

**MFS PAYS OFF**

Mobile financial service helps deepen financial inclusion: study

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TIGERS DEPART FOR AUSTRALIA

Mashrafe leads the second batch of cricketers to Aus before the NZ tour

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FIGHTING ISIS

US to send 200 more troops to Syria to bolster Raqqa assault

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Pull migrants out of misery

Says PM at int'l conference; urges world to systemise migration

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the international community to take a vow and act together to lift the migrants from their miseries and agonies.

"Migration is no longer about 'us' and 'them'... it is about prosperity and wellbeing of all people, all states. We need to see how we can realise the transformative potential of migration by laying an appropriate framework for governance of migration," she said.

The PM was addressing the inaugural ceremony of the three-day 9th Summit of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) at the city's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

The meeting will discuss ways to ensure overall welfare of migrants.

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**WORKER MIGRATION TO ME, MALAYSIA**

Overseas touts jack up costs

PORIMOL PALMA

A nexus between the employers of migrant workers overseas and illegal manpower brokers there is jacking up the migration cost of Bangladeshi workers.

Recruiting agents and illegal brokers in the Gulf and Southeast Asian regions "buy" work visas from overseas employers and then "sell" those either to licensed recruiting agents or illegal brokers in Bangladesh making a huge profit.

Aspirant migrant workers end up paying for all this.

They spend a huge amount of money, mostly obtained by taking out loans on high interest rates or selling their assets, for the migration. And when they reach the foreign land, they discover their wages make it difficult for them to repay the loans.

It often puts them in a cycle of debt.

For instance, in the case of Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh has set Tk 1.65 lakh in migration cost for each worker, including fees for passport, recruiting agents, government charges, and airfare.

A Bangladeshi recruiting agent said when he contacted companies in Saudi Arabia regarding demand for workers, they told him that they had "sold" the work visas to Bangladeshi brokers there for Tk 3 lakh to Tk 4 lakh each.

"The work visas are not something that can be legally sold or bought. But, that's what is happening," the agent told The Daily Star.

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Scared of the hefty bill she could be facing for keeping her nine-month-old baby in the Coronary Care Unit of Dhaka Shishu Hospital, a mother from Kishoreganj with the help of a man moves her child to BSMMU yesterday. They were going towards an ambulance she had managed to rent at the Shishu Hospital.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

No troops for N'ganj polls

CEC says situation 'better than normal'

STAR REPORT

Law and order is normal and there is no threat of untoward incidents ahead of the Narayanganj City Corporation polls, according to the intelligence and law enforcement agencies and civil administration.

In response, the Election Commission (EC) has decided not to deploy army during the polls, though the BNP has been repeatedly demanding that.

However, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad directed law enforcers to put up best efforts, even use firearms if need be, to resist occupying

PHOTO ON PAGE 5

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"People become happy to see flowers, but I get scared. I just stare at them and wonder if they are meant for love or for profit."

ROADS AND BRIDGES MINISTER
OBAIDUL QUADER
AT A PROGRAMME IN THE CAPITAL YESTERDAY.

52 children still at Indian safe home

Nine of those trafficked victims return home

SUBRATA ACHARYA, Kolkata

More than 50 Bangladeshi children have remained trapped at a West Bengal shelter home in India for months as they are waiting for the Bangladesh government's intervention in their repatriation.

Four months back, 42 Bangladeshi children living at the government-owned Shubhayan Shelter Home in Balughat of Dakkhin Dinajpur pleaded with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to bring them home, sources said. Only nine of them returned to Bangladesh since then.

Eight of them -- all teenage boys -- came back through Hili Land Port of Hakimpur upazila in Dinajpur yesterday, said Dewa Dorji Sherpa, superintendent of Shuvayan Home. Another returned a couple of days earlier.

Meanwhile, Indian police have recently detained 19 more children and sent them to the shelter home.

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Management members of digital library Muktiyuddho e-Archive, from left, Sabbir, Shanta and MI Khan go through the images in the library. Two photos in the archive, bottom and right.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN



War history e-archived

PRABIR BARUA CHOWDHURY

Mohammad Sajjadur Rahman, a doctoral student at the Centre for Holocaust and Genocide Studies of Clark University in the US, has research interests in the role of paramilitary groups during the 1971 Liberation War.

But for someone staying in the US in pursuit of a doctorate, it's always a big challenge to gather authen-

tic data and information on what happened in 1971 in Bangladesh.

Sajjadur, an ex-faculty member of Chittagong University, had a hard time too until he contacted some sources who informed him about a "digital archive" in Bangladesh that boasts one of the largest depositories of works on the Liberation War.

Muktiyuddho e-Archive, a digital library, collects

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HC JUDGES' APPOINTMENT

Process for a law underway

Assures law minister

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The government has initiated a process to formulate a specific law on appointment of judges to the High Court amid longstanding demand from different quarters and an expectation for a ruling from the HC.

"We will make a law for recruitment of the High Court judges. We have already started a process to that end," Law Minister

Anisul Huq told The Daily Star yesterday.

Without elaborating, the minister said he did not know how much time formation of the law would require.

Asked if new judges would be appointed to the HC soon, he said he did not know.

An HC bench has meanwhile been expected to deliver a verdict in a month on a writ petition that sought specific guidelines

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LOWER COURT JUDGES CJ for changes in charter

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief justice Surendra Kumar Sinha yesterday hoped the Jatiya Sangsad would scrap the constitutional provisions that empower the president to

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Mini Fire Brigade

আগুন এখন হাতের মুঠোয়, আর নয় আগুনের ভয়

বাংলাদেশে সর্বপ্রথম স্ট্রেশ পদ্ধতির Fire Extinguisher, **Reinold Max Stop Fire**, যা খুব সহজে ঝুঁকিমুক্ত ভাবে আগুনকে সম্পূর্ণ ভাবে নিভিয়ে ফেলে আপনার জীবন ও মূল্যবান সম্পদকে রক্ষা করবে।

গার্মেন্টস, শিল্পকারখানা, অফিস, বাসাবাড়ি, রেস্টুরেন্ট, যানবাহন, বৈদ্যুতিক শর্ট সার্কিট, আসবাবপত্র ইত্যাদিতে ধরে যাওয়া আগুন সহজে নিভিয়ে ফেলতে সক্ষম **Reinold Max Stop Fire**.

Max কাছে রাখুন নিরাপদ থাকুন।**হটলাইন**

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সজীব গ্রুপ, সেজান পরেন্ট

২, ইন্দিরা রোড, ফার্মগেট, ঢাকা-১২১৫

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