



THE KANCHPUR-MEGHNA-GUMTI BRIDGES ARE BEING BUILT WITH HIGHLY DUCTILE GRADE 420 BSRM ULTIMA BARS

BSRM Ultima

SHAH CEMENT

ACHIEVED  
Superbrands  
AWARD



# GOVERNANCE, DEMOCRACY Work to plug gap between words, actions

TIB urges political parties

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International Bangladesh yesterday said there was a wide gap between what political parties pledged in their election manifestos and what they actually did.

A lot more effort is required to make good on the promises of promoting democracy and governance, TIB said in a study titled "Governance and Integrity in Election Manifestos of Political Parties in Bangladesh."

Lofty pledges made to impress voters before polls were often broken by both the ruling and opposition parties, TIB Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman told a press conference.

He, however, noted that there were some examples of true commitment.

Many deliveries in the form of legal, institutional and policy changes remain far from being effective enough to promote better governance and democratic institutionalisation, he told the press conference at his office.

"There are even examples of reversal of progress made. Implications of some provisions of the draft Digital Security Act on opportunities created by Right to Information Act and repeated attempts to curtail the authority of ACC by initiatives like draft Public Service Act are cases in point."

The TIB report analysed election manifestos of 11 political parties and made observations and recommendations.

The study found that none of the parties ever promised in their manifestos to practice democracy within the party.

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## MP's event stalls school activities for three days

Classrooms used for serving  
food to MP's men in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

There were hardly any classes in the last three days at Dhobakhola Coronation High School and College in Bera upazila after local lawmaker Khandaker Azizul Haque Arzu on Saturday used the classrooms to feed thousands of villagers who left behind litter and leftover food everywhere.

The employees have been struggling to clean the classrooms, toilets and the front yard since Sunday morning.

Authorities managed to hold only a few classes yesterday with a few students.

But some of the students who attended the classes yesterday said they were nauseated by the strong smell of rotten food.

Headmaster Abu Bakar Siddique said, "The school practically turned into a garbage station after Saturday's program."

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## AL, BNP grassroots pledge 'no violence'

Several hundred take part in Democracy International's campaign for peaceful polls

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Several hundred grassroots leaders of the Awami League and the BNP yesterday pledged to work towards a free, fair and peaceful general election.

They also vowed to shun violence and carry out a peaceful campaign during the upcoming polls. The leaders wanted to see smooth continuation of the democratic process through a peaceful and transparent election.

Democracy International (DI) brought together 400 AL and BNP leaders from 40 districts to inaugurate "Shantite Bijoy or Win with Peace", a national campaign seeking peace in the run-up to the polls.

Jointly funded by USAID and UKAID, the campaign was launched at Celebrity Hall of Bangabandhu International Convention Centre with a slogan "Bangladesh will win if peace wins".

It will engage and raise awareness among registered political parties and candidates in favour of peaceful elections and tolerant politics.

PM's Political Adviser HT Imam, BNP Standing Committee Member Abdul Moyeen Khan, US Ambassador to Bangladesh Marcia Bernicat, British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Alison Blake and Chief of Party for DI in Bangladesh Katie Croake along with senior political leaders attended the event.

Talking to this correspondent, some grassroots leaders said they did not

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VOTER LIST  
Indian district  
deletes names  
of suspected  
Bangladeshis

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
New Delhi

The authorities in a district of the eastern Indian state of Odisha have started deleting the names of suspected Bangladeshis who figured in the list of voters, officials said.

The coastal district of Kendrapara has 1,649 Bangladeshi settlers. Mahakalpada tehsil alone houses 1,551 of them, they said on Sunday.

Odisha's ruling Biju Janata Dal has backed the Bharatiya Janata Party's campaign for deporting illegal immigrants from Bangladesh in Assam state.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

## Germany rolls out world's first hydrogen train



AFP, Bremervorde

Germany yesterday rolled out the world's first hydrogen-powered train, signalling the start of a push to challenge the might of polluting diesel trains with costlier but more eco-friendly technology.

Two bright blue Coradia iLint trains, built by French TGV-maker Alstom, began running a 100-kilometre (62-mile) route between the towns and

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## Alleged drug peddler killed in 'shootout'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nature

Rab said a drug peddler was killed in a "gunfight" with its patrol team in Baraigram upazila early yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Sirajul Islam, 38, son of Abdus Sattar of Balia village in Baraigram.

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PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 18

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-35 12-45 4-30 6-09 7-45  
JAMAT 5-10 1-15 4-45 6-12 8-15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A man walks past uprooted trees on a damaged street after Typhoon Mangkhut hit Shenzhen in China's Guangdong province yesterday. Inset, a harbourside commercial building in Hong Kong. Its windows were blown out in the storm. Hong Kong began a massive clean-up after Typhoon Mangkhut raked the city, shredding trees and bringing damaging floods, in a trail of destruction that left dozens dead in the Philippines and millions evacuated in southern China.

PHOTO:  
REUTERS/AFP

TYPHOON MANGKHUT  
Millions  
evacuated  
in China

4 killed in Guandong  
as storm makes landfall;  
death toll hits  
65 in the Philippines

AFP, Itogon

More than three million people have been moved to safety in southern China as Typhoon Mangkhut moved northward and continued to wreak havoc across the region yesterday.

Mangkhut made landfall in Guangdong, China's most populous province, late afternoon Sunday, killing four people before heading west into neighbouring Guangxi province around midnight.

Meanwhile, Philippine rescuers yesterday searched desperately for dozens feared buried under a landslide unleashed by the typhoon.

The confirmed death toll across the northern Philippines, where the main island of Luzon was mauled by fierce winds and rain, reached 65 and was expected to rise further given the number of missing.

Searchers used shovels

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## A 'fig leaf for genocide' Says Australian UN expert about Suu Kyi

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, Geneva

A leading United Nations human rights investigator has criticised Myanmar's civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi for acting as a "fig leaf for military atrocities" against the Rohingya Muslim minority.

In an interview ahead of the release of a 400-page report on alleged "genocidal" crimes, Australian lawyer Chris Sidoti said



Nobel laureate Suu Kyi could not escape responsibility for failing to act over the violence.

The report, by three independent experts including Mr Sidoti, provides the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva with harrowing details of mass killings and rape by Myanmar's military that prompted more than 700,000 Rohingya to flee to Bangladesh last year.

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**তিতাস গ্যাস ট্রান্সমিশন এন্ড ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড**  
(পেট্রোবাল্টার একটি কোম্পানি)  
প্রেসিডেন্সি-১১০৩৬০-৬৯  
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**গ্যাস সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্নকরণ সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

কোম্পানির আওতাভুক্ত এলাকায় মিটারবিহীন আবাসিক গ্রাহকসহ সকল শ্রেণির গ্রাহকদের বকেয়া গ্যাস বিল এবং অবৈধ গ্যাস ব্যবহারের জন্য গ্যাস সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন অভিযান চলছে। গ্যাস সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্ন এড়ানোর লক্ষ্যে গ্যাস বিল পরিশোধ করে হালনাগাদ বিল পরিশোধের কপি/বিল বই সংশ্লিষ্ট আঙ্গনায় সংরক্ষণকরণ সংযোগ বিচ্ছিন্নকারী দলকে প্রদর্শনপূর্বক সহযোগিতা করার জন্য অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।

- তিতাস গ্যাস কর্তৃপক্ষ

আপনার রান্নার কাজ শেষ হয়ে থাকলে  
এখনি গ্যাসের চুলাটি নিভিয়ে ফেলুন।

তিতাস/জনসংযোগ-২৮/২০১৮-১৯

জিডি-১১৭৬