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DURABILI

ANT

'Indian Yaba' getting in

In the wake of anti-narco crackdown, gangs use new border points for smuggling in cheaper pills

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN, back from Chapainawabganj

He is known as a rakhal (cowboy) as he brings in cattle smuggled from across the

his additional source of earning is no less startling. The inhabitant of Shibganj in bordering upazila Chapainawabganj district is a carrier of mad drug.

- FLY ASH FREE-AKIJ CEMENT

100+YEARS

He is among a dozen

border point, who are involved in yaba smuggling from India. The south-western district is one of

the new routes yaba syndicates explored

following anti-drug crackdowns that seemingly put a dent in trafficking through the old entrances. The price of the crazy tablets these so-

main gateway for smuggling yaba from Myanmar.

people from his small small small grey pill is sold village of Bishrosia, adjacent to Fatehpur at Tk 40 to 45 each and the big pink pill at Tk 80 to 85," said the cowboy, who also works in his agricultural land.

City polls on Jan 30 STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The elections to Dhaka South City Corporation and Dhaka North City Corporation will be held on January 30, the Election Commission announced yesterday.

During a press briefing at the Election Commission (EC) office, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) KM Nurul Huda said electronic voting machines (EVMs) will be used in the polls instead of traditional ballot boxes.

Army will not be deployed in the polls, he added.

Four other election commissioners -- Mahbub Talukdar, Rafiqul Islam, Kabita Khanam and Brig Gen (retd) Shahadat Hossain Chowdhury -were also present at the SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Moncho, BCL men attack Nur Storm Ducsu VP's office; 26

others injured, one in ICU STAR REPORT

Activists of a faction of Muktijuddho Moncho, mostly comprised of Chhatra League men, again beat up and injured Ducsu Vice President Nurul Haque Nur, storming into his office at the Ducsu building yesterday

At least 27 of his supporters were injured in the attack carried out around 12:45pm after Ducsu Assistant General Secretary and BCL leader Saddam Hussain threatened Nur with dire consequences if he didn't leave his office.

Dhaka University Proctor Prof AKM Golam Rabbani went to the spot around 1:00pm and sent 20 of the injured to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Of them, 14 were released after primary treatment, and six others, including Nur, were admitted to the hospital. One of the six, Tuhin Farabi, a student of a private university in the capital, was shifted to the Intensive Care Unit from the emergency unit after he had breathing

problems and convulsions. "We have kept him under observation. We cannot say SEE PAGE 2 COL 1 PHOTO ON PAGE 16

TRIBUTE TO SIR FAZLE HASAN ABED He dreamt big and made them come true

MAHFUZ ANAM

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Abed Bhai, as Sir Fazle Hasan Abed was lovingly called by almost all those who knew him, was well into his fatal illness when Cyclone Bulbul struck Bangladesh. As shared by Lady Abed and daughter Tamara during a recent conversation, as the cyclone wrought havoc, Abed, in a semiconscious state, was constantly rambling about what preparations have been made to rescue the victims and how quickly Brac will have to come to the aid of the children and rebuild the affected schools. Such was his attachment with the poor and the deprived.

During my last few minutes with him while he could still converse, albeit lying down and mostly with his eyes closed, he talked about press freedom, its need for democracy and for the future of Bangladesh, about how The Daily Star was doing, about never losing hope, never giving up and most importantly about his faith in the bright future of our people,

the last being his article of faith. He reminisced about the paper's early days and felt happy as the paper evolved with its commitment to pro-people journalism.

As I took slow and measured steps backwards away from him and out of the room, stealing last moment glances and lingering for as many more seconds as possible, I was overwhelmed by the sudden realisation that I would never again see him in his elegantly attired self, hear his calming, reassuring, encouraging and inspiring voice again, feel that gentle and affectionate touch that I rushed to receive in moments of my deepest frustrations, get his wise counsel on why it was vital to serve the poor, why it was crucial to reduce poverty, why education was the key to our future and how not to lose focus on accomplishing the tasks in hand. As I walked away, I was acutely aware that I was leaving behind a legend, the man who was a fountain of inspiration for all those who loved Bangladesh and SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

Adieu, friend of the poor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hundreds of people braved the morning chill yesterday as they thronged the Army Stadium to pay tribute to Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, who passed away in a hospital in the capital on Friday night.

From ministers, lawmakers, politicians, to diplomats of different countries, and civil society members to relatives, all came to attend the first namaz-e-janaza at the stadium.

They walked in silence towards the coffin inside the Army Stadium and placed floral wreaths on it.

People poured into the venue well before the body of Sir Fazle Abed arrived there around 10:30am. After they paid their last tribute, the namaz-e-janaza began around 12:45pm

Sir Fazle Abed, known in the country as the friend of the poor or the champion of the deprived, was then laid to rest n Banani graveyard after a second namaz-e-janaza held on SEE PAGE 11 COL 2





border. But what the 36-year-old says about called cowboys of Fatehpur are bringing in is cheaper than that in Teknaf, the southernmost point in the mainland and

"Two types of pills are available here. The

Роизн 8, 1426 BS

As of December 3, a small pink pill was SEE PAGE 2 COL 2







Modi defends CAA, NRC at mega rally

Assures Muslims of no detention centres as protests swell across India

STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday sought to reassure India's Muslims as a wave of deadly protests against a new citizenship law put his Hindu nationalist government under pressure like never before.

At least 25 people, a majority of them in the most populous state of Uttar Pradesh, have died and hundreds injured in 10 days of demonstrations and violence after Modi's government passed the law criticised as anti-Muslim. More protests took place yesterday.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5







No one is finally dead until the ripples they cause in the world die away.

- Terry Pratchett



Sir Fazle Hasan Abed KCMG (1936-2019) positively impacted the lives of millions of people across the world.

Humanity will remember him forever.

CITY

Retain people's confidence, trust

PM tells AL councillors

Bss, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the Awami League leaders and activists to work to retain the confidence and trust of the people and help the government's strides to build a poverty-free Bangladesh.

"It's seen that if anybody gets elected as a parliament member, he or she cannot succeed in the next elections as he or she cannot keep up the people's confidence and trust," Hasina, also the AL president, said while exchanging views with party councillors of different cities and districts at the Gono Bhaban in the evening.

The PM added, "So, bearing this in mind, you'll have to always stay beside the people of your locality and work for their welfare."

The councillors, who came to the capital to join the recently held national council of the party, greeted Hasina on her re-election as the AL president for the 9th consecutive term

"If you think, you were made an MP for this time only, and that's why you will sit idle after making whatever you can and will be victorious again by earning huge money ... that will not happen," she said.

In this connection, the PM mentioned the comment of Tarique Zia in which he proudly said that no one would be able to remove the BNP from power if he could make Tk 2,000 crore.

"But the BNP could not stay in power after making thousands of crores of taka. The party could not remain in power as they indulged in unbridled corruption, terrorism, and militancy, and unleashed inhuman torture and repression on the opposition leaders and activists," she

Ex-CJ Mahmudul Amin Chy passes away STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former chief justice Mahmudul Amin Chowdhury passed away in Dhaka yesterday afternoon due to old age complications. He was 85.

Justice Mahmudul breathed his last at his Dhanmondi home, Supreme Court Spokesmen Md Saifur Rahman told The Daily Star.

He left behind two daughters, a son and a host of well-wishers to mourn his death, he said.

His body will be kept at the SC premises this morning to allow people to pay their last respects to the departed soul. His namaz-e-janaza will be held there at 10:30am.



Shanties demolished in the capital's Rupnagar area in an eviction drive by Ministry of Land, Public Works Department and National Housing Authority yesterday. PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

'Indian Yaba' getting in

FROM PAGE 1

sold at Tk 80 to 100 in Teknaf.

"I have been bringing in cattle for long. Now additionally I carry a small bag of yaba pills. It helps me make some extra bucks," he said, on condition that his name has to be withheld

The Daily Star got this picture of yaba smuggling after a two-week investigation last month in Fatehpur.

This correspondent talked to people involved with the tricky nexus, local sources and law enforcers to get details of this illegal trade. COWBOY THE CARRIERS

Yaba smuggling through Fatehpur under Panka union gained pace over the last one or two years.

At least a dozen such cowboys, who reside near the zero point, carry yaba pills into the country. They start for the border in the middle of the night and come back before sunup, at times with Indian cattle, said three of them

Sometimes they go in a group of two or three and sometimes alone. They always carry a small bag in which they keep a towel, lungi and some dry food as they need to cross a canal to get to the border, they said.

On return, they keep the cattle in a cowshed and hand over the pills to the dealers

"The suppliers throw the pills from the other side of the border fence putting those inside small polybags wrapped in clothes," said one of them.

The cowboys get the consignment almost daily, but the suppliers avoid September and October when there is no crop harvest along the borderline. "It is because the crops can be used to

around 18 Bangladeshi and five Indian nationals are involved in the yaba smuggling at Fatehpur border.

However, none of the listed dealers were available for comments. This correspondent visited their addresses as mentioned in the report, but the family members said they were out of homes.

Some locals said these people have long been involved in drug trading. The report also contains details of

the five Indian nationals involved in the smuggling. All of them are from Suti area of Murshidabad district in India.

INDIAN YABA?

On October 7, Border Guard Bangladesh's 60 Battalion claimed to have recovered 5,900 pieces of Indian yaba tablets and detained an Indian smuggler in Jamtola area of Cumilla district.

The detainee was identified as Rezaul Hossain alias Liton, 19, of Jomirtila of Sipahijala district in India.

location or details about it," he added. Contacted, AFM Masum Rabbani, director (operation) of the Department of Narcotics Control, said they have no specific information that Indian smugglers are producing yaba pills.

"If you can provide us with evidence, it would definitely help us, he added.

Expressing similar views, Lt Col Md Mohiuddin Ahmed, director (operation) at the BGB headquarters, said on December 5 that a huge number of yaba is now entering Bangladesh through Jamalpur, Mymensingh, Sylhet and Cumilla borders.

"We have information that these pills are mainly coming from Myanmar through different Indian states like Tripura and Mizoram," he said.

He also doesn't have specific information on yaba production in India

"But we would raise the issue at the



He dreamt big

FROM PAGE 1 sincerely

devoted themselves to building it. Along with our founder editor, SM

Ali, we interviewed Abed in the early days of this paper, sometime in 1992. In the interview he made a striking comment that has remained with me till today. He said something to the effect that 'Most of us manage various levels of wealth, but the poor women in Bangladesh manage poverty, and as such they are, by experience, far better managers than men'. Whatever meagre resources they have and whatever little the men earn, with that the women feed the family, run the household, provide education for the children, healthcare to the extent possible and inject whatever they can with their own income generating activities. Our women's minds are consumed by the singular thought of keeping the family afloat with whatever they have and somehow move forward.

Abed's absorbing description of women's role - as managers, planners and navigators of poverty-shackled families' fortune - suddenly made clear to me the insight of giving priority to women in our development activities. Managing poverty makes a woman acutely aware of the bits of resources they have. This awareness makes them far more efficient user of that resource. That is principally why the rate of return of micro-credit is nearly 99 percent (compare that with the NPL of our elite borrowers) as almost all the borrowers are women - each being managers par excellence. A unique feature of Abed's vision was its scale. He dreamt big and made them come true as if it was the only way of doing it. Brac's becoming the biggest non-governmental organisation in the world and employing about 2 lakh people was only but natural for him. A massive non-formal education programme which at one point ran 63,000 schools, the biggest immunisation campaign ever, the most widespread public health campaign in the form of oral saline project in collaboration with icddr,b employing thousands to raise public awareness about empowerment, especially that of women, etc. were a part of his big dreams being realised. The oral saline project was the first ever door-todoor campaign to reduce death of children from widespread instances of diarrhoea, and it gave Abed that crucial confidence that public health habits could be changed and that he could do it by massive awareness campaigns through meticulous planning and disciplined organisation. This had a seminal impact on his self-confidence. He knew he could manage scale and he could now plan big. This was a turning point in Abed's thinking and can be termed the real birth of Brac.

Did anybody ever imagine that Bangladesh, which has been on receiving end of global assistance, would end up assisting other countries? Brac now operates in 11 Hasan Abed a unique leader among countries and has extended technical men. We proudly stand in his shadow.

and other assistance to many others. The non-formal education model that Brac pioneered is now replicated in several dozen countries across the globe in various forms.

Since he dreamt big, he knew that without institutions to sustain and carry them forward they would not go very far. This led him to build institutions and what a superb builder he turned out to be. Brac Bank, Brac Institution of Governance and Brac University are but a few examples. Then there are those he built in partnership with others, like Delta-Brac Housing, bKash, Guardian Insurance. There are numerous civil society bodies that he helped set by working behind the scene such as Campe, Ain-o-Salish Kendra, etc. He assisted many others in setting up their own organisations.

A natural corollary of institution building is the need for management with particular emphasis on its financial aspects. In all the institutions Abed built he ensured the highest level of management with financial discipline being at its core. Brac's microcredit programme, which gave out loans to the tune of \$4.2 billion this year alone, functions without any blemish. All global donors like the World Bank, ADB, Soros Foundation, Melinda and Bill Gates Foundation, and many others extend resources to institutions set up by Abed literally without too many questions simply because they have enormous faith in Abed's management standards. UK's DFID has a strategic partnership with Brac which is unique.

As a highly skilful manager he knew exactly where to control and where to delegate, where to be tough and where to be flexible, where to listen and adopt and where to listen and ignore.

He was tireless in his efforts to improve quality of the things he did and the institutions he built. I often received teams from global consulting companies doing research on how to improve functioning of various projects undertaken by Brac. Almost twenty years ago I spoke to consultants tasked with planning Abed's eventual succession. I couldn't help but marvel at the long-term vision of this man.

It is a testimony to Sir Fazle Hasan Abed's versatility of talents that he received global awards for his contribution in five very crucial areas - education, agriculture, public health, financial inclusion and community empowerment. Any one of the above areas would consume a life time's work for any talented person. But to have attracted the world's attention to these critical areas of development and to be recognised for extraordinary contribution in each of them requires a range of extraordinary abilities that only a few leaders in the history of social transformation can lay claim to. His level of vision, courage, and tenacity simultaneous with originality and managerial ability make Sir Fazle

The former justice will be laid to eternal rest at the graveyard adjacent to the shrine of Hazrat Shahjalal (RA) in Sylhet.

Mahmudul Amin was the 11th chief justice of the country who served from March 1, 2001, to June 17, 2002.

Born in Sylhet on June 18, 1937, Mahmudul Amin passed matriculation from Sylhet Government Pilot High School and graduation from MC College, Sylhet.

Subsequently, he took a bachelor's degree in Law at Dhaka City Law College.

He started his career as a lawyer in Sylhet district bar in 1960 and was appointed as a judge at the High Court in 1987. He was appointed as an Appellate Division judge in 1999.

Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain and Attorney General Mahbubey Alam expressed deep shock and sorrow at the death of Mahmudul and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul.

hide the bags," explained the man They get Tk 10,000 per consignment.

In each consignment, they carry in around 5,000 to 6,000 pills.

"Earlier, we used to bring in phensedyl," said one of them.

The carriers claimed they were told that these pills are produced in some houses in Malda of India

The Daily Star managed to talk a group of five narcotics traders in the border area. They also said they are getting the pills at cheaper rates as their counterparts in India "manage to manufacture yaba" there.

"Sometimes, we get 1,000 pieces of yaba at Tk 25,000. But the quality of those pills is not good," said one of them.

He claimed that police held them sometimes but released them in exchange for money, an allegation the district police denied outright.

According to the drug dealers, Chapainawabganj, Sylhet, Cumilla, Jamalpur and Mymensingh are the points through which the Indian pills enter Bangladesh.

The Daily Star obtained a copy of an intelligence report that reads

A case was filed with Burichang Police Station of Cumilla in this connection, according to a BGB press release.

During interrogation, Rezaul told law enforcers that he was tasked with delivering the pills to a Bangladeshi and he was paid Tk 10,000 for this.

On September 17, BGB 35 Battalion arrested a woman named Mazeda Begum, 35, with 1,897 pieces of "Indian yaba tablets", reads another release of BGB.

Asked about this, Lt Col Igbal Hossain, commanding officer of BGB 60 Battalion, told The Daily Star on December 3 that they called it "Indian yaba" as it came from India with an ndian national.

He said they know smugglers changed routes but they have no specific information whether those pills were produced in India.

However, a high official of BGB, requesting anonymity, told The Daily Star on December 3 that they learnt some smugglers are producing the pills in India, especially in some areas of Agartala.

"We are yet to get the specific

director general-level conference of BGB and BSF," Mohiuddin said. CATTLE SMUGGLING LINKED

The majority of narcotics enter Bangladesh with the so-called cowboys involved in the cattle smuggling, said ATM Mojahidul Islam, the police superintendent of Chapainawabganj.

"If we can stop cattle smuggling, we would be able to prevent drug trafficking," he said on December 2. The official also said, "Since we cannot investigate across the border,

we do not get the actual picture." The Chapainawabganj district police arrested 1,138 people last year for drug smuggling.

Sohel Rana, assistant inspector general at the Police Headquarters, said they have succeeded in wiping out the sources of narcotics in the country. And they are also keeping an eye on the smuggling activities and sources of drugs across the border.

There are other agencies for guarding the border and police closely work with them in combating narcotics, he added.

Modi defends CAA

FROM PAGE 1

Addressing party supporters in New Delhi -- who cried "Modi! Modi!" at the mention of the law -- the 69-yearold said Muslims "don't need to worry at all" -- provided they are genuine Indians.

"Muslims who are sons of the soil and whose ancestors are the children of mother India need not to worry" about the law and his plans to carry out a national register of citizens (NRC), Modi told the crowd of thousands.

Accusing the main opposition Congress party of condoning the recent violence by not condemning it, Modi said opponents were "spreading rumours that all Muslims will be sent to detention camps."

"There are no detention centres. All these stories about detention centres are lies, lies and lies," he said.

He ruled out going back on the citizenship law issue and asserted the law does not have anything to do with Muslims who are Indian citizens

nor does it snatch away anyone's citizenship.

"The Citizenship Amendment Act is not for Indian citizens. This has been said in parliament (last week). The Act is not aimed at snatching anybody's citizenship but at giving citizenship," he said and urged the agitators not to resort to violence in the interests of the country.

"No new refugee (from the three countries) will benefit from CAA," he said referring to the law which seeks to give Indian citizenship to those who have come to India from the three neighbouring countries till 2014.

Modi said the opposition parties were not able to reconcile with his growing acceptance in the Islamic world some of which like the UAE conferred their highest civilian honour on him and India's strong ties with the Islamic countries like Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Iran, the UAE, Bahrain and Qatar.

Moncho, BCL men attack Nur

FROM PAGE 1

anything until 72 hours pass," Mohammad Alauddin, resident surgeon at the casualty department, told this newspaper last night

He said two of the injured left for a private hospital while the other three, including Nur, were shifted to cabins from the emergency unit at the DMCH last night.

This is the second time Nur came under attack from Moncho activists.

Witnesses said around 50 activists of a faction of the Moncho, led by its President Aminul Islam Bulbul and General Secretary Al Mamun, marched towards Ducsu building at 12:30pm following a Moncho programme on the DU campus.

Nur, who was entering the Ducsu building along with his supporters at that time, got locked into an altercation with the Moncho leaders.

After a while, Nur entered the Ducsu office.

Minutes later, DU BCL President Sanjit Chandra Das and Saddam went to the spot.

As Moncho activists and some

BCL men started hurling brick chips convener of the quota reformists' at the VP's office room, Nur asked the staffers at the Ducsu building to padlock its main gate.

The staffers unlocked the gate as Ducsu AGS Saddam moved towards it, witnesses told this newspaper.

Later, Sanjit and Saddam, along with their followers, went to Nur's office room and asked him why he had brought "outsiders" to the Ducsu building.

Nur replied that he had been in fear of attacks on him, and that was why he had some people around him for his security.

At one stage, Nur asked Sanjit why he had entered the Ducsu building though he didn't hold any Ducsu post. Sanjit replied, "After a while, you

will come to know who I am." Sanjit and Saddam had an

altercation with Nur, and left the office. Around 12:45pm, Moncho activists and some BCL men, wielding wooden and bamboo sticks, stormed into Nur's office, switched off the lights and beat up Nur and his followers, alleged one of the injured, Hasan Al Mamun,

platform Bangladesh Sadharan Chhatra Adhikar Sangrakkhan Parishad.

The attackers also damaged furniture and a computer in the room, he said.

Some BCL and Moncho activists stood guard in front of the Ducsu building and beat up Nur's followers, who tried to escape, claimed Mamun. At one stage, the attackers left the Ducsu VP's office. Nur and some of his supporters locked the room from inside and stayed there until the DU proctor went there to rescue them.

The injured include Bangladesh Sadharan Chhatra Adhikar Sangrakkhan Parishad joint conveners Faruk Hasan, Rashed Khan and Moshiur Rahman.

Besides, Rukmiya Hossen Raj, Golam Kibria, and Zahidul Islam of Kabi Nazrul College, Ariful Islam of Jahangirnagar University and Aminur Islam, who introduced himself as Nur's cousin, were wounded.

Contacted, Saddam said Nur and Moncho activists had a scuffle as the Ducsu VP brought outsiders to the

Ducsu building.

He further said the BCL had asked both the groups to maintain a congenial atmosphere on the campus. Talking to reporters, DU Proctor Rabbani said, "Ducsu VP entered his office with outsiders but he did not inform us. We repeatedly asked him to maintain an environment conducive

to education on the campus." Witnesses said Nur had entered the Ducsu building with a group of 30-40 followers, almost half of them students of educational institutions other than the DU.

Some of the them are students of Jahangirnagar University, Jagannath University, Kabi Nazrul College and Govt Bangla College.

Contacted, Muktijuddho Moncho General Secretary Al Mamun, also ex-BCL deputy secretary for Liberation War and research affairs, claimed when general students learnt that Nur was holding a meeting with Shibir activists at the Ducsu building, they enquired him about it. But he "misbehaved" with them and they resisted him.

The Moncho, claimed to be comprised of freedom fighters' children, was founded in October last year to counter the anti-quota demonstrations. It demanded reinstatement of 30 percent freedom fighter quota in all types of government jobs.

The central committee was formed with Professor AKM Jamal Uddin of DU sociology department as convener, and Asibur Rahman, son of the then shipping minister Shajahan Khan, as member-secretary.

Later, Mehdi Hasan, son of a freedom fighter, claimed himself to be convener of the platform, and told journalists that he knew nothing about the committee.

Bulbul and Mamun were made president and general secretary of both the central and DU units of the platform.

On October 10 this year, Prof Jamal expelled the two for their "antiorganisational activities".

The duo issued a press release the same day, declaring that they still held the posts of president and general

secretary of the organisation.

Prof Jamal and the duo issued separate press releases on October 14. Prof Jamal said he had expelled Bulbul and Mamun, while the duo stated that they had expelled Jamal.

Since then, the platform made headlines due to its controversial activities. Its leaders and members have allegedly been involved in attacks on activists of rival organisations.

On October 20, its Bulbul-Mamun-led faction swooped on Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal activists at Madhur Canteen on DU campus over the Facebook bio of JCD General Secretary Iqbal Hossain Shyamol. Five JCD activists were injured.

Members of the other faction, led by Convener Jamal, padlocked Nur's office on December 4, and demanded his resignation after an unverified audio clip went viral.

At least 15 people, including Nur, were injured in an attack carried out by the Bulbul-Mamun-led faction on December 17 after they staged protests against the NRC and Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) of India.









A FINAL FAREWELL

Clockwise from top right, long queues formed at the gates of the Army Stadium yesterday, as thousands gathered to pay tributes to Sir Fazle Hasan Abed. A host of luminaries and eminent personalities from various fields join the congregation; US Ambassador Earl R Miller, Nobel laureate Dr Muhammad Yunus, and top leaders of Awami League pay their respects to the icon.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Announcement of full '*Riddled with untruths about* AL committee likely tomorrow: Quader '*Riddled with untruths about*

Amit Shah's speech in Indian parliament criticised by Fakhrul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League's full central working committee is expected to be announced tomorrow, newly re-elected AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader said yesterday.

The road transport and bridges minister also hinted

Hints on possible reshuffle in cabinet

BNP yesterday criticised Indian Home Minister Amit Shah for "unwarranted labelling" of BNP as repressive while passing the much-discussed Citizenship Amendment Act in the country's parliament. While addressing the Indian parliament, Amit Shah referred to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia -- blaming her for repression of minorities when she was in power, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said at a press conference at the party chairperson's Gulshan office in Dhaka. Giving a "lame excuse", Amit Shah claimed the trend of oppressing minorities in Bangladesh is still ongoing and thus India was forced to pass the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), Fakhrul said. "A speech riddled with untruths about Bangladesh and BNP was delivered in the Indian parliament. We expect that the Indian government would withdraw the statement for the greater interest of both nations, and this should not be repeated for the sake of cooperation," Fakhrul said.

He further said the Indian home minister compared Bangladesh to Pakistan and Afghanistan randomly in the course of supporting the citizenship act and claimed that religious minorities in Bangladesh are being repressed as Islam is its state religion.

NEWS ON BASIC BANK HC rule sought on graft in recruitment Staff Correspondent

An application was filed with the High Court yesterday seeking its suo moto (voluntary) order on the government, to conduct an inquiry into alleged corruption in appointments of 1,173 employees in BASIC Bank during the chairmanship of chairman Sheikh Abdul Hye Bacchu. Advocate Titus Hillol Rema submitted the application, requesting the HC to ask for the audit report of the auditor and comptroller general's office, that has revealed huge irregularities and nepotism in the appointments of officials and employees of BASIC Bank between 2012 and 2014. He also prayed to the HC to summon Sheikh Abdul Hye Bacchu, the then chairman of BASIC Bank, to appear before it SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

'INSTIGATING STUDENTS' Court to decide on arrest warrant against Fakhrul on Jan 22 COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court will decide on January 22 whether to issue arrest warrants against BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir and two others in a case over "instigating students to wage an anti-government movement" last year. The other two accused are: BNP standing committee member Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury and Senior Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi Ahmed.

a possible reshuffle in the cabinet next year.

He was talking to reporters at the ministry office. The ruling party's triennial council on Saturday elected

42 office-bearers in the 81-member committee and names of the others would be announced later by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, as councillors vested the responsibility in her.

Asked when the full-fledged committee would be declared, Quader said AL presidium members will meet on Tuesday and discuss about it. "Full committee is expected to be declared on that day," he said.

Replying to another question on whether cabinet may witness changes as an effort to separate the party from the government, he said reshuffle in cabinet is a routine matter.

"Some changes may happen [in the cabinet] in the new year," he said.

Seven ministers do not feature in the partially announced committee while five have retained their posts.

Asked whether the third generation of "Sheikh Mujib Family" -- Sajeeb Wazed Joy, Saima Wazed Hossain and Radwan Mujib Siddiq -- could be included in the new committee, Quader said "They have not agreed to that." Through his comments, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party President Amit Shah has deliberately attempted to brand BNP as repressive to support the controversial act, the BNP leader alleged.

"Diplomatically, Bangladesh-India relation is now going through a golden chapter. However, Amit Shah blamed a friendly neighbour for repression of Hindus, Buddhists and Christians," Fakhrul said.

The political atmosphere in the region is being pushed towards a conflict in a bid to establish a Hindu state, balancing the gun on the shoulders of Bangladesh and BNP, Fakhrul said.

"BNP strongly believes that Indian Home Minister Amit Shah's and official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs Raveesh Kumar's statements in this regard are untrue, unprofessional, SEE PAGE 4 COL 1 After receiving probe report from police, Metropolitan Magistrate Md Habibur Rahman Chowdhury yesterday set the date for passing the order on the issue.

On February 6, Inspector Mohammad Sentu Miah of Tejgaon Police Station submitted a probe report that mentioned the three BNP leaders' involvement with the incident.

AB Siddique, president of Jananetri Parishad -- a pro-Awami League organisation -- on August 6 last year filed the case with the court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate AHM Tuah.

Taking cognisance of the charges, the magistrate directed the officer-in-charge of Tejgoan Police Station to investigate the matter and submit a report.

On July 29 last year, two students of Shaheed Ramiz Uddin Cantonment College -- Abdul Karim Rajib and Dia Khanam Mim -- were run over and killed while nine were injured when two buses of Jabal-e-Noor Paribahan were recklessly racing each other. The incident ignited

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Abdur Razzaq's 8th death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

CITY DESK

Today marks the eighth death anniversary of veteran Awami League leader

Abdur Razzaq, one of the organisers of the Liberation War and a close associate of Bangabandhu.

To mark the day, Awami League leaders, led by the party's General Secretary and Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader, will pay homage to the veteran leader by placing a wreath at his grave at Banani graveyard.

On the occasion, Abdur Razzaq Foundation and Abdur Razzaq Smriti Sangsad will organise a discussion at TSC.

President of Abdur Razzaq Smriti Sangsad Prof Dr Abdul Mannan Chowdhury will preside over the meeting.

Address corruption before hiking price Energy experts say about proposal

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

on electricity tariff Staff Correspondent

Energy experts at a press conference yesterday urged the government not to increase the price of electricity, as it will severely impact the cost of living and further escalate the ongoing price hike of essentials.

Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) organised the press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity to share its opinion over the government's proposal on raising electricity price.

Authorities have recently made a proposal to increase electricity price, citing growing power generation costs and revenue deficit as reasons, but their logic has been proven invalid and unfair, speakers said.

Power generation costs and losses that the government has been facing can be reduced significantly if corruption in the sector is addressed properly, they added.

Presenting a written statement at the event, noted energy expert Prof M Shamsul Alam said some weak policies of the government, inefficiency of some employees and corruption are the major reasons for which the revenue deficit is occurring and production cost is rising.

"Bangladesh Power Development Board, at a recent public hearing, showed a production cost hike and an income deficit of Tk 8,786 crore, but those were proven wrong during the hearing," he said.

There are several indicators, like service quality and electricity flow, which need to be considered to increase the price, but only a few of them were prioritised in the recent SEE PAGE 4 COL 5



Though the month of Poush is generally celebrated in the city, it brings immense misery for some. A man sleeps on a plank with a loose nail dangerously close to his face at Dhaka's Hatirjheel early yesterday morning, with only a thin blanket to keep out the biting cold. Meanwhile, a jogger, dressed appropriately for the weather, runs past him.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

2nd Edition

CITY

Abdur FROM PAGE 3

Abdur Razzaq was a frontranking organiser and leader of every democratic movement of the nation from his student life till his death. He played an active role in the education movement of 1962, the sixpoint movement of 1966, the mass uprising of 1969, and the Liberation War of 1971

Razzaq was elected the general secretary of Bangladesh Chhatra League in 1966-67 and 1967-68.

He was elected a member of the parliament for the first time in 1970. He served as a parliamentarian in 1973, 1991,1996 and 2009 as well.

Razzaq was the water resources minister in the Awami League-led government of 1996. On December 23, 2011. Abdur Razzaq passed away at a London hospital.

Riddled with untruths

FROM PAGE 3 unilateral, biased, misleading and extremely questionable,'

Fakhrul said.

Terming the CAA as undemocratic, discriminatory unconstitutional and against humanity, Fakhrul said the act has been passed targeting the Muslim minority in India.

Fakhrul also blasted Bangladesh government for its silence over the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in India and said it is a threat to Bangladeshis and the country's sovereignty as well.

The Bangladesh government is claiming that the issue of NRC is India's internal matter while Bangla speaking people are being pushed in through border areas from India, he said.

Announcement of full AL

FROM PAGE 3

Quader said it is nice that BNP welcomed the new AL committee but it would have been better if they had participated in the council.

He said the main challenges of the new committee would be implementation of the electoral pledges.



Educating parents key to stopping online harassment

Speakers say at roundtable

Cargo vessels move slowly on the Kirtonkhola in Barishal to avoid collision as dense fog enveloped the river

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

yesterday morning. This photo was taken from Dapdapia area of the city.

Educating parents should be a major part of preventing online harassment of women, speakers said at a roundtable yesterday.

Bangla daily Prothom Alo, in collaboration with Take Back the Tech and Bangladesh Open Source Network (BDOSN) organised the event on "The reality of women's safety on social media and solutions" at CA Bhaban yesterday.

Adiba Sultana (not her real name), shared her story of being harassed online in 2016. "I was further harassed by police at the local station when I went for help."

"Our parents must be made aware of such harassment, because when this happened with me, parents of the perpetrator supported their son and threatened my

parents," she added. Abul Hossain, project director of the government's Multi-Sectoral Programme on Violence against Women said that if anyone

HC rule sought on graft

FROM PAGE 3 for his explanation on the matter. The HC bench of Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice Sardar Md Rashed Jahangir may hold hearing on the application today, the petitioner told this newspaper.

The petition was submitted following two reports -- published on Bangla daily Samakal and private television channel Channel 24 on November 29 on irregularities in appointing of 1,173 employees in BASIC Bank.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

HC to issue a rule asking respondents to explain why the media reports should not be taken into consideration for inquiring into the corruption allegations in the appointments.

He requested the HC to include secretaries to the cabinet division and finance and banking division of the finance ministry, governor of Bangladesh Bank, comptroller and auditor general, chairman of Anti-Corruption Commission, chairman of BASIC Bank, and Sheikh Abdul Hye In the application, the lawyer urged the Bacchu as respondents to the prayed rule.

Health ministry officials tell JS body STAFF CORRESPONDENT The government is set to recruit 10,000 physicians

to ensure healthcare services for people, health ministry officials told a parliamentary body yesterday at a meeting.

Govt to hire

10,000 doctors

The parliamentary standing committee on health ministry was also informed that 4,607 physicians have already been appointed through the 39th BCS examinations.

The meeting was held at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban with committee chief MP Abul Kalam Azad in the chair.

Teenager dies

FROM PAGE 5 her on the spot, officer-incharge of Kishoreganj Sadar Police Station Abu Bakar Siddiq said quoting locals.

The truck driver managed to flee with the vehicle, police said. Morium's body was sent to Kishoreganj General Hospital morgue for autopsy and a case was lodged in this regard.

In Shariatpur, Ashok Chandra De (55) was crushed by a bus at Balar Bazar area of Sadar upazila on Saturday, reports UNB.

Jahangir Hossain, officerin-charge of Palang Model Police Station, said.

Safeguard our motherland FROM PAGE 5

the navy for standing beside people during natural disasters

Earlier, the premier inspected a parade at the academy. She gave away prizes among 72 young officers, including 61 midshipmen and 11 DEOs, who are entering naval career upon successful completion of their courses. Among them, seven are women and two midshipmen are from the Maldives.

Midshipman Raiyan Rahman was awarded the "Sword of Honour".

Besides, Midshipman Md Saidis Sakline Miran received "Navy Chief Gold Medal" (second highest award) and acting sub-lieutenant Md Kamruzzaman (from DEO batch) got "Bir Shrestha Ruhul Amin Gold Medal" (third highest award).

Ministers, parliament members, chiefs of the three services, senior military and civil officials and guardians of the newly-commissioned midshipmen were, among others, present on the occasion.

Court to decide on arrest FROM PAGE 3

widespread protests across the country.

On August 4 the same year, an audio clip of a telephone conversation allegedly between BNP leader Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury and an unknown man over aggrevating the student protests through infiltration went viral on Facebook and YouTube.

In the case, Siddique stated that the conversation between the two was a conspiracy against the government and should be brought to trial.

Address corruption

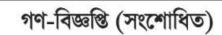
FROM PAGE 3

government proposal, he added.

Prof Shamsul, also an energy advisor of CAB, proposed the authorities concerned to introduce a price structure based on parameters such as consumers' location and voltage level.

Noted writer and columnist Syed Abul Maksud, who also works with CAB on power issues, said people are already suffering due to the ongoing price hike of essential commodities. Their woes will increase further if electricity price is increased, he said.

CAB President Ghulam Rahman, its General Secretary Humayun Kabir Bhuiyan and noted architect Mubasshar Hussein also spoke at the press conference, among others.



এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, অত্র দপ্তর স্মারক নং-২৮৩৪(১৫) তারিখ ৮/১২/২০১৯ইং রাজশাহী-নওহাটা-চৌমাসিয়া সড়কের প্রথম ১০ কিঃমিঃ শহীদ এ এইচ এম কামারুজ্জামান চতুর হতে নওহাটা ব্রীজ পর্যন্ত ৪-লেনে উন্নীতকরণ কাজের জন্য সড়ক ও জনপথ অধিদপ্তরের অধিগ্রহণকৃত ভূমি হতে অবৈধ স্থাপনা অপসারণ করার গণ-বিজ্ঞপ্তি জারি করা হয়। অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ ২৩/১২/২০১৯, ২৪/১২/২০১৯ এবং ২৬/১২/২০১৯ইং তারিখের পরিবর্তে ২৬/১২/২০১৯, ২৭/১২/২০১৯ এবং ২৮/১২/২০১৯ইং তারিখ জনাব মোঃ মাহবুবুর রহমান ফারুকী (যুগাু-সচিব), এস্টেট ও আইন কর্মকর্তা, সওজ ঢাকা জোন, এলেনবাড়ী, ঢাকা ও অতিরিক্ত দায়িতু রাজশাহী জোন এর পরিচালনায় জেলা প্রশাসন ও পুলিশের সহযোগিতায় অবৈধ দখলদার, দ্বাপনা, বিলবোর্ড সাইনবোর্ড উচ্ছেদ ও মোবাইল কোর্ট পরিচালনা করা হবে।

এমতাবন্থায়, সকল অবৈধ স্থাপনা দ্রুততম সময়ের মধ্যে নিজ দায়িত্বে সরিয়ে নেয়ার জন্য বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ করা হল। উচ্ছেদের দিন স্থাপনা সরানোর জন্য কোনরূপ অতিরিক্ত সময় দেয়া হবে না।

মোঃ সামসুজ্জোহা
পরিচিতি নং- ৬০২২০২
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সওজ
সড়ক বিভাগ, রাজশাহী

faces harassment on social media, they can contact the national toll-free helpline 109. "We usually help them by referring the cases to the Cyber Security and Crime Division of Counter Terrorism and Transnational Ashok died the spot, Md Crime [CTTC] of police, and another private company that works on the issue." Dr BM Mainul Hossain, associate professor of Institute of Information

Technology at Dhaka University, said parents teach ethics to children at an age when they have no chance of doing anything unethical. Educational institutions should teach ethics to students as they grow up.

Syed Nasirullah, senior assistant commissioner of CTTC, urged social media users to be wary of the perils of oversharing.

DU professor Dr Lafifa Jamal; and Mahbuba Sultana, coordinator of Take Back the Tech were present at the event moderated by Munir Hassan, head of Prothom Alo's Youth Programme.

জিডি-২০৯৯

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র্যাব হেঃকোঃ৫৯৬/উল্লয়শ/কন্মিন্ট/১৬৮২

ময়শলয়,বিভাগ

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REQUEST FOR PROP

Hereby JSC ASE notifies about holding of single-stage open proposa request for the right to enter into contract for performance of construction & installation works for lot: No. 6100 'Common-station puildings & structures. Communication networks', The documentation has been placed on the official State Corporation 'Rosatom' website http://zakupki.rosatom.ru, procurement No 191218/0536/2022

তারিখা ২২ ডিসেম্বর ২০১৯টিা

彩

ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

রেজিস্ট্রারের অফিস, স্টাফ ওয়েলফেয়ার শাখা

টেন্ডার নোটিশ

ক্রমিক নং	কাজের নাম	টেন্ডার ডকুমেন্টস বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ	টেন্ডার বক্স বন্ধের তারিখ ও সময়	টেন্ডার খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্য সংগ্রহের স্থান
21	গ্রীষ্মকালীন পোশাকের কাপড়, এপ্রোণের কাপড়, ও ছাতা ক্রয়।	০৬/০১/২০ সোমবার	০৭/০১/২০ মঙ্গলবার বেলা ১২.০০ মি.	০৭/০১/২০ মঙ্গলবার বেলা ২.৩০মি.	রেজিস্ট্রারের অফিস, স্টাফ ওয়েলফেয়ার শাখা, কক্ষ নং-৩৪০
জিডি-২	२०२				রেজিস্ট্রার (স্টাঃ ওঃ) হাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয

ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Director Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control & Research (IEDCR), Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212. Telephone.9842270,9898796, 9898691 Fax: 9880440 e-mail: info@iedcr.gov.bd Website: www.iedcr.gov.bd

Memo. No. IEDCR/Rev/MSR & Others/E-tender/2019-20/ Date :22.12.2019. e-Tender Notice : 01/2019-20.

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http:/eprocure.gov.bd) for procurement of the following goods :

Sl.No	Package No.	Name of the Items	Tender ID NO.
01.	IEDCR/Rev/MSR & Others/E- tender/2019-20/ P-1 P-2, P-3, P-4,P-5, P-6, P-7, P-8, P-9&P-10,	M.S.R Items.	401138,401247,401269,401556, 401577,401625,401632,401640, 401699,401705.
02.	IEDCR/Rev/MSR & Others/E- tender/2019-20/ P-12,P-13&P-14,	Cleaning Items & Miscellaneous	401727,401822,401831,

This is an online tender, where only e -Tender will be accepted in the National e - GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, Registration in the National e-GP System Portal (http://eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks branches up to 2.30 PM on 14.01.2020.

The Closing & Opening Time of Tenders are Shown Below :-

Sl. No	Description	Date	Time	
			Closing	Opening
1.	M.S.R - P-1 P-2, P-3, P-4,P-5, P-6, P-7, P-8, P-9&P-10,	14.01.2020	3:00 PM	3:00 PM
2.	Cleaning Items & Miscellaneous, P-12, P-13&P-14,	14.01.2020	3:00 PM	3:00 PM

Further Information and Guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal (http: eprocure.gov.bd) and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

Cabrina

(অধ্যাপক ডাঃ মীরজাদী সেব্রিনা ফ্লোরা) পরিচালক ফোন নম্বর ঃ ০২-৯৮৪২২৭০

মরগরের সূত্র নম্বা তারিখ নরণক্রের পদ্ধতি উন্যক দরপত্র পদ্ধতি। তনুক্র নহাজ পরাচ। রাজধ বাজেটের আতরায় র্যাবের অনুকূপে ব্যান্দ। উত্তরন প্যাকেজ ১-১০/২০১৯-২০২০। ৰাজেট ভ বরাজের উৎস দরশত্র শ্যাকেজ নং দরশত্র সিভিউল সর্বশেষ প্রাপ্তির তারিখ ০২ জানুয়ারি ২০২০খ্রিঃ সময় ১২.৫০ মটিকা পর্যন্ত দৰশাৱ জমা প্ৰদাদেৰ সৰ্বশেষ তাৰিষ ও সময ০৫ জান্যারি ২০২০স্রিঃ সময়ঃ ১২.০০ ঘটিকা দরশত্র থোলার করিব ও সমর ০৫ জানুয়ারি ২০২০বিঃ সময়ঃ ১৫.৩০ খটিকা। দরগর সম্পাদনকারীর অফিস ৫ ঠিকালাঃ দরশার বিদ্রুয়ের স্থান র্যাব ফোর্সেস সমর দল্পর (উন্নয়ন শাখা), কুর্মিটোলা, ঢাকা ধ্যাৰ ফোৰ্সেন সদৱ দল্পৰ (উন্নয়ন শাখ্য), কুৰ্মিটোলা, ঢাকা। নানৰ ফোৰ্সেন সদৱ দল্পৰ, কুৰ্মিটোলা, ঢাকা। দরগর হারদের স্থান লপার মোলার ছাল দরশরদান্ধার সোগাড়া দরশহের সাথে যে সমস্ত কাগজপর 1 হেডিট্রেশন সন্দাগর, দবগর জামানাডের পে-অর্ভার ধাবং কারেরা অতিয়াতা সন্দাগর। সিভিউলের মূল্য जोंगें सह ব্যচ্যের বিবয়শ সৱৰ্গত ভামাৰত মেরামত ও সহজ্য বাবে যোসেঁস সময় মন্তবের ভাসের এক্সপালশন জ্বযোষ্ট মোরামন্ড ও সংস্থাবকরণ র্সস সপর পশ্বরের অফিস ভবনের ইলেকট্রিক লাইন সংস্কারকর 20 90 \$00,00 \$900,00 ১৩ দিন ১০ দিন রচাব ফোর্সেস সমর সম্বরের অভিসের সামনে (প্রেরখা ধারার গার্থে) এটালকাবন, ক্ষমুস সিন্দিং, রংকরণ কাজ 300.00 0200.00 দেশি লগত পছরের ফিন্ডমেন মেরামত ৬ সংক্ষার কাড \$00.00 2000.00 রাবে ফোসেঁস সমর দত্তর ও আন্ডাইন পার্সোনাল শাবার কল্স নিনিং, পার্টোক বোর্র, পানি, বিদুন্ত, এনি কিটিং ও 100.00 00,0010 20 190 প্রকর্ত শাধায় দরজা ইত্যাদি মেরামত ও সংখ্যারকরা চাৰ ফোৰ্সেন সদত দণ্ডতে সৱবনাৰ শান্ধয় কল্স নিদিং, পাঠৌন্দ্ৰ বোৰ্ড, পানি, বিগ্ৰুখ, এনি ফিটিং, ও ইত্যাদি মেতামখ 30 544 2000.0 ন্তাৰ ফোৰ্সেস সদৰ পৰুৰ অভিস কৰনে স্থাপনকুত্ব এসি এব পানি নিস্কাপনেচ দাইন মেৰামজ কাজ ন্তাৰ ফোৰ্সেস সদৰ পৰাৰে বয় জলাত অবস্থিত ইনজেন্সিগেশন এড ফাৰেনসিক উইং সংলগ্ন অফিসাৰ্স নিচালী মেৰামজ 30 1 \$00.00 \$200.00 3900 53 PH র্যাব জোসেঁস সদর লক্তরের যোগাযোগ উইং এর স্টোর রম, ভয়ালকমের বেসিন এবং ইলেষ্ট্রিক বাজ সেরামত 30 19 300.00 2100.00 হাটাৰ ফোর্সেস সময় সম্বরের অর্ণারেশস উইং ওর ROV এর জন্য বরাষ্ণকত স্টোর মেরামত/সংকার/স 301 ৩০ দিন 320,00 8800,00 র ফোর্সের সময় গরত মোড যিতিঃ এর সিড়ি এবং ২য় তদা প্রজেষ্ট অভিস, কলফায়েল রাম ও এমটি অভিসের ফল্য নং, লকার/কেবিসেট ইত্যাদি যোরামজ/সংস্কারকবণ য়াৰ জেনেনি সমৰ দৰতৰে এমআই কনেবে ২য় ৰাদাৰে বহু গলিশ, টাইল্স পৰিক্ষাৰ, ফল্স নিলিং, বুকিং নিৰব, দেশট্ৰিক নেৱানাতের কাজ ইত্তাদি মেয়ামত ও লংকারবরণ 30 19 22 900,00 500,00 রয়াব জেনেসি সদর লগ্ররে কোত বিভিৎ এর বাহির পার্শ্বে ওরেমার কোট, আন্তর ও টিন মেরামত/সংকারকান 30 20 市 \$00.0 জ্ঞাৰ ডোগেঁস ট্ৰেলিং স্কুল পান্তীপুর পূর্ব পারেঁর বাজাকের দ্বান্ডা, জালনগাঁ, আন্তর, বহু ইত্যাদি মোয়াহত/গন্ধোবকনা আৰ ফোর্সের স্থানর দন্তরে ট্রেনিং উইহ এব পরিচালতের অফিস রুমে ফলুস নিলিং, রক্ষেণ্ডানর এবং আব ফোর্সের সক \$00.00 2000.00 20 30.1 300.00 0800.0 30 14 পর্তবের লাইব্রেরী এর বহালে পারাব, সিলিং মারার, রাকেবাসর মেরামত ও সাঙাবিকলা তবে জেরেঁন সনর আপস উইং এর পরিয়োগক, উপ-পরিচালক বেগসে), উপ-পরিচালক (এয়টিক/বিকিইউ), উপ-পরিচালর (স্পেন্সা-পার্চাসেক ড্রামিং ও মেটাটেণ্ড), ম্রিজিনার্ট হিরুচে, পিএটু পরিচালে, রেষ্ট্রাল অপজ, গ্রাচীয় ও মন্টোবিং, এয়েটি, পিওএল, বেঘে ডিসাপোন্সাল (অবিস্ণ সেটার লাইব্রেরী), আইএনটি, নিনিয়ার চিএক্রি অভিগ জনসংগঠনজন্মের এয়েটি, পিওএল, বেঘে ডিসাপোন্সাল (অবিস্ণ সেটার লাইব্রেরী), আইএনটি, নিনিয়ার চিএক্রি অভিগ 30 90 হাব ফোর্সেন নদর নরত হাজী ক্যান্স এলাকায় স্পেশাল ফোর্স ব্যারাকের প্রজীয় এক্সন্ট ফান, ফ্লাস ট্যাবে 30 19 391 \$20,00 2900,00 হাবে ফোর্সেন সমৰ পরার রোরার্ড অফিসের দরায়া, ফোর্স ব্যারাক এর দেয়াল, টিন, পানির গাম্প, হ্যাকার স্ট্যান্ড ইজ্যাসি Str I \$00.00 30 194 8800.0 মেরামত ও সংস্থারকরণ যি সদর লগ্ধরের কারবহান বাজার এলাকায় লিশ্যাল এন্ড মিছিয়া সেন্টার মেরামত ও সংকারকরণ ১৯। ব্যাব ফোর্সেন সময় দ পরশয় আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম 2.0 544 920,00 03200,0 ্যাঃ বাসামুক্ষামান সৱপত্ৰ আহবানকাৰী কৰ্মকতাৰ পদবী ভিইং কমান্দ্রনা। পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ) পেত্র আহবানকার্বী কর্মকর্ত্রার রিকান দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকার্জার সার্বে যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম যোগ না, ৪৮৯৬৫১০৪ বিশেষ আতব্য: ৰব্য যেতি বা বাহিন্নলৈ সন্থাখিলাটা আক্ষমক পাতে আনেদশপুৰ্থক উপ-পৰিচালক (উন্নচল), ত্যাব ফোনেৰ সদন্ত নগৰ, চাকা হাইকে অফিগ চলাকালীন সময় পৰ্যন্ত সভাহ কৰা ৰাইবে। দৰপত্ৰ সংক্ৰম জন্যানা কথ্যাবলী সৱগত্ৰ লগতে জন্মেল সিংখাক্ষমৰাত্ৰীৰ কৰ্মোলত হাইছে জনা ঘাইবে। দৰপত্ৰ সংক্ৰম জন্যানা কথ্যাবলী সৱগত্ৰ লগতে কি দিশ পৰিষ্ঠ কৰক থাঁকিবে অনুমেনিত সহাচনৰ আক্ষমক কৰ্মাচেল বিদাল কৰা হাইবে। এত দসংক্ৰমৰ আৰিবে। দেশখে উন্নচিখন আক্ষমকে কৰ্মাচেল বাদাল কৰা হাইবে। এত দসংক্ৰমৰ জনিব বাংগতি বহুগোহোঁ হাইবে না। ধৰণতে উন্নচিখন আক্ষমকে কৰ্মাচেল বাদাল কৰা হাইবে। এত দসংক্ৰমৰ আৰি বহুগোহোঁৰ হাইবে না। ধৰণতে উন্নচিখন সময়েৰ মধ্যে কাৰ্যা সম্পাদ কৰাৰে হাইবে। বাহিক কৰাৰ মন্দ্ৰতা কাৰ্যত কৰ্তৃপক্ষ সংবচ্চৰ কৰে। বাংল কৰাৰ পদিলে কাৰ্তিবোচে যে কোনা কৰাৰ নাৰ বাংগত বাংল কৰা বাংল বাংগত কৰ্তৃপক্ষ সংবচ্চৰ কৰে।

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ র্যাব ফোর্সেস সদর পগুর কুর্মিটোলা, ঢাকা দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

"The Public Procurement, Regulation-2008" মোতাবেক চলতি ২০১৯-২০২০ অর্থ বংসরে রাবে কোর্সেগ সমর সম্বরের নিশ্রে ধর্ণিত মেরামন্ড/সংজ্ঞার আজরতাে বাস্তরায়দের জন্য প্রকৃত বাংলাসেশের ঠিকালয়

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খনটি মারণাগয়

রাথি ফোর্সেস সমর দন্তর।

মহাপরিচালক, ব্যাব কোর্সেস ৰতম্যনে ব্যৱহত হয়ে না

Clicities & Regard align খুশিশ সম্বর পদ্ধর পারক নং বিশেষার এক মেইনটেন্যাপ/৪৪,০১,০০০০,০৪৩,৯০ ২০১৯/২৬৯(৩)। ২২ অটোম্যা ২০১৯স্রিঃ। "The Public Procurement Regulation-2008" অবুহায়ী মেরাত্মক কামের অভিরুত্তাসম্পন্ন সরকারি/ব্যায়ন্ত্রশাসিক সংস্থা ভাসিকন্ত্রিক বৈধ তিকালার। মন্টেই কাজ ৰাপ্তবাহন সভাবৰে হিকালাৰী লাইদেশ, ট্ৰেড লাইদেশ, হালনাগাদ জয়া প্ৰদান কৰছে হইবে অহাকৰ সন্দলন আট আন্ত সমায়ির সময়

1.0 কোন প্রকার কটা হেঁড়া, মন্মানানা না করেন্সসিং স্কুইত ব্যবহার করা মাবে দা। সিচিউল ক্রয়ের সময় অবশাই বাংলাদেশের অলিকান্ডুক ঠিকাদার প্রতিষ্ঠাদের লাইসেন্ডের সত্যায়িত কটোকণি আনতে হবে।

> পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ) র্যাব ফোর্সেস সদর দণ্ডর, ঢাকা

পক্ষে মাহপরিচালক

টেলিফোনঃ ৪৮৯৬০১০০

GD-2098

PM to newly-commissioned naval officers, hopes navy will become commercial manufacturer of warships



Accompanied by Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Aurangzeb Chowdhury, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inspects a parade at Bangladesh Naval Academy in Chattogram yesterday. PHOTO: BSS

UNB, Chattogram

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday hoped that Bangladesh Navy will be able to be a commercial manufacturer of warships and thus earn foreign currencies alongside creating jobs.

"This, in turn, will flourish homegrown technologies... and eventually establish Bangladesh as a self-reliant nation," she said.

The prime minister said this while addressing the President Parade-2019, marking the passing out of the "Midshipman-2017/A Batch" and the "Direct Entry Officers (DEOs) 2019/Bravo Batches" of Bangladesh Naval Academy (BNA) at the academy parade ground in Chattogram in the morning.

Hasina said with government support, Khulna Shipyard Limited has set a milestone in warship-building through manufacturing five patrol and two large patrol crafts under the management of Bangladesh Navy (BN). Work on five more patrol crafts is underway, she added.

The premier said decision has already been taken to build six more and started its implementation well-equipped large frigates at BNadministered Chattogram Dry Dock Limited. The navy is also making IFF (Identification of Friend and Foe) systems for the three forces, she said.

Regarding blue economy, she said, "We'll have to utilise our marine resources for economic development."

The prime minister urged the newly-commissioned officers of BN to discharge their responsibilities with honesty and sincerity as they are oath-bound to do so. "You'll be the future leaders of this navy... to safeguard our motherland," she added.

Hasina said Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman developed BN soon after the country's independence. Its official journey started with two patrol crafts procured on Bangabandhu's initiative.

The Father of the Nation commissioned all the major bases of the navy in 1974.

Bangabandhu formulated the Territorial Waters and Maritime Zones Act, 1974" to establish the country's sea rights, said Hasina.

She said her government, after assuming office in 2009, formulated "Forces Goal 2030" in line with Bangabandhu's "Defence Policy" accordingly as the government's goal is to develop the armed forces.

She said her government added 27 warships to BN, established the navy's special commando wing

"Special Warfare, Diving and Salvage Command" and the aviation wing

"Naval Aviation". Also, inclusion of two submarines in 2017 has truly transformed BN into a full-fledged three-dimensional

force, she added. To cope with the challenges of 21st century, she said the government is taking various measures to strengthen navy into a technologybased efficient force, considering the regional and geo-political realities.

She said a new base named "BNS Sheikh Mujib" has recently been commissioned at Khilkhet in Dhaka. Construction of two bases -- "BNS Sher-e-Bangla" and submarine base "BNS Sheikh Hasina" -- is progressing fast, the PM said.

With a view to develop training facilities and living standards, 22 multi-storey buildings in 22 different naval areas and a navy township project in Savar have been inaugurated, she added.

Out of the military sphere, the navy is also working in a widerange of sectors such as women's empowerment, construction of structures for accommodating Myanmar forcibly-displaced nationals and expansion of blue economy, she said.

Hasina extended her gratitude to SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

ideals: president to teachers

Convocation of Khulna University held

UNB, Khulna

President Abdul Hamid yesterday urged teachers not to compromise with ideals, and devote themselves to acquiring knowledge and disseminating it among students.

"When teachers move away from their ideals, it creates a negative impact on students," he said. The president said this while addressing

the sixth convocation of Khulna University on its campus. Hamid said teachers and researchers are

valuable resources of the nation. Terming universities a centre of hope and aspiration, he stressed the need for conducting international standard research.

He urged researchers of Khulna University to conduct more studies on biodiversity and coastal resources as the region's coastline is rich with marine resources.

Before attending the convocation, the president inaugurated a mural of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman -- "Kaljoyee Mujib"-- near the university's main gate, marking the birth centenary of Bangabandhu.

Throughout the day, the campus wore a festive look. Academic and administrative buildings, residential halls and the vicechancellor's residence were illuminated on the occasion.

This year, some 4,478 students received their graduation certificates, alongside 2,530 postgraduates, five MPhils and eight doctorates.

Seventeen students received their postgraduate diplomas in education. Besides, 23 students were awarded gold medals.

Education Minister Dr Dipu Moni, Khulna City Corporation (KCC) Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque, and University Grants Commission (UGC) Chairman Prof Dr Kazi Shahidullah were present, among others.

Educationist and social scientist Dr Anupam Sen delivered the convocation speech.

Vice Chancellor of the university Prof Dr Mohammad Fayek Uzzaman also spoke on the occasion.

Secretaries concerned to the president were present at the event.



Winter is the season of vegetables. Like elsewhere, varieties of green goodness have started appearing in markets in Sylhet. Locals say despite adequate supply, the price is too high. This photo of vendors arranging vegetables was taken at the city's Rikabibazar market yesterday, where a kg of cauliflower, cucumber, bitter gourd, okra and tomato was being sold between Tk 65 and Tk 80. PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR



Teenager dies after crashing motorbike STAR REPORT



Man fined for cutting hills in Ctg STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A mobile court yesterday fined a man for cutting hills illegally in Ghara Mara area under Mirsarai upazila of Chattogram.

Mirsarai Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Ruhul Amin led the drive.

mobile The court also fined Abdur Rauf of Korer Hat area Tk 1 lakh for cutting hills defying environmental laws.

Korer Hat Check Station official of the Forest Department Noimul Islam and his team assisted the mobile court during the drive, said the UNO.

According the to Bangladesh Environment Preservation Act 1995, amended in 2000, cutting hills without the approval of concerned authorities is prohibited. But illegal hill cutting continues unabated.



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A 14-year-old was killed in a motorcycle accident at Pirhati area of Dhunat upazila in Bogura on Saturday morning.

The deceased, Sobuj, was a ninth grader at Multani Parveen Talukder High School, reports BSS.

The accident occurred around 10am on Mothurapur-Dhanghara road when Sobuj lost control of his motorcycle and crashed into a tree, said Ismail Hossain, officer-incharge of Dhunat Police Station.

He died while being taken to a local hospital, Ismail added.

In another accident in Bogura, driver Adam Ali Sarkar (32) died from electrocution after his truck was pushed into a roadside electric pole by another truck on Dhaka-Bogura highway at Noymile of Shahjahanpur upazila early Saturday, reports UNB.

The accident occurred as Adam Ali was cleaning the windshield of his parked truck amid intense morning fog. At one point, another truck hit Adam's truck from behind and pushed them into a roadside electric pole.

The pole collapsed from the pressure and electrocuted Adam Ali, said Jahedul Islam, in-charge of Kundarhat Highway Police Outpost.

In Kishoreganj, one Morium Nessa (57) was killed in a road crash at Latifabad Charpara area on Mymensingh-Kishoreganj road in Kishoreganj yesterday morning.

The deceased hailed from Adampur village in Katiadi upazila of the district, reports our Mymensingh correspondent.

The accident occurred when Morium and Alauddin were on their way to the regional passport office in Kishoreganj town on Alauddin's motorcycle.

As they got to Latifabad Charpara area, Morium suddenly fell off the motorcycle.

Before she could get back up on her feet, an speeing incoming truck crushed her from behind, killing SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Rape accused arrested with knife

Firearm seized after interrogation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-7) in a drive yesterday arrested a man, who is accused in a gang-rape case, in possession of a knife from Banshkhali upazila of Chattogram.

The arrestee is Md Jasim Uddin (30) of the same upazila, said Rab.

Assistant Director (AD) Mahmudul Hasan Mamun of Rab-7 Media Wing said officers had set up a makeshift check-post in Chanua Bazar area and intercepted a CNGrun auto-rickshaw carrying Jasim.

Noticing his suspicious behaviour, law enforcers frisked Jasim and recovered a knife from his pocket, said the AD.

They then detained him and during interrogation the arrestee disclosed information about a firearm which was hidden near his house, he said.

Later, Rab searched a bamboo garden in the area and seized a gun, he added.

Jasim stands accused in three ongoing cases, including a gang-rape case, filed with Banshkhali Police Station.

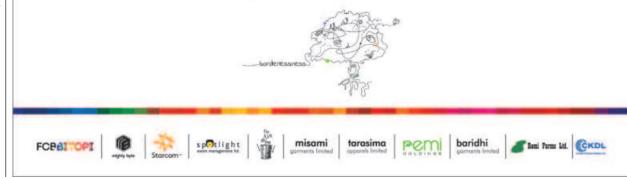


Sir Fazle Hasan Abed

Your legacy, timeless. Your efforts, borderless.

Words will never be enough to express all you have done for us. Your love for us, and determination to help the people has changed the lives of everyone, not just in Bangladesh, but all over the world. You have shown how one man can make such a huge difference. The world may never see your like again, but your legacy will surely live on; and we promise to be worthy of it.

Thank you for inspiring us to be better.





LATE S. M. ALI DHAKA MONDAY DECEMBER 23, 2019, POUSH 8, 1426 BS

The nation expects a lot from the party

AL's 21st Council

OLLOWING the conclusion of AL's 21st Council, → we believe that the party would seize the opportunity to redeem its pledges and retrieve its credentials. There is no denying that there has been divergence from the democratic principles which was the underlying motivation of the party. And we have seen the gradual erosion of the established political values and, often, the leadership has strayed from the path of transparent and equitable governance. The auxiliaries of the party have broken away from their leash and, on occasions, gone completely berserk despite the party president's warnings and admonitions. And all these have been clearly voiced by none other than the party president herself from time to time

It is an incontrovertible fact too that a few party leaders at various levels, particularly those belonging to the party ancillaries, had indulged in unashamed misuse of power, often driven by an unmitigated sense of impunity. Misuse of power always goes hand in hand with, corruption; this has permeated at all levels of the party, defying the party president's warnings. Unfortunately, abuse of power and corruption have combined to tarnish the image and erode the credibility of the party. And these have, consequently, diminished the significance of the achievements of the government, making all the talk of good governance sound hollow.

However, we are glad to see that Sheikh Hasina believes that, like charity, cleansing should also begin at home. She has acted decisively against some of her party men and we hope that she would brook neither abuse of power nor corruption within her party anymore. And we believe too that Sheikh Hasina would deliver on her resolve to give us good governance. That is what the nation expects.

Alarming mismanagement of medical waste

This needs immediate rectification

report published by this daily on December 22 on the mishandling of medical waste in Rajshahi is symptomatic of the overall reluctance of medical authorities in managing medical waste across the country. Every few days, this daily publishes reports and writes editorials on the mismanagement of medical waste, only to fall on deaf ears, apparently.

According to the report in question, despite having coloured boxes to sort medical waste at the 205 hospitals and medical centres across Rajshahi, the wastes are all dumped in landfills, on roads and roadside bins, all mixed together. And this is dangerous and pose serious health risks, especially because half of the three tonnes of medical waste generated in Rajshahi is infectious. Little children and grownups work in the landfills to sort the waste with their bare hands, often injuring themselves with sharp medical waste objects like syringes, which can increase exponentially the spread of contagious diseases.

According to DGHS any healthcare facility must have an incinerator, autoclave and effluent treatment plants to dispose of hazardous medical waste; of all the 205 healthcare centres in Raishahi, only Raishahi Medical College (RMC) has an incinerator, that too almost in tatters. Currently, the Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) is responsible for their medical waste management, and their work isn't flawless. RCC has initiated a Tk 2 crore project with an NGO to deal with this problem, which is likely to go into production next year. And the NGO will only dispose of the solid waste. So, what happens to the rest? Medical waste—general, infectious, hazardous, radioactive-mishandled, can unleash epidemic-scale health crisis. In view of this pervasive problem, the concerned authorities—not just in Rajshahi, but all over the country-should take this matter seriously and correct their course before it is too late.

Has Bangladesh provided an excuse for Suu Kyi's defence?

KAMAL AHMED

T was another reprehensible act of genocide denial. While defending the indefensible at the world court, the International Court of Justice, housed at the Peace Palace in the Dutch city The Hague, last week the once globally revered Peace Laureate, Aung Sun Suu Kyi, was remarkably unashamed. She and her legal team did not deny all those facts of wrongdoing mentioned in the petition filed by the Gambia including of atrocities, brutalities, forced massdeportation, use of sexual violence, spreading hate and discrimination against an ethnic minority group, the Rohingyas. Their strategy was based on three Ds-denial, distraction and deflection.

First was denial of the intent to commit genocide. Comparisons made with other genocides were so pathetic, that inference could be drawn that the number of Rohingyas killed were not sufficient to call it a genocide. Admitting brutalities, Ms Suu Kyi said, "it cannot be ruled out that disproportionate force was used by members of the defence services in some cases in disregard of international humanitarian law." But her defence was: "surely, under the circumstances, genocidal intent cannot be the only hypothesis." She argued that the Genocide Convention came into being on the backdrop of the killing of six million Jews. In Rwanda, 70 percent Tutsis were slaughtered. Professor William Schabas of Middlesex University cited the court's verdict on the Croatia vs. Serbia case on the premise of attempting to destroy an ethnic group on whole or a part. He argued, "killing non-combatants in an armed conflict may violate right to life. But, 10,000 deaths out of a population of well-over one million might be something other than intent to physically destroy the group." It was quite a surprise to hear

professor Schabas, the author of the book "Genocide in International Law", who is better known for his analysis of the Rohingyas' plight in Myanmar dating back to 2013 in an Al Jazeera documentary, "The Hidden Genocide", defending the same genocide as an outcome of a conflict. Professor Schabas, however, justifying his service to Myanmar, later told Reuters that everyone has the right to a defence before a court. But at the hearing his defence was blaming Al Jazeera for using his words selectively. Professor Schabas was put into this embarrassing defensive position by another famous academic, professor Philip Sands of Oxford, who on behalf of the Gambia, submitted to the court that the petitioner would not object if the court in its order includes preventative measures prescribed by professor Schabas in "The Hidden

questioning about the financing of the case, suggesting something suspicious was going on.

The third and final tactic was to deflect the world's attention to Bangladesh, which so far has been giving emphasis on repatriation and not pro-actively seeking justice for genocide or preventing further genocidal acts. In the words of professor Phoebe Okowa of Queen Mary University: "Bangladesh, the country that has borne the brunt of the crisis, has also entered into a MoU with Myanmar to provide organised framework for repatriation of displaced persons." In her argument, she continued: "This is proof of the fact that Bangladesh, as Myanmar's closest neighbour, is not of the view

But that does not deter anyone from analysing the core issues put forward by both the parties and reflect on some crucial aspects of our policies.

As Bangladesh was not a party to the dispute under consideration by the ICJ, it did not have any opportunity to explain its position. Experts representing the Gambia kept their focus on establishing its right to institute the legal action as a signatory to the Genocide Convention and remained almost silent about Bangladesh's role. Myanmar in its concluding submission again tried to exploit the issue of inaction and the views of the directly-affected party. Christopher Staker even argued with citation (case reference) that according to the International Law Council (ILC),

Myanmar's attempt to shield itself from the egregious charges using Bangladesh's affable position certainly demands some serious contemplation. Maintaining diplomatic links and negotiations do not require top level exchanges until and unless there is a breakthrough. Luckily, such a top-level exchange during the hearing was not mentioned before the court which otherwise could have caused some discomfort, especially when the Gambia referred to the US imposition of further sanctions against Myanmar's four top generals.

Another striking point to note from the trial was the outrageous claim made by Myanmar that if the ICJ were to order any interim measures sought by the Gambia, that it would adversely impact



William Schabas and Myanmar's leader Aung San Suu Kyi at the hearing in a case filed by the Gambia against Myanmar alleging genocide against the Rohingya, at the ICJ in The Hague, Netherlands, December 11, 2019. PHOTO: REUTERS

that Muslims are at risk of imminent genocide should they return.'

The Gambia vs. Myanmar hearing at the ICJ was an exceptional battle over defining the genocidal intent between leading legal experts to make 17 judges rule on whether any interim measures were necessary to protect 6 lakh Rohingyas trapped in camps built for IDPs (Internally displaced people) and secluded villages under harsh restrictions on movement, livelihood, practicing their religious faith and so on. It would be a frivolous exercise to try to narrate here the nine hours of deliberations, filled with legal jargon and references of past cases under international law.

any state could not seek enforcement of erga omnes rights or obligations owed toward all in the same way as a directly injured state. Whether the court accepts or rejects this argument we will find it out in a few weeks. But the question of remaining silent on calling it a genocide by Bangladesh is not an ignorable one.

There's no doubt that repatriation of more than one million refugees should get priority in Bangladesh's policy

on repatriation, reconciliation and their domestic justice system. Paul Reichler, representing the Gambia, termed this socalled repatriation process a "fraud" and highlighted Myanmar's policy of hate towards the Rohingyas, citing Suu Kyi's refusal to use the ethnic identity of the victim community. The ICJ proceeding has also proven how valuable the UN Fact Finding Missions were and whose conclusions, of Myanmar's genocidal intent reflected through seven indicators. have given hope for justice to the world's most persecuted ethnic group, the Rohingyas.

EDITORIAL



Violence against protestors in India

The deterioration of democratic space in India, hailed as the largest democracy in the world, is extremely sad to see. It is particularly disheartening for people in Bangladesh, given the closeness between our two countries.

Protests against the new citizenship law have spread like wildfire throughout India. While it is encouraging to see people standing up for their beliefs and protesting a law they view as antidemocratic, the reaction of the government, which has unleashed such senseless brutality against its own people, is simply unacceptable.

In a video circulating on Twitter, one young woman is seen saying: "If you are acting like the British government, then we will act like Bhagat Singhs." Hopefully the government will come to its senses and pay heed to the concerns of the protestors.

Gautum Roy, Jessore



PHOTO: AMIT DAVE/REUTERS

Protest against a new citizenship law, in Ahmedabad, India, December 19, 2019.

The second element of the strategy of Myanmar was to try to distract by questioning the Gambia's locus standi, or right to move the court, by claiming it was a proxy of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, OIC and

Genocide".

towards the crisis. But it does not mean, a nation born through the most horrific genocide in our part of the world, should refrain from its moral obligation to denounce such genocidal acts and do its utmost to prevent such crimes.

-----Kamal Ahmed is a freelance journalist based in

Why Vietnam provides a useful benchmark for Bangladesh



My personal view, which I will expand

upon below, is that both countries have

The most recent figures show that

Bangladesh garment exports between

January and September stood at USD

26.1 billion while Vietnamese exports

were worth USD 24.43 billion. Taking

amounted to USD 27.63 billion while

At present, I believe Bangladesh has a

number of competitive advantages over

Vietnam. It has a more readily available

supply of skilled and semi-skilled labour.

Vietnam is certainly strong in the area of

industry training but the textile industry

there faces competition from other fast

developing industries which, in many

There are two other areas where I

terms of apparel production. One is in

believe Bangladesh outshines Vietnam in

the realm of sustainability and-a related

issue-factory safety. Bangladesh has the

safest garment industry in the world and,

cases, pay higher wages.

Vietnam was at USD 27.10 billion.

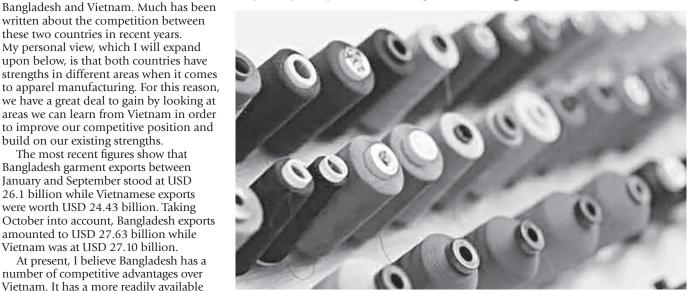
build on our existing strengths.

and the rewards for our massive efforts in the area of factory safety are still to be seen.

We are also, as an industry, leading the way in terms of sustainability generally, with many of our factories shifting to new, greener methods of production which use less water and energy and which are less energy-intensive. This shift has, of course, been demanded by apparel brands but our industry has shown a willingness and adaptability to respond. It has taken giant

four million in Bangladesh. This added value will only be matched by Bangladesh if we continue to invest in training and R&D, and surely this should send a clear message to policymakers in our country.

Vietnam has a major strength in high value products, and this is a direct result of the investment they made in training. Vietnam has invested in high standards of education in textiles and apparel, all aimed at implementing new industry technologies.



strides in this area, which are not always visible to the outside world

But where can we learn from Vietnam? This is where I see huge opportunities. Firstly, it is worth considering that efficiency in Vietnam's apparel industry is higher than ours. Their efficiency is around 65 compared to 40 in Bangladesh. This means their export value is similar to ours despite the fact that their industry has around two million workers compared to

In Bangladesh, while we have lots of textile engineers, we need more innovators in areas such as machinery, software, digitalisation, automation, and robotisation. We cannot afford to allow Vietnam to steal a march on us on these areas

Also worth noting is that in five to 10 years time, the low labour cost advantage of sourcing from Bangladesh will be obsolete and replaced by automation.

We therefore need smart, well-educated local people who can guide us on how to adapt production lines accordingly, using the latest tech solutions.

Another area we can surely improve on is in terms of proximity of our RMG sector to the ports and associated infrastructure. Vietnam has an edge on Bangladesh in this area but it needn't be this way. Public-private sector partnerships could surely be developed to improve transport routes to Chittagong as well as the broader development of logistics infrastructure, including modernisation of the port facilities.

Finally, we have to look at how Vietnam has aggressively pursued foreign trade agreements, with the EU and Asia Pacific. Can we be doing more in terms of trade agreements? Our primary markets lie in the EU but is there an opportunity to tap into the US marketas Vietnam has so successfully done-or even the burgeoning Chinese market? Proximity brings its own challenges, but it needn't be a complete barrier to market success.

In summary, Bangladesh and Vietnam each has their own strengths and weaknesses in terms of apparel production. Some might suggest that a comparison between the two countries is a fruitless exercise but I believe it is highly insightful, for surely there is no better way to improve one's own standing than by learning from a successful competitor. To succeed long-term, our RMG sector must be on a journey of continuous improvement, and benchmarking against other leaders in the field can be an invaluable part in this process.

------Mostafiz Uddin is the Managing Director of Denim Expert Limited. He is also the Founder and CEO of Bangladesh Denim Expo and Bangladesh Apparel Exchange (BAE). Email: mostafiz@denimexpert.com



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Gap filling activities with clues First Paper



Read the following text and fill in the blanks with suitable words from the box. There are more words than needed. Make any 0.5×10=5 grammatical change if necessary.

call	among	define	deaths	cause	interpersonal
serious	within	economic	armed	aggressive	nature

Conflict can be (a) _____ as clash of values and ideas among other things and the most serious form of conflict is (b) _____ clashes that results in lots of (c) _____ and casualties. There can be conflict (d) _____ us, which is intrapersonal conflict. The conflict between or (f) _____ persons is called (g) _____ conflict. Constraint of resources is also a (h) _____ of conflict and it is known as (i) ____ conflict. Conflict is a very common phenomenon, but sometimes it takes (j) _____ forms.

enriched	about	various	belong	naturally	combines
bears	criteria	included	in	remains	variety

Folk music (a) _____ to a community. It (b) _____ uninfluenced by any rules of classical music. Bangladesh is (c) _____ with folk music. Both religious and secular songs are (d) ____ in it. It (e) ____ the note of a community. It expresses styles (f) _____ and does not bother (g) _____ rules. As music (h) _____ tune, voice and dance, folk music has its own (i) _ Folk music has a great (j) _____ of singing style.

3.

1

images	delight	phenomenon	dreaming	dreams	very
that	theories	brought	and	desires	find

Dreams are psychological aspects. Over the years, scientists have (a) the topic under empirical research. (b) ____, thoughts and emotions are that dominate dreams. Vivid or (d) _____ vague, dreams are the (c) full of (e) _____ emotions or terrifying images (f) _____ we see during our is essential to mental, emotional (h) ____ physical welfare. sleep. (g) Dreams represent unconscious (i) ____, thoughts and motivations. Conscious thoughts (j) _____ their way into dreams. Different theories have been developed about dreams. Sigmund Freud interprets dream in

riverine	natural	region	people	different	metaphors
inequality	material	eastern	great	composed	music

In Bangladesh folk music has (a) _____ variety, with songs being (b) on the culture, festivals, views of life, natural beauty, rivers and rural and riverine life. These songs are also about social (c) _____ and poverty, about the (d) _____ world and the supernatural. Mystical songs have been composed using the metaphors of rivers and boats. Since the country is basically (e) _____ the Bhatiyali forms an important genre of folk music. Folk music is formed and developed according to the environment. Differences in the (f) _____ environment are reflected in the (g) ____ of the (h) _____ regions. The dialects too vary across the different regions. Bangladeshi folk music therefore varies from (i) _____ to region. Thus there are the northern Bhawaiya, the (j) _____ Bhatiyali and the southwestern Baul songs.

•			

similar	cure	differ	serious	propose	assortment
threat	like	deaths	similar	highly	search

Cancer is one of the deadliest diseases of the modern era. Ever since the days of Hippocrates, people have been (a) _____ for a cure. Cancer is (b) _____ to the common cold in that although there are many ways to (c) _____ it, modern medicine is still yet to come up with a (d) ____. This is partially because (e) _____ the common cold, there are many (f)

_ types of cancer, and they are all slightly different. Unfortunately, with over seven million (g) ____ per year, cancer as much more (h)

than the common cold. A wide (i) _ genetically modified viruses, and even arsenic have all been (j) _____ as

knowledge	real	reward	borrow	follow	deprive
prospective	constant	plans	similar	quick	think

In the Bengali language there is a modern maxim which can be translated, 'He who learns to read and write rides in a carriage and pair.' In English there is a (a) _____ proverb, 'Knowledge is power.' It is an offer of a (b)

_ bribe to the student, a promise of an ulterior (c) _____ which is more important than (d) _____ itself. Unfortunately, our very education has been successful in (e) _____ us of jour (f) _____ initiative and our courage of (g) ____. The training keep we get in our schools has the (h) _ implication in it that it is not for us to produce but to (i) _ l we are casting about to And we are casting about to borrow our educational (j) _____ from European institutions.

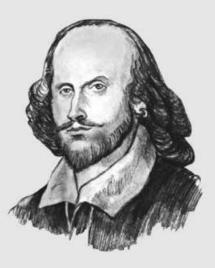
Gap filling activities without clues (for articles) Second Paper

Fill in the blanks in the following texts with articles (a/an/the) as necessary. Some of the blanks may not require an article. Put a cross (x) in those blanks. $0.5 \times 10 = 5$

1. Bangladesh is (a) _____ independent country. We won freedom on (b) December 16, 1971. This freedom was won as (c) _____ result of great sacrifice. (d) great many people laid down their lives for (e) _____ freedom of the country. (f) ____ man who loves his country is (g) ____ patriot. (h) ____ real patriot loves his country more than his life. Being patriots, we all should try to make (i) _____ effort for the welfare and (j) ____ progress of our motherland.

2. William Shakespeare was born on April 23, 1564 in (a) _____ village of Stratford-on-Avon in (b) ____ country of Warwickshire. His father John Shakespeare was (c) _____ farmer's son who came to (d) _____ Stratford about 1531, and began to prosper as (e) _____ trader in corn, wheat, leather and agricultural products. His mother Mary Arden was (f) daughter of (g) ____ prosperous

farmer, descended from (h) _ old family of mixed Anglo-Saxon and Norman blood. It is generally believed that neither (i) _____ poet's mother nor his father could read or write. In 1582, Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway, the daughter of (j) _____ peasant family. She was eight years older than Shakespeare.



3. There is a saying that sincerity is (a) _____ key to success. (b) _ person can prosper in life by doing hard work. The man who does not follow (c) _____ rules of sincerity can never go (d) ____ long way in (e) ____ world. Many (f) ____ man is not conscious of (g) ____ importance of (h) ____ sincerity for which they don't have (i) _ benefit of (j) _____ success. However, we should be sincere to our work if we want to achieve anything notable.

4. (a) _____ morning walk is a good habit for all classes of people. It is (b) _____ simple exercise and good for health and (c) ____ mentality. In the morning (d) ____ air is fresh and free from any kind of noise and pollution. This pure (e) _____ environment makes an effect on (f) _____ walker's health and mind, when (g) _ ____man enjoys (h) beauties and solemnity of (i) ____ nature in (j) ____ morning.

5. In (a) _____ last 25 years (b) _____ world has lost one-third of its natural wealth, according to (c) _____ international conservation organization world wild fund. (d) earth's forest, wetlands, seas and coasts are in (e) _____ worse state today than they were before. Forests are cut down. Moreover, they are being burnt indiscriminately resulting in (f) _____ increase in carbon dioxide and ultimately in (g) ___ water level rising as a consequence of global warming. It is anticipated that (h) _____ new century will face (i) _____ overwhelming environmental (j) _____ catastrophe.

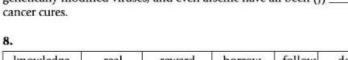
6. Literacy as (a) _____ skill was first institutionalized in Mesopotamia. Syria, Egypt and China soon after (b) _____ art of writing was invented. Education then was not for (c) ____ general people but (d) ____ privilege for (e) ____ chosen (f) ____ few who took on strategic roles in (g) _____ running of (h) _____ state and in religion. In Greece, education became more widespread in about the 5th century BC. (i) ____ Greeks. however, sent only their (j) ____ male children to school.

7. (a) _____ idle man and (b) _____ active man cannot be equal. We know (c) story of (d) _____ ant and (e) _____ grasshopper. (f) _____ ant was industrious. On the other hand, the grasshopper was really (g) ____ lazy. The ant knew that (h) ____ industrious shine. On (i) ____ contrary, (j) ____ lazy suffer in life.

8. You must have heard (a) _ name of Kazi Nazrul Islam. He is our national poet. He is known as (b) rebel poet. He was born in (c) poor family. He passed his boyhood in great hardship. When (d) First World War broke out, he joined (e) _____ army. After (f) war, he began to write poems. He wrote specially for (g) ____ oppressed and down trodden people. He is ____Shelley of Bengali called (h) _ literature. His poems and songs inspired (i) _____ Bangalees in (j) War of Liberation.



_ of drugs, chemicals, stem cells,



Psychoanalytic perspective.

h.						
universe	character	organize	identify	economy	grow	biology
mark	communicate	early	critic	develop	define	determinant

World Health Organization (WHO) (a) _____ adolescence as the period in human growth and (b) _____ that occurs after childhood and before adulthood. This phase represents one of the critical transitions in one's lifespan and is (c) _____ by fast paced growth and change which are second only to those at infancy. Biological processes drive many aspects of this growth and development with the onset of puberty (d) _____ the passage from childhood to adolescence. The biological (e) of adolescence are fairly (f) ____; however, the duration and (g) characteristics of this period may vary across time, cultures and socio (h) situations. This period has seen many changes over the past century, puberty for example, comes (i) _____ than before, people marry late and their sexual attitudes and behaviour are different from their grandparents, or even parents. Among the factors responsible for the change are education, urbanization and spread of global (j)_



difficult	consolidate	attraction	disappear	importance
solutions	success	provide	producers	practice

time. Crafts that are (b) _____ can and should be revived, even where the machine has made the prospect (c) _____. And crafts that are still (d) can be safeguarded and made to (e) _ _ their position further. This can be done by (f) _____ grants, loans, assistance and other support to the (g) , and helping them find a comfortable customer base. But more (h) _, craftwork can be branded and (i) _____ marketed throughout the country and beyond as there are always buyers and users of handmade products who feel a strong (j) _ _____ towards such cultural products.





was	together	write	receive	embarrassed	manage
say	overlook	to	apartment	answer	book

It was twenty years ago and I was living in Paris. I had a tiny (a) _ in the Latin quarter (b) _____ a cemetery, and I (c) _____ earning barely enough money (d) _____ keep body and soul (e) _____. She had read a (f) ____ of mine and had (g) — to me about it. I (h) ____, thanking her, and presently I (i) _____ from her another letter (j) _____ that she was passing through Paris and would like to have a chat with me.

Answer Script

Answer-1: (a) defined; (b) armed; (c) deaths; (d) within; (e) called; (f) among; (g) interpersonal; (h) cause; (i) economic; (j) serious/aggressive.

Answer-2: (a) belongs; (b) remains; (c) enriched; (d) included; (e) bears; (f) naturally; (g) about; (h) combines; (i) criteria; (j) variety.

Answer-3: (a) brought; (b) Images; (c) phenomena; (d) very; (e) delightful; (f) that; (g) Dreaming; (h) and; (i) desires; (j) find.

Answer-4: (a) identifies; (b) development; (c) characterised; (d) marking; (e) determinants; (f) universal; (g) defining; (h) economic; (i) earlier; (j) communication.

Answer-5: (a) solutions; (b) disappearing; (c) difficult; (d) practiced; (e) consolidate; (f) providing; (g) producers; (h) importantly; (i) successfully; (j) attraction.

Answer-6: (a) great; (b) composed; (c) inequality; (d) material; (e) riverine; (f) natural; (g) people; (h) different; (i) region; (j) eastern.

Answer-7: (a) searching; (b) similar; (c) treat; (d) cure; (e) like; (f) different; (g) deaths; (h) serious; (i) assortment; (j) proposed.

Answer-8: (a) similar; (b) prospective; (c) reward; (d) knowledge; (e) depriving; (f) real; (g) thought; (h) constant; (i) borrow; (j) plans.

Answer-9: (a) apartment; (b) overlooking; (c) was; (d) to; (e) together; (f) book; (g) written; (h) answered; (i) received; (j) saying.

9. Today women are playing (a) _____ important role in all spheres of (b) life. They are no longer confined within (c) _____ four walls of the kitchens. They have come out of their cocoons and are working hand in hand with (d) _____ men. They are joining (e) _____ wide range of professions and making a great (f) _____ contribution to the economy. Now it has come to (g) _____ realisation of all that it is not possible to develop the country keeping women, (h) ____ large section of (i) __ population, in (j) ____ dark.

10. 10. Though newspaper is not always (a) _____ unmixed blessing, it is (b) most useful thing in our life. We rarely think of (c) ____ day without reading (d) newspaper. Reading newspaper is one of (e) _____ good habits of a man. We shall be _____ frog in a dark well if we neglect developing this habit. However, some like (f) _____ electronic media to reading (h) _____ newspaper. But (i) _____ people prefer (g) newspaper offers more to its readers than (j) _____ electronic media.



1. (a) an; (b) ×; (c) a; (d) A; (e) the; (f) The; (g) a; (h) A; (i) an; (j) the/×.

2. (a) the; (b) the; (c) a; (d) ×; (e) a; (f) the; (g) a; (h) an; (i) the; (j) a.

3. (a) the; (b) A; (c) the; (d) a; (e) the; (f) a; (g) the; (h) ×; (i) the; (j) ×.

4. (a) ×; (b) a; (c) ×; (d) the; (e) ×; (f) the; (g) a; (h) the; (i) ×; (j) the.

- 5. (a) the; (b) the; (c) the/an; (d) The; (e) a; (f) an; (g) ×/the; (h) the; (i) an; (j) ×.
- 6. (a) a; (b) the; (c) the; (d) a; (e) the; (f) *; (g) the; (h) the; (i) The; (j) *.
- 7. (a) An; (b) an; (c) the; (d) an/the; (e) a/the; (f) The; (g) ×; (h) the; (i) the; (j) the.
- 8. (a) the; (b) the; (c) a; (d) the; (e) the; (f) the; (g) the; (h) the; (i) the; (j) the.
- 9. (a) an; (b) ×; (c) the; (d) ×; (e) a; (f) ×; (g) the; (h) a; (i) the; (j) the.

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INTERNATIONAL

PHOTO: AFP



DIVIDED INDIA

(Left) People in support of India's new citizenship law stage a demonstration in solidarity with the new legislation at the Town Hall in Bangalore, yesterday. (Right) Female protesters take part in a demonstration against the law in Chennai.

Didi, are you spreading rumours?

Modi, Mamata trade barbs as PM reminds rebel CMs of their constitutional obligation

NDTV ONLINE

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday took on the chief ministers who have refused to implement the contentious citizenship law, reminding them of their constitutional obligation.

To Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who has been most vocal about her intention, he had a mocking advice: "Ask your Advocate General if you can do this". So far, several state CMs, including Kerala's Pinarayi Vijayan and Punjab's Amarinder SIngh have refused to allow the citizenship law.

"Some are stating that they won't implement the Citizenship Amendment Act. You are the chief minister. You have taken oath on the constitution. You are under the national flag -and then give such statements? At least talk to those who know law, if not openly, then behind closed doors," the Modi said in a no-holdsbarred attack on his detractors.

Accusing the Banerjee of reversing her stand to protect her job, he said it was she who once complained about the illegal migration of Bangladesh nationals and "threw paper at the Speaker". Banerjee has said a video clip of the

Jagdeep Dhankar, was a fake.

She has also been spearheading the protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act and the National Registry of Citizens and dared PM Modi and Union Minister Amit Shah to take an opinion poll on the subject. "Just because you are majority, you can't do just about anything," she said at a rally last week.



Modi also ridiculed her over her comment on a UN referendum. Banerjee, who had asked the BJP to get a referendum on the citizenship law if it "dared", later clarified that she had meant an opinion poll.

"Mamata Didi, what has happened to you? matter, tweeted last week by state Governor Why have you changed? Why are you spreading

rumours?" PM Modi said.

"Powers come and go. Why are you scared? Trust people of Bengal. Why are they your enemies now?" he added, mocking the CM again over her party's performance in the Lok Sabha elections -- shabby in comparison to the BJP's remarkable gains. The party, which won just two seats of the state's 42 seats in 2014, won 18 this time -- feeding its hopes for unseating the Trinamool Congress in the next assembly elections

Within hours, Mamata Banerjee hit back on Twitter. "Whatever I said is there in public forum, whatever you said is there for people to judge. With #PM contradicting #HomeMinister publicly on Nationwide NRC, who is dividing fundamental idea of India? People will definitely decide who is right & who is wrong #IRejectCAA #IRejectNRC," her post read.

The Citizenship (Amendment) Act makes religion the test of citizenship in India for the first time. The government says it will help minorities from three Muslim-dominated countries to get citizenship if they fled to India because of religious persecution.

Critics say it is designed to discriminate against Muslims and violates the secular principles of the constitution.

'It's so unfair' Trump slams House's impeachment delay

REUTERS, West Palm Beach, Florida

President Donald Trump on Saturday criticised House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi for holding off on sending the articles of impeachment against him to the Senate.

"It's so unfair," Trump said, days after he was impeached by the House, during a speech to conservative student group Turning Point USA, saying that Pelosi adopted the strategy because she has "no case."

"They are violating the Constitution," Trump said, calling Pelosi "crazy Nancy."

The Democratic-controlled House voted on Dec 18 to impeach Trump, setting the stage for a trial in the Senate. Trump is very unlikely to be convicted and removed from office by the upper chamber of Congress because it is controlled by his Republican Party. A two-thirds majority vote in the Senate is needed for a conviction on impeachment charges.

Republicans and Democrats are at loggerheads over how the trial will play out. Pelosi and other Democrats want to call top Trump aides as witnesses and are seeking assurances that the trial will be held on terms they consider

Pelosi has not yet sent the impeachment package to the Senate in a bid to increase pressure on Republicans there. Pelosi has also not yet announced the managers, or prosecutors, who will present evidence in the trial.

AFGHAN POLLS Ghani on track for 2nd term AFP, Kabul

Afghanistan's President Ashraf Ghani appeared to have secured a second term yesterday, narrowly scoring an outright win in preliminary polling results, but his main rival immediately vowed to challenge the tally.

After months of political limbo and bitter allegations of fraud and corruption in the September 28 poll, Afghanistan's Independent Election Commission (IEC) said Ghani had won 50.64 percent of the vote.

If it holds, the result is enough for Ghani to avoid a run-off. He easily beat his top challenger, Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah, who scored 39.52 percent.

Candidates now have a few days to file any complaints before final results are announced, probably within weeks.

As soon as results were



announced, Abdullah's office said in a statement he would contest them.

"We would like to make it clear once again to our people, supporters, election commission and our international allies that our team will not accept the result of this fraudulent vote unless our legitimate demands are addressed, the statement read.

Abdullah lost to Ghani in 2014 in a divisive election that saw the US intervene to broker an awkward powersharing deal between the two rivals.

Ghani's office did not mmediately comment.

US ambassador to Afghanistan John Bass said it was vital the full electoral process plays out.



Cuba gets first prime

'There's not much left' Improved condition in Australia allows firefighters to access badly

burnt towns; PM defends climate policies amid raging bushfires

FROM CASHIER TO WORLD'S YOUNGEST PM

When leaders from the European Council gathered for a group photo in Brussels last week, it was hard to miss the class newbie. Standing front and center among the neat rows of middle-aged men was Finland's new prime minister -- 34-year-old Sanna Marin.

minister in over 40 years

Cuba's first prime minister in more than four decades -- long-serving tourism minister Manuel Marrero -- took office Saturday as the country resurrected a post last held by Fidel Castro. The appointment of Marrero, 56, as head of government is part of a process of decentralization and generational change from the revolutionary old guard that is aimed at extending and protecting Communist Party rule. Immediately after his presentation, Marrero received a handshake from former president Raul Castro, the leader of the Communist Party. Marrero has been serving as tourism minister from 2004. The position of prime minister was last held by Fidel Castro in 1976. But the post was abolished when Castro transitioned to the presidency, taking over from Osvaldo Dorticos after the country's constitution was restructured.

Thousands protest in Iraq as deadline for PM looms

Thousands took to the streets in Irag's capital and across the south yesterday to protest against Iran's kingmaking influence as the latest deadline for choosing a new prime minister loomed. Anti-government rallies have rocked Baghdad and the Shia-majority south since October 1, with demonstrators calling for a complete overhaul of a regime they deem corrupt, inefficient and overly beholden to Tehran. Yesterday marked the latest deadline already pushed back twice by President Barham Saleh -- for parliament to choose a new premier to replace Adel Abdel Mahdi, who tendered his administration's resignation last month. Officials say Iran wants to install Qusay al-Suhail, who served as higher education minister in the government of Abdel Mahdi. The protesters categorically reject Suhail's candidacy.

25,000 fled Syria's Idlib for Turkey over two days

At least 25,000 civilians have fled Syria's northwestern region of Idlib and headed towards Turkey over the past two days, Turkish state media said yesterday, as Syrian and Russian forces intensified their bombardment of the region. Turkey currently hosts some 3.7 million Syrian refugees, the largest refugee population in the world, and fears another wave from the Idlib region, where up to 3 million Syrians live in the last significant insurgent-held swathe of territory. Ankara has repeatedly asked its allies to support it in hosting refugees. Hundreds of people have been killed this year in attacks on residential areas of Idlib, according to UN agencies. Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has vowed to recapture Idlib, pushing more people towards Turkey.

SOURCE: AFP

Firefighters battling wildfires in Australia made the most of cooler weather yesterday to access badly burnt towns and contain blazes before the expected return of hotter conditions at the end of the week.

Reuters, Sydney

The reprieve came as Prime Minister Scott Morrison defended both his government's climate change policies and his decision to go on holiday to Hawaii last week.

The leader of New South Wales (NSW), Gladys Berejiklian, said "catastrophic" fire conditions on Saturday in parts of the prime minister's home state had destroyed communities.

"We've got the devastating news there's not much left in the town of Balmoral," Bereiiklian told journalists.

Balmoral is about 120 kilometres south west of Sydney. No fatalities were reported.

Morrison visited the Rural Fire Service (RFS) headquarters in Sydney after returning on Saturday night from Hawaii.

Morrison addressed his conservative Liberal-National coalition's climate policies yesterday, which his government none were rated as emergencies. has been forced to defend following the severity of this year's bushfires.

Morrison said there was no argument firefighters to work to contain fires.

Riot police break up HK rally for Uighurs

AFP, Hong Kong

Hong Kong riot police yesterday broke up a solidarity rally for China's Uighurs -- with one officer drawing a pistol -- as the city's pro-democracy movement likened their plight to that of the oppressed Muslim minority.

The initially peaceful rally descended into chaos when a small group of protesters removed a Chinese flag from a nearby government building and tried to burn it, an AFP reporter on the scene said.

Organisers stopped the flag being burned but riot police then swooped in with pepper spray, sparking anger from the crowd who threw water bottles.

One officer drew his side-arm and pointed it at the crowd but did not fire. Multiple protesters were seen being detained

The rally in support of Uighurs is likely to anger Beijing.

China has faced international condemnation for rounding up an estimated one million Uighurs and other mostly Muslim ethnic minorities in internment camps in the northwestern region of Xinjiang.

The emergence of a huge surveillance and prison system that now blankets much of Xinjiang has been watched closely in Hong Kong which has been convulsed by six months of huge and sometimes violent protests against Beijing's rule.

Pro-Uighur chants and flags have become commonplace in Hong Kong's marches but yesterday's rally was the first to be specifically dedicated to Uighurs.



that there is a link between climate change and weather events around the world but said it was not credible to make a direct connection to any single fire event and climate change.

Nearly 100 fires were still burning across NSW late yesterday afternoon, though

Conditions are expected to remain favourable over coming days allowing

But authorities stated that large fires would continue to burn across NSW without significant rainfall, which is not forecast for four to six weeks.

Australia has been fighting wildfires for months as hot, dry conditions brought about an early start to the fire season, with blazes destroying more than 800 homes and close to 3 million acres (1.2 million hectares) of bushland. At least 10 people were killed.

The young woman had a huge smile on her face. And why not, given her trailblazing new status as the world's youngest sitting prime minister.

The former transport minister shot to worldwide fame earlier this month after the leader of her Social Democratic Party stepped down -- and Marin stepped up, becoming the country's youngest serving prime minister.

She now heads Finland's governing coalition of five parties -- all of which have female leaders, and almost all under the age of 35. It's a remarkable line-up, given the country's leaders have traditionally been older men.

Marin's youth and gender "make her stand out from her predecessors, that for the most part have been males in their 50s," said Timo Miettinen, researcher at Helsinki University's Department of Political and Economic Studies.

Finland was the first country in the world to elect women to parliament, a little over a century ago. In that time, there have been just two female prime ministers before Marin, each serving for no longer than a year.

Initially, many Finns were too embroiled in internal political strife (the previous prime minister resigned after nationwide industrial strikes) to make much of a fuss about Marin's record-setting age. But when the international press started weighing in, they took notice, said Miettinen.

"People have been saying it's the best thing to happen to the international reputation of Finland," he said

"There is a sense of pride -- at least among her supporters and people who support her coalition parties."

Marin and her fellow coalition leaders don't look like your average senior politicians. The new prime minister is a big Rage Against the

YEAR-END DEADLINE FOR US TO CHANGE POLICY Kim holds top-level military meeting

REUTERS, Seoul

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un held a meeting of top military officials to discuss boosting the country's military capability, state news agency reported yesterday amid heightened concern the North may be about to return to

Washington.

Kim enlarged an of the ruling Party's Central Military Commission, KCNA news agency said, to discuss steps "to bolster up the overall armed forces

of the country ... militarily and politically.

"Also discussed were important issues for decisive improvement of the overall national defence and core matters for the sustained and accelerated development of military capability for self-defence,"

KCNA said.

It did not give details on when the meeting was held nor what was decided

The commission is North Korea's top military decision-making body. Kim rules the country as its supreme military commander and is the chairman of the

commission.

North Korea has set a year-end deadline for the United States to change what it says is a policy of hostility amid a stalemate in efforts to make progress on their pledge to end the North's nuclear programme

and establish lasting peace.

North Korea has repeatedly called for the United States to drop its "hostile policy" and warned about its "Christmas gift" as the end-year deadline it set for Washington to change its position looms.



Machine fan, and a photo of Marin and her all-female line-up was proudly shared on Instagram by the band's guitarist, Tom Morello. Marin's modest background doesn't read like your average world leader's either.

Her parents divorced when she was a small child "because of my father's alcohol problem," Marin wrote in a 2016 blog. She grew up in a "rainbow family," her mother in a same-sex relationship, in the Pirkkala region, north of Helsinki. They lived in a rented apartment and despite not having much money, Marin wrote that they had an "abundance" of love.

At 15, Marin's first summer job was at a bakery, and at high school she distributed magazines to earn extra cash.

After graduating, she worked as a cashier -- a role Estonia's interior minister this week mocked, calling her a "sales girl" and questioning her ability to run the country. Estonia apologized to Finland for the comments.

Her politics sit to the left of her party -- supporting increasing refugee intakes and raising taxes to support the welfare state. With her humble background and humanitarian policies, some commentators have cast Marin as the antidote to other strongman world leaders. Many drew comparisons with New Zealand's progressive Prime Minister Jacinda Ardhern, who took office at the age of 37. SOURCE: CNN



confrontation with

presided over meeting Workers









Workshop Title: Kata Kuti - Collage Workshop Artist: Kazi Tahsin Agaz Apurbo Venue: Studio 6/6, Mohammadpu Date: December 28 ime: 11:00 am - 6:00 pn



'Big Rock Day V. 2' sees phenomenal success

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT





Arbovirus

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Last Saturday's wintry evening saw a large audience gather at parallel sides of the Expo Zone at International Convention City Bashundhara, for the second iteration of Big Rock Day,

by Naquib Khan, Forest Hill Er Ek

Dupure (Souls), are some of Hena

A lyrical book, Chaine Phuler

Islam's notable works.

Mala, was also launched at

organised by Blues Communications. The first Big Rock Day concert took place in 2017.

This year's band line up consisted of amazing acts, including Nagar Baul James, Vikings, Arbovirus, Nemesis, Avoid Rafa, Powersurge, Conclusion

and Trainwreck. Farhadul Islam, the Managing Director of Blues Communications, spoke at the event.

PHOTO: STAR

Aside from singing their original compositions, Powersurge paid a tribute to James, with Jatra. Celebrating their guitarist Fasihuddin Ahmed Itmam's



Trainwreck

Conclusion



birthday, members of Arbovirus cut a cake on the stage. Vikings and Nemesis further entertained the audience with their popular songs.

Nagar Baul James, the concluding act of the evening, rocked the stage with the hit number, Leis Fita, among other songs.

James

A tribute to poet-lyricist Hena Islam

SHARMIN JOYA

In observance of the 20th death anniversary of eminent poetlyricist Hena Islam, a memorial programme, organised by Chattogram Musician's Club Dhaka (CMCD), was held at the National Music and Dance Centre auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), recently. Former Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, graced the event with his presence as the chief guest.

Family members and friends of Hena Islam shared their fond memories of him. They also expressed their love towards his daughter, Dr Sabera Shabnam, for taking the initiative of arranging the memorial programme. Hena Islam's contribution to Bangla music was remarkable. Most of the renowned music composers of the industry have produced many hit songs in collaboration with him. Born as Azizul Islam, he was better known by his pen name,

Hena Islam.

Raat Koto Raat, composed and sang by Ayub Bachchu, Amar Golpo Shune sang by Tapan Chowdhurv. Mone Koro Ekhon Onek Raat, sang



the event. The book consists of a collection of his songs. Shabnam wishes to donate the selling amount from the book to a charity of differently abled children.

The chief guest Asaduzzaman Noor stressed on the preservation of the works of the notable lvricists and composers. "It is very sad that in case of most of our favourite music numbers, we don't know who are the lyricists or composers," he said. "The lyricist and the script writer are the base on which an art piece is formed. We often ignore them. I feel their



Pragata Naoha's 'Kaalo' released

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

names and works should be archived carefully, so that it stays for a long time.'

The event concluded with the performances of songs written by Hena Islam. Eminent singer Samina Chowdhury, popular singer Kishore Das, along with many other noted artistes, performed at the event. The musical segment was conducted and directed by Naquib Khan.

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

Talented young singer Pragata Naoha released a new music video, titled Kaalo recently, aiming to raise awareness about an issue that is rarely talked about in the country - gender fluidity. The video, directed by Pracheta Ahana, was revealed in an event at a restaurant in the capital, alongside a concert featuring Hades, Anika Rashid Khan

and Old Dhaka Diaries, among others. The cinematography of the video is done by Salman Sadi. Kaalo is written and composed by Pragata herself, and is mastered by Rakat Zami, "It is an emotional moment for me to be able to voice out for the most underrepresented people in our society," says Pragata. "We worked very hard on the song, and I hope people liked the music video.'

National Science and Technology Museum holds children's art competition

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

In the month of Bangladesh's Victory, the National Science and Technology Museum hosted a daylong art competition for children. The competition had three categories. The first group, consisting of children up to the third grade, drew as they liked. Children from the fourth to sixth grade were given the theme of the Liberation War, while the topic, Independence and Bangabandhu was given to children from the seventh to tenth grade. More than 700 children from 27 different institutions in Dhaka took part in the competition.

17 young artists received prizes for their artworks. During the prize distribution ceremony, Minister of Science and

Technology of Bangladesh, Architect Yeafesh Osman said, "Our children will lead the country with their creativity and intellect. They must receive the proper education as nation builders, to fulfill the dreams of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

NMST director general Muhammad Munir Chowdhury, Chairman of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, Mahbubul Hoq and Director of Bangladesh Science Academy Dr M A Majid were also present during the ceremony. Ayesha Mahjin Khan (Capestone School), Mohammad Shahadat Hossain (St. Jopesh International School) and Nurul Aftab (A B C International School) received the top prizes of the competition.



DIFF's Bangladesh Panorama Section looks to promote local films

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The 18th Dhaka International Film Festival (DIFF) has announced the programme for its Bangladesh Panorama Section, which aims to promote Bangladeshi filmmakers and their work. Internationally renowned film critic and DIFF Festival Director Ahmed Muztaba Zamal confirmed the news on social media, recently. According to Zamal, the Bangladesh Panorama Section will consist of 10 to 15 selected fictional and documentary films, spanning the period from 2018 to 2019. Films that have a minimum length of 50 minutes are eligible for entry in this section The International Film Critics' Federation, FIPRESCI, will give the Critics' Award. One film will receive a certificate and a crest from the FIPRESCI juries.

The segment will showcase 11 Bangladeshi films: Ashraf Shishir's Amra Ekta Cinema Banabo (The Innocence), Nasiruddin Yousuff's Alpha, Arun Chowdhuri's Mayaboti, Pradip



Ghosh's Shuttle Train, N Rashed Chowdhury's Chandrabati Kotha! (The Tales of Chandra), Farid Ahmad's Tunes of Nostalgia, Masud Pothik's Maya - The Lost Mother, Proshoon Rahamaan's Nigrohokal (Long Period of Persecution), Impress Telefilm anthology Iti, Tomari Dhaka, Tauquir Ahmed's Fagun Hawa,

and Taneem Rahman Angshu's No Dorai. The festival has been organised on a regular basis by the Rainbow Film Society, which has been dedicated to the promotion of a healthy cine culture in Bangladesh and to celebrating the global mainstream in film and its social relevance since 1977.

The 18th DIFF will screen close to 220 films, with participation from around 74 countries. The festival will have competitions in its Asian Cinema Section, Retrospective, Bangladesh Panorama Section, Cinema of the World Section, Children Films Section, Women Filmmakers Section, Short and Independent Films Section and Spiritual Films Section.

All the film screenings will be held across Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Central Public Library Auditorium, National Museum Auditorium, Madhumita Cinema Hall and Star Cineplex in Dhaka. The festival will run from January 11 to 19.





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SPECIAL PREPARATION FOR HSC EXAMINATION 2020

Md. Jasim Uddin Biswas, Lecturer Dhaka Residential Model College

Gap filling activities with clues First Paper



Read the following text and fill in the blanks with suitable words from the box. There are more words than needed. Make any 0.5×10=5 grammatical change if necessary.

call	among	define	deaths	cause	interpersonal
serious	within	economic	armed	aggressive	nature

Conflict can be (a) _____ as clash of values and ideas among other things and the most serious form of conflict is (b) _____ clashes that results in lots of (c) _____ and casualties. There can be conflict (d) _____ us, which is intrapersonal conflict. The conflict between or (f) _____ persons is called (g) _____ conflict. Constraint of resources is also a (h) _____ of conflict and it is known as (i) ____ conflict. Conflict is a very common phenomenon, but sometimes it takes (j) _____ forms.

enriched	about	various	belong	naturally	combines
bears	criteria	included	in	remains	variety

Folk music (a) _____ to a community. It (b) _____ uninfluenced by any rules of classical music. Bangladesh is (c) _____ with folk music. Both religious and secular songs are (d) ____ in it. It (e) ____ the note of a community. It expresses styles (f) _____ and does not bother (g) _____ rules. As music (h) _____ tune, voice and dance, folk music has its own (i) _ Folk music has a great (j) _____ of singing style.

3.

1

images	delight	phenomenon	dreaming	dreams	very
that	theories	brought	and	desires	find

Dreams are psychological aspects. Over the years, scientists have (a) the topic under empirical research. (b) ____, thoughts and emotions are that dominate dreams. Vivid or (d) _____ vague, dreams are the (c) full of (e) _____ emotions or terrifying images (f) _____ we see during our is essential to mental, emotional (h) ____ physical welfare. sleep. (g) Dreams represent unconscious (i) ____, thoughts and motivations. Conscious thoughts (j) _____ their way into dreams. Different theories have been developed about dreams. Sigmund Freud interprets dream in

riverine	natural	region	people	different	metaphors
inequality	material	eastern	great	composed	music

In Bangladesh folk music has (a) _____ variety, with songs being (b) on the culture, festivals, views of life, natural beauty, rivers and rural and riverine life. These songs are also about social (c) _____ and poverty, about the (d) _____ world and the supernatural. Mystical songs have been composed using the metaphors of rivers and boats. Since the country is basically (e) _____ the Bhatiyali forms an important genre of folk music. Folk music is formed and developed according to the environment. Differences in the (f) _____ environment are reflected in the (g) ____ of the (h) _____ regions. The dialects too vary across the different regions. Bangladeshi folk music therefore varies from (i) _____ to region. Thus there are the northern Bhawaiya, the (j) _____ Bhatiyali and the southwestern Baul songs.

•			

similar	cure	differ	serious	propose	assortment
threat	like	deaths	similar	highly	search

Cancer is one of the deadliest diseases of the modern era. Ever since the days of Hippocrates, people have been (a) _____ for a cure. Cancer is (b) _____ to the common cold in that although there are many ways to (c) _____ it, modern medicine is still yet to come up with a (d) ____. This is partially because (e) _____ the common cold, there are many (f)

_ types of cancer, and they are all slightly different. Unfortunately, with over seven million (g) ____ per year, cancer as much more (h)

than the common cold. A wide (i) _ genetically modified viruses, and even arsenic have all been (j) _____ as

knowledge	real	reward	borrow	follow	deprive
prospective	constant	plans	similar	quick	think

In the Bengali language there is a modern maxim which can be translated, 'He who learns to read and write rides in a carriage and pair.' In English there is a (a) _____ proverb, 'Knowledge is power.' It is an offer of a (b)

_ bribe to the student, a promise of an ulterior (c) _____ which is more important than (d) _____ itself. Unfortunately, our very education has been successful in (e) _____ us of jour (f) _____ initiative and our courage of (g) ____. The training keep we get in our schools has the (h) _ implication in it that it is not for us to produce but to (i) _ l we are casting about to And we are casting about to borrow our educational (j) _____ from European institutions.

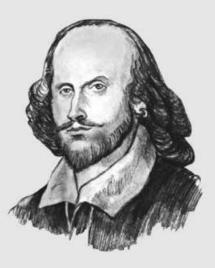
Gap filling activities without clues (for articles) Second Paper

Fill in the blanks in the following texts with articles (a/an/the) as necessary. Some of the blanks may not require an article. Put a cross (x) in those blanks. $0.5 \times 10 = 5$

1. Bangladesh is (a) _____ independent country. We won freedom on (b) December 16, 1971. This freedom was won as (c) _____ result of great sacrifice. (d) great many people laid down their lives for (e) _____ freedom of the country. (f) ____ man who loves his country is (g) ____ patriot. (h) ____ real patriot loves his country more than his life. Being patriots, we all should try to make (i) _____ effort for the welfare and (j) ____ progress of our motherland.

2. William Shakespeare was born on April 23, 1564 in (a) _____ village of Stratford-on-Avon in (b) ____ country of Warwickshire. His father John Shakespeare was (c) _____ farmer's son who came to (d) _____ Stratford about 1531, and began to prosper as (e) _____ trader in corn, wheat, leather and agricultural products. His mother Mary Arden was (f) daughter of (g) ____ prosperous

farmer, descended from (h) _ old family of mixed Anglo-Saxon and Norman blood. It is generally believed that neither (i) _____ poet's mother nor his father could read or write. In 1582, Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway, the daughter of (j) _____ peasant family. She was eight years older than Shakespeare.



3. There is a saying that sincerity is (a) _____ key to success. (b) _ person can prosper in life by doing hard work. The man who does not follow (c) _____ rules of sincerity can never go (d) ____ long way in (e) ____ world. Many (f) ____ man is not conscious of (g) ____ importance of (h) ____ sincerity for which they don't have (i) _ benefit of (j) _____ success. However, we should be sincere to our work if we want to achieve anything notable.

4. (a) _____ morning walk is a good habit for all classes of people. It is (b) _____ simple exercise and good for health and (c) ____ mentality. In the morning (d) ____ air is fresh and free from any kind of noise and pollution. This pure (e) _____ environment makes an effect on (f) _____ walker's health and mind, when (g) _ ____man enjoys (h) beauties and solemnity of (i) ____ nature in (j) ____ morning.

5. In (a) _____ last 25 years (b) _____ world has lost one-third of its natural wealth, according to (c) _____ international conservation organization world wild fund. (d) earth's forest, wetlands, seas and coasts are in (e) _____ worse state today than they were before. Forests are cut down. Moreover, they are being burnt indiscriminately resulting in (f) _____ increase in carbon dioxide and ultimately in (g) ___ water level rising as a consequence of global warming. It is anticipated that (h) _____ new century will face (i) _____ overwhelming environmental (j) _____ catastrophe.

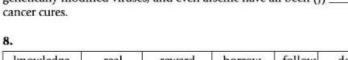
6. Literacy as (a) _____ skill was first institutionalized in Mesopotamia. Syria, Egypt and China soon after (b) _____ art of writing was invented. Education then was not for (c) ____ general people but (d) ____ privilege for (e) ____ chosen (f) ____ few who took on strategic roles in (g) _____ running of (h) _____ state and in religion. In Greece, education became more widespread in about the 5th century BC. (i) ____ Greeks. however, sent only their (j) ____ male children to school.

7. (a) _____ idle man and (b) _____ active man cannot be equal. We know (c) story of (d) _____ ant and (e) _____ grasshopper. (f) _____ ant was industrious. On the other hand, the grasshopper was really (g) ____ lazy. The ant knew that (h) ____ industrious shine. On (i) ____ contrary, (j) ____ lazy suffer in life.

8. You must have heard (a) _ name of Kazi Nazrul Islam. He is our national poet. He is known as (b) rebel poet. He was born in (c) poor family. He passed his boyhood in great hardship. When (d) First World War broke out, he joined (e) _____ army. After (f) war, he began to write poems. He wrote specially for (g) ____ oppressed and down trodden people. He is ____Shelley of Bengali called (h) _ literature. His poems and songs inspired (i) _____ Bangalees in (j) War of Liberation.



_ of drugs, chemicals, stem cells,



Psychoanalytic perspective.

h.						
universe	character	organize	identify	economy	grow	biology
mark	communicate	early	critic	develop	define	determinant

World Health Organization (WHO) (a) _____ adolescence as the period in human growth and (b) _____ that occurs after childhood and before adulthood. This phase represents one of the critical transitions in one's lifespan and is (c) _____ by fast paced growth and change which are second only to those at infancy. Biological processes drive many aspects of this growth and development with the onset of puberty (d) _____ the passage from childhood to adolescence. The biological (e) of adolescence are fairly (f) ____; however, the duration and (g) characteristics of this period may vary across time, cultures and socio (h) situations. This period has seen many changes over the past century, puberty for example, comes (i) _____ than before, people marry late and their sexual attitudes and behaviour are different from their grandparents, or even parents. Among the factors responsible for the change are education, urbanization and spread of global (j)_



difficult	consolidate	attraction	disappear	importance	
solutions	success	provide	producers	practice	

time. Crafts that are (b) _____ can and should be revived, even where the machine has made the prospect (c) _____. And crafts that are still (d) can be safeguarded and made to (e) _ _ their position further. This can be done by (f) _____ grants, loans, assistance and other support to the (g) , and helping them find a comfortable customer base. But more (h) _, craftwork can be branded and (i) _____ marketed throughout the country and beyond as there are always buyers and users of handmade products who feel a strong (j) _ _____ towards such cultural products.





was	together	write	receive	embarrassed	manage
say	y overlook	to	apartment	answer	book

It was twenty years ago and I was living in Paris. I had a tiny (a) _ in the Latin quarter (b) _____ a cemetery, and I (c) _____ earning barely enough money (d) _____ keep body and soul (e) _____. She had read a (f) ____ of mine and had (g) — to me about it. I (h) ____, thanking her, and presently I (i) _____ from her another letter (j) _____ that she was passing through Paris and would like to have a chat with me.

Answer Script

Answer-1: (a) defined; (b) armed; (c) deaths; (d) within; (e) called; (f) among; (g) interpersonal; (h) cause; (i) economic; (j) serious/aggressive.

Answer-2: (a) belongs; (b) remains; (c) enriched; (d) included; (e) bears; (f) naturally; (g) about; (h) combines; (i) criteria; (j) variety.

Answer-3: (a) brought; (b) Images; (c) phenomena; (d) very; (e) delightful; (f) that; (g) Dreaming; (h) and; (i) desires; (j) find.

Answer-4: (a) identifies; (b) development; (c) characterised; (d) marking; (e) determinants; (f) universal; (g) defining; (h) economic; (i) earlier; (j) communication.

Answer-5: (a) solutions; (b) disappearing; (c) difficult; (d) practiced; (e) consolidate; (f) providing; (g) producers; (h) importantly; (i) successfully; (j) attraction.

Answer-6: (a) great; (b) composed; (c) inequality; (d) material; (e) riverine; (f) natural; (g) people; (h) different; (i) region; (j) eastern.

Answer-7: (a) searching; (b) similar; (c) treat; (d) cure; (e) like; (f) different; (g) deaths; (h) serious; (i) assortment; (j) proposed.

Answer-8: (a) similar; (b) prospective; (c) reward; (d) knowledge; (e) depriving; (f) real; (g) thought; (h) constant; (i) borrow; (j) plans.

Answer-9: (a) apartment; (b) overlooking; (c) was; (d) to; (e) together; (f) book; (g) written; (h) answered; (i) received; (j) saying.

9. Today women are playing (a) _____ important role in all spheres of (b) life. They are no longer confined within (c) _____ four walls of the kitchens. They have come out of their cocoons and are working hand in hand with (d) _____ men. They are joining (e) _____ wide range of professions and making a great (f) _____ contribution to the economy. Now it has come to (g) _____ realisation of all that it is not possible to develop the country keeping women, (h) ____ large section of (i) __ population, in (j) ____ dark.

10. 10. Though newspaper is not always (a) _____ unmixed blessing, it is (b) most useful thing in our life. We rarely think of (c) ____ day without reading (d) newspaper. Reading newspaper is one of (e) _____ good habits of a man. We shall be _____ frog in a dark well if we neglect developing this habit. However, some like (f) _____ electronic media to reading (h) _____ newspaper. But (i) _____ people prefer (g) newspaper offers more to its readers than (j) _____ electronic media.



1. (a) an; (b) ×; (c) a; (d) A; (e) the; (f) The; (g) a; (h) A; (i) an; (j) the/×.

2. (a) the; (b) the; (c) a; (d) ×; (e) a; (f) the; (g) a; (h) an; (i) the; (j) a.

3. (a) the; (b) A; (c) the; (d) a; (e) the; (f) a; (g) the; (h) ×; (i) the; (j) ×.

4. (a) ×; (b) a; (c) ×; (d) the; (e) ×; (f) the; (g) a; (h) the; (i) ×; (j) the.

- 5. (a) the; (b) the; (c) the/an; (d) The; (e) a; (f) an; (g) ×/the; (h) the; (i) an; (j) ×.
- 6. (a) a; (b) the; (c) the; (d) a; (e) the; (f) *; (g) the; (h) the; (i) The; (j) *.
- 7. (a) An; (b) an; (c) the; (d) an/the; (e) a/the; (f) The; (g) ×; (h) the; (i) the; (j) the.
- 8. (a) the; (b) the; (c) a; (d) the; (e) the; (f) the; (g) the; (h) the; (i) the; (j) the.
- 9. (a) an; (b) ×; (c) the; (d) ×; (e) a; (f) ×; (g) the; (h) a; (i) the; (j) the.

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early

Man killed in 'gunfight' with police OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

A suspected criminal was killed in a "gunfight" with police in Noakhali early yesterday.

The dead Ratan Mia, 35, son of Rahamatullah of Mahatabpur in Sonaimuri upazila, was accused in 13 cases over murder, drug, and robbery with different police stations, said police.

Police arrested him in the area on Saturday evening, said Abdus Salam, officer-in-charge of Sonaimuri Police Station

Following the information provided by him during primary interrogation, police took him to a drive to Podipara village to recover firearms and drugs around 3:00am, said the OC.

As soon as they had reached the spot, the "cohorts" of Ratan started firing on the team forcing them to retaliate, he said, adding that Ratan tried to flee during the "gunfight".

As his cohorts retreated, police found the bullet-hit body of Ratan lying on the ground.

He was taken to Noakhali General Hospital where doctors declared him dead on arrival, said police.

Police claimed to have recovered a local gun, four bullets, and 31 yaba pills from the spot.

BSF shoots

FROM PAGE 16

when member of Phulbari BSF Camp opened fire on them, said Lt Col Samiunnabi Chowdhury, commanding officer of 50th BGB Battalion of Thakurgaon

Rezabul sustained a bullet injury in his lower abdomen while his companions managed to flee the scene unhurt and bring the victim to their village, he added.

On information, BGB men rescued Rezabul and sent him to Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital around 8:00am where he succumbed to his injuries around 11:30am, the BGB official said.

Meanwhile, BSF and BGB sat on a flag meeting upon invitation from the later. In the meeting, BGB strongly protested the killing at the border whereas BSF denied any incident of firing.

An unnatural death case was filed with Thakurgaon Police Station in connection with the incident. The body was handed over to the victim's family members after conducting autopsy.

On this day

FROM PAGE 16

will commence shortly, says CS Kahlon, rehabilitation secretary of India.

They will be given rations for two weeks, he added. He also says that, 1,30,000 Bangladeshis has already returned on foot.

Sheikh Mujib was taken to

Macron says French forces 'neutralise' Elephants trample another over 30 jihadists in Mali to death in Bandarban AFP, Abidjan

in 2012 has engulfed the centre of the country and spread to neighbouring President Emmanuel Macron said Burkina Faso and Niger. French forces had "neutralised" several

Macron arrived as French and UN troop presence has came under fire from critics questioning the military role of the former colonial power in the region as jihadist attacks have been on the rise.

Macron said in a speech to the French community in Ivory Coast that 33 "terrorists" had been "neutralised", a term a source close to the presidency said meant they had been killed.

Despite a French troop presence French soldiers also released two and a 13,000-strong UN peacekeeping Malian gendarmes being held by force in Mali, the conflict that erupted jihadists, he said.

"This considerable success shows on Friday to celebrate Christmas the commitment of our forces, the support that we bring to Mali, to the region and to our own security," Macron said.

City

"We have had losses, we also have victories this morning thanks to the commitment of our soldiers and Operation Barkhane," he said, referring to the France's military operation against Islamist militants in the Sahel.

Last month's crash was the biggest single-day loss for the French military in nearly four decades and raised fresh questions about the effectiveness of France's operation.

Macron arrived in Ivory Coast untruths," Macron said.

6,000 to lose means for survival

FROM PAGE 16 MARGINALISING THE MARGINALISED

country's north.

The 512 acres of land of Chandpur tea estate at Chunarughat upazila in Habiganj is one of the 88 places where the Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (Beza) plans to build SEZs.

dozen jihadists in Mali on Saturday,

as he visited West Africa with a pledge

to give new force to the battle against

The operation involving teams of

commandos and attack helicopters in

the flashpoint city of Mopti in central

Mali came just weeks after 13 French

soldiers were killed in a helicopter

crash as they hunted jihadists in the

Islamist militants in the region.

According to its website, Beza, formed in 2010, "aims to establish economic zones in all potential areas in Bangladesh including backward and underdeveloped regions with a view to encouraging rapid economic development through increase and diversification of industry, employment, production and export."

In 2015, the government cancelled Duncan Brother's lease on the land in question and Beza acquired the 512 acres, where workers of Chandpur tea estate have been farming since the establishment of the tea garden in 1890.

When the tea labourers came to know about the government's decision, they started protesting it. For months, they guarded their rice farms and held demonstration and rallies, but the government remained firm in its decision.

"Recently, a number of people in expensive cars visited the land and asked about the cost of land filling in the area," said Nipen Paul, jointsecretary of Bangladesh Tea Labourer's Union Central Committee.

"Besides, a local lawmaker at a programme in Sylhet recently, announced that the work of setting up the SEZ in Chunarughat will start soon," he said.

Fearing imminent eviction, the Chandpur tea estate workers started a one-hour daily strike from December 7, protesting the establishment of SEZ in their cropland.

THE OUESTION OF LAND RIGHTS Nipen explained the custom in all teagardens was that workers will live in and cultivate the fallow land within the gardens.

The owners, in turn, deduct a

SCAN THE QR CODE TO WATCH VIDEO

the cropland are passed down to the next generation along with the tealabourer's job, he added.

The tea workers belong to various tribal groups, and were brought to the tea estates in Sylhet division as bonded labourers by the British around 200 years ago from different other parts of Indian subcontinent.

They are, however, not given any legal entitlement to the land.

Barua, Barrister Jotirmoy coordinator of Life and Nature Safeguard Platform (LNSP), pointed out that the rights of the tribal teaworkers over the land they use must be recognised because Bangladesh had ratified the International Labour Organisation Convention 107.

Article 11 of the convention asks governments to recognise the right of ownership of land traditionally occupied by underprivileged tribal groups.

Jotirmoy said Bangladesh did not enact any law in line with the convention.

AGRICULTURE VS INDUSTRY

Barrister Jotirmoy Barua also referred to a remark made by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the 10th council of the Krishak League at the Suhrawardy Udyan on November 6 this year, where she reiterated her stance on not allowing industries on arable land.

'BEZA is violating it in every step," he alleged. President of the Begum Khan

tea garden Panchyat Committee Chandra Karmakar complained that the district administration classified

workers stand to lose their land.

According to Upazila Agriculture officer of Chunarughat Jalal Uddin Sarkar, yearly production of paddy and other crops in the 512 acres of land are worth 80 lakh and 20 lakh taka.

Even Beza, in reply to an application filed by this correspondent under the Right to Information Act, mentioned that the land chosen for the SEZ in Chunarughat is unused cropland where a certain varities of rice is grown, swamp and canal type.

Yet, Beza mentioned that the land was taken under Acquisition and Requisition of Immovable Property Ordinance 1982 and Non-agriculture Khas Land Management and Settlement Policy 1995.

Supreme Court Eminent lawyer Hasnat Quaiyum told this correspondent that he had visited the spot and found it to be paddy land. "The local government office termed it barren land and this is false. This is punishable under articles 167 and 409 of the penal code," he added.

Shamsul Huda, executive director of Association of Land Reform and Development (ALRD) and a member of Life and Nature that has far widespread impacts," he Safeguard Platform (LNSP), said, "The government should work to establish the land rights of the teato conduct comprehensive and workers, otherwise a large number transparent assessment and review of indigenous populations may face food scarcity in the near future."

Chairman of Bangladesh Tea Association Shah Alam also opposed the idea of setting up the SEZ on tea estate land.

"When Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was the chairman and apes in the Satchhari National of the Tea Board, he announced that the land of tea estates would remain intact. He [Bangabandhu] made this remark keeping the workers' tradition and their poor condition in mind," he said.

Noting that agriculture sector is Beza has not done any feasibility as important as the industry sector, study or Environmental Impact Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman, former

with French troops but the jihadist insurgency in the region was the top item on Macron's agenda during his 48-hour stay. The leaders of the anti-jihadist

G5 Sahel military alliance are due to attend a summit in France on January 13, when Macron said they would clarify the "political and strategic framework" of the operation after tensions emerged.

"I cannot ask our soldiers to take risks to fight against terrorism and the security of these countries and on the other hand to have public opinions of these same countries believing in

prioritising efficient use of land. It

ECONOMY OVER ENVIRONMENT?

Meanwhile, activists and forest

officials are concerned about the

proposed Chandpur tea estate SEZ

on the Satchhari National forest and

Rema-Kalenga Wildlife Sanctuary and

According to the forest department,

Satchhari National Forest is only four

kilometres away from the SEZ while

Rema-Kalenga Wildlife Sanctuary is

General Secretary of Bangladesh

Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) Central

Committee Sharif Jamil said,

"Increased traffic to connect the

economic zone through Satchhari

will hamper the wildlife habitat

and facilitate poaching. It will

lead the forests to complete death.

Death of this rainforest will severely

impact the streams and rivers at the

will be affected by the ecological

degradation. Especially, Sutang will be

highly affected by this specific zone.

These will pollute the Meghna river

He urged the government

the plan of setting up a SEZ in

Divisional Forest Officer of

wildlife management and nature

conservation in Sylhet ANM Abdul

Wadud told this correspondent that

different species of birds, reptiles

Forest will be endangered if the SEZ

Even Raghunandan and Rema-

The RTI application revealed that

Kalengaya forests will be affected, he

"Rivers like Sonai, Bolobhadra

impact of the

must be stopped."

environmental

rivers of the area.

19 kilometres away.

downstream".

warned.

Churnarughat.

is established.

added.

A woman was trampled to death by wild elephants in Bandarban's Naikhyangchĥari upazila yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Saleha Begum, 55, of Dochhari area of the upazila, said police.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Anwar Hossain, officer-in-charge of Naikhyangchhari Police Station, said a herd of wild elephants went to the area from the nearby forest in search of food in early hours of the day.

Around 4:00am, the elephants broke into the thatched house of Saleha in the area and trampled her to death, said the OC.

A man was trampled to death by elephants in the same upazila on Friday.

Home belongs

ROM PAGE 16

charges of facilitating the land grabbers.

ACC FINDINGS

According to the case statement, the house-221 in Nawabpur is a vested property. The Dhaka DC office in 1975 leased out the property to Masuda Khanam, mother of martyred intellectual and former deputy commissioner of Cumilla Shamsul Haq Khan.

The property was under the possession of Azharul Haque Khan, a member of the family, who had regularly been paying the lease money.

When the land was in Azharul's possession, Jabed made a fake deed of the land at Joydevpur Subregistrar's office.

Jabed claimed that one Nani Gopal Bosak was the land owner, and after his death, his son Tapan Kumar Bosak became the owner in 1967.

Scrutinising the documents, the anti-graft body found the accused had manipulated the land records. "A discrepancy has been found in the writing and colour of ink used on pages 251 and 252 of the records, reads the FIR.

Later, Jabed had a case filed by Tapan for the return of the vested property with a court where they had submitted fake documents and a deed of the property.

"Analysing evidence, it is also known that Jabed is the kingpin of a fraud syndicate that grabs the government land," reads the FIR.

On September 28 last year, some people, led by Jabed, grabbed the house, looted valuables and evicted the family.

after the incident A day when the victim's family went to Bangshal Police Station to file a case, the officer-in-charge informed Ibrahim, the then DC Wari division), of the incident and recorded a theft case. Later, the DMP initiated an enquiry after receiving a written complaint from the victim's family. According to the probe report, some 30 to 35 armed criminals stormed the house, tied all the residents, and looted valuables worth Tk 5 crore. Despite knowing that the land grabbers evicted the legal owner of the house, demolished a three-storey building and constructed a basement for a new building, Ibrahim did not take any legal action against the grabbers, showing utmost negligence in discharging his duty, the report added. Police sources said he helped the grabbers for a huge amount of bribe. In its case statement, the ACC said f they found Tapan's involvement in investigation, legal action would be taken against him. Apart from Tapan, those who will be found involved in this incident would be made accused in the case, it added.



Rawalpindi for discussion, Pakistan officials say.

"India will not keep its troops in Bangladesh for a single day, if not needed," Indian Foreign Minister Saran Singh tells his British counterpart Sir Alec Douglas Hugm in London.

Pakistan president Bhutto fires six top Navy officers.

City polls

FROM PAGE 1 press briefing.

The last date for submitting nomination papers is December 31 and the last date for withdrawal of candidacy is January 9. The EC will scrutinise nomination papers on January 2.

CEĆ KM Nurul Huda, in the press briefing, also requested the voters to turn up to the polling centres. "We will ensure security so that you can return home safely after casting your votes," he said.

Responding to a question, he said there was no scope of thinking that the EC works for any particular political party. "The elections will be competitive and open for all," he assured.

The CEC also said that the incumbent mayors of the city corporations would have to resign from their posts for taking part in the upcoming polls.

According to the EC, the two city corporations have over 54.02 lakh voters -- 30.35 lakh in DNCC and 23.67 lakh in DSCC -- to cast their votes in the elections.

Along with electing the mayors, DNCC voters will also elect 54 ward councillors and 18 reserved women councillors while DSCC voters will elect 75 ward councillors and 25 reserved women councillors.

Meanwhile, a statement of the ruling Awami League read that the party would sell nomination forms to aspirants for mayoral positions from December 25 to December 27. The forms will be available at the AL president's Dhanmondi office.

On the other hand, the BNP is likely to participate in the polls, said the party leaders.

The BNP standing committee would make a final decision on joining the Dhaka city polls, said BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir in November.

certain percentage of the workers' daily ration for the use of each decimal of land. The deduction is almost like a payment of land tax, he claimed.

FROM PAGE 1

Zohr prayers.

people.

Both the accommodation and

the graveyard premises, following

Nobel Laureate Dr Muhammad

Yunus said, "It is unimaginable that an

individual can play such a huge role in

changing people's fortune. Seventeen

crore countrymen somehow have

been benefited from what he [Sir Fazle

He added that Abed had spent his

In a condolence book kept at the

venue, Yunus wrote, "Sir Fazle Hasan

Abed is the part and parcel of the

history of the country's mass people."

He delved deep into every issue,

said Dr Yunus, adding that in doing

so he had to form many organisations

and he created a unique system for the

to take lessons from his activities and

apply those for the wellbeing of the

said he turned Brac into the largest

NGO of the world, which he had

initiated through distribution of relief

materials among the people of a war-

his extraordinary legacy,"

is outstanding, he added.

Fazle Abed's ideology

was

"It is indeed a reflection of

Brac's contributions to eradicating

poverty, reducing illiteracy and

ensuring basic healthcare for the poor

Anisuzzaman hoped Brac will

Noted jurist Dr Kamal Hossain said

He worked throughout his life for

the people starting from the country's

independence in 1971 through

founding different organisations, said

Kamal, also president of Gonoforum.

an

After Abed's body was taken to the

extraordinary

continue its journey upholding Sir

Abed is recognised as a true friend of

Recalling Abed's contribution,

Anisuzzaman

said

"I will ask our young generation

entire life for the wellbeing of the

Abed] did for the country.

management of those.

people," he added.

torn Bangladesh.

Anisuzzaman.

the poor.

"He

personality."

National Professor

the 512 acres as "barren land" in the 2015 requisition document, although workers had been growing crops there for more than a century.

The tea estate is yet another where

caretaker government adviser and executive chairperson of Power and Participation Research Centre said, There is a tendency to take the lands of marginalised people without

Assessment (EIA) for establishing the special economic zone yet.

Beza, itself, would not comment on the matter and has only responded when an RTI application is filed.

Forecast

FROM PAGE 16

next cold wave.

Meanwhile, at least five people died n Moulvibazar's Kamalganj upazila in the last two days allegedly due to health complications aggravated by the cold weather while several thousand others across the country sought medical attention for coldrelated diseases.

The deceased are Rakhal Chasha, 46, and Dangama Kurmi, 60, Buleshwari Turia, 45, and Hariya Bin, 60, and Anjub Ali.

Kamalganj Upazila Nirbahi Officer Ashekul Haque confirmed the death incidents to The Daily Star.

"All of them died from severe cold as they had a lack of warm clothing," Sitaram Bin, UP member of Shamshernagar union told our Moulvibazar correspondent.

The number of patients took treatment at the hospitals across the country yesterday dropped slightly to 4,254 from 4,556 a day before, according to the control room of the Directorate General of Health Services.

Of them, 720 were admitted for acute respiratory infection, 1,741 for diarrhoea, and 1,793 for other ailments, including fever, dysentery, and jaundice.

Adieu, friend of the poor! behalf of President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina placed wreaths on the coffin and stood in

> silence for a few minutes. Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury and Deputy Speaker Fazle Rabbi Miah then paid their tributes.

An Awami League delegation, led by its General Secretary and Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader, BNP delegation, led by the party's Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, and members of several other political parties paid their tributes as well.

National Professor Anisuzzaman, Chief Election Commissioner KM Nurul Huda, former CEC ATM Shamsul Huda, Nobel Laureate Dr Muhammad Yunus, PM's advisors Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury and Salman F Rahman, Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi, former finance minister AMA Muhith, and Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor Atiqul Islam were all present to pay their tributes.

Members of Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh, Gonoshasthaya Kendra, Bishwa Sahitya Kendra, Brac, Brac University, Ain O Salish Kendra, Manusher Jonno Foundation, Sajida Foundation, CAMPE, Pip Trust, Nijera Kori, Bengal Foundation, CCDB, CRP, World Vision Bangladesh, and Grameen Bank placed floral wreaths on Abed's coffin.

The poor people of Bangladesh have lost a true friend..., said Akbar Ali Khan, former adviser to a caretaker government.

Despite leading a large organisation such as Brac, Abed believed in learning all the time, said Khan.

Abed introduced various models to eradicate poverty in Bangladesh, hich are now being followed in many other countries, he added.

AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader said Sir Fazle Hasan Abed's life and works are spread across the globe.

He worked silently for the betterment of marginalised people Army Stadium, representatives on and their wellbeing. The role of Brac is

unlimited for the betterment of rural people, Quader said. "Bangladesh lost one of her best

sons in Abed, who was creative and meritorious," he added. BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said Sir

Fazle Hasan Abed's departure is an irreparable loss for the country.

"We saw discipline in his everyday activities which is an extraordinary example. He was a creative and propeople person. The vacuum created through his departure will not be filled," he added.

Chief Election Commissioner KM Nurul Huda said Abed was an inspiration for finding the potential in marginalised people.

Australian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Julia Niblett said with the death of Sir Fazle Abed, Bangladesh has lost a giant in development.

"The contribution that he has made over several decades to reduce inequality, and serving the people of Bangladesh with quiet humility, is outstanding and enduring," she said.

US Ambassador in Bangladesh Earl R Miller said Abed contributed to eradicating poverty and to the progress of living standards of millions of people in Bangladesh and beyond.

UK government's Department for International Development Country Representative Judith Herbertson said Bangladesh, and indeed the world, has lost a true visionary.

Sir Fazle Abed changed the face of Bangladesh and his consistent focus on the poorest and most marginalised is beyond comparison, she said.

Unicef Bangladesh Representative Tomoo Hozumi said Sir Fazle Abed made revolutionary changes to the concept of NGO and its operation, including social entreprises not only in Bangladesh but also globally, and positively impacted the lives of millions of people.

AL lawmaker Fazle Noor Taposh said Abed was an inspirational personality.

"He is a pride of the nation," Taposh said.

Sir Fazle Abed left a cozy and comfortable life behind for the wellbeing of the poorest and marginalised in Asia and Africa, said good governance campaigner Badiul Alam Majumdar.

"A man larger than life, Sir Fazle Hasan Abed was a trailblazer, proving through his life that it is possible to lift millions in the world out of poverty and touch the lives of countless others in positive ways, he will live on in the hearts of the people, in the stories of lives and proudly, in the history of Bangladesh and all other countries where Brac operates," said UCEP Bangladesh Executive Director Tahsinah Ahmed.

In an email sent to The Daily Star, Professor Emeritus Geof Wood of International Development at the department of social and policy sciences at the University of Bath wrote: "...His contribution to development is global, while never losing sight of individual suffering and practical remedies...He was never afraid of being ambitious for Brac, seeing scale as a virtue. An inquisitive and generous listener, before steering -- gently, but firmly. The people of Bangladesh can show who they are through him and his legacy.'

Poles help FROM PAGE 16

(3,450 miles).

Locals provided him with food and a roof over his head a few days after the vehicle broke down.

"I am very thankful to the great Polish nation for (their) hospitality," Kazemi said.

He was delivering raisins to Poland and was supposed to continue on to the Czech Republic to pick up goods to import to Iran, according to local media

After his story hit the Internet, Polish lorry-drivers joined forces to help him repair the vehicle, and when that proved impossible, they decided to crowd-fund him a new one.

COUNTRY



Labourers unloading hilsa from a trawler at Mohipur Fish Landing Station in Patuakhali's Kalapara upazila. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: STAR

Hilsa production trebles in 10yrs

According to Patuakhali fisheries department, 46.540 tonnes of hilsa was collected in fiscal year 2018-19, rising from 14.2 tonnes in 2008-09

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

The national fish has grown in size and numbers in the highest in a decade in Patuakhali, as the government has taken steps specific to their breading season for eight months in a year.

According to data from the Patuakhali fisheries department, a total of 46.540 tonnes of hilsa was collected in fiscal 2018-19, rising from 14.2 tonnes in 2008-09.

Of all the fish collected last year, 17.040 tonnes were from the rivers, marking a fivefold hike from only 3.6 tonnes a decade ago, and the rest was from the sea, said Md Emdadullah, Patuakhali district Patuakhali's Rangabali upazila via Char Bangladesh has become a model and India year, he added.

fisheries officer (DFO).

"We are motivating the fishermen and fish traders to obey the ban periods, specific to the brood hilsa and jatka (hilsa less than 10 inches long), to contribute to the growing economy.

According to rules, there is a 22-day fishing ban from October 7 to 28 every year to save the mother hilsa during its reproductive season.

Secondly, there is a two-month ban from March 1 to April 30 on the 100 kilometre hilsa sanctuary at the Tentulia river from Bhola's Veduria area to Char Rustam under

Kazal and Char Biswash under Galachipa and Myanmar are following it, he said. upazila, to allow growth of the fish.

Thirdly, there is an eight-month ban from November to June on jatka netting in the Bay of Bengal.

Lastly, there is a 65-day ban from May 20 to July 23 on hilsa fishing.

The fisheries department imposed the ban in accordance to section 19 of the Marine Fisheries Ordinance 1883 (amendment in 2015), though it is being implemented for the first time in the coastal areas from this year.

Nazrul Islam, 45, a fisherman of Borobaishdia area under Rangabali, said, "We are happy that hilsa production is going up every year, as we are getting benefitted from it."

Although fishermen face momentary difficulties during the ban periods, they are ultimately happy as the size and number rise, said Md Ansar Uddin Mollah, president of Kalapara Upazila Fish Traders Association.

Fish traders are also pleased as they The hilsa management policy of are earning progressively better each Woman burnt while warming by fire, dies

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A woman who sustained 75 percent burn injuries while warming herself by fire on Saturday died at Barishal Sher-E-Bangla Medical College Hospital yesterday.

The victim was identified as Sugandhya Rani, 25, daughter of Nimai Chandra Shil of Charpara village under Barguna's Taltali upazila.

As the woman was divorced, she stayed with her father Nimai, a barber by profession.

Nimai said when Sugandhya Rani was warming herself by the fire at their house yard on Saturday morning, her clothes caught fire.

She was later rushed to the upazila health complex where on-duty doctor referred her to Barishal Sher-E-Bangla Medical College Hospital as her condition worsened. She died there yesterday morning.

FEUD OVER DISPUTED LAND College boy stabbed dead **OUR CORRESPONDENT**, Barishal

A college was stabbed to death in attack by rivals allegedly over a land dispute in Bakerganj upazila yesterday.

The deceased, Sajib Karigar, 20, son of Razzak Karigar of Puidata village in the upazila, was an Intermediate student at Maheshpur Degree College.

Deceased's cousin Sajeda Begum said there had been a longstanding feud between their family and one Subrata Sarker of the village over the ownership of a disputed land.

The incident occurred, when Subrata and his men attacked slain Sajib's uncle Taiyab Ali Karigar as the later tried to resist the gang from cutting earth from the disputed land yesterday morning.

At one stage, when Sajib tried to save his uncle from the attackers they stabbed Sajib on the chest with a knife, leaving him dead on the spot.

Additional Superintendent of Police (Barishal Range) Abdur Rakib said they have already detained eight people, including Subrata, for their alleged involvement in the murder.

SELLING PORN VIDEOS Rab detains 16

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogura

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday arrested 16 youths from Saptapati market in the town on charge of selling video clips of pornography.

On information, a team of Rab-12, led by acting company commander Md Rawson Ali, also the assistant superientandent of police, raided the market and arrested the 16 with 48 computer hard disks used for pornography.

They also used 30 sim cards from their possession, said Rawson., adding that they found pornography clips into the hard disks, kept for selling.

The arrestees are Md Ariful Islam, 20, Md Mostafizar Rahman, 25, Md Abdul Ohab, 21, Md Rasel Hossain, 22, Md Sadekur Rahman, 20, Md Rakib Hossain, 20, Md Samiul Islam, 19, Md Mosaddikur Rahman Manik, 20, Md Ripon Pramanik, 20, Md Enamul Haque, 23, Md Rashed Hossain, 21, Md Nur Alam, 21, Md Sohag Islam, 19, Md Bappi Hossain, 21, Md Zihad Hossain, 20, and Md Mehedi Hasan, 28.

Drive to free Ichamati

river starts today

Many occupiers already shifted structures from river land

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

district administration in The with the Water cooperation Board Development (WDB) authorities will start the long awaited eviction drive today to free the Ichamati river flowing through the district town.

Primarily the drive will be conducted according to the list of 285 illegal occupiers, prepared by the WDB and the district administration a decade ago, said Md Mosharaf Hossain, assistant director of WDB, Pabna

"Besides, a recent feasibility study has found a large number of occupiers. The entire river will be freed from illegal occupiers as the Ministry of Water Resources has taken a mega project to make the river alive by freeing it according to the CS map,"

he added. Starting in Pabna's Shibrampur, the

Ichamati runs an 84 kilometre course across the district before meeting the Jamuna in Bera upazila. But the river is now hardly visible in its nine kilometre area in Pabna municipality due to illegal occupation and building of structures for decades.

According to the government's Cadastral Survey (CS) records published in 1922, the 9-km section of the river that flows through Pabna municipality had 88.58 acres of riverbed.

But the area dropped to only 54.53 acres, as shown in the most recent Bangladesh Survey (BS) record map in 2013, said officials at the district settlement office.

"The eviction drive will continue to free the river according to the CS map. We earlier served notice and made a

general announcement to free the river lands within December 22," said Kabir Mahmud, deputy commissioner of Pabna.

Meanwhile, a large number of illegal occupiers have already shifted their furniture from homes, many of them also demolished their concrete buildings to take doors, windows and bricks

Visiting Sadhupara, Mondolpara and Kacharipara areas of the town yesterday morning, this correspondent saw many people removing their structures from the river lands with their own efforts.

A large number of people, to be affected by the eviction drive, yesterday formed a human chain in front of Pabna Press Club and also brought out a procession in the district town protesting the administration's move.



Occupier of a house, built apparently on the land of the Ichamati river at Kadomtali in Pabna town, shift belongings from the structure yesterday as the district administration is going to start a drive to demolish illegal structures from the river areas in the district headquarters today. PHOTO: STAR



A section of Patgram-Dahagram road that is being reconstructed by Roads and Highways Department in Patgram upazila of Lalmonirhat. The photo was taken recently. PHOTO: STAF

RECONSTRUCTION OF PATGRAM-DAHAGRAM ROAD

Locals question quality of materials being used

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

After over two weeks of suspension, from December 2 to 17, amid allegations of using substandard materials, work of a Tk 22.13-crore road reconstruction project in Patgram upazila resumed with the same materials

Roads and Highways Department (RHD) in August this year issued work order for widening a 16-kmlong section of Patgram-Dahagram road to joint consortium of Rana Builders, Rizvi Construction and Hasan Techno Builders. The work also includes building of four culverts on the road, according to RHD in Lalmonirhat.

Residents of Dahagram village said the contractor stopped work in early December when the former raised objections in the use of substandard materials again," Belal Hossain, an sand and stones that were collected locally and supplied by influential locals.

They also said only sand from Sylhet and stones from overseas are approved as construction materials for roads built under the RHD.

Besides, instead of ensuring a sand-stone ratio of 40:60, the contractor was mixing the materials in a 60:40 ratio, alleged Rabiul Islam, from Panbari village in Dahagram union.

Even though the materials being used in the road are not as per RHD standard, the engineers at RHD are keeping mum about it, he also said.

"We made them stop the work... But now we see the construction firm using the same substandard

elderly resident of the same village, said frustratingly.

He further said local influential suppliers, affiliated with the ruling party, even issued threats on villagers for protesting the irregularities with the road work.

Pointing fingers at corrupt RHD officials behind the irregularities, another elderly villager, Mohammad Ali, said the road built with such lowquality materials will not withstand the weight of heavy vehicles in the long run.

RHD's Sub Assistant Engineer Alamgir Hossain, tasked with overseeing the work, claimed that they had collected samples of the materials from the site and those passed tests in their laboratory.

CITY

e-mail: sports@thedailystar.net DHAKA MONDAY DECEMBER 23, 2019, POUSH 8, 1426 BS



ever Miss Life Life in Fast Track **Don't Miss** the Ride

Tamim set for return SPORTS REPORTER from Chattogram



Opening batsman Tamim Iqbal joined his Bangabandhu Bangladesh Premier League side Dhaka Platoon on Saturday evening and took part in the training session at

Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium (ZACS) in Chattogram yesterday.

The dashing left hander was hospitalised for a night at the Apollo Hospital in Dhaka after suffering from high fever and an upset stomach and went on to miss Dhaka's first game of the Chattogram leg on Wednesday.

The thirty-year-old took part in training and spent time at the nets and is likely to take part in Dhaka's next game against Cumilla Warriors in the first match of the day at the ZACS today.

Another left-handed batsman, Mominul Haque, had replaced Tamim at the top. Mominul justified his opportunity with a fluent 53-ball 52 only for the effort go in vain as his side lost by 18 runs to

Chattogram Challengers.

Tamim has so far played three games for Dhaka in the BBPL. The southpaw started the tournament on a low and was dismissed for five runs but he came back strong in the next game and scored 74 off 53 against Cumilla at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur and followed that up by scoring 31 runs against Sylhet Thunder.

Tamim returned to cricket after a long gap, having not played since captaining the one-day side on Bangladesh's tour of Sri Lanka in July this year.

He asked for a break from the Bangladesh Cricket Board for the one-off Test against Afghanistan in August and the following tri-series. He was scheduled to return during the Tigers' crucial tour of India in November but also sat that out due to personal reasons.

With so many missed chances, Tamim will be hoping to make an impression in the BBPL ahead of the Tigers' proposed three-match T20I series in Pakistan



SPORTS REPORTER from Chattogram



Dhaka Platoon will take on Cumilla Warriors in the today's first game while Khulna Tigers will take on Rajshahi Royals in

the evening as the Chattogram phase of the Bangabandhu Bangladesh Premier League (BBPL) enters its last set of matches at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium.

12

Dhaka were considered one of the favorites due to their star power, with the likes of skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, Tamim Iqbal, Shahid Afridi and Thisara Perera in the side.

However, Mashrafe's side are yet to get momentum and are currently fifth in the points table ahead of their game today, having have only been able to win two of their four matches.

Chattogram Challengers by 16 runs in a highscoring encounter, sans their experienced batsman Tamim Iqbal. It will be a big boost in the dressing room to have Tamim back after he looks to have recovered from high fever.

Meanwhile Dhaka's young pacer Hasan Mahmud -- who has picked up four wickets in the tournament and has caught the eyes of many with his pace and potential -- says he is following the likes Pat Cummins, Mitchel Starc and Lockie Ferguson and is willing to work on his variations in the coming days.

'Variation is very importat in T20s. You won't be able to survive by just bowling fast. The batters can easily hit you all over the park if you keep bowling fast, so variation is very important," Mahmud said.

The cricketer from Laxmipur has been a part Dhaka lost their previous game against of the national age-level set up and is among

the few other pacers in the tournament who has impressed so far.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Dhaka Platoon batsman Tamim Igbal was in a jovial mood, sharing a joke with

vesterday after returning to training vesterday. Meanwhile two policemen pounced

coach Mohammad Salahuddin and teammate Mominul Hague in Chattogram

On the other hand, Cumilla are in a similar situation with two wins from four games. Dashun Shanaka's side also lost their last game against Chattogram in another high-scoring affair.

In the second game of the day, Mushfiqur Rahim's Khulna will look to regroup once again after defeat in the previous game against Sylhet Thunder.

With three wins from four games, Khulna are second but Andre Russell's Rajshahi, with two wins from three games, will also be looking for a win today.

Raishahi lost their previous game against Khulna by five wickets despite a blistering 87-run knock from Shoaib Malik was complemented by a match-winning 96 from Mushfiqur.



Liton Das was in a relaxed mood with Rajshahi Royals teammates under the guidance of coach Rajin Saleh yesterday. Rajshahi lost their last match against Mushfigur Rahim's Khulna Titans but will be looking to bounce back in the reverse fixture today. PHOTO: STAR

team of the decade

Shakib makes Wisden's ODI Kohli conquers **Cuttack and Windies**

'The last thing you want to do is what you did five years ago'

Cumilla Warriors' English recruit Dawid Malan has been a familiar

Bangladesh's Shakib Al Hasan -- banned from all cricket for two years, with one year of that suspended has been named in Wisden's ODI team of the decade.

SPORTS REPORTER

The list was made by a panel of writers who contribute to Wisden, colloquially the Bible of cricket. Shakib played 131 ODIs in the last 10 years, scoring 4276 runs at an average of 38.87. The all-rounder also scalped 177 wickets, the most by a spinner in the last decade.

His highest knock during the last decade came against the West Indies in the 2019 World Cup in England. He ended up as the third-highest run-getter at the World Cup with 606 runs at an average of 86.57. The Wisden ODI team of

the squad: Rohit Sharma, David Warner, Virat Kohli, AB de Villiers, Jos Buttler, MS Dhoni, Shakib Al Hasan, Lasith Malinga, Mitchell Starc, Trent Boult, Dale Steyn.

AGENCIES, Cuttack

India skipper Virat Kohli got his rhythm back at the right time as the right-hander hit 85 to help India win the three-match

series against West Indies with a fourwicket victory in the series-deciding third and final ODI at the Barabati Stadium in Cuttack yesterday.

After a 122-run opening partnership between Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul in chase of a target of 316 runs, the home side lost a few quick wickets but the Indian skipper rewrote history at the venue to confirm India's 10th straight series win against the West Indies.

The master batsman had an aggregate of only 34 runs in his previous four matches at the venue and went to the decider with scores of 4 and 0 in the first two games.

Although Kohli departed with 30 runs still to get in 23 balls, Ravindra Jadeja finished the job with eight balls to spare with an unbeaten 40 off 31 balls.

Earlier, Nicholas Pooran and Kieron Pollard hit attacking half-centuries to power the West Indies to 315 for five.

Pooran, who hit 89 off 63 balls, and Pollard, 74 not out, put on 135 runs for the fifth wicket as the West Indies put up a challenging total after being in trouble

at 144 for four in Cuttack.

The left-right batting pair of Pooran and Pollard, who hit three fours and seven sixes in his 51-ball blitz, combined to rebuild the innings and then took the attack to the opposition bowlers.

India paceman Navdeep Saini claimed two wickets on debut, including sending the dangerous Shimron Hetmyer back to the pavilion for 37. Hetmyer's wicket ended a 62-run third-wicket stand with Roston Chase who was bowled by a toecrushing yorker from Saini for 38.

But Pooran counter attacked and completed his second successive fifty. He hit 10 fours and three sixes in his knock that lasted 64 balls before falling to Shardul Thakur with a mistimed hit to deep point.

Pollard hit two successive boundaries to raise his fifty and pulverised the bowling in the final few overs as West Indies managed 77 runs from the last 30 deliveries

SCORES IN BRIEF

WEST INDIES: 315 for five (Pooran 89, Hope 42, Pollard 74 not; Saini 2-58) INDIA: 316 for 6 in 48.4 overs (Sharma 63, Rahul 77, Kohli 85, Jadeja 39 not out; Paul 3-59)

Result: India won by four wickets and won the three-match series 2-1. Player-of-the-match: Virat Kohli Player-of-the-series: Rohit Sharma



face in Bangladesh's domestic circuit over the past six years and the left-handed batsman has remained one of the most consistent performers whether it be in T20s in the Bangladesh Premier League or the Dhaka Premier League's fifty-over matches. The 32-year-old, who had a fantastic T20I debut for the England national team by scoring 78 against South Africa in 2017, is currently third position in the ICC T20I batsmen rankings, spoke to The Daily Star's Mazhar Uddin in an interview at the team hotel in Chattogram yesterday. Excerpts of that interview are given below:

The Daily Star (TDS): You are playing franchise cricket all over the world and also for England. Are you happy with the way things are going?

Dawid Malan (DW): I can always be happier because if you are satisfied then you are not going to push yourself. I am looking forward and still trying to learn a lot more about T20 cricket and adapting my game to match the trajectory of the game. The last thing you want to do is what you did five years ago because the game changes so quickly. So far, I am happy with the record I have got but obviously I want to keep improving and win more matches.

TDS: Would you like to be more regular in the England national team at least in the shortest format given the experience you have playing franchise cricket?

DM: Yeah, obviously you want to play international cricket and be the number one guy on the teamsheet. But you know England have been wonderful for the past three-four years so it's hard to break into that team. But hopefully you keep getting the opportunity and when you score runs eventually you make a spot of your own. That's the key thing when you try to break into a strong team -putting up performances. Even if you get one chance, you make sure you score runs. If you don't score runs you can't really ask to be a regular player. I strive to play in the England team and want to be a part of the eleven. For that you have to score a lot of runs not only for England but also in franchise leagues as well.



TDS: Any young local bowlers that impressed you so far here?

DM: We played against Rangpur and a young bowler, Mukidul Islam, made his debut. He bowled well. He might be very quick here in Bangladesh but when you compare him with someone like Wahab Riaz who is quicker than him, it's a different story. He needs to learn pretty quickly that he is not the quickest among the lot. But he was pretty impressive to set up with his overs and its always a good sign that guys are thinking. TDS: With pitches favouring the batsmen, how do you approach

bowlers? DM: Probably the biggest mindset change that I had. When you play county cricket, you usually get across two or three good bowlers and two or three bowlers whom you can target. So, you used to see off the better bowlers and attack the bowlers who were not good.

But in international cricket you have to take down the best bowlers. It's part of my thing: trying to attack the best bowlers no matter what the run rate and situation is. But obviously when the situation dictates that you can't take the risk, then that's different.

TDS: Do yoau think England winning the World Cup will be a huge boost for the nation's cricket? DM: I think the World Cup win and what the boys achieved was unbelievable. Four years in the making, four years of sticking together, backing each other, facing a lot of grief from the media after the way they played. But they still stuck to the game plan and strategy from Eoin Morgan and Trevor Bayliss and that was the key for that World Cup win. If you look at what it has done for cricket in England, hopefully the younger generation want to be the next Ben Stokes, Eoin Morgan or Jos Butler.

PHOTO: COLLECTED





Premier League IJHA 21 Stadium, Chattogram

Bangabandhu Bangladesh Dhaka v Cumilla Time: 1:30pm Venue: Zahur Ähmed Chowdhury Khulna v Rajshahi Time: 6:30pm

procedure successful

REUTERS, Amsterdam

Dutch-born Ajax Amsterdam defender Dalev Blind has undergone a successful heart operation, the Eredivisie club has said.

Blind who previously played for Manchester United between 2014 and 2018, suffered from dizziness in Ajax's Champions League match against Valencia this month, but continued playing.

The 29-year-old has been fitted with a subcutaneous implantable cardioverter defibrillator, the club confirmed on Saturday.

The most important thing is that I'm feeling good at the moment and trying to come back as soon as possible," Blind said in a video posted on Twitter.

Blind's heart Three 'Abahani players'suspended

SPORTS REPORTER

Three footballers -- Raihan Hasan, Sohel Rana and Mohammad Sohel Rana have been handed injunction over playing for anv club in the 2019-2020 season by a High Court division bench after Sheikh Russel KC filed a First Miscellaneous Appeal against those three players after being rejected at a District Judge Court.

On December 18, a High Court bench passed an order of injunction, restricting the three players from playing for any club other than Sheikh Russel for competitions organised by the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF).

Due to the instruction, those three players, who are currently wiith Abahani, will miss the ongoing Federation Cup even though all of them were part of Abahani's 4-0 win over Bangladesh Police in their opening match.

The BFF sent the court injunction to Abahani after receiving a copy of the court

order on December 18, the day Abahani played their first match of the Federation Cup

These three players have taken money from us regarding which we have all the documents, but they have signed for another club. We went to court to give a lesson to the players, who do such things every season. Our fight is against the players, not against Abahani," Sheikh Russel director of sports Saleh Jamal Selim said yesterday. He also said that these players did not even return the money they took initially from the club.

"We received the copy of injunction from the BFF. We have informed our higher authority about the issue and they will take decision," Abahani manager Satyajit Das Rupu said, adding that those three players played the first match after getting clearance from BFF's players' status committee.

Relying to a query, Rupu said, "Yes, these three players will miss the next matches but I believe we have alternative for them at the bench and it won't hurt us much.



Chelsea midfielder Willian (L) scored both goals in a 2-0 win as Frank Lampard got one over on his former manager Jose Mourinho in a Premier League encounter against Tottenham Hotspur in London yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

Frank shows up Jose **Reuters**, London

home against one of his previous clubs Chelsea enjoyed a that Mourinho had suffered a defeat. Willian punished slack defending

Flick named as Bayern head coach

REUTERS, Munich

Bayern Munich interim coach Hansi Flick will remain in charge until the end of the season, the German Bundesliga champions said yesterday.

Flick was promoted from the coaching staff after Niko Kovac's dismissal following Bayern's 5-1 thrashing away to Eintracht Frankfurt last month.

He was initially hired for two matches against Olympiakos in the Champions League and against Borussia Dortmund in the league. But after two wins he was trusted to continue until the winter

break Following Bayern's 2-0 win at home to VfL Wolfsburg on Saturday, CEO Karl-Heinz Rummenigge and



Sheikh Jamal's Yusuke Kato (R) skips past Rahmatganj defender Mahmudul Hasan Kiron during their Federation Cup encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. The match ended in a 1-1 draw.

Ctg Abahani in last 8 Rahmatganj hold Sheikh Jamal

SPORTS REPORTER

Chattogram Abahani became the first team to move into the quarterfinals of TVS Federation Cup with a 2-0 win over former

champions Brothers Union in their opening match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The outcome of this Group B fixture also ensured last-eight berth for last edition's runners-up Bashundhara Kings, who will take on the port city outfit on Friday to decide the group winners.

Chattogram Abahani came into season's curtain-raising tournament after clinching the title of a threeteam Mymensingh Challenge tournament and a runners-up International Club Cup tournament.

deadlock in the 34th minute when Nixon flicked home a low cross from Rakib Hossain from the right flank.

After resumption, Brothers' Uzbek forward Jonov Otabek rattled the post before Chattogram Abahani's Ivorian forward Chinedu Mathew sealed the victory in the 83rd minute with a powerful left-footed shot.

"We are happy to accomplish our first target of qualifying for the quarterfinals. We are now

RAHMATGANJ 1-1 SKJAMAL Younussa 61′ BROTHERS 0 – 2 CTG ABAHANI Matthew 83')

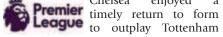
looking forward to emerging group champions and take it to the final trophy in September's Sheikh Kamal from there," Chattogram Abahani coach Maruful Haque said at postmatch conference. Brothers Union coach Mohidur

Chattogram Abahani broke the Sheikh Jamal DC to keep their hopes of qualifying for the quarterfinals alive with two points from two outings

> Sheikh Jamal and Saif SC are on one point each after having played one match each. If the match between Sheikh Jamal and Saif SC produce any outright result, Rahmatganj will be the second team from Group C to book a berth for quarterfinals.

After a barren first half, Rahmatganj took the lead in the 61st minute through a strike from Camara Younoussa before Nigerian forward Monday Osagie equalised for Sheikh Jamal in the 76th minute.

"It was a do-or-die match for us because we needed points to keep our hopes alive. We could have ensured the quarterfinals had we secured full three points. Anyway, we are still hopeful of advancing to the last eight though it depends on the outcomes of last match between Sheikh Jamal and Saif SC," said Rahmatganj MFS coach Syed Golam Jilani. "It was important for us to come back in the match. I am happy with the performance of the boys in the season's first competitive match and I'm looking forward to the next match to qualify for the quarterfinals," said Sheikh Jamal coach Shafiqul Islam Manik.



Hotspur in a 2-0 away victory in the Premier League as Frank Lampard outwitted his former mentor Jose Mourinho on Sunday.

Willian struck both goals in the first half as Chelsea consolidated fourth place while Tottenham's dismal afternoon went from bad to worse as Son Heung-min was shown a red card just past the hour mark.

open the scoring after 12 minutes and Tottenham barely created a decent chance in response before the Brazilian slotted home from a penalty awarded by VAR just before halftime.

Tottenham's hopes of a revival were scuppered when Son needlessly kicked out at Antonio Rudiger and was shown a red card, with the decision again being made by VAR.

Chelsea are in fourth place, with It was the first time in 14 matches at Tottenham six points back in seventh spot.

sporting director Hasan Salihamidzic agreed that continuing with Flick is "explicitly a viable option".

"Under him as head coach, the on-field development has been outstanding, both in terms of the quality of our play and the results achieved,' Rummenigge said in a statement.

They proved their superiority over Brothers Union, who came into the tournament on the back of only 10 days of preparation.

The port city side went very close to breaking the deadlock in the 17th minute but Brazilian Nixon Brizolara saw his left-footed shot superbly fisted by goalkeeper Titumir Chowdhury before defender Sajol denied Uzbek midfielder Shukur Ali with a goal-line clearance.

Rahman Miraz said, "Every defeat is sad but we are happy with the performance of the boys because we have been checking out our weak and strong points through Federation Cup ahead of upcoming Bangladesh Premier League.'

In the day's other match, Rahmatganj MFS played out a 1-1 draw against three-time champions

No excuses for Watford loss, Ole says

AFP, Watford

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer said there were "no excuses" after Manchester United collapsed to a humiliating 2-0 defeat against Premier League bottom side Watford on Sunday following a David de Gea howler.

The chastening loss comes after a six-match unbeaten spell and leaves United languishing in eighth place.

The key moment came in the 50th minute when De Gea somehow allowed a tame effort from Ismaila Sarr to creep through his hands. Watford doubled their lead four minutes later when Troy Deeney fired home from the penalty spot.

"I'm very disappointed because we have to get more points against teams, like today," said Solskjaer. "I'm sure they were low in confidence because they must be when you're bottom of the table.

"We were high in confidence because we've done well lately but it just wasn't there. There was no intent or urgency to make us deserve to win the game.

"There's no excuses at all," he added. "We prepared well and there's nothing I can put my finger on.'

Pakistan zero in despite **Oshada century**

AFP, Karachi

Sri Lanka opener Fernando Oshada struck a maiden century to delay Pakistan's victory quest after the home team's top four all scored hundreds in the second Test in Karachi yesterday.

Set a daunting 476 runs to win, Sri Lanka were tottering at 97 for five before Oshada and Niroshan Dickwella halted the slide with a resolute 104-run stand for the sixth wicket.

But the last three overs of the day saw Dickwella fall for 65 -- bowled while attempting a reverse sweep off spinner Haris Sohail -- and Dilruwan Perera caught behind off Naseen Shah for five.

The 16-year-old Naseem had the best figures of 3-31.

At the close, Sri Lanka were 212 for seven with Oshada (102 not out) at the crease and with the visitors needing an unlikely 264 runs for victory.

Pakistan need just three wickets on Monday to win the series -- their first at home since the 2009 attack on the Sri Lanka side resulted in international cricket being suspended in the country.

Pakistan earlier declared their second innings at lunch on 555 for three after Azhar returned to form with 118 and Babar Azam struck 100 not out.

It was a dismal batting show by the Sri Lankans on a National Stadium pitch where the home batsmen flourished.

Skipper Dimuth Karunaratne went for 16, Kusal Mendis for a duck and



Pakistan bowler Haris Sohail (2nd from L) celebrates with teammates after taking the wicket of Sri Lanka's Niroshan Dickwella on the fourth day of the second Test at the National Cricket Stadium in Karachi yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

Angelo Matthews for 19 before tea. Pace spearhead Mohammad Abbas had Karunaratne caught behind in the tenth over of the innings before Naseem had Mendis snapped up in the slips.

It became 70 for three when Mathews, Sri Lanka's most experienced batsman, edged a short delivery from Shaheen Shah Afridi to wicketkeeper Mohammad Rizwan.

After tea, young Naseem accounted for Dinesh Chandimal (two) and leg-spinner Yasir Shah dismissed Dhananjaya de Silva (nought) to leave Sri Lanka struggling at 97 for five.

In the morning Pakistan batsmen flayed the Sri Lankan bowling.

It was only the second time in a Test innings that the top four all scored centuries after openers Abid Ali (174) and Shan Masood (135) grabbed theirs on Saturday.

SCORES IN BRIEF

PAKISTAN: First innings 191 & second innings 555 for 3 (Abid 174, Masood 135, Azhar 118, Azam 100 not out; Kumara 2-139)

SRI LANKA: First innings 271 & second innings 212 for 7 (Fernando 102 not out, Dickwella 65, Mathews 19; Naseem 3-31, Haris 1-10)

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City

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS RECOGNIZES World's Largest VRM

PHOTO:

PRABIR DAS

Special Economic Zone in Tea Estate

6,000 to lose means for survival

MINTU DESHWARA, back from Chunarughat

Satyabati Bakti, 95, a blind retired teaworker of Chandpur tea estate, is ready to take a bullet to protect her farmland.

"If I could see, and had the energy, I would stand in front of my paddy field and tell them to shoot me before taking the land," she says, referring to her 15-decimal land, situated inside Chandpur tea estate, where the government is planning to set up a Special Economic Zone (SEZ)

Satyabati and her tea-labourer family relies on the land for their yearly supply of food. The wage of a tea-worker is currently Tk 102 per day. Like Satyabati, 6,000 people from 1,250

families of the Chandpur tea estate, run by

Duncan Brothers Bangladesh Ltd, might

soon lose their farmlands, and their muchneeded supplementary income, because of the proposed SEZ. SEE PAGE 11 COL 2



Followers of Ducsu VP Nurul Haque Nur, injured in an attack by Muktijoddha Moncho and Chhatra League men, being taken to hospital in an ambulance. The photo was taken near the Ducsu Bhaban on the Dhaka University campus around 12:30pm yesterday.

COLD WAVE Forecast grim for the days ahead

5 die allegedly of cold STAR REPORT

The cold wave shook much of the country for the fourth consecutive day yesterday disrupting daily life of many.

Met office yesterday forecast rainfall across the country from Wednesday to Friday followed by another spell of a cold wave from Saturday.

"Although the temperature has risen slightly, the cold seemed more biting due to the absence of sunlight,' said Monowar Hossain, a meteorologist at the Bangladesh Meteorological Department, adding that the condition would prevail until the end of the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

Home belongs to martyred intellectual's family

Finds ACC probe STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Martyred intellectual's family members, who were evicted from their home "following a mid-ranking police official's move" in the capital's Nawabpur, are the actual owners of the property, the Anti-Corruption Commission has found in its enquiry.

ACC Deputy Director Md Salauddin yesterday filed a case against Sheikh Md Jabed Uddin and Miraj Md Jakir Uddin for forging documents of the house.

On August 26, the home ministry suspended then deputy commissioner (Wari division) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police Mohammad Ibrahim on

Poles help stranded Iranian lorry driver



AFP, Warsaw

An Iranian driver who was stranded after his lorry broke down in Poland received a helping hand from locals who launched a crowd-funding initiative for a new truck to take him home.

By Friday morning, the appeal on the website zrzutka.pl had drawn more than 250,000 zlotys (59,000 euros, \$65,000) in donations for Fardin Kazemi.

The self-employed driver was forced to sleep in his American International 9670 lorry after it broke down in early December near the southern city of Czestochowa after travelling 5,550 kilometres



SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

For Stroke, Chest Pain, any Trauma or Accident **United Hospital Emergency** 10666 9852466 ited

PRAYER TIMING DECEMBER 23 Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 5-25 12-45 3-45 5-24 7-00 JAMAAT 6-00 1-15 4-00 5-27 7-30 Hospital SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

We deeply mourn the sad demise of our Former Chairman & Founding Board Member, Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, KCMG

We recall with immense gratitude his invaluable contribution to Delta Brac Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. (DBH). His outstanding leadership was characterized by unqualified commitment and support to the growth of the Company.

We pray to the Almighty Allah for the eternal peace of his departed soul and extend our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. May the Almighty grant them the strength and fortitude to bear this irreparable loss.

DBH The Specialist in Housing Finance

Members of the Board of Directors & **Employees of Delta Brac Housing Finance Corporation Limited.**

BSF shoots Bangladeshi dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A Bangladeshi cattle trader was shot dead by members of Indian Border Security Force (BSF) in Haripur upazila of Thakurgaon early yesterday, said Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB). Victim Rezabul Islam, 30, along with his fellow cattle traders, was intruding into India around 4:00am

অর্থনৈতিক উন্নয়নে দেশের কল্যাণে আমরা এখন বান্দরবানের লামা বাজারে

দেশজুড়ে উন্নয়নের অগ্রপথিক, প্রবাসীদের বিশ্বস্ত বন্ধু ও গণমানুযের আস্থার প্রতীক ইসলামী ব্যাংক আজ থেকে বান্দরবানের লামা বাজারে গুরু করছে সমৃদ্ধির আরেক নতুন অধ্যায়।



টেকসই ও নবায়নযোগ্য জ্বালানি উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ (স্রেডা) বিদ্যুৎ বিভাগ

জ্বালানি দক্ষ যন্ত্রপাতি স্থাপনে, ৪% হারে ঋণ গ্রহণ করুন।

জ্বালানি সাশ্রয়ের মাধ্যমে নিজে লাভবান হউন এবং দেশকে উপকৃত করুন।

সাশ্রয়ে জ্বালানি,সমৃদ্ধ আগামী





"জ্বালানি দক্ষতা ও সংরক্ষণ বৃদ্ধি কার্যক্রমে অর্থায়ন প্রকল্প"

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