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**PM launches .bangla domain**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday officially launched the long-awaited dot bangla (.bangla) internet domain allowing web addresses to end with .bangla.

From today users can create and use dot bangla sites, which will be run by state-owned Bangladesh Telecommunications Company Ltd and it will be the technical contact point for the domain label.

Yesterday, in a ceremony at her official residence the Gono Bhaban, the prime minister launched the .bangla domain, which the Internet Corporation of Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) allocated Bangladesh three months ago.

The ICANN domain for Bangladesh had

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**SYRIA CEASEFIRE DEAL**

**Russia pushes for UN backing**

*Truce holding largely amid sporadic clashes; world hails move*

AFP, Beirut

Russia is pushing for a UN Security Council vote to support the ceasefire it helped broker in Syria, where the truce remained largely intact on its second day despite sporadic clashes.

Moscow says it wants the United Nations to be involved in peace talks between Damascus and rebels in Kazakhstan in January, although the UN is negotiating its own separate peace efforts.

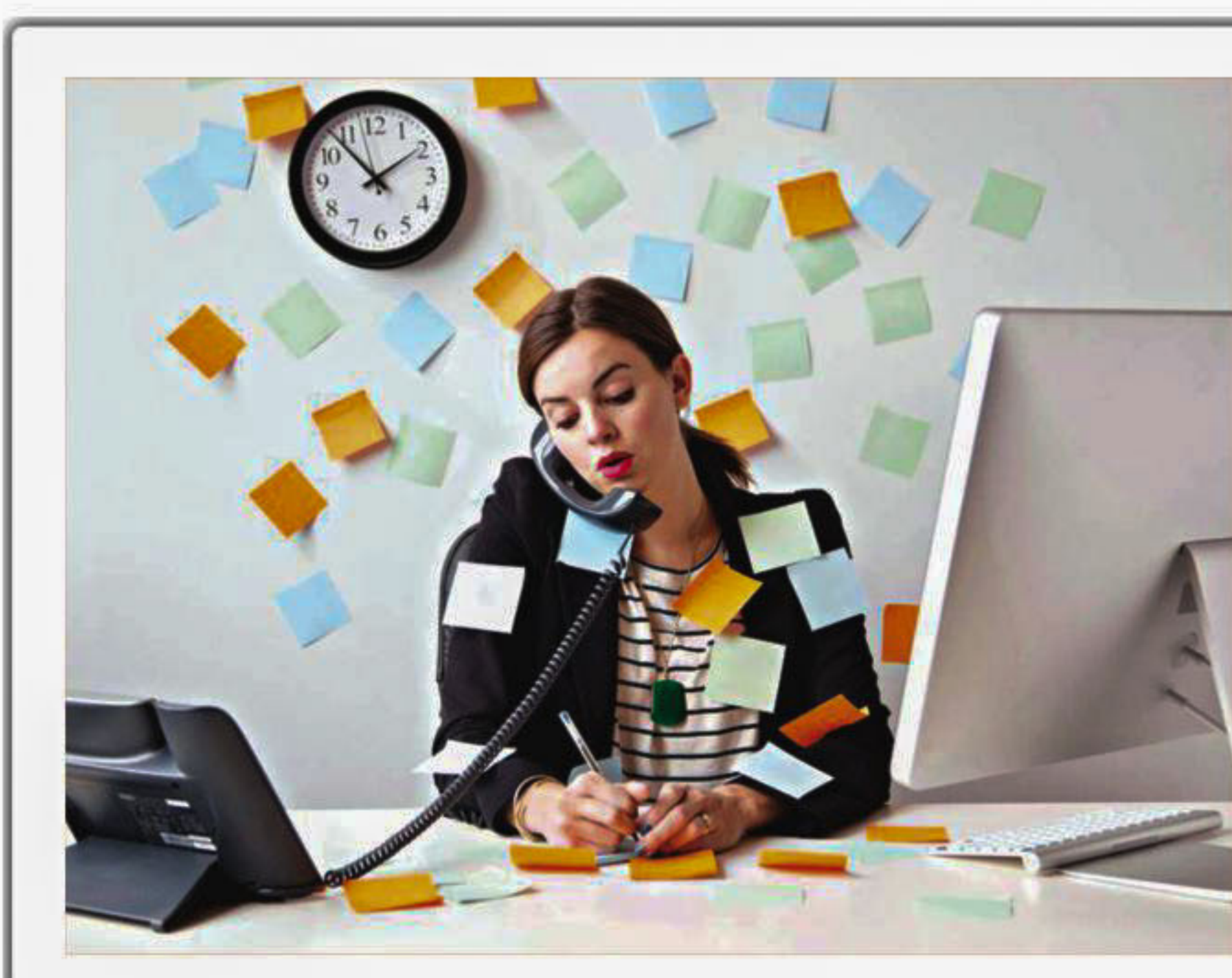
Rebel supporter Turkey and key regime ally Russia, which brokered the truce, say the talks in the Kazakh capital Astana aim to supplement UN-backed peace efforts, rather than replace them.

They want to involve regional players like Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Jordan.

Russia's UN ambassador Vitaly Churkin voiced hope that the council would vote yesterday on the draft resolution -- which also endorses the planned talks in Kazakhstan -- "and adopt it unanimously".

Diplomats however said they did not see how a quick UN weekend vote

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**French workers win 'right to disconnect'**

AFP, Paris

French companies will be required to guarantee a "right to disconnect" to their employees from today as the country seeks to tackle the modern-day scourge of compulsive out-of-hours email checking.

From January 1, a new employment law will enter into force that obliges organisations with more than 50 workers to start negotiations to define the

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**2017**  
HAPPY NEW YEAR

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**Govt working for expansion of media: PM**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Chittagong Centre of Bangladesh Television yesterday started airing its six-hour daily programme.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina through videoconference inaugurated it from the Gono Bhaban.

Information Minister Hasnul Haq Inu was present at the inaugural programme in the port city's deputy commissioner's office.

On December 19, 1996, the TV centre started its journey with one-and-a-half-hours programme.

From now on, the TV channel will feature the culture, heritage, history, business and life style of Chittagong, Chittagong Hill Tracts, Cox's Bazar, Noakhali, Comilla, and Sylhet division.

People of 11 districts, including those of hill tracts area, can enjoy the channel.

Housing Minister Mosharraf Hossain, former and incumbent Chittagong City Corporation mayors

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**PRAYER TIMING JANUARY 1**  
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 5-30 12-45 4-00 5-30 7-00  
JAMAAT 6-05 1-15 4-15 5-35 7-30  
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

**তাদের জন্য**  
সেবায় নতুন মাত্রা

**তাদের জন্য, যাদের প্রয়োজন**

যাদের প্রয়োজন একটি বিশেষ মনোযোগ, একটি বিশেষ সুবিধা তাদের জন্য ঢাকা ব্যাংক চালু করলো অগ্রাধিকারভিত্তিক ব্যাংকিং সেবা।

বয়স্ক, গর্ভবতী ও শারীরিক সীমাবদ্ধতাসম্পন্ন গ্রাহকগণ এখন থেকে পাবেন লাইন ছাড়াই ব্যাংকিং সেবা।

ব্যাংকিং-এ সর্বপ্রথম ঢাকা ব্যাংক দিচ্ছে এই সেবা।

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নতুন বৎসর নতুন সম্ভাবনাকে সামনে নিয়ে আসে।  
আমরা বাংলাদেশের অসীম সম্ভাবনা নিয়ে কাজ করি।  
তারুণ্যের সম্ভাবনা - প্রযুক্তির সম্ভাবনা - উন্নত কৃষির সম্ভাবনা- এসএমই ও ক্ষুদ্র বিনিয়োগের সম্ভাবনা - পরিবেশ বান্ধব সৌর বিদ্যুৎ ও বিকল্প জ্বালানীর সম্ভাবনা - কর্পোরেট ও শিল্প বান্ধব পরিবেশের সম্ভাবনা -

আমাদের বাংলাদেশ নতুন বছরেও সকল সম্ভাবনাকে স্বার্থক করবে।  
আমরা সবসময় সঙ্গে আছি -

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**2017**

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