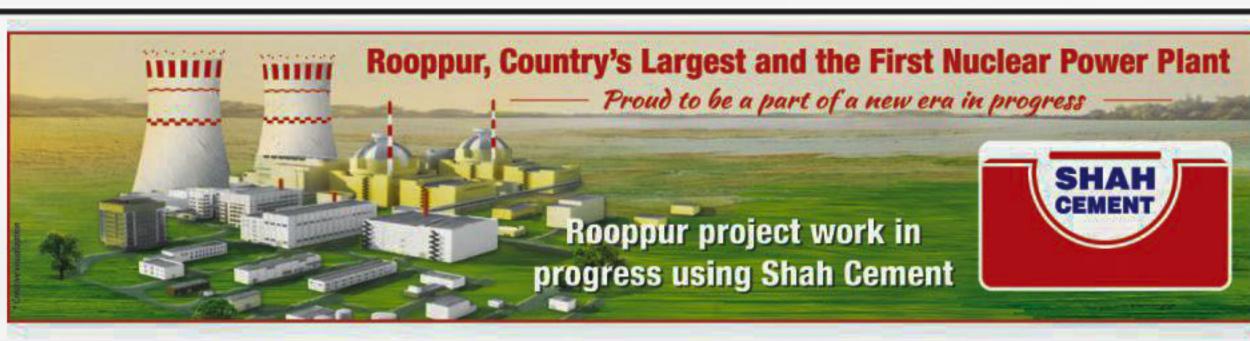


PROUD CONSTRUCTION PARTNER OF PADMA BRIDGE





NCC ELECTION

N'ganj under security blanket



PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

With the Narayanganj city polls only a day away, the whole electoral area is under tight security to ensure peaceful atmosphere.

The Dhaka Range police chief yesterday said a directive was sent to law enforcers to open fire if there was a chaotic situation over the polls. Action would be taken against any police official for failing to comply with the directive, he

"There is a legal provision that allows law enforcers to open fire to ensure security of people's lives and properties and also to act in self-defence. Law enforcers would open fire if anyone tries to capture any polling station and snatch ballot boxes," Mahfuzul Huq Nuruzzaman, DIG of police's Dhaka Range, told a press conference in Narayanganj.

Around 9,500 BGB, Rab, police and Ansar members have SEE PAGE 11 COL 5



Josna Kutu, a Santal from Gaibandha, cannot hold back her tears as she joins a human chain in front of the city's National Museum yesterday under the banners of several rights groups, protesting the eviction of Santal families from the disputed land of Sahebganj-Bagda sugarcane farm in Gobindaganj of Gaibandha. Josna's father died in the November 6 clash between police and Santals during an eviction drive by police.

Return sugar mill land to Santals

Ask rights activists STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Right activists yesterday demanded that the government return the land of Sahebganj-Bagda sugarcane farm in Gaibandha's Gobindaganj to the Santal community.

Asking to form a judicial probe committee to investigate the killing of Santal men, they also demanded withdrawal of "false cases" filed against the indigenous community.

They made the demands at a protest rally organised by Bangladesh Adivasi Forum (BAF) in front of the National Museum at Shahbagh.

Right activist Khusi Kabir, coordinator of Nijera Kori, said as the land belongs to the Santals, it should be given back to them instead of rehabilitating them elsewhere.

Through their eviction, the Awami League has violated its 2008 election pledge, she said.

Jyotirmoy Barua, a Supreme Court lawyer who works on human rights, alleged that police were harassing the Santals and those involved in protecting the rights of the Santals.

A section of people of the local administration were involved in occupying the land, alleged Prof Mesbah Kamal, of Dhaka

SEE PAGE 13 COL 4





Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 5-25 12-45 3-45 5-28 7-00 JAMAAT 6-00 1-15 4-00 5-27 7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Anti-graft probe

Brac study shows half of complaints 'discontinued'

Over half of graft complaints

High rate of pending enquiries

Huge backlog of cases at

Low strength, poor service

coverage of municipalities

of the lowest in the region

are dropped

labour courts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

More than half of the corruption complaints are filed for record only, according to a report of the Brac Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD). Besides, the rate of enquiries kept pending is very high. "Among the complaints, not all are

loses its way

selected for further enquiry and investigation. More than half of the complaints are discontinued," states the State of

Tax-GDP ratio (10.2%) is one Governance Report, a BIGD flagship of Brac University publication since 2006.

Although the cases are true, many of them remain unresolved due to lack of evidence. Even after the whole process of enquiry, a few complaints see SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

FREE, STRONG STATE ORGANS NEEDED: TIB'S IFTEKHAR -- SEE PAGE 2

profit for two yrs in a row

Files case against 9 staff over glitch in PM's flight

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National carrier Biman Bangladesh Airlines made a profit of Tk 276 crore in the last fiscal year. This was disclosed at the Biman's Annual General Meeting at its headquarters in the city last night.

Biman officials said the profit would have been even bigger had the airline not faced a ban on direct air cargo from Bangladesh SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Biman makes British co to build Dhaka-Payra rail link

Signs Tk 60,000cr deal with Bangladesh Railway STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Bangladesh Railway and British company DP Rail Ltd yesterday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for setting up a 240-kilometre rail line between Dhaka and Payra seaport in Patuakhali's Kuakata.

The rail lines would cost an estimated Tk 60,000 crore, which would be provided by the British company, said railway officials, adding that the final cost of the mega project would be determined after a feasibility study.

Under the MoU, DP Rail will have the right to design, finance, build, develop, and operate the rail line. The company will now move ahead with the detailed planning of the railway, and enter into detailed discussions with the Payra Port Authority and Bangladesh Railway, said a media release.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Veggie stew on the menu 10,000 yrs ago

AFP, Paris

Humans used ceramic pots to cook wild plants more than 10,000 years ago, well before the advent of agriculture,

The findings are the earliest direct proof that our species

The vessels, discovered in

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6



researchers reported Monday.

processed plants for food.

জীবনের জন্য বিজ্ঞান



বাংলাদেশ বিজ্ঞান ও শিল্প গবেষণা পরিষদ (বিসিএসআইআর) BANGLADESH COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC & INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (BCSIR)

বিসিএসআইআর বিজ্ঞান ও শিল্প-প্রযুক্তি মেলা ২০১৭

বিজ্ঞান, শিল্প ও প্রযুক্তি বিকাশে এবং বিজ্ঞান মনস্ক জাতি গঠনে স্কুল কলেজের ছাত্র-ছাত্রী এবং বিজ্ঞান ক্লাব/স্বশিক্ষিত উদ্ভাবকদের নিয়ে বাংলাদেশ বিজ্ঞান ও শিল্প গবেষণা পরিষদ (বিসিএসআইআর) ৩ (তিন) দিনব্যাপী বিজ্ঞান ও শিল্প-প্রযুক্তি মেলা ২০১৭ এর আয়োজন করছে।

- মেলার তারিখ ও সময়ঃ ১৯, ২০ ও ২১ জানুয়ারি ২০১৭, সকাল ১০.০০টা হতে সন্ধ্যা ৭.০০টা পর্যন্ত।
- স্থানঃ বিসিএসআইআর ক্যাম্পাস (সাইন্স ল্যাবরেটরি) ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা।
- অংশগ্রহণকারীঃ ৬ঠ হতে ৮ম শ্রেণি, ৯ম ও ১০ম শ্রেণি, একাদশ ও দ্বাদশ শ্রেণি এবং বিজ্ঞান ক্লাব/স্বশিক্ষিত (মোট ৪টি গ্রুপ)।
- আবেদনের তারিখঃ বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ হতে ১৫ জানুয়ারি ২০১৭ পর্যন্ত সরকারি ছুটির দিন ব্যতীত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ের মধ্যে। আবেদন ফরম প্রাপ্তি ও জমাঃ সদস্য (বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি)-এর দপ্তর, পরিষদ সচিবালয়, বিসিএসআইআর, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা। নির্বাচিত প্রকল্পসমূহের
- তালিকা বিসিএসআইআর ওয়েবসাইটে এবং নোটিশ বোর্ডে ১৭ জানুয়ারি প্রকাশ করা হবে।
- আবেদন ফরম বিসিএসআইআর ওয়েবসাইটে (www.bcsir.gov.bd) পাওয়া যাবে। প্রতি গ্রুপে বিজয়ীদের জন্য আকর্ষণীয় **পুরস্কারের ব্যবস্থা** রয়েছে।
- মেলা চলাকালীন অংশগ্রহণকারীদের **আপ্যায়নের ব্যবস্থা** আছে।

যোগাযোগের ঠিকানা:

সদস্য (বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি), ফোনঃ ৫৮৬১০৭১২ সচিব, বিসিএসআইআর, ফোনঃ ৫৮৬১০৭১৭ গবেষণা সমন্বয়কারী, ফোনঃ ৫৮৬১০৭৪৮ ড. কুদরাত-এ-খুদা সড়ক, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা-১২০৫।

মোঃ ইছাহাক মোল্লা জনসংযোগ কর্মকর্তা (অতিরিক্ত দায়িত্ব)

জিডি-২৫৮২



REAL ESTATE & HOUSING ASSOCIATION OF BANGLADESH