



PROUD TO BE THE CONSTRUCTION PARTNER OF PADMA BRIDGE

BE SAFE BSRM the ultimate steel



HIGHEST SELLING CEMENT in Bangladesh now for 12 years

People suffer as parades clog streets

BCL observes founding anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Traffic movement yesterday nearly came to a halt for several hours in many parts of the city as Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leaders and activists occupied many roads while going to the Dhaka University campus on trucks and in processions, causing untold sufferings to people.

Thousands of people -- office-goers, businessmen and patients heading for their destinations -- remained stuck on the roads for hours. Finding no way, many abandoned their vehicles and started walking.

The congestion started in the morning when BCL leaders and activists, from different parts of the city, started for the Dhaka University campus on mini trucks to attend a programme marking the student organisation's 68th founding anniversary.

Things took a turn for the worse when a huge BCL procession, brought out from the DU around 12:00 noon, marched

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6



Vehicles at a standstill on one side of a road near Ramna Park in the capital, as Bangladesh Chhatra League brings out a procession on the other side of the road marking its 68th founding anniversary yesterday. The procession caused a severe traffic jam in many parts of the city.



Economist Dr Mahabub passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dr Mahabub Hossain, one of the best known agricultural and development economists in Bangladesh and South Asia, passed away at a US hospital on Sunday after a battle with heart disease. He was 71.

He went to the US on December 15 last year for treatment. He breathed his last on the operating table at the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio, at 3:45pm US time on Sunday (2:45am Monday Bangladesh time), according

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

Who'll bring it home?

Officials blame each other for not realising Tk 50 crore from a Malaysian company

BELAL HOSSAIN BIPLOB

A sum of Tk 50 crore does not seem to be any money at all to the people at the home and foreign ministries. The amount, which should have been in the government coffer, now lies with a foreign company.

Bangladeshi expatriates in Saudi Arabia and the UAE paid their hard-earned money in passport fees to Malaysian company IRIS

Corporation Berhad. The money never made it to Bangladesh.

The reason is simple: Apparently, neither the home ministry nor the foreign affairs ministry wants it. The worst part is no official at the two ministries wants to take the responsibility to realise the money.

As an outsourcing company, IRIS realised fees from the expatriates to give them

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

Sangsad goes into session on Jan 20

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Jatiya Sangsad goes into the ninth session of 10th parliament on January 20.

President Abdul Hamid convened the session yesterday, said a release of parliament secretariat.

It will be the first JS session of the New Year. The president is scheduled

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

35 hurt in BCL infighting

STAR REPORT

At least 35 people were injured in clashes between different factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) across the country as the pro-Awami League student organisation celebrated its 68th founding anniversary yesterday.

The injured were given treatments.

CHITTAGONG

Around 20 people were injured at the Central Shaheed Minar of the district after a clash took place between two groups of the city unit BCL.

Officer-in-Charge of Kotwali police Jasim Uddin said two groups of BCL locked in a

scuffle and altercation around 1:00pm over a trifling matter and began to throw plastic chairs at each other.

The organisation's senior leaders intervened and brought the situation under control.

Despite several attempts, our Chittagong correspondent could not reach city unit President Emran Ahmed Imu and General Secretary Nurul Azim Rony for comments.

THAKURGAON

At least 10 people were injured in infighting between rival groups of BCL over establishing supremacy at the organisation office.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Advertisement for SIBL Social Islamic Bank Limited, featuring a mosque icon and prayer timing information.

Advertisement for the Government of Bangladesh regarding the tender for the construction of a road from Chittagong to Cox's Bazar.

Advertisement for Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg, titled 'Zuckerberg to build AI for home help'.

Advertisement for Saudi-Led Coalition, titled 'FM goes to Riyadh to know details'.

Advertisement for Bangladesh Atomic Energy Regulatory Authority (BAERA), including a notice and a table of train schedules.

Advertisement for former Chief Justice Mustafa Kamal, titled 'Former Chief Justice Mustafa Kamal on his first death anniversary'.

Advertisement for Bangladesh Atomic Energy Regulatory Authority (BAERA), including a notice and contact information.

Advertisement for Bangladesh Railway, including a notice and contact information.