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Army Padma consultant

It will supervise construction of approach roads, service area

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Army will be given the job of supervision consultancy of three components -- two approach roads and a service area -- of the Padma bridge project.

Talking to journalists at his secretariat office yesterday, Communications Minister Obaidul Quader said the army has already been given this task for one of the components -- Janjira approach road.

A Bangladesh-Malaysian joint venture company is constructing the approach road at Janjira point of the bridge project under a Tk 1,097-crore agreement.

And a Tk 450-crore tender has been floated recently for building the other approach road and service area at Mawa point of the project.

Supervision consultancy work of these two components will also be given to the army, officials of the Bridges Division said.

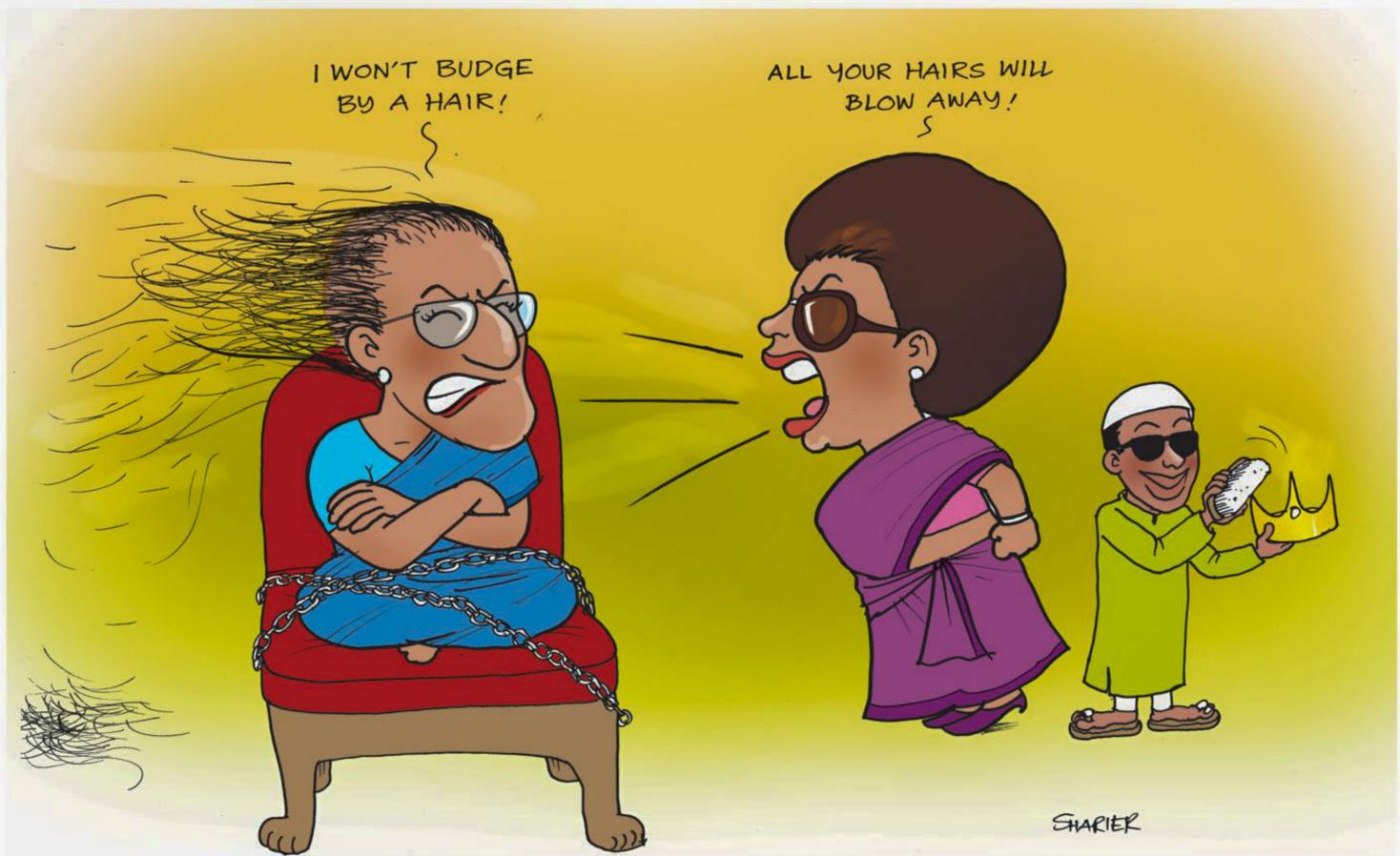
Asked about the amount of money the army will get for the consultancy, the communications minister said, "It may be Tk 25 crore."

Officials involved in the bridge project said Buet experts will be assisting the army in doing the job.

Earlier, the prime minister had said the army would be engaged in building the 6.12 km bridge.

The government decided to construct the bridge with its own fund as the World Bank and three other international donors cancelled financing for it in June last year for alleged

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Contempt rule sought against HRW

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The prosecution yesterday filed a petition with International Crimes Tribunal seeking contempt proceedings against Human Rights Watch for its report on the verdict in former Jamaat chief Ghulam Azam's war crimes case.

On Friday, the New York-based rights body claimed that the trial of Ghulam Azam at the International Crimes Tribunal-1 had been "deeply flawed" and "it had not met the international standards".

It said the "judges had improperly

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Mueen escaped from freedom fighters

Witness recalls post-liberation incident in Feni

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Immediately after the Liberation War, freedom fighters of Feni attempted to apprehend Chowdhury Mueen Uddin for his alleged involvement in the killings of intellectuals but failed as he had escaped.

Shariatullah Bangali, freedom fighter and a resident of Mueen Uddin's union in Feni, told the International Crimes Tribunal-2 that he was among those who had looked for Mueen at his village home.

Shariatullah, 14th prosecution witness in the case against "fugitive Al-Badr leaders" Mueen Uddin and Ashrafuzzaman Khan, said during the regimes of former president Ziaur Rahman and HM Ershad, Mueen had visited Feni on several occasions under police protection.

"I have seen him [Mueen Uddin] at his village home [at that time]," said the 64-year-old witness.

On an Eid festival, locals and freedom fighters didn't allow Mueen to take

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YABA MENACE Victims of 'nothing to do' syndrome

ZYMA ISLAM

For Mishkat (not real name), a youth in his mid-twenties, it all started seven to eight years ago when he and his friends felt like they ran out of fun things to do.

"We can watch movies or play video games, but it all gets tiresome after a certain point. Besides, hanging out in cafes and lounges can never be something you can do every day. Sometimes, there is just no way to have fun," said Mishkat, 25, who has recently completed bachelors in Business Administration from a private university.



He said, "So, we decided to ask a senior at school to get us 50 yaba tablets, as back then yaba used to be found for free to hook youngsters to the drug. Now, most of us use the pill regularly."

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Rights boss concerned over Oishee's remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Human Rights Commission yesterday expressed grave concern over placing Oishee Rahman, the teenage daughter of a slain police officer and his wife, and their minor domestic help on remand in connection with the murder, reports BBC Bangla service.

The commission in letters to the home ministry and the police

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A motorbike crushed under the wheels of a minibus in the capital's Baitul Mukarram area yesterday. The minibus had lost control and hit the bike. Locals, however, were quick to pull out the heavily injured biker, not in the photo.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Muslim Brotherhood chief detained

Egypt Islamists name interim head; New charges levelled against Morsi

AFP, Cairo

Egypt's government yesterday pressed its relentless campaign against the Muslim Brotherhood of ousted president Mohamed Morsi, dealing a major new blow to the Islamist group by arresting its chief.

Mohammed Badie's detention comes as the Brotherhood reels from the roundup by the security forces of dozens of top members and the deaths of many more in recent days.

Despite its disarray, the Brotherhood



Mohammed Badie

moved quickly to name Mahmoud Ezzat, a hawkish deputy in the organisation, as interim supreme guide.

Badie's detention raises fears of new violence in Egypt, where nearly 900 people have died in days of clashes between security forces and Islamist supporters of Morsi.

In the latest bloodshed, militants killed 25 policemen in the restive Sinai Peninsula on Monday, just hours after 37 Muslim Brotherhood prisoners died in police custody.

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The Daily Star

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ONLINE POLL

Do you think political impasse will rise after the PM's statement that she won't budge an inch on the constitution?

Yes (88%)

No (12%)

TOTAL VOTES: 217

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia that people have lost trust in the Awami League?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

CIA admits role in Iran's 1953 coup

BBC ONLINE

The CIA has released documents which for the first time formally acknowledge its key role in the 1953 coup which ousted Iran's democratically elected Prime Minister, Mohammad Mossadeq.

The documents were published on the independent National Security Archive on the 60th anniversary of the coup.

They come from the CIA's internal history of Iran from the mid-1970s.

"The military coup... was carried out under CIA direction as an act of US foreign policy," says one excerpt.

The US role in the coup was openly referred to by then US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in 2000, and by President Barack Obama in a 2009 speech in Cairo.

But until now the intelligence agencies have issued "blanket denials" of their role, says the editor of the trove of documents, Malcolm Byrne.

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'SECURITY REASONS' Egypt embassy consular section shut for 11 days

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The consular section of the Egyptian embassy in Dhaka will remain closed for 11 days from today "due to some security reasons", said an embassy press

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PRAYER TIMING August 21

Azan Jamaat	Time
Fajr	4-30 5-05
Zohr	12-45 1-15
Asr	4-45 5-00
Maghrib	6-33 6-36
Esha	8-00 8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

Obese man forklifted to hospital

MAIL ONLINE

A Saudi Arabian man who officials say weighs 1,345 pounds has been fork-lifted out of his house on the orders of the king for treatment.

Saudi King Abdullah paid for a specially-equipped plane to take Khalid Mohsin Shaeri, who has become one of the heaviest people in the world, to hospital.

He has not been able to leave his bedroom in

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



Khalid Mohsin Shaeri was forklifted out of his house after Saudi King Abdullah paid for a specially-equipped plane to take him to hospital. PHOTO: THE TELEGRAPH