the same reason.

"We took the decision following university's rules and regulation," Prof Rabbani added.

He confirmed that all the suspended students were charged by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID)

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The Jamuna devours a part of Bhalkutia village in Tangail's Bhuapur upazila. Locals said around 300 houses of three villages went into the river early last month, but the authorities were yet to take any measures to save the rest of the villages. The photo was taken on Sunday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## Minni's bail hearing at HC tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday deferred until tomorrow the hearing of Aysha Siddika Minni's bail petition in the case filed over her husband Rifat Sharif's murder.

ZI Khan Panna, the petitioner's advocate, said the bench of Justice Sheikh Md Zakir Hossain and Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman was scheduled to

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PRAYER TIME AUGUST 7

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-20 12-45 5-00 6-47 8-15  
JAWAT 4-55 1-15 5-15 6-50 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## 'THREATENING' HASINA HC asks 4 BNP leaders to surrender

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered four BNP leaders, including its Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, to surrender before a Dhaka court within six weeks in a case filed over issuing death threat to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

It also asked the law enforcers not to harass or arrest them by this time.

Three other BNP leaders are Khandaker Mosharraf

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## Dhaka's rusty gas pipes to be replaced

Says Nasrul Hamid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid yesterday said the government would replace the capital's old gas distribution pipelines with new ones.

"We are taking up a large project. We will remove all old gas pipelines in Dhaka and will lay new lines," he said.

Nasrul was addressing the inauguration ceremony of the two-day South Asia LNG Forum 2019 at a city hotel.

He said the project would cost the government around Tk 1,200 crore.

According to officials, Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company

Limited found that about 160 million cubic feet (mmcf) of gas is being wasted every day either through pilferage or through leakage in old pipelines.

There are 7,000-km distribution pipeline in the capital and many of those have become worn out as those were installed around 35-40 years ago.

The Titas Gas distributes gas to its 2.78 million consumers, including households, power plants, fertilizer factories, industries and CNG refueling stations.

Nasrul said the government was expecting a better management in the gas sector and the country's development partners like the JICA and the European

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## 'Drug dealer' killed in 'gunfight'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A suspected drug peddler was killed in a "gunfight" with Rab officials in Gazipur's Sreepur upazila yesterday.

The dead is 34-year-old Ashraful Islam.


Muhammed Mohiuddin Faruque, superintendent of Rab-2, said they set up a check-post on Dhaka-Tangail highway in Kaliakoir upazila on information that a consignment of drugs was scheduled to pass by from Dhaka to Chuadanga.

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A man tries to tame a bull as it runs towards a temporary cattle market near the city's Postogola Shashan Ghat yesterday after being offloaded from a boat. With the Eid-ul-Azha only four days away, a lot of traders from across the country have been brining sacrificial animals to the capital hoping to make good profits.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED



**Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council**

**Public Notice**

**Clarification on antibiotic and heavy metal residue in milk**

This is the announcement to the public interest that recently pasteurized and unpasteurized milk were tested by Nutrition Unit, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) to know the status of antibiotic, sulphur drug and heavy metals residue from the SGS, Chennai. However, in social media some people raised debate as to why these tests were done in Chennai, India, which came under the notice of the authority.


SGS is a leading organization dealing with the issue of inspection, analysis and test certificate for the quality of different goods including agricultural products. SGS (Société Générale de Surveillance) is the internationally recognized accredited laboratory and was established in 1878. SGS, presently operates 2600 offices and laboratories in more than 170 countries and one of these laboratories are located in Chennai, India. Also, nearby there is another laboratory in Thailand. Earlier, Nutrition Unit, BARC also tested successfully pesticide residue of raw, washed and cooked vegetables; antibiotic residue of poultry feeds; gamma oryzanol of rice bran oil; as well as pesticide residue of cooked and steamed vegetables available in different classes of hotels including hotel Intercontinental and Radisson of Dhaka city from the SGS, Chennai.

Hence, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council believes that tested results of milk done by SGS, Chennai are correct, authentic and reliable. There is no iota of doubt in these tests results. However, if anybody has any confusion about these results, BARC will be happy to welcome to test the milk samples in other countries in any internationally recognized accredited laboratory.

It is noted that ICDDR,B and BLRI has no capacity to conduct antibiotic and heavy metal residue analysis. Indeed, sometimes partial report produced by such organizations and reported in mass media results in misconception to the public.

**Authority (Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council)**

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