



4-LANE DHAKA-BHANGA EXPRESS HIGHWAY BUILT WITH BSRM XTREME

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SHAH CEMENT

## PVT CLINICS, TEST CENTRES Govt has no list of those without any licence

DGHS tells HC; 12,543 entities applied for renewal of licence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Directorate General of Health Services has informed the High Court that 12,543 private hospitals, clinics and diagnostic centres have applied for renewal of their licences.

The government has lists of private healthcare facilities having licence, but it has no lists of those without a licence, the DGHS said in a statement submitted to the HC yesterday during the hearing of a writ petition.

Deputy Attorney General Amit Dasgupta placed the DGHS statement before the HC bench of Justice Tariq ul Hakim and Justice SM Kuddus Zaman during virtual hearing on the petition, filed by rights organisation Children's Charity Bangladesh Foundation, seeking necessary orders.

In the statement, the DGHS said the health ministry uploaded information of the number of Covid-19 and non-Covid-19 hospitals on its official website.

But the bench refused to continue holding the hearing and pass any order on the issue.

The bench dropped the petition from its cause list as petitioner's lawyers Abdul Halim and Ishrat Hasan and Deputy Attorney General Amit locked into heated arguments over uploading relevant information on the health ministry's website.

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Dhaka North City Corporation removed an illegally placed billboard near Airport Road in the capital yesterday morning. The DNCC has recently taken the decision to knock down all illegal structures built in areas under its jurisdiction.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

## OC Pradeep sued over two more murders

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Suspended officer-in-charge Pradeep Kumar Das and some others were accused in two more murder cases filed with a Cox's Bazar court yesterday.

Judge of Senior Judicial Magistrate Court-3 (Teknaf) Md Helal Uddin took the complaints into cognisance and asked the OC of Teknaf Police Station to submit the reports of the incidents before the court.

Pradeep, who was the OC of Teknaf Police Station, was suspended in connection with the murder of Major (retd) Sinha Md Rashed Khan.

Shahina Akhter, of Khraingakhali village in Teknaf upazila, lodged the first complaint yesterday.

In her complaint, she said police on February 27 set her husband's elder brother's house on fire. Later, police arrested her 85-year-old father-in-law and sister-in-law (wife of her brother) and they were

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## Love for country, not for money

Dr Bijon tells Star amid quizzical citizenship, work permit debate

GOLAM MORTOZA

Reputed around the world, scientist Dr Bijon Kumar Sil says he has been working for the love of his motherland Bangladesh and its people and not for money.

"I have worked in Singapore and if you consider the financial aspect, it was handsome pay. Even when I worked in an organisation based in USA, the financial benefits were 10 times higher than the benefits I am enjoying in Bangladesh," he told The Daily Star yesterday.

Bijon, who is now a citizen of Singapore, made the remarks at a time when the issue of his nationality is being discussed by some media outlets that have reported that he was relieved of his duties from Gono University as he does not have an employment visa.

"I was born in a very ordinary family [in Natore] but have grown up with love from people around me," said Dr Sil, adding that his love for the people of this country was the driving force behind continuing as lead scientist of Gono University.

He further said that he took up the Singapore citizenship under special circumstances decades back.

"I worked there but that does not mean I forgot Bangladesh or that this is my motherland. I don't know exactly who

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## FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

### Bangabandhu asks about food situation

September 3, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

#### PHONE CONVERSATION WITH NAZRUL

Acting Prime Minister Syed Nazrul Islam has a talk with Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman today. Bangabandhu enquires about the food situation of the country and he is very much eager to return home within a short time. Syed Nazrul Islam informs the prime minister about the steps the government has taken to solve the food problems now facing the country.

Bangabandhu is still weak in his movements and, according to doctors' suggestions, his date of return may be delayed further.

#### NO POSSIBILITY OF TALKS WITH BANGABANDHU

Pakistan President Z A Bhutto today rules out the possibility of any talk between him and Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in the near future. He tells newsmen in Karachi that the question of recognising Bangladesh could not be discussed because Sheikh Mujibur Rahman refused to talk with him. Bhutto further says that China vetoed the entry of Bangladesh into the UN to expedite the repatriation of Pakistani prisoners of war.

#### BHASHANI SUBMITS MEMO TO NAZRUL

Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani leads a "hunger march" to Gono Bhaban today and hands over a memo to acting Prime Minister Syed Nazrul Islam. The memorandum contains various suggestions to combat the manifold problems that the nation is facing.

Earlier, addressing a public meeting at Paltan Maidan today, the NAP (Bhashani) chief called for the formation of an all-party government under the leadership of Bangabandhu and Awami

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REGENT GROUP

## Court freezes 52 bank accounts of Shahed, MD

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday ordered the authorities concerned to freeze 52 bank accounts of Regent Group Chairman Mohammad Shahed and its Managing Director Masud Parvez in connection with a money laundering case.

Shahed has 43 white and Masud has nine accounts in different banks of the capital where Tk 11 crore was deposited.

Judge KM Emrul Kayesh of the Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka passed the order after Moniruzzaman, an inspector of Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police and also the investigation officer of the case, submitted a petition in this regard.

Shahed was arrested from Sathkira on July 15 when he was trying to leave the country. Masud was arrested from Gazipur the day before.

After arrest, Shahed was placed on a 61-day remand in different cases filed with

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## Giant fossilised tree discovered in Peru



MAIL ONLINE

A giant tree fossil found in Peru has given researchers a new picture of how the environment in the Andes mountain has changed over the past 10 million years.

On an expedition to the Central Andean Plateau, researchers from the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) discovered the fossil buried in a cold, grassy plain.

The plant fossil record from this high-altitude site in southern Peru contains details about dramatic changes in the Andes mountains environment.

The team found that the environment in the mountains was more humid than existing climate model predictions they would have been 10 million years ago.

The anatomy of the petrified wood the researchers found is very much like the anatomy of wood found in low-elevation tropical forests today.

But that ecosystem did not last for long. Today, the tree fossil sits amid an arid, intermountain plateau that lies at 13,123 feet above sea level.

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## COVID PANDEMIC Australia falls into recession

Brazil's economy shrinks by 10pc

AFP, Sydney

Australia has fallen into recession for the first time in three decades and Brazil's economy shrank by almost 10 percent because of the coronavirus, leaving China as the only major nation still recording economic growth during the pandemic.

A raft of bleak data from India to Europe in recent days has laid bare the toll from lockdowns as nations try to keep a lid on an illness that has killed more than 850,000 people and infected over 25 million.

The challenges were further highlighted yesterday when Australia

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### PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 3

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4:30 12:45 4:45 6:23 7:45  
JAMAAT 5:05 1:15 5:00 6:26 8:15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Battery-run auto-rickshaws and boats, which travel to Dhaka from different villages along the Trimohoni river, lie idle as there has been a lack of passengers due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This has left auto-rickshaws drivers and boatmen out of work.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

## AB Bank's 38th AGM held

5% stock dividend approved

The 38th AGM of AB Bank Limited was held on September 02, 2020 on digital platform. The meeting unanimously approved 5% Stock Dividend for the year ended 2019.

The listing category of the Bank has been placed in category "A" with effect from September 02, 2020 as per directives of Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission.

AB Bank Limited completed 38th year of successful operation on April 12, 2020. Net Asset Value (NAV) of the Bank stood at Tk.2,284 crore and total assets stood at

### 38th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Tk.36,557 crore in 2019 which registered 13.33% growth over last year.

The AGM also adopted Directors' Report, Audited Financial Statements and appointed Mr. Moshtaque Ahmed Chowdhury and Mr. Shajir Ahmed as

Directors. Shareholders also appointed ACNABIN, Chartered Accountants, as Statutory Auditor of the Bank for the year 2020.

Chairman of the Board Mr. Muhammad A (Rumee) Ali, presided over the meeting. Mr. Tarique

Afzal, President & Managing Director, Honorable Directors of the Board and a good number of Shareholders attended the Annual General Meeting over digital platform