



Despite the fact that DSCC authorities had demolished an illegally constructed concrete bridge over this sewage canal just last year, locals have again constructed a makeshift bamboo bridge to get across, defying the rules. The construction obstructs the passage of water in the canal. This photo was taken recently from Sabujbagh.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## A glimpse into glory

Thousands throng Padma Bridge on opening day

SAJJAD HOSSAIN,  
Munshiganj

After inaugurating the Padma Bridge, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina left for Jajira in Shariatpur from the Mawa end of Munshiganj via the Padma Bridge.

After 12:30pm yesterday after inauguration, thousands of visitors walked on the Mawa side of the Padma Bridge. Many also ran and tried to reach the pillar number one.

The distance up to pillar 8-9 were crowded with visitors. Even the rain couldn't halt visitors' enthusiasm to see the bridge.

Besides, many crossed the toll plaza on foot. Members of the law enforcement had to work hard to control the crowd. Visitors weren't allowed to enter the main bridge.

Around 2:00pm, visitors had to be removed from

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**PRAYER TIMING**  
JUNE 26

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-05	12-45	5-00	6-54	8-17
JAMAAT 4-40	1-15	5-15	6-57	8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE, ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

# Danger of drugs ever-present

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

Despite tough vigilance and special drives by law enforcers, narcotics, especially yaba, smuggling increased in 2021, when compared with the previous year.

According to the annual report of the Department of Narcotics Control (DNC), the amount of yaba seized, which is smuggled into the country from Myanmar, increased by 45.88 percent in 2021, when compared with data of the previous year.

A similar scenario has been witnessed in regards to heroin and cannabis, which mainly enter from India. The amount of heroin seized by law enforcers increased by 109.67 percent in the same timeline, the report reads.

Only eight to 10 percent of the total smuggled narcotics could be seized by law enforcers, and usually when smuggling increases so do seizures, according to officials and experts.

Adoption of new techniques by smugglers, use of the dark web, and absence of enforcement agencies' access to technology and accountability are blamed as reasons behind the increase, they said. DNC will launch the report today marking "International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking".

The agency has taken a series of programmes, including a rally and discussion, to observe the day.

"The increase of seizures

### WHAT THE DATA SHOWS

- Yaba seizure increased by 45.88pc in 2021 compared to 2020
- Heroin seizure increased by 109.67pc in 2021 compared to 2020
- People aged 16-40 comprises 84.27pc of drug abusing population
- Influence of friends principal cause for taking drugs, which is 59.27pc
- 81.72pc of drug abusers admitted for treatment are uneducated

clearly reflects the smuggling and availability of narcotics. But it points to the fact that law enforcers are active," M Emdadul Haq, chairperson of history and philosophy department of North South University, told The Daily Star.

Emdadul, who has conducted his PhD on narcotics, said the scenario may not improve until accountability is ensured among enforcement agencies.

"War against narcotics requires combined efforts, and enforcement agencies have to play a major role here by performing their duty with utmost integrity," he added.

However, Md Azizul Islam, director general (additional charge) of DNC,

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rahimgroup.com.bd

# Congratulations

## Honorable Prime Minister

The country's largest bridge "The Padma Bridge" has been built with own funds with her bold step. The country's economic development trend will get a new dimension by connecting with 21 districts. We are proud to contribute to this trend of development.



The Daily Star

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## স্বয়ংক্রিয় পদ্ধতিতে টোল পরিশোধ করে Fast Track Lane দিয়ে টোল প্লাজা অতিক্রম করুন

**NexusPay App Download**  
করে নিজের গাড়ি নিজে  
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Click করুন।

গাড়ির নম্বর, চেসিস নম্বরসহ প্রয়োজনীয়  
তথ্য দিয়ে Registration Card/Blue  
Book-এর Image সহ Submit-এ  
Click করুন।

সঠিকভাবে Vehicle টি Add হবার  
পর Toll Card-এ Balance স্থানান্তর  
করে সুবিধাটি উপভোগ করুন।

● আপনার **গাউন্ট** একাউন্টের মাধ্যমে গাড়িটির Registration করতে গাড়ির Registration Card/Blue Book এর ছবি এবং আপনার রকট Account Number দিয়ে E-mail করুন [rocket.toll@dutchbanglabank.com](mailto:rocket.toll@dutchbanglabank.com) অথবা ডাচ-বাংলা ব্যাংকের যেকোন শাখা বা ফাস্ট ট্র্যাক এ যোগাযোগ করুন।

● যে কোন ব্যাংকের Visa / MasterCard থেকে Loyalty Card-এর মাধ্যমে Toll Card-এ Balance স্থানান্তর করতে সুবিধাটি উপভোগ করা যায়।

বর্তমানে যে সকল সেতুর টোল স্বয়ংক্রিয়ভাবে  
পরিশোধের সুবিধা পাবেন

- |                                |                          |                              |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| বহুবন্দ সেতু (চাঁদাইন)         | মেঘনা সেতু (নারায়ণগঞ্জ) | গোমতী সেতু (কুমিল্লা)        |
| ভৈরব সেতু (কিশোরগঞ্জ)          | কর্ণফুলী সেতু (ভেড়ামার) | হান জাহান আলী সেতু (খুলনা)   |
| পায়রা সেতু (পটুয়াখালী)       | লালন শাহ সেতু (পাবনা)    | আব্রাহী সেতু (নাটোর)         |
| শ্রীম ময়োরজিৎন সেতু (নরসিংদী) | চরসিদ্ধুর সেতু (নরসিংদী) | মুন্সারপুর সেতু (মুন্সীগঞ্জ) |



বিক্রিত হওয়ার জন্য কল করুন  
**16216**



**ডাচ-বাংলা ব্যাংক**  
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