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PADMA BRIDGE

Transparency is a must

TIB spurs govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International Bangladesh yesterday demanded the government stand firm against any possibility of corruption and ensure maximum level of transparency and accountability in the Padma Bridge project.

The demand came in the wake of the government decision to construct the bridge with own financing.

In press statement, TIB Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman said, "The people breathed a sigh of relief after the finance minister's assurance that the government will announce a five-year expenditure plan for construction of the Padma Bridge, and float tender by June."

As the World Bank and other international development organisations had distanced themselves from the funding process, he added, the government must probe the allegation of corruption and bring the corrupt people to justice.

"Since the bridge will be constructed with own funds,

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Students of Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University, are giving final touches to their creations as the nation prepares for the celebration of Pahela Baishakh, the first day of Bangla calendar, on April 14.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Shuvo Nabo Barsho

Hasina, Khaleda exchange greeting cards

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia yesterday greeted each other by swapping cards on the occasion of Pahela Baishakh, the first day of Bangla calendar year.

On behalf of the premier, her protocol officer SK Aktar Hossain handed over the card to ASM Saleh Ahmed, personal secretary to Khaleda, around 12:00 noon, said PM's Special Assistant (media) Mahbubul Hoque Shakil.

Reciprocating the

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ICT orders security for Alim

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday directed police to provide security to war crimes accused Abdul Alim on his way to and from the tribunal.

It also asked the commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police to take measures to keep constant watch on Alim's residence.

Eighty-one-year-old Alim is now living at his son's house in the capital's Banani area. He is the

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WAR CRIMES TRIAL DELAY

Tribunal not happy with hartal absence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday observed that repeated absence of the defence counsels in the war crimes cases has been "obstructing badly" the speedy trial, a requirement of fair trial.

"Parties [the defence or the prosecution] cannot cause setbacks for the proceeding at will," the tribunal said after the defence counsels of Jamaat leader Muhammad Kamaruzzaman had failed to appear before the court for four consecutive days yesterday.

Despite placing closing arguments on two dates, the defence took four days adjournment in the case, said the tribu-

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nal, adding, "As a result, speedy trial, a requirement of fair trial, is being obstructed badly."

The three-member tribunal led by Justice Obaidul Hassan made the observations in a written order. The court, however, gave another chance to the defence to complete their closing arguments within the first half of next Monday.

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday also asked the defence of war crimes accused Ghulam Azam to complete their closing arguments within Monday.

The tribunal apparently took the hard stance as the defence had failed to appear

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Black flags against hartal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hundreds of Gonojagoron Mancha protesters yesterday brought out an anti-hartal procession carrying black flags to resist the daylong shutdown enforced by Islami

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N Korea keeps world on edge


Tensions at new height as missile launch expected soon

REUTERS, Seoul

South Korea and the United States were on high alert for a North Korean missile launch yesterday as the reclusive and poverty-stricken state turned its attention to celebrating the ruling Kim dynasty and

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The Daily Star



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ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid that there is no scope for questioning the education policy introduced by the present government?

Yes

(27.5%)

No

(72.5%)

TOTAL VOTES: 327

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with State Minister for Law Qamrul Islam that the ruling Awami League is ready to talk with the BNP only if the main opposition severs relations with the war criminals and Jamaat-e-Islami?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT

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facebook.com/dailystarnews

'Time Machine' invented

Claims Iranian scientist

INDEPENDENT ONLINE

An Iranian scientist has claimed to have invented a 'time machine' that can predict the future of any individual with a 98 per cent accuracy.

Serial inventor Ali Razeghi registered "The Aryayek Time Traveling Machine" with Iran's

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Gentleman follows Gangnam

INDEPENDENT ONLINE

In the face of nuclear threats from Kim Jong-Un, South Korean singer Psy will release his new single "Gentleman".

The song, a follow-up to his international hit "Gangnam Style" is due to be released online today.

Psy reached global

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Institute of Health Economics

The University of Dhaka

Symposium on Health Economic Issues and Health Care Financing

20th & 21st April 2013, NababNawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhavan Auditorium

The Institute of Health Economics (IHE) of the University of Dhaka in collaboration with GIZ, German Development Cooperation is going to organize a 2-Day symposium on 20th and 21st April, 2013. The symposium aims to bring together IHE Alumni members, academicians, practitioners, policy makers, as well as international experts on the subject for policy dialogue.

All IHE alumni are invited to participate in this event. For further enquiries, please contact Md Fakhru Alam (01552-342697), Md Rabiul Islam (01552-483002), or Office. (9661900-69 Ext: 8640,8641, Email: sua_ihe@yahoo.com)

Registration deadline is 18th of April, 2013

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