


IN THE MAIN STRUCTURE OF PADMA BRIDGE
MORE THAN 95% OF RODS ARE BSRM



PADMA BRIDGE

Proud Construction Partner



Narail OC withdrawn over assault on teacher

STAR REPORT

Officer-in-Charge Mohammad Shawkat Kabir of Narail Sadar Police Station was withdrawn and attached to the Khulna Reserve Range on Saturday night.



Kabir

This move came around two weeks after students and locals forced Swapan Kumar Biswas, acting principal of Mirzapur United College, to wear a garland of shoes around his neck in presence of police.

Asked about the reason, Prabir Kumar Ray, superintendent of Narail police, said Shawkat was closed following directives from the office of deputy inspector general of Khulna Range police due to "administrative reason".

Inspector (investigation) of the police station will be acting OC until a new OC

SEE PAGE 6 COL 7



A man helps his child cross a gaping hole near Shyamoli Shishu Mela in the capital. The hole was dug up to widen a sewerage line, but the authorities concerned are yet to fill it up, exposing pedestrians to the risk of injury. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

FLOOD VICTIMS IN NORTH A roof over their heads is all they need now

DWOHA CHOWDHURY, back from Sunamganj

Sitting in a roadside garage near what used to be her home, Nasima Begum, 70, was seen trying to salvage whatever was edible from paddy she had stored earlier.

Her home in Chhatak upazila's Bashkala village washed away in the flood shortly after she had moved to a shelter centre. Meanwhile, her paddy rotted in the floodwaters.

"Even though I had sufficient paddy in my in-house storage, I had to spend two hungry days at the centre. Upon returning, I see I have become homeless too."

At least 25 homes in the village were completely destroyed in the flood, which was triggered by torrential rain in the northeast and India's Meghalaya.

Jomirun Begum, a mother of six, said, "We barely saved our children when the house began collapsing. We are now living in a makeshift hut on the culvert."

Speaking to this correspondent on Saturday, most of the villagers said they were well-fed as the relief provided by government and non-government organisations was sufficient. However, they are now in dire need of financial aid and rehabilitation.

For Faruk Ahmed, of Sufinagar-Jaoakara village in the upazila, the struggle is steeper due to his disability.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

CHANGES IN TEXTBOOKS JP MP admits giving wrong info in House

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amid widespread criticism for providing wrong information in parliament on changes made in textbooks, Jatiya Party MP Fakhrul Imam has admitted that the statement "was not correct in the current context".

The JP lawmaker from Mymensingh 8 sent a letter to Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury on July 2 requesting her to expunge his statement in parliament.

Participating in a discussion on the proposed budget for 2022-23 in the House on June 30, the opposition lawmaker said several topics were removed from textbooks for grades three to eight.

He mentioned that chapters on Islamic topics were removed from the textbooks, while those on other religions were included, and asked, "What does this signify?"

In the letter, Fakhrul said, "I quoted a news carried by Daily Inqilab's digital version and thus presented some information. The date showed on the digital platform when I read the news was of the current date. But it was actually a report of April 19, 2016, which I missed."

He added, "I later came to know that the information I had placed was not correct in the current context."



Fakhrul Imam

Govt to amend children act, may lower age limit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Against the backdrop of multiple sensational crimes involving juveniles, the government decided to amend the children act and is considering whether to lower the age threshold that qualifies an individual as a juvenile.

The law ministry was asked to look into the legal matters as laws in Bangladesh and many other countries recognise individuals aged below 18 as children.

The decision was made yesterday in a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Law and Order at home ministry, attended by at least a dozen ministers and top officials of law enforcement agencies.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Haque said, "Decisions have been made to amend the law. But no decision was made on the age limit."

Mozammel, who is the chief of the committee, said, "My personal opinion is that the age limit can be set at 14."

Teen gangs have mushroomed in the country, he said, adding

that more young people were addicted to drugs than adults.

"A child cannot be sent to jail ... By being children, many are getting away even after committing heinous crimes. But it has a negative impact on the country," he said.

Referring to the recent killing of a teacher in Ashulia, he said proper action could not be taken against the suspect, because he is a child as per the international and local law.

Initiatives have been taken to create a database of criminals, he said. "Instructions were given to update and complete it fast."

Asked why the juvenile corrections facilities were not being developed, he said, "The reality is, a child gets inclined to more criminal activities during their stay at a corrections centre. The same is true for criminals in jails."

The committee yesterday also discussed the public sufferings near toll plazas on Dhaka-Mawa-Bhanga expressway.

The benefit of the Padma Bridge is being reduced, he said, adding that there would be long tailbacks on the expressway during Eid rush.

"We may not be able to do anything this Eid, but in the future, measures will be taken for automation of toll collection across the country. Payment will be made electronically, there will be no need to pay the toll manually."

He added that measures will be taken to set up the devices necessary in the quickest possible time. The other bridges will also have the facility.

"We've given emphasis on it. Besides, there were discussions at the meeting about the on-road cattle markets. Instructions were given to the law enforcement agencies not to allow any such market."

Law enforcers were asked to monitor and take steps against extortion on cattle-laden trucks and unlawful imposition of excessive tax on the buyers, said the minister.

Participants also said that Rohingyas were getting involved in criminal activities, but the government was not being able to take legal steps in the absence of an appropriate legal framework. There was discussion of how they could be brought to justice while in Bangladesh.

US man, his dog spent 7yrs walking around the world

CNN ONLINE

Very few people attempt to walk around the entire world, and even fewer manage to complete the journey.



On May 21, 2022, Tom Turcich, from New Jersey, became the 10th person on record to achieve this remarkable feat, while his four-legged companion Savannah was the first dog to do so.

The pair were greeted with a huge homecoming celebration attended by many of Turcich's friends and family, along with well-wishers. The triumphant moment brought about the end of a seven-year, 48,000-kilometer (29,826-mile) journey.

The inspiration for the trip stemmed from a sad loss in 2006, when his long-time friend Ann Marie died in a jet-ski accident at the age of 17.

"[her death] was very formative for me," he explains. "She was a much better person than me. And it sunk in that I was going to die [one day] and it could happen at any moment. And I started re-evaluating everything."

Turchich, who has been compared to Forrest Gump, the character Tom Hanks played in the 1994 movie, decided he needed travel and adventure in his life and began looking into all the different ways he could.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

Lugansk 'liberated'

Claims Moscow, accuses Ukraine of firing missiles into Russia

AGENCIES

Russia yesterday claimed to have captured the strategic Ukrainian city of Lysychansk and the entire frontline Lugansk region which would mark a decisive breakthrough for Moscow's forces seeking control of the country's east.

The development came as Belarus said it had intercepted missiles fired by Kyiv and Russia reported that Ukraine launched three cluster missiles at Belgorod, killing four people. Ukrainian forces also struck a Russian military base in occupied southern Ukraine.

Lysychansk had been the last major city in the Lugansk area of the eastern Donbas still in Ukrainian hands and its capture would signal a deeper push into the Donbas, Moscow's focus since retreating from Kyiv.

On Saturday, there were conflicting reports about Lysychansk's status with Ukraine denying Moscow's claim to have encircled the entire city, located

across the river from neighbouring Severodonetsk which Russian forces seized last week.

Ukraine has yet to comment on the claim that Lysychansk has fallen following days of intense clashes.

"Sergei Shoigu has informed the commander in chief of the Russian armed forces, Vladimir Putin, of the liberation of the People's Republic of Lugansk," the defence ministry yesterday said in a statement quoted by Russian news agencies.

A few minutes prior to the announcement, which AFP has not verified, a spokesman for the Russian defence ministry had said fighting was ongoing in Lysychansk and that Ukrainian forces were "completely" surrounded.

Belgorod Governor Vyacheslav Gladkov reported several explosions in the city of nearly 400,000, some 40 km (25 miles) north of the border with Ukraine.

At least 11 apartment buildings and

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



Rescuers work at the site of a destroyed residential building after missiles hit Belgorod, Russia, yesterday. At least four people were killed in the Russian city of Belgorod near the Ukraine border, the regional governor said, in what Moscow said was a Ukrainian missile attack.

PHOTO: REUTERS

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5