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# Padma tender on June 30

Tk 9,172cr bidding for construction of main bridge, followed by Tk 5,362cr tender for river training

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A Tk 9,172 crore tender will be floated on June 30 for construction of the main structure of the much-talked-about Padma multipurpose bridge, Communications Minister Obaidul Quader said yesterday.

The tender for river training, another important component of the project, would also be floated at a later date. The estimated cost of river training is Tk 5,362 crore, he added.

The minister made the announcement at the Bridges Division office in the capital after wrapping up a ceremony for signing a Tk 1,097 crore agreement with a Bangladesh-Malaysian joint venture company for constructing an approach road at Janjira end of the bridge in Shariatpur.

Shafiqul Islam, Padma bridge project director, and Abid Habib, a representative of Abdul Monem Ltd and Malaysian Highway Construction and Maintenance, inked the deal to construct the 10.5km approach road in 36 months.

A toll plaza, a toll office, and a police outpost will also be constructed under the project.

Quader said his ministry had asked for Tk 6,852 crore in the upcoming budget for the Padma bridge project.

He said the finance minister in his budget speech would explain everything about how the money would be spent in the project.

Later, talking to The Daily Star, Obaidul said the project would resume exactly from where the donors had left it.

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Nowadays around 10,000 tonnes of paddy is traded on the Meghna river in Ashuganj of Brahmanbaria as it is the peak season for paddy. Trading goes on all around the year in Ashuganj, touted the biggest market for paddy in the country.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## COALMINE VISIT JS body wants foreign tour

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A parliamentary body yesterday asked the power, energy and mineral resources ministry to immediately arrange a foreign tour for the members of the committee which would

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## JRC to focus on Teesta

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Dhaka is all set for the two-day meeting of the Bangladesh-India Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) on June 18 and 19, expecting a breakthrough for the Teesta treaty after two years of loggerheads.

"Several issues will be tabled for discussion, but the Teesta treaty surely is at the top of our agenda. Water resources ministers of both the countries will be present at the meeting," said Sheikh Altaf Ali, senior

secretary of the water resources ministry.

The Teesta water is vital for irrigating around 6.4 lakh hectares of cropland in the northern region of Bangladesh during the lean season.

In the last (37th) JRC meeting that took place in March 18 and 19, 2010, in New Delhi, the ministers of the two countries had exchanged proposals about the Teesta deal. The technical committee of the countries finalised the deal after a series of meetings.

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## YouTube Ban goes

**STAR CORRESPONDENT**

The telecom regulator yesterday lifted the ban on popular video streaming website YouTube nearly nine months after it had been imposed.

The international internet gateways have been given instructions accordingly, said Sunil Kanti Bose, chairman of Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission.

The authority blocked YouTube in the country on September 17 last year to prevent people from watching a 14-minute trailer on a film titled Innocence of Muslims, in the wake of deadly protests from the Middle East to Southeast Asia.

Before banning YouTube, the regulator

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## DRINKING IMPURE WATER 450 factory workers sick

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur**

Around 450 workers at a garment factory in Bhogra of Gazipur were hospitalised with acute stomach condition, barely two hours after they started their morning shift yesterday.

District Civil Surgeon Syed Habibullah suspected that the workers might have fallen sick after drinking impure water from faulty water supply pipe of Starlight Sweaters Factory.

Most of the sick were either vomiting or feeling nausea while others complained of stomach upset and loose motions.

As the news of their illness spread, panic swept through workers in hundreds of garment factories in the area.

Many left their workplaces and rushed to Starlight Sweaters to assist the sick workers.

Mustafizur Rahman, additional superintendent of police in Gazipur, suspected foul play in the incident.

"I suspect that someone mixed poisonous substance with water in the overhead water tank (of the factory)," he said.

Civil Surgeon Habibullah said around 183 workers received treatment at Gazipur Sadar Hospital while 261 workers at Tongi Hospital.

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The Daily Star

**Integral Energy Limited**

**ONLINE POLL**  
Do you think the opposition will stay in the Jatiya Sangsad budget session?

Yes (28%)  
No (72%)

TOTAL VOTES: 125

**TODAY'S POLL**  
Do you agree with Information Commissioner Sadaka Halim that political parties should be made answerable under the Right to Information (RTI) Act for the sake of democracy and transparency?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)  
YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT [facebook.com/dailystarnews](https://facebook.com/dailystarnews)

**PRAYER TIMING** June 6

Fajr	Azan	Jamaat
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-45	6-50
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation



## Japan tests 311mph train

**THE TELEGRAPH ONLINE**

Japan's "floating" trains of the future, designed to travel at speeds of 311 miles per hour (mph), have undergone their first test tracks.

The new generation L0 Series trains, which employ the latest magnetic levitation technology instead of conventional wheels, will begin commercial services in 2027.

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# The Daily Star

## The spirit of the country finds voice

The Daily Star platform sums up the essence of Bangladesh, its history, culture, modernity and diversity. It is the whole of Bangladesh.

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10,00,000+ promising creations received so far  
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