



Relief distribution in a coordinated way

Committees formed to monitor govt, non-govt relief operation in Sylhet division



Flood-affected people of Porar Char on the Brahmaputra river in Kurigram Sadar upazila collecting relief materials sent there by the government and private organisations. The photo was taken yesterday. PHOTO: S DILIP ROY

ZYMA ISLAM, DWOHA CHOWDHURY and MOUDUD AHMMED SUJAN

All relief -- government or non-government -- is to be distributed in a coordinated way by committees formed in upazilas and unions of the Sylhet division.

The Sylhet divisional administration came up with the idea after around two weeks of flooding in the country's north-eastern region.

Led by government officials in upazilas, the committees are being formed with chairmen of upazila and union parishads, local leaders of the ruling Awami League, agriculture officers, police and other respected locals.

A correspondent of this newspaper was present in a coordination meeting in Towakul union of Sylhet's Gowainghat upazila yesterday where the union committee chief, Rafiqul Islam, an LGED engineer working in the upazila, described the work of the committee.

He said no relief, be it government or non-government, can be distributed without informing the committee in the union and all relief will be stored first and then handed out by the committee.

"The committee will prepare a list of extreme poor and poor people of the

SEE PAGE 5 COL 6

PADMA BRIDGE

US, India, Pakistan commend Bangladesh

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The US has congratulated Bangladesh on the momentous opening of the Padma Bridge, saying this will create important national and regional connectivity, boost commerce and improve quality of life.

"The United States congratulates Bangladesh on the momentous opening of the Padma Bridge," said US Embassy in a statement yesterday.

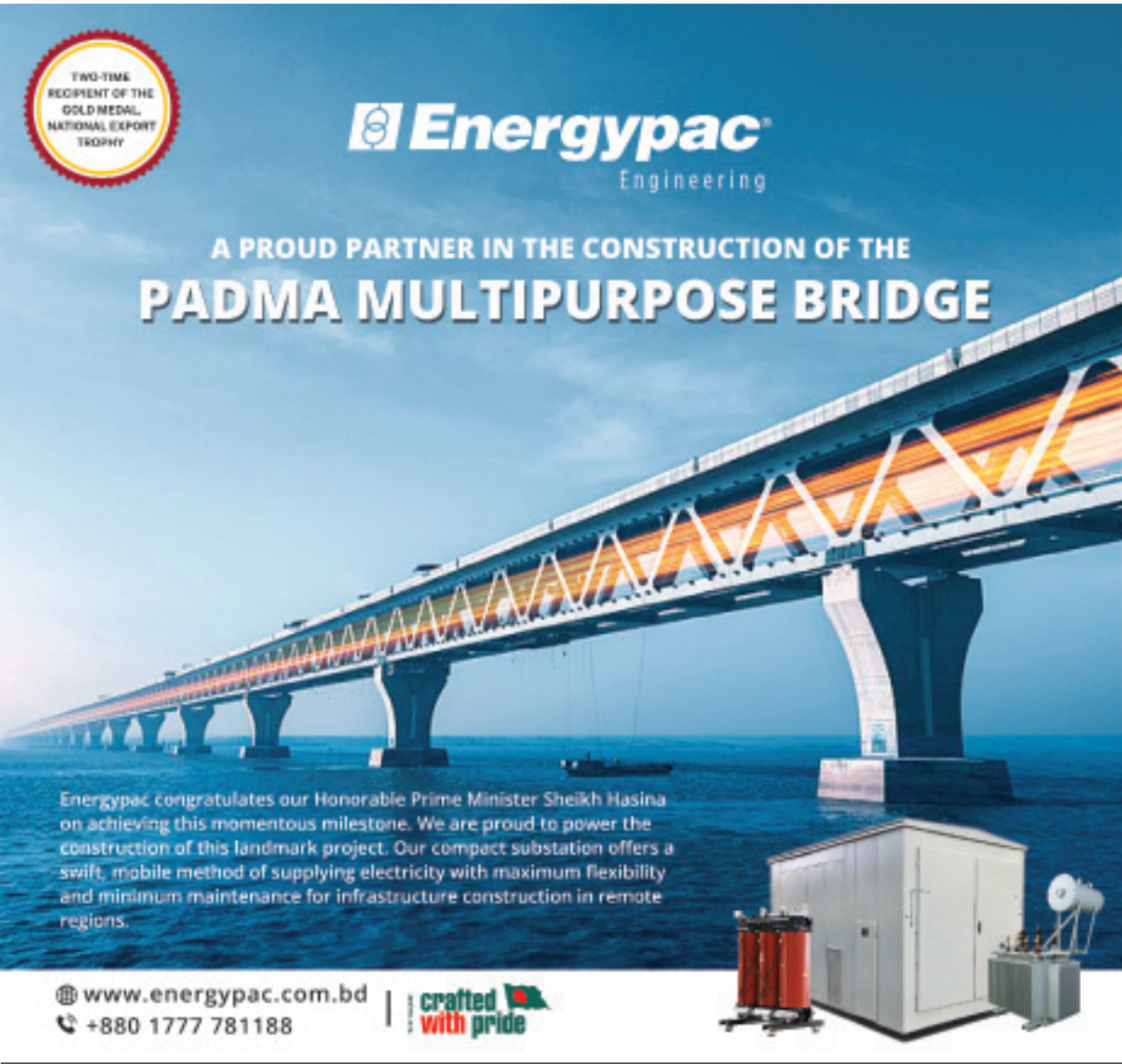
The Padma Bridge, the first multi-billion dollar self-funded mega project, will connect the country's southwestern regions to Dhaka and the rest of the country.

The bridge is projected to increase the country's GDP by 1.2percent as the economic activity in the country's south and southwestern region will be boosted and the supply chain will improve.

The US Embassy said building sustainable transportation infrastructure to connect people and goods efficiently is important to fostering inclusive economic growth.

"The Padma Bridge

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5



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