

২

সম্প্রদায়িকতা

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

BSRM

building a safer nation

পদ্মা সেতু

পদ্মা সেতু

পদ্মা সেতু

HIGHEST SELLING
CEMENT

for more than 12 years

SHAH
CEMENT

TREES, HILLS RAZED BY ROHINGYAS

MOKAMMEL SHUVO, back from Ukhia, Cox's Bazar

It was around eleven in the morning. Equipped with spades and sacks, some 10 to 12 children were digging small holes to collect plant roots from a flattened part of a hillock in Ukhia's Balukhali Rohingya camp area. A few metres away, some other children were also desperately looking for kindling. They were gathering it to cook food. Although the persecuted Rohingyas, living on hillocks, are being provided with uncooked food as aid by some international agencies, the refugees still need firewood to prepare them. "I go out every day before sunrise, walk for about four hours and go to the far end of the forest where we still can find some trees and bushes," Abdul Gani, a Rohingya youth living in an area called QQ Zone, told The Daily Star recently. "I return with firewood in the noon. We do it every day" he said. Mohammad Ismail, another Rohingya youth, said, "We are being given uncooked food but how can we make them without fuel?" "Going that far into the forest and coming back with a heavy load is not easy," he added. Rohingyas returning to their tents with firewood on their heads is a common sight in Ukhia. Having no other option, they are now razing trees and forests, even four to five kilometres off their tents, to collect the fuel.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



Felling trees on hilly forest land, Rohingya refugees have set up makeshift homes in Palongkhali of Ukhia upazila in Cox's Bazar. To collect firewood, they are now razing forests around five kilometres away from their dwelling place, putting the environment at risk. Inset, Rohingyas carry logs to their homes. The photos were taken recently.

PHOTO: MOKAMMEL SHUVO

Star
LIVE

SCAN THE QR CODE TO WATCH VIDEO

TO USE QR CODE ON YOUR SMARTPHONE, INSTALL FREE QR READER SOFTWARE FROM GOOGLE PLAYSTORE OR APPLE STORE. TURN ON THE SOFTWARE AND HOLD THE PHONE CAMERA OVER THE QR CODE TO GET THE VIDEO LINK.

KHALEDA'S CASES BNP turns to British lawyer for advice

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP has appointed British lawyer Lord Alex Carlile to assist party chief Khaleda Zia's counsels and help them fight her cases. The lawyer will also give his opinion on whether international human rights law is being violated throughout the case proceedings, said BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday. Carlile is a renowned legal expert in London and also a member of the House of Lords. "Hiring a foreign counsel doesn't mean Bangladeshi lawyers are incapable," Fakhrul told journalists at the party's Nayapaltan office. BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia landed in jail on February 8 as a Dhaka court found her guilty of misappropriating a donation fund for the Zia Orphanage Trust. On Monday, the Supreme Court stayed the High Court order that granted her four months' bail in the case, which saw her

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

HELPING BANGLADESH IN ROHINGYA CRISIS US wants to work jointly with India

STAR REPORT

The US has offered to partner with India in a joint effort to assist Bangladesh in tackling the Rohingya crisis. "We think India also has an interest in seeing this situation resolved," a senior US administration official said, reported Indian newspaper The Hindu on Monday. "We will look for ways to work with India to provide for the needs of the Rohingya in Bangladesh, but also to work together to create that pressure on Burma [Myanmar] to create the conditions required for their safe and voluntary return," added the official, calling India a "like-minded" partner. Nearly 700,000 Rohingyas have fled violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State into Bangladesh since late August last year. The UN said the violence bears hallmarks of genocide, but they could not take any effective steps yet due to opposition from Russia and China. While the US has called the action of Myanmar authorities a case of "ethnic cleansing" and threatened targeted sanctions against the officials responsible, India has been comparatively silent on the issue in an effort to keep its ties with Naypyitaw intact, the report mentioned. Repatriation of the Rohingyas has not started yet, though Bangladesh and Myanmar signed a bilateral deal in November last year. Meanwhile, the UN on March 16 launched an appeal for \$950 million for humanitarian assistance for 10 months until December this year. The US offer to partner with India was made during a recent regional visit to Dhaka, Cox's Bazar, Delhi, Kabul and Islamabad by Deputy Assistant to

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

Myanmar worst performer on aid access Says report

REUTERS, Geneva

Myanmar tops a list of countries where the ability of aid groups to reach people in need has worsened in the past six months, the Geneva-based research group ACAPS has said. In examining 37 countries, ACAPS analysts considered nine indicators, including violence against humanitarian workers and restrictions preventing people from reaching aid. "Myanmar is the country where humanitarian access has deteriorated the most, as access for the Rohingya population has become increasingly difficult," the group said in a statement. The ACAPS report preceded another released yesterday by a British parliamentary committee,

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

Last male northern white rhino dies



REUTERS, Nairobi

The world's last male northern white rhino has died, the Kenyan conservancy taking care of it said, leaving only two females of its subspecies alive in the world although scientists still hope they can save it from extinction. Ol Pejeta Conservancy said in a statement it had made the decision with wildlife officials and his previous carers to euthanise on Monday the 45-year-old rhino, named Sudan, due to the rapid deterioration in his condition. Sudan was being treated for age-related complications that had affected his muscles and bones and also gave him extensive skin wounds. The rhino had spent two weeks in late February

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

Six killed in Satkhira road crash

UNB, Satkhira

Six people, including three children and two women, were killed and seven injured in a head-on collision between a truck and a pick-up on Satkhira-Khulna highway in Tala upazila's Bhairabnagar intersection area last night. The dead are Aklima Khatun, 55, her son Ashiquraman, 12, daughter Mim, 3, Nur Banu, 50, Saidur Rahman, 35, and Sabbir Hossain, 5. All of them are from Kaliapur village in the upazila. The identities of the injured could not be confirmed immediately. Sources said Aklima's husband Moniruzzaman rented a pick-up to travel to Khulna to attend a namaz-e-janaza. The couple's 16 relatives accompanied them

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

2 murdered in city flat

Garos mother, daughter
the victims

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Assailants murdered two Garo women at their rented flat in the capital's Kalachandpur area last night, police said. The deceased are Besat Moni Chiran, 65, and her daughter Sujata Chiran, 35, said Assistant Commissioner Gulshan Zone Rafiqul Islam of Dhaka Metropolitan Police. Sujata was butchered and her mother strangled on the fourth floor of the seven-storey building, Rafiqul told The Daily Star last night. "We visited the spot and afterwards sent the bodies to the morgue of Dhaka Medical College for autopsies." A team of Criminal Investigation Department collected evidence from the spot. Tleser Daring, husband of Sujata's eldest daughter, was the first to be alerted to

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



Students of Comilla Victoria Government College form a human chain on the campus yesterday demanding justice for Sohagi Jahan Tonu. Two years have passed since the murder of Tonu, a history student at the college, but law enforcers are yet to identify any suspect in the murder.

PHOTO: STAR

ALLEGED MISUSE OF USERS' INFO EU, UK press FB on data breach

AFP, London

European lawmakers yesterday demanded answers from Facebook over a major data breach, as Britain's information watchdog sought a warrant to search the London offices of the analysis firm involved. Facebook has launched its own investigation into claims that data from up to 50 million of its users was harvested by a British company, Cambridge Analytica, and used in US President Donald Trump's election campaign. But it was forced to suspend the probe late Monday following a request from Britain's information commissioner, Elizabeth Denham, who is making her own inquiries into both companies. She is seeking court approval to conduct her own searches at Cambridge Analytica, which has strongly denied any wrongdoing. "We are seeking a warrant so that, as the regulator, we can go in and get to the bottom, search the servers, do a data audit," Denham told BBC radio.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

SIBL Foundation Hospital
& Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING MARCH 21

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-55 12-45 4-45 6-16 7-45

JAMAAT 5-30 1-15 5-00 6-20 8-15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION