


Did you know? Jintang Bridge is a highway bridge with a cable-stayed bridge portion, built in Zhejiang, China. It is the longest bridge in Zhoushan Trans-oceanic bridges with a length of 26,540 meters, connecting Jintang Island and Zhenhai.



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CEC reveals long-term plan to hold polls without army

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Election Commissioner ATM Shamsul Huda yesterday said the commission has a long-term plan to hold national elections without deploying the army.

"Not only the by-polls, we SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

TOXIC DRUG CASE
Plaintiff asked to testify after 16yrs

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday directed the complainant of a case filed against Adflame Pharmaceuticals on charge of adulteration of paracetamol syrup to complete his deposition made partly in 1994.

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RMG factory vandalised for pay hike

Local gang loots garments for export; Cops among 40 hurt in clashes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Around 5,000 workers yesterday ransacked their garment factory, damaged at least 12 vehicles and clashed with police at Kanchpur that left 40 people, including 20 policemen, injured.

The workers of Esquire Knit Composite Ltd, a sister concern of Esquire Group, also barricaded the Dhaka-Sylhet Highway for about four hours demanding their salary hikes.

A local gang looted a huge quantity of readymade garments and other valuables from the factory taking opportunity of the unrest.

The workers ran amok at the factory at about 7:30 am and attacked its staff, said Mohammad Yunus, officer-in-charge of Sonargaon Police Station.

When police fired rubber bullets, teargas canisters and charged batons to disperse the agitating workers, they threw brickbats at the

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Situation on Dhaka-Sylhet Highway near Kanchpur Bridge after a clash between garment workers and police. Brickbats on the highway shows the intensity of the clash. While many are watching, some are still in action. Inset, one of the 10 vandalised vehicles.

PHOTO: STAR



ADB to give \$1.8b

Padma Bridge, regional cooperation projects, PPP to get funds

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Asian Development Bank will give \$1.8 billion or 40 percent of its total indicative plan for assistance in four years for construction of Padma Bridge, implementation of regional cooperation-related projects and public private partnership (PPP) initiatives.

This was proposed in a presentation made by the visiting ADB mission at a meeting with the government yesterday.

The presentation contained revised project-wise detailed programme for 2010 and proposed loan programme for 2011-13, meeting sources said.

The ADB mission proposed \$4.47 billion for four years, which include \$1.03 billion for the revised programme of 2010 and \$3.44 billion for 2011-13.

The government side at the meeting was led by ERD Secretary Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan and the ADB mission was led by Director General of ADB's South Asia Department Sultan Hafeez Rahman.

The ADB presentation emphasised regional cooperation and PPP as new areas. "To seize on the new opportunities opened up for regional cooperation and integration (RCI), ADB will seek to step up support for developing regional

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Youth shot dead in Jessore

A CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

A local ruling party activist was shot dead last night at Lal Dighirpar of Jessore town.

A gang of four criminals on two motorbikes went to Lal Dighirpar around 8:45pm and shot district unit Tarun League joint convenor Kamruzzaman Ripon in the head, witnesses said. Ripon was with his two friends, Tushar and Parbat, at that time.

Tushar sustained injuries when the criminals hurled a bomb before leaving the scene.

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Jamaat readies alternative leadership

To replace some top leaders if arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ignoring resentment in the party, Jamaat-e-Islami high-ups have agreed to replace high-ranking leaders of the party after the possible arrest of some of its leaders for their alleged involvement in war crimes in 1971.

Sources said most of the leaders and workers of Jamaat and its different front organisations are worried about possible arrest of all top leaders, which might create a serious vacuum and their absence may lead to desertion of Jamaat by field-level activists.

Highly-placed sources said the party leaders are considering to have an alternative leadership ready against whom there are no war-crime allegations so that they could run the party after the arrests.

They said the party is passing its worst-ever time now after the Awami League government set up the International Crimes Tribunal to try people involved in crimes against humanity committed during the Liberation War.

Sources in Jamaat said the party high-ups were under the impression that the government would not be able to set up the tribunal to try those people. After formation of the tribunal, party leaders seem very disorganised and many attempted to leave the country.

Sources said majority of the young leaders and activists, especially those born a few years before and after the independence,

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BNP slates govt for transfer of Bhola SP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Opposition BNP yesterday criticised transfer of the superintendent of police of Bhola prior to the by-election in Bhola-3 constituency.

It said, "It was a politically motivated move to implement the ruling Awami League's blue print."

Termining the Bhola-3 by-election acid test for the government, party's standing committee member Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain at a press conference said BNP would be forced to wage a movement against the government if it tries to implement its "blue print" and snatch public opinion by grabbing polling centres.

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Prayer Timing		
April 20		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-25	5-00
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-27	6-31
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

POWER, HEALTH SECTOR GRAFT JS body for legal steps against BNP ministers, officials

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary body yesterday recommended legal actions against the minister and state minister for power of the last BNP government on charges of embezzlement and irregularities.

The public accounts committee also urged administrative measures against the power secretary and heads of the PDB, Desa and Desco between 2003 and 2006 on the same grounds.

It also asked the health ministry to file cases against the then minister and state minister for health, its secretary, chiefs of

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Tk 1 lakh bid to cover up rape

4 culprits land in Rab custody

MUKHLESUR RAHMAN

Rapid Action Battalion personnel Sunday night arrested four men who raped a teenage garment worker at Matirmasjid in the capital's Rampura on April 16.

Local community leaders handed Sagor, 22, Anis, 22, Shahjalal, 26, and Ujjal, 22, residents of Matirmasjid area, over to Rab when the four tried to cover the incident by paying Tk 1 lakh to the victim as compensation.

Major Md Redwanul Islam of Rab-3 said the criminals requested Mohammad Ali, head of community policing committee of Chowdhurypara, on April 17 to settle the matter.

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CONDOLLENCE



We express deep shock at the sudden and untimely demise of **Tanzir Fahim Jumma Ovi** (Inna lillahi wainna ilaihi raziun), eldest son of Alhaj Sajjatuz Jumma, Founder Chairman of Shahjalal Islami Bank Limited.

No language can console this irreparable loss and can stop bleeding of heart, still with humble effort we express deep sympathy to the bereaved family of Mr. Sajjatuz Jumma as his fellow associates.

We pray to the Almighty Allah for salvation of the departed soul to be rested in Jannatul Ferdous.

-Board of Directors, All Executives, Officers and Staff.



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All of the directors, staff and employees convey their heartiest congratulations to Mr. Hazi Abdul Majid Mondol and Mr. Abdul Momin Mondol for being elected as the Chairman and the Managing Director of Mondol Group.

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