



Implement accord fully

PCJSS reiterates demand on the 19th anniversary of CHT peace deal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti yesterday demanded full implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord for the sake of the existence of the hill people.

"The accord is a charter for safeguarding the existence of the people in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. If it is not implemented fully, their existence will be at stake," PCJSS President Jyotirindra Bodhipriya Larma, popularly known as Santu Larma, said at a discussion at Hotel Sundarban in the capital.

The programme was organised on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the signing of the CHT peace accord.

He said they would continue their "non-cooperation movement" based on their 10-point programmes aimed at ensuring full implementation of the accord.

The PCJSS, which launched the movement in 2014, demands that the government bring amendments to the Police Act, the CHT Regulation 1900 and other laws applicable to the CHT so that they are in conformity with the accord.

It is also pressing for withdrawal of all temporary camps from the CHT, formation of local hill district police force, rehabilitation of returnee Jumma refugees, proper resolution of land disputes, and relocation of Bangalee settlers and their proper rehabilitation outside the CHT.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3



Business establishments have mushroomed on Kalatali sea beach of Cox's Bazar though the place is an ecologically critical area (ECA) that should be free of any such structures. The photo was taken a few days ago.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

CHILD MARRIAGE HRW urges MPs not to pass draft bill

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Human Rights Watch has urged the parliamentarians of Bangladesh to stand against and scrap a new draft law that puts girls at greater risk of child marriage in the country.

Heather Barr, senior researcher for HRW's Women Rights Division, yesterday criticised the draft legislation, saying that it poses grave risks to girls by creating vague exceptions to the country's ban on child marriage, and even punishing the victims.

On November 24, the cabinet approved the draft "Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2016".

The next step is for the draft law to go to the parliament, expected in the coming weeks. Outcry against the draft law in the Bangladesh press and civil society has been fierce.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2



Army at West Bengal toll plaza triggers row

Opposition slams govt over sudden deployment, defence minister says it's a routine exercise

HINDUSTAN TIMES ONLINE

A political war over the presence of army men near Kolkata rocked Parliament yesterday with opposition parties accusing the Centre of trying to intimidate the West Bengal government and the BJP dismissing allegations.

The controversy broke out late on Thursday after West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced she would

stay the night at the state secretariat after army officers were seen stopping vehicles just metres away at a crucial bridge connecting Kolkata to Howrah.

Her party, the Trinamool Congress, repeatedly stalled proceedings in both Houses, demanding a response from the government and alleging that the army had been called at the behest of the Centre, in

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

A new way to retrieve lost memories

MAIL ONLINE

Someone reads a phone number out to you, and you dial the number to ring it, but ten minutes later, would you still remember that number?

Understanding what kind of information the brain stores, and what it keeps handy for easy

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

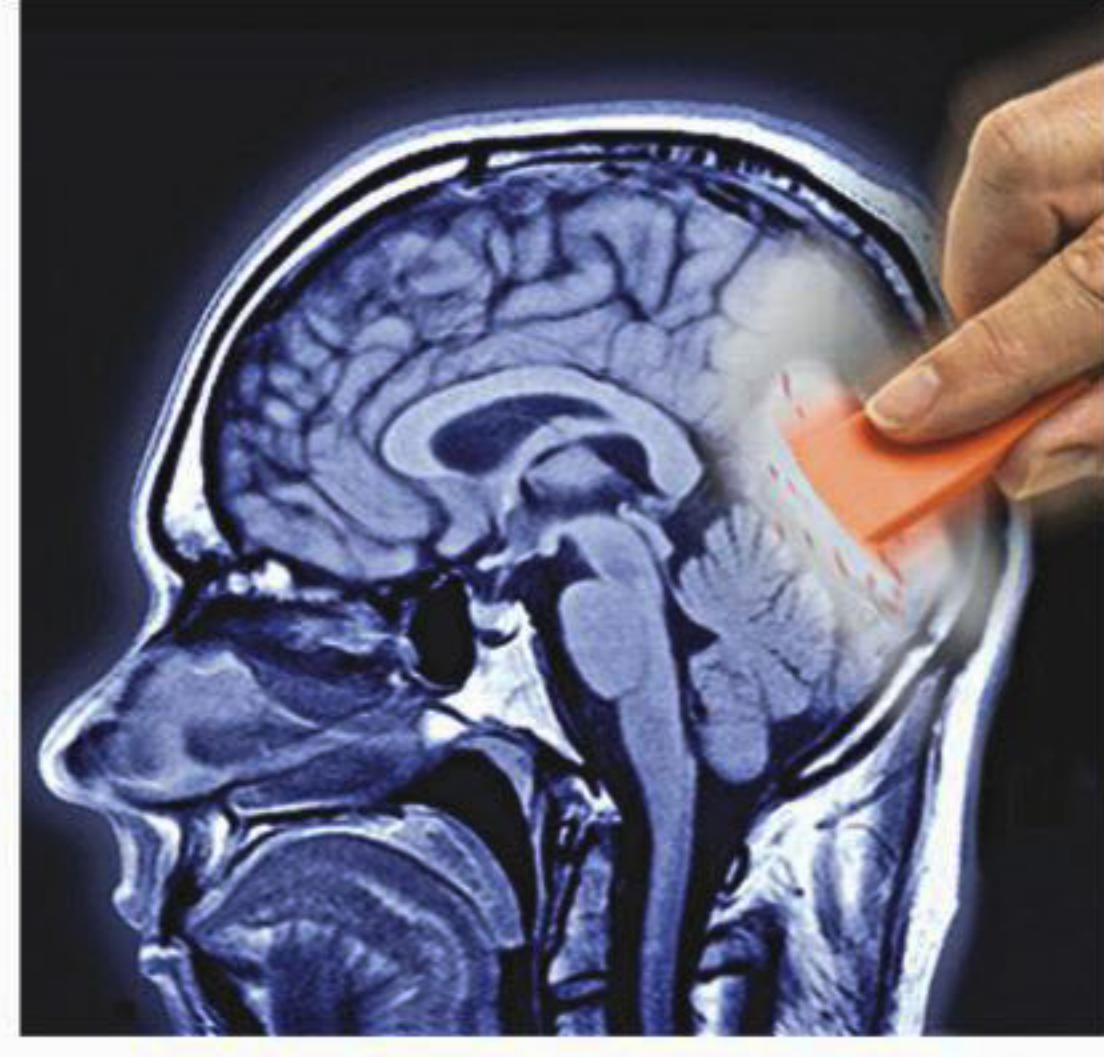


PHOTO: KONGKON KARMAKER



Fakhrul warns govt against 'plan to remove' Zia's grave

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday said people will not accept the government's attempt to remove the grave of Ziaur Rahman from the Jatiya Sangsad complex.

"The government wishes to erase Ziaur Rahman's name meticulously. It's a conspiracy and we will never accept the government's brash decision," he told reporters after placing wreaths at Zia's grave.

Last year, Housing and Public Works Minister Mosharraf Hossain told parliament that Chandrima Uddan and the sites of the

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5



Locals found these vultures at Masterpara village in Dinajpur's Chirirbandar upazila on Wednesday. The birds were too weak to fly and they were not taking any food offered by locals. Forest officials took the vultures on a pickup to their office in Dinajpur. But the way these feeble birds were transported shocked the locals. They were roped tightly and officials said it was to ensure their safety.

PHOTO: KONGKON KARMAKER

DEFENCE SECRETARY Trump picks 'Mad Dog' Mattis

AFP, Cincinnati

US President-elect Donald Trump said Thursday he has picked the tough-talking retired general James Mattis to be his defence secretary as he soaked up adulation at a buoyant Ohio rally that recalled this year's rough-and-tumble campaign.

The splash of hard news came from the 70-year-old Republican billionaire, who was speaking at his first post-election event following days of meetings about forming his cabinet.

"We are going to appoint 'Mad Dog' Mattis as our secretary of defence," Trump told cheering supporters in Cincinnati, referring by nickname to the retired four-star Marine general who headed the US Central Command, with authority over US troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"He's our best. They say he's the closest thing to (World War II) general George Patton that we have," Trump said, divulging his pick ahead of schedule after his transition

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5



James Mattis



Nestlé joins hands with Jenson & Nicholson (J&N)

Jenson & Nicholson (Bangladesh) Ltd. (J&N) – a 100% subsidiary of Berger Paints Bangladesh Ltd. (BPBL) is going to produce food grade metal containers conforming to international standards for the first time in Bangladesh. Nestlé Bangladesh has signed a contract with Jenson & Nicholson (Bangladesh) Ltd. to procure food grade metal containers locally. This procurement will benefit the nation in saving foreign currency by substituting imported food grade metal containers and also create scope of local employment.

Rupali Chowdhury, Managing Director of BPBL and J&N, along with Stéphane Nordé, Managing Director of Nestlé Bangladesh, inaugurated the ceremony to mark the commencement of operations.

Nazimuddin Helali, General Manager – Projects (BPBL) and COO (J&N); and Muhammad Sajjad Hasan, Plant Manager; represented Jenson & Nicholson (Bangladesh) Ltd. at the signing ceremony. On behalf of Nestlé Bangladesh – Sanjeev Yadav, Supply Chain Director; Naquib Khan, Corporate Affairs Director and other senior officials were present at the signing ceremony.

This agreement is the testimony of Nestlé's firm commitment to promote local suppliers and Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited's commitment to create industries in Bangladesh.



Jenson & Nicholson (Bangladesh) Ltd.



Good Food, Good Life