

PROUD CONSTRUCTION PARTNER OF PADMA BRIDGE



BSRM
Innovating safety

SHAH CEMENT

40% EXTRA STRENGTH PROVEN!

Superior performance proven in 100 months of continuous BUET test

NID card not easy to get

She was made to turn up 4 times in 5 months before receiving it at kindness of an official

PANKAG KARMAKAR

With her one-and-a-half-month-old child in the arms, Umme Kulsum was hurrying from one desk to another at the National Identity Registration Wing (NIDW) office.

The National Identity (NID) card issued to her had her name wrongly spelt. She applied for a corrected one five months ago.

It was February 25, the day she was supposed to get it. But every NIDW official Kulsum approached disappointed her, saying the card was not ready yet.

"This is the fourth time that they gave me an NID delivery date and made me come here," said Kulsum, who works as a private hospital staff and resides in Chandpur.

In the meantime, her child had started screaming amid the hustle and bustle of the crowd.

Tired, exhausted and desperate, she then went to a senior NIDW official and told him about her sufferings.

Thanks to the official's intervention, Kulsum got her NID card later that day.

As per the rules, the NIDW is supposed to deliver a corrected or renewed card within 30 working days since the application is filed.

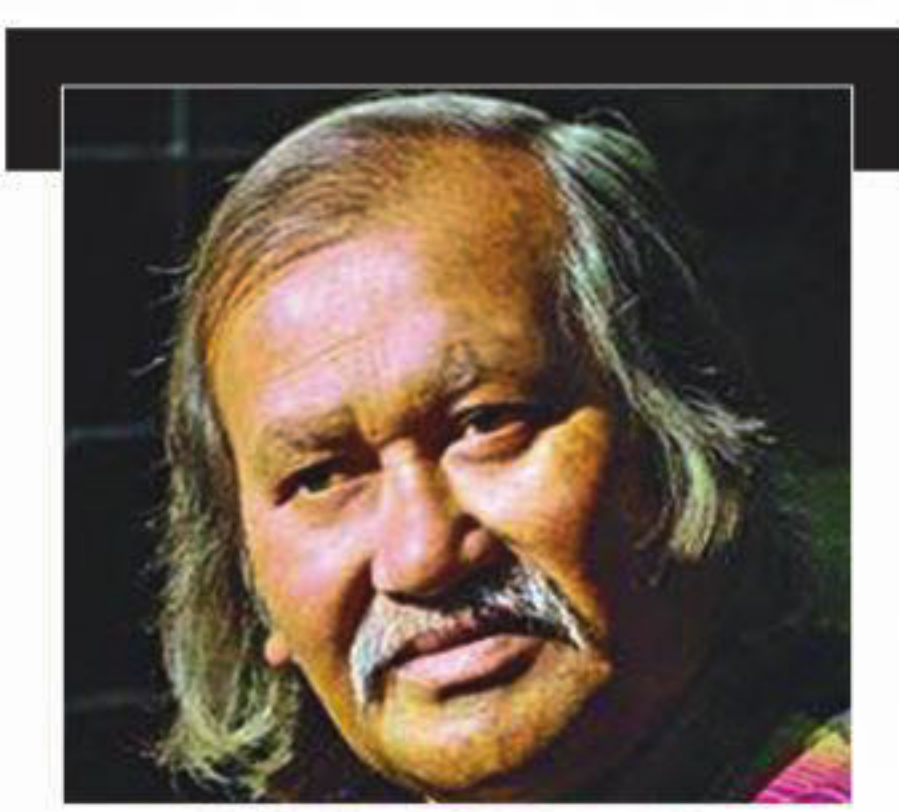
This correspondent visited the NIDW office on a couple of occasions three weeks ago and found that almost all of the several hundred people, who go there seeking NID

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



Umme Kulsum, with her newborn, waits to get a corrected copy of her national identity card at the National Identity Registration Wing in Agargaon of Dhaka on February 25. She went there from Chandpur and had to wait for hours to get the card. Inset, people, who want corrections of their NID cards or fresh copies of them, queue up at the office in Agargaon.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



Poet who bled rage, hymned love passes away

Rafiq Azad (1941-2016)

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

He was the poet of love first and foremost, but when it called for, he bled rage. One of the most prolific and dynamic poets on the scene of modern Bangla literature, he developed his own signature style, marked by force, simplicity and subtlety.

His rage finds expression in one of the most quoted lines of modern Bangla poems which he wrote during the 1974 famine -- "Bhat de haramjada, ta na hole"

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

UK team looking into security steps

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

An UK expert team yesterday started examining the measures taken to improve the security at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport.

"A British team of experts is already in Dhaka to check the security measures at our airport here. We have taken different steps for the improvement of the airport security," Rashed Khan Menon, civil aviation and tourism minister, told The Daily Star over the phone yesterday.

He, however, declined to comment on details like when the team arrived or how many members it had.

The team is visiting Bangladesh amid fears that local exporter would lose business after the UK government banned direct cargo from Dhaka to the UK on Wednesday.

The UK government imposed the ban citing poor cargo security measures at the Shahjalal International Airport.

Yesterday, an official of the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (Caab), wishing not to be named, said the experts would examine the "validation" of the civil aviation authority and Bangladesh Biman during their inspection.

The validator is a computer programme which mainly assesses an action, decision, plan, or transaction to establish that it is correct, complete, and being implemented as intended, and also delivering the intended outcome.

The audit might be conducted under the European Union's ACC3 regulations, added the official.

Under the ACC3, introduced on February 1 of 2012, all air carriers carrying cargo or mail from non-EU countries to the EU must be registered as an "Air Cargo or Mail Carrier" operating into the EU from a Third Country

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

Inu-led JSD 'splits'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Inu), led by Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu, seemed split into two factions as several senior leaders yesterday walked out of its national council and later announced formation of a new committee.

The new faction, led by Sharif Nurul Ambia, general secretary of the party's immediate past committee, claimed they boycotted the council protesting election of leaders in an "undemocratic way".

Ambia has been named as the president while lawmakers Nazmul Haque Prodhhan and Moinuddin Khan Badal as the general secretary and executive president of the new faction of JSD. The announcement came at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club last night.

The JSD's two-day national council opened at the city's Suhrawardy

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

1 lakh trees planted in honour of the new-born prince

INDIA TIMES

Bhutan welcomes the birth of its new prince by planting over 1 lakh trees across the country.

The initiative took place a month after King Khesar and Queen Pema announced the birth of their first child, reports India Times.

Politicians of both the ruling and opposition parties organised the initiative of planting 108,000 trees across the Himalayan kingdom as prayers for the royal child to grow up happily.

Trees are considered sacred and symbolise longevity, beauty, health and compassion in Buddhism.

"108 is a holy number in Buddhism which denotes the cleansing of 108 degradations that delay souls from attaining enlightenment, hence 108 beads in a rosary", said Tenzin Lepkhell, one of the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Five hurt in cylinder blast

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least five people were burnt when an oil cylinder exploded at a metal casting factory in the capital's Shyampur area yesterday afternoon.

Injured Anamul, 40, Mujibur, 40, Mizan, 28, Rubel, 14, were workers of Halim Moulding Workshop while Billal, 30, was a client, said Kazi Wazed Ali, officer-in-charge (OC) of Kadamtoli Police Station.

He said the tin-built

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6



SIBL
Social Islami Bank Limited
Shariat Compliant

PRAYER TIMING
MARCH 13
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-05 12-45 4-30 6-12 7-30
JAMAAT 5-40 1-15 4-45 6-15 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Fishermen doing repairs of their current nets at a char of the Surma river in Sylhet's Kushighat yesterday. Despite the ban on such nets as it harms the eco system by netting young fishes, its use go unabated due to poor monitoring and enforcement of law. What's worse, current nets cost a third of regular nets making it rather appealing for fishermen.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR



Kidnappers of boy demand Tk 1 crore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Criminals yesterday demanded Tk 1 crore as ransom from a man after stealing his two-year-old son from their home in Galachipa upazila, said police.

The victim is Habibur Rahman, son of Kanchon Ali Sarder of Chander Howla village in the upazila.

The parents suspect that the child has been kidnapped by his stepbrothers over property-related feud. The brothers, however, rejected the allegation.

Jainab Begum, mother of Habibur, told The Daily Star that her son had been picked up from their home in the early hours of

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

SEX ABUSE BY PEACEKEEPERS In a first, UN adopts tough resolution

AFP, United Nations

The UN Security Council on Friday adopted a resolution that calls for the repatriation of entire peacekeeping units whose soldiers face allegations of sexual abuse while serving under the UN flag.

It was the first time that the council has approved measures to address the rise in troubling allegations of sexual abuse by peacekeepers deployed worldwide to protect civilians in conflict.

The US-drafted resolution was adopted by a vote of 14 in favour, with Egypt abstaining.

The resolution, which has been under intense negotiation for a week, endorses a new UN policy of sending entire peacekeeping units back home if their soldiers face repeated allegations of sex abuse.

The measure allows UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to bar a country from peacekeeping if it fails to take action

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

United Hospital

Call **10666**
9852466

24/7 Appointment Desk

For Appointment, Emergency & Ambulance