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PINEAPPLES OF MADHUPUR Tainted with excessive chemicals

Lack of monitoring, training and motivation blamed

MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

Pineapples grown in Tangail's Madhupur are known to be delicious, but most farmers this time are using excessive hormone to grow bigger fruits and ripe them ahead of time.

Lacking proper knowledge, they do this to make an extra profit, say environmentalists.

As a result, the fruit is losing its sweet taste and aromatic flavour, and consumers are at risk of different health problems.

Moreover, farmers are using too much chemical fertilisers and pesticides in pineapple fields, reducing fertility of the soil and also destroying ecological balance and diversity.

Environmentalists also blamed a lack of proper monitoring, training and motivation by the authorities concerned for the wrong practice of the growers.

Madhupur Garh region is known for producing copious amounts of pineapples, including Giant Q, Honey Queen and Joldungli varieties.

The harvest time of this region's pineapple is between June and August.

Mahmudul Hasan, Madhupur upazila agriculture officer,

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Due to lack of monitoring and public awareness, most of the bicycle lanes in the capital are now used for illegal parking and roadside stalls. In the photo taken in the city's Agargaon area, a food cart is seen on the bike lane while two vehicles are parked on zebra crossings.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Man sedates, rapes 2 teens in Cox's Bazar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Two teenage girls were raped by a youth in a village of Cox's Bazar Chakaria upazila on Tuesday night, police said.

The father of one of the girls filed a case against the accused -- Abu Hasan Mohammad Ibrahim of the same village -- with Chakaria Police Station on Friday.

The victims are cousins and aged 14 and 15. They study in class-VIII and -IX.

Quoting the case statement, OC Mohammad Zubair of the police station said one of the girls went to the other's house as the latter's family members were visiting a relative's house in a nearby village.

The girls were alone at home on Tuesday night and when Ibrahim, a neighbour, came to know about it, he went there and tricked the girls into taking food mixed with sleeping pills. Later, he raped them, according to the case statement.

On their return home, the family members came

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

Engr threatened for not allowing bad bitumen

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

A contractor has allegedly threatened a railway engineer publicly for not complying with his wishes of using poor materials in a road construction project in Kurigram.

According to locals, contractor Al Amin has been threatening engineer Abdur Razzaque for the last two days as the engineer refused to use Iranian bitumen for sealcoating the approaching road of the district's railway station.

Abdul Quader, a resident of the station area, said the contractor threatened the engineer to transfer him elsewhere. The contractor even told locals that he would not finish the project unless the engineer was transferred.

Contacted, the accused said he wanted to finish the project using Iranian bitumen on the road as the BPC (Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation) bitumen was not available in the market. But the engineer did not allow it.

He denied the allegation of threatening the engineer.

Asked, Abdur Razzaque, senior sub-assistant engineer (SSAE-Works) of the railways, told The Daily Star that the road would not last long if construction work was done with Iranian bitumen.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

ROAD TO FREEDOM
THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

A terrible blood bath

JUNE 27, 1971
SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

PAKISTAN RAID BOLIADI
The Pakistan army attacked at least five villages within 30 miles of Dhaka in the last four days, killing Hindu men and burning homes and markets in pre-dawn raids, reported Washington Star on June 28, 1971.

Arriving at one village, Boliadi, the correspondent Arnold Zeitlin passed an army column leaving the place and saw dead Hindu men and the bazaar and houses burning. From nearby villages, rifle fire could be heard and columns of smoke were rising, he added.

Residents of Boliadi said the raids started Friday, the day after the arrival in Dhaka of four members of the British Parliament investigating conditions in East Pakistan and refugee camps in India. The people in Boliadi said the soldiers attacked the Hindu section of their village at 4:00am on June 27.

A Hindu woman held her husband in her arms. He had been shot in the neck. Another sari-clad woman moaned over the body of her husband. Across a small creek in a tiny corrugated iron sheet house lay the body of a white-haired man with a bullet wound in his back. Residents said at least five or six other corpses were in the village.

Zeitlin further reported that the commander of the troop column identified himself only as Col Omar. He said his men were on a "routine patrol" and refused to give details. He led about two dozen men in regular army uniforms carrying automatic rifles and ammunition boxes.

Two men earned transistor radios and others carried goods

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Ex-UPDF man stabbed to death

SANJOY KUMAR BARUA

A 40-year-old man, who was once a member of the United People's Democratic Front (UPDF), was taken from his home and stabbed dead in the early hours today in Dighinala, Khagrachhari.

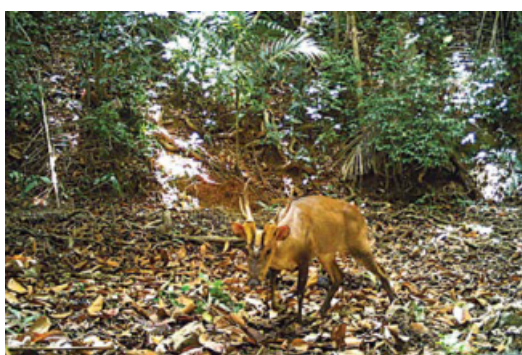
Unknown assailants entered the shack of Amor Jibon Chakma in Banchhara area after midnight and picked him up from in front of his family, Union Parishad Chairman Prayyan Jyoti Chakma said.

Amor was killed in a quiet area around one and a half kilometres away from his home, he added.

UPDF Spokesperson Aongay Marma said Amor was a former member of the organisation.

"We recovered the body of Amor and sent it to Khagrachhari Sadar Hospital for an autopsy," said Payer Ahmed, officer-in-charge of Dighinala Police Station.

Rare giant barking deer spotted in Cambodia



AFP, Phnom Penh

A critically endangered giant barking deer has been spotted in Cambodia for the first time, in a boost for the country's wildlife preservation efforts, officials said Friday.

The giant muntjac -- known for its long antlers -- was captured on a hidden camera in April in northeast Cambodia's Virachey National Park in Ratanakiri province, environment ministry spokesman Neth Pheaktra said.

But the discovery was only made recently after Cambodian authorities retrieved the camera and trawled through months of footage from the forest,

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

MYANMAR GENOCIDE Regime forms legal team for ICJ

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Myanmar military regime has organised a new legal team, led by its Foreign Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin, to present the defense in the Rohingya genocide case at the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

The regime's order to restructure the committee, which was previously led by detained State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi, was announced in a bulletin published by the Myanmar Gazette on Thursday.

The panel has eight members, which include two former military officers -- U Wunna Maung Lwin, who will serve as chairman; and the regime's planning, finance and industry minister, U Win Shein. Two serving lieutenant generals -- Yar Pyae and Adjutant General Myo Zaw Thein -- are also members.

The other members of

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



The demand for oxygen is on the rise in Khulna and adjacent districts due to the increasing number of coronavirus cases. The supplying companies have bumped up deliveries at least three folds. The photo was taken on a company ground in Khulna.

Just give us the vaccines

Pleads WHO as poor countries go wanting AGENCIES

Rich countries are opening up societies and vaccinating young people who are not at great risk from Covid-19, while the poorest countries cruelly lack doses, the World Health Organization said on Friday, condemning a global failure.

The situation in Africa, where new infections and deaths jumped by nearly 40% last week compared to the previous week, is "so dangerous" as the Delta variant spreads globally, WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said.

"Our world is failing, as the global community we

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

PRAYER TIMING JUNE 27

| | | | | |
|-------------|-------|------|---------|------|
| Fajr | Zohr | Asr | Maghrib | Esha |
| AZAN 4-05 | 12-45 | 5-00 | 6-54 | 8-17 |
| JAMAAT 4-40 | 1-15 | 5-15 | 6-57 | 8-45 |

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

১৯০তম শাখার জন্মে উদ্ভোধন

২৭ জুন, ২০২১ | লিচুবাগান শাখা

তৈয়বিয়া কমপ্লেক্স, লিচুবাগান
রাষ্ট্রনিয়া, চট্টগ্রাম

কল্যাণের প্রয়াসে
সম্ভাবনার ক্রমবিকাশে

সর্বোন্নত ব্যাংকিং সেবার প্রতিশ্রুতিশীল পথ পরিক্রমায়
আমরা এখন প্রাকৃতিক সৌন্দর্যে ভরপুর চট্টগ্রামের রাষ্ট্রনিয়ায়।

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