

# Eid holidaymakers in for a rough ride

## Jatri Kalyan Samity fears

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Thousands of Eid holidaymakers may suffer due to traffic congestion, shortage of vehicles and poor condition of roads if the authorities concerned do not take measures immediately, said Bangladesh Jatri Kalyan Samity yesterday.

The passenger welfare association observed that one-fourth of roads are dilapidated, and the number of bus, train and water transport is inadequate compared to the number of passengers.

As traffic congestion has already been seen in some major highways and intersections, poor condition of roads may deteriorate the situation even further, said the association at a roundtable held at Jatiya Press Club.

At the same time, many unfit vehicles and three-wheelers will be operating on the highways to fill up vehicle shortage, it said. Furthermore, buses will start speeding to make more trips, which will escalate the risk of accidents.

To reduce sufferings of holidaymakers, the association recommended that the government strictly implement ban on unfit vehicles, restrict operation of three-wheelers and motorbikes on highways, evict markets from roadsides, and stop overloading of vessels.

Jatri Kalyan Samity Secretary General Mozammel Hoque Chowdhury said though the condition of roads is better than previous years, about 26 percent roads

[5,000km] are dilapidated as per the data of roads and highways department.

"Approximately 1.15 crore people will leave Dhaka during the upcoming Eid vacation, while 3.9 crore more will move from one district to another... We don't have enough roads and public transports to handle such a heavy load," he said.

Around 44,374 buses, 27,962 minibuses, 177 trains and 4,250 launches will operate during Eid, he added. About road accidents, Mozammel said over speeding, recklessness and unfit vehicles were the major causes of deaths on roads during last year's Eid journey. Last year, 598 people were killed and 2,225 injured in 514 road accidents during Eid journeys, he said in a written statement.

Prof Mizanur Rahman, former chairman of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), said passengers' safety is not a matter of generosity; it's their right.

"Bangladesh is now a country of the rich, and it is protecting their rights. The country doesn't care about the poor," said Mizanur.

The Dhaka University professor urged the government to ensure transparency and accountability at all levels of its institutions, and formulate a separate act to ensure passengers' safety through proper implementation of laws.

Mohammad Belayet Hossain, additional secretary of RHD, claimed that passengers will face less hassle in the Eid journey as they have taken several initiatives.



UP TO THEIR OLD TRICKS... Workers give an old bus a facelift so that the unfit vehicle could carry passengers during the Eid rush. Such vehicles, inset, often get involved in fatal crashes on highways. The photos were taken at a workshop in Gabtoli yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

# NUSRAT KILLING Ex-Sonagazi OC seeks anticipatory bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former officer-in-charge (OC) of Sonagazi Police Station Moazzem Hossain yesterday filed a petition with the High Court, seeking anticipatory bail in a case filed on charges of recording a statement of madrasa student Nusrat Jahan Rafi and circulating the video clip on social media.

Moazzem submitted the bail petition to the HC through a lawyer, Advocate Salma Sultana, in the case filed under the Digital Security Act.

The HC is yet to set the date for hearing the bail petition. Details of the bail petition could not be known, as Moazzem's lawyer could not be reached.

On April 15, Supreme Court lawyer Barrister Syed Sayedul Haque Suman filed the case with Dhaka Cyber Tribunal against Moazzem under Digital Security Act, for recording the statement of sexual assault victim Nusrat on camera without her consent, and circulating it on social media.

On May 27, the tribunal issued an arrest warrant for Moazzem in the case. Judge Ash Sams Joglul Hossain of Dhaka Cyber Tribunal issued the warrant after Rima Sultana, senior assistant superintendent of police of the Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI), submitted a probe report in the case confirming the OC's involvement in the incident.

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# \$100m World Bank loan to improve four Dhaka neighbourhoods

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday signed a \$100.5 million financing agreement with the World Bank to improve livability of four major neighborhoods in Dhaka, with an aim to benefit about a million people.

The project titled "Dhaka City Neighbourhood Upgrading" will enhance public spaces and urban services.

The neighbourhoods expected to be benefitted are: Kamrangir Char, Lalbagh, Sutrapur-Nayabazar-Gulistan and Khilgaon-Mugda-Bashabo under Dhaka South City Corporation.

The project will help revamp public spaces like parks, playgrounds, waterfronts; streets, sidewalks; and transform public buildings such as community centres into multipurpose facilities.

The four localities were selected through a series of consultations with different stakeholder groups.

The financing entails a soft loan at 2 percent interest rate that includes 1.25 percent interest and 0.75 percent service charge. Bangladesh has to repay the loan in 30 years with the first five years as grace period.

The agreement was signed by Md Zahidul Haque and Zahid Hussain on behalf of the Government of Bangladesh and the World Bank, respectively, at the Economic Relations Division.

With more than one-third of the country's urban population living in Dhaka, it is one of the world's most densely populated cities, said Zahid Hussain, acting World Bank country director for Bangladesh and Bhutan.

Due to inadequate infrastructure, lack of public amenities and severe traffic congestion, Dhaka dwellers face many difficulties in their everyday lives, he said, adding that the project will address some of these challenges and help enhance the quality of civic life.

"Dhaka city accounts for about

one-fifth of the country's GDP and half of formal employment. Hence, it plays an important role in achieving the government's vision of becoming an upper-middle income country," said Md Zahidul Haque, additional secretary to the ERD.

The project will help enhance green open spaces by upgrading selected parks, streets and waterfront areas. It will also pilot interventions for safe mobility and traffic management, and incorporate environment-friendly features, energy-efficient design principles and materials in all efforts that it will support.

The project will cater to the needs of women, children, elderly and disabled. Women in Dhaka face challenges in terms of mobility and access to public infrastructure. Around 93 percent of women reportedly do not use public toilets and 42 percent perceive the city's parks to be unsafe.

To improve personal safety and

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# Khaleda served iftar as per jail code: Quader

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said that as a convicted person, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia is served iftar according to the jail code.

But if she deems the iftar provided to her insufficient and is unhappy about it, authorities concerned will be asked to take measures accordingly, Quader, also general secretary of Awami League, said.

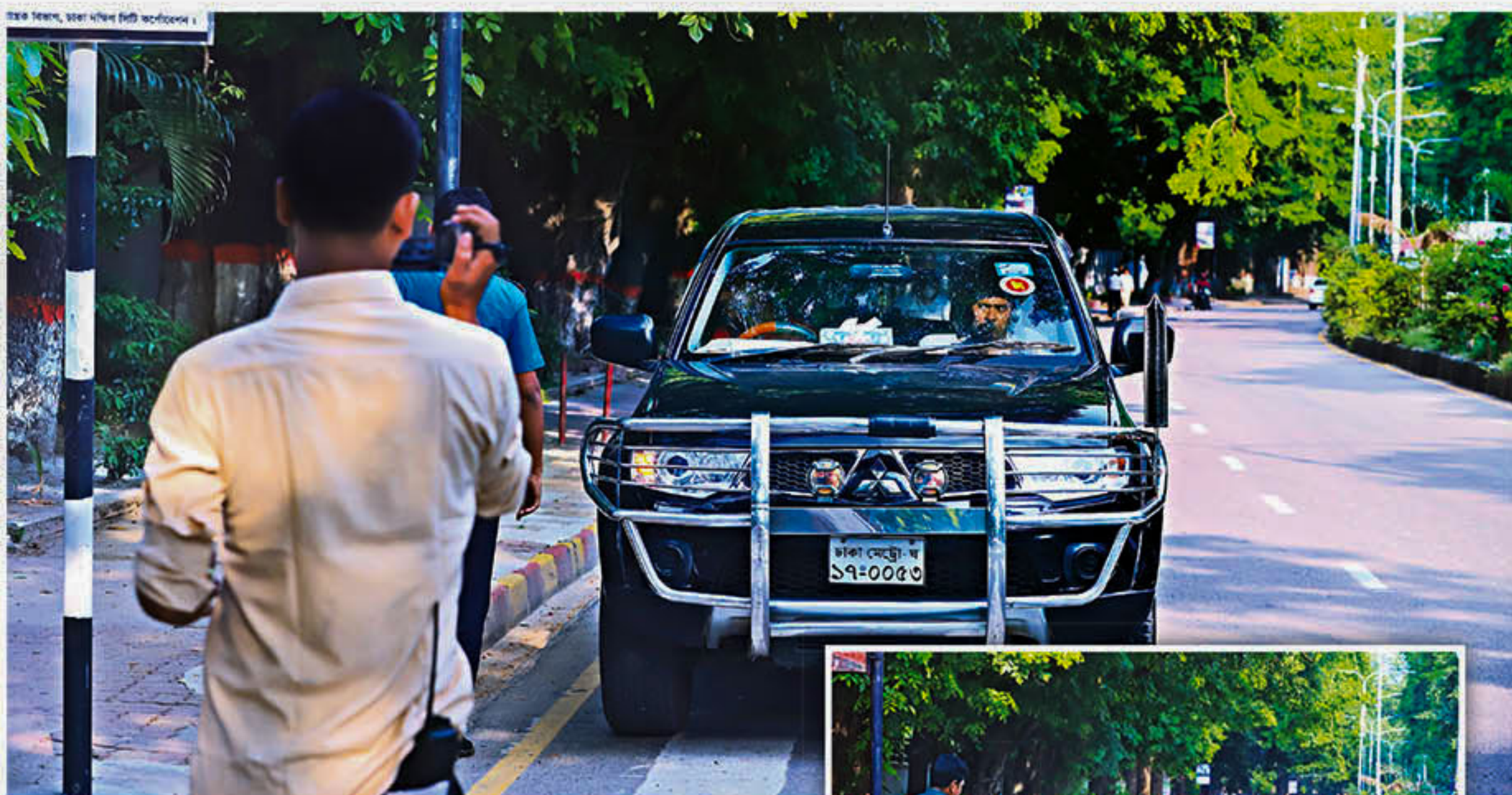
He said this while answering journalists' questions at a progress review meeting of Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Lines at the office of Agargaon metro rail site.

"Iftar is a religious matter. People usually don't take expensive food items for iftar. Doing politics over the issue is unexpected," the minister said.

Quader made the remark referring to Tuesday's iftar event hosted by BNP in honour of politicians, where the party provided guests with Tk 30 iftar package each -- the amount allocated for its jailed chairperson.

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir during the event said that the government provides Tk 30 for their party chairperson's iftar and that is why the party activists decided to spend the same amount of money per person on the iftar, as a sign of their solidarity.

Khaleda landed in jail in February last year after being sentenced to five years in Zia Orphanage Trust graft case. The High Court later extended her jail term to 10 years.



AN UNSPOKEN INDEMNITY? The sight of cars bearing stickers of government offices driving on the wrong side is all too common at Hare Road, a residential area for high-level officials. A police personnel is seen recording the transgression, while another tries to stop the vehicle. Traffic policemen say they are often hesitant to fine the drivers instantly because of owners.



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

# Non-communicable diseases cause 60pc deaths annually

## Health minister says

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Non-communicable diseases (NCD) cause 60 percent deaths every year in Bangladesh, Health Minister Zahid Maleque said yesterday.

The minister said this during a press conference on publishing a survey report titled "Bangladesh NCD Risk Factor Survey 2018" at his office.

The six risk factors of NCD are: tobacco use, consuming less than five servings of fruits and vegetables on average per day, insufficient physical activity, being overweight, high blood pressure and high cholesterol, the minister said.

Around 70 percent Bangladeshis have at least two of the risk factors. Over 68 percent male and 73 percent of the female population have two of the six risk factors, according to the survey.

Seventy percent people of Bangladesh are suffering from high blood pressure, the minister also revealed.

Of the total population, 70.8 percent have never checked their blood glucose level. Among men, 73.6 percent have never measured blood glucose level; among women, that ratio is 68.5 percent.

A little over 20 percent of Bangladeshis are overweight, and five and a half percent of the total population are obese, the survey reveals.

The cross-sectional survey was carried out from September 2017 to June 2018 among adult population (aged 18-69) across all the divisions of Bangladesh, said Prof Baizid Khorshid Riaz, director of National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine.

Non-communicable diseases, also known as chronic diseases, tend to be of long duration and are the result of a combination of genetic, physiological, environmental and behavioral factors, the minister said.

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# BCL drops 19 from central committee

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League yesterday dropped 19 members from the organisation's recently announced committee, following various allegations.

At an emergency meeting of the executive committee, BCL high-ups took the decision, reads a press release.

The vacant posts will be filled through a selection process later on, the press release added.

Asked why the names were not disclosed, party general secretary Golam Rabbani said, "Apa (PM Sheikh Hasina) is our High Court, Supreme Court, and constitution. We will submit all the names, information and documents regarding

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

**Padma Oil Company Limited**  
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)  
Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chattogram

### e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the works:

| Tender ID No. & Tender Reference | Name of works  | Tender publishing date & time in e-GP | Last date & time of tender selling | Last date & time of tender security submission | Date & time of tender closing |
|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| 323206, E&P/F-30/P-70/18-19      | Renovation, Painting of Building Structures, Sheds, Tanks, Pipelines, Boundary Wall of Sylhet Osmani International Airport, Sylhet | 28-May-2019 at 11:00 Hrs              | 16-June-2019 at 14:00 Hrs          | 17-June-2019 at 13:59 Hrs                      | 17-June-2019 at 14:00 Hrs     |

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (as above) is required.

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**বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন**  
বিএসসি ভবন, সন্টগোলা রোড, চট্টগ্রাম  
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### স্টেশনারী ব্যবাদি সরবরাহের জন্য উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

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| ০১ | মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ                              | সি.পরিবহন মন্ত্রণালয়, দপ্তরসচিব বাংলাদেশ সরকার।   |
| ০২ | প্রকল্প/ইউজি/এসিটি                             | বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন, চট্টগ্রাম।   |
| ০৩ | দরপত্রের বিবরণ                                 | স্টেশনারী সরবরাহ। বিস্তারিত বিবরণী সিডিউসে উল্লেখ করা আছে।   |
| ০৪ | প্রকল্পের নাম                                  | উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।  |
| ০৫ | আমদান  | দরপত্রের সাথে বিএসসি'র অনুমোদিত পে-অর্ডার অকার্ড/ছাফট ড্রাফট ১০,০০০/- টাকা (সেইসময়) পে-অর্ডার জমা দিতে হবে।   |
| ০৬ | দরপত্র তফসিল বিক্রয়ের স্থান                   | হিসার বিভাগ, বিএসসি, চট্টগ্রাম।  |
| ০৭ | দরপত্র তফসিলের মূল্য                           | ৩০০/- (শীতশত) টাকা মাত্র অফারযোগ্য।  |
| ০৮ | দরপত্র তফসিল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ               | ১৩-০৬-২০১৯ তারিখ বেলো ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।   |
| ০৯ | দরপত্র তফসিলের তারিখ এবং সময়                  | ১৪-০৬-২০১৯ তারিখ দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে।   |
| ১০ | দরপত্র কোয়ার্টার তারিখ এবং সময়               | ১৪-০৬-২০১৯ তারিখ বেলো ১২:১৫ ঘটিকায়।   |
| ১১ | দরপত্র প্রাপ্তির স্থান                         | "বিএসসি ভবন", সন্টগোলা রোড, চট্টগ্রাম, ডাঃ জালা, প্রশাসন বিভাগে প্রেরিত হতে হবে।   |
| ১২ | দরপত্র কোয়ার্টার স্থান                        | মহাবাহুবল্লভ (হিসার) এর দপ্তর, বিএসসি ভবন, চট্টগ্রাম।  |
| ১৩ | দরপত্রপ্রাপ্তির মেয়াদ                         | সম্পূর্ণ কাজের অধিকারসম্পন্ন প্রতিষ্ঠান।   |
| ১৪ | দরপত্র আবেদনকারী কর্তৃককারী নাম, পদবী ও ঠিকানা | আরু সাফায়েত মুহম্মদ শাহেদুল ইসলাম, মহাবাহুবল্লভ নাম, পদবী ও ঠিকানা (প্রশাসন), বিএসসি ভবন, চট্টগ্রাম-৬১০০।   |
| ১৫ | বিএসসি কর্তৃককর কার্যকর করণ প্রক্রিয়া         | আবেদনকারীকেই যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে বা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করবে এবং সর্বমুঠ দর গ্রহণের বাধ্য নন। দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল নির্ধারিত তারিখে অবশিষ্ট করবে দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা খেলা সত্ত্বেও তা হলে পরবর্তী কার্যক্রমে দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা খেলা হবে। |

আরু সাফায়েত মুহম্মদ শাহেদুল ইসলাম  
মহাবাহুবল্লভ (প্রশাসন)  
বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন  
ল্যান্ড ফোন: ০৩১-৬২৪১৩২

১৩৩৩

● একজন নোবেলম্যান- সময়ের আলোচিত কণ্ঠশিল্পী নোবেল

● আমার প্রতিটি ছবিই আত্মজৈবনিক : মোস্তফা সরয়ার ফারুকী

● দীর্ঘদিন পর খোলামেলা আলোচনায় ঈশিতা

● অর্পিত-মিথিলার আড্ডা

● ক্রসটিকে আছেন রুবানা হক, ইকবাল হাবিব ও ফেরদৌস

● সবাই শুধু ভালোটাই গুনতে চাই : সৈয়দ জামিল আহমেদের মুখোমুখি

**আনন্দধারা**

শিল্প লিখেছেন ফরিদুর রেজা সাগর অনিমেম আইচ মাসুদ হাসান উজ্জ্বল সঞ্জিবানুর রহমান সুমন অনাম বিশ্বাস সোহানা সাবা আশানা হাবিব ভাবনা জাহিদ আকবর মিনার রহমান

ঈদ সংখ্যা ২০১৯

এখন বাজারে

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