



"MY HOME IS
AS GREAT AS THE
PADMA BRIDGE TO ME"

Whether for your home or the Pillars of Padma Bridge
We forge steels with the same expertise

COUNTRY'S NO. 1 STEEL EXPERT

BSRM
building a safer nation



MATARBARI POWER PLANT

Cox's Bazar

PROUD
CONSTRUCTION
PARTNER

**SHAH
CEMENT**

Huge haul of liquor in Ctg

Customs seize large consignment brought in from China as capital machinery for power plant

MOHAMMAD SUMAN, Ctg

Chattogram Customs House seized a huge consignment of alcohol, imported as capital machinery for a power plant, from three barges in the Karnaphuli river on Tuesday night. The consignment was offloaded on to the barges from a mother vessel from China.

According to import documents, capital machinery weighing 1,407 tonnes was imported by Bangladesh-China Power Company (Pvt) Limited in 669 boxes. After opening some of those, customs officials found liquor and beer of different brands.

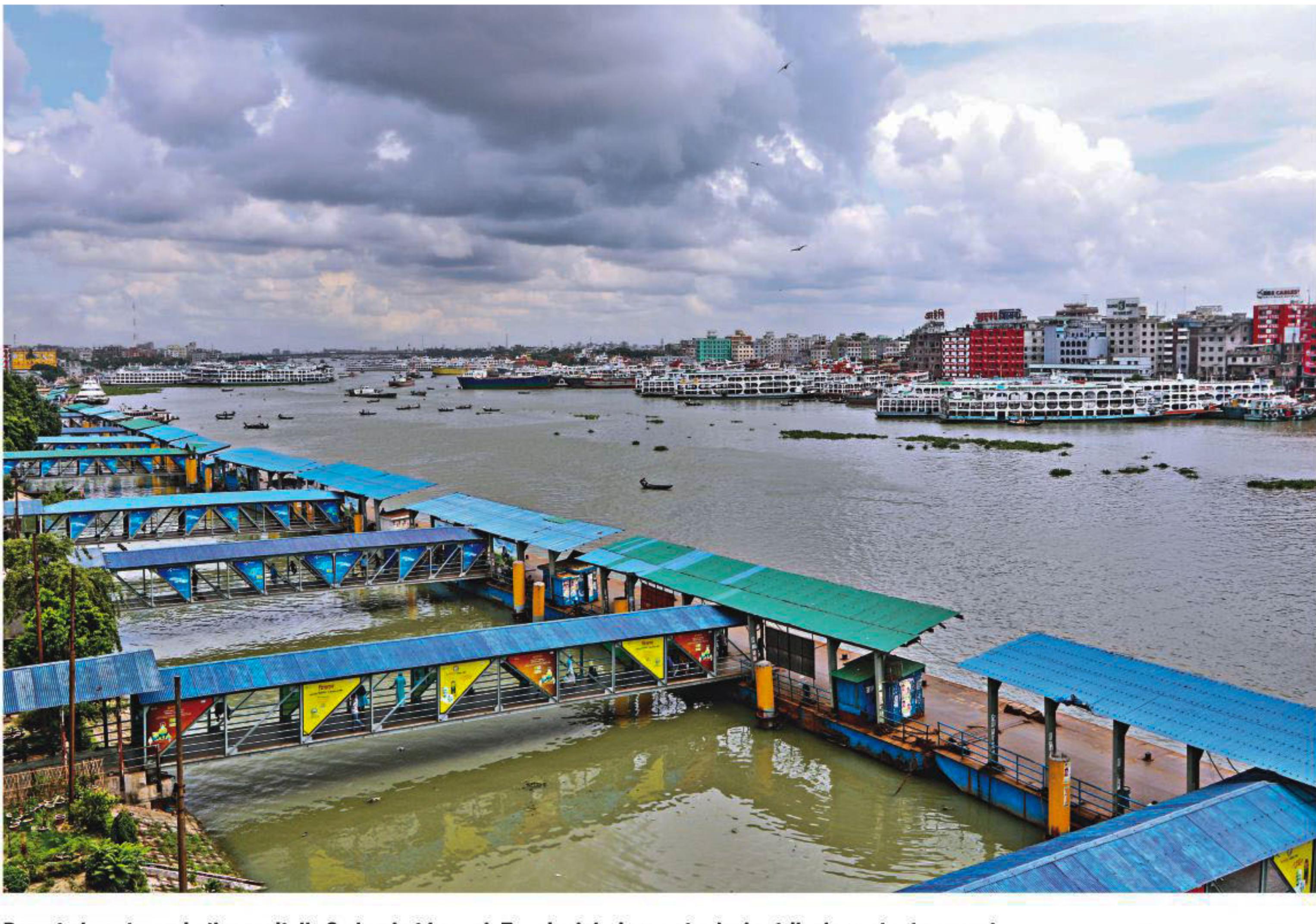
The joint venture company is implementing a 1,320 MW power plant project at Payra of Patuakhali.

Officials said this might be the biggest ever seizure of alcohol at Chattogram Port in terms of volume.

C&F agent Bipasha International, which was responsible for unloading the boxes from the mother vessel, MV Qi Xia Shan, on behalf of the joint venture, had declared that the cargo vessel would carry capital machinery for the power plant, Customs House Joint Commissioner Shadhon Kumar Chandra told The Daily Star.

Customs sources said MV Qi Xia Shan reached Chattogram Port from China on July 18. It carried 11,511 tonnes of goods imported by 40 companies and had been

SEE PAGE 12 COL 6



Deserted pontoons in the capital's Sadarghat Launch Terminal during yesterday's strike by water transport owners and workers. Travellers and businesses suffered a lot throughout the day.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Campaign to dispel rumours

PM directs govt agencies on mob beating

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Prime Minister's Office yesterday issued a set of directives asking government agencies to launch a social awareness campaign against rumours behind the recent mob attacks.

Concerned ministries and offices have been asked to create social resistances involving all the stakeholders, including local communities, to stop the spread of rumours, the PM's Speech Writer Md Nazrul Islam told a media briefing, reports BSS.

SEE PAGE 12 COL 2

'No ifs or buts'

Boris Johnson, in his first speech as British PM, vows Brexit on October 31

REUTERS, London

Boris Johnson took over as Britain's new prime minister yesterday vowed to prove the "gloomsters" wrong and get a new deal to leave the European Union on October 31 -- or exit without one.

The 55-year-old former London mayor is a divisive figure, loved by many for his wit and optimism but criticised for populist rhetoric and exaggerated claims during the 2016 Brexit referendum vote.

In a speech in Downing Street, he repeated that he would prepare to leave the bloc without an agreement with Brussels but suggested this was a "remote possibility".

But ending Britain's 46-year membership of the bloc will prove a huge challenge for Johnson, who has a wafer-thin working majority in parliament and faces significant opposition among his own Conservative party.

The EU has repeatedly said it will not renegotiate the divorce deal it struck with his predecessor Theresa May, which has been rejected by MPs three times.



SEE PAGE 12 COL 1

AL leader hacked to death in Bandarban

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Bandarban

An Awami League leader was hacked to death in Bandarban's Lama upazila last night, just around 34 hours into the murder of another AL leader in the district.

The dead, Md Alamgir Shikdar, 45, was the joint secretary of Sarai union AL in the upazila, said party sources.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Lama Police Station Oppela Raju Naha said

SEE PAGE 12 COL 5

Insects replace pesticides in Spain

AFP, Dallas

"They work for me night and day," smiles Antonio Zamora, standing in his greenhouse. His minuscule employees are bugs that feed on the parasites threatening his peppers.

Zamora, like most of his colleagues, no longer

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



PRAYER TIMING JULY 25

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-20 12-45 5-00 6-50 8-15
JAMAAT 4-55 1-15 5-15 6-55 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A woman and her two sons leaving their flooded neighbourhood in Lalmonirhat's Shiberkuti with their goat and earthen stove on a raft made of banana trees yesterday.

PHOTO:
S DILIP ROY

Downpour, onrush of water worsen flood in north

STAR REPORT

Flood situation has started worsening again in some northern districts as rivers are swelling due to heavy downpour and onrush of water from across the border.

Teesta, Dharla, Jamuna, Dudhkumari, Bangalee and its adjacent rivers are flowing above the danger level, said the Water Development Board (WDB).

In addition, fresh areas were inundated after dam collapse, and around 40 villages in Kurigram are at risk with two embankments being on the verge of collapse.

"Water in the rivers of northern districts will rise in two or three days before starting to recede," said Arifuzzaman Bhuiyan, executive engineer of WDB, and duty officer of

Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC).

Over 4.8 million people are still affected by floods in 17 districts, according to National Disaster Response Coordination Centre.

The FFWC yesterday monitored river conditions at 93 stations across the country, and found that water was flowing above the danger level at 18 stations.

The water level in Teesta, Dharla, Brahmaputra, and other rivers of the northern region and Surma-Kushiyara will rise today, but the Jamuna water level may remain steady, according to a bulletin of the FFWC, which was updated yesterday.

Flood situation in Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Bogura,

SEE PAGE 12 COL 2

Credit Rating Report on Janata Bank Limited

Rating Mode	Long Term	Short Term
Entity Rating as Government Supported Bank	AAA	ST-1
Entity Rating as Commercial Bank	A	ST-2
Outlook		Stable
Date of Rating		07 May, 2019
Expiry Date		06 May, 2020
AAA	Bank rated in this category is adjudged to be of best quality, offer highest safety and have highest credit quality.	
A	Bank rated in this category is adjudged to offer adequate safety for timely repayment of financial obligations.	
ST-1	Highest Grade: Highest Certainty of timely payment. Short-term liquidity including internal fund generation is very strong and access to alternative sources of funds is outstanding. Safety is almost like risk free Government short term obligations.	
ST-2	High Grade: High certainty of timely payment. Liquidity factors are strong and supported by good fundamental protection factors. Risk factors are very small.	

The above rating has been done by Credit Rating Information and Services Limited (CRISL) on the basis of audited financial statements of FY2015-2018 and other available quantitative and qualitative information up to the date of rating declaration. The affirmed rating reflects the strengths of the bank which is backed by its support from the government being a government owned bank, experienced management, good liquidity position, good market share, diversified earnings and country-wide network of branches.



জনতা ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

উন্নয়নে আপনার বিশ্বস্ত অংশীদার

www.jb.com.bd

People suffer for strike and counter-strike on waterways

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

River communications across the country came to a near halt yesterday as water transport workers and owners enforced strike and counter-strike that caused huge public sufferings.

Although the workers postponed their "work abstention" for passenger vessels at 4:00pm and other vessels at 7:30pm, launch owners started their strike in the afternoon, protesting "workers' repeated strikes".

This tussle between the workers and the owners caused immense sufferings to people of many southern districts as only a few launches operated from different terminals.

Bangladesh Water Transport Workers Federation began their programme at 12:01am yesterday to press home their 11-point demand.

Their demands include full implementation of the pay scale of 2016, stopping ex-tortion and robbery at vessels, and giving appointment letters and identity cards to transport workers.

On April 16 this year, the federation had started work abstention to press home their 11-point demand, but called it off later following a meeting among the leaders of workers, owners and government officials.

The meeting had decided that the demands would be

SEE PAGE 12 COL 2



PRAYER TIMING JULY 25

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-20 12-45 5-00 6-50 8-15
JAMAAT 4-55 1-15 5-15 6-55 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION