



## UNITED NATIONS DAY TODAY

Former ambassador to UN evaluates the country's position in the forum

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## MINISTERS IN BANGLADESH

They are expected to have at least the basic qualities

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## SUPERMAN QUILS JOB

His alter ego leaves newspaper to become online blogger

PAGE 7

## ADMINISTRATOR FOR COMPANIES

# Businesses worried

Leading chambers oppose govt's unilateral move, say it will hurt business climate, discourage investment; warn of misuse of provision

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leading chambers in the country yesterday strongly opposed the government plan to amend the law to appoint administrators for companies, saying such control and unilateral decision would demoralise the business community.

"We are concerned about the proposed amendment to the Company Law 1994," AK Azad, president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI), told reporters at

Sonargaon Hotel in the capital.

"We appreciate the government's plan to establish good governance and accountability in the country. But it is not wise to adopt a controlling and unilateral

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SEE EDITORIAL

### MORE IN BUSINESS

- Legal experts oppose move
- What the amendment says
- A threat to private companies

## NEWS ANALYSIS

# Beware! It's a black law

SYED ASHFAQUL HAQUE and ARUN DEBNATH

The government wishes to get a grip on the unregulated business of the multi-level marketing and illegal banking of cooperative societies. So, it moved for a change in the relevant law but ended up with a wrong one that has every ominous potential to become a black law for the private sector.

If it comes into effect, the government can take over any private business it wants. That is precisely what the amendment to the Bangladesh Companies Act 1994 approved by the cabinet Monday would empower the

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## The passing of astral man

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

One more star in the Bengali literary firmament has burned itself out on its trajectory through space. There was certainly an astral quality in Sunil Gangopadhyay, to a point where he kept focusing light on readers across the old undivided Bengal of history and beyond it. With his death at age seventy-eight in Kolkata, Gangopadhyay re-instills in all of us the perennial truth attendant on

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## SUNIL GANGOPADHYAY no more

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Sunil Gangopadhyay, one of the stalwarts of Bangla literature whose work have mesmerised generations of readers cutting across ages in

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MORE ON PAGE 2, 5, 9, 10, 11

## PADMA BRIDGE IMPLEMENTATION

# WB to sit with co-financiers

ACC sends all documents to WB panel to respond to queries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The World Bank will shortly sit with the co-financiers to discuss implementation of the Padma bridge project, said WB Bangladesh Country Director Ellen Goldstein yesterday.

"There will be a joint mission meeting with the co-financiers to begin discussions on some changes in implementation of the project.... It's a complicated implementation process with some large-scale tendering activities," Goldstein said.

She was talking to reporters after the WB signed two credit deals with the government at the Economic Relations Division. The \$457 million loan will be used to

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PHOTO: STAR

Vehicles grind to a halt at Mirzapur on Dhaka-Tangail highway and in Munshiganj on Dhaka-Mawa highway, *inset*, yesterday as the narrow roads are inadequate to cope with the rush of holidaymakers heading home for Eid-ul-Azha.



# Trips home turn horrible

Eid holidaymakers suffer for tailbacks on all highways

STAR REPORT

People leaving the capital to spend Eid holidays suffered badly yesterday as vehicles remained stranded for hours or moved very slowly on different highways.

The situation was worst on the Dhaka-Mawa highway. To be ferried across the river Padma, buses had to wait for four to six hours and goods-carrying trucks three to four days because of reduced ferry services.

On Mawa-Kawrakandi route, ferries operated through two alternative terminals -- Mawa intersection and Hrishiari -- after the BIWTC on Monday declared erosion-hit ferry terminals 2 and 3 abandoned while the Padma devoured the terminal-1.

The Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation

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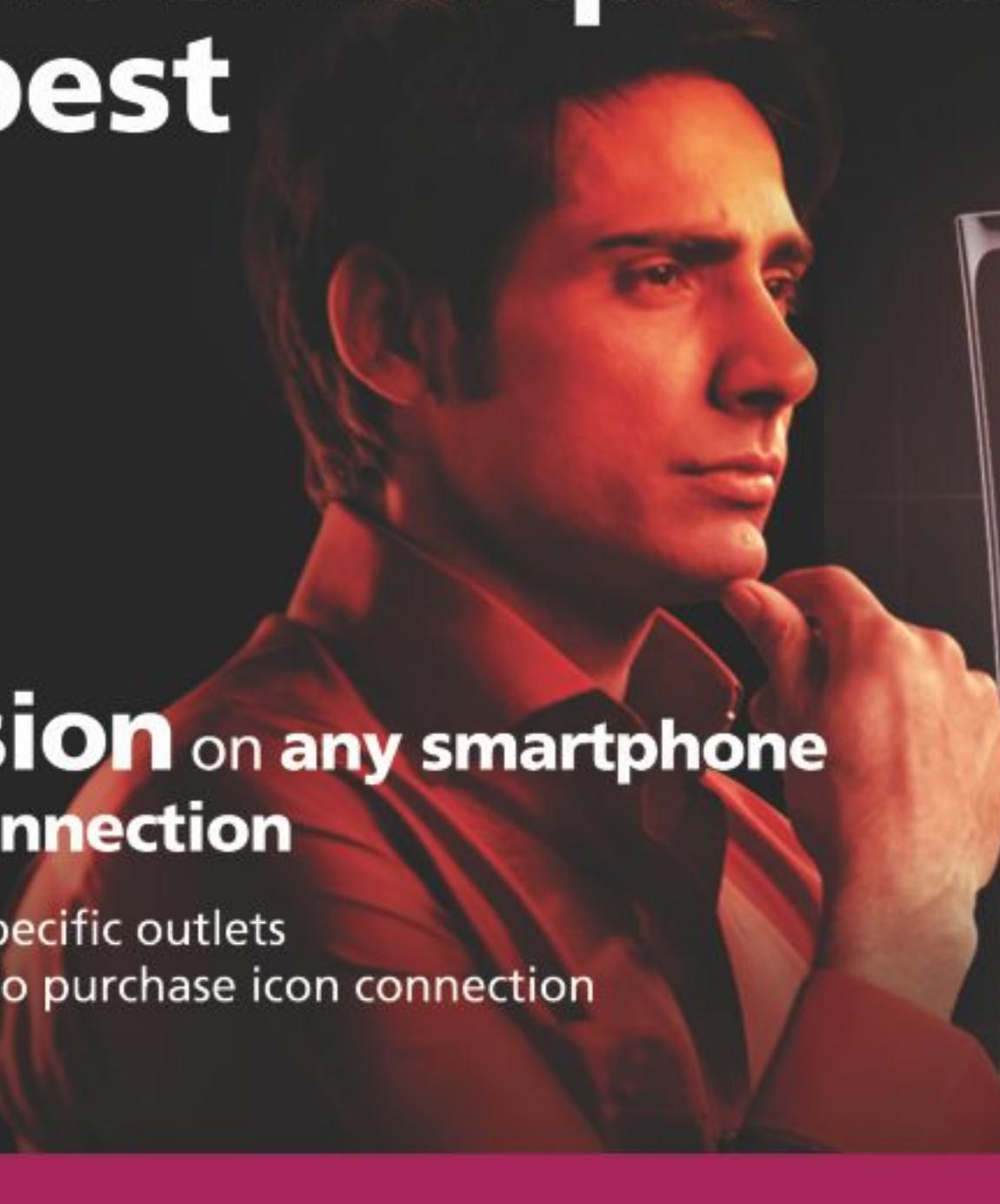
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