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PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

A long line of vehicles outside the Trust Filling Station (not in frame) near the Bijoy Sarani intersection in the capital yesterday. Since the US-Israel war on Iran, queues have been long at the pumps. Fuel rationing was imposed, but yesterday all restrictions were withdrawn.

CANAL RESTORATION PM launches nationwide drive today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman is scheduled to visit Dinajpur today to inaugurate a nationwide canal excavation and re-excavation programme aimed at improving irrigation, restoring water flow, and strengthening rural water management.

The initiative revives a programme originally introduced by BNP founder and late president Ziaur Rahman, who launched canal excavation across the country. The ruling BNP government is restarting the programme in line with its election manifesto.

The prime minister will formally inaugurate the nationwide programme through the re-excavation of a 12-kilometre canal in the Balrampur Sahapara area of Kaharol upazila in Dinajpur. The inauguration ceremony will be held virtually while excavation work begins at the site.

In the first phase, the programme will be implemented in 54 districts across the country. On the same day, ministers, state ministers, whips and members of parliament will inaugurate similar excavation programmes in other districts.

According to the schedule released by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), Tarique will fly from Dhaka to Saidpur Airport this morning. From there, he will travel by road to the Balrampur Sahapara area to launch

Dinosaur fossils in Brazil reveal new giant species

REUTERS, Sao Paulo

Brazilian scientists have identified a new species of giant dinosaur with ties to a similar animal found in Spain, reinforcing knowledge that land routes once connected parts of South America, Africa and Europe about 120 million years ago.

Named Dasosaurus tocantinensis, the species is one of the biggest found in the South American country and was described this month in the Journal of Systematic Palaeontology.

The fossils were uncovered in 2021 at a site hosting infrastructure works near Davinopolis, in Brazil's northeastern state of Maranhao, and the research was led by Elver Mayer of the Federal University of the Sao Francisco Valley.

The remains include a femur measuring about 1.5 meters (59 inches), which helped researchers estimate the animal stretched roughly 20 meters long.

"As the excavation progressed over the days, we began to see the evidence of that huge bone, which is the femur," said Leonardo Kerber, a



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

People through the roadside clothing stalls to complete their Eid shopping at the Gulistan area yesterday around noon.

Head

P3

HASANAH ISLAMIC BANKING
البنكية الاسلامي
Prime Bank

PRAYER TIMING
MARCH 16

	Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	4:54	12:45	4:30	6:10	7:45
JAMAAT	5:04	1:15	4:45	6:20	8:15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING

RAMADAN	MAR	SEHRI	IFTAR
26	16		6:10
27	17	4:50	6:10
28	18	4:49	6:10