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THE BLACK MONEY SAGA

It is time the govt applied laws more strictly on the sources

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GLOBE TO GLOBE FEST

Pro-Palestine activists protest Israeli theatre troupe's show

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'IRAN NUKE THREAT'

Khamenei says the West uses the issue to hide its economic woes

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Largest limestone reserve discovered

GSB sees it as feasible mine

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Geological Survey of Bangladesh yesterday discovered a limestone deposit in Panchbibi upazila of Joypurhat.

Moonira Akhter Chowdhury, Director General, Geological Survey of Bangladesh, told The Daily Star that the limestone deposit appears to be the largest discovered so far in the country.

Limestone is a key ingredient for making cement and Chowdhury believes that if the deposit is as big as the indicators are saying, it could meet the demand for limestone in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh depends largely on imported limestone.

"On the basis of scientific indications we can say that this is going to be a much bigger deposit than the old find in Jamalganj of Joypurhat and hopefully, it will also be feasible to mine," the DG said over the telephone.

She said it was too early to specify the

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Flowers and greetings pour in for Nishat Majumder and her fellow mountaineer MA Mohit after they arrive at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Women can do everything

Says first Bangladeshi Everest princess on her return

PANKAJ KARMAKAR

The first Bangladeshi woman to conquer Mount Everest said her achievement had proved women were not lagging behind and could do everything if they had confidence, determination and skills.

"Conquering Mount Everest is the toughest task in the world. My success will inject confidence

among Bangladeshi women to take up all sorts of challenges in their personal and professional lives," Nishat Majumder said.

She was describing her feelings to newsmen at the VIP lounge of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka immediately after her arrival. Nishat's mother Ashura Majumder and Mohit's father Monwar Hossain were present at the airport.

Nishat and her fellow mountaineer MA Mohit landed at 5:25pm by a Biman Bangladesh Airlines flight after around 50 days of trekking during which she made history.

Sharing her views with the reporters, Nishat said, "Our women have a lack of confidence as they are restricted by families and society. I think they will come

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China keen to fund 2nd Padma Bridge

UNB, Dhaka

China, an important development partner of Bangladesh, has expressed its interest to finance the second Padma Bridge.

An eight-member Chinese delegation, led by Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Le Jun, showed the interest during a meeting with Communications Minister Obaidul Quader at Rail Bhaban yesterday.

In response, Quader, also in charge of railway ministry, asked the Chinese delegation to come up with a formal proposal in this regard.

On October 27 last year, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs decided in principle to

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RAILWAYGATE SCANDAL

Wealthy beyond their income

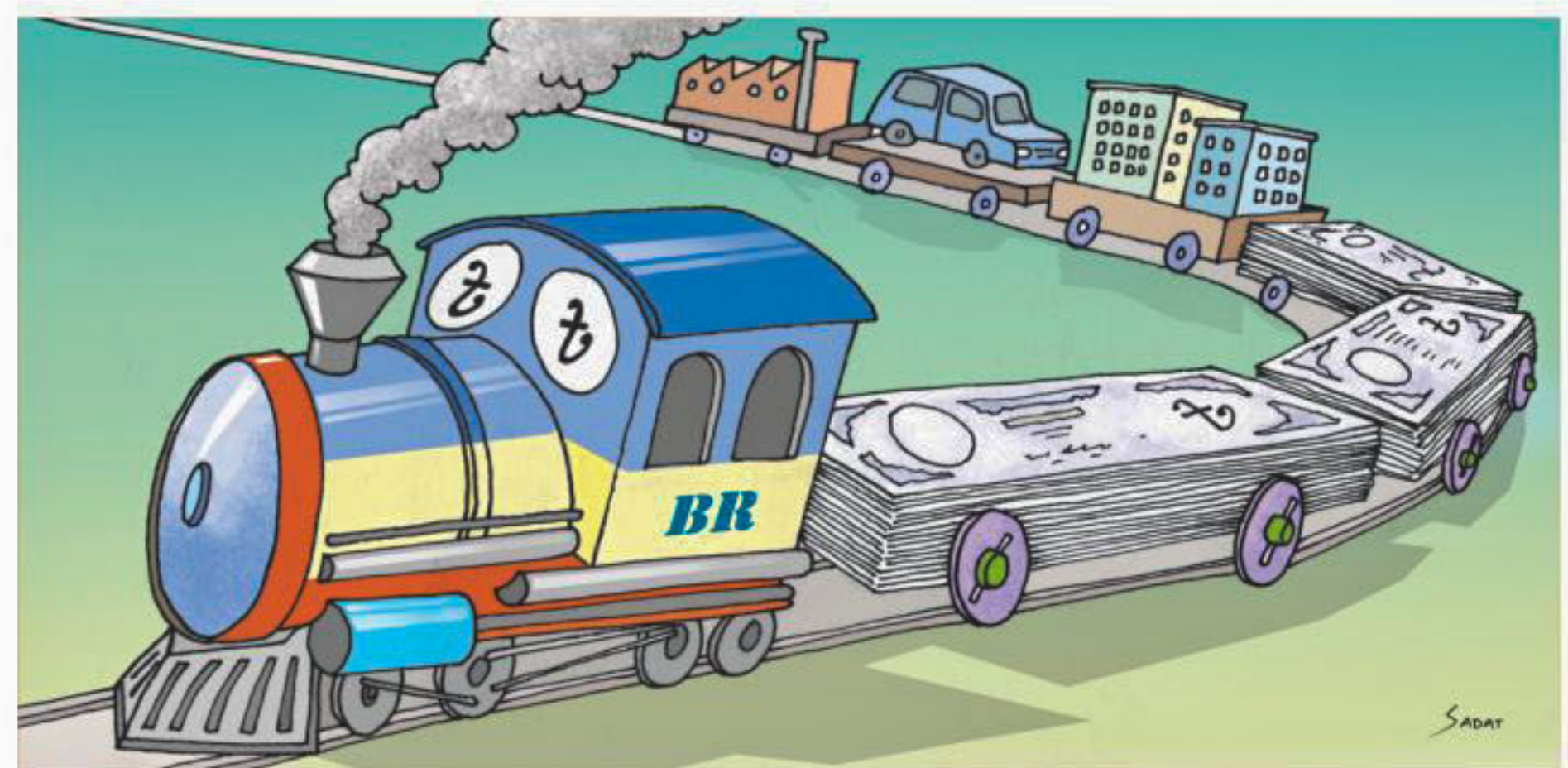
Wealth statements of Suranjit's aide, 2 officials, wives submitted to anti-graft body

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Wealth statements of two railway officials suspended over the Tk 70 lakh scandal, their wives, and the sacked APS to ex-

railway minister Suranjit Sengupta show that they have huge deposits of money in banks and plots of land in and outside Dhaka.

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TIPAIMUKH DAM

Farming, ecology at stake

PINAKI ROY

When built, the Tipaimukh dam will result in damage to Boro production in the Sylhet region, causing a loss of over Tk 1,000 crore a year, experts have said.

In addition, the dam would be disastrous for the riverine ecology and biodiversity of the region, according to environment impact

assessment reports, including the Sixth Flood Action Plan (FAP), prepared by Bangladeshi experts.

A document titled "Comparison of discharge at Tipaimukh dam site (pre-dam and post-dam)" prepared by National Hydroelectric Power Company, India, shows water supply during lean season will increase from 282 to 537 cubic metres per second (cumec) at the India-Bangladesh

border point after the construction of the dam.

Prepared in 2009 and officially handed over to Bangladesh parliamentarians, the document also shows the average discharge of water during the monsoon will decrease to 481 cumec from 854, which will improve the flood situation in the Sylhet region.

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KHALAF MURDER

Hunt on to nab killers

PM tells Saudi envoy

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said her government was sincerely working to track down the killers of Saudi Embassy official Khalaf Al Ali.

Talking to Saudi

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ATTACK ON WHIP

2 OCs closed

STAR REPORT

The officers-in-charge of Abhaynagar and Monirampur police stations were closed to Khulna police range Saturday night hours after Jatiya Sangsad Whip Sheikh Abdul Wahab's motorcade came under attack in Abhaynagar of Jessore.

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NEWS ANALYSIS

State of denial

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

The governments of the United States and Bangladesh have trashed an Indian media report that Washington is currently looking to base its Seventh Fleet in Bangladesh's territorial waters. The Indian report, carried by the Times of India, would have us know that the Americans have been eyeing the possibility of setting up a base for the Seventh Fleet in Chittagong.

Now that the two governments, especially the one in Washington, have denied the report, we will try to rest content in the belief that the news item emanating from India was based on hearsay and nothing more. After all, when governments swear they are telling the truth, who

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No plan on US base in Chittagong

Mozena refutes Indian TV report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

US Ambassador to Bangladesh Dan Mozena yesterday refuted outright the Indian media report that the US wanted to park its Seventh Fleet in Chittagong.

"There is no plan, no discussion, and no idea of having 'a base' in

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