



FASTBUILD
PROVIDES RODS OF ANY SHAPE AND SIZE AS PER DESIGN

BSRM
building a safer nation



DHAKA METRO RAIL

Proud Construction Partner


SHAH CEMENT

Majestic. Brilliant. Regal.

MBR SKYLINE

An architectural landmark rising 350' high in the heart of Gulshan Avenue.

THERE IS NO ADDRESS like CONCORD



CONCORD 16594

5 Rohingyas reach Cox's Bazar on boat

Injured woman among them

MOKAMMEL SHUVO

Amid fighting between Myanmar troops and the rebel Arakan Army on the other side of the Naf river, a small boat carrying five Rohingyas, including a woman with bullet wounds, arrived at the Shahporir Dvip jetty in Cox's Bazar's Teknaf yesterday evening.

Abdus Salam, union parishad member of Shahporir Dvip Ward-9 under Sabrang union, said, "Five Rohingyas -- four men and an injured woman -- arrived at our jetty from Myanmar in a small boat."

"On information, BGB officials went to the spot. I heard they came here for treatment after being

SEE PAGE 13 COL 1



Five Rohingyas, including a bullet-hit woman, arriving at the Shahporir Dvip jetty in Cox's Bazar's Teknaf upazila yesterday. They are here to seek refuge and treatment as fighting between the Myanmar troops and Arakan Army rages across the border.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

PAKISTAN POLLS Rawalpindi commissioner says helped in rigging

AFP, Islamabad

A senior bureaucrat said yesterday he helped rig Pakistan's elections, a week after polls marred by allegations of manipulation returned no clear winner.

Liaqat Ali Chattha, commissioner of the garrison city of Rawalpindi, where the country's powerful military has its headquarters, said he would hand himself over to police.

There have been widespread allegations of rigging after authorities switched off the country's mobile phone network on election day and the count took more than 24 hours.

The army-backed Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), short of a majority, has announced a partnership with the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and a handful of smaller parties to form the next government.

Chattha said he personally supervised rigging of votes in Rawalpindi, before stepping down from his post.

"We converted the losers into winners, reversing margins of 70,000 votes in 13 national assembly seats," he told reporters.

"For committing such a

SEE PAGE 13 COL 1

Pabna dist admin leasing out rivers for fish farming

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

In a move that violates the law, the Pabna district administration has decided to lease out 31 sections of 10 rivers for fish farming. These areas are being labelled as "jalmahal" or enclosed government water bodies.

On January 14, the administration issued a circular inviting applications from fishermen, offering leases for 63 waterbodies across nine upazilas in the district.

The Daily Star has obtained a copy of the notice that mentions that these waterbodies are to be leased out for a period of three years.

A review of the notice revealed that at least 31 of the 63 listed waterbodies are, in fact, sections of various rivers, including the Ichamoti, Padma lagoon, Chandraboti, Chiknai, Atrai, Boral, Gumani, Gohala, Kageshwari, and Ruknai.

Among these, the Boral, one of the major rivers of Chalanbeel, which is already under threat from land grabbing, could go extinct if it is now leased out for fish farming, according to locals.

The 31 river points up for lease are spread across seven upazilas: Sadar, Atghoria, Ishwardi, Bhangura, Faridpur, Bera, and Santhia, according to the circular signed by Md Asaduzzaman, deputy commissioner

and president of Jalmahal Management Committee in Pabna.

As per the Jalmahal Management Policy - 2009, authorities are forbidden to lease out any open water body like a river.

The district administration's decision to lease out river points has sparked outrage from local residents and environmental activists.

Syeda Rizwana Hasan, chief executive of the Bangladesh Environment Lawyers Association (Bela), said, "Government policy dictates unrestricted access to rivers for fishing communities, but reports of leased stretches suggest non-compliance."

Mizanur Rahman, a resident of Pabna's Chathamohor upazila and an activist of the Boral river protection movement, said,

"Existing rules safeguard rivers as open water sources, preventing any individual or organisation from hindering their flow or restricting access for fishing."

"It's disheartening to see influential people undermine our collective efforts to protect rivers by seeking to control them through leases."

"We strongly condemn the district administration's leasing of rivers. We will be filing an official complaint to challenge this action and uphold

SEE PAGE 13 COL 1

As per the Jalmahal Management Policy - 2009, authorities are forbidden to lease out any open water body like a river.

Japan successfully launches next-gen H3 rocket

AFP, Tokyo

Japan's space agency toasted a successful blast-off for its new flagship rocket yesterday, making it third time lucky after years of delays and two previous failed attempts.

The next-generation H3 has been mooted as a rival to SpaceX's Falcon 9, and could one day deliver cargo to bases on the Moon.

"I've been in the space industry for a long time, but I've never felt so happy before, and I've never felt so relieved," said Hiroshi Yamakawa, president of space agency JAXA.

The latest launch follows Japan's successful landing last month of an unmanned probe on the Moon -- albeit at a wonky angle -- making it just the fifth country to land a craft on the

SEE PAGE 13 COL 4



NAVALNY'S DEATH 270 mourners held at events in Russia

Mother was told he had 'sudden death syndrome'

REUTERS, Kharp/London

Alexei Navalny's mother was told yesterday that Russia's most prominent opposition leader had been struck down by "sudden death syndrome" and that his body would not be handed over to the family until an investigation was completed, his team said.

Navalny, a 47-year-old former lawyer, fell unconscious and died on Friday after a walk at the "Polar Wolf" penal colony in Kharp, about 1,900 km (1,200 miles) northeast of Moscow, where he was serving a three-decade sentence, the prison service said.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 4

The Daily Star
CELEBRATING
33
years of
JOURNALISM WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR

We are thrilled to present to you dear readers the second installment of our five-part special supplement:

"INNOVATE, EDUCATE, ELEVATE: BANGLADESH'S TECH AND EDUCATION EVOLUTION."

This segment showcases Bangladesh's remarkable journey through technology and education, highlighting the nation's resilience, innovation, and ambition. From challenges to triumphs, discover how Bangladesh is leveraging technology and education for sustainable growth.

Make sure you grab a copy of this collectors' item free of charge from your hawkler!

সামাজিক উন্নয়নের পথিকৃৎ
ও
শাসফুল প্রতিষ্ঠাতা শামসুন্নাহার রহমান পরাণ
এর ৯ম মৃত্যুবার্ষিকীতে বিনামূল্যে শ্রদ্ধা



শামসুন্নাহার রহমান পরাণ
১ জুন ১৯৪০ - ১৮ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০১৫

শাসফুল পরিবার
www.ghashful-bd.org