

THE COLOSSUS RISES  
OUT OF THE MIGHTY PADMA



HIGHEST SELLING 12  
CEMENT for more than years

SHAH  
CEMENT

# DMCH INTERNS' DEMONSTRATION Patients suffer as outdoor unit locked for hrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Treatment at the outpatient department of Dhaka Medical College Hospital remained suspended for about four and a half hours yesterday, causing suffering to patients. Interns locked the main entrance to the department around 9:30am and started agitating, demanding punishment for those who assaulted their colleagues on Sunday over the death of a patient and that the authorities ensure their security at the workplace.

Some staff doctors also joined the demonstration after serving at the outpatient department for around an hour from 8:30am.

Several hundred patients who bought tickets and queued outside doctors' rooms were left baffled as the physicians came out in a show of solidarity with the interns. Most of the patients had to leave the hospital after waiting for hours, according to witnesses.

Trainee physicians at the emergency complex of the country's largest public hospital abstained from work on Sunday for three hours, protesting assault of their colleagues by some relatives of a patient. Four doctors and three Ansar men were injured in the incident.

As a large number of seriously ill patients come to the DMCH from across the country, the closure of its emergency complex yesterday left more than 100 patients in dire straits.

Many of them had to seek treatment at other city hospitals. However, some DMCH physicians expressed surprise at the strike and disruption in treatment as four people were already arrested by police over Sunday's attack and a hospital

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PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Interns put an unconscious patient on a rickshaw near the entrance to the outpatient department of Dhaka Medical College Hospital during a sit-in at 1:45pm yesterday. The trainee doctors, *inset*, were protesting Sunday's attack on their colleagues over the death of a patient. Interns said although they were abstaining from work, they would make sure the female patient gets treatment.



# HISTORY DISTORTION Dhaka issues strong warning to Islamabad

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka has protested Islamabad's distortion of the history of Bangladesh declaring its independence by posting a misleading video on a Facebook page which the Pakistan high commission maintains.

The foreign ministry yesterday summoned Pakistan High Commissioner to Dhaka Rafiquzzaman Siddiqui and asked Islamabad to apologise.

In a strongly worded diplomatic note, the foreign ministry stated that the message contained in the video that it sent to the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who declared the independence of Bangladesh was a blatant lie.

The video claimed that the then Maj Ziaur Rahman had declared the independence of Bangladesh in 1971 and that Bangabandhu did not want Bangladesh's independence, he only sought autonomy.

According to foreign ministry officials, the 13:45-minute video had initially been posted on a Facebook page called Pakistan

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# 'RUSSIAN MEDDLING IN US POLLS' Mueller deals twin blows to Trump

CNN ONLINE

Donald Trump can't tweet his way out of this one. The president's tried and tested political defence mechanism is to whip up chaos to tip his enemies off balance and launch a fierce counter attack. He'll also take cover with his ultra-loyal political base, rely on Republicans who are too cowed to repudiate him and fog an issue with alternative facts.

Like clockwork, Trump yesterday morning sought to discredit the probe into Russia's meddling in the 2016 election and his campaign's potential role in it.

"The Fake News is working overtime. As Paul Manafort's lawyer said, there was "no collusion" and events mentioned took place long before he came to the campaign. Few people knew the young, low level volunteer named George, who has already proven to be a liar. Check the DEMS!" Trump said in a series of tweets. "I hope people will start to focus on our Massive Tax Cuts for Business (jobs) and the Middle Class (in addition to Democrat corruption)!"

But Robert Mueller's first big splash Monday suggested that Trump's methodology — which has helped him defy all the normal rules of electoral politics and the presidency — will face its sternest test yet with the relentless special counsel.

As the events of a dramatic day unfolded, there was a sense that the White House was being forced to engage on Mueller's home turf rather than in the wild and whirling political environment where Trump feels most at home. Mueller's first indictments of former Trump campaign aides, the unveiling of a surprise guilty plea by a former campaign foreign policy adviser and

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# CPC confce begins today

Dhaka to seek support of C'wealth countries on Rohingya issue

RASHIDUL HASAN

Bangladesh will seek support from foreign delegates, including speakers and deputy speakers of Commonwealth nations' parliaments, in addressing the Rohingya crisis during the 63rd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) that begins today in Dhaka.

Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury made the comment while talking to reporters at her office in parliament yesterday.

Over 550 delegates from 144 national and provincial parliaments of 44 countries, are scheduled to take part in the eight-day event, said sources at Bangladesh office of Commonwealth Parliamentary

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# S'pore opens new high-tech terminal



AFP, Singapore

Singapore's Changi Airport opened a cutting-edge terminal yesterday with a fully automated check-in system including facial scanning and computerised baggage drop points, but some passengers struggled with the new technology.

Terminal 4, built at a cost of \$65985 million (US\$723 million), will have an annual capacity of 16 million people and is aimed at coping with an expected increase in passenger numbers through one of Asia's top travel hubs.

It is packed with new technology, meaning passengers should in theory be able to check in and board without having to talk to airport staff.

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# Explain Tk 2cr wealth: ACC to meter reader

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday issued a notice upon a meter reader of Dhaka Power Distribution Company (DPDC) asking him to submit a wealth statement as the commission in its primary investigation found he illegally amassed wealth worth more than Tk 2 cr.

ACC issued the notice on Mosharaf Hossain, after the commission found that he

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**SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center**  
PRAYER TIME NOVEMBER 1  
Farz Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4:55 12:45 4:00 5:30 7:15  
JAMAT 5:30 1:15 4:15 5:34 7:45  
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

# Teen runs to UNO's home, foils marriage attempt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cg

A schoolgirl foiled her father's attempt to marry her off to a middle-aged man in the district's Raazan upazila yesterday.

Priya Akhtar, aged about 13, and her mother made a run for it and took refuge at the upazila nirbahi officer's residence.

Talking to The Daily Star, UNO Shamim Hossain said Priya's father Fajjar Ali of Boro Thakurpatis a "druggie" and he used to torture his wife.

A few days ago, Fajjarhad decided to marry off his daughter, a seventh grader at Purba Gujara High School, Inbarazan, to Bacha Mia, 45, also a "druggie" of the same area, the UNO said.

"Bacha Mia has three children, but he persuaded Fajjar Ali to marry off his daughter to him," Shamim said, adding that Fajjar yesterday forcibly sent his wife and Priyato Raazan town to shop for wedding. Bacha accompanied them

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As winter starts to set in, farmers are busy at work in a vegetable field in Savar's Rajshana area. They are cultivating early winter vegetables as it gives them more profit. The photo was taken on Sunday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

# Transport strike cuts off Kushtia from 18 dists

Bus owners, workers protest arrest of conductor on drug charges

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Transport operators yesterday again went on an indefinite strike in protest against arrest of a bus conductor on charge of carrying and smuggling contraband heroin.

The District Bus Owners Workers Oikya Parishad enforced the strike, snapping road communications between Kushtia and 18 other districts in northern and southern regions.

Thousands of passengers seeking to travel to and from Kushtia suffered immensely due to the strike enforced by the transport workers for the second time in two weeks.

Earlier on October 17, the same transport body called for an indefinite strike in the district following arrest of another bus conductor. The Rapid Action Battalion made the arrest after they had seized one kilogram of heroin from a bus coming to Kushtia from Chuadanga.

They withdrew the strike the next day upon assurance from the district administration that the conductor would be freed.

In a similar case, a team of Rab-12 in Pabna, acting on a tip-off, raided Kushtia-bound Allai Paribahan from Rajshahi and seized one kilogram of heroin on Thursday.

They arrested conductor Rubel Hossain in that connection and handed him over to Kushtia police the same day. The transport leaders and workers demanded immediate release of the bus conductor, who was hauled before a Kushtia court on Friday and was subsequently sent to jail.

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