



MATARBARI POWER PLANT Cox's Bazar

PROUD CONSTRUCTION **PARTNER**



Bridges that bridge little

BULBUL AHMED, Natore

More than half of the 45 bridges, built in two Natore upazilas a couple of years ago, are not bringing much benefit to the local people.

The disaster management department built the bridges -- 24 in Natore Sadar and 21 in Naldanga upazilas -- spending around Tk 14.8 crore of public money in 2016-2017 fiscal year.

But many locals said it was a largely a waste as most of the bridges did not benefit locals much. Some were built just for the benefits of a few families, while a few others were constructed over narrow canals where culverts could have served the purpose.

Also, many bridges were built without any approach road on either side.

Visiting the 45 bridges recently, this correspondent found enough evidence to substantiate the claims of the local people.

As many as 14 of the bridges have no connecting roads at

both ends and eight have been built on canals where only culverts could serve the purpose. Besides, three bridges serve only a few families while one connects a jungle. At Chhatni Diyar village in Natore Sadar upazila, the

authorities have built a 40 feet long bridge spending Tk 32.52 lakh. But there is no road linking the bridge. Six bridges have been built on a three-kilometre road at

Bhatpara village in the same upazila although there were six bridges already. "The bridges remain mostly useless. This is nothing but a

waste of public money," said Nurul Islam of Bhatpara village. The authorities have spent Tk 32.42 lakh to build a 40 feet long bridge on the Huja river, but it has remained useless as there is no approach road.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



PHOTO: BULBUL AHMED

Sylhet Gas Fields Ltd MD found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The managing director of Sylhet Gas Fields (SGFL) was found hanging

from a ceiling fan at his residential quarters in Sylhet's Jaintiapur upazila yesterday.

Engineer Md Lutfar Rahman, 55, of Mymensingh, joined the SGFL on April 8 last year and used to live in the quarters at Haripur alone as his family lives in Dhaka.

Md Shah Alam, deputy director of SGFL, said Lutfar went to the guesthouse of the gas fields to see off two officials, who went to visit the gas fields from Dhaka, in the morning. He returned to his quarters around 7:00am.

He said Lutfar used to come to office at 9:00am every day. Around 9:30am yesterday, they saw that he did not reach office and contacted his quarters. The caretaker said he might be

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

They prefer Sunday for robbery

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

Motin alias Moitta Dakat, the ringleader of a 50member gang, had been conducting robbery for the past 20 years. He and his men broke into at least 100 households and looted many people at gunpoint during the time.

Throughout the time, he collected the looted valuables from his cohorts a day after executing the robberies. He first checked newspaper reports to learn about the worth of the looted materials and then collected the exact figure from his men.

If the figures, provided by his cohorts and the newspaper reports, did not match, he would often shot his associates. He, at least for once, killed his cohort while doing this. A member of the gang named Ramjan was killed several

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

TK 50 LAKH COMPENSATION TO RUSSEL

Tk 5 lakh given, rest in a month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Green Line Paribahan yesterday handed Tk 5 lakh to Russel Sarkar who lost his left leg after a bus of the company ran him over in April last year.

Green Line owner Hazi Alauddin handed over a cheque of Tk 5 lakh to Russel before the High Court bench of Justice FRM Nazmul Ahsan and Justice KM Kamrul Kader during the hearing of a writ petition that sought adequate compensation for the victim and a stop to reckless driving.

The court also asked the Green Line owner to pay another Tk 45 lakh to Russel in a month and bear all of his treatment costs.

Alauddin told the court SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Russel Sarkar, who lost his left leg after a Green Line bus ran him over, walking with crutches in the corridor of the High Court yesterday. PHOTO: COLLECTED

MURDER OF 8-YR-OLD

Madrasa head, 2 others held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed the principal of a madrasa and one of his cohorts on a five-day remand each, while another was sent to Juvenile Correction Centre kidnapping and murdering an eight-year-old student in Demra for ransom.

Mohammed Farid Uddin, deputy commissioner (Wari Division) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, at a press briefing at the DMP media centre, said the three were arrested on Tuesday and produced before the court yesterday. Monir Hossain, a class one student of

Nur-e Madina Madrasa, went missing on Sunday. The next day, police recovered his body, stuffed in a sack, on the stairs of the under-construction Nur-e Aysha mosque in Dogair Natun Para area.

The victim's father Saidul Hoque, a small trader, then filed a murder case with Demra Police Station.

On Tuesday, police arrested the madrasa's principal Abdul Jalil Hadi, 42, also the imam of the mosque where the victim's body was found, and a 15-yearold student of the madrasa.

Based on information given by them, SEE PAGE 10 COL 1 First ever black hole image released



AFP, Paris

Astronomers yesterday unveiled the first photo of a black hole, one of the star-devouring monsters scattered throughout the Universe and obscured by impenetrable shields of gravity.

The image of a dark core encircled by a flameorange halo of white-hot gas and plasma looks like any number of artists' renderings over the last 30

But this time, it's the real deal.

Scientists have been puzzling over invisible "dark stars" since the 18th century, but never has one been spied by a telescope, much less photographed.

The supermassive black hole now immortalised by a far-flung network of radio telescopes is 50 million light years away in a galaxy known as M87. SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

103 agencies show-caused for poor hajj management

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The religious affairs ministry has issued a show-cause notice to 103 hajj agencies for poor arrangement of accomodation and transportation for hajj pilgrims in Makkah last year.

The respective agencies were given a seven-day deadline to explain why punitive and legal actions should not be taken against them in this regard.

Speaking to The Daily SEE PAHE 2 COL 1



PRAYER TIMING APRIL 11

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 4-35 12-45 4-45 6-24 7-45 JAMAAT 5-10 1-15 5-00 6-28 8-15 SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

'Robber' killed in Kishoreganj 'gunfight'

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

An alleged robber was killed in a "gunfight" with police in Kishoreganj's Bhairab upazila early yesterday. The deceased is Morom

Ali, 35, of Kalipur in Bhairab municipality, police said. Mukhlesur Rahman,

officer-in-charge of Bhairab Police Station, said police raided Chandpur Bridge area around 1:30am on information that some robbers were preparing to commit a robbery.

Sensing the law enforcers' presence, the criminals started throwing brick chunks at them and they opened fire at one stage. Police then retaliated, triggering the "gun battle", claimed the OC, who led the drive.

lets during the "gun battle", while the others fled. He was rushed to Bhairab Upazila Health Complex where doctors declared SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Morom was hit by bul-



Grocers selling goods under the warped roofs and frames of the fire-ravaged DNCC kitchen market in the capital's Gulshan yesterday. The rickety structure might cause a mishap anytime.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Battle rages on Tripoli outskirts

Thousands flee homes; UN calls for truce, protection for civilians

REUTERS, Tripoli

Eastern forces and troops loyal to the Tripoli government battled on the outskirts of Libya's capital yesterday as thousands of residents fled from the fighting.

The Libyan National Army (LNA) forces of eastern commander Khalifa Haftar held positions in the suburbs about 11 km south of the centre. Steel containers and pickups with

mounted machine-guns blocked their way into the city. Residents reported LNA planes buzzing Tripoli as antiaircraft guns fired at them. On the ground, Haftar's forces were fighting Prime Minister Fayez al-Serraj's soldiers at the former international airport, witnesses said.

A Reuters reporter in downtown Tripoli could hear the gunfire.

The United Nations said at least 4,500 Tripoli residents had been displaced, most moving away from homes in conflict areas to safer districts. Many more were trapped, it

The LNA forces moved out of their stronghold in east

Libya to take the sparsely-populated but oil-rich south earlier this year, before heading a week ago towards Tripoli, where the internationally-recognised government sits. Libya has been divided and anarchic since the 2011 toppling

of then-strongman Muammar Gaddafi. He ruled for more than four decades before falling in a Western-backed revolt. Since then, political and armed factions have vied for

power and control of Libya's oil wealth, and the country split into rival eastern and western administrations linked to shifting military alliances after a battle for Tripoli in 2014. SEE PAGE 10 COL 5