

Submersible Pump
High Quality Pump
0192 4357640

The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

www.thedailystar.net

Your Right to Know

24 PAGES PLUS STAR LIFESTYLE PRICE : Tk 10.00



SHAH'S NADIR
Bangladesh umpire Nadir Shah is found involved in match fixing
PAGE 16

REMEMBERING BIDIT LAL DAS
Subir Nandi and Biswajit Roy talk about the renowned folk artiste
PAGE 10-11

CHAVEZ RE-ELECTED
After defeating Capriles, he vows to be a "better president"
PAGE 7

Tk 3,606CR RECOVERY

Sonali Bank mulls differently

Wary of legal implications for forged papers used in Hall-Mark loan

SAJJADUR RAHMAN

The Sonali Bank is looking for ways to get back around Tk 3,600 crore it lent to Hall-Mark and five other companies on false documents as the repayment has become uncertain.

The state-run bank now wants the six companies to sign stamps admitting the

liabilities.

"The repayment largely depends on the willingness of the borrowers. Dishonest officials of the bank disbursed the loans without proper documentation," Pradip Kumar Dutta, managing director of Sonali Bank, said.

"It was forgery, not lending."

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

Tanvir on 29-day remand

Arms case filed against the Hall-Mark boss

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Tanvir Mahmud, managing director of Hall-Mark Group of Industries, and Tushar Ahmed, general manager of the company, were each placed on a 24-



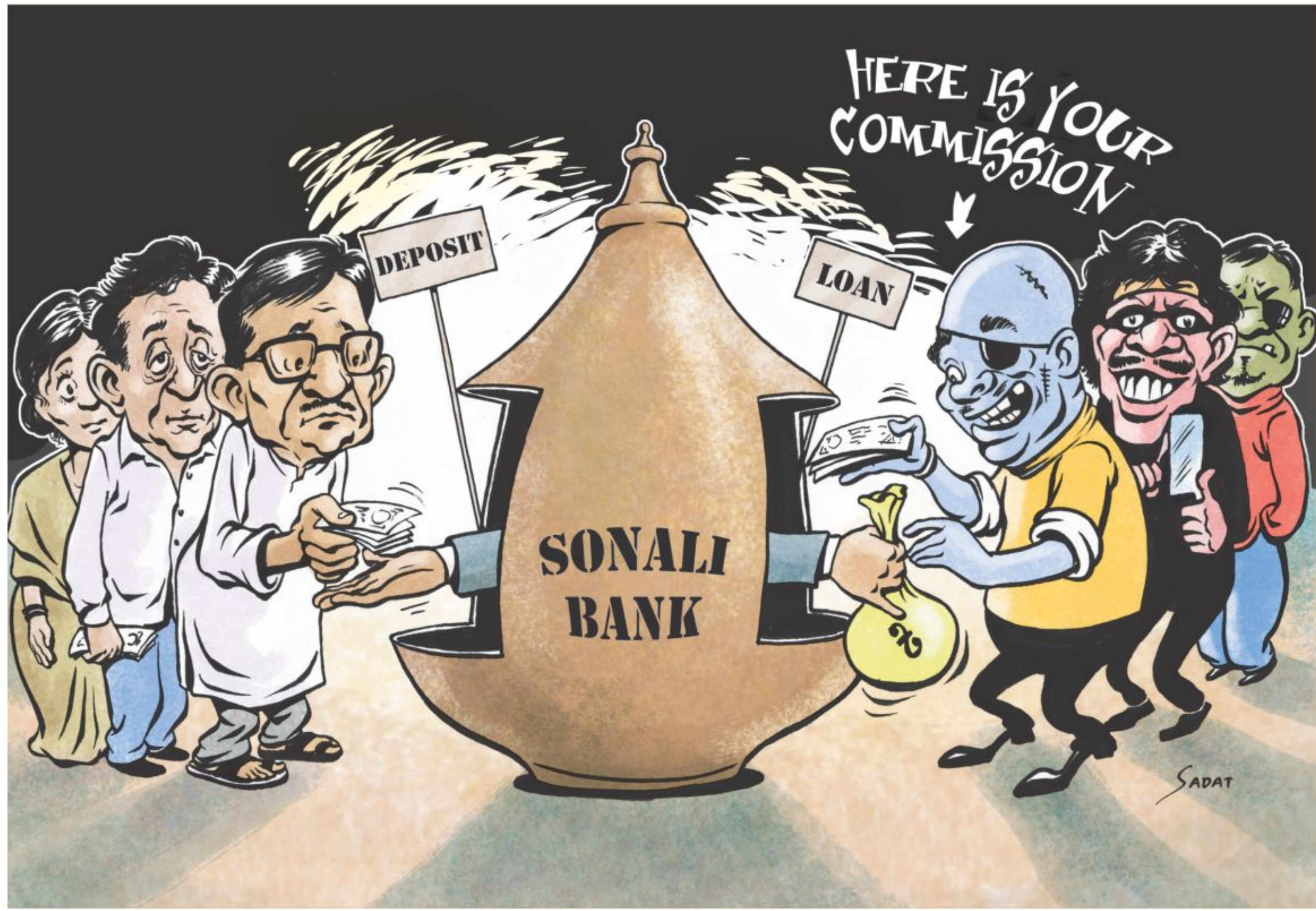
Tanvir

Tushar

day remand in three cases over the Sonali Bank loan scam yesterday.

The Hall-Mark MD was also placed on an additional five days' remand in an arms case.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



Opposition blamed to cover govt failure: BNP

STAR REPORT

The government was blaming the opposition party to cover its failure to resist the recent violent attacks on religious minorities, BNP leader Moudud Ahmed said yesterday in reply to the prime minister's remarks in Ramu of Cox's Bazar. Moudud told BBC Bangla: "She has proved herself irresponsible by making such comments

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

ATTACK ON RAMU BUDDHISTS PM blames it on local BNP MP

Says opposition leader knows everything; vows to punish perpetrators

UNB, Cox's Bazar

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday blamed the local BNP lawmaker for the September 29 attacks on the Buddhist temples and houses at Ramu in Cox's Bazar.

Addressing an amity rally at Ramu, she also said the perpetrators would be hunted down and meted out exemplary punishment.

"It was found in the investigation that soon after a local MP left the place around midnight saying something, thousands of people joined in the mayhem and set fire to houses and temples of the Buddhist community.

"The people of the locality want to know what that the MP had said before leaving ... Awami League never wants to disrupt welfare of the common people."

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

UPGRADE OF POLICE POSTS

Others too want it

Govt has to bear huge burden for salary rise

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government upgraded the posts of inspectors and sub-inspectors of police and now other employees of the civil service want similar upgrades, which could cost the government a fortune over the next nine years.

If the demands of all the civil service employees were to be met, the state would have to spend by 2020 an estimated Tk 1.23 lakh crore extra on salary payments and benefits.

To keep the police happy, the government in August through a circular

upgraded 17,000 posts of police inspector and sub-inspector. The post of inspector was elevated to class-I non-cadre post from class-II and the post of sub-inspector to class-II from class-III.

At least Tk 855 crore would be required in nine years to pay for the increases in salary and benefits and in the first year additional Tk 13.10 crore would be needed.

As soon as the decision was implemented, all administrative employees at Bangladesh Secretariat, assistant settlement officers and addi-

tional land acquisition officers have sent proposals seeking upgrade of their positions to class-I from class-II.

All class-III employees at the secretariat, surveyors in the ministry of land, sanitary inspectors in the health ministry, warehouse inspectors, station officers, staff officers, junior inspectors and mobilising officers, have also sent similar proposals to get upgraded to class-II.

Around 12.20 lakh civil servants want upgrades of their posts.

A finance ministry high official

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Ramu yesterday visits the ruins of Buddhist temples and houses destroyed in last week's mayhem launched by Muslim fanatics.

PHOTO: PID

DESTINY SCAM PROBE No trace of Tk 3,800cr

Probe body suggests takeover of all assets of the company

SAJJADUR RAHMAN and MD FAZLUR RAHMAN

A probe committee yesterday suggested the government take over control of the assets of controversial multilevel marketing company Destiny Group, said a member of the investigation body.

The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms (RJSCF), who led the probe, submitted the report to the commerce ministry. The probe, however, did not find accounts of Tk 3,800 crore.

It found evidence of money laundering by the Group, which agreed with the central bank findings submitted six months ago, said a member of the probe body.

The RJSCF took eight months to complete the investigation.

The six-member probe body had previously submitted

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

Metro rail project to get underway

Ministry expects no further delay, hopes to finish by 2019

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

The metro rail project has finally gathered momentum after nearly three-year delay over change of route with the government deciding to appoint a consultant to prepare a detailed design of the metro rail from Uttara third phase to Motijheel.

Several international companies that have been short-listed for the job now await the approval of Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica), the lone donor of the \$2.7 billion project. Jica pledged 80 percent of the project cost.

Officials at Jica and the communications ministry said the short-listed companies would soon be asked to submit their technical and financial proposals for the job of preparing the detailed design and supervising the construction.

They said a firm would be selected for the job in two or three months.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 5

BSF kills Bangladeshi teenager

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A teenage Bangladeshi boy was shot dead by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) at Char Majhardiar border in the district early yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Sujon Ali, 16, son of Shukur Ali of the village

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

RAILWAYGATE SCAM BNP for arrest of Suranjit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The main opposition BNP yesterday demanded arrest of former railway minister Suranjit Sengupta in connection with the railwaygate scandal and asked the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to take stern action against him.

The party also blamed the ruling party once again for the attack on Buddhist temples at Ramu in Cox's Bazar, saying that the government had stigmatised the country through this shameful incident.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

Resign again

TIB asks Suranjit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Following the recent television interview of Azam Khan, driver of Suranjit Sengupta's ex-assistant personal secretary Omar Faruq Talukder, Transparency International Bangladesh yesterday called on the minister to resign for the second time.

The TIB also urged the government and the

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

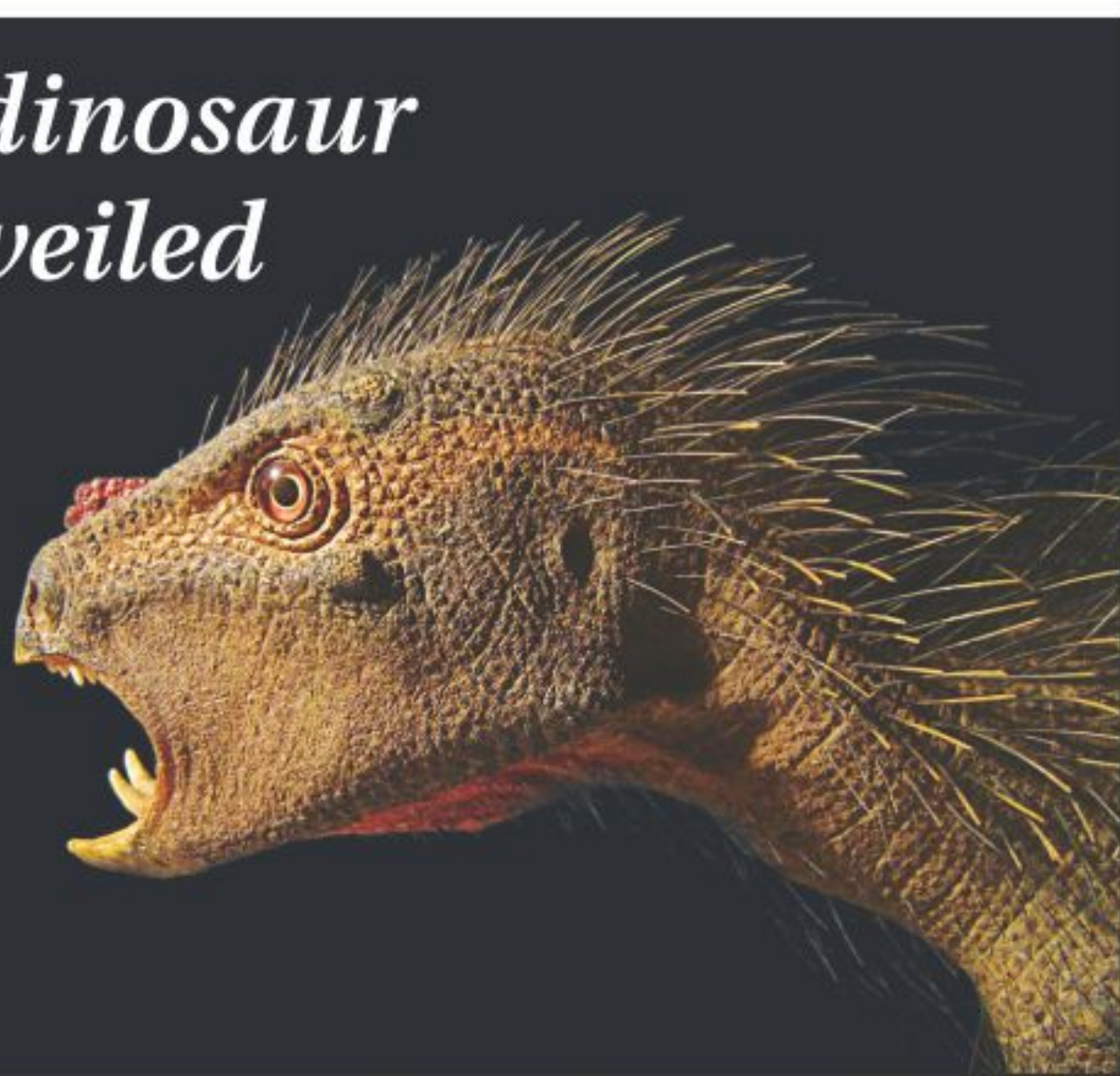
Tiny, new dinosaur species unveiled

REUTERS, New York

A new dinosaur the size of a house cat and described as a cross between "a bird, a vampire and a porcupine" has been identified in a piece of rock from South Africa.

University of

SEE PAGE 6 COL 7



MOBILE SIM SALES High Court for alternative to nat'l ID card

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the government to allow mobile-phone operators to sell SIM and RUM cards against alternative identification documents in case subscribers do not have national identity (NID) cards.

It, however, did not

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5