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16 PAGES PLUS LIFE STYLE : Tk 15.00



**B1**  
Dollar crisis  
hurts pesticide  
imports



**P11**  
Sylhet face  
Rangpur in  
Qualifier 2  
today



**P10**  
What  
exactly is  
love?



**P6**  
US flew balloons  
over Chinese  
airspace: Beijing

## Nation gets next head of state

Shahabuddin elected unopposed



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Md Shahabuddin is the next president of Bangladesh.

Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Habibul Awal, also returning officer of the presidential election, yesterday noon declared the ruling Awami League's candidate elected unopposed after they found his nomination papers valid.

In the evening, a gazette notification was issued in this regard.

Within minutes after the gazette publication, outgoing President Abdul Hamid congratulated Shahabuddin over a phone call and both exchanged pleasantries, said a Bangabhaban press release.

Earlier in the noon, a delegation led by AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader went to the Election Commission office to be present during the scrutiny of the nomination papers.

After Shahabuddin was elected unopposed, Quader while talking to reporters at the EC office said the party had nominated a well-educated, honest, qualified and skilled person for the post of the country's president.

"We [Awami League] have not nominated anyone whose name was Iajuddin but work was like Yes Uddin [who says yes to everything]. The Awami League does not nominate anyone who is anti-liberation, anti-independence, or who believes in arson terrorism," he said.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



**Cargo vessels overloaded with sand ply the Turag violating safety standards which often leads to accidents. Sand traders allegedly force bulk carriers to overload to cut shipment costs and the number of trips required. The photo was taken in the capital's Gabtoli yesterday.**

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## CASUALTIES IN ROAD CRASHES

# Campaigners question govt's low numbers

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

For the first time, the road transport and bridges ministry has made public the statistics of road accidents and casualties for a particular month, January.

However, the numbers are significantly lower than those reported by a road safety campaign platform.

The move comes a month after the road secretary and transport leaders came down heavily on road safety campaign platforms for publishing what they claimed to be "fabricated" reports on road crashes.

According to Bangladesh Jatri Kalyan Samity, 585 people were killed and 899 others injured in 593 road accidents across the country last month.

But according to the report published on the website of Bangladesh

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

## Skill factor hinders rise in remittance

Govt blamed for not prioritising skilled labour migration

JAMIL MAHMUD

Despite sending well over a million migrants abroad last year, Bangladesh is unlikely to get the desired remittance from them as almost four out of five of them were less skilled.

The government categorises migrants who go abroad with jobs like domestic helps, janitors, gardeners, farm workers, and shepherds as less skilled.

Labour migration experts said less-skilled workers get poor wages compared to skilled workers and they blamed the government for not prioritising skilled migration, which could have eased the foreign currency crisis the country is going through now. Last fiscal year, Bangladesh got \$21b in remittance.

According to an International Organisation for Migration (IOM) survey, less-skilled workers remit less per year and work fewer years abroad.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

- ✓ 78pc less-skilled migrants went abroad last year
- ✓ Less-skilled migrants remit less
- ✓ Less-skilled migrants remit for fewer years
- ✓ Ratio of skilled labour migration declining



বীর মুক্তিযোদ্ধা জনাব মোহাম্মদ সাহাবুদ্দিনকে  
বাংলাদেশের ২২তম রাষ্ট্রপতি পদে মনোনয়ন দেওয়ায়  
দেশরত্ন প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনাকে ইউনিয়ন ব্যাংক লিমিটেড  
এর পক্ষ থেকে আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন।



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## অভিনন্দন মহামান্য রাষ্ট্রপতি

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশের ২২তম রাষ্ট্রপতি নির্বাচিত হওয়ায়  
জনাব মো. সাহাবুদ্দিনকে গ্লোবাল ইসলামী ব্যাংকের পক্ষ থেকে শুভেচ্ছা

