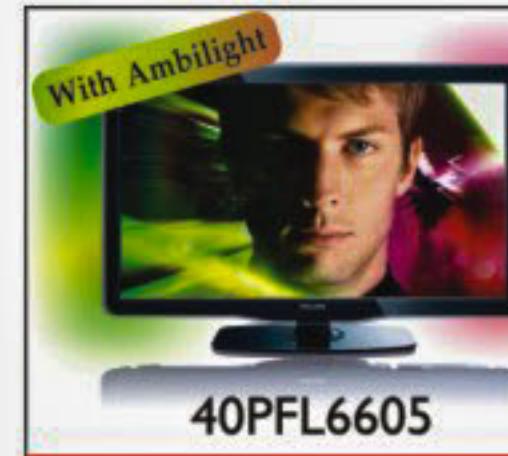




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## in Short

EC to invite BNP again to dialogue

BSS, Dhaka

Election Commission (EC) yesterday decided to send a letter again to BNP to participate in the upcoming dialogue.

Election Commissioner Sohul Hossain said while briefing journalists that if the BNP agrees, the EC will sit with the party any day from June 19-22.

EC's dialogue with the Democratic Party has been postponed yesterday due to unavoidable

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DEATH IN CUSTODY  
Family claims Belal was innocent

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Belal Hossain, who died in Rab custody last Sunday after he was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital on Saturday with severe head injuries, had no connection with criminal activities, family members claimed.

Shanti Begum, sister-in-law of the

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

LAKE POLLUTION  
Two dyeing units fined

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Environment (DoE) fined two dyeing factories Tk 40 lakh yesterday for dumping untreated waste into the local Makhash Lake in Konabari area of Joydebpur in Gazipur.

It also directed the owners of the factories to establish effluent treatment plant (ETP) within next two months. In case of failure to comply with the order, the owners will be arrested and the gas and electricity lines of the factories will be disconnected, says a press release of DoE.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8



Rumana Manjur, victim of domestic violence, in hospital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## It's all because of scholarship

DU teacher describes husband's assault on her



Syeed Sumon

Rumana, an assistant professor of Dhaka University, added the husband at one stage repeatedly gnawed her nose, face and throat.

Now undergoing treatment at LabAid, she is set to leave for India in a day or two for better treatment.

Her father Manjur Hossain told The Daily Star that they will leave the capital on completion of visa procedure.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

SEE EDITORIAL

## BGB men at HQ to get back arms by Dec

KAILASH SARKAR

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) members at Pilkhana headquarters are likely to get back their arms within December.

Army and police personnel who are now tasked with maintaining security there will also be withdrawn by the end of the year, and the responsibility will be handed over to the members of BGB, formerly known as BDR.

Sources said the authorities have already started posting BGB members with arms for various purposes, including for escorting the director general and other senior officials of the force.

Soon after the February 25-26 mutiny at Pilkhana in 2009, several thousand personnel from the army and police were deployed there for security.

Seventy-four people including 57 top and mid-ranking army officers were killed in the carnage.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

## Blast in steel mill kills 1

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A labourer died and four others were injured in boiler explosion at a steel mill at Taltola in Sonargaon upazila of Narayanganj district on Sunday morning.

The deceased identified as Habib, 28, died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) around 9.30pm.

Among the injured, Ramzan Ali, 34, is undergoing treatment at

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

## Foreign aid unutilised

Finance minister tells JS as supplementary budget passed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The size of the proposed new budget is realistic, and the projected deficit is also within a sustainable limit, said Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday.

"Our problem is that we are getting huge foreign assistance, but failing to utilise it," the minister said in his wrap-up speech in the parliament on the current fiscal year's supplementary budget.

He said the next month unutilised foreign assistance in the pipeline will stand at \$12 billion which was \$9.5 billion in last July.

Although the rate of interest on foreign assistance is less than 1 percent and the repayment period is 30 to 50 years, still the government is not being able to make full use of the assistance, he noted.

"In the past two fiscal years we thought that we would

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

## More talks ahead on Teesta, enclaves

Indian external affairs minister due on July 6



SM Krishna

outstanding bilateral issues, said foreign ministry officials.

The top agenda of his visit will be Teesta river water-sharing agreement and land boundary issues, which include demarcation of 6.5 kilometres boundary, transfer of enclaves and adversely possessed territories, added the officials.

Report from New Delhi said bridging

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

## Dead Sea is dying in north Overflowing in south

AP, Ein Bokek

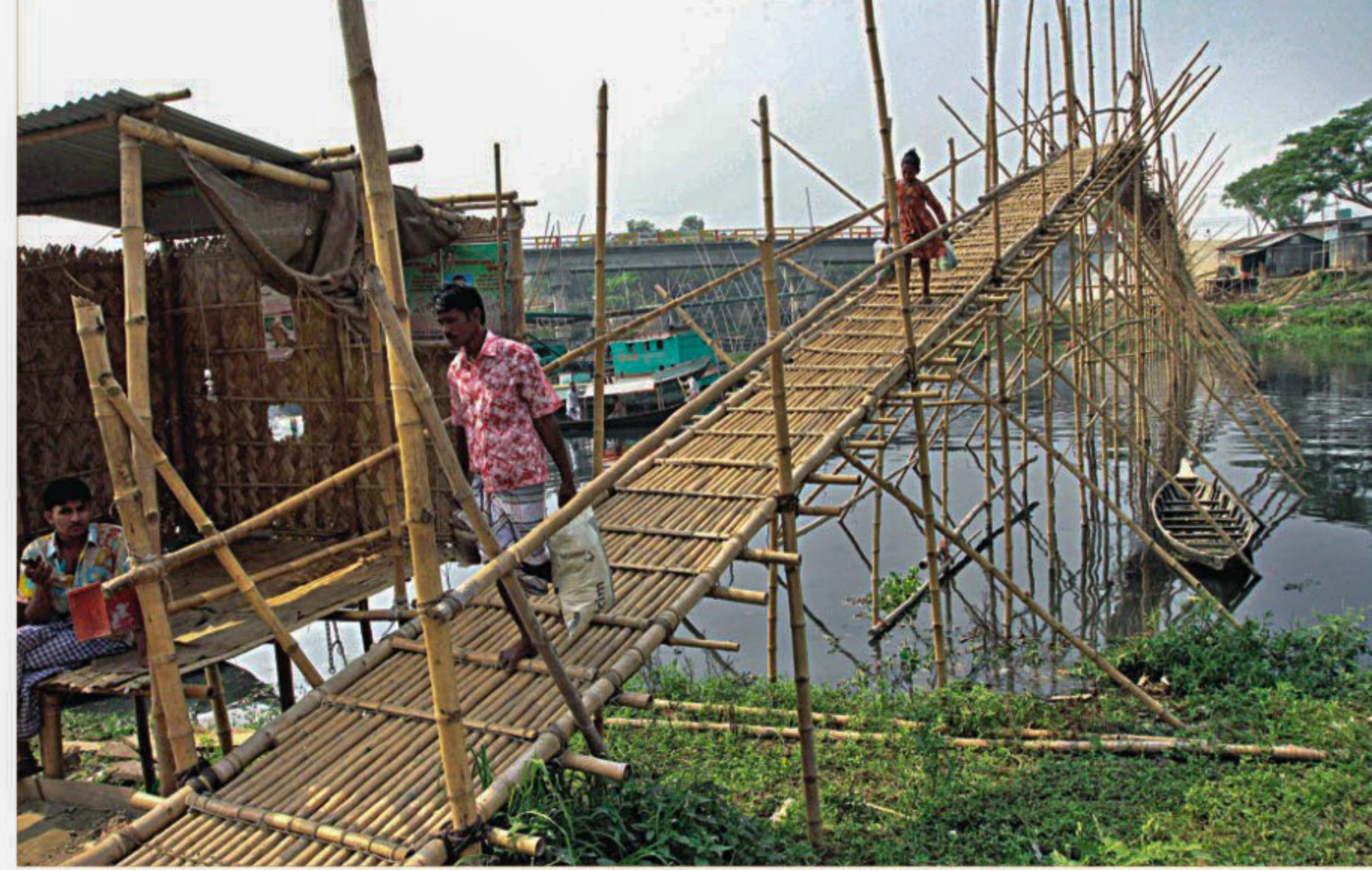
The Dead Sea is dying, goes the conventional wisdom: The water level of the fabled salty lake is dropping nearly 1.2 metres a year. Less well known: Part of the lake is actually overflowing, threatening one of Israel's key tourism destinations.

The Dead Sea is divided into a northern and southern basin, which are located at different elevations, largely disconnected and kilometres apart. That means the rising waters of the southern basin cannot simply pour into the shrinking basin in the north.

Heavy industrialisation is what's causing the waters on the southern basin to rise. Chemical companies have built evaporation pools there to extract lucrative minerals from the lake. Millions of tonnes of salt are left annually on the floor of these pools, causing the water to rise eight inches a year.

Israel's tourism and environmental protection ministers are demanding that Dead Sea Works Ltd -- the multibillion-dollar Israeli industry that mines the mineral-rich waters -- foot the bill.

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This bamboo bridge, which is a local initiative, connects Dhaka's Trimohoni with Nayapara. A concrete bridge was supposed to be built here, but construction stopped soon after laying of the foundation stone. Local residents now pay Tk 2 to use the bamboo bridge and for its maintenance. The concrete bridge in the background is supposed to connect Trimohoni with Nasirabad. But it is now practically useless since it has no approach road.

PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

The Daily Star



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ONLINE POLL  
Do you think stern action will be taken against the people responsible for plundering a mangrove forest in Char Kukrimukhi in Bhalo?

TOTAL VOTES: 300

TODAY'S POLL  
Do you support the government move to introduce mobile courts for summary trials during harta?PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT  
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PRAYER TIMING June 14

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Magrib	6-50	6-55
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

## REHAB SUMMER FAIR 2011 16-19 June, BICC, Agargaon, Dhaka

