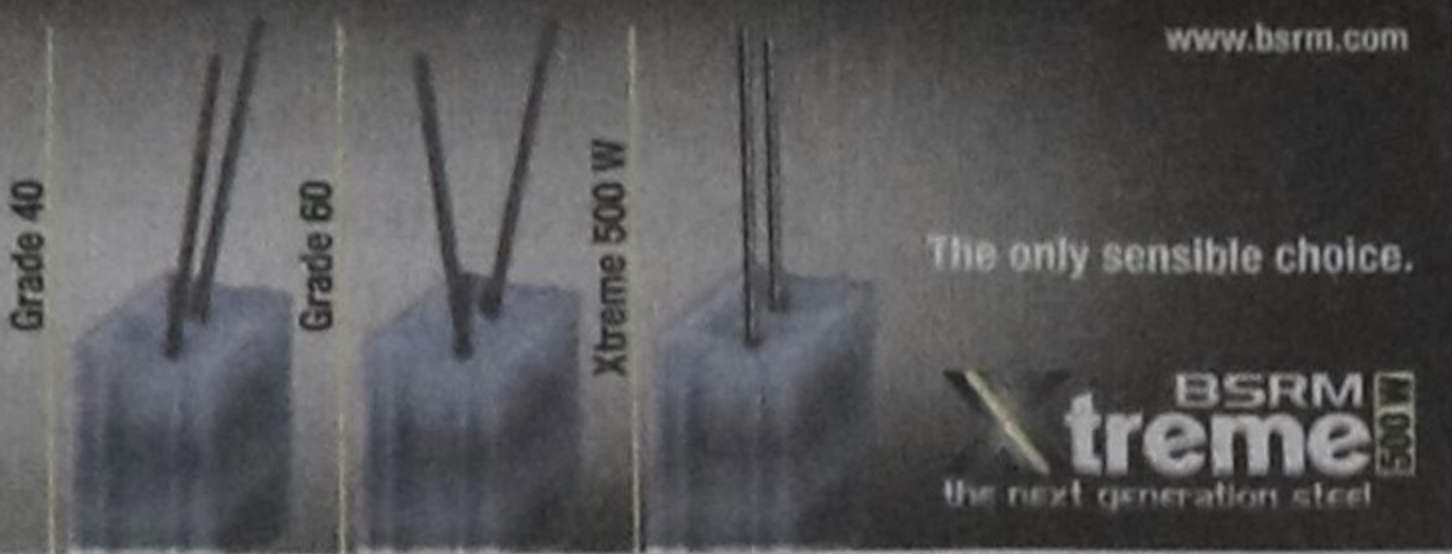


Why Xtreme?

De-scaled bar bonds better with concrete due to rust on the bar surface. As per ACI code, rust is good for bonding.



Cops to use video footage to catch rules violators

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) has decided to issue case slips to traffic rule violators after examining video footages taken by patrol police teams.

The decision came in a traffic police meeting at Rajarbagh Telecom Auditorium yesterday. DMP Commissioner AKM Shahidul Hoque presided over the meeting.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Mohammad Walid Hossain of DMP told The Daily Star that twelve teams of traffic police equipped with video cameras had been shooting video

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Govt bucks trend

Tk 7,745cr bank loans repaid, borrowing on hold

REJAU KARIM BYRON

Breaking away from the recent trend, the government paid back huge sums of loan to the banks in the last six months instead of borrowing from the banking system.

Although it sounds good, it is not quite so. The government paid back Tk 7,745 crore bank loan between July and November 19 not because it has become financially strong, it was because of low budget expenditure and high sale of savings instruments.

The high sale of savings instruments would increase the interest burden on the government while poor budget implementation means development works are lagging behind target. However, the loan repayment to the banks would have some positive impacts.

The government had a target to borrow Tk 16,755 crore from the banks during the 2009-10 fiscal year.

According to Bangladesh Bank statistics, the government repaid Tk 15,634 crore to the central bank between July and November. On the other hand, the government borrowed Tk 7,889 crore from commercial banks. As a result the government repaid net Tk 7,745 crore in loans.

Finance ministry sources said the bank loan decreased as the government's overall budget expenditure was not at par with the target and sales of savings instruments increased.

Normally revenue expenditure exceeds its target. But in the current fiscal year the implementation of the revenue expenditure is also slow.

According to finance ministry statistics, in the current fiscal year the government spent 21.4 percent of the target of total revenue expenditure in July-September period. In the last fiscal year, during the corresponding period, it was 26.9 percent.

In the same way, though the speed of development expenditure increased slightly in the first four months of the fiscal year, only 16 percent of the total allocation could be spent.

Finance ministry sources said after December, spending of revenue and development expenditure would pick up. As a result the bank-borrowing scenario would change.

Even though bank borrowing would increase at the end of the fiscal year, this time the total budget target of borrowing from the banking system would not be required to achieve as sale in the savings instruments sector is huge, the source added.

Statistics of the sale of savings instruments available for the first three months of this fiscal year show that gross sale increased by 66.65 percent and net sale shot up by 270.29 percent. In the same

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

BNP may have to amend charter to comply with RPO

Provision on party's foreign chapter does not go with law

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The BNP may have to amend its constitution again to make the provision on its foreign chapters comply with the Representation of the People Order (RPO).

Though its December 8 national council approved a set of changes to its charter including the provisional ones made to meet the criteria for registration with the EC last year, the provision on foreign chapters still does not conform to the RPO.

The RPO says a political party shall not be qualified for registration if its constitution provides for setting up or operating any office, branch or committee outside the territory of Bangladesh.

The amended BNP constitution allows the expatriate Bangladeshis believing in the party's policies, ideals, objectives and programmes to form organisations following laws of the country they are living in.

The BNP may have to delete some words from the provision, as the EC earlier did not accept the AL charter for having the same words in its provision on foreign units.

Officials at the EC Secretariat said the BNP finds itself in this situation as it had followed the wordings of the AL's provision on foreign chapters before registration with the EC.

At that time, the AL rewrote the provision in consultation

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

PM returns home from Copenhagen

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina returned home yesterday afternoon after attending the UN-sponsored global climate conference in the Danish capital.

A flight of the Emirates Airlines carrying the PM flew in Dhaka at about 4:25pm.

On her way back home, the PM had stopovers at Heathrow Airport in the UK and Dubai Airport in the UAE.

The premier delivered her speech at the conference on December 16.

She made a strong plea that Bangladesh and other most vulnerable countries "must be

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Prayer Timing		
December 22		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	6-25	7-00
Zohr	1-45	2-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-24	6-27
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

Online Poll

Do you think BNP has taken right decision by withdrawing the expulsion order against former state minister for home Lutfozzaman Babar?

- ☐ Yes (14.82%)
- ☐ No (80.85%)
- ☐ No Comments (4.33%)

Total votes: 1201

TODAY'S POLL

Rapid Action Battalion says militant outfit JMB does not have suicide squads anymore. Do you believe so?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

BANGABANDHU VERDICT Execution process to start now

Copies reach trial court

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court authorities yesterday sent the records of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman assassination case to the trial court to start the process of executing five convicts who are now in the condemned cells.

The Court of District and Sessions Judge, Dhaka on receiving the records will issue death warrant against the five convicts, said Attorney General Mahbubey Alam yesterday.

The records contain all the relevant papers including the copies of the judgements recently delivered by the Supreme Court and earlier by the High Court and the trial court.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Korea offers help in switching to MRP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The South Korean government has offered to provide assistance to Bangladesh in meeting an international deadline for the introduction of machine-readable passport (MRP), machine-readable visa (MRV) and e-passports.

The Bangladesh government is yet to select a firm to implement the MRP and MRV project, which must start issuing MRPs by April 1, 2010.

The deadline was set by the UN's International Civil Aviation Organisation, which requires that all UN members introduce machine-readable passports (MRP) in order to improve border protection and security throughout the world.

The Korean Ambassador in Dhaka Suk-Bum Park wrote to Home Minister Sahara Khatun last month to propose that the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Bangladesh International Tutorial

Alumni Winter Reunion 2009

A Reunion Dinner and DJ Party will be held for all BIT Alumni on 27.12.2009. Come and let us meet!

For more information and tickets, contact the Alumni Office.

BIT Alumni Office:
House # 2, Road # 128, Gulshan-1, Dhaka, Phone: 01717017957
E-mail: bitainfo@gmail.com, Website: www.bitgrads.org

ADVANCED

সুঁহু ছল মানেই সুন্দর ছল।
তাই চাই প্যারাসুট অ্যাডভান্সড।
জবা, মেহেন্দি, আমলকি ও লেবুর প্রাকৃতিক
ছনে সর্বস্ব ১০০% বিশুদ্ধ নারিকেল তেল।
যার নিঃসীম ব্যবহার চুলের গোড়ায় পুষ্টি যোগায়,
চুলকে করে স্বাস্থ্যবান ও প্রাণবন্ত,
আর আশ্রয়কে রাখে ... Gorgeous সারাদিনে।