

Today's Spelling Bee words from
Waugh doesn't like
choosing Ponting

Page 17, Sports

champs21.com

THE OBVIOUS GAME

Israel blames Iran for embassy
attacks, the latter denies

PAGE 7

FAREWELL, FARIDEE

Thousands paid their last respects to
the legendary actor yesterday

PAGE 5

DHAKA-CTG HIGHWAY
Deals signed
to build 5
new bridges,
3 flyovers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Roads and Highways
Department (RHD) yester-
day signed four deals with
some local and foreign
companies for construction
of new bridges and
flyovers, and renovation of
old bridges in the coun-
try's eastern region.

Of the four deals worth
over Tk 1,000 crore, two
were signed for the con-
struction of five bridges
and three flyovers at a cost
of over Tk 366 crore under
the Dhaka-Chittagong
four-lane project.

Under the two deals,
Shikor Engineering of
Malaysia and Project
Builders Ltd of
Bangladesh will construct
a bridge at Eliotganj, a
flyover at a Comilla

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

PADMA BRIDGE PROJECT

No KL venture before WB deal dumped

STAR REPORT

The government is unlikely to sign any memorandum of understanding with Malaysia on February 21 for financing the Padma Bridge project due to several technical reasons, said well placed sources in the communications ministry and Economic Relations Division.

On the other hand, the World Bank (WB), that suspended financing of the first phase of the project on grounds of corruption in its tendering process, expects to resolve the stalemate with Bangladesh by July.

WB also extended the deadline for its loan to be effective by six months up to July. The deadline originally expired on January 27 without any resolution of the stalemate. Bangladesh officially sought a three-month extension, while it unofficially lobbied for an extension of six months. WB responded positively.

Finance Minister AMA Muhiith yesterday said the government is continuing its dialogue with WB for an early resolution.

"They have extended the deadline by six months on their own," he told journalists yesterday at his

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A number of Australian students in Dhaka spend time with urchins on Dhaka University campus yesterday to share their love on St Valentine's Day. They were seen feeding the kids and giving them sweets.

PHOTO:
RASHED SHUMON

No rumours, please

Urge Home boss; says probe
result any time

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Home Minister Shahara
Khatun yesterday hinted at a
positive result any moment in
the investigation into the
journalist couple murder and
urged the media not to spread any rumours regarding the



Sagar Sarowar Meherun Rumi

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

Mercury may go up on March 12

AL toys with plans to counter BNP's rally in Dhaka

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Ruling Awami League is planning to launch counter political programmes in the capital on March 12 when the main opposition BNP is to hold a grand rally mobilising people from outside the city.

The ruling party yesterday threatened to be on the city streets throughout March

saying that it is the month of independence, the historic day of March-7 and that it is significant for all pro-liberation war forces.

Political tension continues to grow centring the opposition's grand rally on that day.

BNP leaders for the last few days have

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US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Robert O Blake calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her parliament office yesterday.

STAR REPORT

The Australian energy firm Santos has struck commercially viable gas reserves in the Sangu-11 well under block 16 in the Bay of Bengal.

An official of Santos Bangladesh told The Daily Star last night that the company had found the new reserves three to four days ago. An announcement of the find will come at a press conference in Chittagong today.

From the new well, at least 25-30 million cubic feet of gas per day will be available for Chittagong's industrial clients within March-April, the official added.

Petrobangla Chairman Hossain Monsur said, "The Australian company has informed me of the discovery. But it did not confirm the quantity of the reserves. It only said it could be over 20 million cubic feet per day."

Platts, a New York-based firm that provides energy and metals information for the industry and industry observers, reported the find yesterday.

John Chambers, president of Santos Bangladesh, told Platts that gas supply from the well would be available by April. The company will be able to quantify Sangu-11's reserves in the next couple of weeks when necessary assessments are completed, he added.

Sangu-11 in shallow water block 16 is being drilled from the existing Sangu platform, some 60 km (37.2 miles) offshore Chittagong.

This is the second time that commercially viable gas reserves have been found in offshore Bangladesh, following the previous discovery by the UK's Cairn Energy in 1996. Cairn, the previous operator of the Sangu field, found gas in the same block.

In addition to owning 100 percent of the Magnama and Hatiya structures in block 16, Santos acquired Cairn's interests in Bangladesh in November 2010. Following the acquisition, the Aussie company became

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In death,
they do
not part

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Gopalganj

They had loved and cher-
ished a dream. Their two
young hearts dreamt of
being together all their
lives. But family stood in
their way -- the girl was
married off to another
man.

But the young lovers
would not let life separate
them. So they scaled a

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অমর
একুশে

Arabic charms
the Aga Khan

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

Ratan Lal Chakrabarty
and Badruddin Umar
have both done com-
mendable work on
researching the events
and incidents leading to
the Language Movement
of 1952. Chakrabarty's
Bhasha Andolana
Dolilpotro (Documents of
the Language Movement)
is a remarkable testament
to a time which was to
shape in such powerful
manner the eventual
struggle for a free
Bangladesh.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

শিশুর মস্তিষ্কের ৭০% গঠনই হয় মায়ের গর্ভে থাকার জন্য

আর তাই অনাগত শিশু আর মায়ের জন্য চাই বিশেষ যত্ন

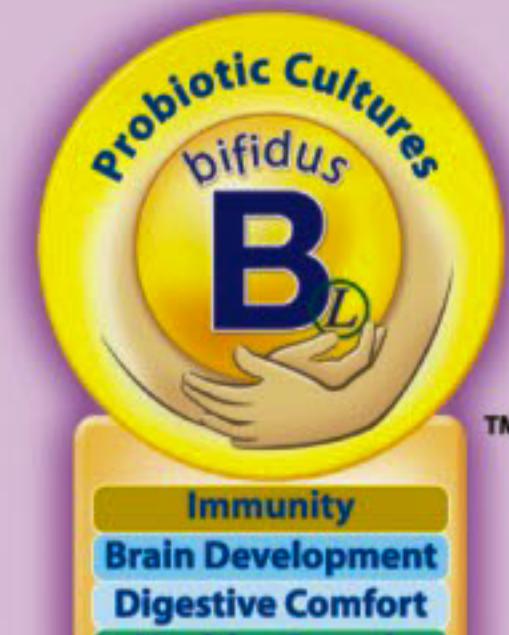
নেস্লে'র নতুন **BABY** গর্ভবতী ও স্তন্যদায়ী মায়েদের জন্য প্রোভায়োটিক কালচার সমৃদ্ধ
একটি পুষ্টির সম্পূর্ণ। এর অন্য পুষ্টি উপাদান মায়ের পুষ্টি চাইদা পূরণের সাথে সাথে শিশুর
সঠিক বৃদ্ধিতেও সহায়তা করে। পাশাপাশি **BABY** তে রয়েছে DHA যা অনাগত শিশুর মস্তিষ্ক
গঠনে ও রক্তপূর্ণ ভূমিকা পালন করে। গর্ভবতী ও স্তন্যদায়ী মায়েদের প্রতিদিন দু'বার **BABY** গ্রহণ:

শিশুর রোগ প্রতিরোধে সহায়ক

শিশুর মস্তিষ্কের গঠন ও বিকাশে সহায়ক

মায়ের হজমে সহায়ক

শিশুর সঠিক বৃদ্ধিতে সহায়ক



Good Food, Good Life

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