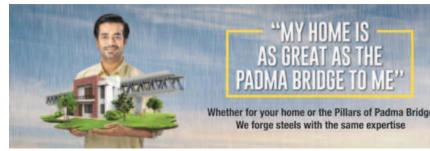
**COUNTRY'S NO. 1 STEEL EXPERT** 

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## The Daily Star



# **Onion prices** shoot up to record high

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Onion prices in kitchen markets have hit a record high for this year, despite government promises and measures to keep them down.

Indian onions were selling for Tk 130 per kg while the local ones for Tk 120 in kitchen markets in the capital.

In September, the rate for both varieties of the cooking ingredient was Tk 50.

The Daily Star found the scenario visiting the markets in Karwan Bazar, Tejturi Bazar, Farmgate and Shewrapara areas

However, onions were a little cheaper at the wholesale market in Karwan Bazar.

Indian onions were being sold for Tk 110 per kg, local onions Tk 107 while the ones from Myanmar for Tk 90 a kg, said traders.

They said demand for the Indian and local onions were high at the market.

Talking to this newspaper, Kalam Sheikh, a wholesaler, said prices of Indian and local onions had jumped to Tk 120 and Tk 140 per kg in 2013, but the rates went down after a day or two

The traders said prices of Indian onions started to go up since the third week of September due to a short supply. It impacted prices of the other varieties of the cooking ingredient.

In September, India announced a ban on export of onions with immediate effect, after extended Monsoon downpours delayed harvests and supplies shrivelled.

Last month, Dipankar Ghosh, port organising secretary SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Battery-run rickshaws ply the Dhaka-Aricha highway in Savar's Mirzanagar area, defying a ban on three-wheelers on national highways. Such violation of the ban often leads to road crashes. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

ACHIEVED

### Quader backs leaders with no controversy

#### Bss, Dhaka

Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday said leaders would be elected in the upcoming party councils on the basis of their competency.

Speaking at an extended meeting of the Dhaka South city AL at the party headquarters on Bangabandhu Avenue, he said no controversial leaders would be allowed into the new committees.

Quader, also the road transport and bridges minister, said the committees would be formed with dedicated senior and young leaders to infuse more dynamism into the party.

## EU shelves Brexit delay decision

Britain squabbles over PM's election call **REUTERS**, Brussels

The European Union yesterday agreed to London's request for a Brexit deadline extension but set no new departure date, giving Britain's divided parliament time to decide on Prime Minister Boris Johnson's call for a snap election.

"There was full agreement on the need for an extension," an EU official said after ambassadors to the 27 countries staying together in the bloc met to discuss postponing Britain's exit, less than a week before the current deadline of Oct. 31.

"Work will continue over the weekend" and the envoys will meet again in Brussels on Monday or Tuesday, the person said.

A day after admitting that he will not meet his "do or die" deadline of Oct. 31, Johnson said it was up to the EU to decide on an extension but that Britain "should be leaving on Oct. 3

### A bridge that is also an art museum **CNN ONLINE**

A striking bridge meets an intriguing modern art museum meets the splendor of the Norwegian natural landscape in the Twist -- the latest project from BIG-Bjarke Ingels Group, located about an hour's drive from Oslo.

The Twist -- a new addition to the Kistefos Sculpture Park -



### Khaleda needs treatment abroad

Elder sister says after visiting her at BSMMU

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Health condition of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia has deteriorated alarmingly and she needs better treatment abroad on an emergency basis, said her elder sister Selima Islam yesterday.

"We want to take her [Khaleda] abroad for better treatment," Selima told journalists after visiting the ailing BNP chief, who is now undergoing treatment at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BŚMMU).

Alleging that Khaleda is being deprived of treatment at the BSMMU, Selima said no doctor had come to meet Khaleda in the last two weeks.

She said, "Her [Khaleda's] health condition has deteriorated and she is now unable to move or eat without assistance.

"Khaleda did not say anything about going abroad but we want it as she is being denied treatment here. We will send her abroad as soon she receives bail."

Selima, along with five other members of her family, visited Khaleda yesterday afternoon and had nearly an hour-long meeting with her.

Khaleda has been in jail since she was convicted in Zia Orphanage Trust corruption case on February 8 last year.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



**PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 26** Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 4-50 12-45 4-00 5-32 7-15 JAMAAT 5-25 1-15 4-15 5-35 7-45 SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

He said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, also the AL chief, knows who should be picked as leaders.

The minister said power does not last forever and that's why the behaviour of the party men must be decent and polite.

He said the government's image cannot be tarnished due to indecent behaviour of any person.

"People are the main source of the Awami League's strength. We assumed power with people's mandate. The BNP has lost public support due to its negative politics.

Talking about the next polls to city corporations, he urged the city AL leaders and workers to work sincerely so that the party candidates can win the elections in Dhaka and Chattogram.

About the verdict in the Nusrat murder case, he said all the 16 accused were sentenced to death and as a result, people's trust in the judiciary has increased.

SEE PAGE 16 COL 6

"Of course October 31 is still possible -- we could leave on Oct. 31 - unfortunately it depends on what the EU says," he said, adding that if opponents frustrate his bid for an election on Dec. 12 his minority government would not engage in pointless "Brexitology" in parliament.

The EU envoys, who met for about two hours, had been due to discuss the length of a third delay to Brexit but diplomats decided to hold off to let political events play out in London.

One EU diplomat said France pressed the other 26 to wait and favoured a respite until Nov.15 or Nov.30 only to keep pressure on the House of Commons to approve Johnson's deal or face a disorderly Brexit.

"Everyone wanted a decision today. But France had a problem with that and wanted to wait until Monday/Tuesday to see what happens in London," the diplomat said. "We will come back to this discussion on length after the weekend. And this time is to be used for political consultations.

A French diplomat said the 27 agreed to grant a delay in principle and, unlike before, to do so without convening an emergency summit of EU leaders -- a sign of how fed up the EU is with the Brexit saga.

"On the length, we will find an agreement early next week. The work of reaching consensus takes a bit of time but it's moving forward," the person added.

French President Emmanuel Macron has previously managed to sway the bloc's extension decisions significantly, meaning delay options still range from just two weeks to the three months -- to Jan.31, 2020 --SEE PAGE 10 COL 3



Buddhist devotees carry Kathin Chibar (robe) on a sculpture of an elephant to Sadhonapur Lumbini Ban Bihar in Rangamati town yesterday. The robe will be donated to monks as part of ANVIL CHAKMA celebrating Chibar Dan, a major religious festival of the Buddhist in the Chattogram Hill Tracts.

SEE PAGE 16 COL 3



ব্যবসা স্থলের ঠিকানা পরিবর্তনের সাথে পরিবর্তনশীল। নতুন নিবন্ধন সংখ্যা গ্রহণের সর্বশেষ সময়সীমা ছিল ১৪ আগস্ট ২০১৯।

কিন্তু লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, এ সময়সীমা উস্তীর্ণ হলেও বিভিন্ন কারণে একটি উল্লেখযোগ্য সংখ্যক করদাতা এখনো ১৩ ডিজিটের (একটি হাইফেনসহ ১৪টি ক্যারেক্টার সম্পন্ন) নিবন্ধন গ্রহণ করতে সমর্থ হননি। এতে সঠিক ভ্যাট আদায় কার্যক্রম বিষ্ণিত হচ্ছে। কারণ, ১৩ ডিজিটের নিবন্ধন সংখ্যা ব্যউতি অনলাইনে মাসিক রিটার্ন দাখিল করা বা কর পরিশোধ করা সম্ভব নয়।

সকল পক্ষের বাস্তব সমস্যা সমূহ বিবেচনায় নিয়ে জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড কর্তৃক নতুন ১৩ ডিজিট সম্পন্ন নিবন্ধন সংখ্যা গ্রহণের সময়নীয়া আগাহী ৫১ মটোনর ১৫১১ হারিব পার বৃদ্ধ কর্তা হয়েছে। উক্ত তারিখের মধ্যে যে সকল সম্মানিত করদাতা নতুন ১৩ ডিজিট সম্পন্ন ভ্যাট নিবন্ধন সংখ্যা গ্রহণে ব্যর্থ হবেন তাদের ক্ষেত্রে ঃ

- শিজ্যিক ব্যাংকসমূহ ঋণপত্র ইস্যু করতে পারবেনা ও অন্যান্য ব্যাংকিং কার্যক্রম ব্যাহত হবে;
- টমস স্টেশনে এ্যাসাইকুডা সিস্টেমে কার্যক্রম পরিচালনা করা যাবে না;
- কোন সরকারী-বেসরকারী দন্তরে টেন্ডারে অংশগ্রহণ করা সম্ভব হবে না:
- ইনে মাসিক ভ্যাট রিটার্ন দাখিল ও কর পরিশোধ করা সম্ভব হবে না।

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ভাচ সংক্রান্ত

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