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Will jab 50pc by year-end

PM tells JS; efforts underway to give Covid shots to students aged 12 and above



All citizens above 18 to be vaccinated

People with disabilities to get vaccine through social safety cards

Govt plans to gradually inoculate 80pc population

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday in parliament said efforts were underway to vaccinate students aged 12 and above as she spoke about a government plan to gradually inoculate 80 percent of the country's population against Covid-19.

The government wants to jab 50 percent of the population by December and it is taking measures in this regard following the World Health Organization guidelines, she said.

The population of Bangladesh is estimated to be over 16.5 crore.

Hasina, also the leader of the House, detailed the vaccination target while replying to a question from Rustum Ali Faraji, Jatiya Party lawmaker

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A stone-laden truck lies on its side in a canal after the bailey bridge on Banaripara-Swarupkathi road collapsed under its weight in Madhabpasha area of Barishal's Babuganj upazila. This led to snapping of road communications between Barishal and Banaripara, Swarupkathi since early yesterday. Vehicles were stranded on both sides of the bridge following its collapse.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

PORI MONI REMAND HC expresses discontent at explanation of 2 judges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday expressed discontent at the explanations of two lower court judges, who placed actor Pori Moni on remand for the second and third time in a narcotics case, saying that the judges had "undermined" the HC.

"The metropolitan magistrates [lower court judges] in their explanations said they granted the prayers for remands [of Pori Moni], considering the whole situation. They requested for pardon if they have made any unintended mistake or fault in passing the remand orders," the HC said.

The HC said it seems, from their explanations, that they don't believe that they have done any wrong. "They have undermined us by giving such

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

No need for hired leadership

Some BNP leaders say, slam joining Oikyafront

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

A section of BNP leaders yesterday slammed the party's leadership for contesting the 2018 parliamentary election under the banner of Jatiya Oikyafront and said leadership should not be hired for the next polls in 2023.

They said whatever the party does this time -- whether it stages an anti-government movement or contests the election -- it must do it under the leadership of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and acting chairman

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

PAYRA BRIDGE

Cost 3.5 times the original estimate

Finally opens next month

LENGTH 1.47km	ORIGINAL DEADLINE April 2012 to December 2016
ORIGINAL COST Tk 413.28cr	REVISED DEADLINE June 2022
REVISED COST 1447.24cr	



TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

The long-awaited opening of the bridge over the Payra river next month will bring relief to people of the country's southern regions, but the project will also stand as an example of poor implementation of a construction scheme.

Once the 1.47-kilometre bridge over Payra

river is operational, people will be able to go to Patuakhali district headquarters and the under-construction Payra Sea Port within an hour from Barishal city. They will also be able to visit popular tourist destination Kuakata within two hours.

The implementation of the project, however, has cost Tk 1,447.24 crore -- 3.5

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

Criticism 'makes me stronger'

Health minister says as MPs slam him in JS for a messy health sector

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Several opposition leaders came down heavily on the health minister in parliament yesterday for the sorry state of the health sector, especially widespread corruption and mismanagement.

The lawmakers also slammed the minister over doctors' involvement in partisan politics and skyrocketing medical costs at private hospitals. They said these issues cause untold suffering to service seekers.



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ONE MONTH AFTER FALL OF KABUL

Infights, economic crisis stalk Taliban

AGENCIES

A month after seizing Kabul, the Taliban face daunting problems, including economic crisis, infighting, as they seek to convert their lightning military victory into a durable peacetime government.

After four decades of war and the deaths of tens of thousands of people, security has largely improved, but Afghanistan's economy is in ruins despite hundreds of billions of dollars in development spending over the past 20 years.

Drought and famine are driving thousands from the country to the cities, and the World Food Programme fears food could run out by the end of the month, pushing up to 14 million people to



the brink of starvation.

While much attention in the West has focused on whether the new Taliban government will keep its promises to protect women's rights or offer shelter to militant groups like al Qaeda, for many Afghans the main priority is simple survival.

"Every Afghan, kids, they are

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

Do you want to breathe easy?

Whether it's a mild throat catch or a discomfort in breathing, an uncomfortable experience can ruin a good day for anyone. As we wear masks throughout the day, the dust and pollution in the air cause a discomfort in our breathing. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled.

The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled.

FLOW lozenge to experience the minty cool freshness and instantly breathe easier. Because when you breathe better, you feel better! Whether it's a mild throat catch or a discomfort in breathing, an uncomfortable experience can ruin a good day for anyone. As we wear masks throughout the day, the dust and pollution in the air cause a discomfort in our breathing. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled.

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Here's the good news -- with FLOW, breathe easier. It can be a game-changer in your life. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled.

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classroom, meeting or in a bus filled with strangers. Here's the good news -- with FLOW, breathe easier. It can be a game-changer in your life. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled.

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in breathing, an uncomfortable experience can ruin a good day for anyone. As we wear masks throughout the day, the dust and pollution in the air cause a discomfort in our breathing. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled. The feeling we get after taking a breath is unparalleled.

throughout the day, and the dust and pollution in the air cause discomfort in our breathing -- freshness has become a necessity in our daily lives.

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READY

When you breathe better, you feel better



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