

# Development hits new high

Says PM as she opens construction work of Bangabandhu tunnel in Ctg

UNB, Ctg

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said Bangladesh entered a new level of development with the beginning of constructing a tunnel beneath the Karnaphuli river, which will significantly contribute to the region's socio-economic progress upon its completion.

"The construction of this tunnel will be completed by 2022 ... after which the socio-economic development of the region will accelerate significantly, which will contribute a lot to the country's economy," she said while addressing a civic rally at Patenga Ring Road after inaugurating the boring of 3.4km Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Tunnel and the construction of 16.5km elevated expressway from Lalkhan Bazar to Shah Amanat Airport in the city.

She said the link road of the country's first tunnel would be connected to the Cox's Bazar-Patiya four-lane road.

"For that, we'll have to construct 10 kilometres additional road; we have that plan. I've already held discussions with the secretary in this regard. The tunnel will go from Chattogram to Anwara and the road will be connected with the Patiya four-lane from Anwara. This will shorten the journey towards Cox's Bazar."

Talking about the elevated expressway, which is the first in Chattogram, the PM said that after its construction, the people of the port city would be able to reach the airport quickly and easily.

The government wants to work for the country and its development and this is the present government's motto.

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina taking a walk after launching the boring of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Tunnel across the Karnaphuli river in Chattogram yesterday. The country's first tunnel will improve communication in the port city and attract investment. PHOTO: BSS

# SHOOTING VILLAGERS Complaints lodged against 7 BGB men

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Family members of the three villagers, killed in a BGB firing in Thakurgaon, lodged three separate complaints against seven Border Guard Bangladesh members yesterday.

On February 12, BGB men opened fire on the villagers following a scuffle at Baharampur village in the district that left three -- Md Nabab, 29, Sadek, 50, and Md Joynul, 12 -- dead and at least 16 others injured.

Nabab's father Nazrul Islam, Joynul's father Nur Islam, and Sadek's elder brother Abdul Baset became plaintiffs of the complaints.

Lt Col Tuhin Mohammad Masud, 33, Nayek Subedar Md Ziaur Rahman, 35, Nayek Md Sabullah, 32, Nayek Md Delwar Hossain, 30, Sepoy Md Habibur Rahman, 30, Sepoy Md Mursalin, 32, and Sepoy Md Bayrul Islam, 28, were made accused in the complaints.

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# Saudi Arabia names first woman envoy to the US

AFP, Riyadh

Saudi Arabia on Saturday named a princess as its first woman ambassador to the United States, a key appointment as the fallout over journalist Jamal Khashoggi's murder tests relations between the allies.

Princess Rima bint Bandar replaced Prince Khalid bin Salman, the younger brother of the powerful crown prince who was appointed vice defence minister in a flurry of late-night royal decrees announced on state media.

The reshuffle comes as Saudi Arabia seeks to quell an international outcry over Khashoggi's murder last October in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, which strained relations with its key ally Washington.

After initially denying

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# PILKHANA CARNAGE

## HC yet to release complete verdict

Govt, defence can't move appeals as a result; judges may take 3 more months



ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The defence and the prosecution are unable to move appeals before the Appellate Division in the sensational BDR carnage case, as the High Court is yet to release the full text of its verdict.

On November 27, 2017, the HC announced the verdict in which it awarded death penalty to 139 of the 152 accused who were earlier sentenced to capital

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# DUCSU ELECTION

## BCL announces panel of 25

Its rival JCD wants the polls deferred

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League yesterday announced its 25-member panel to contest the much-awaited Ducsu election amid Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal's demand for deferring the polls for three months.

The pro-Awami League student body also announced its vice-president and general secretary nominees in 18 hall unions.

BCL Central President Rezwanul Haque Chowdhury and General Secretary Golam Rabbani have been nominated for panel president and general secretary while DU unit General Secretary Saddam Hussain for assistant general secretary.

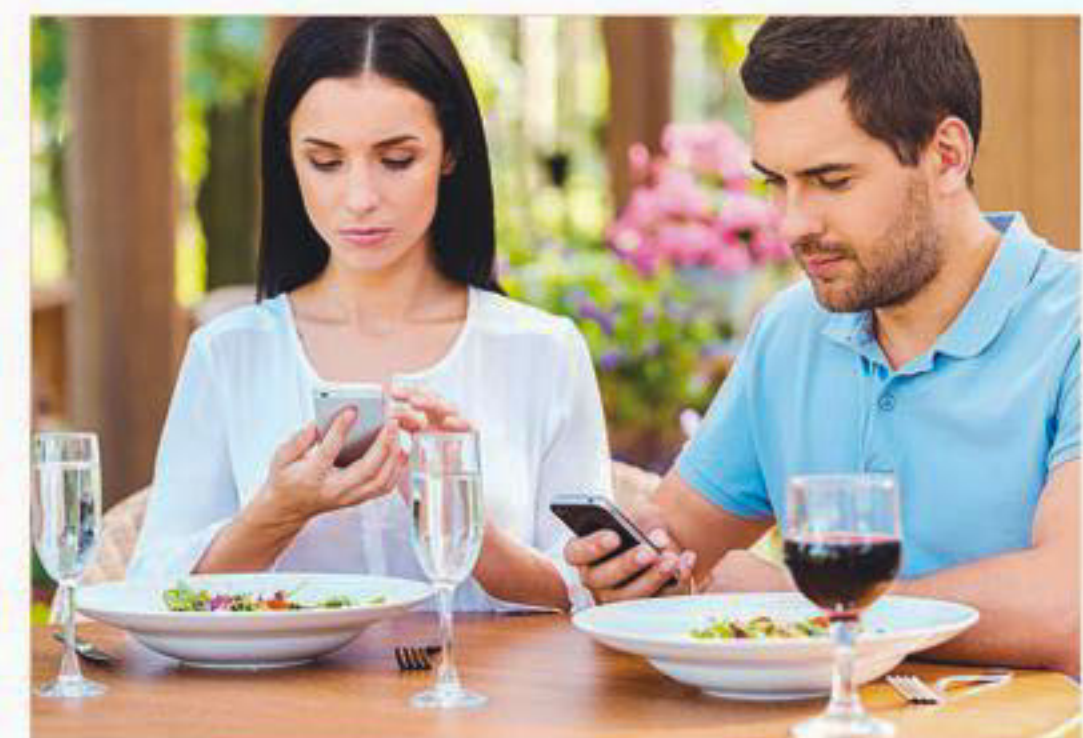
After holding a series of meetings with the AL top brass, the BCL made the announcement.

Sanjit Chandra Das, president of the BCL election committee, announced the names at a press briefing at the Madhur Canteen.

The panel comprises of posts of 13 general members, nine secretaries, a

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# Using phones during meals makes you fat



MAIL ONLINE

Using a smartphone at mealtimes can lead to an expanding waistline, say scientists.

Researchers have found that men and women consumed 15 percent more calories when looking at their phones while eating. They also ate more fatty food.

The groundbreaking study suggests that staring at a phone screen may distract diners from how much food they are actually eating.

"It may prevent the correct understanding of the brain over the amount of food ingested," said researchers who filmed 62 volunteers eating alone.

The men and women, aged 18 to 28, were invited to help themselves to a choice of food - ranging from healthy options to soft drinks and

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# Teenager killed by 'rivals' in Sylhet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A sixteen-year-old boy was killed yesterday in an attack, allegedly carried out by some teenagers of a rival gang, in Housing Estate area of Sylhet city.

The dead Sahed Ahmed was a class nine student of British Bangladesh International School and son of Abdul Khaliq, a resident of city's Cowkidekhi area.

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# PRAYER TIMING FEBRUARY 25

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 5-20 12-45 4-30 6-03 7-30  
JAMAAT 5-55 1-15 4-45 6-07 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Sacks of what appears to be chemicals being removed from the basement of Haji Wahed Mansion by Dhaka South City Corporation yesterday noon. Inset, police collect evidence from the first floor of the building.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN