



PADMA BRIDGE RAIL LINK PROJECT IS BEING BUILT WITH BSRM
COUNTRY'S NO. 1 STEEL EXPERT **BSRM** building a safer nation

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS RECOGNIZES
World's Largest VRM
SHAH CEMENT

RELIEF IN RAJSHAHI

Still many left out

Aid given to more people than primary estimate; four indigenous villages yet to get it

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

Though the relief distribution in Rajshahi so far has been provided to nearly triple the initial estimate of the poor, many belonging to indigenous communities in the district have remained out of the purview of government support.

Indigenous people, who largely work as day labourers on agricultural land or in the towns, are among those targeted by the government's relief efforts as the coronavirus situation rendered these day labourers jobless.

Many of them coped through the first few weeks of the shutdown using their savings and selling off livestock.

The Daily Star identified at least four Orao community villages in Matikata union of Godagari upazila, where the dwellers claim none have received any relief so far.

Of these families, 65 live in Habaspur village, 18 in Bhajanpur, 25 in Notunpara, and 28 in Silinda.

"None of us got relief. The leaders say wait but how long will I wait?" said Jagadish Chandra Bose of Habaspur.

"I don't get a job often when hunger forces me to go out. When I do get a job, the police chase me back home."

Ruhul Amin, chairman of Matikata Union Parishad, said these villages might have escaped the administration's notice due to their remote location. He said no one had brought the matter to his notice till now.

"Now, you've informed me. I will see for myself that"

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



Children playing with marbles on the street while their parents are waiting for relief goods in Chattogram's CRB area yesterday afternoon. The suspension of the economy has rendered many people unemployed, and with the schools closed, students have found more leisure than ever.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

2 Rohingyas killed in 'gunfight'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Two Rohingyas, who were allegedly involved in yaba trade, were killed in a gunfight with police in Teknaf upazila of Cox's Bazar early yesterday.

Noor Mohammad, 35, and Mohammad Rafique, 25, were from Kutupalang Rohingya Camp in Ukhia upazila, said Prodip Kumar Das, officer-in-charge of Teknaf Police Station.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of the police conducted a raid in Ulubania village around 6:00pm on Friday and detained Noor and Rafique, said the OC.

During primary interrogation, they confessed that they regularly smuggled yaba from Myanmar to Bangladesh, the police official said.

They also told police that they had recently brought a consignment of the illicit drug and concealed it somewhere in Ulubania village, Prodip said.

Police, taking along the two suspects, conducted a raid in the village around 1:30am yesterday to recover the yaba pills, he added.

As the law enforcers reached the spot, cohorts of the detainees opened fire on them, forcing them to retaliate that triggered a "gunfight", the OC said.

The two caught in the line of bullets during the incident and were taken

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

DU mulls holiday cuts to reduce session jam

ASHIK ABDULLAH APU

Dhaka University authorities are considering cutting holidays to prevent a looming session jam and make up for academic losses caused by the ongoing indefinite closure of the institution over the coronavirus outbreak.

They are also mulling over arranging additional classes after the resumption of academic activities to compensate for the academic losses.

Keeping these points under consideration, DU Vice-Chancellor Prof Md Akhtaruazzaman will hold a meeting tomorrow with the deans to discuss the issues, said deans of two faculties.

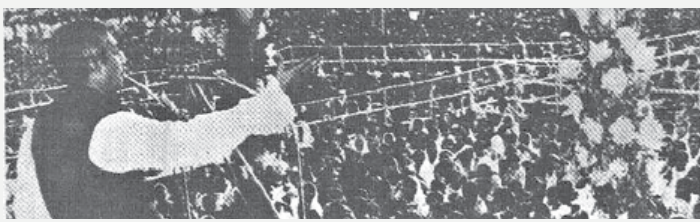
A week after the country reported its first Covid-19 case on March 8, the DU authorities suspended all academic activities till March 28. The suspension, which was later extended for an indefinite period, resulted in cancellation of mid-term examinations of many departments.

Although some private universities are now offering online classes to students, the DU and most other public universities are yet to introduce such classes due to

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

No perpetrator will go unpunished



Bangabandhu addressing a large crowd at Pabna Stadium on May 10, 1972.

May 10, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

BANGABANDHU'S PABNA SPEECH

On the third day of the four-day tour of North Bengal, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman today visits Pabna.

He was warmly greeted by the locals. Speaking at a mammoth gathering at Pabna Stadium Bangabandhu rules out the possibility of any talks with Pakistani President ZA Bhutto before the latter recognises Bangladesh as a sovereign, independent state. He further says that Pakistan has lost prestige before the world community. As Pakistan's political master, the USA, has recognised the reality of Bangladesh, the country will follow suit whether there is any discussion or not, reiterates the prime minister. He calls upon

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



Another policeman dies from Covid-19

Law enforcers forms teams to check on fellow infected cops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Another policeman died of Covid-19 while undergoing treatment at Central Police Hospital yesterday.

Jalaluddin Khoka, 47, a constable at Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), breathed his last around 7:10pm, according to a statement of the Police Headquarters.

With him, the death toll among cops rose to seven and all of them were from DMP, the statement said.

Meanwhile, different police units are forming "special teams" to visit the Covid-19 infected force members and inquire about their health, maintaining social distancing.

"The teams will visit Covid-19 infected police

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Turkish doctors turn detectives to track virus



AFP, Istanbul

In full protective gear, two doctors climb the stairs four at a time. Their first task of the day: to test a woman who has had contact with a coronavirus patient in Istanbul.

Visibly perturbed by the appearance of men in white bodysuits on her landing, the resident in the populous Fatih district answers their questions before she is tested.

She will get her results the next day. In Turkey, nearly 6,000 teams of "tracers" -- all health professionals -- track potential Covid-19 cases 24 hours a day by identifying and following up with people who have had contact with patients.

By helping find new cases who are then quickly

SEE PAGE 4 COL 8

PRAYER TIMING MAY 10

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 3-49	12-45	5-00	6-35	8-00
JAMAAT 3-59	1-15	5-15	6-45	8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING

RAMADAN MAY SEHRI IFTAR				
16	10	3:49	6:35	
17	11	3:49	6:36	
18	12	3:49	6:36	

Oceans may rise over 1m by 2100

Warn scientists

AFP, Paris

Oceans are likely to rise as much as 1.3 metres by 2100 if Earth's surface warms another 3.5 degrees Celsius, scientists warned Friday.

By 2300, when ice sheets covering West Antarctica and Greenland will have shed trillions of tonnes in mass, sea levels could go up by more than five metres under that temperature scenario, redrawing the planet's coastlines, they reported in a peer-reviewed survey of more than 100 leading experts.

About ten percent of the world's population, or 770 million people, today live on land less than five metres above the high tide line.

Even if the Paris climate treaty goal of capping global warming below 2C is met -- a very big "if" -- the ocean watermark could go up two metres by 2300, according to a study in the journal Climate Atmospheric Science

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5



Discarded gloves and masks litter the dirty water at the base of the fountain near the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital. The fountain, meant for beautifying the premises, has become a repulsive sight and a possible breeding ground for Aedes mosquitoes. This paper published a photo of the fountain's sorry state last week but things have only become worse.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Virus inflicts huge US job losses

Europe moves to keep its border shut for another month

AFP, Washington

The United States recorded its steepest job losses in history over the coronavirus pandemic as Europe moved to keep its borders shut for another month.

Hopes have been rising that the worst of the global catastrophe, which has killed more than 270,000 people, has passed, and the United States on Friday approved a new at-home saliva test to speed up diagnosis for Covid-19. But after weeks of lockdown across the world, the effects have been painfully visible, with the global economy suffering its most acute downturn in nearly a century.

In the United States, 20.5 million jobs were wiped out in April -- the most ever reported -- with unemployment rising to 14.7 percent, the highest since the Great Depression. The world's largest economy has suffered the deadliest coronavirus outbreak, with more than 77,000 fatalities and nearly 1.3 million cases.

Mindful of elections in November, President Donald Trump has nonetheless vowed to reopen the country, and a growing number of state governors have already let business resume with precautions.

Trump played down the unemployment numbers, pointing to substantial gains Friday on global stock markets as proof that better times were ahead.

"We're going to have a phenomenal year next year," Trump told reporters. "I think it's going to come back blazing."

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6