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Saree made from banana plant fibre gifted to PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday received Kolaboti sarees and handicrafts, all made from banana plant fibre.

Bandarban Deputy Commissioner Yasmin Parveen Tibriji handed over three such sarees and two jewellery boxes to the PM at the cabinet room of the Prime Minister's Office.

The Kolaboti sarees were first created by Radhavati Devi, a member of the Manipuri community in Moulvibazar, using the fibre of banana plant.

Anjali Devi and Dutta Singh, weavers from Bandarban, made the three sarees that were gifted to the prime minister. Besides, a special Machang model of a residential shelter in hilly areas, district brand calendar and brand book were also presented to the prime minister by the deputy commissioner.



Holding a Kolaboti saree made from banana plant fibre, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina poses for a photograph at the cabinet room of the Prime Minister's Office yesterday. Anjali Devi and Dutta Singh, weavers from Bandarban, made three such sarees and handicrafts, which were gifted to the premier by Bandarban Deputy Commissioner Yasmin Parveen Tibriji.

PHOTO: PID

'MY VILLAGE MY TOWN'  
Bringing urban facilities to the rural areas

Six govt-funded projects to be placed at Ecneec today

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and JAMIL MAHMUD

The government is going to undertake a project under which modern urban facilities will reach 15 villages under 15 upazilas of as many districts.

The "My village-my town: Pilot village development" project will be implemented as per the ruling party's electoral pledge to bring modern urban facilities to the country's rural areas.

"Gradually, all of the country's villages will be brought under modern urban facilities," as per the planning commission's remarks mentioned in the project proposal.

Proposals of the project and five other projects, all of which will be financed from the government's own fund, will be placed before the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecneec) meeting today for approval.

The six projects will cost an estimated Tk 8,750 crore.

The six projects are "My village-my town: Pilot village development", "Building Sylhet Medical University", "To reclaim water flow of the Jhenai, Ghaghat, Bangshi and Nagda rivers, ensuring water flow in the dry season, river route development and flood management", "Distribution of water of the Padma river in the Barind

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Student stabbed to death by 'muggers'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A college student died after being stabbed allegedly by muggers in Dhaka's Dhanmondi area on Sunday night.

The deceased, 18-year-old Adnan Sayed Rakib, was an HSC candidate studying in Ideal College in Dhanmondi.

The incident took place around 10:30pm near the playground of Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club, police said.

Adnan along with his friend went to the area from his house on Green Road to have a cup of tea.

Some other youths arrived at the spot and demanded that the two friends hand over their valuables, and at one stage stabbed Adnan in the throat, said Sub-inspector Alamgir Hossain of Dhanmondi Police Station, quoting the friend.

After the muggers

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18-40 age group the worst-affected

DMCH overwhelmed by dengue patients

HELEMUL ALAM

Sazedur Rahman, 40, a resident of Gaibandha, had been suffering from fever since the last week of June.

He was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital two days ago after receiving treatment at Gaibandha Sadar hospital and a city hospital in Abdullahpur.

"After coming here, the patient is getting better," said Shah Alam, a close relative of Sazzad.

"We went to the Sadar hospital initially but he was there for one night as they referred him to Dhaka for better treatment. We then took him to a hospital in Dhaka's Abdullahpur where doctors gave him 10 different kinds of tests. Later, we decided to bring him to DMCH as his condition was not improving," said Sazzad.

Like Sazedur, a huge number of dengue patients, a good number of whom are from outside Dhaka, are undergoing treatment at the hospital. Many of them are being

treated on the hospital floors and corridors.

Around 300-400 patients come to DMCH's medicine wards every day, 70 to 80 percent of whom are



**11,213 (highest) of the 22,467 infected and 47 (highest) of the deceased belong to the age group 18-40. Of the other patients, 3,576 are aged 10-18; 3,547 between 40 and 60; 919 between 60 and 80; and 81 over 80 years.**

dengue patients, informed a on-duty doctor, preferring anonymity.

"We do not send back patients who are in a critical condition. However, patients, who are

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YUNUS PETITIONS  
Hearing deferred till July 23

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday deferred till July 23 the hearing of three leave to appeal petitions filed by Nobel laureate Muhammad challenging a High Court verdict that justified the decision of imposing tax on the money gifted by him to his three charitable trusts.

A four-member bench of the SC headed by Chief Justice Hasan Foez Siddique passed the order following a time prayer moved by Md Taufique Hossain, advocate on record for Yunus in this case.

On May 31, the HC delivered the verdict saying that the decision of imposing tax on the money gifted by Yunus to his three charitable trusts is legal.

The HC verdict means that Yunus will have to pay around Tk 12 crore as tax on the money he donated

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'Remove legal handcuffs off ACC'  
TIB asks govt to amend Money Laundering Prevention Rules 2019

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) has asked the government to amend the Money Laundering Prevention Rules 2019 immediately to restore the Anti-Corruption Commission's power to investigate money laundering related offences.

The 2019 amendment not only curtailed ACC's power but also protected money launderers, believes TIB.

**The government should reinstate the ACC's power to investigate money laundering related offences that include documents forgery, laundering local and foreign currencies, tax evasion and anomalies in stock market.**

IFTEKHARUZZAMAN  
TIB Executive Director

In a statement yesterday, TIB Executive Director Dr Iftekharuzzaman said the ACC was established with a specific aim but through several legal and administrative reforms its power is curtailed.

The role of the ACC, which is a specialised organisation, is inevitable to prevent money

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WATERBUS CAPSIZE  
Six held from bulk carrier

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police have detained six persons from the sand-laden bulk carrier that hit and sank a waterbus in the Buriganga near Keraniganj on Sunday night, killing at least three passengers.

"We detained them from the bulk carrier. We are now verifying who among them were staffers of the vessel," Sub-inspector Rezaul Karim of Sadarghat River Police told The Daily Star.

A case will be filed in this regard, he added.

Rescue ship MV Rustom dragged up the waterbus from the riverbed around 8:00am yesterday, 12 hours after it sank.


Fire official recovered three bodies from the waterbus on Sunday night.

PRAYER  
TIMING

JULY 18

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-15	12-45	5-00	6-55	8-17
JAMAAT 4-50	1-15	5-15	7-00	8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



DHAKA AIRPORT  
26kg gold paste found in aircraft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 26 kilogrammes of gold in paste form was recovered from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka yesterday morning.

A joint team of customs and National Security Intelligence carried out the drive on an Emirates aircraft, flight EK 584, that arrived from Dubai and recovered the gold paste from under 11 seats, said Md Imtiaz Hassan, joint commissioner of Dhaka Customs House.

The gold paste was in 98 egg-shaped balls wrapped in scotch tape. The gold is worth around Tk 30 crore, he told The Daily Star.

None was detained as the gold was found abandoned, the customs official said.

Meanwhile, customs officials detained three people in another drive last evening and recovered three gold bars and some ornaments totaling 3.6kg from their possession.



PHOTO: COLLECTED



Commuters on Airport Road had to face long tailbacks throughout yesterday. Even though such a situation has become a norm in the area, the by-polls to Dhaka-17 exacerbated people's sufferings.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS