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IMF okays \$987m loan

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The International Monetary Fund has approved a \$987 million loan to Bangladesh to help the country overcome macroeconomic pressures and build a buffer reserve.

Bangladesh has to embark on wide-ranging structural reforms under the three-year deal.

Bangladesh will immediately receive \$141 million, and will get the rest of the amount in six equal installments under IMF's extended credit facility (ECF), the Washington-based lender said in an emailed statement.

Conditions for the loan include a "restrained" monetary policy, a reduction of trade barriers and "moderate" fiscal consolidation, according to the statement.

The loan approval comes at a time when Bangladesh is frustrated at snags over the World Bank's funding for the Padma bridge project.

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PADMA BRIDGE FUND
Talks after full KL proposal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh will start negotiation with Malaysia on the funding of Padma bridge project once the Southeast Asian country submits its full proposal, Communications Minister Obaidul Quader said yesterday.

He also said the government went for the alternative fund due to the

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BOY KIDNAP, KILLING Angry protest in Bogra

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Locals yesterday set fire to the house and shop of Md Zakaria, the main accused in the kidnap and murder of school boy Naimul Islam Naim in Kahaloo upazila of Bogra, right after a rally they held at the upazila protesting the killing.

On April 5, Naim, 13, a class-VII student of Kahaloo Pilot High School, and son of Rafiqul Islam of Rostamchapor, was kidnapped while he was on his way to school. The kidnappers strangled him and burnt the body to ashes throwing it into a brick kiln. The father filed

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SAYEDEE'S WAR CRIMES Evidence shown to tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The investigation officer who probed the charges of war crimes brought against Jamaat-e-Islami leader Delawar Hossain Sayeede yesterday presented several pieces of evidence before the International Crimes Tribunal-1.

The evidence includes records of 17 cases filed against Sayeede and the historic March 7, 1971 speech of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Investigation officer Mohammad Helal Uddin, also the 28th and last prosecution witness, presented a CD of Bangabandhu's speech before the tribunal while explaining the context of the Liberation War.

The speech was played in full before the court.

He also listed 17 cases filed against the Jamaat nayeb-e-ameer that he found during his investigation. However,

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ONLINE POLL
Do you think Railway Minister Suranjit Sengupta should step down to make way for a neutral probe into the incident in which his APS was caught with Tk 70 lakh in a car?

Yes (91%)
No (7.3%)

No Comments (1.6%)

TOTAL VOTES: 767

TODAY'S POLL
Do you agree with National Human Rights Commission Chairman that war crimes suspect Abul Kalam Azad fled the country with the help of those who watched over him?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT
www.thedailystar.net

YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT
facebook.com/dailystarnews



Workers assigned by the Election Commission take out a billboard, which features a mayoral hopeful, from top of a passengers' shade at the capital's Khilgaon yesterday. According to rules, aspirants cannot campaign for May 24 elections to Dhaka city corporations before May 2.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Pick 1 candidate for each ward AL asks its Dhaka city unit

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Ruling Awami League has directed its Dhaka city unit to select one councillor candidate for each ward to avoid emergence of multiple candidates from within the party in the upcoming city corporation polls.

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POSTER REMOVAL FAILURE EC to warn DCC polls aspirants

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission has decided to warn Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) mayoral and councillor hopefuls who violated

the electoral code of conduct by not removing their posters, banners and billboards in the city by April 12 midnight.

"On receipt of information

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PRAYER TIMING		April 13
Fajr	4-35	5-10
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-24	6-28
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

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