



বিশ্ব বলেছিলো- পদ্মা সেতু 'সম্ভব না'
একজন প্রধানমন্ত্রী আর ১৬ কোটি বাঞ্ছালি বলেছিলাম-
'কেন না!'

BSRM
building a safer nation



**HIGHEST SELLING
CEMENT** for more than **12 years**

**SHAH
CEMENT**

DNCC MAYORAL BY-POLLS

Stay period longer than reported

HC order shows 6-month stay

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

The mayoral by-polls to Dhaka North City Corporation were stayed for six months, not for three months, according to the lawyer's certificate collected by the Election Commission.

On January 17, the media reported that the High Court in an open courtroom has ordered a three-month stay on the polls proceedings following two writ petitions. The voting was supposed to take place on February 26.

Meanwhile, the commission was yet to take any step to have the order vacated or the writ petitions disposed of. EC officials said they were waiting to get the certified copy of the order for deciding the next course of action.

"We have collected a copy of the order. Earlier, we heard that the election had been stayed for three months. But now, the copy says that it is six months," Helaluddin Ahmed, acting secretary to the EC, told The Daily Star yesterday.

"We are waiting to get the certified copy of the court order for deciding what we will do next," he said.

Ahmed said the commission would have a regular meeting on Thursday and it would discuss the matter if it received the copy by that time.

The commission collected the lawyer's certificate regarding

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

Facebook ban to prevent question leak!

Education ministry wants the site blocked for limited time during SSC exams

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The education ministry wants Facebook blocked for "sometime" in Bangladesh during the upcoming SSC and its equivalent examinations to prevent question paper leak.

Being unable to check the menace, the ministry now thinks that shutting down of the social media platform would be an effective way to stop the leak as it found questions being leaked out and circulated on different social networking sites in the nights before tests or in the mornings.

"We are requesting the authorities concerned to keep Facebook closed for a limited time. We will try to find out when this [the leak] might occur during the exams," Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid told reporters at his ministry yesterday.

They are discussing the matter with Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission and the information communication and technology

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

ATTACK ON NARAYANGANJ MAYOR Police refuse to register case

STAR REPORT

Narayanganj police yesterday refused to record an attempted murder case against some local leaders and activists of Awami League and its front organisations in connection with the January 16 attack on city Mayor Selina Hayat Ivy.

However, police recorded a general diary in this regard.

GMA Sattar, law affairs officer of Narayanganj City Corporation, went to Narayanganj Sadar Model Police Station to file the case. As police refused to record it, he lodged the GD against nine leaders and activists of AL and its front organisations and around 1,000 unnamed people.

Asked why police didn't record the case, Mostafizur Rahman, additional superintendent of Narayanganj police, told The Daily Star that they were collecting necessary information and evidence regarding the GD.

Ivy and around 50 others were injured as supporters of local AL lawmaker Shamim Osman attacked the mayor's followers, leading to a clash on Bangabandhu Road in the city's Chashara area on January 16 over eviction of hawkers from footpaths.

Abdur Razzak, officer-in-charge of Narayanganj Sadar Model Police Station, said although they didn't record the case, top police officials would take necessary legal actions after carrying out an investigation.

Contacted, a criminal law expert said the GD should have been registered as a regular case and immediate steps should have been taken to arrest the accused.



SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

OSCARS 2018 The Shape of Water tops nominations

AFP, Los Angeles

Fantasy romance "The Shape of Water" yesterday topped the Oscars nominations list with 13 nods, as the Academy also gave a rare nomination to a woman in the directing category.

Guillermo del Toro's Cold War-set fairy tale scored nods for best picture, best director, best actress for its star Sally Hawkins, and supporting acting nominations for Richard Jenkins and Octavia Spencer.

It was also nominated for best original screenplay, with the rest of its nods coming in technical categories.

The haul fell one short of the record for most nominations ever, held jointly by "La La Land," "Titanic" and "All About Eve."

"This nomination is for

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Chinese workers build railway station in 9 hrs



MAIL ONLINE

Chinese workers have demonstrated their incredible efficiency yet again.

Around 1,500 workers spent just nine hours paving the railway for a new train station in Fujian Province, southern China.

Seven trains and 23 diggers were used to assist the massive project, according to a supervisor.

An aerial video released by Pear shows how the construction workers connected three major railroads - the Ganlong Railway, Ganruiyang Railway and Zhanglong Railway - with the new Nanlong Railway.

They also installed the traffic signals and a series

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

JS passes Power Bill

Maximum 10 years' jail for act of sabotage at power installations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parliament last night passed the Power Bill, 2018, keeping the provision for a maximum punishment of 10 years' jail and Tk 10 crore fine or both for carrying out any act of sabotage at any electricity infrastructure or installation.

State Minister for Power Nasrul Hamid had placed the bill in the House on

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2



SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING JANUARY 24

Faz Zohr Asr Magrib Esha

AZAN 5-30 12-45 4-15 5-43 7-15

JAMAAT 6-05 1-15 4-30 5-47 7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Villagers kill tiger after it injures 6

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Bagerhat

A Royal Bengal Tiger was beaten to death as it entered a village and injured six people in Morrelganj upazila yesterday.

The incident occurred at Gulshankhali village under Nishanbariya union, around six kilometres off the Sundarbans.

The tiger entered a thatched house and pounced on two residents around 6:30am. Hearing their screams, villagers rushed to that house and attacked the tiger. Six people were injured during the fight against the animal.

The injured include Sabibir Sarder, 22, Alamin Gazi, 25, Sarowar Hossain Dalal, Masum Dalal, 30, and Majibur Sardar.

Masum was taken to Khulna in a serious condition, said Mahmudul Hassan, divisional forest officer (DFO), Sundarbans Eastern Division.

For several decades two to three tigers were killed

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



The carcass of a Bengal tiger hangs from a log at Nishanbariya Union Parishad in Bagerhat's Morrelganj upazila yesterday, hours after it was killed by locals in Gulshankhali village. The animal had attacked people at a thatched house in the village early in the day leaving six injured.

AFP, Washington

US federal workers returned to work yesterday after Congress ended a three-day government shutdown, with President Donald Trump claiming victory in his standoff with Democrats.

The House voted 266 to 150 to extend federal funding for another three weeks, hours after Senate Democrats dropped their opposition to the plan after winning Republican assurances of a vote on immigration in the coming weeks.

Trump signed the measure into law Monday night.

"I know there's great relief that this episode is coming to an end," House Speaker Paul Ryan told colleagues. "But this is not a moment to pat ourselves on the back. Not even close."

The stalemate consumed Washington for the better part of a week, as lawmakers and the White House feuded over immigration policy and the nation's two main political parties exchanged bitter barbs before finally reaching a deal.

The shutdown began at midnight Friday and thus affected only one regular workday -- Monday -- but it made both parties look bad. If it had continued, hundreds of thousands of federal employees would have been furloughed.

Democrats decided to end the shutdown after making progress with ruling Republicans toward securing the fate of

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

Govt reopens as shutdown ends in US

Democrats accepted short-term funding after Republicans promise on immigration issue

AFP, Washington

US federal workers returned to work yesterday after Congress ended a three-day government shutdown, with President Donald Trump claiming victory in his standoff with Democrats.

The House voted 266 to 150 to extend federal funding for another three weeks, hours after Senate Democrats dropped their opposition to the plan after winning Republican assurances of a vote on immigration in the coming weeks.

Trump signed the measure into law Monday night.

"I know there's great relief that this episode is coming to an end," House Speaker Paul Ryan told colleagues. "But this is not a moment to pat ourselves on the back. Not even close."

The stalemate consumed Washington for the better part of a week, as lawmakers and the White House feuded over immigration policy and the nation's two main political parties exchanged bitter barbs before finally reaching a deal.

The shutdown began at midnight Friday and thus affected only one regular workday -- Monday -- but it made both parties look bad. If it had continued, hundreds of thousands of federal employees would have been furloughed.

Democrats decided to end the shutdown after making progress with ruling Republicans toward securing the fate of

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5