



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

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Bogra's aloe vera pioneer



MOSTAFA SHABUJ with ANDREW EAGLE

What was wrong with Md Zahidul Islam? That question was the talk of his village for a while, in 2010. The young farmer from Maria village in Bogra's Shahjahanpur upazila had just planted his 33 decimals of land with ugly-looking spiky plants that nobody could recognise. The villagers wondered who would buy such a bizarre crop. What was he thinking?

"When I grew aloe vera initially," recalls Zahidul, now 32, "my neighbours laughed at me. They said I'd never sell it and for the first three years they were right! I was so disappointed. There wasn't anybody to buy the aloe so I used to give it away for free."

Native to the Arabian Peninsula, aloe vera is a succulent with medicinal qualities, especially renowned for skin care.

For Zahidul, the decision to grow the plants was years in the making. Since he completed his Secondary School Certificate he'd been desperate for work. "I searched like crazy for a job but couldn't find one," he recalls, "and I also wanted to do something different." Eventually his elder brother suggested aloe vera. Zahidul went to neighbouring Natore where aloe cultivation was already established, to buy the first plants.

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India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi shaking hands with Chinese President Xi Jinping at Hubei Provincial Museum, in Chinese city of Wuhan, in a handout photograph released by India's Press Information Bureau yesterday.

PHOTO:
AFP

One held
over kidnap,
killing of
6yr old boy

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Jamalpur

Body of a six-year-old boy, who had been kidnapped allegedly for ransom on Thursday, was found in a paddy field of Jhawla village in Sadar upazila early yesterday.

Police have arrested three alleged abductors in this connection.

The deceased was Labib, son of Yousuf, an expatriate living in Oman, of the village.

Labib was playing near their house and went missing around 5:00 p.m. Relatives and neighbours looked for him till the dark in vain, said police quoting his mother Laboni Begum.

In the meantime, she received a call from an unidentified person who asked her to collect her son from Haluaghata in Mymensingh, said Inspector Ansar Uddin, in-charge of Nurundi Police Investigation Centre under Sadar police.

Laboni filed a general diary with the police investigation centre in this connection around 10:00 that night.

SEE PAGE 12 COL 4

It was meant for buying cotton

Claims employee of top businessman about the 'recovery' of Tk 10cr from his boss's house

MUNTAKIM SAAD and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

The large amount of money Rab seized from the flat of a businessman early on Wednesday was withdrawn from a bank to buy cotton for his textile mills, an employee of the businessman claimed yesterday.

The employee, wishing anonymity, dismissed the Rab claim that the Tk 10 crore in cash was kept there for financing subversive activities.

"The money is legal and has been withdrawn from a bank on April 18 to buy cotton," the man, who claimed to be a close aide of the businessman, told The Daily Star.

This newspaper could not contact the bank to verify the claim as the bank was closed on the weekend.

The Rab claimed to have recovered the sum on Wednesday from the Eskaton flat of Mosharaf Hossain, managing director of Mosharaf Group and a Commercially

Ex-Jubo League leader shot dead

Two cable TV provider groups clash over establishing supremacy; 3 bystanders including 11-month-boy injured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A former Jubo League leader was shot dead and three pedestrians suffered bullet injuries during a clash between two groups of cable TV providers over establishing supremacy on the cable TV business in the city's DC Road area yesterday afternoon.

Deceased Faridul Islam, 35, former organising secretary of Chawkbazar Thana unit Jubo League, was also involved in cable TV and sand trade, said police.

The injured pedestrians were crossing the area during the gunfight.

They are Md Sagor, 18, Nurjahan and her 11-month-old grandson Belal Hossain. They were undergoing treatment at Chittagong Medical College Hospital, said SM Mostain Hossain, deputy commissioner (South) of Chittagong Metropolitan Police.

Faridul was a business partner of Emdadul Haque Badsha, one of the owners of Kashem Cable TV Network (KCTN), said Kutub Uddin, an employee of KCTN.

Prasun Kanti Nag, another owner of KCTN, told The Daily Star that he along with Emdadul and Saymol Palit had been running the KCTN business in Chawkbazar, DC Road and Chandanpura areas for the last 15 years.

SEE PAGE 12 COL 1



Gazette after PM's return

Nanak tells quota reform movement leaders

DU CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of the quota reform movement yesterday postponed their agitation till May 7, following an assurance that the gazette abolishing the quota system in government jobs will be published by then.

They made the announcement after Awami League lawmaker Jahangir Kabir Nanak told them that the government would publish the gazette after the prime minister's return from abroad.

The PM is now visiting Australia and is expected to return home on Monday.

A 14-member team of Bangladesh Sadharan Chhatra Adhikar Sangrakshan Parishad, the platform which led the protest, went to Nanak's NAM Flat on Manik Mia Avenue around 9:00pm and held a meeting there for almost two hours.

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Air pollution leads to rise in crime



MAIL ONLINE

Air pollution is a major driver of crime in big cities.

That's the claim of researchers who looked at connections between crime and air quality in London.

Researchers found that high levels of air pollution increase the rate of minor offences such as shop lifting and pick-pocketing.

However, air pollution does not seem to have a significant impact on the most serious crimes - such as murder, assault causing severe bodily harm and rape.

Researchers say crime may increase when smog levels are high because toxic air can increase the levels of stress hormone cortisol in the body.

The research has implications for other major cities, such as Chicago and New York, which also

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3 arrested over rape of college girl in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Barisal

Police yesterday arrested three men on charges of raping a female college student in Barisal.

The accused are Rayhan Mollick Bappy and two of his accomplices named Manik and Sajib, said the law enforcers.

Acting on information, a team from Barisal Kotwali Police Station, led by Sub Inspector Tipu Sultan, arrested prime suspect Bappy, 25, in BISIC area of the city around 2:30pm, Sub-inspector Asad,

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PRAYER TIMING APRIL 28
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-20 12-45 4-45 6-29 8-00
JAMAAT 4-55 1-15 5-00 6-34 8-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A baby boy with his mother at Chittagong Medical College Hospital after suffering injuries during a clash between two groups of cable TV service providers in DC Road area of Chittagong yesterday. The 11-month-old and his grandmother were hit with shotgun pellets during the incident.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার



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সূজনশীল মেধা অষ্টৱণ ২০১৮

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ শিক্ষা বিভাগ, শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক আয়োজিত সূজনশীল মেধা অষ্টৱণ-২০১৮ এর জাতীয় পর্যায়ের প্রতিযোগিতা আগামী ০৩ মে, ২০১৮ তারিখ, সকাল ০৯.০০ টায় আজিমপুর গভর্নমেন্ট গার্লস স্কুল এন্ড কলেজ, ঢাকায় অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। বিভাগীয় ও ঢাকা মহানগর পর্যায়ের বিজয়ী প্রতিযোগিদের উচ্চ প্রতিযোগিতায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য সকাল ০৮.০০ টায় উপস্থিত থাকার অনুরোধ করা হলো।

জাবেদ আহমেদ

অতিরিক্ত সচিব (মাধ্যমিক-২)

ও

আহ্মায়ক, প্রচার কমিটি

সূজনশীল মেধা অষ্টৱণ ২০১৮

ফোনঃ ৯৫১৮৭৪৭/৯৫৫৬৮৪৮

ddphysical@gmail.com