



“MY HOME IS AS GREAT AS THE PADMA BRIDGE TO ME”

COUNTRY'S NO. 1 STEEL EXPERT

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

BSRM  
building a safer nation



SHAH CEMENT

AWARDED

ASIA RESPONSIBLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP AWARD 2015

AREA

TURKISH OFFENSIVE IN SYRIA

# 4 lakh can be displaced: UN

14 more civilians killed; Kurds say 800 IS relatives escaped

AFP, Geneva

Turkey's deadly assault on Kurdish positions in northeastern Syria has forced 130,000 people to flee their homes, the UN said yesterday, adding it was preparing for that figure to more than triple.

"We have moved into a planning scenario where up to 400,000 people could be displaced within and across the affected areas," Jens Laerke, a spokesman for the UN humanitarian agency OCHA told AFP in an email, adding that these people would be "in need of assistance and protection."

The UN had said Friday that some 100,000 people had been forced to flee their homes since the beginning of Turkey's military incursion on Wednesday, after US President Donald Trump ordered American troops to pull back from the border.

But by yesterday it warned of further displacements from rural areas around Tell Abiad and Ras al-Ain with latest estimates "surpassing 130,000 people".

"Exact numbers cannot yet be ascertained," the agency said in a updated assessment document.

Meanwhile, hundreds of relatives of foreign jihadists escaped from a displacement camp in northern Syria, Kurdish authorities said yesterday.

Fighting raged along the border on the fifth day of an offensive that has provoked an international outcry and left dozens of civilians and fighters dead.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2



Sky lanterns, known as fanush, take flight, as people gather at Buddha Mandir in Chattogram's Nandan Kanon area to celebrate Prabarana Purnima, the second biggest religious festival of the Buddhist community in Bangladesh yesterday. This full moon night marks the conclusion of a three-month long seclusion of Buddhist monks -- in their monasteries -- for self-edification and atonement.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

## Anwarul made new cabinet secy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Senior Secretary to Bridges Division Khandker Anwarul Islam was made the cabinet secretary yesterday.

Ministry of Public Administration issued a gazette in this regard, mentioning that the order would come into effect immediately.

Khandker Anwarul Islam has replaced Mohammad Shafiu Alam.

Shafiu will be serving as alternative executive director of the World Bank from November 1 for next three years, according to a separate gazette published by the public administration ministry.

Current alternative executive director of the World Bank Muhammad Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan's tenure will end in October.

The newly appointed Cabinet Secretary Khandker Anwarul Islam joined civil

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

## Rid's Toxic Paracetamol

SC upholds restraining order on 2 drug officials

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld a High Court order restraining two drug administration officers from working due to their negligence in dealing with a case regarding toxic paracetamol syrups and suspensions.

The officials are Assistant Director Shafiqul Islam and Deputy Director Altaf Hossain of the Directorate General of Drug Administration.

Following a petition filed by Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB), a four-member bench of the SC's Appellate Division passed the restraining order.

Shafiqul and Altaf were held responsible by the Dhaka Drug Court in 2016 for knowingly violating the due legal procedures in a case against Rid Pharma, a company accused of manufacturing the toxic paracetamol.

On July 18 this year, the HC issued the restraining order against Shafiqul and Altaf for their negligence in duty, which was later stayed by the SC following a petition filed by the duo.

Later, lawyers of HRPB filed another petition with the SC seeking cancellation of the chamber judge's order which the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

### TOXIC FISH FEED

## Importers cash in on legal loopholes

BISHAKHA DEVNATH

A battle between the Chattogram customs and fish feed importers over the jurisdiction of the port authority to check hazardous substances in imported consignments has laid bare loopholes in the import policy.

A few months back, the Chattogram Customs House (CCH) seized 2,717 tonnes of imported fish and poultry feed containing hazardous ingredients like meat and bone meal (MBM), animal bones and by-products of pigs.

The CCH then conducted tests on some samples of fish feed at the Poultry Research and Training Centre, ICCDDR, B and Customs Lab. The tests revealed the presence of MBM.

The commerce ministry banned the import and sale of MBM on December 26, 2018, following a report of the Bangladesh Food Safety Authority.

The ban came after the Bangladesh Food Safety Authority found by-products of swine and bovine in MBM and alerted the ministry to its hazardous impact -- including cancer -- on human health.

Fishtech BD Ltd, a fish feed importer, took issue with the tests and brought the matter before the High Court.

It said the Import Policy Order 2015-18 does not allow the Customs to test the presence of MBM and other harmful medicine.

The Policy says "competent authority of the exporting country" will certify that goods are free from swine, by-product of tannery and chromium. Such certifications were also furnished before the court, copies of which were obtained by this newspaper.

Furthermore, it pointed out that according to the policy, local authorities were only tasked with checking nitrofurans, chloramphenicol and melamine upon arrival of consignments at the port.

After hearing the petition, on August 14, the HC ordered tests to be

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

## Bus conductor sent to jail for attempted rape of minor

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A Habiganj court yesterday sent a bus conductor to jail on charges of attempting to rape a third-grader girl in a running bus in the district's Madhabpur upazila.

Manik Mollah, of Noakhali's Sonaimuri upazila, is the conductor of Ena Paribahan.

KM Amiruzzaman, officer-in-charge of Madhabpur Police Station, said the girl, along with her parents, was going to Dhaka in the bus from Baniachong upazila on Saturday afternoon.

Manik took the girl, 10, to the back seat and tried to rape her at Itakhola of Madhabpur.

Hearing her screams, her parents and other passengers rescued her and caught Manik.

Later, he was handed over to police.

The girl's father said

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

## Lost chapter of 'world's first novel' found



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

A lost, ancestral chapter of what is widely considered to be the world's first novel has been found.

The manuscript was located in the Tokyo home of the descendant of a former feudal lord, according to the Asahi Shimbun, a national newspaper in Japan.

The Tale of Genji, composed by novelist Murasaki Shikibu, was written in the 11th century while the author was a lady-in-waiting at the Japanese court.

It tells the story of a prince named Genji, who meets and eventually marries a woman named

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

## 'Robber' killed in Srimangal 'gunfight'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A suspected robber was killed in a "gunfight" with Rab in Srimangal upazila of Moulvibazar early yesterday.

The dead, Zainul Islam, 36, was from the district's Barlekha upazila, said Abdus Salek, officer-in-charge of Srimangal Police Station, adding that he was accused in several cases.

Tipped off that a gang of robbers was taking preparation to commit a robbery in Satgaon area, a Rab team went to the spot around 3:00am, said

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 14

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4:45 12:45 4:15 5:45 7:15  
JAMAAT 5:20 1:15 4:30 5:50 7:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## Two killed in shipbreaking yard in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two workers lost consciousness and died inside a tugboat while dismantling it at a shipbreaking yard in Sitakunda of Chattogram on Saturday night.

The deceased were identified as Masudul Islam, 22, son of Jahangir Alam from Sitakunda, and Saiful Islam, 23, son of Ali Hossen from Nilphamari.

Quoting co-workers, inspector (investigation) Shamim Sheikh of Sitakunda Police Station said while working inside a water tank of MV Sierra in the evening, Masudul and Jahangir lost consciousness.

Other workers took them to Chattogram Medical College Hospital (CMCH) where on-duty doctors declared them dead on arrival at 10:00pm, he said, adding that the bodies were sent to CMCH morgue for autopsy.

Mentioning poor safety measures for workers at the yards, General Secretary Md Ali of Bangladesh

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



This aerial view shows flooded homes beside a collapsed bank of the Chikuma river in Nagano, Nagano prefecture yesterday, a day after Typhoon Hagibis swept through central and eastern Japan.

PHOTO: AFP

## Typhoon leaves 26 dead in Japan

15 missing; thousands of troops, rescue workers deployed to save stranded residents, fight floods

AFP, Tokyo

At least 26 people were killed by powerful Typhoon Hagibis, local media reported yesterday, a day after the ferocious storm slammed into Japan, unleashing unprecedented rain and catastrophic flooding.

More than 100,000 rescuers, including 31,000 troops, were working into the night to reach people trapped after torrential rain caused landslides and filled rivers until they burst their banks.

The destruction forced the Rugby World Cup to cancel a third tournament match, though a key Japan-Scotland fixture was ruled safe to play.

The storm moved off land yesterday morning, and while it largely spared the capital, it left a trail of destruction in surrounding regions.

The government put the death toll at 14, with 11 people missing, but local media said at least 26 people had been killed, and at least 15 were still unaccounted for.

Rivers overspilled their banks at nearly a dozen locations, including in central Japan's Nagano, where a levee breach sent water from the Chikuma river gushing into residential neighbourhoods, flooding homes up to the second floor.

Military and fire department helicopters winched survivors from roofs and balconies in several locations. In Iwaki City, Fukushima, a rescue went tragically awry when a woman died after falling while she was being winched to safety.

Elsewhere, rescue workers carried out an hours-long boat operation to evacuate hundreds of people from a

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2