



PROUD CONSTRUCTION PARTNER OF PADMA BRIDGE

KOKO-4 CAPSIZE IN 2009

9 staffers jailed for four years

Marine Court hands down the punishment in a rare verdict

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a rare verdict, the Marine Court in Dhaka yesterday punished a launch company and nine of its staff as it found them guilty of causing MV Koko-4 to capsize that left 81 people killed and many more missing in November 2009.

Judge Begum Shammi Hasina Parvin handed down fouryear jail term to the staff of the launch and asked its owning company MS Rahman Shipyard BD Limited to pay Tk 4.8 lakh in compensation to the victims' families, a defence lawyer said.

The convicts have to pay Tk 5,000 fine each. And if they fail to pay the fine, they have to serve three more months in jail, defence lawyer Jahangir Hossain told The Daily Star.

BNP chairperson's elder son Tarique Rahman was the first owner of the launch. Then the ownership was handed over to his friend Giasuddin Al Mamun. In absence of Mamun, his brother-in-law Fazlur Rahman alias Bachchu Mollah was running the operation when the launch capsized.

Of the convicts, eight were present at the court during the delivery of the judgment. The court scrapped their bail and sent them to jail.

They are Master Shamsul Haque, drivers Masud Ahmed and Sajal Arefin Khan, Sukani Abul Kalam and Abdul Aziz, clerks Kerani Titu Mia and Shamim and inspector Md Uzzwal.

Another convict Shahidul Islam Bhuiyan, second master of the launch, died in 2015. However, the defence could not provide any documentary evidence of his death.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5



Hawkers and parked buses choke the eight-lane Dhaka-Chittagong highway at Mukti Sarani in Narayanganj's Siddhirganj upazila yesterday. This often causes tailbacks on the busy highway.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



A murder in cold blood: SC

Full verdict on Shazneen case review petition out STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court has released the full text of its judgment on a review petition in the Shazneen murder case, observing that the incident of her killing w



PRAYER TIMING APRIL 26

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-20 12-45 4-45 6-29 8-00
JAMAAT 4-55 1-15 5-00 6-34 8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

www.portexpobangladesh.com

'Personal flying machine' on sale



AFP, Washington

A Silicon Valley "flying car" startup, Kitty Hawk, reportedly backed by Google co-founder Larry Page, released a video Monday of its airborne prototype and announced plans for deliveries of a "personal flying machine" this year.

"Our mission is to make the SEE PAGE 2 COL 2 FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL POLLS

Le Pen drops party role

The move appears to be a way to embrace wider range of voters ahead of runoff against Macron Independent.co.uk

Far-right French presidential candidate Marine Le Pen has announced she is temporarily stepping down as leader of the Front National (FN) to concentrate on her presidential bid.

Le Pen said she was taking "a leave of absence" from leading the FN to focus on campaigning, in a move that appeared to be a mere formality that changes nothing in her campaign platform. The move does seem aimed as a way of embracing a wider range of voters ahead of her runoff against centrist Emmanuel Macron.

She told France 2 television: "I will feel more free and above all, above party politics, which I think is important."

Le Pen has said for months she is not, strictly speaking, an FN candidate but a candidate backed by the FN. She has long distanced herself from her SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

Tragedy tears apart family

Parents killed in road crash on way to hospital to see injured boy
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

How much can a 10-yearold boy take?

At first, he was grievously injured in a road accident and then he lost his parents and grandmother in another road crash when they were on their way to see him in a hospital.

The incident happened on Monday night.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Chittagong Port Authority



প্রাণঢালা অভিনন্দন

সিমটেক্স ইভাস্ট্রিজ লিমিটেড-এর ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব মোঃ ছিদ্দিকুর রহমান, FAS FINANCE AND INVESTMENT LIMITED-এর পরিচালনা পর্বদের চেয়ারম্যান নির্বাচিত হওয়ায় আমরা অত্যন্ত আনন্দিত ও গর্বিত।

জনাব মোঃ ছিদ্দিকুর রহমান-এর এই সাফল্যের জন্য তাঁকে সিমটেক্স ইভাস্ট্রিজ লিমিটেড-এর সকল পরিচালক, কর্মকর্তা এবং কর্মচারীদের পক্ষ থেকে জানাই প্রাণঢালা অভিনন্দন ও শুভেচ্ছা ।



সমটেক্র ইভাস্ট্রিজ লিমিটেড-এর সকল পরিচালক, কর্মকর্তা এবং কর্মচারীবৃন্দ



Nuclear-powered submarine USS Michigan approaches at the southeastern port city of Busan yesterday. North Korea on the same day marked a military anniversary with a conventional firing drill, reports said, as South Korea announced joint naval exercises with a US aircraft carrier amid tensions over Pyongyang's nuclear ambitions.

NORTH KOREA TENSIONS

US submarine docks in S Korea

Pyongyang remains defiant, conducts large firing drill

REUTERS, Seoul

North Korea conducted a big live-fire exercise yesterday to mark the foundation of its military as a US submarine docked in South Korea in a show of force amid growing concern over the North's nuclear and missile programmes.

The port call by the USS Michigan came as a US aircraft carrier strike group steamed towards Korean waters and as top envoys for North Korea policy from South Korea, Japan and the United States met in Tokyo.

Fears have risen in recent weeks that North Korea would conduct another nuclear test or long-range missile launch in defiance of UN sanctions, perhaps on the anniversary of the founding of its military.

But instead of a nuclear test or big missile launch, North Korea deployed a large number of long-range artillery units SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



