

Govt to import solar power from India
Says Tawfiq-e-Elahi
UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister's Energy Adviser Dr Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury yesterday said the government has initiated a move to import solar power from India taking the advantage of time zoning.

"Some areas in India have the advantage of solar power generation with their different time zoning with which Bangladesh local timing has a big difference," he said while moderating a seminar on "New Technologies: Innovations in Power and Energy" at the International Convention City Bashundhara in Dhaka.

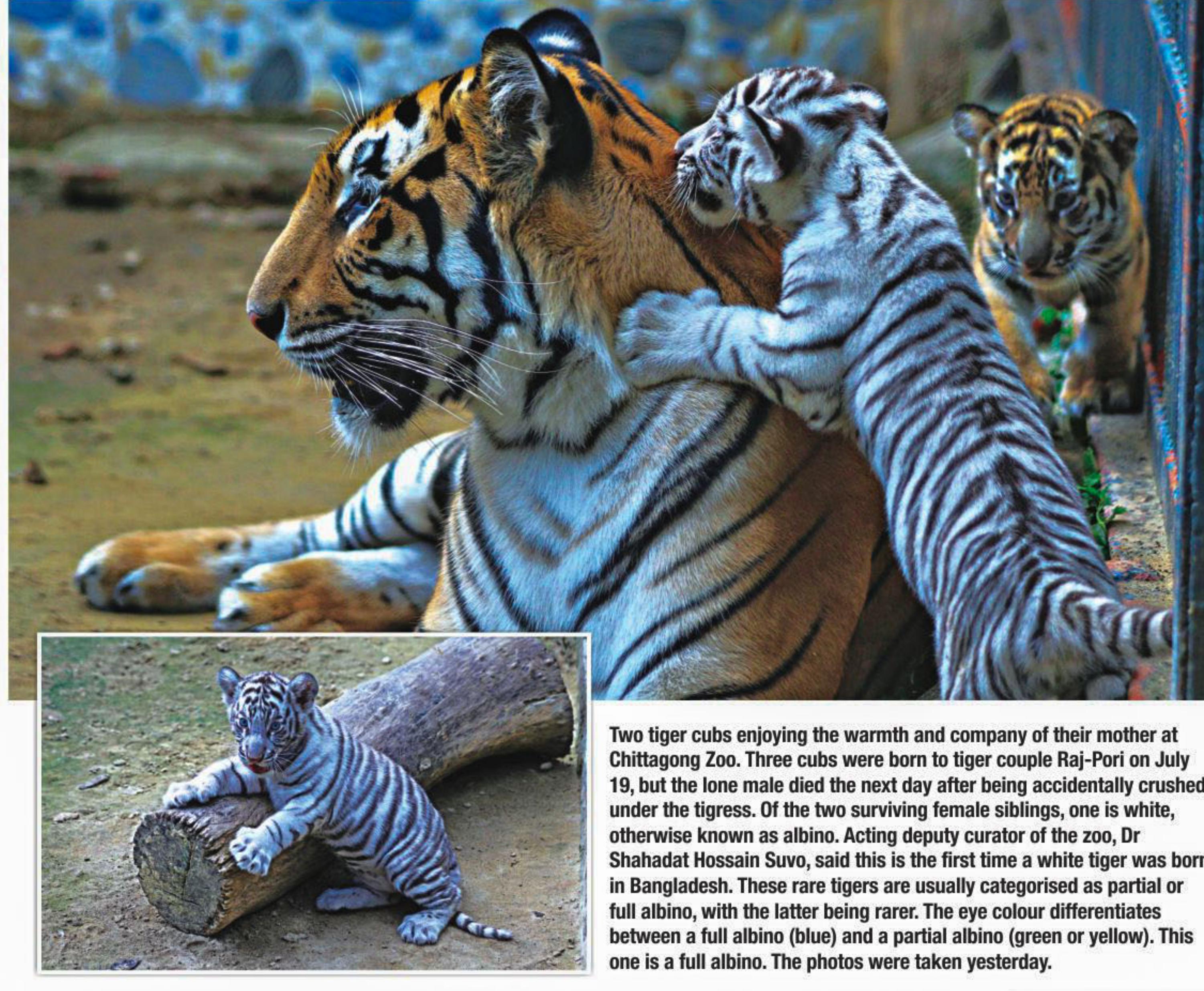
Mentioning that there is a huge time difference between the places of India which produce solar power with Bangladesh, the PM's energy adviser said, "When they have peak noon, we have afternoon. We can easily take the advantage of that time zoning in solar power generation."

Tawfiq-e-Elahi urged the researchers and university students to come up with their new innovations to develop technology to make the power and energy sector more efficient.

Speaking at the programme, Managing Director of Rahimafrooz Munawar Moin said Bangladesh must move for generating 100 percent power from renewable energy by 2050, as Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina recognised Marcas Declaration which set this target globally.

He said the government should make a development plan focusing on rural areas instead of urban areas to improve people's livelihoods.

The seminar was also addressed by CTO of Tata Power Dr Arul Shanmugam, MD and CEO of Mytrah Energy Vikram Shah, CEO of Hero Future Energies Sunil Jain, and Sreda Chairman Helal Uddin.



Two tiger cubs enjoying the warmth and company of their mother at Chittagong Zoo. Three cubs were born to tiger couple Raj-Pori on July 19, but the lone male died the next day after being accidentally crushed under the tigress. Of the two surviving female siblings, one is white, otherwise known as albino. Acting deputy curator of the zoo, Dr Shahadat Hossain Suvu, said this is the first time a white tiger was born in Bangladesh. These rare tigers are usually categorised as partial or full albino, with the latter being rarer. The eye colour differentiates between a full albino (blue) and a partial albino (green or yellow). This one is a full albino. The photos were taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RATHAN

Scouts point out ways to bring traffic order

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dope, hearing and visibility tests for drivers on a regular basis, an increase in the number of traffic police and public buses as well as a change in the people's mindset are necessary to improve the traffic situation in Dhaka city.

These are among the 48 recommendations that the Rover Scouts made following their 10-day hectic efforts to maintain traffic discipline alongside police recently.

More than 400 scouts helped police manage traffic daily and made people aware during the traffic week which started on August 5. The week began after an unprecedented student protest for road safety following the death of two peers on July 29.

The scouts came back to the street once again on September 5, this time as part of a month-long special traffic awareness campaign of police.

Golam Mostafa, director (community development and health) of Bangladesh Scouts, said, "The recommendations came from the experience of our first phase of activities during the police week. Those were presented at the Prime Minister's Office on August 19."

Top officials at the PMO, home ministry and police officials were present at the programme while divisional commissioners were connected through video conferencing, he said.

The scouts recommended keeping traffic police out of political or administrative influence, separating the left lane of the road by putting barriers to keep those free for vehicles going left, building underpass or footbridge near roundabouts, and making stricter the scrutiny for issuing driving licences.

They called for including traffic rules in the textbook of

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ACHIEVING SDGs

UNDP, Citi Foundation honour youth-led social enterprises

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Citi Foundation awarded three top-performing social enterprises led by young people for their innovations as startup ecosystem, to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

The event titled "Accelerator Bangladesh: National Dialogue to Foster the Startup Ecosystem in Bangladesh" was the closing of a three-day programme, jointly organised by UNDP and Citi Foundation in association with the Ministry of Youth and Sports at Bangabandhu International

Conference Center yesterday.

The initiative is a part of "Youth Co:Lab", a platform for youth entrepreneurship in 18 countries across Asia-Pacific including Bangladesh, said UNDP press release.

Earlier, nine startup teams participated in the two-day boot camp guided by experts from different sectors, and developed their ideas and solutions on issues from education to renewable energy, aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Among the nine, three were selected on the closing day for their innovative solutions on literacy, waste management and community tourism. These

three will go to the next round of Asia Regional Summit which will be held in Vietnam next year.

The programme was addressed, among others, by Additional Secretary of Ministry of Youth and Sports ABM Ruhul Azad; Citi Bangladesh Country Officer N Rajashekaran and Deputy Country Director of UNDP Kyoko Yokosuka.

Around 300 delegates, including government officials, private sector participants, NGOs, academia, social incubators, entrepreneurs, and young business leaders, and youth were present at the closing event.

Workshop on genocide, Liberation War starts in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A workshop on genocide, torture and Liberation War started at Teachers' Auditorium of Barisal Govt BM College yesterday.

Organised by 1971: Genocide Torture, Archive and Museum Trust, the workshop will continue for a month, said Dr Muhammad Mahabubur Rahaman, director of Genocide-Torture and Liberation War Research Centre, one of the trainers of the programme.

The event will be held every Friday and Saturday.

Dr Muntasir Mamun and Chowdhury Sahid Kader are among the trainers.

Sixty researchers from different colleges are participating in the workshop.

No honest work is undignified

Barisal University students run food cart for peers, set positive example



The food cart near the main gate of Barisal University.

PHOTO: STAR

quality," he added.

"A full packet of chicken biryani is usually sold at Tk 120-140 at the university gate. We are selling each packet at only Tk 40. It has been possible as Mehedi bhai cooks the food himself, and we sell them in rotation, whoever remains free between 12:00pm and 3:00pm," said Golam Morshed, a first-year student and one of the team members.

Both students and teachers of the university appreciate the initiative and the chicken biryani is gaining popularity. The food cart stays at the university gate from 12:00 to 3:00pm.

"We make a profit of Tk 1,000-1,500 daily by selling up to 100 lunch packets. Sometimes, the demand is even higher," said Jannatul Ferdous, another team member.

"I buy the biryani for lunch every day as it seems safe and healthy; it's not too greasy. The food is tasty and cheap too," said Shanta, a marketing student.

"We used to laugh at them when they

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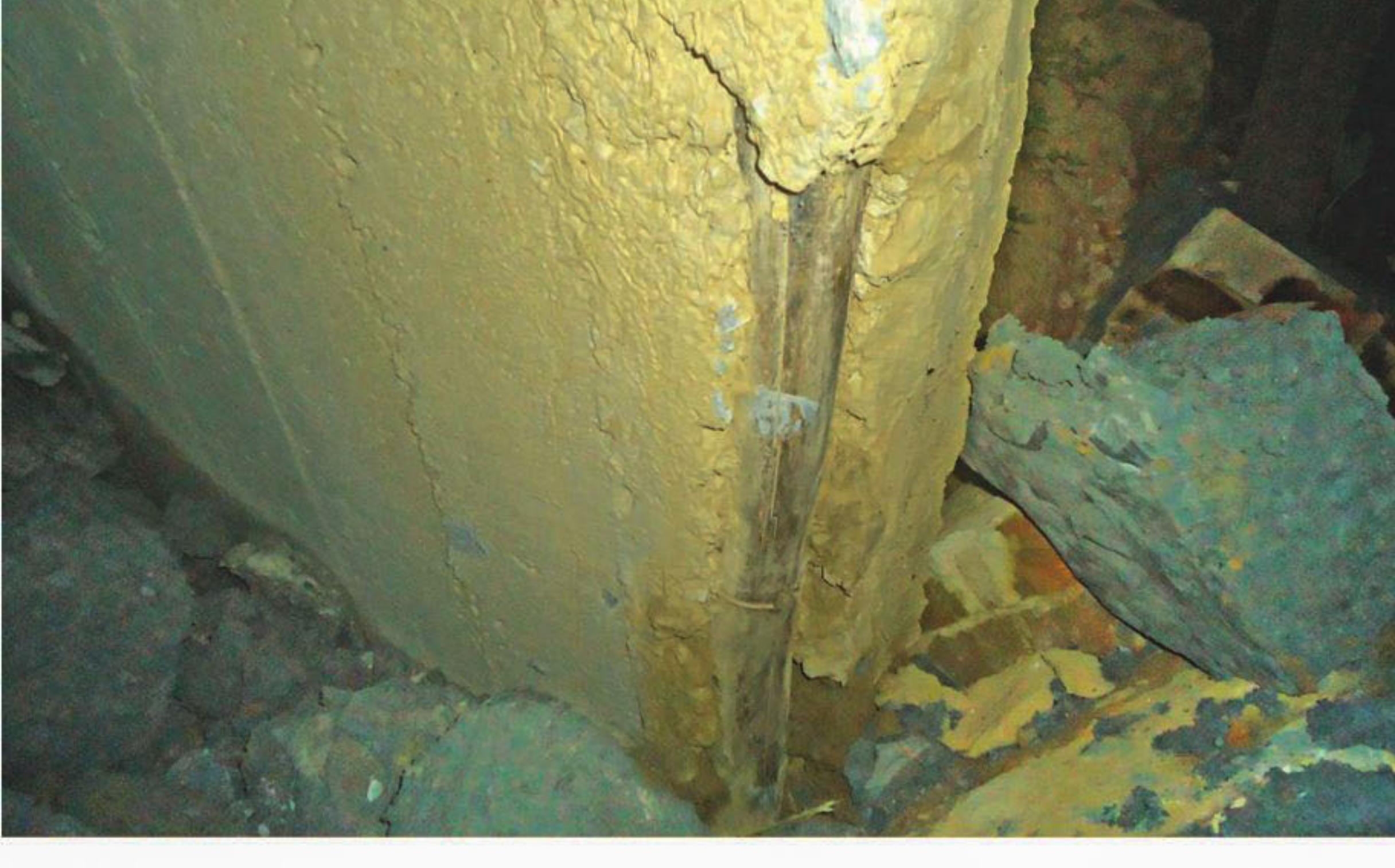


PHOTO: SANJOY KUMAR BARUA

Bamboo has been used instead of iron rods in a retaining wall -- part of a project implemented by Bandarban Municipality -- at Khalagatha Natun Bazar area of the district town. The photo was taken yesterday.

Mob kills two 'robbers' in Raozan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two suspected robbers died in mob beating early yesterday in Raozan upazila of Chittagong.

Police identified the dead as Mohammad Moktar, 27, and Mohammad Saiful, 28 -- both from the same upazila.

Officer-in-charge of Raozan Police Station, Kepayet Ullah, said the incident took place at Nasir Colony in Gourisankar Haat area where the two suspects broke into a room in a house through its makeshift wall.

After the women in the room started screaming, locals rushed to the scene and found the women in a standoff with the duo pointing guns at them, he said, adding that mob of locals at one point surrounded the two and beat them to death.

Police later arrived at the scene after being informed and recovered the bodies along with two firearms. Their bodies were sent to Chittagong Medical College for autopsy. Both Moktar and Saiful were in accused in several burglary and yaba peddling cases with the police station, the OC also said.

Man rescued after 13 days of abduction

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Police yesterday rescued a man who was abducted from Jhenidah post office intersection of the town on August 26.

He was rescued from a building of NGO Srizony at Pabhati village of the district town.

The abductee is Arif Hossain, 29, son of Abdul Kader of Gourinathpur village under Moheshpur upazila. Arif is an area manager of Malaysia-based Medico group.

Police also arrested Lavlu Hossain, cousin of Srizony director Dr M Harun, and Srizony employee Md Tohiduzzaman.

Arif claimed that he was abducted by Dr Harun's son Tamim Hossain, and his accomplices, over an issue of being involved in a deal concerning a large sum of money. He said he was tortured during his abduction, and was forced to sign a blank stamp.

Eight-month-old dies in gas cylinder explosion

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

An eight-month-old child was killed and two of her family members were injured in a gas cylinder explosion in their house in Brahmanbaria in the early hours of yesterday.

The explosion took place in the kitchen when Roma Akter, mother of the deceased Elma, went out of the room, said witnesses.

Her husband Robiul Mia and son Rabbi suffered burns in the explosion, they said.

Neighbours rushed them to Nabinagar Upazila Health Complex, and were referred later to the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said Nabinagar Police Station Officer-in-Charge Aslam Sikder.

Robiul is a boatman living in Bogdhor village in the upazila, said the OC.

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