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**SHAH CEMENT**

# Rain, river swelling cause floods

Crops damaged in several districts; Met office warns of more downpour

**STAR REPORT**

Incessant rainfall coupled with the onrush of water in rivers from upstream has triggered flash floods in different regions across the country.

People of flood-hit regions are going through difficulties as their households have been submerged. Farmers are fearing big losses as a vast area of farmland have been inundated, damaging crops.

Administrative officials concerned said that they have sufficient relief materials for the victims.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Meteorological Department forecast that light to moderate rainfall is likely to occur in many parts of the country today.

In Lalmonirhat, some fresh areas were inundated by floodwater yesterday.

The water of the Teesta river was flowing above 15cm above the danger level at Hatibandha's Teesta barrage point yesterday morning, said Abdul Quader, sub-divisional engineer of Lalmonirhat of Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB).

Over 1.5 lakhs people have been stranded in more than 100 villages of five upazilas in the district, according to BWDB officials.

Many people have taken shelter on roads and safe high places with their livestock and essentials.

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Even a week ago, the mighty Jamuna was flowing around 200 meters away from Chardighapara Government Primary School. The authorities of the school in Bogura's Sariakandi upazila are moving its furniture on a boat to higher grounds fearing the school could be destroyed by river erosion.

PHOTO: MOSTAFA SHABUJ

## SUED UNDER DSA RU suspends arrested teacher

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, RU**

The authorities of Rajshahi University yesterday suspended the teacher who was arrested under the Digital Security Act for "criticising" former health minister Mohammed Nasim.

Kazi Jahidur Rahman, an assistant professor of Computer Science and Engineering, was arrested from his campus residence in the midnight of June 17 in a case filed under the DSA.

The decision of suspension was taken in a syndicate meeting held at the vice-chancellor's office in the morning, with VC Prof M Abdus Sobhan in the chair.

Prof Abdul Alim, a syndicate member, confirmed the matter to The Daily Star. He said the decision was taken following the university act.

Earlier on June 16, Tapos Kumar, a lawyer, filed a case against the teacher

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## CASH ASSISTANCE LIST 2 'NIDs' for 72 names!

**MINTU DESHWARA**

Irregularities have been found in government cash assistance lists for tea workers in Moulvibazar, with fake NID numbers used multiple times.

The Department of Social Services recently gave a Tk 5,000 cheque each to 2,113 tea workers of 22 tea gardens in Kamalganj upazila of Moulvibazar, under a government programme to improve impoverished tea workers' living standards.

On June 6, 601 workers of Shamsheernagar, Kanihati, Deochhara, Baghichhara and Doublechhara tea gardens received their cheques, which were distributed by a local lawmaker of Moulvibazar.

On examining the lists, however, 72 workers' names in Shamsheernagar and Kanihati tea gardens were found against the numbers of two national identity cards (NIDs).

Workers' representatives also said the list included names of those who are not even tea garden workers.

Makhan Bin, who is the first entry on the list of Kanihati tea garden workers, is listed against the NID No 581568595. The

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## FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES Simla Conference begins



**A delegation of journalists calls on Bangabandhu at his official residence on June 24, 1972.**

**June 28, 1972**  
**SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN**

**BANGLADESH ISSUE DOMINATES SIMLA DISCUSSION**

The Simla Conference between the Indian prime minister Indira Gandhi and Pakistani president Zulfikar Ali Bhutto begins in Simla, India. The conference aims at "putting an end to the conflict and confrontation that have hitherto marred their relations". It also conceives the steps to be taken for further normalisation of mutual relations. It is well understood that the Bangladesh issue dominates the discussions of the conference. Bangladesh government is being informed about the updates of the meeting on a constant basis.

Following the birth of Bangladesh and India's key role in

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## MURDER OF JL LEADER Suspect killed in 'gunfight'

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, CIG**

The lone accused in the murder case of a Jubo League activist was killed in an alleged gunfight with police in Chattogram's Satkania upazila early today.

The dead is Md Sohel, 32, of Bardona area in Satkania, our Chattogram correspondent reports quoting police.

"Following Sohel's arrest, police took him to Kotawal Dighirpar in Gazirpara area where the Mosaddekur Rahman of Jubo League was murdered. They took Sohel there to recover the knife which was used in the killing and dumped in a pond," Sofiul Kabir, officer-in-charge (OC) of Satkania Police Station said told this newspaper.

When police reached the spot, "criminals who were

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## Volcano that rocked ancient Rome found



**CNN ONLINE**

In the years after the assassination of Julius Caesar in ancient Rome, historical accounts paint a picture of unusual cold, food shortages, disease and famine that accompanied a pivotal moment in Western history.

Historians had long suspected that this unexplained extreme weather could be linked to a volcanic eruption, but they had been unable to pinpoint where or when such an eruption had occurred or how severe it was. Candidates had included volcanoes in Nicaragua, Sicily and Kamchatka in Russia's Far East.

After analysing ash trapped in ice and other records, an international group of scientists and

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## ANTI-RACISM PROTEST Trump signs order to protect statues

**AFP, Washington**

US President Donald Trump on Friday signed an executive order pledging to enforce prosecution for protesters who vandalise public memorials, as he announced he was skipping a weekend at his New Jersey golf resort to ensure "LAW & ORDER" in Washington.

Trump's order follows a wave of civil unrest across America triggered by the killing of unarmed African American George Floyd, who died while a white Minneapolis police officer knelt on his neck.

In some cities, protesters have pulled down or vandalized statues and memorials of historical figures -- such as Confederate leaders -- who defended slavery.

"I just had the privilege of signing a very strong

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## 80 homes, shops gutted in Bandarban

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban**

Around 80 shops and houses were burnt to ashes in a devastating fire at Rowangchhari Bazar of Bandarban early yesterday.

Quoting locals, Rowangchhari UNO Mehedi Hasan said the fire might have broken out due to a short circuit in an electricity wire of a poultry shop at the market.

The fire mostly damaged grocery, clothing, hardware, and food shops and pharmacies. It gutted properties worth around Tk 3 crore, the UNO added.

Mong Swe Nu

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A girl, astonished by what has happened to her home, sits in the middle of the gutted shanties at Titipara slum in the capital's Kamalapur yesterday. Scores of shanties were burnt to the ground in the early morning fire yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## US hits record daily cases

*Top virus expert warns Americans facing 'serious problem' in certain areas; India passes 500,000 cases*

**AGENCIES**

America's top infectious diseases expert has warned the United States is facing a "serious problem" from a resurgent coronavirus as the illness puts the brakes on reopening two of the country's largest states.

Texas and Florida closed bars and re-imposed other curbs on Friday as the number of infections in the US hit a single-day record with increases in 16 states, mostly in the south and west.

The contagion also continued its march through Latin America, where Brazil recorded another 1,140 deaths and Argentina toughened a lockdown in the capital Buenos Aires.

India now has more than 500,000 confirmed cases, according to government figures that show a record daily leap of 18,500 new infections.

"Unlike China, where the pandemic was relatively more concentrated around Wuhan and a few other cities, India has a more diffused spread that makes it a bit more challenging for the healthcare system," said Anant Bhan, a leading public health expert.

India may see several peaks in coming months because the spread of the virus "is variable across the country", he said.

In Europe countries wrangled over plans to partially reopen the EU border, with officials fretting over the reliability of virus data from abroad, notably China, where Covid-19 first emerged late last year.

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**PRAYER TIMING JUNE 28**

Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
4:05	12:45	5:00	6:54	8:17
JAMAT	4:40	1:15	5:15	6:57

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION