

**Saluting Timeless Ideas of Construction**  
Tens of thousands of skilled workers took 20 years to build the pyramid, using 2.3 million limestone blocks. Their construction technique was so exceptional that the Khufu's Pyramid still stands strong after 4500 years.

www.bsrm.com

BE SAFE **BSRM** THE ULTIMATE STEEL

**Philips 32" HD Ready LCD TV at Tk. 3,206\*** PHILIPS  
Up to 18 Equal Monthly Installments available at 0% Interest

32PFL3406

For More Information: 9855366-8, 01712-665463

**TRANSKOM** DIGITAL  
think electronics... think DIGITAL

**Oli Ahmad's rejoinder, our reply**

Colonel (ret'd) Oli Ahmad, president of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), sent a rejoinder through his attorney to a news item published in The Daily Star headlined "Oli's castle on Beach" on February 22 and its follow up report published the next day.

Here is the full text of the rejoinder as it is:

a. No construction activity has taken place what so ever in the site in question in Cox's Bazar. There is no possibility of construction or any such activity at the site in question. Thus the issue of violating the environmental law or for that matter any existing law of the country does not arise.

b. That it can clearly be seen from the picture published along with the

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2



**A fire engine arrives while passengers run out as a fire breaks out at Shah Amanat Airport in Chittagong yesterday.**

PHOTO: STAR

**Fire at Ctg airport**

*Flight operations suspended for hrs*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A fire broke out at the Shah Amanat International Airport terminal in Chittagong yesterday, disrupting domestic and international flight operation.

Nobody was reported hurt.

"The fire originated from an electric panel adjacent to the elevator on the first floor [of the terminal building] at 4:05pm," said Jasim Uddin, deputy assistant director of Chittagong Fire Service.

Domestic flight operation resumed around 8:00pm and international flight operation around 9:30pm, said AKM Rezaul Karim, public relations officer of Civil Aviation

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

**STOCKS SCAM SEC suspends top official**

SARWAR A CHOWDHURY and GAZI TOWHID AHMED

The Securities and Exchange Commission yesterday suspended one of its executive directors, Anwarul Kabir Bhuiyan, on charges of his involvement in last year's share market scam.

He was involved in share business through his wife's BO (beneficiary owner's) accounts and made Tk 80 lakh in a windfall profit

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

**CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS Bangladesh needs \$5.7b for adaptation**

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh needs about \$5.7 billion as adaptation cost to face the increased risks of cyclones and inland monsoon floods in a changing climate by 2050, says a World Bank report.

The adaptation cost for railways, road networks, embankments and drainage infrastructure to offset additional inundation due to inland monsoon flood alone is estimated at \$3.3 billion.

The rest amount of \$2.4 billion is to

avert further damage and loss from cyclonic storm surge in a changing climate.

The World Bank (WB) report titled "The cost of Adapting to Extreme Weather Events in a Climate Change" was released at a function in the capital yesterday.

Bangladesh will require climate-smart policies and investments to make itself more resilient to the effects of climate change, the report said.

It also said the country needs climate-proof critical infrastructure to reduce the

SEE PAGE 7 COL 6

**Stop hill cutting**

*HC says environmental assessment is a must*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday directed the government not to cut hills without obtaining environment clearance certificate from the Department of Environment (DoE).

The court ruled that the environmental impact assessment is essential in order to preserve the nature which is why

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

**Arrest journo killer(s)**

*Media people observe 6-hr hunger strike seeking justice in Sagar-Runi killing*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Journalists yesterday announced a grand rally to be held on March 18 in Dhaka to press home their three-point demand including immediate arrest of the killer(s) of journalist couple Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi.

The rally will be held in front of the Jatiya Press Club at 11:00am, said Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, president of the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ).

Sagar, news editor at private TV station Maasranga, and his wife Runi, a senior

reporter at another TV channel, ATN Bangla, were killed in the wee hours on February 11 at their rented apartment in West Rajabazar in the capital.

The BFUJ president also announced to hold several rallies across the country till March 15 to unify the journalists to strengthen their movement.

The journalist leader made the announcement at a six-hour hunger strike programme that began at 10:00am on the National Press Club premises to press home the same demands.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

**SPELLING BEE 10 spellers in next round**

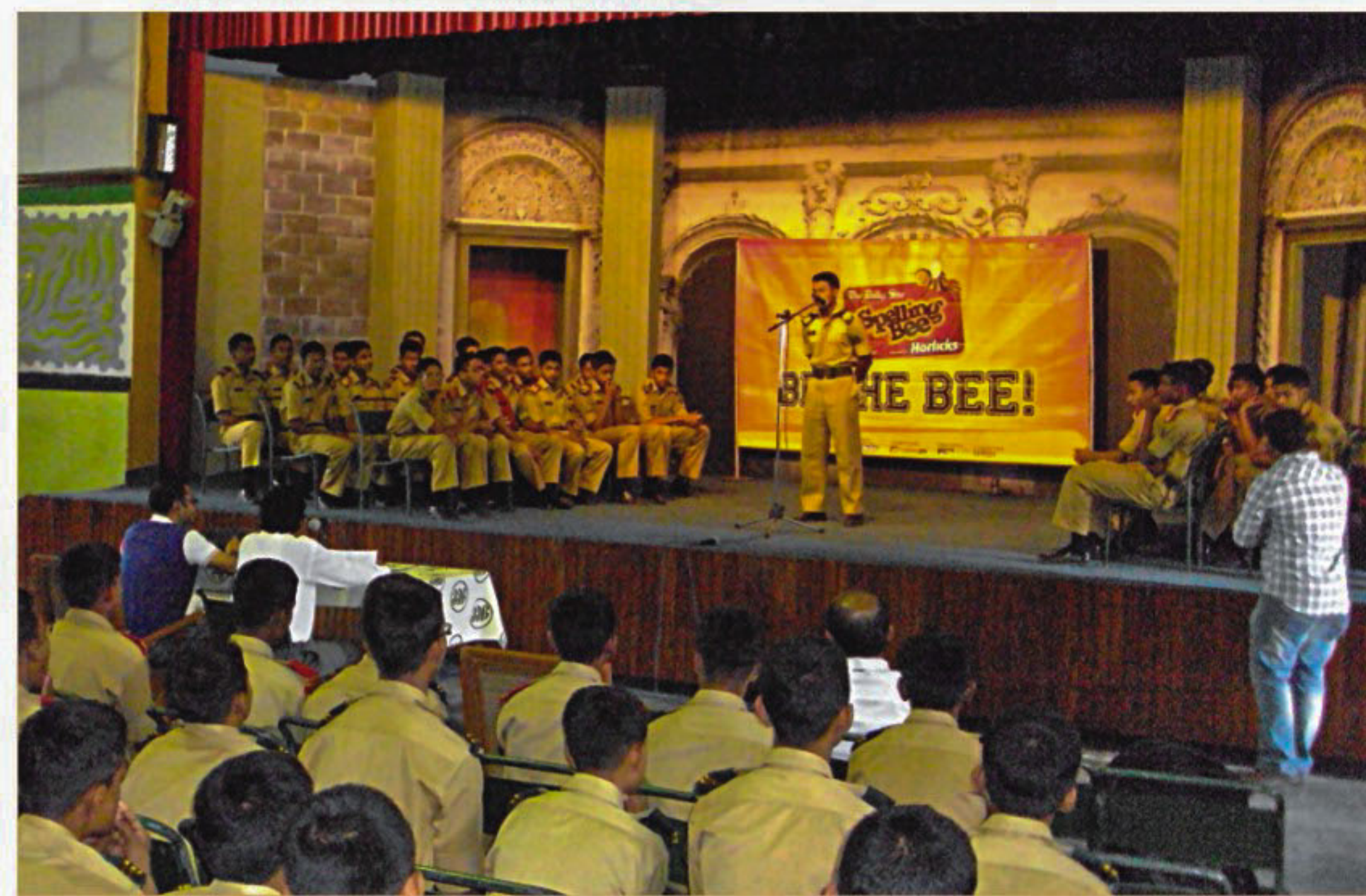
SHAHNOOR RABBANI

The champs21 team visited Jhenaidah Cadet College and Sylhet Cadet College yesterday for The Daily Star Spelling Bee competition.

Ten spellers from the two colleges made it through to the second round which is divisional round.

In the contest at Jhenaidah Cadet College, Safwan Mahmud of class VIII, Saad Bin Hassan and Ahnaf Alkif Alvi of class IX, and Julkar Naine Khan and Indronil Bhattacharjee of class X qualified for the next round.

At Sylhet Cadet College, SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



The Spelling Bee contest goes to Jhenidah Cadet College.

PHOTO: STAR

**Boy killed as cement slab falls on him**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A teenager was killed and his twin brother sustained injuries when a rectangular slab of cement fell on their heads from the boundary wall of a house at the capital's Jatrabari yesterday.

The five-foot-long slab was kept on the wall. It fell on the twins when one of their hands touched it while they were passing through a narrow lane alongside the wall at about 1:00pm, witnesses said.

They were immediately rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared Arif Matbor, 18, dead. His twin brother Ahad Matbor was given primary treatment at the hospital.

The incident occurred close to their residence at North Kutubkhali in Jatrabari, said Aslam Khan, a neighbour of the twins.

Ahad, who got hurt on his forehead, was taken back to SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

**WAR CRIMES TRIAL 14-party rally in city on March 14**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ruling Awami League-led 14-party alliance will hold a grand rally in the capital on March 14 to, as it claimed, speed up the war crimes trial and resist the BNP-Jamaat conspiracy against it.

The decision was taken yesterday in an emergency meeting of the alliance at AL chief's political office in Dhanmondi. Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, coordinator of the 14-party alliance, chaired the meeting.

Prime Minister and AL President Sheikh Hasina will attend the 14-party SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

**Two Sylhet girls die in septic tank**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Two minor girls died as they fell down into a septic tank of a house in Dakshin Surma upazila yesterday.

The ill-fated girl babies SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

**MADDHAPARA MINE Strike called after worker assaulted**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Workers of Maddhapara Granite Mining Company Ltd (MGMCL) yesterday went on an indefinite strike, protesting an assault on a fellow worker by an official the day before.

They will continue the strike until the authority removes the official, said Ashiqur Rahman, acting general secretary of MGMCL Miners and Sramik Union.

The company's rock production, which is about 1700 tonnes per day, has been suspended, sources said.

An officer of the machinery department, Harun Ur Rashid without any cogent reason slapped Hafizur Rahman, a miner, when he was at work Wednesday afternoon, said workers.

Hafizur said Harun had also hurled insults at him. SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

**Reckless truck kills bicycle rider**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A bicycle rider was killed and his co-rider received serious injury as a truck hit them in the city's Gulshan area early yesterday.

The deceased Mahbubul Alam, 35, was a security guard of "Sajna Restaurant" at Banani and Anisur Rahman Anis is his co-worker, said Sub Inspector Abu Arshad of Gulshan Police Station.

Describing the accident, he said, a recklessly SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

**VIOLENT PROTESTS IN MALDIVES New president fails to open parliament**

AFP, Male

Opposition MPs in the Maldives yesterday prevented the new president, who is accused of seizing power in a coup, from opening parliament as violent protests erupted outside the building.

Opposition lawmakers grabbed the Speaker's chair during angry scuffles and stopped President Mohamed Waheed from addressing the assembly in the capital Male.

Police said 14 officers were wounded, four of them seriously, in clashes with opposition demonstrators around the

parliament. At least 34 people were arrested.

Opposition legislators carrying placards that called Waheed a "traitor" also blocked the Speaker's entrance to the building, an AFP reporter said.

The Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP), whose leader Mohamed Nasheed says he was ousted by Waheed in a military-led coup on February 7, had called on its supporters to stage yesterday's demonstration against the new government.

Presidential spokesman Masood Imad said Waheed was in the parliament and SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

**PRAYER TIMING March 2**

Asan	5-15	5-50
Fajr	5-15	5-50
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	6-05	6-10
Esha	7-30	8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation

**The Daily Star**

**Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL**

Do you agree with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina that journalists in Bangladesh enjoy full freedom?

Yes (21.7%)  
No (77.3%)  
No comments (1.1%)

TOTAL VOTES: 568

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you agree with prime minister's International Affairs Adviser Gowher Rizvi that prime minister was serious about her proposal to nominate Prof Muhammad Yunus as the president of the World Bank?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)  
YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT [facebook.com/dailystarnews](https://www.facebook.com/dailystarnews)