

বিশ্ব বনেছিলো- পদ্মা সেতু 'সম্ভব না' একজন প্রধানমন্ত্রী আর ১৬ কোটি বাঙালি বলেছিলো- 'কেন না!'

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# Initiative one, smiles many

**Business group funds paediatric intensive care unit at Chittagong Medical College Hospital**

ARUN BIKASH DEY with ANDREW EAGLE

A few short years ago, financially struggling parents with very sick children in Chittagong had nowhere to turn. The only options for intensive care, at private clinics and hospitals, were cost prohibitive. In October 2015, the situation changed for the better. Supported by local business house PHP Family, a 10-bed paediatric intensive care unit was inaugurated at the Chittagong Medical College Hospital, with children from low-income households in mind.

"My 18-month-old son Orchid has pneumonia," says Anima Barua from Lohagara upazila. "He spent four days in intensive care at a private hospital. It cost around Tk 30,000. As my husband is a small-time trader we can't afford fees like that. On 10 February, my son was admitted here. This facility can help families a lot. They should increase the number of beds."

"The paediatric intensive care unit at this hospital is such a blessing for poor people like us," agrees housewife Rima Akter from Rangunia upazila. Her two-year-old son Tahmid Sarwar is a patient. "Our son needed intensive care last year too," she says, "and we spent around Tk 1.15 lakhs in 10 days at a private clinic. My husband is a low-level employee at a school. To raise the money, we had to take a high-interest loan."

"Last time there wasn't any bed available here," Rima continues. "This time we were lucky. We have to buy medicines but everything else is free."

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A boy being treated at paediatric intensive care unit of Chittagong Medical College Hospital. The modern facility, supported by a business group, was established for children of low-income households in mind.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN



## Learn the history of 71: Mash

MATHEWS CHIRAN

Mashrafe Bin Mortaza is a very emotional character but he always uses his emotional energy as a positive influence while leading Bangladesh on the cricketing front. And on Saturday the inspirational Bangladesh ODI captain demonstrated another positive energy in what was an emotional override for a completely different audience.

He took the Liberation War Museum in Agargaon by storm after Dr Nuzhat Chowdhury had just finished her speech where she gave a vivid description of some Liberation War heroes including cricketer Jewel -- his joining as a Crack  
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## LONDON TERROR PLOT Teacher tried to form 'army of children'

REUTERS, London

A British supporter of Islamic State was found guilty on Friday of trying to recruit children he was teaching into an "army" of jihadists to help carry out a wave of attacks across London.

Umar Haque, 25, showed the children beheading videos and other violent militant propaganda, forced them to re-enact deadly attacks on the British capital and made them role-play attacking police officers.

"His plan was to create an army of children to assist with multiple terrorist attacks throughout London," said Dean Haydon, head of the Metropolitan Police's Counter Terrorism Command. "He tried and he did, we believe, radicalise vulnerable children from the ages of 11 to 14."

Despite having no qualifications and being employed as an administrator, police say Haque used the guise of teaching Islamic studies to groom 110 children



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## INDIAN STATE POLLS

# Northeast turns right

BJP takes Tripura, stronger in Nagaland, Meghalaya

AGENCIES

Taking a giant leap in its Mission Northeast, India's ruling Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) yesterday scored its promised poriborton (change) in Tripura, ending the unchallenged 25-year rule of the Left and ejecting Manik Sarkar, reputed as India's poorest chief minister.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's BJP and its allies are also ahead in the Christian-dominated mountainous state of Nagaland, while opposition Congress-ruled Meghalaya is heading for a fractured verdict.

With the results, BJP appears to have consolidated its position as the principal pole of Indian politics. The results also show that Congress continues to face multiple challenges to check its slide in the states.

The results are expected to help the BJP keep up its electoral momentum for the crucial electoral battle in Karnataka in about two months and expand its footprint to new areas for the crucial electoral battle in 2019 Lok Sabha polls.

The results are also expected to boost the morale of BJP workers in the difficult challenges the party faces to retain Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh at the end of the year.

With victory in Tripura, where the BJP had lost its deposit on 49 of 50 seats it contested in 2013 polls, the party has now set its eyes on winning Kerala, West Bengal and Odisha - three other states where it has traditionally been on a weak wicket.

The BJP is leading by 35 seats in the 60-seated Tripura Assembly. BJP's victory in Tripura has come on the back of its victory in Assam and was its first direct contest with the Left parties.

Elections were held only in the states of Tripura, Nagaland and Meghalaya, where about nine million Indians live, according to the 2011 census. The three states have about 5.6 million voters, according to the election commission's website.

With yesterday's victory, the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) will gain control over five of the seven northeastern states reshaping the political landscape of the region bordering Myanmar, Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh.

The NDA already controls Assam, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh. Congress-ruled Mizoram will vote later this year.

Modi, who had extensively campaigned in the three states, attributed the win to the development



Manik Sarkar

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## Moon to get 4G network by 2019

REUTERS, Barcelona



The moon will get its first mobile phone network next year, enabling high-definition streaming from the lunar landscape back to earth, part of a project to back the first privately funded moon mission.

Vodafone Germany, network equipment maker Nokia and carmaker Audi said on Tuesday they were working together to support the mission, 50 years after the first Nasa astronauts walked on the moon.

Vodafone said it had appointed Nokia as its technology partner to develop a space-grade network which would be a small piece of hardware weighing less than a bag of sugar.

The companies are working with Berlin-based company PTSScientists on the project, with a launch scheduled in 2019 from Cape Canaveral on a  
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## VESSEL JAM AT PORT Minister asks minister to act

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cig

State Minister for Land Saifuzzaman Chowdhury expressed strong resentment over persisting vessel congestion at the Chittagong Port for months at a programme in presence of the shipping minister yesterday.

Chowdhury said a huge amount of foreign currency is being drained as importers are forced to pay demurrage for overstay of vessels waiting to berth.

The state minister was addressing the inaugural  
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**SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center**

**PRAYER TIMING MARCH 4**

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 5-15 12-45 4-30 6-05 7-30

JAMAAT 5-50 1-15 4-45 6-10 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## FREE-KHALEDA MOVEMENT BNP to hold rallies at all divisional headquarters

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday decided to hold rallies in all divisional headquarters, including Dhaka, demanding release of its chief Khaleda Zia.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the party's standing committee. It included the members, vice-chairmen, members of the BNP chief's advisory council, joint secretary generals, and the organising secretaries.

"The BNP leaders in the meeting suggested continuing the ongoing movement until our chairperson is freed. We have elaborately discussed about the delay of her [Khaleda] bail and the next course of action, which includes holding rallies in all divisional headquarters," BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir told reporters after the meeting.

The meeting was held at the BNP chairperson's  
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Thanks to mindless littering, this part of Jirani canal is almost clogged and has become an ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes. The state of the canal is a testimony to the negligent maintenance by Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority. The photo was taken yesterday.

## Tension eases at the border

Myanmar workers building roads near border fence in Ghumdhum, Tombru

STAR REPORT

The situation in Ghumdhum and Tombru border in Naikhyangghari upazila was calm yesterday, following the flag meeting between Border Guards Bangladesh and Myanmar Border Guard Police a day before.

No BGP members were seen patrolling the area but a few of them were seen sitting by a barbed wire fence at the border around 8:00am. Many Myanmar workers were seen working on roads near the fence, locals said.

"The situation is better now. We heaved a sigh of relief," said Zahir Ahmed, headteacher of Ghumdhum Government Primary School.

However, there is a sense of worry among the Rohingyas living on the no man's land.

Locals became panicked as heavily armed Myanmar troops started patrolling along the border fence two days ago.

The patrolling centred a strip of no man's land where some 6,500 Rohingyas took shelter after fleeing a brutal army crackdown last August.

In the wake of strong protest by Dhaka, Myanmar on Friday defended the deployment and said it was for "their internal security" and not targeted at Bangladesh.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan yesterday said the members of BGB and BGP would coordinate patrolling of the border areas on their respective sides from March 27 as part of a previous agreement, reports BSS.  
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