

"Work at night and even on the Eid day if necessary. It is a matter of commitment."
ROAD TRANSPORT MINISTER OBAIDUL QUADER ASKS OFFICIALS TO ENSURE SMOOTH JOURNEY OF HOLIDAYMAKERS (PAGE 16)



"When one comes from the judiciary or the administration and joins the commission on deputation, his or her work becomes difficult due to passive government influence."
LAWYER SALMA ALI ABOUT THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (PAGE 3)



"If I am not ahead, I will ban you, I will send warships, that is not competition. That is making a threat."
MALAYSIAN PM MAHATHIR MOHAMAD ABOUT US CRACKDOWN ON CHINA'S TECH GIANT HUAWEI (PAGE B2)



QUESTION LEAK, ADMISSION CHEAT

87 DU students to be charged

CID to press charges after Eid; hunt on for 90 more suspects

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Following an investigation for one and a half years, the police have finalised a charge sheet against 87 students of Dhaka University and 38 others over their alleged involvement in question leak and cheating their way into the university. The charge sheet will be submitted to court after the Eid-ul-Fitr, Mohammad Shafiqul Islam, chief of the Criminal Investigation Department that ran the probe, told reporters at the CID headquarters in the capital yesterday. The CID arrested 47 of the 125 suspects, including the alleged mastermind, Alip Kumar Biswas, a suspended assistant director of Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protishtan (BKSP). Three more government officials and 21 DU students were among them, according to the CID. All 47 except for one have already given statements before a magistrate, confessing their crimes, the CID chief said. Most of the suspects, including Alip, are

now on bail. The CID is now looking for 90 more DU students, who too passed the university admission tests through cheating with the help of this gang. "A supplementary charge sheet will be submitted after we verify their names and addresses," the official mentioned. Among those involved, some were members of Bangladesh Chhatra League, said sources in the CID. In its very first raid on two DU dormitories, the CID arrested two BCL leaders -- Mohiuddin Rana, an assistant secretary of the BCL central committee, and Abdullah Al Mamun, theatre and debate affairs secretary of the BCL's Amar Ekushey Hall unit -- only hours before the university's "Gha" unit admission test on October 20, 2017. Both were expelled by the university authorities in January this year. The DU authorities yesterday said they would take action against the accused

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



England's Ben Stokes was in fine form during the World Cup opener against South Africa and the all-rounder's fluent 79-ball 89 helped the hosts post 311 for eight at The Oval in London yesterday. The hosts won the game by 104 runs.

PHOTO: REUTERS



পদ্মা সেতুর মূল কাঠামোতে ব্যবহৃত হচ্ছে শুধুমাত্র স্ক্যানসিমেন্ট

FARM MACHINERY
Farmers to get Tk 3,000cr in subsidy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is planning to provide exporters with up to 30 percent incentive to promote rice export, Agriculture Minister Abdur Razzaque said yesterday. The comment came amid an outcry over falling prices of paddy and rice in the domestic market, resulting from good harvest of the Boro crop and higher public and private stock of imported rice. "Low prices of Boro crop is not acceptable at all. We are going to take some quick measures to improve the situation," the minister said at a press briefing at his office in the secretariat. Besides, the government has decided to provide a subsidy of Tk 3,000 crore

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

Inmate dies after 'prison fight' in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

An inmate at Chattogram Central Jail died early yesterday following a fight inside a cell, authorities said. Amit Muhuri, 32, was accused in 15 criminal cases, including several for murder. He was also a Jubo League activist, said Jailer Nasir Ahmed. He added that Amit was hit in the head by a brick during an altercation with another inmate Ripon Nath. Amit was alone in the cell with Ripon when the fatal assault occurred, he said. Hearing screams, prison guards rushed to the scene and found Amit nearly unconscious and bleeding from the wound to his head. He was taken to Chattogram Medical College Hospital around 10:00pm on Wednesday. He died around three hours later, said Shilbrata Barua, assistant sub-inspector at the hospital police outpost.



SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

England set an opening marker

SAKEB SUBHAN from London

Some of the pre-match hype turned out to be unfounded as the South Africa-England game was not a humdinger and a score over 350 proved not to be a given, but the opening game of the 2019 World Cup at The Oval yesterday did provide early vindication of one forecast: hosts England may well be the team to match in this edition of cricket's mega event. They comfortably outclassed a strong South African unit by 104 runs, to the utter delight of a capacity and partisan crowd at south London's iconic venue. Barring a sharp drop in form, the crowd support that the home team are likely to get will serve as a strong wind beneath their wings over the next month and a half. England did not pile on 350-plus after South Africa chose to field first at the toss, but with four half-centuries against a well-drilled Proteas attack, they scored 311 for eight, with Ben Stokes's 79-ball 89 forming the backbone. While there were doubts over England's bowling prowess, the advent of newly-eligible-for-selection Barbados fast bowler Jofra Archer has completed the picture. The right-arm speedster took three for 27 in seven overs, aside from putting South African mainstay Hashim Amla out of commission with a bouncer that clanged

the helmet grille in the fourth over. The opener retired hurt and only came back at the fall of Rassie van der Dussen -- who was late on an Archer bouncer and was caught at mid on for 50 -- by which time, with the score on 161 for six in the 32nd over, the game was already beyond South Africa. Liam Plunkett got rid of Amla with a bouncer that the right-hander edged to the keeper and Stokes completed a player-of-the match performance by dismissing Kagiso Rabada and last man Imran Tahir as South Africa folded for 207 in 39.5 overs. It was not just with the bat and ball that Stokes impressed -- he also completed what will surely be a strong contender for catch of the tournament when he caught what would have a certain six in a reverse-cupped right hand, leaping while running backwards at the midwicket boundary, to send back Andile Phelukwayo off Adil Rashid. The match also held some lessons for Bangladesh, who will open their World Cup campaign against South Africa at the same venue next Sunday. It was only England's brilliance and the confidence they have in their batting ability throughout the lineup that they

continued their inexorable march towards 300 despite South Africa bowling well and landing some blows, such as getting half-centurions Jason Roy and Joe Root out in successive overs after a 110-run second-wicket stand. South Africa could not match that. Although they kept up somewhat with the asking run rate, they lost too many wickets in the bargain. The match suggested that The Oval's wicket is one where bowling teams can have joy if they bowl as a unit. Moreover, it did take spin and England off-spinner Moeen Ali, despite conceding more than six an over, did have the spin-wary South Africans in two minds as some balls turned and some went straight through, well within the wheelhouse of Bangladesh's specialist spinners Shakib Al Hasan and Mehedi Hasan Miraz. Bangladesh of course do not have specialist leg-spinners like South Africa's Imran Tahir and England's Rashid -- both of whom enjoyed more assistance from the surface than Ali -- but Mehedi and Shakib would be fancying their chances on this surface, if not to take wickets, then to stifle the runs. Back to yesterday's match, it started with Tahir dismissing opener

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6



With Eid just less than a week away, holidaymakers have started leaving the capital to celebrate the festival with their loved ones back home. The photos were taken at Kamalapur Railway Station yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

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