

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

DESERM Itima



AWARD 2015



BB REPORT ON LAST 10 YEARS

Scams, failures skipped, dev highlighted

JEBUN NESA ALO

The Bangladesh Bank has published a report on the banking sector development over the last 10 years ahead of the national elections, painting a rosy picture of the industry but completely ignoring the deep malaise of the financial sector, including loan scams, weak supervision, the lack of control over monetary policy, high defaulted loan and reserve heist.

The report titled "Role of Bangladesh Bank in the govt success for last 10 years" was published last month on government instructions, which demonstrated only the success stories keeping all the failures in the cupboard.

Analysts now question both the content of the report and the ethical side of the central bank, an autonomous body. This is the first time that the BB has published such a report, and that too giving a distorted view.

Such publications before an election is very unethical because the Bangladesh Bank is completely detached from the government, said Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled, former deputy governor of the BB.

Moreover, the report did not address the weakness of the banking sector which reflects the lack of independence of the central bank, he added.

The report said that the BB played a role in achieving higher GDP growth through implementing contractionary and inclusive monetary policy every year. Inflation remained at tolerable levels since 2009 to 2018 even amid higher growths, the report claimed.

But in reality, the BB's monetary policy, the main function of a central bank, has often been dictated by the finance min-

For instance, the CRR (Cash Reserve Requirement), a major tool used in monetary policy to control money supply, SEE PAGE 11 COL 5



PHOTO

RAJIB RAIHAN

2 'criminals' killed in 'gunfights'

STAR REPORT

Two suspected criminals including an alleged yaba trader were killed in separate "gunfights" in Cox's Bazar and Kushtia early yesterday.

Cox's Bazar police claimed suspected drug trader Ziaur Rahman, 34, was killed in the Marine Drive road area of Teknaf upazila as law enforcers conducted a raid there around 4:00am.

Sensing the presence of police, criminals opened fire on them, forcing them to retaliate. Ziaur was injured during the "gunfight". He was taken to a local health complex where doctors declared him dead, said Pradip Kumar Das, officer-in-charge of Teknaf police.

An accused in several cases, Ziaur was on a list of drug traders prepared by the home ministry, the OC said, adding, they recovered a pistol, 21 bullets and 20,000 pieces of yaba pills from the

Nur Kalam Nuru, Ziaur's uncle, told our Cox's Bazar correspondent that his nephew left home on September 20 for three months to attend Tabligi Jamaat, a non-political

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HC rejects writ challenging 'ghost cases'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summarily rejected a writ petition challenging the legality of "fictitious cases" filed against the activists of BNP and other political parties across the country.

The bench of Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder passed the rejection order on the grounds that a writ petition could not be moved challenging the legality of the criminal cases as per article 102 of the constitution.

Besides, the petition was not acceptable as three pro-BNP lawyers, who had filed it, had no right or ability to move such a petition before the court, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told The Daily Star. Lawyer Khandker

Mahbub Hossain, one of the petitioners, told this correspondent that the HC SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

Chinese pupil, 11, already 6'7" tall



ODDITYCENTRAL.COM

Seeing Zhang Ziyu towering over her classmates at the Cultural East Road Primary School, in Jinan, China, it's hard to believe that they are all in the sixth grade. The 11-year-old already measures 6ft 7in (2.10 metre), and many believe she is the tallest girl in the world.

Zhang's parents are both former professional basketball players, and they are both over two metres tall, so it's pretty clear that genetics played an important role in her physical development, but reaching 210 cm by age 11 is still very unusual.

Zhang has always been taller than all the other children, and one of her colleagues remembers that in the first grade, she already stood at 1.6m (5ft 3in) SEE PAGE 11 COL 1 AID FOR ROHINGYAS

Make it more transparent, cost effective

Urge NGOs, civil society members in Cox's Bazar

PORIMOL PALMA and MOHAMMAD ALI JINNAT, Cox's Bazar

The humanitarian operations for the Rohingyas should be more transparent and cost effective as their repatriation may take longer than expected and the funding is inadequate.

Members of Cox's Bazar civil society organisations and NGOs shared the observation yesterday in a district hotel.

The programme was titled "Rohingya Response and Grand Bargain Commitment: Aid transparency and solidarity approach" and organised by Cox's Bazar CSO-NGO Forum (CCNF) and COAST Trust to discuss the 2019 Joint Response Plan (JRP) for Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis.

During the programme, Co-chair of CCNF Rezaul Karim Chowdhury said at least 1,296 expatriates were involved in the humanitarian operations and they used

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Accident took his hands, not his will

AMIR HASAN SHAHRIAR, Chattogram

At only 14, Rafikul Islam Rabbi is already a source of inspiration. He lost his both hands in an accident two years ago, but he refused to give up his studies. He is taking this year's Primary Education Completion exam with a pen between his teeth.

Son of Bazlur Rahman, a day labourer from Sitakunda in Chattogram, Rabbi was supposed to sit for the PEC test in 2016.

But a tragic incident just weeks before the exam altered his life. On October 5 that year, the boy, along with some

of his friends, went to see the construction work of a footbridge near the school during tiffin break, said Gazi Humayun Kabir, headmaster of Bhatiari Govt Primary School. There were little safety measures, which put the

boys at risk. Unaware of the danger, Rabbi stepped too close to a high voltage electric wire that lay bare and was electrocuted, said Humayun.

The construction company, Taher and Brothers, gave about Tk 50,000 for his treatment but it could not save his hands. Doctors at Chattogram Medical College Hospital had to amputate both his hands to save his life, said his father. After returning home from the hospital after six months, he initially

showed signs of depression. But soon he gathered himself and focused on his studies. "First, he tried to learn to write by holding a pen with his toes, but he

couldn't," said his father. Then one day, he read a report about a physically challenged student who

learnt to write by holding a pen between his teeth.

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Rafikul Islam Rabbi

Girl raped in Noakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

A second grader in Noakhali's Sonaimuri upazila has allegedly been raped by her cousin when she went to her uncle's house for watching televi-

The 11-year-old victim is a student at Shakibpur Majina Begum Madrasa and her father, a resident of Bajra village under Noakhali's Sonaimuri upazila, is a rickshaw puller. According to the victim's

mother, Mona Miah, 17, raped her daughter as she SEE PAGE 11 COL 4





'Sad' EU agrees 'tragic' Brexit

Urges rebellious MPs in UK to back deal or face 'no deal' hard exit from the block

AFP, Brussels

European Union leaders yesterday approved a historic Brexit deal with British Prime Minister Theresa May, and together warned rebellious MPs in London this was the best and only option available.

Leaders meeting at a special Brussels summit expressed sadness at the "tragic" end of four decades of British EU membership, but said the terms of the withdrawal were now set.

"This is the best deal possible for Britain, this is the best deal possible for Europe," European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker said after the agreement was approved.

Juncker emphasised that, after 17 months of gruelling negotiations, "this is the only deal possible", warning: "Those who think by rejecting the deal, they will have a better deal, will be disappointed."

March 29, 2019, and sets out a vision for "as close as possible a partnership" afterwards. But May faces a major battle to get the agreement through

The agreement prepares for Britain's smooth exit on

the House of Commons, with a vote planned for next month. SEE PAGE 11 COL 5







ইসলামী ব্যাংক এবারও ব্যাংকিং খাতে ১ম সর্বোচ্চ করদাতা কর প্রদানের মাধ্যমে দেশের উন্নয়নে অবদান রাখতে পেরে আমরা আনন্দিত। এই অনন্য অর্জন আমাদের সকল

আমরা অনুপ্রাণিত, দেশের উন্নয়ন অগ্রযাত্রায় আমরা অগ্রপথিক।

শেয়ার হোন্ডার, গ্রাহক ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীর।