



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

**COUNTRY'S NO. 1 STEEL EXPERT**

**BSRM**  
building a safer nation

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



**MATARBARI POWER PLANT**  
Cox's Bazar

**PROUD CONSTRUCTION PARTNER**

**SHAH CEMENT**

# Not ministry, PWD to blame

## Says ACC about anomalies in Rooppur power plant project

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Ministry of Housing and Public Works is not "liable" for anomalies which surfaced at the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant Project as it was a concern of the Public Works Department (PWD), the Anti-Corruption Commission said yesterday.

"The ministry's approval is needed for the implementation of big projects worth over Tk 30 crore. In many cases, to avert ministry's approval...projects are divided into small packages for tender," said ACC in its report prepared to identify 15 sources of corruption at the PWD.

To explain, the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) brought up the much-talked about financial anomalies at Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant project, where a pillow was bought for Tk 5,957, and the cost of carrying it to a flat was Tk 760.

The ACC said the "PWD prepared estimation for the supply of furniture for its six under-construction buildings and invited tender for six packages" for the Rooppur plant project. "As the estimated procurement price of each package was below Tk 30 crore, PWD itself approved and appointed a contractor."

"In this case, the ministry had no involvement in preparing estimation, giving approval or appointing contractors," reads the report.

Yesterday, ACC's Commissioner M Mozammel Haque Khan handed over the report to SM Rezaul Karim, Minister of the Ministry of Housing and Public Works at the latter's office.

Earlier, two government probe committees found anomalies involving

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Children of women, who are mostly labourers, play on a discarded plastic traffic barrier in Suhrawardy Udyan yesterday. The government inaugurated the child rights week yesterday with the aim of ensuring a healthy environment for children so they can get an improved life and bright future.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

# ABRAR KILLING Punishment of only killers won't do

## Say 11 eminent citizens

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The killing of Buet student Abrar Fahad is a manifestation of how political parties and their front organisations have been riding on muscle power rather than ideology, eminent citizens said in a statement yesterday.

The political parties have completely failed to control their student, youth and other front organisations. Recent incidents shed light on their ideological bankruptcy, they said.

"We don't believe that this crisis can be overcome only by giving exemplary punishment to the killers of Abrar," they said, adding that the government and all political parties have to instil human values and tolerance in their front bodies and the administration if they want to free the nation from

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

# FORCED INTO SEX WORK Girl rescued after five years

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A girl who was forced into sex work five years ago was rescued by police from Patuakhali town on Tuesday night.

The victim, 17, was rescued after she went to visit a Puja mandap in Notunbazar, which was near the house she was kept in by the leader of a prostitution ring -- Lipi Begum, police said quoting the victim.

Lipi had sent another sex worker to keep an eye on the victim. At one stage, the girl escaped and took a battery-run rickshaw towards a launch terminal, police said.

Another sex worker spotted and caught her. After the victim started screaming, locals rushed to the spot and informed police.

Md Hanif, sub-inspector of Patuakhali police station, said, "After being informed, we rushed to the spot, rescued her from Women's College Road and brought her to the police station. We already asked her parents to come. Until then, she will stay here."

Speaking to journalists at the station, the victim said she was forced into prostitution when she was in class three. Earlier, she used to live with

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

# Bangladesh slips in press freedom ranking: WEF

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh's position has deteriorated in this year's freedom of the press ranking done by the World Economic Forum (WEF).

The WEF prepared this year's Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) based on 141 economies.

Bangladesh's position slipped down four places to 123rd in the latest GCI from 119th in last year's GCI.

"Both score and ranking of Bangladesh in press freedom has declined this year," said Khondaker

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

# WORK ON LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES Trio wins Nobel Prize in Chemistry



Stanley Whittingham

John Goodenough

Akira Yoshino

AFP, Stockholm

Three researchers yesterday won the Nobel Chemistry Prize for the development of lithium-ion batteries, paving the way for smartphones and a fossil fuel-free society.

John Goodenough of the United States -- at 97 the oldest person to be awarded a Nobel prize -- Britain's Stanley Whittingham, and Japan's Akira Yoshino will share the nine million Swedish kronor (about \$914,000

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

# Toxic liquor kills eight

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Eight people have died in Khulna since Tuesday for consuming toxic alcohol, said doctors.

The dead are Taposh Das, 35, Parimol Das, 30, Proshenjit Das, 28, Sujon Shil, 25, Rahul Biswas, 25, Dipto Das, 22, Amit Shil, 22, and Indrani Biswas, 16.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 10

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-45 12-45 4-15 5-53 7-30  
JAMAAT 5-20 1-15 4-30 5-56 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



**BASHUNDHARA GROUP**  
For the People, for the Country

16339  
www.bashundharacement.com

**MY HOME MY SAFETY**

HOME BUILDING WORKSHOP  
**AT RANGPUR SADAR**

Date: 12 October, 2019  
Please contact for free registration:  
01709648805  
\* Seats are limited

**YOU ARE INVITED TO HOME BUILDING WORKSHOP**

Owning a home, means fulfilling many a desire. At every step, there are so many expectations for the assurance of future. Necessary steps and skillful advices are highly needed to build that home. Bashundhara Cement is with you, providing all the solutions for building your home with a flourishing nationwide concept "My Home My Safety". Get Ready! We are coming to your area very soon.

**BASHUNDHARA CEMENT**  
5700 PSI  
BONDING GENERATIONS