



12 more 'drug dealers' killed

Law enforcers provide identical description of 'gunfights' killing 34 since May 15; home minister defends crackdown

STAR REPORT

Amid criticisms over the sudden surge in the killing of suspected drug peddlers in so-called gunfights, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan yesterday defended the ongoing nationwide crackdown on narcotics.

"High-profile drug peddlers either fled or engaged in gunfights with law enforcers whenever they went to arrest them on the basis of intelligence. Under such circumstances, the law enforcers do what they should do," he said.

Twelve alleged drug dealers were killed in "shootouts" yesterday, taking the tally of people killed in this fashion to 34 in the last eight days.

"The killings took place as they [the criminals] tried to use arms against the law enforcers," Asaduzzaman told reporters at the secretariat, UNB reports.

He said measures were being taken against the illegal drug trade and the government was not sparing anyone.

"We are not sparing anyone, and one of our lawmakers has been in jail

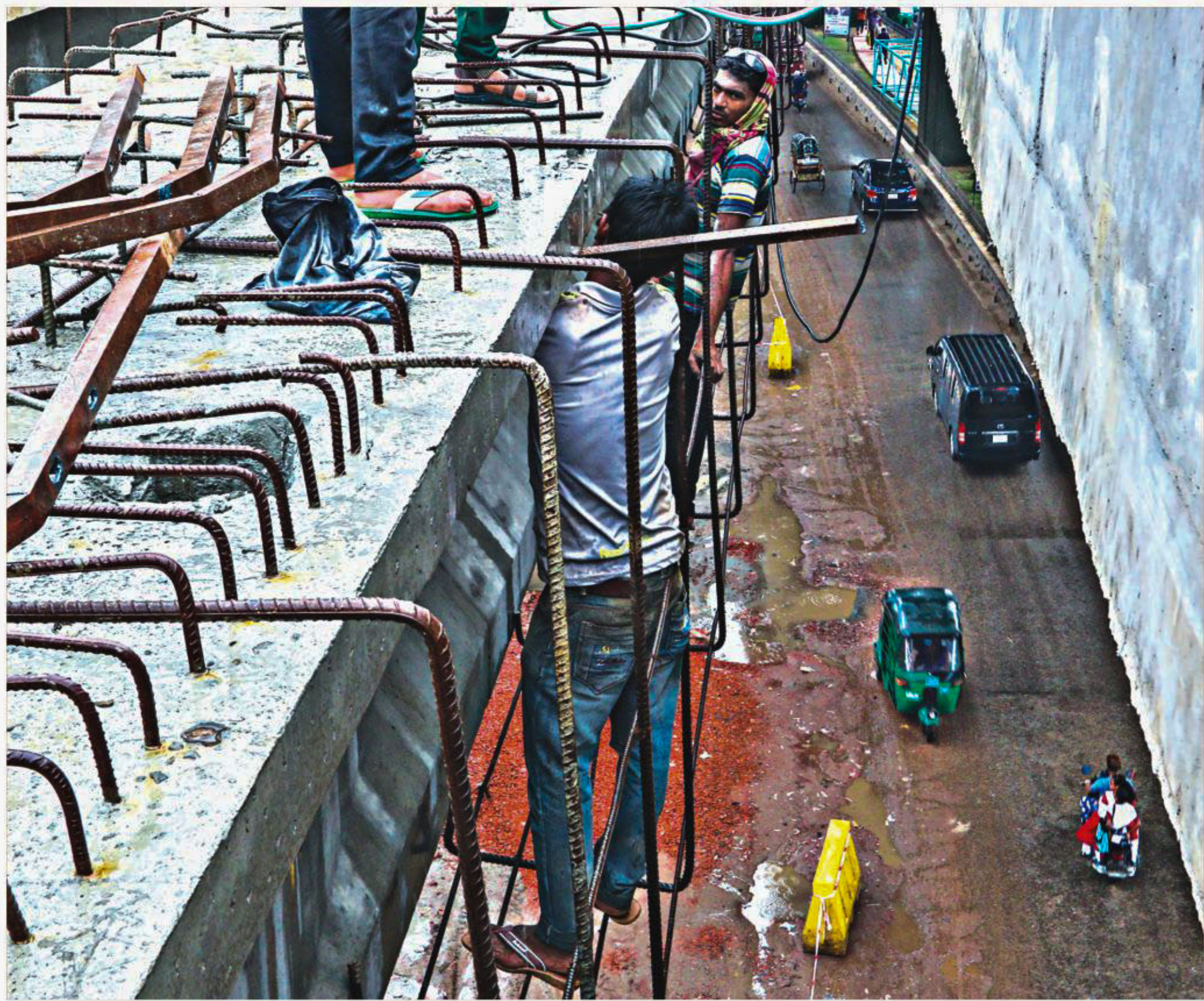
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Exploiting fear, they make a quick buck

STAR REPORT

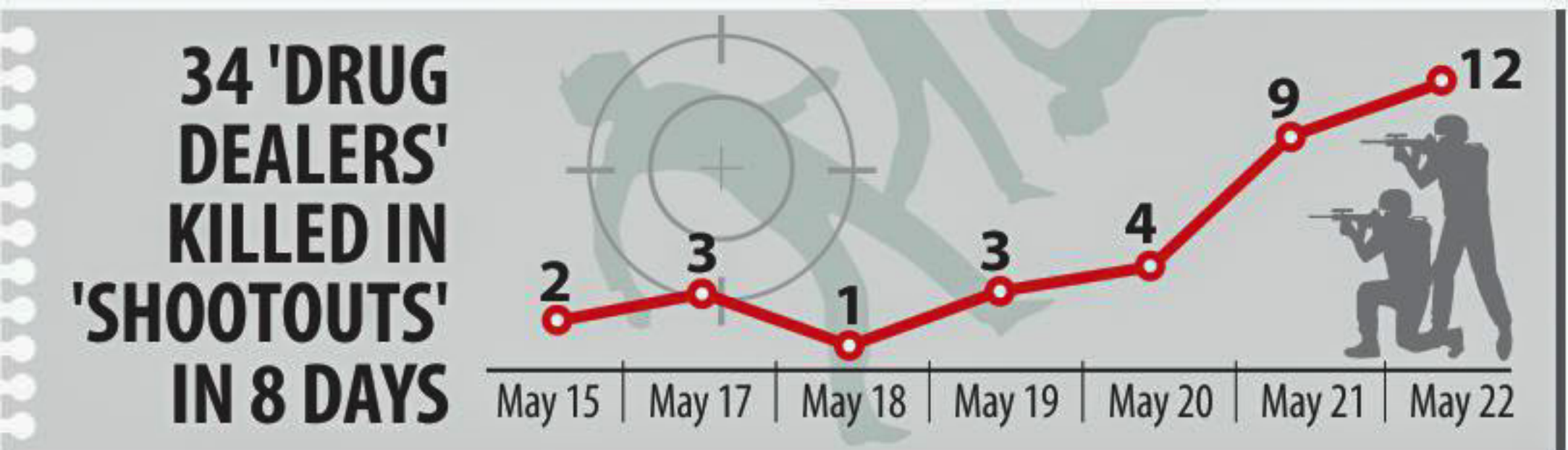
A section of law enforcers allegedly have been making quick bucks by instilling fear into people of making their relatives victims of "shootouts" during the ongoing countrywide

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Two men put their lives at risk as they work without any safety gear on a girder of Akhtaruzzaman Flyover on CDA Avenue in Chittagong city yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN



"Those involved in narcotics trade will be brought to book. We're trying to collect more information about [AL lawmaker] Bodi and action will be taken against him after receiving proper information."

ASADUZZAMAN KHAN KAMAL
HOME MINISTER
TOLD JOURNALISTS YESTERDAY

GODFATHERS remain untouched

INAM AHMED and SHAKHAWAT LITON

As the special drive against yaba peddlers goes on in full swing, questions arise why some alleged yaba godfathers in Ukhia-Teknaf, the gateway of smuggling the crazy drug into Bangladesh, whose names have prominently figured in multiple intelligence reports, remain out of the net.

Abdur Rahman Bodi, the Awami League MP from Teknaf, has long been known as the godfather of yaba trade and he has allegedly set up a powerful network that includes his five brothers, personal assistant Mong Mong Sen and Teknaf Upazila Chairman Zafar Ahmed to spread the drug across the country.

The lawmaker's name has figured in at least three reports -- one by the narcotics department, one by the Border Guard Bangladesh and one by a joint intelligence body formed to tackle the drug trade in Cox's Bazar-Teknaf area.

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Digital security act to be revised

Law minister will sit again with Editors' Council, BFUJ, ATCO after necessary changes made to the draft

RASHIDUL HASAN

Law Minister Anisul Huq has agreed to sit again with representatives of the Editors' Council, the Association of Television Channel Owners and a faction of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists once the parliamentary committee concerned revises the proposed Digital Security Act in the light of discussions at a meeting of the committee yesterday.

At the invitation of the Parliamentary Standing

Committee on Post, Telecom and ICT, the representatives of the three organisations had the meeting with the committee and voiced their deep concern over the proposed law.

Emerging from the two-hour meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, the law minister told reporters that he would recommend that the standing committee bring necessary amendments to the proposed law.

The minister also assured of clearing vagueness

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HC hearing on Khaleda's bail plea starts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday started the hearing on a petition filed by BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia seeking bail in a murder case.

The case was filed in connection with killing eight people and injuring 25-26 others by setting a bus on fire in Chaudhagram of Comilla on February 2, 2015.

After concluding yesterday's hearing, the HC fixed 2:00pm today for resuming it, Deputy Attorney General

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With summer here, lots of juicy fruits are available across the country. For many people, litchi is the most favourite fruit. Although a ripe litchi is what usually makes one's mouth water, this monkey cannot wait any longer and is seen eating a green litchi on a tree in Sylhet city's Ambarkhana area yesterday.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR



Opponents appeal for Guerrero

AFP, Lima

Peru striker Paolo Guerrero has received the backing of players' union FIFPro ahead of a meeting with FIFA's president to try to overturn a drugs ban that could keep him out of the World Cup.

Guerrero, who had been set to captain Peru in Russia, already has the backing of Peru's President Martin Vizcarra and his international teammate Luis Advincula on Sunday led hundreds of fans in a prayer for Guerrero.

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PADMA BRIDGE RAIL LINK Soaring land prices jacking up cost

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cost of the Padma Bridge rail link, the construction of which is yet to start in full swing, has gone up by Tk 4,269 crore due to escalating land acquisition expenditure and delay in project implementation.

The original cost of the project was Tk 34,989 crore and now it stands at Tk 39,258 crore, a 12 percent hike.

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecne) yesterday approved the revised project and two years more time for completing it. Now it has to be finished by June 2024.

The cost increased as the cost of land acquisition rose, said Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal at a press briefing after the Ecne meeting.

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Congratulations!



Engineer Abdus Sobhan, Respected Managing Director of AUKO-TEX GROUP has been honored with **President Award on Industrial Development** for the year 2016 by the Ministry of Industries in recognition of his Extra Ordinary Performances, Ethical Business Practices and massive contributions towards Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) on Environmental & Social issues. On May 22, 2018 H.E. Md. Abdul Hamid, Honorable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh handed over the prestigious award to him.

On this auspicious occasion, we acknowledge and appreciate his Honesty, Integrity, Strong Leadership, Intellectual Rigor, Determination and Dedication which helped paving ways to achieve this significant milestone.

We, all proud members of AUKO-TEX GROUP, express our felicitation and heart-felt greetings to our Respected Managing Director for this honor and achievement. We are certain that by the dynamic and visionary leadership of him our beloved company will move further to achieve more glory and laurels in future.



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Close shave

70 hurt as Dhaka-bound plane makes emergency landing in Jeddah

STAR REPORT

A Dhaka-bound Saudi Arabian Airlines flight made an emergency landing at King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah following a malfunction of hydraulic system and subsequent retraction of its nose gear.

The plane sustained considerable damage when its nose sank to the ground while landing on Monday, reported Khaleej times.

No serious injuries have been reported so far. Medical teams at the airport treated 70 passengers after emergency

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SEASON-7

Take Part in the competition and win one-year subscription of The Daily Star FREE!!

For the seventh consecutive year, Mutual Trust Bank Ltd.(MTB) and The Daily Star will jointly distribute 1,000 complimentary copies of The Daily Star for a year to the residential students of the University of Dhaka. Interested students are requested to go through the details below to win FREE subscription of The Daily Star for one year.

Application forms will be available at a Desk set up at every Hall gate from May 23- May 25, 2018

You may collect the application forms from the respective Halls and drop the filled-in form into the box placed at every Hall gate.

The last date for taking part in the competition is **May 25, 2018**

Winners will be notified via The Daily Star newspaper or through SMS by May 30, 2018

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