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WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

STAR WEEKEND

TO BOOST REMITTANCE

Three banks get go-ahead to open branches in Saudi Arabia

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'AN ACCIDENT OF BIRTH'

Boris Johnson, who was born in New York, renounces US citizenship

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Help root out militancy

PM urges imams to prevent misinterpretation of Islam

AGENCIES

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the imams and Islamic scholars to help the government stamp out terrorism and militancy.

"People would listen to your advice and accept it ... you earlier responded to my call to work against militancy and terrorism and you are working to this end. We want you to gear up the campaign to maintain peace and development," she said.

The PM was addressing the National Imam Conference at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital.

"I firmly believe we can eliminate terrorism and militancy completely if you properly convince the people in this regard," she added.

The premier identified terrorism-militancy and drug addiction as the two biggest contemporary problems and underlined the need for steps to protect the people, particularly the children and youth, from those vices, reports BSS.

"Peace is essential to continue the trend of development, and it will be maintained if we can contain terrorism and militancy," she said.

Islamic Foundation organised the event titled "National Children and Juveniles Cultural Competition and the National Imam Conference". Religious Affairs Minister

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The riddle over docs' handwriting

NAZIBA BASHER

On January 9, I came across a news headlined, 'Write prescriptions properly, HC tells doctors'. I did a double take. What? Write prescriptions properly? It further read, "The government has to issue the circular by 30 days. Doctors can write in block letters or print the prescriptions so that there is no hassle in understanding the document". I didn't know how to react, exactly. I had a million questions. "Are all doctors addressed?" "What if even in caps and blocks, their handwriting is bad?" "Do they need classes?" "Are they going to be offended by this?"

All these questions led me to dig a little deeper, speak to some people.

While some cases of handing out wrong medications can lead to hysterical situations, others can quickly turn fatal. Experts

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TOP QUOTE

"Hearing the description of the torture from Rohingyas who fled Rakhine state in Myanmar, it seemed that it is tantamount to genocide."

BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER TO BANGLADESH ALISON BLAKE WHILE TALKING TO REPORTERS IN UKHUYA OF COX'S BAZAR

From shop assistant to founder of bank

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

In his childhood, he used to help his father run the family's sweetmeat shop in Comilla. But today, his hard work and dedication coupled with intelligence have made him a top lender in India.

He is Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, founder and CEO of Bandhan Bank, the country's fourth largest private bank with a capital base of nearly 4,000 crore rupees.

An inspiration to many, Ghosh has recently shared with The Daily Star his journey and future plans in an interview. He came to Bangladesh to join a reunion of the Dhaka University's (DU) Jagannath Hall Alumni Association.

"I grew up in a lower middle class family. I had never thought of running a bank. I did not even think of becoming a banker," he said at a city hotel.

Ghosh was born in Agartala of India's north-eastern state of Tripura in 1960. His family migrated to Comilla after Bangladesh achieved independence in 1971. They were not that well-off and he had to



Chandra Shekhar Ghosh

help his father run their sweetmeat shop in Ramchandrapur area of the district.

Overcoming financial hurdles, he did his post graduation in Statistics from DU in 1984. He lived in the Jagannath Hall throughout his university days.

After completing his studies, he joined Brac, the world's largest development organisation. He worked there till 1997 when he went back to India to take care of some family business in West Bengal. He quit that after some time and joined a local NGO.

As part of his job, he had to go to the villages in West Bengal. During those visits, he noticed something thought-provoking.

Many small vendors borrowed 500 rupees from money lenders for a half day, paying them five rupees as interest.

"That meant the vendors had to pay the lenders over 700 percent as annual interests. Such exploitation of the poor at the hands of those lenders compelled me to do something for them," said the 57-year-old.

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MARRIAGE AGE RULES JS body suggests spl provision for boys too

RASHIDUL HASAN

The parliamentary body on women and children affairs has recommended that boys should also be allowed to marry before the permissible age under "special circumstances".

A bill placed in December last year to ratify the Child Marriage Restraint Act-2016 cited "special circumstances" under which girls should be allowed to marry in her best interests with prior permission from a court and the consent of parents.

In the report made upon scrutinising the proposed law, the parliamentary body replaced the word "girls" with "under-aged" who can be given permission to tie the knot in consideration of special circumstances. Rebeka Momin, chief of the committee, submitted the report last night.

If such a provision is incorporated in the act, boys will be able to marry before they turn 21 provided they fulfil the requirements.

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PURBACHAL PLOT SCAM Ex-Rajuk boss, businessman land in jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rejecting their bail prayers, a Dhaka court yesterday sent Amber Group Chairman Showkat Aziz Russell and ex-chairman of Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha Iqbal Uddin Chowdhury to prison in a case filed for obtaining land in Purbachal illegally.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate's Court-12 also allowed the Anti-Corruption Commission, which filed the case against the duo and six others, to quiz them at jail gate for two days.

The ACC arrested Iqbal, who was Rajuk chairman between 2001 and 2004, from Paribagh, and Showkat, also chairman of the executive committee of United Commercial Bank Limited, from Gulshan in the capital yesterday morning, a day after it lodged the case with Motijheel Police Station.

The other six accused are Showkat's brother Ashfaq Aziz Rubel, a director of Partex Group, and five ex-officials of Rajuk -- SD Foyez, AKM Wahedul Islam, SM Jafarullah, HM Jahirul Haq and Rezaul Karim Tarafdar.

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SEVEN RINGS CEMENT

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Run deluge looms after Kohli, Vijay tons

SPORTS REPORTER from Hyderabad

Fielding lapses had cost Bangladesh quite heavily during the New Zealand series and it was a similar indiscretion that prevented them from putting India under pressure early on the first day of the one-off Test in Hyderabad yesterday.

Yes, the Indian batting order is quite difficult to penetrate and there was not much that the wicket at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium was offering to the bowlers.

Yet the Bangladeshi players would feel that had they not wasted a golden opportunity to run Murali Vijay -- who ended up scoring a century -- out in

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India skipper Virat Kohli was his usual imperious self as he stroked his way to an unbeaten 111 on the first day of the one-off Test against Bangladesh at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Hyderabad yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

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