

DHAKA MONDAY APRIL 17, 2023

REGD. No. DA 781

VOL. XXXIII No. 92

BAISHAKH 4, 1430 BS

www.thedailystar.net

RAMADAN 25, 1444 HJRI

16 PAGES : Tk 15.00

Sonar Bangla Express slams into freight train

30 hurt, tomorrow's trip cancelled

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka-bound Sonar Bangla Express hit a freight train at Nangalkot of Cumilla causing seven carriages and the locomotive to derail yesterday evening.

At least 30 people were injured and five among them were in serious condition, said Jashim Uddin Chowdhury, officer-in-charge of Laksham Railway Police Station.

He said the five seriously injured were sent to hospitals.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



The mangled carriages of Sonar Bangla Express at the Hasanpur Railway Station of Cumilla's Nangalkot yesterday evening. The train was apparently diverted to the wrong line where a freight train was stationary. The collision left at least 30 people injured. PHOTO: COLLECTED

No let-up in heat until Eid

Experts blame weather phenomena, urban sprawl for rising mercury

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

The hot and dry weather during the day and plummeting mercury during the night are highly unusual phenomena in Bangladesh, said experts, blaming urbanisation and a set of weather conditions for the heatwave.

Dhaka experienced the hottest day since 1965 (40.5 degrees Celsius) yesterday.

The temperature was 40.4 degrees Celsius during the day on Saturday and 28 degrees that night, said Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD).

The highest temperature in the country that day was in Chuadanga, 42.2 degrees Celsius, but the night-time temperature there was a pleasant 23.5 degrees Celsius.

Meteorologists and experts said such differences between day and night

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

PICK FOR BARISHAL MAYOR

A resolute Hasina prevails

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

Barishal dominated the talks when the ruling Awami League's nomination board sat on Saturday to pick mayoral candidates for five cities.

Held at the Gono Bhaban with AL President Sheikh Hasina in the chair, the meeting didn't take long to finalise nominees for Khulna, Gazipur, Rajshahi and Sylhet.

But for Barishal, there was a lengthy discussion between Hasina and Abul Hasnat Abdullah, the MP from Barishal-1 constituency and also a cousin of the AL chief.

The other members of the board kept silent all along.

According to insiders, Hasnat repeatedly pleaded with Hasina to nominate his son and incumbent Barishal mayor, Serniabat Sadiq Abdullah.

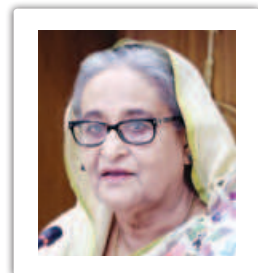
But the AL chief backed Abul Khair Abdullah, the youngest brother of Hasnat, after the names of those who collected the nomination forms were placed at the meeting, said three board members who attended the meeting.

The nomination panel went with the party chief.

Arguing for his son, Hasnat said he was the current mayor and a strong contender.

If Sadiq didn't get the ticket, his political career would come to

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1



KEY TO PROSPERITY

It's political power, not military rule

Says PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said that political leadership and decisions -- not military rule -- are the most important factors for a country to prosper.

"Whenever our country was outside political decisions, which means under direct or indirect military rule, it did not register its development and prosperity. The people of the country have to realise this."

The premier said this while delivering her introductory speech at the eighth meeting of the National Training Council held at the Gono Bhaban.

She said that development is every

SEE PAGE 7 COL 5

BUSINESS

Govt honours 71 exporters

STORY ON B1

FIRE-RAVAGED NEW SUPER MARKET

Shops on ground, 1st floors to reopen today

MD ABBAS and SAJJAD HOSSAIN

Traders of Dhaka's New Super Market are desperately trying to reopen their business after the firemen doused the fire and handed over the market to the market authorities around 10:00am yesterday.

The busy clothing and crockeries market remained closed since a fire broke out around 5:40am on Saturday and gutted 243 shops, causing huge loss to

traders, who were expecting brisk business before Eid.

"We have started the cleaning up work and hope to complete it by tonight [Sunday]. The shops on the ground and first floors will be opened by tomorrow [Monday]," Kazi Abul Khayer, member secretary of Dhaka New Super Market Bebohayee Samity (South), told The Daily Star.

PHOTO ON PAGE 2

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

WALTON
Smart Fridge

ডিজিটাল কম্পিউটার মনিটর ৯৭-এ পেতে পারেন

৩০১ টি কিনে ১০১ টি ফ্রি

বাহ্যিক ভিত্তি পণ্য ফ্রি

রয়েছে দ্বিগুণ অক্ষ অক্ষ উপহার

শুধু ২০২৩

তাই কাই এগুনগারাইর অবনিগর বাজার কুড়ী, মৌলভীবাজার থেকে গ্রুজ কিনে

৩০১ টি পণ্য ফ্রি পেলেন

মনোয়ারা বেগম, পিতা: আব্দুল মজিবুর কুলাউড়া, মৌলভীবাজার

মোয়াজ্জ্বী ইলেকট্রনিক্স ক্রপনিয়া, যশোর থেকে গ্রুজ কিনে

৩০১ টি পণ্য ফ্রি পেলেন

জনাব মো: মোশারফ হোসেন, পিতা: গোলাম কুদ্দুস চুর্নী, যশোর সদর, যশোর

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

SMART INTERCONNECTED

SynthoFresh

100% Food Grade Materials
FDA CERTIFIED

Globally Achieved Safety, Energy & Quality Ensuring Certificates

CB Certification Body

CE Conformity Europe

Gulf Cooperation Council

Saudi Arabia Standards Organization

Member of Hazardous Substance

EMC Electromagnetic Compatibility

NOM National Quality Standard

TAF Taiwan Accredited

UL US LISTED

EAF European Accredited

For Details: 16297 | 08000016267 (Toll Free) | waltonbd.com

NATIONAL EXPORT TROPHY

Universal Jeans Limited has been awarded "BANGABANDHU SHEIKH MUJIB EXPORT TROPHY (GOLD)" as the highest exporter of Bangladesh for the year 2019-2020.

Two other companies of the group Pacific Jeans Limited NHT Fashions Limited have been awarded GOLD & SILVER TROPHY for being the highest exporter of Export Processing zone, Bangladesh.

Syed M. Tanvir, Managing Director and Syed M. Tahmir, Director of Pacific Jeans Group received the trophies. We dedicate the achievement to our mentor, honorable Chairman late Md. Nasir Uddin.

All members of:



28

THRIVING IN AN EVOLVING LANDSCAPE

For the last 28 years we have taken strides to become one of the leading banks in the country. We are committed to push forward financial inclusiveness, foster innovation & digitally navigate through the streams of change in the evolving landscape of Bangladesh.