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SHAH CEMENT

Private project with state money

Pvt university in Bandarban builds dam with Tk 1.35 crore from govt



SANJOY KUMAR BARUA

A private university in Bandarban spent Tk 1.35 crore of the government's fund to construct its water supply channel.

At a time when villagers were leaving their ancestral neighbourhoods due to water crisis, Bandarban Hill District Council (BHDC) gave the amount to a private university named Bandarban University to establish its own water supply channel.

The university is founded by Bir Bahadur U Shwe Sing, SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



A long tailback in the capital's Shyamoli on Mirpur Road as differently-abled people who run battery-powered rickshaws blocked the road yesterday demanding their vehicles be allowed to ply city streets. Plying of such vehicles is banned. The jam lasted for around two hours.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



(1945-2020)

A tribute to Abul Hasnat

GOLAM MORTOZA

Abul Hasnat left us yesterday at the age of 75.

His legacy, however, as a litterateur and literary critic will live on.

His magazine "Kali O Kalom" will continue its journey and so will the literary section of the Bangla daily Sangbad, in which his longstanding editorship was proof of his prowess.

The section was synonymous with Abul Hasnat. He was the editor of the section for over three decades before joining Kali O Kalom, a Bengal Foundation publication.

At the news of his death, people in literary circles have been talking about his role in the magazine. But to me, he will be best remembered as the editor of the Sangbad's literature section.

Born in 1945 in the old part of Dhaka, Hasnat was actively involved with Chhatra Union while studying at Dhaka University. He was the vice-president of Chhatra Union in 1971 and also played a role in the Liberation War while staying in India.

His wife Nasimul Ara is a journalist and their only daughter Diti Hasnat lives in the USA.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

Imported onions won't be less than Tk 55 a kg Says commerce minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The imported onion cannot be sold for any less than Tk 55 a kg by the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh or other retailers because it costs Tk 42-43 to import each kg of the spice, Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi said yesterday.

The TCB and some businesses have been importing onions from Turkey, Egypt, Myanmar and Holland after the largest source India banned onion export in September.

The state-owned TCB was then allowed to import onions to meet the demand, the minister said.

The importing cost of onions from India is usually about Tk 23 each kg. But India has unfortunately imposed the ban without prior notice because the prices also went up in Indian markets, he said.

The minister said these at the Economic Reporters Forum (ERF) Best Reporting Award ceremony at its office in the capital.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

Inconclusive debate on Article 70

November 2, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE 70

The much talked about Article 70 of the Constitution Bill relating to the vacation of seat on resignation or expulsion from political party is discussed today at the Constituent Assembly. There were three amendments moved by independent member Manabendra Narayan Larma, NAP(M) nominee Suranjit Sengupta and Awami League member Nurul Huq to Article 70. Deputy Speaker Md Baitullah did not allow Larma to move his amendment, which proposed to delete the whole article. The deputy speaker ruled out the amendment on the ground that it was negative and was, in fact, no amendment.

Suranjit Sengupta's amendment sought to restrict the ground of vacation of a seat by a member of parliament only to his resignation from the party, on whose ticket the member was elected to the parliament. Dr Kamal Hossain held that party discipline was essential for the smooth running of the parliamentary system. He cited the example of the British Parliamentary Conventions. The

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It was just rumour of demeaning Holy Quran

NHRC body finds probing Jewel murder

STAR REPORT

It was just a rumour about desecrating the Holy Quran that led to the brutal killing of Abu Yunus Md Sahidunnabi Jewel in Lalmonirhat, says a NHRC probe body.

The 50-year-old victim, who was beaten up and burnt to death by a mob on October 29, had not desecrated the holy book, said Al-Mahmud Faizul Kabir, the head of the three-member team formed by the National Human Rights Commission.

At a press briefing at Burimari Dak Bungalow, SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

Doctor duped into buying Aladdin's lamp



AFP, New Delhi

Two men who allegedly duped a doctor into buying an "Aladdin's lamp" for \$93,000 -- and even conjured up a fake genie -- have been arrested in India, an official said yesterday.

Laek Khan approached police in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh after he realised the lamp did not have any magical powers, as described in SEE PAGE 10 COL 6



PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 2

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4:55 12:45 4:00 5:30 7:15
JAMAAT 5:30 1:15 4:15 5:34 7:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Several hundred Santals from Sahebganj-Bagda Farm area demonstrating at Katarmor on Gobindganj-Dinajpur road yesterday, demanding return of their forefathers' land, and justice for killing three Santals on November 6, 2016. The three were killed when Santals clashed with Rangpur Mills Authorities and police over their eviction from the farm area of Gaibandha's Gobindganj.

PHOTO: MOSTAFA SHABUJ

Minister brushes aside allegations against Rab

UNB, Dhaka

State Minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam yesterday brushed aside the allegations raised by some US senators against Rab, terming those propaganda against Bangladesh.

"It's nothing new," he told reporters after a programme in the capital, claiming that some lobbyists were engaged in spreading such propaganda against the country.

Responding to a question, he said the issue was raised by a few persons (US senators) as part of their internal process and

it has nothing to do with the government. "Rab is an organisation of our pride. We have all the answers ready..." he said, adding that Bangladesh will react only if a state or an international organisation conveys anything to it.

US Senator Marco Rubio recently joined Senators Bob Menendez, Todd Young, Ben Cardin, Cory Gardner, Jeanne Shaheen, Chris Murphy, Chris Coons, Jeff Merkley and Cory Booker in calling on the Trump Administration to impose sanctions on senior commanders of Rab.

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3 raped in Chattogram, Bagerhat

STAR REPORT

A domestic help and a 12-year-old schoolgirl have been raped in two separate incidents in Chattogram's Boalkhali upazila.

Besides, a man was sent to jail on charges of raping his 15-year-old stepdaughter in Bagerhat.

In Chattogram, police arrested two alleged rapists -- Fazal Karim, 65, and Shimul Dey, 35 -- in Boalkhali upazila.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

'There's no alternative'

Reluctant Johnson locks down England again as virus surges in Europe

AFP, London

Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson has announced a new four-week coronavirus lockdown in England, which will join several European countries in imposing the measure for a second time, as Slovakia took a different tack and began testing its entire population.

Global infections are fast approaching 46 million, with close to 1.2 million deaths, and Europe is experiencing a dizzying spike in Covid-19 cases.

Under-pressure governments on the continent are scrambling to contain the outbreaks, with the reimposition of

restrictions sparking widespread exasperation and sometimes violent protests.

"Now is the time to take action because there's no alternative," Johnson said. "We have got to be humble in the face of nature. In this country, alas, as in much of Europe, the virus is spreading even faster than the reasonable worst-case scenario of our scientific advisers."

Under the new lockdown, planned to start on Thursday and end on December 2, England's population must stay at home except when exemptions apply, such as for work, education or exercise, while all but essential shops will close.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

Erfan, his bodyguard on fresh remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed Erfan Salim and his bodyguard Zahidul Mollah on a fresh two-day remand each in a case filed over the assault and attempted murder of a Navy officer in the capital's Dhanmondi area.

After completion of a three-day remand, Mobinul Haque, sub-inspector of the

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Notice is hereby given to all concerned that DIRD Felt Limited and DIRD Engineering Limited have been conducting business with goodwill and reputation for many years. Recently, it came to the knowledge of DIRD Group that two senior employees of the Companies had been acting illicitly against the interest of the Companies, sabotaging the business through corporate espionage and illegitimate gains with a view to tarnishing the image of DIRD Group before its stakeholders. Upon being aware of the illegal activities, the management of DIRD Group has terminated the said employees, namely Engineer S. M. Wahiduzzaman, Executive Director, DIRD Felt Limited and Engineer Md. Hasibur Rahman, Senior Manager, DIRD Engineering Limited from their posts since 29.10.2020. A General Diary bearing no. 1911 dated 29.10.2020 has been lodged at Gulshan Police Station to this effect pending further investigation.

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Nabeel Ud Daulah, Managing Director
Dird Felt Limited, Dird Engineering Ltd.
Flat # D1, House # 35/B, Road # 63, Gulshan-2, Dhaka- 1212.

