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PADMA BRIDGE PROJECT Financiers target tight control

*Sit in Manila today for
action plan; WB sends ACC
more evidence of graft*

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The co-financiers of Padma bridge project would sit today at the Asian Development Bank (ADB) headquarters to decide on a new implementation strategy for having more control over procurement, said finance ministry officials.

Officials of the World Bank, ADB and Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) are expected to attend the meeting in Manila. Of them, country directors of the WB and ADB offices in Dhaka have already reached the Philippines, said the officials.

The meeting will decide whether the donors will have full control over the procurement or the project will be implemented under other means to ensure quality work and prevent corruption in the project.

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Workers gather in front of the burnt down Tazreen Fashions garment factory in Ashulia where a fire broke out Saturday night leaving 111 dead and many others injured. The photo was taken in the morning yesterday as the nation mourned the fire victims.

PHOTO:
PALASH KHAN

US planned to bomb Moon!

DAILY MAIL ONLINE

It may sound like a plot straight out of a science fiction novel, but a US mission to blow up the moon with a nuke was very real in the 1950s.

At the height of the space race, the US considered detonating an atom bomb on the moon as a display of America's Cold War muscle.

The secret project, innocuously titled 'A Study of Lunar Research Flights' and

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Testimony of torture

*War crimes witness testifies
against Mojaheed, Azad*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Testifying in two cases yesterday, a freedom fighter said he was tortured by war-crimes accused Azad and others after Jamaat leader Mojaheed held a meeting with a Pakistani army officer and Razakars at Faridpur Circuit House.

Ranjit Kumar Nath alias Babu Nath told the International Crimes Tribunal-2 that expelled Jamaat member Abul Kalam Azad and his cohorts tortured him inhumanly after Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed signalled them to take him away from the circuit house.

Ranjit, the seventh prosecution witness in the case against Mojaheed, gave a heart-wrenching testimony on how he was picked up by Azad and his associates,

confined to a house in Bihari colony, tortured and how he escaped.

Ranjit also gave his testimony as the fifth prosecution witness in the case against Azad alias Bachchu Razakar before the same tribunal yesterday.

In the case against Azad, Ranjit said Jamaat Secretary General Mojaheed, Bachchu Razakar and some Biharies (Urdu speaking people) welcomed the Pakistani army when they arrived in Faridpur on April 21, 1971.

They took the army to Prabhu Jagatbandhu Ashram (temple).

"The Pakistani army men shot eight priests dead while Mojaheed and Bachchu were with them," said the 62-year-old witness from Faridpur.

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US rap star urged to act after Ashulia blaze link

AFP

Activists yesterday urged US rapper Sean "Diddy" Combs to push for better working conditions after revealing clothing for his fashion line was made in a Bangladeshi factory where 110 staff died in a fire.

Labour rights campaigners shot and distributed dozens of images of labelled clothes inside the gutted remains of the Tazreen Fashions factory in Ashulia, where the ferocious blaze took place late on Saturday.

"We found clothing of ENYCE (Combs's label) and Faded Glory (a

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A Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal activist shoots at rivals during a factional feud of the pro-BNP student wing at Jessore MM College yesterday. Story on page 8.

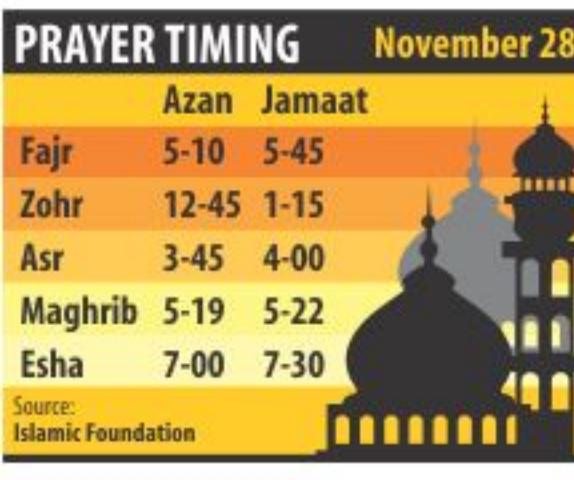
PHOTO: STAR

FLYOVER COLLAPSE Army winds up rescue operation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bangladesh Army yesterday closed its rescue operation 82 hours after Bahaddarhat flyover in Chittagong partially collapsed, killing 12 people.

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Top criminal Bain held in Kolkata

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Subrata Bain, a most wanted criminal in Bangladesh, was arrested in Kolkata of West Bengal yesterday, 18 days after his escape from a jail in Nepal.

Law enforcers rounded up Subrata at Boubazar with a pistol in his possession, a top official of Special Branch of Bangladesh Police told The Daily Star last night.

Boubazar police lodged two cases against him for possessing illegal firearm and illegal immigration to India, he added.

Also known as Shuvro, the 46-year-old culprit is accused in many cases for killing, extortion and abduction in Dhaka.



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The Daily Star

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ONLINE POLL

Do you think actions will be taken against the people responsible for so many deaths in Ashulia fire and Chittagong flyover collapse?

Yes (43%)

No (56%)

No Comments (1%)

TOTAL VOTES: 549

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with the prime minister that the Ashulia factory fire incident was pre-planned?

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