



Bangabandhu Tunnel
is being built with BSRM

COUNTRY'S NO. 1 STEEL EXPERT  **BSRM**
building a safer nation

HIGHEST SELLING CEMENT for more than **15 years**



Soybean oil gets costlier

Hiked for 3rd time this year



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Consumers will have to pay Tk 7 more for per litre of edible oil as the commerce ministry has approved refiners' proposal to hike the price -- a development that is going to put further strain on people's wallets, especially those of the fixed- and low-income group.

High prices of various commodities and vegetables have hit many, particularly those who either lost jobs or have to accept reduced wages because of the coronavirus-induced economic slowdown. When the prices of basic commodities like rice, sugar, egg, onion and lentil have soared in the local market, the commerce ministry yesterday endorsed the proposal.

With this, the edible oil price has been hiked for the third time this year. This time it happened after a month.

Prices of edible oil go up in the local market due to price

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4



A young artisan holding an idol of a deity among many that she expects to sell on the occasion of Lakshmi Puja, a religious festival of the Hindu community to be held today. The photo was taken yesterday in front of the Sri Sri Hari Thakur Mandir in Barishal.

PHOTO: TITU DAS



Prabarana Purnima today

BSS, Dhaka

The Buddhist community will celebrate their second largest religious festival -- Prabarana Purnima -- across the country tomorrow with due solemnity amid COVID19 situation.

The festival is also known as Ashwini Purnima that marks conclusion of the three-month-long seclusion of the monks inside their monasteries for self-edification and atonement of their defilement.

The Purnima follows a month-long preaching of sermons by Buddhist monks for the welfare of every being and the whole of humankind through a

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION

Victims should be compensated

JS body recommends

RASHIDUL HASAN

A parliamentary watchdog yesterday recommended giving compensation to victims of environment pollution from fines collected from polluters.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change came up with the recommendation at a meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, with Awami League MP Saber Hossain Chowdhury in the chair.

The committee said fines collected from environment polluters go to the government exchequer. If that money is spent on compensating the victims, they will be benefited.

Emerging from the meeting, Saber said: "The Department of Environment is always taking action against polluters. Fines are also being collected from them. But nothing is being done for the victims of pollution."

For example, he said if a factory pollutes a river, fines are collected from the polluter. But many people are getting various diseases, including skin diseases, using the water of that polluted river.

The committee thinks that it would be better if the medical expenses of those victims could be covered from the fines, Saber, chairman of the parliamentary body, said.

He said the ministry agreed in principle with the committee's recommendation.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

ROAD TO FREEDOM

THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Tito calls for political solution to Bangladesh problem



SOURCE: HINDUSTHAN STANDARD

Refugee women at Salt Lake camp in Calcutta apply Chandan paste on a portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on the occasion of Bhai Photo on October 20, 1971.

OCTOBER 20, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

THE SMELL OF WAR

The New York Times, in an editorial published today, stated, "What United Nations Secretary General U Thant called a "potential" threat to peace last August has become too imminent a peril to be longer ignored by the world organisation."

It added, "Although neither Government can rationally want

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

One-year-old dies in fire

Mother, sister injured

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

A child was killed and his mother and sister were injured in a fire in Sreenagar upazila of Munshiganj.

The dead is one-year-old Ayaz Mridha, said Mahfuz Riben, station officer of Sreenagar Fire Service and Civil Defence.

The fire broke out on the second floor of a three-storey building in Purba Munshia village around 9:30 last night, the fire service official said, adding that the fire started from a mosquito repellent coil.

The child's mother Khadija Akter, 28, and sister Ayesha, 2, were injured in the incident.

Three units of the firefighters brought the fire under control, the official said.

Ayaz died of suffocation due to heavy smoke, said Parvej Mridha, the child's uncle, quoting doctors.

Ayesha was being treated at the ICU of the Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery. Her condition is critical, the uncle added.

Fasting boosts lifespan in mice



AFP, Paris

Eating less often does more to improve the health and lifespan of rodents than simply eating less, a study said Monday.

Researchers looking at mice on different diets found those who were fed fewer calories in a single daily feeding lived longer than mice eating the same number of calories distributed throughout the day.

The study, published in Nature Metabolism, showed mice who ate only once a day also demonstrated improved metabolism.

Study author Dudley Lamming of the University of Wisconsin told AFP that scientists have known for about a century that restricting calories extends the lifespan of rodents.

But previous studies on mice and calorie restriction had included unintentional fasting with mice typically fed just once a day.

Lamming's team decided to find out whether the timing between feedings might play a role -- and discovered it was not the quantity of food alone that mattered.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

India delays Covid vaccine supplies to Covax

Say sources

REUTERS, New Delhi

India has delayed committing supplies of vaccine to the Covax global sharing platform, two sources told Reuters yesterday, a day after one of its key backers, the WHO, said the agency could not "cut corners" to approve a domestically developed vaccine.

The world's biggest vaccine maker resumed exports of Covid-19 doses this month for the first time since April. It has sent about 4 million doses to countries such as neighbouring Bangladesh and Iran, but none to Covax.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5



PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 20

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4:50 12:45 4:00 5:36 7:15
JAMAAT 5:25 1:15 4:15 5:39 7:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Hundreds of fishing boats and trawlers docked at the Fishery Ghat in Chattogram city amid the ongoing 22-day government-imposed ban on fishing. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Kushtia journo arrested in DSA case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A journalist has been arrested in a case filed under the Digital Security Act in Kushtia.

The arrestee is Farhad Asif Tipu, 50, Kumarkhali upazila correspondent of Bangla daily Jai Jai Din.

Kamruzzaman Talukder, officer-in-charge of Kumarkhali Police Station, said Farhad Imran, organising secretary of Kumarkhali upazila unit Juba League, filed the case.

Quoting the case statement, the OC said journalist Tipu shared an offensive post on his Facebook regarding the prime minister's visit to India. A distorted photo of the premier was attached to the post.

As soon as the case

SEE PAGE 5 COL 6



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

UGC Bhaban, Plot # E-18/A, Agargaon Administrative Area
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
www.ugc.gov.bd

Viva - voce announcement for the Commonwealth Scholarships tenable in the UK (MS & PhD) - 2022

The viva-voce of the Commonwealth Scholarships tenable in the UK (MS & PhD) -- 2022 is going to be held on 23rd and 24th October 2021. The applicants are requested to check the UGC website (www.ugc.gov.bd) to find short lists, viva-voce dates, results and other directions etc. All relevant information will be uploaded at the UGC website timely. No communication will be made with the applicant/s from UGC side.

Dr. Ferdous Zaman
Secretary (A. C)
UGC

GD- 1882