

PADMA BRIDGE: AN
AUDACIOUS DREAM
COMES TRUE

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Your Right to Know

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MISSION IMPOSSIBLE ACCOMPLISHED

A bridge of Bangladesh's very own finally comes
to reality riding through rough waters

WASIM BIN
HABIB AND
TUHIN
SHUBHRA
ADHIKARY

Mizanur Rahman stood still, gazing with awe from the bank of the Padma river at the specialised floating crane laying down the last span on the mega structure yesterday.

As the 150-metre span was finally placed on pillars 12 and 13 at the Mawa end, he was thrilled and elated to see the full structure of the Padma bridge.

"Look, here is our dream bridge standing tall. What a great engineering feat it is!" marvelled Mizanur, pointing to the 6.15km bridge that became fully visible for the first time.

The Padma bridge is not a dream anymore; it's now a reality. The mega bridge is expected to be a huge boon for the underdeveloped south and south-western region of Bangladesh.

But decades ago, it was rather an audacious dream, a daunting challenge to tame the turbulent river. Crossing the mighty Padma has always been strenuous and sometimes dangerous due to unreliable and limited ferry connections and long waits for crowded boats and launches.

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KEY DATES

Pre-feasibility study
1998-1999

Feasibility study
2003-2005

ECNEC approval
Aug 20, 2007

Physical work began
Nov 26, 2014

PM formally inaugurated
work on Dec 12, 2015

First span installed on
Sept 30, 2017

Last and 41st span
installed on Dec 10, 2020

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
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A perfect riposte

PM braves all odds to realise
an audacious dream, serves a
fitting reply to critics

PARTHA PRATIM
BHATTACHARJEE

It was a dream of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman which his daughter Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, with her steely resolve, is about to fulfill.

The dream project Padma Bridge connects the southwest region with the

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PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Although the world denied, Bangladesh kept the dream alive and now it is about to become a reality...



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Kushtia-Jashore Highway, N7



Lalon Shah Bridge, Kushtia



Kushtia Bypass Road



Mirinja Point, Lama, Bandarban



Rohingya camp, Ukhia, Cox's Bazar