



Taka falls against dollar again



SL president's powers to be clipped



Basketball crying for a home

## Relief not reaching those who need it most

Sylhet admin data shows government efforts inadequate

MOUDUD AHMED SUJAN, DWIWA CHOWDHURY, MINTU DESHWARA

Shamim Ahmed, a young resident of Eklimnagar village in Sunamganj's Chhatak upazila, has been stranded with no relief since the flood hit his home six days ago.

"I have now come to the Bangladesh Army's Coordination Centre here to request them to help the people of my village."

He was later escorted back by army officials with some relief materials.

Like Eklimnagar, thousands of villages in the flood-affected areas in the north-eastern region are left on their own in these moments of crisis.

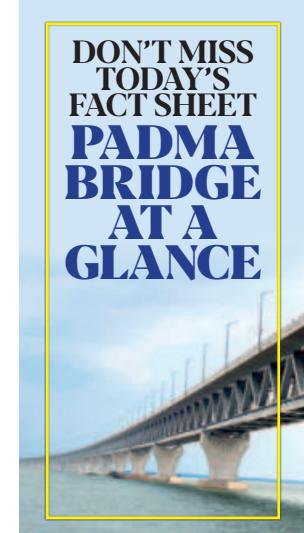
District administrations in Sylhet division admitted they were struggling to reach the remote villages and shelter centres, but claimed they had sufficient relief at hand.

Local administrations' data on relief allocation shows the government's efforts are yet to be adequate.

The desperation for relief among the victims is such that a man died after being injured in a jostle while trying to collect relief materials dropped from an Air Force helicopter yesterday.

According to the administrations, all 13 upazilas in Sylhet, all 12 in Sunamganj, seven in Moulvibazar and six in Habiganj have been fighting the floods.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



## Sufferings mount in northern districts

Flood worsens; relief scarce

S DILIP ROY and MOSTAFA SHABUJ

Thousands of flood victims in the northern districts continue to fight for survival with little access to relief materials, and the situation is unlikely to improve today.

The Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC), in its 6:00pm forecast yesterday warned that the situation may remain steady in Lalmonirhat, Nilphamari, Rangpur, Kurigram, and

Gaibandha for the ensuing 24 hours, while in Bogura it could actually deteriorate.

Over 2.5 lakh people have been affected by the recent flood in the two northern districts of Kurigram and Lalmonirhat.

The situation is worsening as the region's three major rivers - the Brahmaputra, Teesta and Dharla - were flowing above the danger level,

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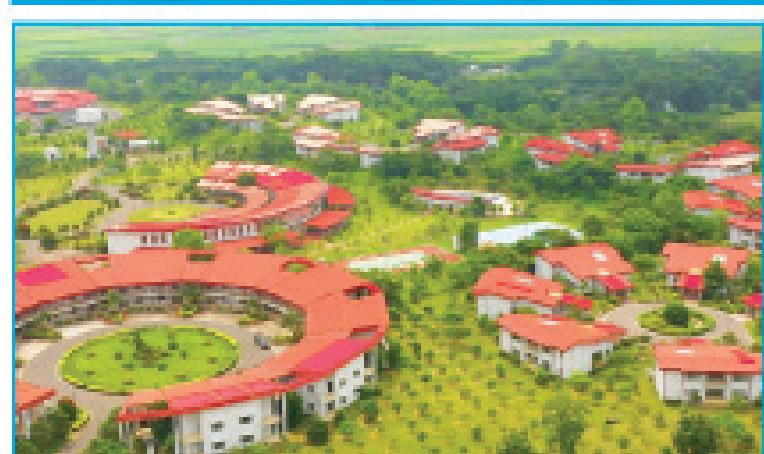
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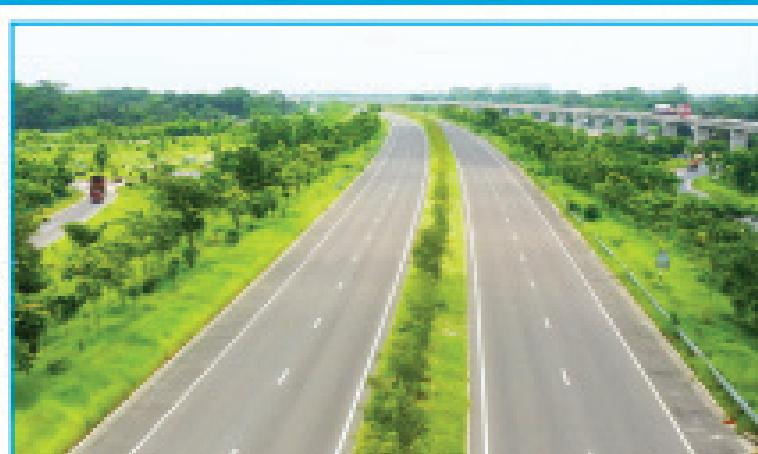
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