



THE OBVIOUS GAME

Israel blames Iran for embassy attacks, the latter denies

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FAREWELL, FARIDEE

Thousands paid their last respects to the legendary actor yesterday

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

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

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

Of the four deals worth over Tk 1,000 crore, two were signed for the construction 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, Shikon Engineering of Malaysia and Project Builders Ltd of Bangladesh will construct a bridge at Eliotganj, a flyover at a Comilla

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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 Muhith 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

Urges 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



Sagor Sarowar Meherun Runi

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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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Santos strikes gas in Bay

Assessment on reserves to take a few months

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 cherished 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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Border killings irk PM

She reassures Blake of Dhaka's anti-terror stance

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has noted with regret that despite assurance from India's highest political level of putting an end to the killing at border, stray incidents of killing and torture of Bangladeshi nationals by the Indian BSF continued.

She expressed her annoyance while talking to US Assistant Secretary

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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.

PHOTO: PID

শিশুর মস্তিষ্কের ৭০% গঠনই হয় মায়ের গর্ভে থাকার সময় আর তাই অনাগত শিশু আর মায়ের জন্য চাই বিশেষ যত্ন

নেস্লে'র নতুন **BABY** গর্ভবতী ও স্তন্যদায়ী মায়েরদের জন্য প্রোবায়োটিক কালচার সমৃদ্ধ একটি পুষ্টির সম্পূরক। এর অনন্য পুষ্টি উপাদান মায়ের পুষ্টি চাহিদা পূরণের সাথে সাথে শিশুর সঠিক বৃদ্ধিতেও সহায়তা করে। পাশাপাশি **BABY** তে রয়েছে DHA যা অনাগত শিশুর মস্তিষ্ক গঠনে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা পালন করে। গর্ভবতী ও স্তন্যদায়ী মায়েরদের 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