



PADMA BRIDGE RAIL LINK PROJECT
IS BEING BUILT WITH BSRM

COUNTRY'S NO. 1 STEEL EXPERT

BSRM
building a safer nation

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS
RECORD HOLDER

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS
RECOGNIZES

World's Largest VRM

SHAH CEMENT

ONE YEAR OF CHAWKBAZAR FIRE

The state must be held accountable

Noted citizens say at event commemorating the tragedy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The state must be held accountable for the deaths in the disastrous fire in Chawkbazar's Churhatta last year, eminent citizens yesterday said at an event to commemorate one year of the tragedy.

"This was manslaughter, murder by negligence. These deaths happened because of people who did not adhere to their moral and legal responsibilities....,"

said Sultana Kamal, a noted human rights activist.

She decried how the owners of Wahed Mansion, where the fire had occurred, had gotten out on bail a few days into being arrested.

The heads of Transparency International, Bangladesh (TIB), Ain O Salish Kendra, Nijera Kori, Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers' Association (Bela), Association

SEE PAGE 13 COL 6



Hosne Ara wipes tears with her scarf as she holds a photo of her son Rajaul Karim, one of the 71 victims killed in Chawkbazar fire a year ago. The photo was taken yesterday at the Nagar Bhaban, where Dhaka South City Corporation mayor held an event to announce compensation for families of some of the fire victims.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

'Build a society free from exploitation'



Bangabandhu offering prayers at the Azimpur Graveyard on February 21, 1972.

FEBRUARY 21, 1972

BANGABANDHU'S MESSAGE ON NATIONAL MARTYRS DAY 1972

My dear countrymen—brothers and sisters,

We are going to observe Shaheed Day for the first time on the soil of a free country.

This struggle of ours had started from as far back as March 11, 1948. That day, we were arrested in the language movement. It was not merely a language movement. In truth, this was a movement for establishing the rights of the people of Bangladesh, nay it was an independence movement.

This struggle started gradually from 1948 and reached its zenith

SEE PAGE 13 COL 3



WOMAN'S DEATH IN COP CUSTODY

Family wants judicial probe

Police form committee to probe allegations

STAR REPORT

Family members of Yasmin Begum, who died in the custody of Gazipur police on early Wednesday, yesterday demanded a judicial probe into the death saying they have no faith in the police investigation.

"Police beat up my sister after failing to find her husband on Tuesday night... How could police investigate the same murder?... They will be biased. We want a judicial probe, we want justice," Yasmin's younger brother Jahangir Hossain told our Gazipur correspondent yesterday.

Manjur Rahman, deputy commissioner of Detective Branch (DB) of police in Gazipur, however, said Yasmin was arrested with 120 yaba pills and taken to the DB office in the city. She later fell sick and was taken to the hospital where doctors declared her dead.

Gazipur Metropolitan Police on Wednesday formed a three-member committee led by its additional commissioner Md Azad Mia to investigate the incident.

Meanwhile, rights body Ain o Salish Kendra yesterday said to ensure justice, an independent inquiry committee, including experts other than members of

SEE PAGE 13 COL 3

Rape victim dies taking poison

STAR REPORT

A schoolgirl, who took poison on Monday allegedly after being raped, died at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital on Wednesday night.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 3



PRAYER TIMING FEBRUARY 21

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5:20 12:30 4:30 6:03 7:30
JAMAAT 5:55 1:15 4:45 6:07 8:00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

China sees big drop in coronavirus cases

394 new cases reported on Wednesday; Iran, South Korea report first deaths

AGENCIES

China yesterday touted a big drop in new virus infections as proof its epidemic control efforts are working, but the toll grew abroad with deaths in Japan and South Korea.

Fatalities in China hit 2,118 as 114 more people died, but health officials reported the lowest number of new cases in nearly a month, including in hardest-hit Hubei province.

China had 394 new confirmed cases on Wednesday, the National Health Commission (NHC) said, sharply down from 1,749 cases a day earlier and the

lowest since Jan 23.

That brings the total accumulated number of confirmed cases in mainland China to 74,576. Hundreds more cases were reported in over 25 countries. The number of deaths outside mainland China climbed to 11.

Japan's toll rose to three as a man and a woman in their 80s who had been aboard a quarantined cruise ship died, while fears there mounted about other passengers who disembarked the Diamond Princess after testing negative.

South Korea reported its first death,

SEE PAGE 13 COL 3

অব্যক্ত কিংবা সরব, বুঝে নেই মনের ভাষা

সব কথা কি বলতে হয়। কিংবা সব ভাবের প্রকাশ। রাগ, অভিমান অথবা অনুরক্তের ভাষা অনেক। শব্দের জোর কখনো সীমিত, কখনোবা প্রবল। তেমনি শব্দহীনতারও। নীরবতার মতো প্রবল প্রকাশ এখনও হয়নি আবিষ্কার। কখনও কি ভেবেছি, বলতে না পারা মানুষের কষ্ট। কত ভাবেই না তারা দেখেন পৃথিবীকে, মানুষের অবয়ব কিংবা বিচ্ছাতি। এবারের ভাষা দিবসে মিশে যাই শব্দহীনদের সাথে। সম্পূর্ণ নতুন এক ভাষায় গল্প লিখতে।

pranfoods.net | pranrflbd | pran-rfl-group | 09613737777

মহান শহিদ দিবস ও আন্তর্জাতিক মাতৃভাষা দিবসে সকল ভাষা সৈনিককে জানাই সম্রদ্ধ সালাম...

আমরা ভাষার রক্তে
ফাঙানো গুলো ছেঁকয়ারি

সোনালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
উদ্ভাবনী ব্যাংকিং এ আপনার বিশ্বস্ত সঙ্গী
www.sonalibank.com.bd

জনতা ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
উন্নয়নে আপনার বিশ্বস্ত অংশীদার
www.jb.com.bd

অগ্রানী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
দেশ ও জাতির সেবায় প্রতিশ্রুতিবদ্ধ
website : www.agranibank.org

রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
উত্তম সেবার নিশ্চয়তা
www.rupalibank.org