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RAILWAY E-TICKETING 17yrs gone, only 18pc stations covered

Finance ministry makes fresh push for cashless ticket service



TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

The online ticketing system of Bangladesh Railway covers only 85 of its 483 stations, forcing travellers to buy tickets from the counters at the stations or from scalpers at significantly higher prices.

Even though Bangladesh Railway launched the online ticketing system way back in 2007, only the tickets for the 106 intercity trains are sold online.

Tickets for more than 100 mail, commuter, and local trains, and even trains to India are not available online. The Indian Railway sells all train tickets and platform tickets online.

Tickets for more than 100 mail, commuter, and local trains, and even trains to India are not available online. The Indian Railway sells all train tickets and platform tickets online, a BR official said.

"We lack vision and planning," the official said, wishing anonymity.

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Hawkers and parked three-wheelers occupy significant space of the Jatrabari intersection yesterday. Such mindless occupation of the road all too often creates traffic jams at one of the key entrances to the capital. The photo was taken from the Mayor Hanif Flyover.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

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CYBER SECURITY ACT Most suggestions go unheeded Cabinet okays final draft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Cabinet yesterday approved the final draft of the Cyber Security Act (CSA), which is to replace the Digital Security Act.

However, the approved bill is a spitting image of the very law it means to improve on.

Other than minor changes, the newly approved draft of the CSA remains the

same as the one first presented to the Cabinet earlier this month.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, Cabinet Secretary Md Mahbub Hossain said, "In the draft law, the offences under four sections are non-bailable, while those under the other sections are bailable."

The four are sections 17, 19, 27 and 33, he said, adding that these sections

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'JUDICIAL HARASSMENT OF YUNUS' 104 Nobel laureates, 79 global figures voice concern

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 104 Nobel Laureates and 79 other global figures in an open letter to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed concern about the safety and freedom of Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus.

"We write to you as Nobel Prize laureates, elected officials, and business and civil society leaders, and as friends of Bangladesh. We admire how your nation

18 NEW CASES FILED--PAGE 12



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**BRACE FOR THE ASIAN BATTLE**

Don't forget to collect the four-page special pull-out, free with today's newspaper, featuring analysis, interviews, fixtures, statistics, and a lot more ahead of the continental cricket battle.

৭ কোটি মানুষের হাতে বিকাশ সাথে বিকাশ

বাংলাদেশের ৭ কোটি মানুষ
এখন যুক্ত আছে এক অপরের
সাথে এগিয়ে যাচ্ছে একসাথে,
প্রতিদিন, প্রতিমুহূর্তে কারণ, সবার হাতে আছে
বিকাশ, সাথে আছে বিকাশ। আর
সমগ্র বাংলাদেশ যখন বিকাশ করে, তখন
আমাদের বিকাশ ঠেকায় কে!

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