



## USE OF BLACK MONEY

The FBCCI chief backs the investment in industries for a specific period

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## LITERARY AUCTION

Jane Austen's rare manuscript is up for sale in London

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## DALAI LAMA GRACES IPL

The Tibetan spiritual leader watched the match between Kings XI Punjab and Deccan Chargers in Dharamsala

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# 4 shot dead in hills

## Leaders of anti-CHT treaty blame Santu Larma's organisation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

At least four activists of the United People's Democratic Front (UPDF) were shot dead yesterday at Barkal upazila in Rangamati.

The UPDF, a political platform of indigenous people opposing the Chittagong Hill Tracts peace accord, alleged that rival Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) made the attack on its activists.

Santu Larma-led PCJSS, another political entity of indigenous people that backs the CHT peace accord, has strongly denied the accusation.

Police said they recovered one body -- that of Sukkra Sen Chakma, 37 -- and sent it to Rangamati Sadar hospital for a post mortem. They are trying to recover the other three bodies.

Rangamati Police Super Masood-ul-Hasan said the incident might be a result of ongoing conflict between the two rival groups that often clash to establish supremacy in the area.

Surendra Nath Chakrabarty, deputy commissioner of

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Three corrugated-iron sheet homes are destroyed and two five-storey buildings tilt when soil subsided in Nakhlapara of Tejgaon in the capital yesterday. The subsidence triggered when pilings at the nearby construction site collapsed.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



# Rab to get 2 copters

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government is going to purchase two choppers at a cost of Tk 90 crore to equip Rapid Action Battalion better for carrying out anti-crime operations through the air.

A proposal to procure the aircraft, first of its kind for Rab, is likely to be placed in a meeting of the cabinet committee on government purchase today, said sources in the home ministry.

Besides, the housing and public works ministry will table another proposal to construct more than 500 flats in the capital and its adjoining areas.

Bell Helicopter Asia (Pte) Ltd will supply the copters to be purchased from the US.

According to the home ministry proposal, parts of the helicopters will be brought from the US to Singapore. The choppers will be assembled there and later flown to Bangladesh.

The government has allocated Tk 60 crore in the current fiscal year's budget for this purpose.

With the inclusion of choppers to its logistics, the elite force will be able to reach crime scenes quicker, noted a home ministry official.

The Air Force will be in charge of

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ADVISER TARIQUE His remark unfortunate

Workers' Party thinks it will deny Limon justice

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Workers' Party of Bangladesh yesterday said the statement of the prime minister's defence adviser Tarique Ahmed about an editor of a national daily, which ran investigative reports on

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# Construction site caves in

Adjacent road, tin-shed buildings tumble inside ditch; cracks develop in nearby buildings; residents evacuated; Rajuk blames it on faulty retention piling

KAILASH SARKAR

A construction site at Nakhlapara in the city's Tejgaon Industrial Area subsided taking with it an adjacent road and three tin-shed houses after the pilings collapsed early yesterday, also causing cracks on nearby multi-storey buildings.

Five construction workers were injured as they tumbled in the ditch formed after the cave-in. Of them, Ali Hossain, Rustam, Baker and Bashir were admitted to a local clinic.

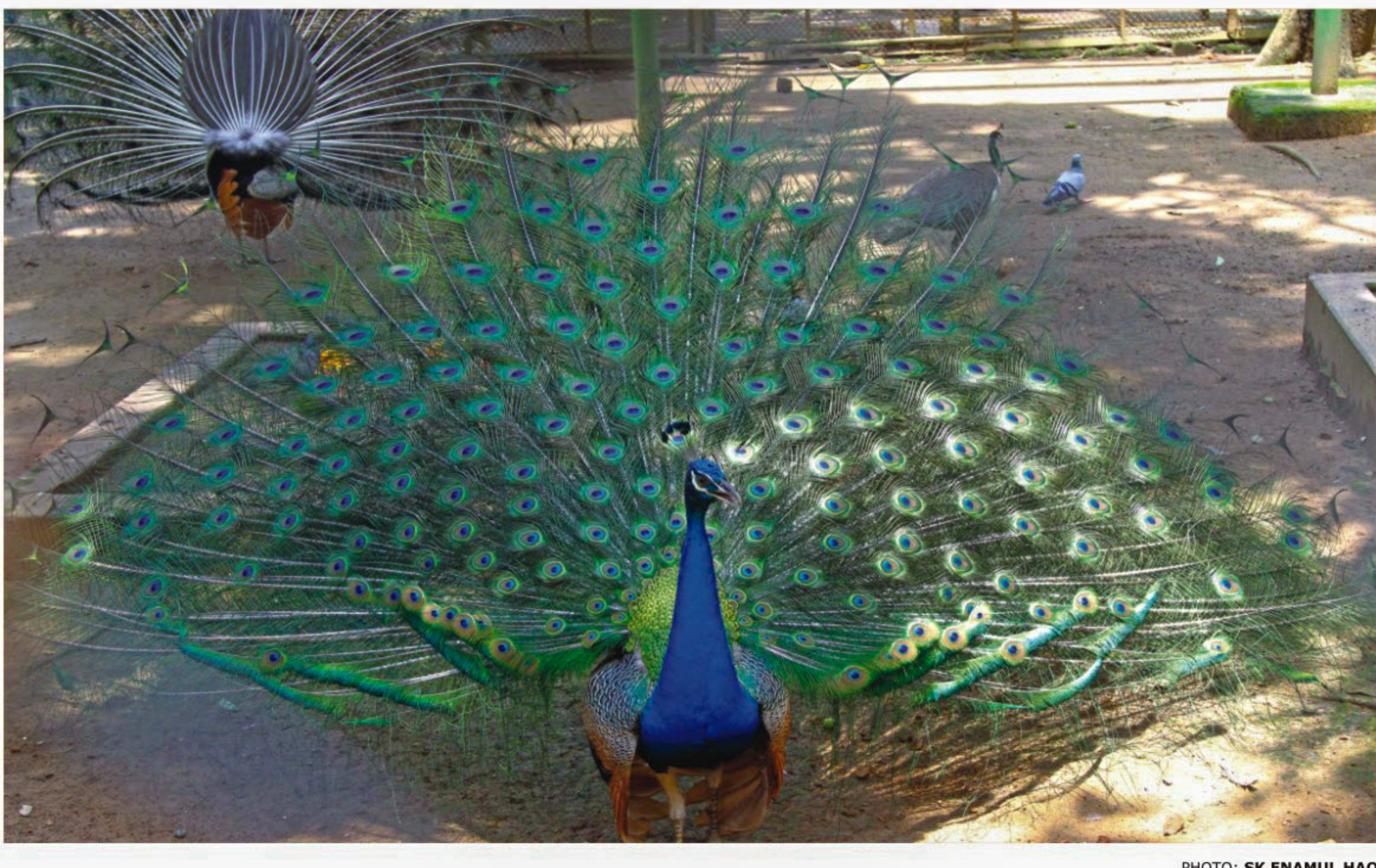
All the residents from 14 neighbouring buildings were evacuated immediately.

Huge cracks were seen within at least 30 feet radius of the collapse site and two five-storey buildings nearby have slightly tilted.

Locals, police and Fire Service and Civil Defence officials rescued many people from under the debris and pile of household items including TV sets, refrigerators and furniture.

At the site, Islamic Trading Consortium Ltd (ITCL) was digging 60 feet deep into the ground to build a three-layer basement car park for the 14-storey Impulse Medical College and Hospital on 2.9-acre land.

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Two peacocks spread their tail feathers to attract peahens at Dhaka Zoo yesterday. Peacocks usually do this on cloudy days.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

# Online GD fails to make a mark

Only 2,082 general diaries filed in one year; unawareness seen as reason

RIZANUZZAMAN LASKAR and ASIF ISLAM

The government move to digitalise policing initially with online general diary has failed to make an impression as most people are unaware of it even a year after its launch.

Most people, who have recently visited police stations to file GDs for snatching, lost documents or other reasons, were found scratching their heads when asked why they did not go for online GDs.

In most cases it turned out that they have never heard of it.

"I visit the police station almost every month to report of stolen goods from my garage," said Ahammad Hossain at Tejgaon police station.

"But no-one at the station informed me that I could file GDs from anywhere," said the owner of a garage in Karwan Bazar.

As many as 2,082 GDs were filed electronically since the online system was introduced in March last year.

On the other hand, 38 police stations in the city received 32,721 handwritten GDs in April alone -- 15 times the number of online GDs recorded so far.

Police say the online general diary system, launched as an e-governance initiative, was intended to make it easier for citizens to file GDs. It meant no longer going to the police station to file a GD for "non-emergency" matters.

Instead, the system has remained merely as a window dressing, according to citizens and experts, who say the police have put little effort to make it attractive and useful.

"It seems the service exists only in name," said Mustafa Jabbar, president of Bangladesh Computer Samity, a national coalition of IT-based organisations. "It is

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# Bus operators stay beyond control

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Errant bus operators remained out of control yet on the third day since the government had fixed new fare rates while the suffering of passengers doubled with CNG-run auto drivers charging extra.

After a holiday on Friday, the government yesterday conducted drives at some points in the capital and seized nine buses, filed cases against 17 operators and fined Tk 6,700 for over-charging passengers.

However, the government so far initiated no drive to monitor CNG-run autorickshaw fares which gave the drivers the scope for charging passengers whatever they wish.

Meanwhile, during the drive hours from 11:30am to 3:00pm, passengers' suffering just got into nerves as operators cleverly kept their buses off-road on routes where the drives were on.

In the capital's Shahbagh and Katabon areas, a few hundred people were seen in

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# JS goes into session today

BNP not joining

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Jatiya Sangsad goes into budget session today amid boycott by the BNP-led opposition party.

Opposition Chief Whip Zainul Abidin Farroque yesterday told The Daily Star that they are not joining the inaugural sitting of the ninth session of the parliament.

"The BNP

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# ADP implementation picks up in latter half

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

In keeping with tradition, the implementation of Annual Development Programme became faster in the later months of the fiscal year compared to the first half.

Hurried spending wastes government money and makes room for corruption, Research Director of Bangladesh Institute of

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Development Studies (BIDS) Zaid Bakht said.

In the first 10 months of the current fiscal year, ADP implementation was Tk 20,909 crore or 60 percent of the revised allocation, which means average monthly expenditure was

about Tk 2,090 crore.

However, in the first month ADP implementation was Tk 836 crore or two percent of the allocation. In the first quarter, the average monthly expenditure was Tk 1,119 crore.

The government has already slashed the current fiscal year's ADP by more than Tk 3,000 crore to make it Tk 35,130 crore.

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