



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



Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant

Work in progress using Shah Cement



# HC once again acquits Maya in graft case

Scraps lower court verdict that jailed the AL leader for 13 yrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday again acquitted Disaster Management and Relief Minister Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya in a corruption case in which he had been sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment.

It scrapped the lower court verdict in the case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission during the regime of the military-backed caretaker government.

The bench of Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice KM Hafizul Alam delivered the verdict after rehearing an appeal filed by Maya challenging the lower court judgment.

The HC judges cleared Maya of graft on the grounds that the ACC could not prove the allegation of amassing illegal wealth against him beyond reasonable doubt, ACC's lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star.

He said the anti-graft body would decide whether it would move an appeal before the Supreme Court's Appellate Division against the HC verdict.

Maya's lawyer Sayeed Ahmed Raza told reporters that the HC cancelled the lower court verdict as he was not involved



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Schoolchildren are made to line up to accord a reception to Abu Sayeed Al Mahmood Swapon, Awami League lawmaker from Jaipurhat-2, as he arrives to inaugurate a health centre in Panchbibi municipal area yesterday. An education ministry circular, issued in 2014, prohibits lining up of primary school students on streets to welcome any public representative.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

# Nothing to worry about Assam NRC

Says Indian minister of state for external affairs

PINAKI ROY from New Delhi

For Bangladeshis, there is nothing to fear about Assam's National Register of Citizens (NRC), Indian Minister of State for External Affairs General Vijay Kumar Singh (Rtd) said yesterday.

India will not do anything that is harmful for its neighbour Bangladesh, he said while meeting 15 Bangladeshi journalists at the South Block of the Indian external affairs ministry in New Delhi.

Vijay said the NRC process was nothing new. "It started in the 1950s and now the government is carrying it out in Assam following the order of the Supreme Court."

"It'll take quite some time to implement it," he told the journalists, who are visiting the Indian capital under a familiarisation programme.

A draft of the NRC, aimed at identifying illegal immigrants in Assam, was

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# Ex-Interpol chief under probe for bribery

Says China ministry

REUTERS, Beijing

China said yesterday it was investigating former Interpol chief Meng Hongwei for bribery and other violations, days after French authorities said the Chinese official had been reported missing by his wife after travelling to his home country.

Under President Xi Jinping, China has been

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# Earth has 12 yrs to avert disaster

Warns landmark UN climate report

AFP, Incheon

Avoiding global climate chaos will require a major transformation of society and the world economy that is "unprecedented in scale," the UN said yesterday in a landmark report that warns time is running out to avert disaster.

Earth's surface has warmed one degree Celsius (1.8 degrees Fahrenheit) -- enough to lift oceans and unleash a crescendo of deadly storms, floods and droughts -- and is on track toward an unliveable 3C or 4C rise.

At current levels of greenhouse gas emissions, we could pass the 1.5C marker as early as 2030, and no later than mid-century, the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) reported with "high confidence".

"The next few years are probably the most important in human history," Debra Roberts, head of the Environmental Planning and Climate Protection Department in Durban, South Africa, and an IPCC co-chair, told AFP.

A Summary for Policymakers of the 400-page tome underscores how quickly global warming has outstripped humanity's attempt to tame it, and outlines options for avoiding the worst ravages of a climate-added future.

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# BCL 'EXCESS' AT BHASHANI UNIV 56 teachers quit admin positions

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Fifty-six teachers of Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University in Tangail yesterday resigned from their administrative posts after some Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leaders of the university allegedly misbehaved with two of them.

The teachers, including two regent board members, four deans, four provosts and 14 departmental chairmen, among others, submitted their resignation to the university's registrar, Touhidul Islam, around noon, campus sources said.

The incident happened when some BCL leaders forced the two teachers of the Physics department -- Anwar Hossain and Mohiuddin Tasnim -- to let a student take a third-year exam, although she had failed the department's 2nd year semester finals.

When the two teachers told them she could not take the exam as she had failed the last semester test, the BCL men

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# Jogger finds lion cub in Dutch field



AFP, The Hague

Dutch police were on Sunday seeking the owners of a small lion cub found abandoned in a cage in a field outside the central city of Utrecht, police and news reports said.

"Today (Sunday) we received quite an extraordinary message: 'a witness has found a mini-lion in a cage in a pasture'," local police said on their Facebook page.

"When we arrived at the scene, we discovered a lion cub in a cage. It seems to have been abandoned," the police said, estimating the little feline to be about four months old.

The cub was first spotted by a jogger near the small village of Tienhoven, about 10 kilometres (six miles) north of Utrecht, a local news report said.

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# Suu Kyi vows 'transparency' over Rohingya atrocities

AFP, Tokyo

Embattled leader Aung San Suu Kyi yesterday vowed to increase transparency over her government's handling of the Rohingya crisis while pitching for foreign investment in Myanmar ahead of a regional summit in Tokyo.

Suu Kyi, once garlanded as a global rights champion, has seen a sharp fall from grace due to her failure to speak up following a brutal military crackdown on Myanmar's Rohingya minority.

"I'm ready to acknowledge that we have challenges to face particularly with regard to the Rakhine and with the struggles we have on the peace front," Suu Kyi said in a speech before Japanese businessmen, referring to Myanmar's

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# JU ADMISSION 3 held for question leak bid

JU CORRESPONDENT

Three people including two students of Jagannath University (JnU) were detained at Jahangirnagar University for their alleged attempt to leak questions during C Unit admission test yesterday.

The JnU students are Sakibul Sadat, first year student of physics and Ashik E Atahar Mezbah, final year student of political science. Ashik is also a former deputy

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Scrap dealers carrying CNG-run auto-rickshaw parts they bought for Tk 2,500-3,500 a kg from a place near Bangladesh Road Transport Authority office in Chittagong's Baluchar Natun Para on Sunday. The scraps will be recycled and used in aluminium and steel factories. The BRTA destroyed the auto-rickshaws as their lifespan expired. Inset, two dealers loading scraps onto a truck.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

# 'GREEN GROWTH' MODELS US duo win Nobel prize in economics



William Nordhaus



Paul Romer

AFP, Stockholm

US economists William Nordhaus and Paul Romer yesterday shared the 2018 Nobel Economics Prize for constructing "green growth" models that show how innovation and climate policies can be integrated with economic growth.

Working independently, they have addressed "some of our time's most basic and pressing questions about how we create long-term sustained and sustainable growth," the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said in a statement.

Nordhaus is a professor at Yale University. Romer is a former World Bank chief economist now at New York University's Stern School of Business.

The academy said their models, both developed in the 1990s, have "significantly broadened the scope of economic analysis".

The prize announcement came as the UN warned in a landmark report that an "unprecedented" transformation of society and the world economy was needed to avoid global climate chaos.

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PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 9  
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-45 12-45 4-15 5-53 7-30  
JAMAAT 5-20 1-15 4-30 5-56 8-00  
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION