

Introducing
The Steel Revolution Continues

BSRM Xtreme
B500 DWR
 the tough steel

HIGHEST SELLING 15 CEMENT for more than years
SHAH CEMENT

ONION PRODUCTION

Seed crisis deals setback

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPI, Pabna

After earning handsome profits last year, onion farmer Kawsar Mollah from Mothpara village in Pabna's Sujanagar upazila targeted cultivating onions on 10 bighas of land this year.

But he is unable to afford to buy exorbitantly priced onion seeds, that is, if he can even find the amount he needs.

Over the past few weeks, Kawsar has been going to Rajshahi for onion seeds, scarce in his locality.

"I needed 10kg of seeds but I managed to get only 4kg from Rajshahi. Each kilo of seeds cost Tk 7,000-8,000."

Last year, Kawsar had bought each kg of onion seeds (Taherpuri variety) at Tk 1,000-1,200.

Due to the high market price of onion earlier this year, most farmers in his area sold off all their produce and did not keep any seeds, he added.

This correspondent came across similar stories on visiting the country's biggest onion-producing hub in Pabna last week.

Md Babu Sardar, of Rai Shimul village in Sujanagar, said he usually cultivates onion on five bighas and winter

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Two farmers busy preparing their onion seedbed in Mothpara village of Pabna's Sujanagar. Due to sudden prices hike of onion seeds, farmers can hardly afford the seeds they need. Prices of onions have been unstable over the last few years due to India's ban on onion exports. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPI

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

Bhutto threatens counter-trial

December 4, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN



PINDI WANTS TALKS ON POW ISSUE

Pakistan President ZA Bhutto has said in Islamabad that it would be unwise for Bangladesh Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to conduct trial of Pakistani army officers now in India. He warns that he would also put a similar number of Bangalees on trial if Bangabandhu takes the attempt of trial of Pakistan army officers in Dhaka. He further says discussions should be held between Bangabandhu and him before the former undertakes the trial of Pakistan army officers. "We are Muslims, and Bangalees are Muslims, and problems should be solved on mutual understanding," he adds.

BANGABANDHU BACK FROM COASTAL TOUR
 Bangabandhu returns to Dhaka today from his

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

They're also opposing constitution

Says Menon on those against Bangabandhu's sculpture

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Workers Party yesterday at a virtual press briefing called upon all patriotic and democratic forces to get united to resist the "evil powers" who are opposing the construction of Bangabandhu's sculpture and misusing religion for their personal gain.

"Through opposing the construction of sculpture of Bangabandhu, they are also opposing the country's constitution and acting against the spirit of the Liberation War," Rashed

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

New mysterious monolith appears in California



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Another mysterious metal monolith has appeared in the US, this time atop a mountain in California, a week after a similar structure was discovered in the deserts of Utah.

The structure was spotted on Wednesday

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

35 more die, 2,316 infected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Thirty-five people died of Covid-19 in the last 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday, according to a press release of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

With this, the total number of deaths reached to 6,748 while the death rate was 1.43 percent.

In the same 24 hours a total of 2,316 people tested positive for the highly contagious virus, taking the total number of people infected at 471,739, added the release.

Against a total of 16,807 tests in 118 laboratories across the country in those 24 hours, the positivity rate was 13.78 percent while the total positivity rate was

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

Israel behind killing of Iran's top scientist

Says senior US official

CNN ONLINE

A senior US administration official said Israel was behind the assassination of Iran's top nuclear scientist but declined to give details about whether the Trump administration knew about the attack before it was carried out or provided support.

The official said that in the past, Israelis have shared information with the US about

their targets and covert operations before carrying them out but would not say if they did so in this instance. The Iranian nuclear scientist, Mohsen Fakhri-zadeh, who was killed last Friday, had been a target for the Israelis for a long time, the official added.

Iran has blamed Israel for the attack and said the operation bore the hallmarks of Israel's foreign intelligence agency,

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6



PRAYER TIMING DECEMBER 4

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha
 AZAN 5-15 12-30 3-45 5-19 7-00
 JAMAAT 5-50 1-15 4-00 5-22 7-30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A flock of common teal and garganey flying over Jhajhor Beel in Bogura's Sherpur. In winter, these migratory ducks come to Bangladesh from north Mongolia, China and the Tibet to stay away from the extreme cold there.

PHOTO: MOSTAFA SHABUJ

Madhu's bust in DU damaged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A bust of Madhusudan Dey in front of Dhaka University's Madhur Canteen -- who was the founder of the canteen and martyred during the Liberation War -- was found partly damaged on Wednesday night.

Who did it or when it was done could not be ascertained.

The sculpture was repaired around midnight on Wednesday.

The incident happened at a time when a group of Islamist organisations are vocal against sculptures.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

Moscow vaccination centres open tomorrow

Teachers, doctors, social workers to get first shots; IBM warns hackers targeting vaccine supply process

AGENCIES

Moscow will open its new Covid-19 vaccination centres tomorrow and the first people to receive the shot will be teachers, doctors and social workers, Mayor Sergei Sobyenin said yesterday.

President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday ordered a large-scale voluntary vaccination programme against Covid-19 to begin next week across Russia, saying teachers and doctors should be first in line to get the flagship Sputnik V vaccine.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

শীত উৎসব

5% CASH BACK
 bKash PAYMENT

Beef Premium/Per Kg 2-4 Teeth 548 Taka only

Shwapno Miniket Rice Premium Per KG 57 Taka only

Cabbage Per Pc 28 Taka only

Cauliflower Per Pc 22 Taka only

Vaseline Lotion 300 ml (Selected items) Petroleum Jelly 50 ml FREE

Hilsha Fish 500-599 gm/ Per PC 315 TAKA

Shwapno Soyabean Oil 5 Ltr. 499 TAKA

Marks Full Cream Milk Powder 1000gm 80 TAKA OFF

50% DISCOUNT

Shwapno Honey 250ml 50% OFF

Noble Classic Coffee 100g 50% OFF

Shwapno Bread Crumb 50% OFF

Boro Plus Almond Body Lotion 200ml 50% OFF

Comforter King Size 1600 TK ONLY

Danish Lexus Vegetable Biscuit 40g BUY 2 GET 1 FREE

Reggia Pasta 500g/ Hard Egg Noodles 480g BUY 2 GET 1 FREE

CBL Munchee Stix C.Water 200g BUY 1 GET 1 FREE

CBL Munchee ChocoMo Dark Choco Biscuit 100g BUY 1 GET 1 FREE

Comfy King Size 1950 TK ONLY

Surf excel 1 kg 10 LTR. BOWL FREE

Freedom Teens 8 Pes Pads BUY 1 GET 1 FREE

Golden Harvest Deshi Paratha 1600g TK 30 OFF

NOAH Kettle 1.8 Ltr. 650 TK ONLY

Indian Orange Per KG 115 TAKA

Duck Meat Per KG 388 TAKA

Golda 30-40 Pcs Kg/ Per KG 590 TAKA

Rohu Fish 1-1.49 Kg/ Per KG 228 TAKA

*Applicable for Dhaka & Cumilla Outlets only.
 *Market Rice, Fish, meat, vegetable & fruits offer will be valid till 4-5th December, 2020.
 *Other offers will be valid till 10th December, 2020.