

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



HIGHEST SELLING 4 CEMENT for more than years



SAIDPUR AIRPORT EXPANSION

Homes built to hike land price

EAM ASADUZZAMAN, Nilphamari

The government plan to upgrade Saidpur airport from domestic to international has had an unexpected consequence--a rush to build homes around the runway.

Residents of the northern town believe the authorities will pay better prices for homesteads when acquiring land for expansion of the airport. As a result, many have gone on what appears to be a homebuilding spree on farm land with no utility connections.

"This is our little effort at getting better prices. The value of land in the area would double or triple in a couple of years. But that will be of no use to us, as the government is acquiring the land soon," said Haider Ali, who recently built a house on his land near the airport, said.

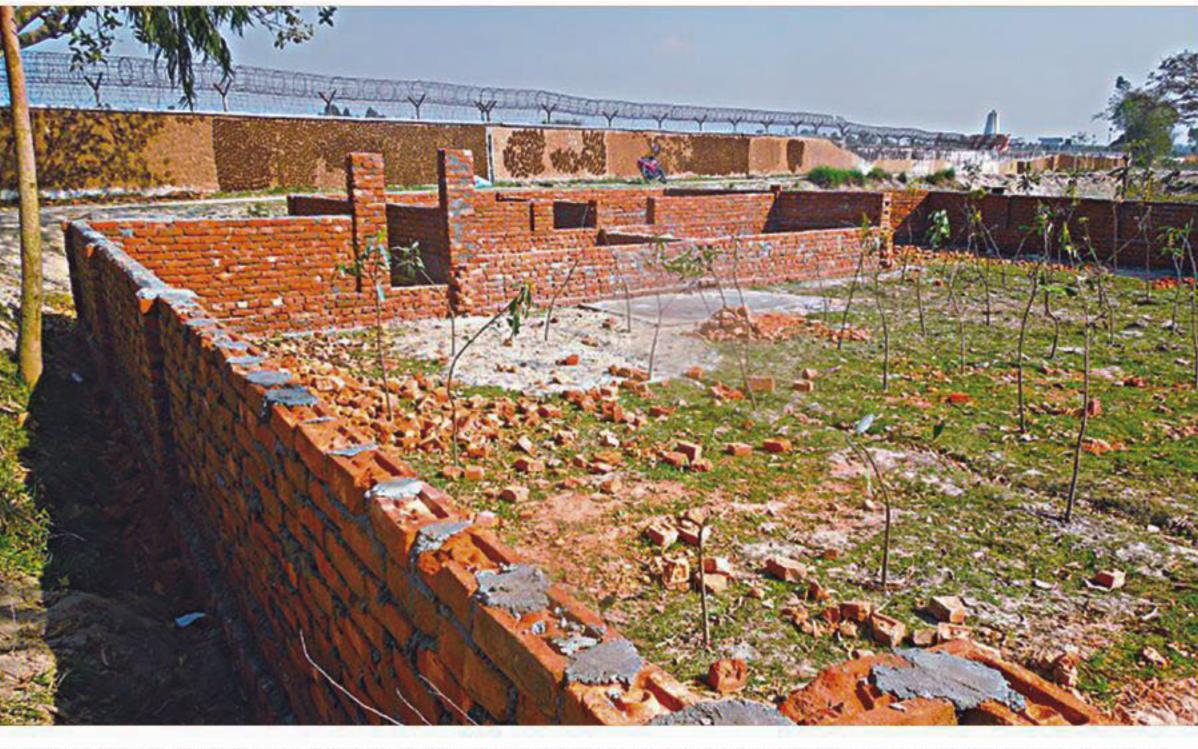


Like him, many residents of Telipara, Bhujaripara, Baroishal, and Chowmohoni villages around Saidpur Airport have built homes mostly of corrugated iron sheets and bamboos.

Officials, however, have a less charitable view towards the landowners in the area.

Shahin Ahmed, manager of the airport,

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



Only a few months ago this piece of land in Telipara near Saidpur Airport was arable but the owner has built a wall around it so that it appears to be a residential plot. The government plans to expand the runway to convert the domestic airport into an international one and land owners are in a race to turn their land into residential plots to get more compensation when they are acquired. PHOTO: EAM ASADUZZAMAN

Mujibnagar Day today

BSS, Dhaka

The nation is observing the historic Mujibnagar Day today to recall the oathtaking of the country's first government in 1971.

President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday issued messages, marking the day.

In his message, the president said the country had achieved independence through a nine-month struggle on December 16, 1971 under the leadership of the Mujibnagar government.

Nations from across the world had extended their support and cooperation to the Bangalee nation due to constitution of the Mujibnagar government, he added.

The president hoped the present generation would be able to know the real SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

COAL CARGO

Sunken vessel yet to be salvaged

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

The vessel that sank in the Passur river in Sundarbans on Saturday with 775 tonnes of coal was yet to be recovered last night.

Officials of the environment department collected samples of river water from the area to examine in a

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

Trump 'morally unfit' for office

Says ex-FBI chief, faces heat of US president, Republicans

AFP, Washington

Donald Trump yesterday fired back at James Comey, saying he is guilty of "many crimes," as the former FBI director opened a book tour with an interview in which he labelled the US president "morally unfit" for office.



Trump accused Comey of lying to Congress and exonerating SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Comey

BANGLADESH-INDIA-NEPAL BUS SERVICE

Trial run on April 23

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

In a major development incrossborder transport among three South Asian nations, trial run of a Bangladesh-India-Nepal bus service is set to be launched on April 23.

Preparations are now at the final stage for the trial run, which, according to diplomatic circle, is going to be another milestone in seamless passenger-vehicle movement under the subregional grouping.

Government officials and representatives from Bangladesh, India and Nepal will board two buses carrying more than 40 passengers from Dhaka to Kathmandu via Siliguri.

They would start a thousandkilometre journey for two days under the Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) Motor Vehicle Agreement (MVA). However, regular passenger service would take around 30 hours, transport officials in Dhaka said.

Currently, passengers use

Lalmonirhat-Burimari-Changrabandha-Siliguri route to go to Kathmandu. The new route will cut short the journey by more than 100km, while the passengers will be able to enjoy some of the lush green hills on the way.

The protocol for bus passengers will allow the three countries to operate the bus services on Rangpur-Banglabandha-Fulbari-Siliguri-Panitanki-Kakarvitta route which will reduce the Dhaka-Kathmandu journey

Midsummer

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

LULLIULIU

For decades, Star Eid Fashion Album/Portfolio has been the forerunner in putting forward the latest in

Eid fashion to the trend seekers and fashionistas. Do not miss out on this opportunity to reach a wider

audience, through the industry's most revered magazine. Star Eid Fashion Album/Portfolio 2018

Criteria for participation —

1. Materials used should be produced locally

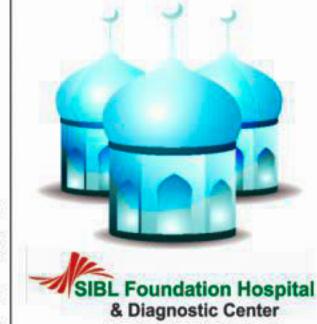
2. All submissions must be accompanied by the name of the designer, address, contact number, price,

and a description of the product clearly written in English and Bengali. Submissions should include

details of the colour, the nature of the fabric, and embellishments (if any).

3. Designs should be original and suitable for the weather conditions 4. The attires and accessories sent for the album will be returned

5. Entree fee per submission is Tk.500 (minimum four entries for each participating house)



PRAYER TIMING APRIL 17

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 4-35 12-45 4-45 6-24 7-45 JAMAAT 5-10 1-15 5-00 6-28 8-15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



from across the country arrive in boats at Waiz Ghat on the Buriganga in the capital. The summer fruit is in season now and it is flooding the city markets. A number of consumers said the prices are still higher than they had hoped.

Watermelons

Nasa to launch hunt for 20,000 exoplanets

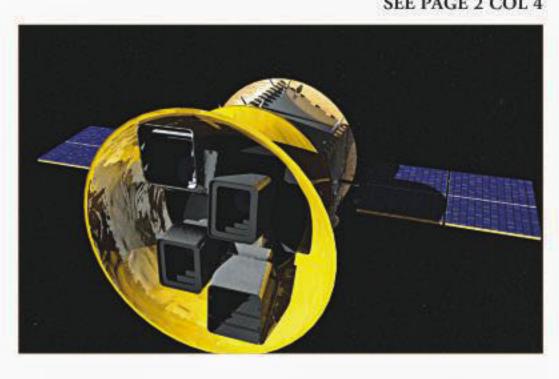
AFP, Tampa

Nasa is poised to launch a \$337 million washing machine-sized spacecraft that aims to vastly expand mankind's search for planets beyond our solar system, particularly closer, Earth-sized ones that might harbour life.

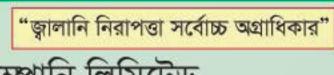
The Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite, or TESS, was scheduled to launch at 6:32 pm yesterday atop a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Cape Canaveral, Florida.

Its main goal over the next two years is to scan more than 200,000 of the brightest stars for signs of planets circling them and causing a dip in brightness known as a transit.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



For submission of products and matters related to advertisements, please contact SYEED AHMED CHOWDHURY 01711 623 905 KAMAL HOSSAIN 01716 232 534 OF SUBMISSION 25 APRIL, PARTICIPANTS NATIONWIDE ARE REQUESTED TO SEND THEIR SELECTED OUTFITS AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE MAGAZINE.



কর্ণফুলী গ্যাস ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড (পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানি) প্রধান কার্যালয়ঃ ১৩৭/এ, সিডিএ এভিনিউ, ষোলশহর, চট্টগ্রাম

এলএনজি আমদানি পরবর্তী গ্যাসের অপচয় ও অবৈধ ব্যবহার রোধকল্পে জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

দেশীয় গ্যাসের উৎপাদন ক্রমাগতভাবে হ্রাস এবং গ্যাসের উত্তরোত্তর চাহিদা বৃদ্ধির বিষয়টি বিবেচনা করে বিভিন্ন খাতে নিরবচ্ছিন্ন গ্যাস সরবরাহের লক্ষ্যে দেশীয় উৎপাদন বৃদ্ধির পাশাপাশি তরলীকৃত প্রাকৃতিক গ্যাস (এলএনজি) আমদানির সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণ করা হয়। এ উদ্দেশ্যে দেশে বিদ্যমান গ্যামের ঘাটতি নিরসনের নিমিত্ত এপ্রিল ২০১৮-এ প্রথম ভাসমান এলএনজি টার্মিনাল হতে জাতীয় গ্রীডে গ্যাস সরবরাহ শুরু হবে। আমদানিকৃত এই এলএনজি'র মূল্য দেশীয় উৎপাদিত গ্যাসের তুলনায় বেশি।

মূল্যবান গ্যাসের অপচয় ও অবৈধ ব্যবহার রোধ করা অত্যন্ত জরুরি, ফলে এর অপচয় ও অবৈধ ব্যবহার রোধকল্পে পেট্রোবাংলার আওতাধীন কর্ণফুলী গ্যাস ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেডসহ ৬ (ছয়)টি গ্যাস বিতরণ কোম্পানির অধিভুক্ত এলাকায় সকল প্রকার গ্যাসের অবৈধ ব্যবহার/সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন এবং অবৈধ পাইপ লাইন অপসারণ করা হচ্ছে। দেশে ২৫ এপ্রিল ২০১৮ এর মধ্যে সকল প্রকার অবৈধ গ্যাস সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন এবং অবৈধ পাইপ লাইন অপসারণ কার্যক্রম পরিচালনা ও সম্পন্ন করা হবে। ২৫ এপ্রিল ২০১৮ এর পর কোন প্রকার অবৈধ গ্যাস সংযোগ অথবা অবৈধভাবে গ্যাস ব্যবহারের আলামত পাওয়া গেলে উক্ত গ্রাহকের সংযোগ স্থায়ীভাবে বিচ্ছিন্ন করা रत । উল্লেখ্য যে, "গ্যাস বিপণন নিয়মাবলী-২০১৪" এ যাই থাকুক না অবৈধ গ্যাস ব্যবহারকারীকে কোনভাবেই আর পুনঃসংযোগ প্রদানের বিষয় বিবেচনা করা হবে না।

কেজিডিসিএল/জনসংযোগ/এপ্রিল-২০১৮ জিডি-১০৪৩

কেজিডিসিএল কর্তৃপক্ষ

EDITOR & PUBLISHER: MAHFUZ ANAM. Printed by him from Transcraft Ltd, 229, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: 64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215, Tel: 09610222222, 9144330 & 58156305, Fax: 9144332, 58156307, 58156306, GPO Box No: 3257, e-mail: editor@thedailystar.net,reporting@thedailystar.net