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Today's Spelling Bee words from
Crouching bull, sneezing frogs and hidden fun facts of Bangla idioms
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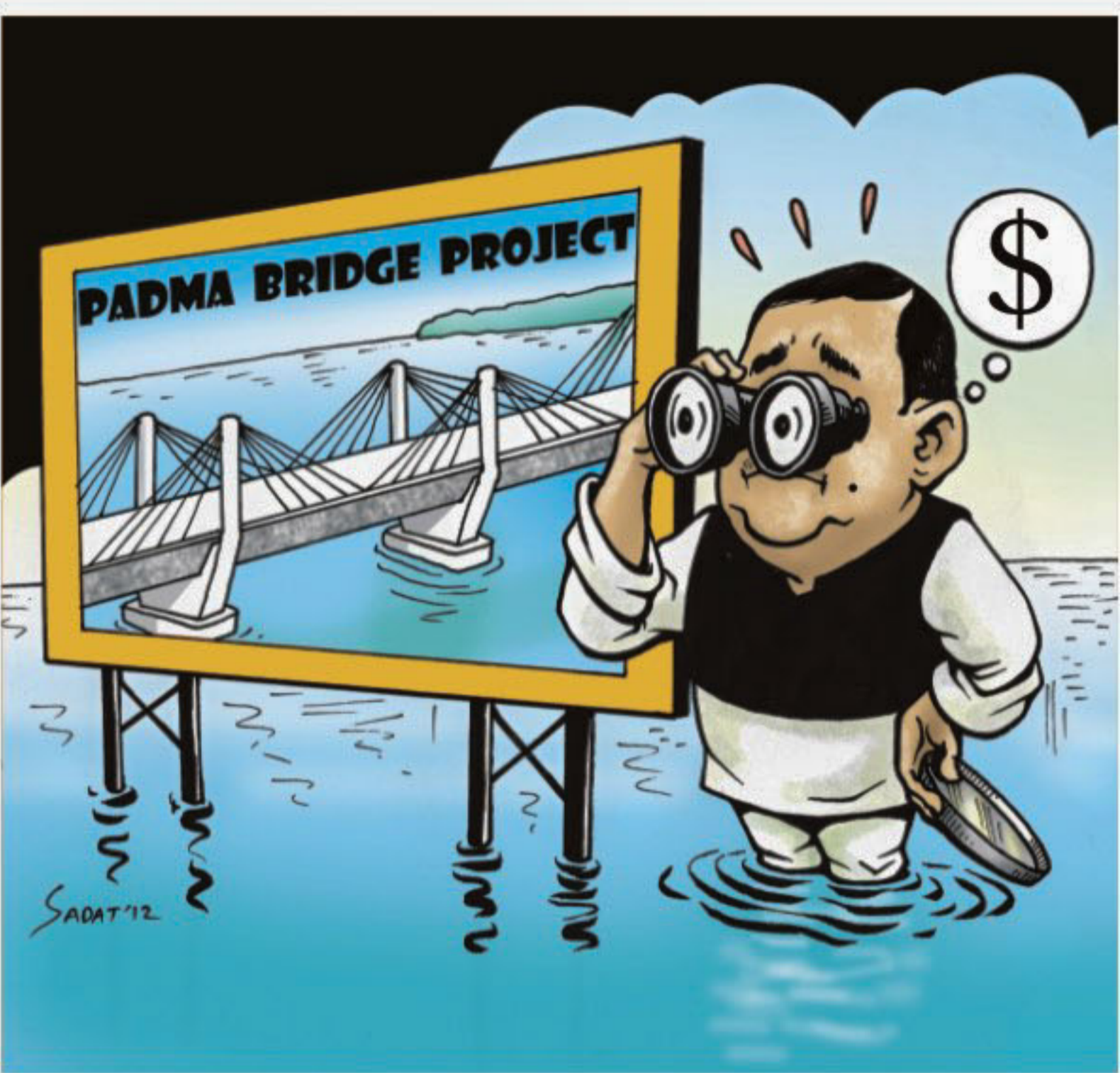
GREEN ENERGY
Banks are now investing more in the sector
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President Sarkozy declares candidacy for a second term
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Disclose source of fund
Fakhrul asks govt about KL proposal
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

PADMA BRIDGE PROJECT
Uncertainties to go in a month
Says communications minister
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

NEWS ANALYSIS
The curious case of Padma Bridge
INAM AHMED



BNP acting Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday asked the government to inform people about the source of proposed Malaysian fund for Padma Bridge project.
"Malaysia said they will collect fund from Dubai for constructing the bridge. Now people want to know whether this
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Communications Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday expressed hope of resolving the uncertainty looming over the financing of Padma Bridge project in a month.
He, however, did not explain how the government is planning to do that.
Talking to reporters at the Roads and Highways Division, he also shifted his stance on the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on February 21 with Malaysia regarding the project funding.
"It was a Malaysian envoy who disclosed the information to the Malaysian media. We cannot just reject it outright," said Obaidul Quader, adding that there is no
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We need a bridge over the Padma river and the government is going to build it soon. This statement or something to this effect has been circulating since the time of the Ershad regime which ended in 1990. Since then all other governments also talked of the bridge, which finally everyone thought is going to be materialised this time.
But now a question mark hangs over the bridge again.
What is more curious is the way things unfolded. Since the current government came to power, the bridge concept moved quite fast. Multilateral and bilateral agencies started showing concrete interest in the project. And finally funds were firming up.
From there everything fell apart. And various curious statements were made and actions taken, many of which raised serious concerns.
Construction of the bridge was supposed to start sometime
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Former Jamaat ameer Ghulam Azam being taken back to his prison cell in BSMMU from the International Crimes Tribunal during the court's lunch break yesterday.
PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Honduras prison fire kills 357

REUTERS, Tegucigalpa, Honduras
A massive fire swept through an overcrowded prison in Honduras and killed more than 350 inmates, including many trapped screaming inside their cells, officials said yesterday.
A senior official at the attorney general's office, Danelia Ferrera, said 357 people died in the blaze that began late on Tuesday night at the prison in Comayagua, about 75 kilometers north of the capital Tegucigalpa.
It was one of the worst prison fires ever in Latin America, and local radio reports said many of the inmates were burned to death inside their cells.
"We heard screaming from the people who caught on fire," one prisoner told
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অমর একুশে
The dilemma over ban on gathering
SYED BADRUL AHSAN
Preparations for the observance of the strike called for February 21 went on all day on February 20. A meeting of the All Party State Language Committee of
SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

IN MEMORY
Lt. Col. Hesamuddin Ahmed, psc (Retd), Secretary to the Government of Bangladesh has passed away on 14th of February at 4 AM at his own residence at 1 UN Road Baridhara. After his Namaz -E-Zanaza he was buried at the Banani Graveyard. He was fighting Leukemia for the last 2 years. He served as the Secretary of different Ministries which included Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, Relief and Rehabilitation, Science and Technology and was also the Administrator of the Dhaka Municipality, Chairman of RAJUK, BPC, BFIDC and BOGMC. As an additional responsibility he was also the Chairman of Eastern Refinery Ltd, Gas Fields Company Ltd and Hotel International Ltd. He was actively associated with various sports and social welfare organizations. He was the Founder President of the National Shooting Federation Bangladesh for over 12 years, President East End Club, President Lions Club of Dhaka Premier and Lions Deputy District Governor for four terms, one of the Founder Members and Vice Chairman RAOVA for four terms. He was also the Founder Chairman of Dosh Bandhu C.R. Das Research Council and Ex Vice Chairperson of UCEP Bangladesh. In recognition of his remarkable contributions in the field of Sports development he was awarded the National Sports Award 2003 by the Ministry of Youth and Sports. He has left behind his wife, one son, one daughter, son-in-law, relatives, many friends and well-wishers. He was a loving father, a very affectionate husband and always tried to help people in any way he could, as a friend he was like a brother to everyone, going out of his way to be at their need. We mourn deeply at this loss which is unforgettable. He will live on in our heart and memories like a star in the sky. His Qulkhwan will be held on 17th of February 2012 Baad Maghrib at his own residence 1, United Nations Road, Baridhara, Dhaka. We would love to have your presence at the Dua Mahfil of our beloved father.

Ghulam Azam urged ME not to recognise Bangladesh
Prosecution tells war tribunal
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Apprehending defeat in the Liberation War, former Jamaat-e-Islami chief Ghulam Azam fled to Pakistan and tried to convince countries in the Middle East not to recognise Bangladesh, the prosecution told the International Crimes Tribunal yesterday.
Chief Prosecutor Ghulam Arieff Tipoo said this while reading out the formal charges against the
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Detention of accused unlawful
Allege defence lawyers of war crimes trial
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Defence counsels at the International Crimes Tribunal yesterday said detaining their clients on charges of crimes against humanity before conviction is a violation of international laws.
Referring to a report of the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, they said detention prior to conviction should be an
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