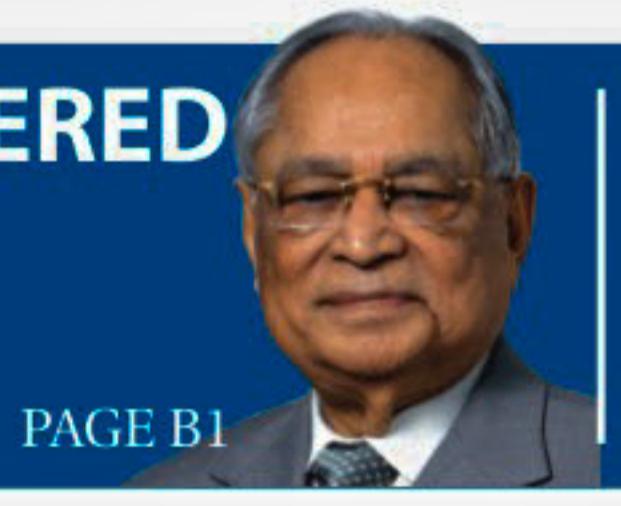


AN ICON REMEMBERED

Friends pay homage to Samson H Chowdhury



PAGE B1

OUR EXPATS

They should be encouraged to invest in Bangladesh

PAGE 14

2ND TERM AS PRESIDENT

After Taiwan polls victory, Ma Ying-jeou promises better ties with China

PAGE 7

The last bus ride

DWAIPAYAN BARUA, from Ctg

Thrilled to get back to school after a long vacation, they were making plans for new uniforms, clothes and books as they boarded the bus. Hardly 10 minutes later, everything fell apart.

The group of four -- Daw Sing Nue, her sister Key Ki, classmates Ma Mya Ching and Hla Sa Thui -- had started early in the morning so they were not late for the first class of the new year. Only seven kilometres into their commute through a veil of thick fog, it all became irrelevant as their bus skidded off the road and tumbled down a steep slope to 300 feet below. The plunge killed at

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

Bandarban bus plunge kills 17

DWAIPAYAN BARUA, Ctg

A horrifying bus crash near Thanchi of Bandarban yesterday morning left at least 17 dead and 25 more injured.

While going downhill in the foggy morning, the bus fell into a 300-foot-deep muddy and rocky gorge.

Thirteen passengers died on the spot while four others succumbed to their injuries at Bandarban Sadar Hospital, said Lt Col Nurul Momen Chowdhury, commanding officer of 10 Battalion of Border Guard Bangladesh. Ten critically injured victims were moved to Chittagong Medical College Hospital later on for better treatment.

The passengers who died on the spot were identified as U Hla Ching Marma, 60, Awami League president of Thanchi union unit and a resident of Thanchi Headmanpara, his daughter Key Ki Nue, 11, a class-VII student of Ramu Girls High School in Cox's Bazar, Caritas

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

PHOTO ON PAGE 20



Jui's husband chopped off her hand, inset, to stop her studies but within six weeks she is writing again.



PHOTO: STAR/CRP

Studies she can now carry on with

CRP restructures Jui's hand chopped off by husband, prepares her to sit in HSC exams in April

KALASH SARKAR

Yes, she is going to sit for the HSC examinations starting from April 1, but this is not the

only news. Hawa Akhter Jui will be answering the tests using her right hand.

The 21-year-old did not lose faith in herself after her husband cut off the fingers of

her right hand as a "punishment" as she wanted to get higher education. She began practising writing with her left hand.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

Hospital stay not needed

States medical board after checking Ghulam Azam's health

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former Jamaat-e-Islami ameer Ghulam Azam need not be in hospital, says a medical board of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University hospital yesterday.

The BSMU authorities have already sent the board's recommendation to Dhaka Central Jail authorities and formally asked them to decide on taking Ghulam Azam



SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

SQ CHOWDHURY
Hearing today on charge framing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal is scheduled to hear charge-framing against BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury today in connection with crimes against humanity committed during the country's Liberation War in 1971.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

NEWS ANALYSIS

EC FORMATION

Little hope of consensus

Most parties want CG

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The ruling Awami League in its election manifesto modified in July 2009 stated that the Election Commission would be formed through political consensus but took no steps to that end, although the present commission's

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



Social Islami Bank Limited

NARSINGDI BY-POLLS EVM, webcam ready for use

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

In addition to using electronic voting machines (EVM), webcams will be installed at polling centres prior to the upcoming municipality mayoral election here on January 19 to ensure free and fair election.

At a meeting at

SEE PAGE 6 COL 7

Pakistan learnt no lesson from 1971

Imran relates govt's treatment of Pashtuns to Bangalees

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pakistani politician and former cricketer Imran Khan said if the Pakistanis who committed crimes during the Liberation War of Bangladesh had been punished, the present scenario in Pakistan would have been different.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



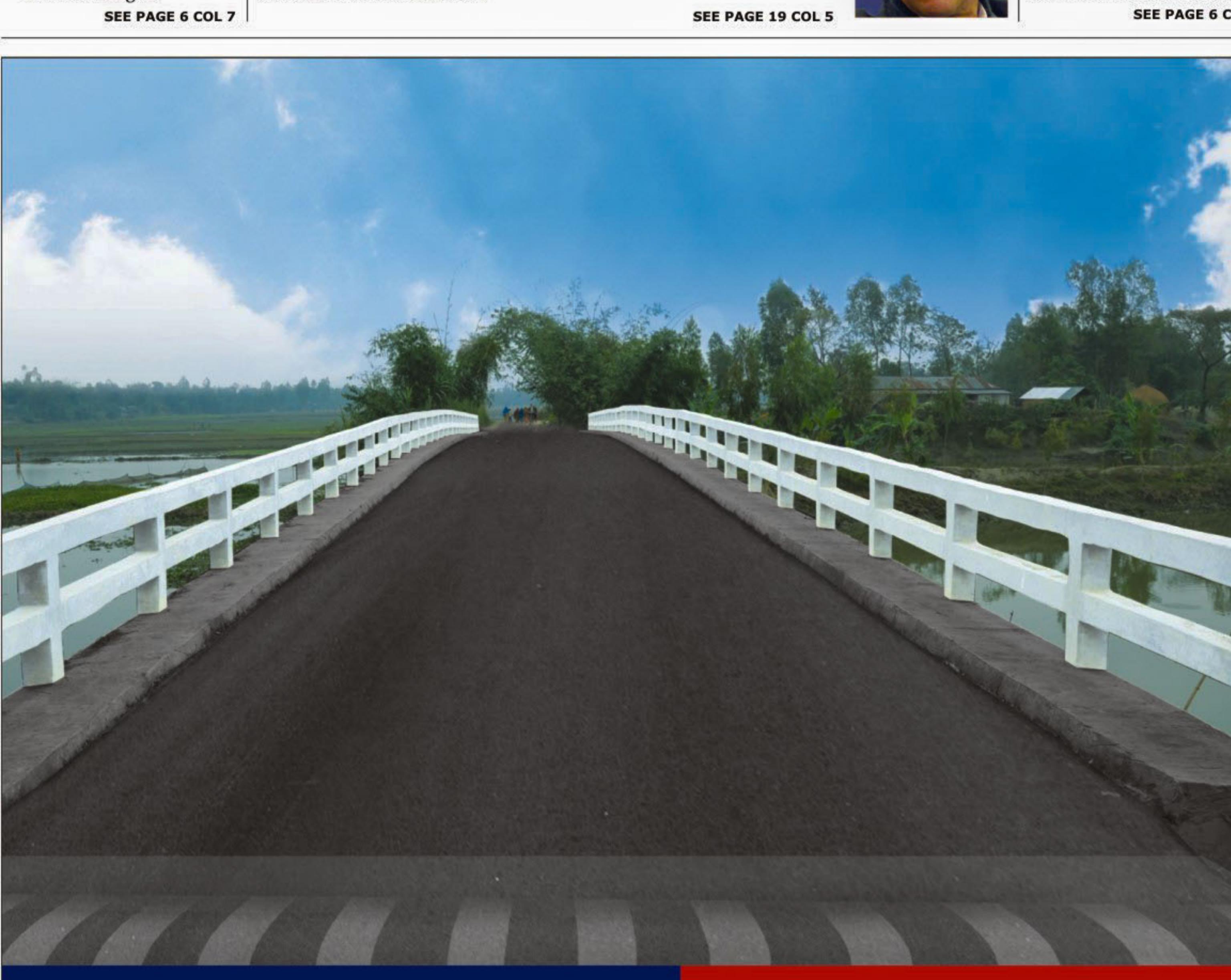
BISWA IJTEMA
Concluding prayers today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The three-day-long first phase of Biswa Ijtema, the second largest congregation of the Muslims, will conclude today through offering Akheri Munajat (concluding prayers) on the banks of the Turag.

Hundreds of thousands of devotees from home

SEE PAGE 6 COL 3



Dutch-Bangla Bank builds the first bridge connecting Rowmari, Kurigram

The long cherished dream of the people in the remote frontier of Rowmari, Kurigram comes true.

Dutch-Bangla Bank Bridge constructed in the remote area Chatlakanda of Rowmari Upazilla opened on 13th January, 2012 for the movement of rural people and all kinds of transport. The bridge is 144 ft long and 14 ft wide constructed at a cost of Tk. 6.10 million will help the 50,000 inhabitants of 18 villages of the locality in movement from one place to another. This will contribute to the progress of the decades and the generation to come.

We convey our sincere thanks to the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh Bank, valued Clients and Patrons in supporting our initiatives.



Dutch-Bangla Bank

YOUR TRUSTED PARTNER