

পূবালী ব্যাংক থেকে রেমিট্যান্স গ্রহণ  
স্বাস্থ্যে দ্বিগুণ লাভ...

যে কোনো শাখা থেকে পিন নম্বর এর মাধ্যমে রেমিট্যান্স গ্রহণ করলে  
সরকার নির্ধারিত ২.৫% প্রদাননার সাথে পাবেন আরও  
২.৫% পূবালী ব্যাংক প্রদাননার সহ মোট ৫% প্রদাননা।

স্বাস্থ্যে আরও আরো নিশ্চিত আকর্ষণীয় পুরস্কার

ঘরে বসেই  
ব্যাংক  
অ্যাকাউন্ট  
খুলুন

পাই ব্যাংকিং (PI Banking) -  
একটি পূবালী ব্যাংক অ্যাপস

পূবালী ব্যাংকে সক্ষম করুন, নিরাপদে থাকুন

## REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

President for  
Dhaka-Thimphu  
joint initiatives

BSS, Dhaka

President Mohammed Shahabuddin yesterday emphasised the joint coordination and initiatives of Bangladesh and Bhutan for regional prosperity and development.

The head of state made the remark when Bhutanese King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck paid a courtesy call on him at Bangabhaban.

He said, "The two countries can enhance regional cooperation by utilising their strengths and priorities."

President's Press Secretary Md Joynal Abedin briefed journalists after the meeting.

The president noted that currently, cooperation between the two countries in trade, electricity, connectivity, agriculture, education, cultural exchange, people-to-people contacts, and tourism is progressing well.

He also highlighted the potential for mutual cooperation within regional platforms like Saarc and BIMSTEC.

On a special invitation from Bangladesh President Shahabuddin to celebrate Independence Day, King and Queen Jetsun Pema of Bhutan are now in Dhaka on a four-day official visit.



President Mohammed Shahabuddin, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Bhutanese King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck paying tribute to the Liberation War martyrs at the National Memorial in Savar yesterday, marking Independence Day.

PHOTO: BSS

## INDEPENDENCE DAY

SC judges  
pay tribute  
to martyrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court judges led by Justice M Enayetur Rahim, performing as the chief justice of Bangladesh, yesterday paid tribute to the brave martyrs, who sacrificed their lives for the sake of the liberation of the country, on the occasion of the Independence Day.

They paid the homage by laying flowers at the National Memorial in Savar, Dhaka at 6:10am.

Later on, the judges of the Appellate and High Court Divisions of the Supreme Court - including Justice Enayetur Rahim - paid their respects at "Smriti Chiranjeeb" at 07:45am on the SC premises.

Schoolboy  
killed in  
Kushtia road  
accident

STAR REPORT

At least two people, including a school student, were killed in road accidents yesterday morning, according to reports from our correspondent and a news agency.

In Kushtia, a 14-year-old school student died after his bicycle collided with a vehicle in the Harishankarpur area of the city, reports UNB.

The deceased was identified as Ali.

Eyewitnesses reported that he was hit while riding his bicycle during rush hour.

"We sent the body to Kushtia General Hospital Morgue for autopsy," said Officer-in-Charge Sheikh Sohel Rana of Kushtia Model Police Station.

Meanwhile, a 55-year-old man died after being hit by a train in Gazipur city's Majhukhan area.

The deceased was identified as Md Faisal, of Lakshipura village in Faridpur.

Eyewitnesses said the accident occurred while Faisal was walking along the railway line around 8:00am. Najiur Islam, in-charge of Narsingdi Railway Outpost, said, "Legal action will be taken in this regard."

## Preserving a painful past

South Asia's lone genocide museum archives Pakistan's atrocities



DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

Madhab Chandra Bairagi and Sourav Golder were among the more than 500 people who were brutally killed by the Pakistani Army men at Badamtala area in Batiaghata upazila of Khulna on May 19, 1971.

Their blood-stained clothes, among other pieces of evidence of the mass killing, are on display at the 1971: Genocide-Torture Archive and Museum in Khulna city.

Bangladesh witnessed one of the worst instances of genocide and atrocities ever conducted in the history of mankind during the country's Liberation War in 1971.

To preserve the evidence of the merciless torture and massacre inflicted on the people of Bangladesh by Pakistani forces and their



**Archive has records of over 18,481 mass killings spots, 888 killing grounds, 1,313 mass graves, and 1,174 torture cells in 42 districts, said Rokonuzzaman Bablu, deputy curator of the museum.**

local collaborators - Razakar, Al-Badr and Al Shams - the museum began its journey on May 17, 2014.

At present, it is the lone such museum not only in Bangladesh, but in all of South Asia.

Initially set up temporarily at a rented



house in the city's Moilapota area, the museum relocated to its permanent place at South Central Road on February 26 this year on 21-decimal land allotted by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

A six-storey building for the museum is being constructed by the Public Works Department in Khulna, under supervision of the Bangladesh National Museum, at a cost of Tk 32.22 crore.

"Khulna had witnessed some of the worst atrocities in 1971, including the Chuknagar and Gallamari mass killings. That is why the museum was established in Khulna," said renowned historian Prof Muntassir Mamoon, who inaugurated the museum in 2014.

"The museum aims to educate people,

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Metro open for extra  
hour from today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The metro trains will run for one extra hour starting today - the 16th of Ramadan, aiming to facilitate the passengers further.

The last train from Motijheel will leave at 9:40pm and the last train from Uttara North at 9:00pm, said MAN Siddique, managing director of Dhaka Mass Transit Company Ltd (DMTCL).

Trains from both ends will run every 12 minutes during the last hour of operation.

Ticket counters will close at 8:50pm and only those with MRT and Rapid passes will be able to avail metro service after that time.

Till yesterday, metro rail ran until 8:00pm from the Uttara end and until 8:40pm from Motijheel end.

MAN Siddique said it is likely that the extended hours will continue after the Eid-ul-Fitr holidays. The service will be closed on Eid day.

He also said they were working to increase the frequency of trains during peak hours. Currently, metro rail trains run at intervals of eight minutes during peak hours.

Replying to a question, he said the number of train passengers decreased during Ramadan.

He said around 2.46 lakh people use metro rail daily during Ramadan, while 2.95 lakh passengers took the service daily before Ramadan. "However, we are increasing the service time..."

Meanwhile, he said erection of viaduct on Motijheel-Kamalapur section began on March 23, and already three viaducts had been installed. He hoped to bring this section into service within June next year.

## HOLIDAY SEASON

Air tickets on high  
demand despite  
high price

RASHIDUL HASAN

Ahead of the extended holidays on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr and Pahela Baishakh on April 10-14, the demand for air tickets is soaring.

Sources at the country's four airlines - Biman, US-Bangla, Novoair, and Air Astra - said many people are opting for flights to reach tourist destinations at home and abroad to spend their holidays.

Air tickets for domestic destinations, especially Saidpur, Rajshahi, Jashore, and Sylhet, have become scarce due to the increased demand. As such, ticket prices on different domestic routes have also increased by more than double, said the sources.

"Around 70 percent of tickets for different domestic destinations from April 6 (25th Ramadan) onward have already been sold," said Kamrul Islam, general manager (public relations), US-Bangla Airlines.

Ohidul Islam, a private job holder, said, "Although the ticket price is high, I prefer to travel by air to spend the Eid holidays with my family in Rajshahi to avoid hassles of road or rail journeys."

Demand for air tickets on Dhaka-Saidpur and Dhaka-Rajshahi is particularly high, as it usually takes around 14 to 15 hours for holidaymakers to reach their destinations in the northern region.

Also, demand is high for air tickets to Cox's Bazar, a popular holiday destination in the country.

"People who bought tickets one or two months ago

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A woman collecting empty bottles, single-use boxes and polybags at the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan yesterday morning. Carelessly discarded in the open by visitors, these non-biodegradable plastic wastes pose a serious threat to the park's ecology while also damaging its beauty.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN