



Kashmir set for Eid amid lockdown

Big queues formed yesterday outside cash machines and food stores in Indian-administered Kashmir's main city as authorities eased a crippling curfew to let the Himalayan region prepare for a major Muslim festival, residents said.

But huge numbers of troops remained on the streets a day after security forces used tear gas to break up a demonstration by about 8,000 people against the government's move to revoke Kashmir's autonomy, they

The Eid al-Azha festival tomorrow looms as the next big test for the week-old Indian lockdown in the Muslimmajority region, where the government has ended decadesold rights to property and jobs for local Kashmiris.

Internet and phone lines have been cut and curfew restrictions have been imposed to prevent unrest over the constitutional move which Prime Minister Narendra Modi said was needed to bring peace and prosperity to the

More cars and pedestrians were on the streets yesterday. "We can do more but it is still tough, everyone is closely watched," said one resident. "Our lives are still dominated by razor wire and checkpoints.

"Bank machines are running out of cash so there are queues at every machine where notes may be available. People also need food for Eid," added a second resident. Modi said in a nationwide speech this week that Kashmir

people would have "no problem" for the festival. But media reports said authorities would only decide



Muslim pilgrims pray on the Mount of Mercy in Arafat ahead of the Eid al-Azha festival in the holy city of Makkah, Saudi Arabia yesterday.

Khulna Gangrape

A case filed against OC, 5 other cops

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A case was filed against the recentlywithdrawn officer-in-charge and five other cops of Khulna Railway Police Station on charge of gangraping a woman in police custody on August 2.

Khulna Railway Police registered the case around 10:00pm on Friday following court directives, said Firoz Ahmed, assistant superintendent of police (Kushtia Railway Circle), who is also heading one of the two probe committees over the incident.

He added that the case was filed under section 15 of the Torture and Custodial Death (Prevention) Act, 2013.

"The court directed police to record the case based on the woman's complaint. In compliance with the court order, railway police has filed the case, in which the woman has been made plaintiff," Firoz told The Daily Star.

Meanwhile, Mohammad Nazrul Islam, superintendent of police (SP) of Pakshey Railway Police, on the same day sent a letter a to the district's Senior Judicial Magistrate Court, informing it that railway SEE PAGE 10 COL 5 Good luck, little twins

Condition of separated conjoined sisters Rokeya, Rabeya stable; one wakes up, the other unconscious

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Despite some post-operative health risks, condition of separated conjoined twins Rokeya and Rabeya remains stable, says an ISPR release.

The three-year-old twins are undergoing treatment at the post anesthetic

care unit (PACU) of the Combined Military Hospital in Dhaka. They underwent a 33-hour marathon surgery at the CMH that had begun at 1:00am on August 1. Rabeya gained consciousness on Friday, but Rokeya still remains unconscious.

Such an operation is very critical and the success rate is not so either. A press briefing was held at the CMH yesterday to inform the media

about the surgery and the babies' latest health conditions. Rokeya and Rabeya were born on July 16, 2016, at a private clinic in Pabna. Their parents Rafiqul Islam and Taslima Begum from the district's

Chatmohar upazila are teachers. The twins underwent multiple surgeries at Dhaka Medical College

Hospital (DMCH) and in Hungary since January 4. After 48 major and minor operations, they were brought to the CMH from Hungary on July 22, as per Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's directive, to carry out the most critical part of the surgery -- separating their "conjoined brains".

A team of Hungarian experts, over 100 local health experts from different hospitals and institutions, including the CMH, DMCH, Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery, National Institute of Neurosciences and Hospital, and Dhaka Shishu Hospital were involved SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

2 killed in AL factional clash in Faridpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Two people were killed and 13 others injured as two groups associated with the Awami League clashed over establishing supremacy at Kaichail village in Nagarkanda upazila yesterday.

The deceased were Rowshan Mia, 52, and his nephew Tuhin Mia, 25, both residents of the village. Rowshan was a senior officer of the local branch of Sonali Bank, said police.

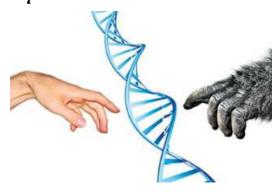
Locals said there had been a longstanding rivalry between Kaichail Union Parishad Chairman Kabir Hossain alias Thandu Mia and Jubo League leader Hanif Mia alias Hridoy.

The deceased were supporters of the union chairman, Kabir.

Hanif lives in Dhaka and was coming to his village

home yesterday. SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

First human-monkey hybrid created



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Scientists say they have created the world's first human-monkey hybrid in a laboratory in China.

The researchers, who want to use animals to create organs for human life-saving transplants, say creating the hybrid was an important step. And they pledged to continue their experiments

using primates. The team revealed that they had injected human

stem cells capable of creating any type of tissue into a monkey embryo. The experiment was stopped before the embryo

was old enough to be born. But the scientists - who were Spanish but held the trial in China to get round a ban on such

procedures at home - said a human-monkey

hybrid could have potentially been born. The embryo had first been genetically modified to deactivate genes that control organ growth.

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Nearly 2.5m pilgrims scale **Mount Arafat**

PROUD

AFP, Mount Arafat

Nearly 2.5 million Muslim hajj pilgrims yesterday converged on Mount Arafat in Saudi Arabia marshalled by tens of thousands of stewards in a bid to prevent any repetition of previous years' deadly stampedes.

Movable crowd control barriers were erected all around the foot of the rocky hill outside Makkah, also known as Jabal al-Rahma or Mount of Mercy, where the faithful arrived on foot and in a seemingly endless line of buses.

skywards, the pilgrims set off on the climb to the summit where they held prayers to atone for their sins in a ritual that is regarded as the high point of the annual hajj.

"Really, I am very said Lassina Coulibaly, a 47-year-old Malian business employee. "Fatigue is part of the

pilgrimage," added the father of seven.

Clutching brightly coloured umbrellas, SEE NPAGE 10 COL 2

Man killed in 'gunfight'

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Patuakhali

A man was killed in a "gunfight" with police in Patuakhali Sadar upazila early yesterday.

The dead -- Chan Mia Hawlader, 36, of Barguna's Amtali upazila -- was accused in at least 30 cases related to robbery and other criminal offences, said police. Mostafizur Rahman,

officer-in-charge Patuakhali Police Station, said Chan was awarded with 10 years' imprisonment in a robbery case but managed to stay in hiding. SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-25 12-45 4-45 6-41 8-00 JAMAAT 5-00 1-15 5-00 6-44 8-30 SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

