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A good initiative failing

Marketplace in Pabna for empowering rural women on the verge of ruin

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPPI, Pabna

A marketplace established in Pabna's Satbaria Bazar to promote rural women entrepreneurs is about to be closed allegedly for lack of fund and patronisation.

Named the "Women's Corner", it comprises 12 shops allotted to ultra-poor female entrepreneurs in the area. They received Tk 5,000 each to set up their businesses.

Only two of the shops are now in operation, and the rest are mostly worn-out and deserted. Two or three shops have allegedly been rented by male traders to use those as warehouses.

The Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED), aided by non-governmental organisation CARE Bangladesh, spent Tk 29 lakh to establish the lone commercial market for female traders in Pabna's Sujannagar upazila 15 years ago.

"After the shops were allotted, some of the women traders never came to the market," said Md Samsul Islam, chairman of Satbaria Union Parishad.

"Some influential male traders in the market then started to use some of the shops as warehouses. The Women's Corner is not really run by women," he added.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



The people on the streets of Dhaka were just as interested in the Under-19 World Cup final as the Bangladesh fans who had packed the Senwes Park in Potchefstroom, South Africa. A projector was set up at TSC on the Dhaka University campus, where celebrations reached a climax as Bangladesh secured a famous victory over India.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

DIG MIZAN'S CASE Charge framing set for March 3

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court took cognizance of charges against Mizanur Rahman, suspended deputy inspector general of police, and Khandaker Enamul Basir, suspended director of Anti-Corruption Commission, in a bribery case.

Judge KM Enrur Kayesh of Senior Special Judge's Court in Dhaka passed the order in presence of the two accused.

He also transferred the case to Special Judge Court-4 of Dhaka for trial and fixed March 3 to start hearing on charge framing against the accused.

On January 15, the ACC submitted a charge sheet against them for their alleged involvement in taking and giving Tk 40 lakh bribe.

The anti-graft body filed the graft case against the two for a transaction of Tk 40 lakh as bribe on July 16 last year.

According to the

SEE PAGE 8 COL 3

Their dreams turned into despair

3 families at a loss after their breadwinners die in road crash in Oman

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Alam Ahmed had left for Oman barely six months ago, after borrowing around Tk 5 lakh from relatives and a local NGO.

He left behind his wife Nasima Begum and two children to seek his fortune, hoping a job in the oil-rich Gulf country would keep his family solvent.

Alam, 35, of Tilalin village in Moulvibazar's Kamalganj upazila, died in a road accident in Adam area of Oman, on February 3. Two other migrant workers, Liakat Ali, 35, and Sabur Ali, 33, of Kulaura upazila of the district, also died in the crash.

Quoting Liakat's brother-in-law Jashim Uddin, who lives in Oman, his grieving family members said the three of them, among other Bangladeshis, were going home riding bicycles after work when a car

SEE PAGE 8 COL 3

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

"Recognise first, then talk"



Bangabandhu meets Moulana Bhashani at PG Hospital on February 10, 1972.

FEBRUARY 10, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

BANGABANDHU MEETS BHASHANI

In the morning Bangabandhu meets Maulana Bhashani at PG Hospital where the Maulana was admitted the day before for treatment. Bangabandhu spends half an hour with Bhashani, sits on his bedside and enquires about his health. Seeing Bangabandhu, the Maulana exclaims: "You have come. May Allah grant you a long life."

NO TALKS BEFORE RECOGNITION

Bangabandhu rules out the possibility of any talks with Pakistani President ZA Bhutto before the latter recognises Bangladesh as a

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



Five held for raping girl on stranded vessel

STAR REPORT

Coast Guard members yesterday rescued a girl from a stranded vessel and arrested five youths on charge of gang-raping the girl in Bhola's Charfesson upazila.

The arrestees are Yusuf Hasan Sardar, 21, Sohail Rana Didar, 20, Wasel Ahmed Sikder, 22, Morshed Hang, 35, and Rupom Fakir, 20. All of them are residents of different areas in the upazila.

A team of Coast Guard noticed a trawler was stuck in the Meghna river while patrolling the river early yesterday, said Alamgir Hossain, contingent commander of Coast Guard's South Zone.

When they approached the vessel, a girl's scream

SEE PAGE 8 COL 3

Building roads with recycled plastic bottles!



CNN ONLINE

Plastic milk bottles are being recycled to make roads in South Africa, with the hope of helping the country tackle its waste problem and improve the quality of its roads.

Potholes cost the country's road users an estimated \$3.4 billion per year in vehicle repairs and injuries, according to the South African Road Federation, as well as damaging freight.

In August, Shisilanga Construction became the first company in South Africa to lay a section of road that's partly plastic, in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) province on the east coast.

It has now repaved more than 400 meters of the road in Cliffdale, on the outskirts of Durban, using asphalt made with the equivalent of almost 40,000 recycled two-liter plastic milk bottles.

SEE PAGE 8 COL 1

7 Bangladeshis held for illegal stay in India

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Seven Bangladeshis were arrested in Jhansi district of Uttar Pradesh for not having any valid document for staying in India, a senior police official said yesterday.

Jhansi Senior Superintendent of Police D Pradeep said, "The seven Bangladeshis were arrested during routine checking near the bus stop in Babina on Friday."

Those arrested were

SEE PAGE 8 COL 3



PRAYER TIMING FEBRUARY 10

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	5:25	12:45	4:30	5:57
JAMAAT	6:00	1:15	4:45	6:01
	7:45			

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A shack literally built into a hill on the side of Bayezid Bostami-Foujdarhat road in Chattogram city. On both sides of the road, many illegal structures like this were built ignoring the risk of landslides and destroying the hills. The photo was taken on Friday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

NY to London in 5 hours

British Airways smashes record for quickest subsonic transatlantic flight

CNN ONLINE

A British Airways (BA) flight has broken the record for the fastest-ever subsonic flight between New York and London, reaching a top speed of more than 800mph (1,287km/h).

The Boeing 747 aircraft flew overnight from Saturday to Sunday and reached its destination in four hours and 56 minutes,

as Storm Ciara sped towards the United Kingdom.

The plane landed at Heathrow airport at 4:43am, almost two hours earlier than scheduled. Its top speed during the flight was 825mph (1,327km/h), according to FlightRadar24, an online flight-tracking service.

SEE PAGE 8 COL 5

তিতাস গ্যাস ট্রান্সমিসন এন্ড ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড
(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানি)
পিএবিএক্সঃ ৯১০৩৯৬০-৬৯
জরুরি গ্যাস নিয়ন্ত্রণ কেন্দ্রঃ ৯৫৬৩৬৬৭-৬৮, ৫৫০৪৫১৩-১৪
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জরুরি গ্যাস শাট ডাউন বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সম্মানিত গ্রাহকবৃন্দসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ২৪ ইঞ্জিনিয়ার কন্সট্রাকশন ব্রিগেড এর অধীন "ঢাকা এলিভেটেড এক্সপ্রেসওয়ে রুট এলাইনমেন্ট এর মধ্যে বিদ্যমান ইউটিলিটি প্রতিস্থাপন/অপসারণ প্রকল্প" এর ২য় ট্রাক্টের ১ম পর্যায় বনানী রেল স্টেশন হতে মহাখালী বাস টার্মিনাল পর্যন্ত স্থানান্তরিত গ্যাস পাইপলাইন এর টাই-ইন কাজের জন্য আগামী ১১ ফেব্রুয়ারি, ২০২০ তারিখ, মঙ্গলবার সকাল ০৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে বিকাল ০৫.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত মোট ০৮ (আট) ঘন্টা মহাখালী রেলগেট হতে কাকদী বাস স্ট্যান্ড পর্যন্ত বিমানবন্দর সড়ক সংলগ্ন পশ্চিম পার্শ্বের এলাকা, ডিওএইচএস ও ঢাকা ক্যান্টনমেন্ট আবাসিক এলাকা ও তৎসংলগ্ন এলাকায় শিল্প, ক্যাপটিভ পাওয়ার, বাণিজ্যিক, সিএনজি ও আবাসিক শ্রেণীর গ্রাহকদের গ্যাস সরবরাহ বন্ধ থাকবে।

সম্মানিত গ্রাহকবৃন্দের সাময়িক অসুবিধার জন্য কৃত্তৃপক্ষ আন্তরিকভাবে দুঃখিত।

-তিতাস গ্যাস কৃত্তৃপক্ষ

তিতাস/জনসংযোগ-৮৩/২০১৯-২০
জিডি-২৬৩