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SHAH CEMENT

Rooপুর project work in progress using Shah Cement

THE MUSIC MAKER of Khulna

DIPANKAR ROY with ANDREW EAGLE

In the brown shell of a coconut, in the dried casing of a rounded pumpkin or an asymmetric gourd, in buffalo horn and of course in bamboo: Nikhil Krisna Majumder, 55, from Uttarpara village in Bagerhat's Fakirhat upazila can find in just about anything, music.

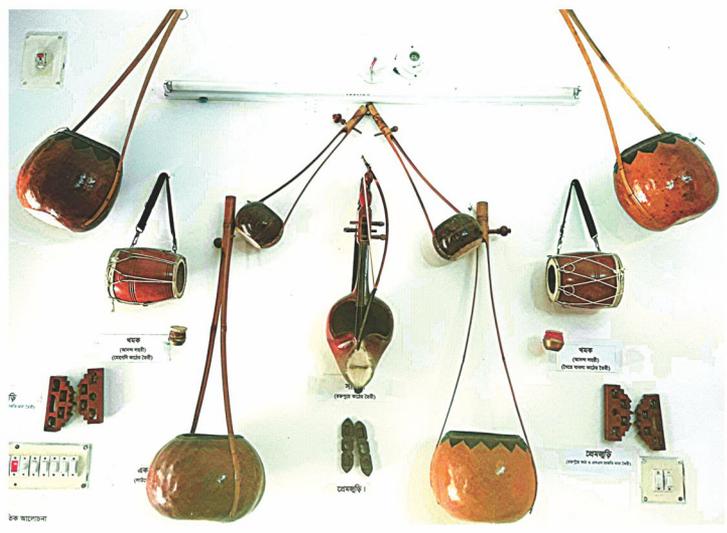
The musician and skilled instrument maker teaches many. He regularly sends handcrafted instruments to customers abroad. For Nikhil, the son of a school teacher who taught him basic music skills as a child, music has become a passion of the lifelong kind.

"I can't imagine a single moment without music," says Nikhil. "Music is food for the mind that helps me live in peace."

When I play with enthusiasm I feel spiritual calm. I've always been an avid listener of songs and after the Liberation War when I was ten years old my father taught me to play our national anthem on the harmonium. I made music my profession, though I hardly think of it as a profession. When it comes to music, I just fell in love."

Dotara, khol, dhol, dhak, congo, mandira, mandolin: Nikhil plays them all and can make any. For flutes, of which he has crafted more than 10,000, he brought the finest bamboo specimen he could find

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Be it a stringed or percussion instrument, Nikhil Krisna Majumder can coax music out of ordinary things like a coconut shell, pumpkin, gourd, buffalo horn and bamboo. The musician and instrument maker of Bagerhat frequently sends his inventions to connoisseurs abroad.

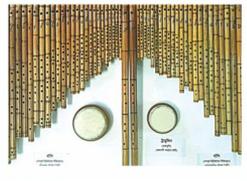


PHOTO: DIPANKAR ROY

CRYO-ELECTRON MICROSCOPY Nobel Prize in Chemistry goes to trio



A revolutionary technique dubbed cryo-electron microscopy, which has shed light on the Zika virus and an Alzheimer's enzyme, earned scientists Jacques Dubochet, Joachim Frank and Richard Henderson the Nobel Chemistry Prize yesterday.

Thanks to the international team's "cool method", which uses electron beams to examine the tiniest structures of cells, "researchers can now freeze biomolecules mid-movement and visualise processes they have never previously seen," the Nobel chemistry committee said.

This has been "decisive for both the basic understanding of life's chemistry and

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2013 YAHOO DATA THEFT All 3b accounts were hacked

REUTERS, Washington

Yahoo on Tuesday said that all 3 billion of its accounts were hacked in a 2013 data theft, tripling its earlier estimate of the size of the largest breach in history, in a disclosure that attorneys said sharply increased the legal exposure of its new owner, Verizon Communications Inc.

The news expands the likely number and claims of class action lawsuits by shareholders and Yahoo account holders, they said. Yahoo, the early face of the internet for many in the world, already faced at least 41 consumer class-action lawsuits in US federal and state courts, according to company securities filings in May.

John Yanchunis, a lawyer representing some of the affected Yahoo users, said a federal judge who allowed the case to go forward still had asked for more information to justify his clients' claims.

"I think we have facts now," he said. "It's really mind-numbing when you think about it."

Yahoo said last December that data from more than 1 billion accounts was compromised in 2013, the largest of a series of thefts that forced Yahoo to cut the price of its assets in a sale to Verizon.

Yahoo on Tuesday said "recently obtained new intelligence" showed all user accounts had been affected. The company said the investigation indicated that the stolen information did not include passwords in clear text, payment card data, or bank account information.

But the information was protected with outdated, easy-to-crack encryption, according to academic experts. It also included security questions and

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Independence 'within days'

Says Catalan leader as Spanish king denounces referendum
AFP, Reuters

Tension mounted in Spain yesterday after Catalonia's leader vowed that the region would declare independence within days, defying a stern warning from the country's king that national stability was in peril.

The courts meanwhile placed Catalan police officials and pro-independence civil leaders under investigation for alleged "sedition" as Spain sank deeper into its worst political crisis in decades.

King Felipe VI branded the independence drive illegal and undemocratic, throwing his weight behind the national government.

But Catalan leaders dug in, buoyed by anger at a violent police crackdown

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'P45 from Boris'

Prankster hands UK PM unemployment notice
AFP, Manchester

British Prime Minister Theresa May's speech at her Conservative Party's annual conference was interrupted yesterday by a serial prankster handing her an unemployment notice -- and then by her own repeated coughing.

Comedian Lee Nelson, whose real name is Simon Brodwin, walked up to the stage and gave May the form, known in Britain by its reference code P45.

He claimed Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson, who has clashed with May over Brexit, told him to do it.

"Boris said in one of those coruscating meetings: 'Give Theresa this. It was a P45 of course, from

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'Robber' killed in 'shootout'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A suspected robber was killed during a shootout with police at Bhairab Bridge area in Bhatrab upazila of Kishoreganj district early yesterday.

The victim was identified as Md Sohag, 23, son of Mohammad Ali of village Bhatrab Dakshinpara.

On information that a gang of robbers in Bhatrab Bridge area were preparing to commit a

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A bus overtakes a truck on a bridge in Patna on Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway yesterday while the truck slows down to a crawl to avoid rearing a rickshaw on the highway. Vehicles of various speeds using the highways and flouting traffic rules often lead to serious accidents.

Hindu youth sent to jail over mosque comments

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tongail

A Tangail court yesterday sent a Hindu youth to jail for hurting religious sentiments of local Muslims.

Bilash Pal, 22, of Palpara village in Gopalpur municipal area, is accused of making derogatory comments on mosque through a loudspeaker from a procession that was carrying Durga idols to the Bairan river for immersion on the occasion of Bijaya Dashami on Sunday, police and local sources said.

The incident happened when the procession of local Hindus was passing by a mosque at Kanabari during the Aar prayer as the Muslims who had gone to the prayer asked the participants of the procession not to use any loud speaker and beat drums, they said.

Several youths captured the moments on their mobile phones and uploaded video clips on Facebook the next day.

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ATTACK ON POLICE Ctg Shibir cadre Nasir jailed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A court in Chittagong yesterday sentenced top Shibir cadre Nasir Uddin alias Shibir Nasir to five years and three months jail in a case filed with Kotwali police station in 1998 for an attack on police.

The court of 4th Metropolitan Magistrate Md Safuddin passed the order in presence of Nasir, a criminal backed by Islamist Chhatra Shibir, examining all the records and witnesses, said Assistant Public Prosecutor (APP) Md Raibad Chowdhury Roni.

The court sentenced Nasir to five years and three months of imprisonment under sections-186, 353 and 332 of Penal Code while also fined him Tk 10,500, in default, to suffer six months and 15 days more in jail," the APP said.

Before the verdict, Shibir cadre Nasir was taken to the court from Chittagong Central Jail amid tight security, court sources said.

According to the case statement, cohorts of Nasir had opened fire on police personnel at Sher-e-Bangla dormitory of Chittagong College when police went there to arrest Nasir on April 06, 1998.

Later Nasir was arrested. Several police personnel were injured during the gun fight between police and shibir cadres and a case was filed with Kotwali police station in this regard accusing Nasir and his cohorts.

Police submitted the charge sheet implicating Nasir on November 17, 2001 while a court framed charges against him later.

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