The Baily Star



City

Factory fire kills five in Bogura

MOSTAFA SHABUJ, Bogura

Five workers died in a fire that spread through three acres of a disposable plastic factory in Bogura's Adamdighi upazila yesterday.

The blaze started around 11:30am at the BIRS Plastic

Industries Limited factory in the upazila's Habib Mor area. According to day shift workers, they heard a loud sound in the machine

unit right before the fire broke out. Police and fire service officials could not yet identify the source of the flames. However, they found the safety measures in the factory were

inadequate. Around 12 fire-fighting units from Bogura and Naogaon brought the fire under control after a two-hour long effort.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1



An aerial view of the eighth Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge on the Kacha river in Pirojpur. The bridge project is supposed to be completed in June 2022.

DU student 'tortured to death'

Husband detained

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The family of a Dhaka University student alleged that she was tortured to death yesterday evening by her in-laws.

The in-laws took Elma SEE PAGE 7 COL 4



PRAYER TIMING DECEMBER 15 Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 5-20 12-45 3-45 5-22 7-00 JAMAAT 5-55 1-15 4-00 5-25 7-30 SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Bhutto walks out in tears

DECEMBER 15, 1971 Shamsuddoza Sajen **INDIRA GANDHI'S** LETTER TO NIXON In a letter dated



December 15, 1971, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi expressed her deep frustration to US President Richard Nixon over the "innuendos and insinuations" by US officials that "it was we [India] who have precipitated the

crisis and have in any way thwarted the emergence of solutions". She explained, "Mr President, despite the continued defiance by the rulers of Pakistan of the most elementary facts of life, we would still have tried our hardest to restrain the mounting pressure as we had for nine long months, and war could have been prevented had the rulers of Pakistan not launched a massive attack on us by bombing our SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

First protect the unvaccinated

Says WHO's emergency director, calls for vulnerable groups to get Covid booster jabs

Agencies

Getting an initial course of Covid-19 vaccines to unprotected groups all over the world should remain a top priority before offering booster shots to vulnerable groups, World Health Organisation (WHO) Emergency Director Mike Ryan said yesterday.

Ryan said he expected the current vaccines would provide significant protection against hospitalisation and death, but that the data coming through was very preliminary and the WHO did not have enough of it yet to make a full determination.

"People are always asking should we be going for a primary vaccination or boosters, the reality is we should be doing both,' Ryan told an online event.

"We should be focusing on getting those who are unvaccinated vaccinated as quickly as possible and then being able to give booster doses to those in vulnerable groups."

Ryan said Omicron would most likely replace Delta as the globally dominant variant over time and that governments needed to refocus on basic protective measures such as mask wearing and make sure their hospitals were ready, SEE PAGE 7 COL 4



Dr Yunus honoured by the UN Foundation

Receives Champion of Global Change Award

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The United Nations Foundation conferred this year's Champion of Global Change Award to two eminent personalities -- Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus and Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, SEE PAGE 7 COL 5

Woman raped with daughter at knifepoint

PHOTO: COLLECTED

STAR REPORT

A man raped a woman allegedly by keeping her daughter at knifepoint in Bagerhat Sadar upazila early yesterday.

One Sajal Mallick, 25, was detained for questioning, said police.

According to the victim, Sajal helped one Rubel Hawladar to intrude into her house and rape her.

She said she was at her home along with her daughter. Her husband, a security guard of a private bank in the upazila, went out for night duties.

Taking the chance, Rubel intruded into her home and raped her. Sajal was guarding the door.

Rubel threatened the victim with her daughter's life if she had made any noise, she said.

KM Azizul Islam, officer-in-charge of Bagerhat Sadar Model Police Station, said the woman was sent to Bagerhat SEE PAGE 7 COL 4





EDITOR & PUBLISHER : MAHFUZ ANAM. Printed by him from Transcraft Ltd, 229, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: 64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215. Tel: 09610222222, 9144330 & 9117796, Fax: 58156306, GPO Box No: 3257, for Advertisement: 01711623910, e-mail: editor@thedailvstar.net, reportino@thedailvstar.net, advertisement@thedailvstar.net