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PADMA BRIDGE PROJECT

Tender floated for Tk 7,000cr river training

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday floated a tender for river training in the Padma bridge project, the second largest component of the scheme.

The estimated cost of the component is nearly Tk 7,000 crore.

Six companies who had earlier qualified for the work can buy tender documents from September 22. The last date for submitting bids is November 25, Shafiqul Islam, director of the bridge project, told The Daily Star.

On June 26, the government invited tenders for the construction of the main part of the bridge and asked the pre-qualified firms to submit bids by September 9, which was later extended until November 4.

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

To check river erosion at the point, a project of Tk 100 crore is being implemented. The government had to take this project in the face of continuous river erosion that threatened the construction site.

A Tk 250 crore tender has recently been floated for building the other approach road and a service area at Mawa point.

The government spent Tk 200 crore on preparing the bridge design and Tk 1,400 crore on rehabilitation and resettlement, which are at the final stage.

The government had planned to start the construction of a 6.15-kilometre rail-road bridge and complete major part of the bridge within its tenure. It could not be possible, however, as the donors cancelled funds over allegations of corruption in the project.



Flames leaping out of the Sicily Garments Factory at the capital's Nandipara in Madartek yesterday. Three workers were injured after the blaze broke out around 12:45pm. Story on page 5.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY

75pc hike in salaries

Effective from Sept 11

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday announced the 8th Wage Board Award for journalists and other staff of newspapers and news agencies, raising their basic pay by 75 percent.

The new pay structure is effective from September 11, said the gazette on the wage board award.

The government constituted the board on June 18 last year.

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Subhan's role was like his party guru's

Says prosecutor submitting formal war crimes charge to tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A prosecutor of International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday said the role of war crimes suspect Abdus Subhan was similar to that of former Jamaat-e-Islami chief Ghulam Azam during the Liberation War in 1971.

Prosecutor Sultan Mahmud Simon made the comparison after submitting a formal charge against Subhan at the tribunal's registrar office.

After the prosecution informed the tribu-

nal about the submission, the tribunal said it would fix a date today for taking cognisance of the charge.

Simon yesterday told journalists that he had submitted all the necessary evidence and statements of witnesses to the tribunal.

The prosecution has decided to examine 43 witnesses to prove nine counts of war crimes allegedly committed by Subhan. The war crimes investigation agency submitted the final probe report to the prosecution on

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

Criminals kill Ctg trader

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Only a day after the killing of a businessman in Chittagong city, another trader was brutally hacked to death by unidentified criminals in the port city early yesterday.

The dead is Tajul Islam, 32, a garment accessories businessman. He was a son of Mohammed Khalek in Mousumi Residential area under Pahartali Police Station in the city.

On Friday night, a businessman named Md Belal, 35, was stabbed to death

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

Russia doesn't share US values in Syria

Says Obama, retains his Syria strike option; Arab League, China welcomes US-Russia pact

AGENCIES

President Barack Obama says a US-Russian agreement offers a chance to destroy Syria's stockpile of chemical weapons and promises to end the threat they pose to Syrians and the world.

But the two powers are divided over the fate of Syrian President Bashar Assad. Obama, speaking in a television interview taped before Saturday's announcement of the chemical weapons deal, said Russian

President Vladimir Putin is "protecting" Assad and doesn't share American "values" in Syria, AP reported.

"He has a different attitude about the Assad regime," Obama told ABC's "This Week."

"But what I've also said to him directly is that we both have an interest in preventing chaos, we both have an interest in preventing terrorism. The situation in Syria right now is untenable. As long as Assad's in power, there is going to be some sort of conflict there."

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Chhatra League activists ransack the dais while attacking a joint rally of the Communist Party of Bangladesh and Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal in Sylhet yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

BNP-Jamaat to bring back graft, militancy

Joy warns people, seeks vote for AL in next polls

HASAN JAHID TUSHER, from Mymensingh

Sajeeb Wazed Joy, son of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, yesterday said terrorism, militancy and corruption would come back if the BNP-Jamaat alliance returned to power.

"Extremists have lined up and will openly appear if the BNP-Jamaat come to power again," he said while addressing a workers' rally in Mymensingh.

The ruling Awami League (AL) organised the rally at the gymnasium ground, marking his first ever visit to the district.

Joy, a US-educated software businessman, also addressed

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

JS observes int'l day of democracy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT


The Jatiya Sangsad yesterday held a discussion to observe International Day of Democracy amid a boycott by BNP-led opposition lawmakers.

The ruling Awami League-led lawmakers strongly criticised the Leader of Opposition

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PRAYER TIMING September 16		
Fajr	4-35	5-10
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	6-09	6-12
Esha	7-45	8-15
Source: Islamic Foundation		

The Daily Star



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ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with BNP leader Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir that the ruling Awami League has been hatching a plot to hold a one-sided election and trying to keep the BNP out of it?

Yes (79%)

No (21%)

TOTAL VOTES: 284

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina that there may be conspiracies against the ruling Awami League both in the national and international arenas?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

10 killed in road crashes

Victims include 5 of a family

STAR REPORT

At least 10 people, including five of a family, were killed and seven others injured in road accidents in Moulvibazar and Thakurgaon districts yesterday and Saturday night.

Witnesses said a Moulvibazar-bound bus collided head-on with a Sylhet-bound CNG-run auto-rickshaw in Kazirbazar area of Sadar upazila around 1:00pm, our Moulvibazar correspondent reported.

Four passengers of the auto-rickshaw -- Hadis Mia, 35, his father Soleman Mia, 62, grandfather Chhobor Ali, 70, and uncle Jahaj Mia, 45 -- died on the spot. Hadis's uncle Sadik Mia, 40, who had been driving the auto, died while being taken to hospital.

Two other members of the family -- Hadis's wife Sirajunnesa, 26, and his uncle Koresh Mia, 50 -- survived the crash but were badly hurt.

Moulvibazar Police Station's officer-in-charge Md Azizur Rahman said the accident occurred due to negligence of both the drivers.

In Thakurgaon, five people including a child were killed in a collision between a stone-laden truck and a three-wheeler on Thakurgaon-Dinajpur highway in Choto Khochabari Bazar area of Sadar upazila around 7:00pm Saturday, our correspondent in the district reported.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

The secrets of Rudolf Hess

File reveals his bizarre wartime plans

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

When the bidding ended for lot 171 in a US auction room last week, the \$130,000 (£82,000) offer was insufficient to secure its prize – a small, ripped, buff folder marked "Most Secret" with the word "Hess" faintly scrawled in pencil across the cover.

The failure to meet the \$700,000 (£441,000) reserve price was

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