



A bus goes over the precarious Rajbari Bridge on Tangail-Bhuapur Road. The bridge makes banging and squeaking noise as the bus passes. Half of it is the remnant of an old bridge built before the independence of Bangladesh and the other half is a Bailey bridge built later. The authorities concerned said a project proposal to rebuild the bridge was pending with the Planning Commission. The photo was taken on Monday. PHOTO: MIRZA SHAKIL

Budget to get 30pc bigger

Focus on speedy implementation of mega infrastructure, energy projects

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and MD FAZLUR RAHMAN

The size of the upcoming budget may go up by 30 percent from the current fiscal year's revised outlay as the government seeks to fast-track the giant projects and complete one or two in its current tenure.

The planned Tk 340,600 crore budget for fiscal 2016-17 would be 17.4 percent of the gross domestic product. In terms of share in the GDP, the planned budget is almost the same as the budget of fiscal 2015-16.

The pattern of income and expenditure in the 2016-17 budget would be as usual. For example, as in the previous years, there would be big allocations for salaries and wages of public servants, subsidies and interest payments.

In the upcoming budget, the government is likely to set an ambitious revenue earning target. It was seen in the past that the government had to revise down the targets at the end of the year, and it still couldn't achieve the revised targets.

PLANNED OUTLAY

SIZE	Tk 340,600cr
	17.4% of GDP
REVENUE	Tk 242,750cr
	12.37% of GDP
DEFICIT	Tk 97,850cr
	5% of GDP
GDP GROWTH	7.5%
INFLATION	5.8%

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6 militants to die for Ashulia bank heist

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Six members of banned militant outfits Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) and Ansarullah Bangla Team were handed death sentences by a Dhaka court yesterday for the grisly bank heist in Ashulia in April last year that left eight people dead.

Another accused was given a life term and two others three years' jail each while two were acquitted by the court.

The condemned convicts are Borhan Uddin, Saiful alias Al Amin, Mahfuzur Islam alias Sumon alias Jamil, Jashim

Uddin, Palash alias Sohel Rana and Mintu Prodhan.

Ukil Hasan was handed life term while Abdul Baten and Shahjahan Jamadar three years' jail each. Mozammel Haque and Babul Sarder were acquitted.

Judge SM Kuddus Zaman of the District and Sessions Judge's Court of Dhaka delivered the verdict in the killing and robbery case in presence of eight convicts. Palash alias Sohel Rana is on the run.

"During the trial I have seen all the accused persons excepting absconding

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4 Bangladeshis convicted in Singapore

TERROR FINANCING

STAR REPORT

A Singapore court yesterday convicted four Bangladeshi workers, detained in Singapore under the Internal Security Act (ISA), of financing terrorism.

The Straits Times in Singapore reported that Rahman Mizanur, 31; Miah Rubel, 26; Md Jabath Kysar Haje Norul Islam Sowdagar, 31; and Sohel Hawlader Ismail Hawlader, 29, pleaded guilty in court yesterday.

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NEWS ANALYSIS

No fuss with FIZZ, please

SYED ASHFAQUL HAQUE

With a flower crown on his head, Mustafizur Rahman was flashing his trademark boyish smile to every flash of camera from a horde of media people. His happy face could hardly hide how tired he was from an energy-sapping IPL final in Bangalore on Monday night, the after-match party and long journey the next day. He was heard mumbling at times, "Bhai (Brother), started off early in the morning. Very tired."

Tired, but who cares? Deputy Minister for Sports Arif Khan Joy received the young lanky seamer with what was dubbed as the king's crown (of red roses). He then went

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The Fizz finally reaches home after spending weeks in India and his mother welcomes her hero son with sweets as his father, wearing a cap, and the entire family huddle around. The photo was taken late last night at his Sathkira home. PHOTO: MUSTAFIZUR'S FAMILY

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