



Today's Spelling Bee words from
 Sanat Kumar Chatterjee: The 'sage artist' makes it to Guinness
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 Cchamps21.com

SCHOOL OF CHANGE
 Story of an education centre for underprivileged children
 PAGE 2

NUKE TEST BAN TREATY
 UN secretary general makes a call for the countries yet to ratify it
 PAGE 7

Relief schemes turn into farce

67 tonnes of rice, wheat allocated for 57 rural development projects shown distributed without work

KM REZAUL HOQUE, Gaibandha

Some 67 tonnes of rice and wheat meant for a test relief programme at Sadullapur upazila in Gaibandha have been utilised only on paper, without any work being done, according to an enquiry report.

for generating employment, 57 projects involving small-scale repairs of schools and mosques were taken up in the upazila in fiscal 2009-10. The repairs were supposed to be done with the proceeds -- more than Tk25 lakh -- from sales of the grains.

Winning the contracts, local

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Piling up of sand by traders has narrowed down the river Shitalakkhya near Sultana Kamal Bridge in Demra, Dhaka. Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority tried in vain to retrieve the portion. The photo was taken a few days ago.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

অমর একুশে
 Nat'l flag lowered in tribute
 SYED BADRUL AHSAN

On February 22, 1952, even as Chief Minister Nurul Amin rejected any discussion of the previous day's incidents in the legislative assembly, he

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MARCH 12 RALLY IN DHAKA BNP activists ready to stay on

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

BNP leaders and workers will be ready to take position on the streets if met with obstructions in their march towards Dhaka for the March 12 grand rally, say party insiders.

Opposition activists and supporters from all over the country will gather in the capital that day to press the demand for restoration of the caretaker government system.

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WAR CRIMES TRIAL Law minister warns against obstruction

STAR REPORT

Those who would hinder the ongoing trial of war crimes would be brought to book under the law of the land, said Law Minister Shafique Ahmed yesterday.

After attending a programme at the Asiatic

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21 Bangladeshis on death row abroad

Another 31 facing murder trials in 6 Middle Eastern, Southeast Asian countries

PORIMOL PALMA

At least 21 Bangladeshis are facing death sentence and 31 undergoing trial for murder in six Middle Eastern and Southeast Asian countries -- Bangladesh's major labour markets.

The cases involve 43 murders, includ-

ing those of 28 Bangladeshis, over trading of visas and involvement in "immoral" activities, according to reports sent by Bangladesh missions abroad.

Under the Middle Eastern nations' strict Islamic Sharia laws, death penalty is imposed for murder.

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Bangladesh runs not on Blake's advice

Says Suranjit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh is not run on instructions of Robert O Blake, the US assistant secretary of state for South and Central Asian Affairs, Railway Minister Suranjit Sengupta said yesterday.

"Bangladesh is an

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Inauguration Ceremony for installation of new 1 million Solar Home Systems and 20,000 Biogas Plants

under IDCOL Renewable Energy Programs by Hon'ble Prime Minister **Sheikh Hasina**

on 18 February 2012, at Upazila Complex, Sandwip, Chittagong

Thanks to our partner organizations, development partners, suppliers and other stakeholders for their active participation and continued support

IDCOL Solar Energy Program (up to 2011)

- Number of SHS : 1.23 million
- Number of Beneficiaries : 6 million
- Electricity Generation : 65 MW
- Fuel Saving : 100 thousand ton/year
- Financed : Loan - BDT 16 billion
Grant - BDT 3 billion
- Job Creation : 70,000

IDCOL Biogas Program (up to 2011)

- Number of Plants : 22,000
- Number of Beneficiaries : 110,000
- Firewood Saving : 53,000 ton/year
- Organic Fertilizer Generation : 130,000 ton/year
- Financed : Loan - BDT 190 million
Grant - BDT 160 million
- Job Creation : 15,000

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