

FASTBUILD PROVIDES RODS OF ANY SHAPE AND SIZE AS PER DESIGN





SHAHEED MINARS 21 injured in clashes over placing wreaths

STAR REPORT

The solemnity of International Mother Language Day programmes was marred by the attacks and clashes involving ruling party men in three districts

At least 21 people were injured in the incidents in Chattogram, Manikganj, and

In Chattogram, five activists of Bangladesh Chhatra Union were injured in an attack allegedly carried out by Bangladesh Chhatra League men over placing wreaths at the Shaheed Minar of Municipal Model High School yesterday morning.

An altercation between activists of the two student bodies erupted around 9:30am as Chhatra League men tried to pay tribute, cutting the queue, witnesses and Chhatra Union men said.

Imran Chowdhury, president of Chattogram district unit Chhatra Union, said people were paying tribute maintaining discipline and the queue.

"We were also going to place flowers SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



Boats have been lying idle near the banks of the Piyain river in Sylhet's Jaflong for days. The river has lost much of its navigability as its water, which flows in from India's Meghalaya, brings in a lot of sand and stones along with it – all of which has been collecting in the riverbed. As a result, boatmen and other locals, who rely on the river to make a living, have been heavily affected. The photo was taken at the Jaflong bridge yesterday. PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Shab-e-Barat on March 7

BSS, Dhaka

The holy Shab-e-Barat, the night of fortune, will be observed throughout the country on the night of March 7 as the new moon of the holy month of Shaban of Hijri 1444 was sighted last evening.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the National Moon Sighting Committee held at the Islamic Foundation conference room of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque yesterday evening with State Minister for Religious Affairs Mohammad Faridul Haque Khan in the chair, read a press release of the Islamic Foundation.

As the new crescent was sighted in the country yesterday, the holy month of Shaban will begin from today, the release added.

The Muslims consider Shab-e-Barat as one of the three most sacred nights and believe that on this night Almighty Allah decides the fate of all human beings fixing their 'rizq' (livelihood) for the next year.

Devotees will special prayers, recite from the Holy Quran, hold milad, zikir and other religious

BNP smells a rat in law minister's remark

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The law minister's recent comment that there is no restriction on Khaleda Zia getting involved in politics is an attempt to dilute BNP's movement, leaders of the

However, BNP Standing Committee members at a meeting decided that they would not issue a formal reaction to the

"They [ruling AL leaders] made different comments on occasions. Let them make comments," BNP Standing Committee member labal Hasan Mahmud Tuku told The Daily Star yesterday.

Law Minister Anisul Huq at a programme on Sunday said, "She [Khaleda] was released from jail under section 401 of the Code of Criminal Procedure... as she was sick. We did not write that she cannot do politics."

SEE PAGE 6 COL 2

RAMPAL POWER PLANT

There's no stopping the thieves!

Machines, equipment, materials are being stolen frequently for 1.5vrs

PARTHA CHAKRABORTY and SHARIFUL ISLAM

It seems nothing can stop organised criminal gangs from stealing machines, materials and different kinds of equipment from Bagerhat's Rampal coal-based thermal power plant.

Over the past year and a half, 62 people were arrested on charges of stealing equipment and materials worth Tk 1 crore, including a coal quality testing machine, 5,000kg of copper wire and huge amounts of GI pipes, iron pipes, cutter blades, plain tin sheets, and more.

Meanwhile, at least 34 cases had been filed with Rampal Police Station over incidents of

Police officials, who investigated the cases

and interrogated the arrestees, said some corrupt officials and staffers of the plant are in league with the thieves, which is why stopping the thefts will not be easy.

also blamed the poor security

Law enforcers and power plant officials have

arrangements, an insufficient number of people to guard the areas where important materials are kept, and the absence of CCTV monitoring systems.

The biggest theft took place on January 14 when the "Bomb Calorimeter", a coal quality testing machine worth Tk 47 lakh, was stolen from a locked laboratory.

"The US-manufactured Bomb Calorimeter is the lone machine to test the quality of coal SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

BBC DOCU ON MODI Indian FM questions its timing

AGENCIES

India's External **Affairs** Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar yesterday said the timing of the controversial documentary on Prime Minister Narendra Modi is not accidental.

Speaking to ANI, the minister said, "We are not debating a documentary or a speech someone gave in a European city. We are debating politics which is being conducted ostensibly There is a phrase called 'war by other means'. This is politics by other means".

"You do a hatchet job and say this is just a quest for truth which we SEE PAGE 6 COL 3

'Please go home' Indian firm deploys software for work-life balance



REUTERS

A small IT company in Indore has come up with an unusual way to ensure its employees maintain a healthy work-life balance -- by creating software to remind them when their shift is up and it is time to head home.

Softgrid Computers' software is equipped with a notification system that kicks in the moment an employee's shift is over, warning them that "the office system will shut down in 10 mins" and asking them to "please go home".

The measure comes amid an increased focus on and research into the adverse effect of long SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



Md Nazrul Khan sorting out tomatoes in Gopalbari village of Rajbari Sadar upazila. Below, he is packing the tomatoes to send them to Dhaka city. Nazrul sells them for Tk 14-15 a kg. The 42-year-old farmer, who cultivated tomatoes on an acre this year spending Tk 2 lakh, said he got good yield but was not making much profits due to low price in the market. The photos were taken recently.

PVT MEDICAL EDN Govt hikes admission fees by over 3 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has increased the admission fees for medical students in private medical and dental

colleges by 17 percent. Now, a student will have to pay Tk 19.44 lakh, around Tk 3.24 lakh more than the previous fees.

Since 2018, the fees were Tk 16.20 lakh.

The new fees will be effective from the next academic session (2022-23), according to a circular on the website of the health ministry's medical education wing yesterday.

The decision was made as per the proposal of the private medical colleges at a meeting in the ministry on February 9. Health Minister Zahid Maleque presided over the meeting, read the circular.

internship The fees, however, remains unchanged at Tk 1.80 lakh and the monthly tuition fees at Tk 10,000.

An expert denounced the decision of rising the admission fees.

"Majority of the families in our country are not capable of bearing this cost. As a result, students from rural areas will

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জিডি-৩২০

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার শেখ হাসিনার নির্দেশ জলবায়ু সহিষ্ণু বাংলাদেশ বন সংরক্ষকের কার্যালয় বন্যপ্রাণী ও প্রকৃতি সংরক্ষণ অঞ্চল

বন ভবন, আগারগাঁও, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা Bangabandhu Award for Wildlife Conservation-2023

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণ কার্যক্রমে নিয়োজিত বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণবাদী ব্যক্তি ও প্রতিষ্ঠানকে জাতীয়ভাবে উৎসাহিত করার লক্ষ্যে সরকার "Bangabandhu Award for Wildlife Conservation" প্রবর্তন করেছেন। ২০১২ মালে জারিকৃত নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী বিগত বছরের ন্যায় এ বছরও নিম্নোক্ত ০৩ (তিনটি) ক্যাটাগরিতে পুরস্কার প্রদান করা হবেঃ

द्रधनो	পুরস্কারের ক্যাটাগরি	
क	বন ও বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণ কাজে নিয়োজিত কর্মকর্তা, খ্যাতিমান গবেষক, বিজ্ঞানী, বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণবাদী ব্যক্তি ও গণমাধ্যম কর্মী/ব্যক্তিতু।	বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণ প্রকাশ এবং মাঠ প বন্যপ্রাণীর আবাসহ বন্যপ্রাণী সংক্রান্ত বন্যপ্রাণী ছন্দ্ব নিরস বিরল ও বিলুগুপ্রাই
খ	বন্যপ্রাণী বিষয়ক শিক্ষা ও গবেষণা।	
গ	বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণে নিবেদিত প্রতিষ্ঠান।	

বিষয়ক শিক্ষা, গবেষণা ও নিবন্ধন স্থল উন্নয়ন ও সংরক্ষণে অবদান।

বন্যপ্রাণী সংরক্ষণে গণসচেতনতা সৃষ্টিতে অবদান। পুরস্কারঃ প্রত্যেক ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানকে ২ ভরি ওজনের স্বর্ণপদক, ০১টি সনদপত্র ও ৫০,০০০/- টাকা প্রদান করা

আবেদনপত্র দাখিল করার পদ্ধতিঃ বাংলাদেশের যে কোন ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠান উপরে বর্ণিত ক্যাটাগরিতে আবেদন করতে পারবেন। প্রতিটি আবেদনে ০৩ (তিন) কপি জীবন বৃদ্তান্তসহ নিমুবর্ণিত তথ্য সংযুক্তি হিসেবে দাখিল

ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম ও পূর্ণ ঠিকানা, ২। কাজের অধিক্ষেত্র, ৩। ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠান কর্তৃক বাস্তবায়িত উল্লেখযোগ্য কাজের বিবরণ (প্রমাণকসহ) এবং ৪। বাস্তবায়িত কার্যক্রমের প্রেক্ষিতে বন্যপ্রাণী ও প্রকৃতি সংরক্ষণে প্রাপ্ত বা ঈব্দিত ফলাফলের বিবরণ।

আবেদনকারীকে আগামী ২৩/০৩/২০২৩খ্রিঃ তারিখের মধ্যে ক্যাটাগরি উল্লেখপূর্বক সংযুক্তিসহ স্বাক্ষরিত আবেদনপত্র বন সংরক্ষক,বন্যপ্রাণী ও প্রকৃতি সংরক্ষণ অঞ্চল, বন ভবন, শের-ই-বাংলা নগর, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২০৭ বরাবরে দাখিল করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।



PHOTO: SUZIT KUMAR DAS