

Set up museum near Padma Bridge : PM

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Dhaka : Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has directed the authorities concerned to set up a museum near the Bhanga area of the 6.15 km long Padma Multipurpose Bridge. The types of equipment and materials used for the construction of the dream bridge will be displayed at the establishment, said State Minister for Planning Shamsul Alam while briefing the media after an Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (EcneC) meeting on June 14.

The meeting was held at the NEC conference room of the Planning Commission in Dhaka's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar area which the prime minister chaired virtually.

Sheikh Hasina, while addressing the meeting, said that the bridge's construction cost, excluding the effects of inflation, did not cross the government stipulated amount, the state minister added.

Besides, the premier would take group photos with everyone from workers to secretaries, involved with the mega project, and the photos would be displayed in the museum, he said.

The start of vehicular traffic through the much-awaited Padma Bridge on the morning of June 26, a day after its ceremonial opening by the Prime Minister, will herald a groundbreaking change in the country's road communication.

Engineers and workers are working round the clock giving final touches to the country's largest infrastructure project that will greatly shorten the travel time between the 21 southwestern districts and capital Dhaka.

The bridge is also expected to boost trade and commerce with Bangladesh's entire southwestern region.

Shafiqul Islam, project director (PD) of the Padma Bridge, said, there will be 400 lights in the 40-pillar bridge and these are being tested in the process of fine-tuning.

Besides, work is underway to install 200 more street lights and provide electricity on the connecting roads between the two ends of the bridge.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate Padma Bridge on June 25 at 10 am. "The Prime Minister's car will cross the four-lane bridge paying the first toll," said PD Shafiqul.

A public meeting will be held after the inauguration at Jajira end where about 10 lac people are expected to gather, he added