

PADMA BRIDGE: AN AUDACIOUS DREAM COMES TRUE

THE DAILY Star ON FRIDAY

REGULAR NEWSPAPER INSIDE

REGD. NO. DA 781 | VOL. XXX No. 319 | AGRAHAN 26, 1427 BS | **Your Right to Know** | RABIU SANI 25, 1442 HJRI | 20 PAGES PLUS TOGGLE PRICE : Tk12.00

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE ACCOMPLISHED

A bridge of Bangladesh's very own finally comes to reality riding through rough waters

WASIM BIN HABIB AND TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Mizanur Rahman stood still, gazing with awe from the bank of the Padma river at the specialised floating crane laying down the last span on the mega structure yesterday.

As the 150-metre span was finally placed on pillars 12 and 13 at the Mawa end, he was thrilled and elated to see the full structure of the Padma bridge.

"Look, here is our dream bridge standing tall. What a great engineering feat it is!" marvelled Mizanur, pointing to the 6.15km bridge that became fully visible for the first time.

The Padma bridge is not a dream anymore; it's now a reality. The mega bridge is expected to be a huge boon for the underdeveloped south and south-western region of Bangladesh.

But decades ago, it was rather an audacious dream, a daunting challenge to tame the turbulent river. Crossing the mighty Padma has always been strenuous and sometimes dangerous due to unreliable and limited ferry connections and long waits for crowded boats and launches.

SEE J3

KEY DATES

Pre-feasibility study **1998-1999**

Feasibility study **2003-2005**

ECNEC approval **Aug 20, 2007**

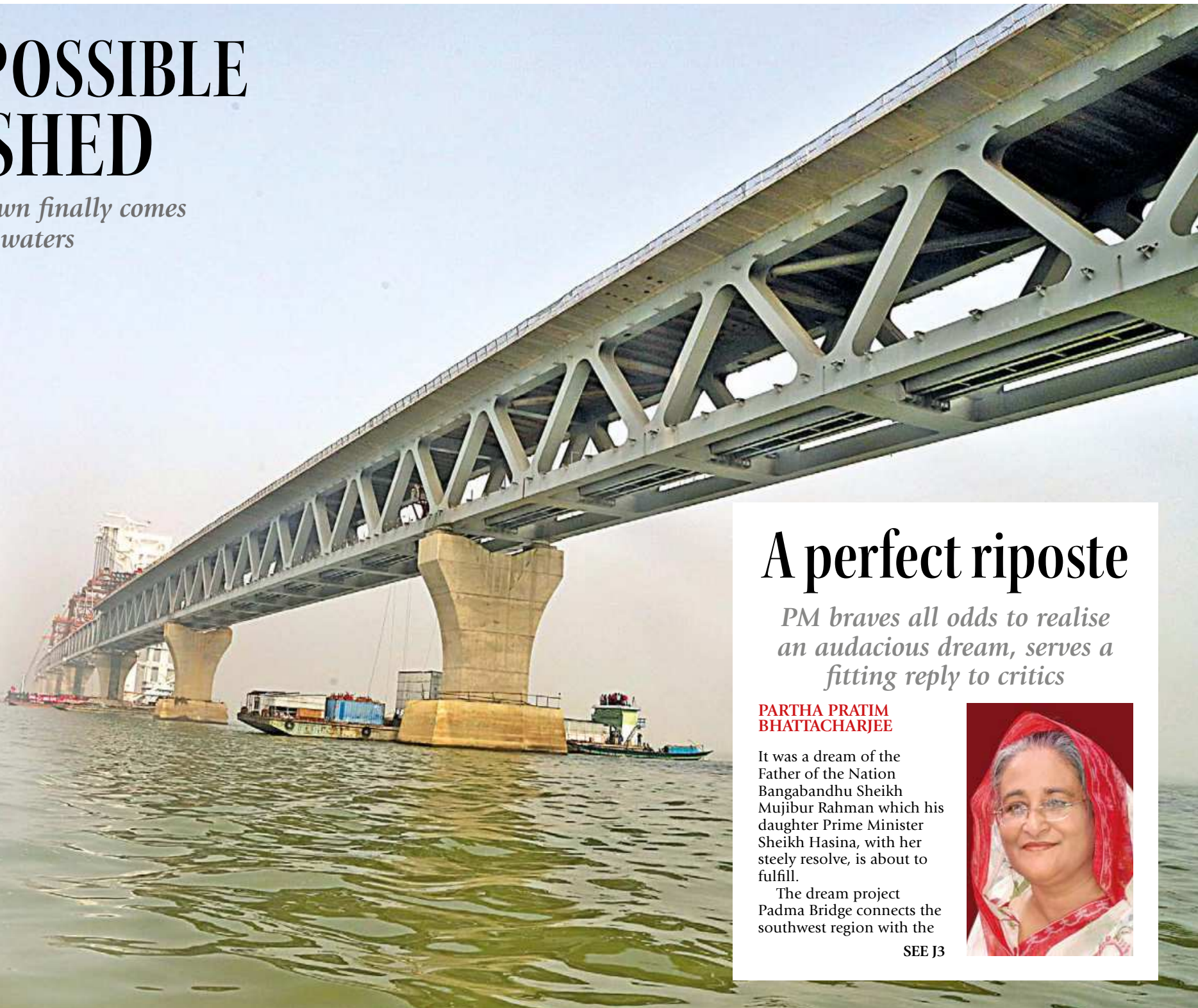
Physical work began **Nov 26, 2014**

PM formally inaugurated work on **Dec 12, 2015**

First span installed on **Sept 30, 2017**

Last and 41st span installed on **Dec 10, 2020**

SCAN THE QR CODE TO WATCH THE INTERVIEW



A perfect riposte

PM braves all odds to realise an audacious dream, serves a fitting reply to critics

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

It was a dream of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman which his daughter Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, with her steely resolve, is about to fulfill.

The dream project Padma Bridge connects the southwest region with the

SEE J3



PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Although the world denied, Bangladesh kept the dream alive and now it is about to become a reality...



Bonayan dreams of continuing its 40 years' legacy to build **A Greener Bangladesh**. We aim to continue working in harmony with the government and society to create **A Better Tomorrow**.



110 million saplings since 1980

Largest private sector-driven afforestation programme



A few of Bonayan's iconic projects

