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# Flood washes away roads, embankments

14 rivers flow above danger level; forecast grim

STAR REPORT

Many embankments, roads and homesteads have been damaged in many districts of the country due to flood, causing immense sufferings to people. Water of the Brahmaputra, the Jamuna, the Padma and the Meghna may further rise, according to a bulletin of Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC).

Some 14 rivers across the country were flowing above danger marks, said the bulletin.

Around 30 villages in Sadar upazila have been flooded freshly as around 400 meters of Dharla's alternative dyke collapsed in Kurigram.

"Our entire union has been submerged after the dyke collapsed," said Omar Farooq, chairman of Holokhana Union Parishad in the upazila.

He also alleged that the dyke collapsed due to negligence of Water Development Board (WDB).

However, Ariful Islam, executive engineer of Kurigram WDB, said locals cut the dyke indiscriminately. It had made the dyke vulnerable and collapse.

The Dharla was flowing 100 cm above the danger level at Dharla River Bridge point in Kurigram Sadar upazila and the Brahmaputra was flowing 85 cm above the danger level at Chilmari point.

In Lalmonirhat, eight villages at Gaddimari union in Hatibandha upazila have been flooded by the Teesta as around 100 meters river-side road damaged.

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Since floodwaters broke the Sunamganj-Tahirpur road, motorcyclists have been forced to carry their vehicles on boats to cross the area. Inset, the police super's office in Hajipara got inundated after the area was hit by flash floods triggered by heavy rain and upstream water.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

## AL runners victorious in Bogura-1, Jashore-6

STAR REPORT

Awami League candidates Shahdhara Mannan and Shahin Chakladar have respectively won the by-polls to Bogura-1 and Jashore-6 constituencies amid low voter turnout due to flood and the coronavirus outbreak.

In Bogura-1 (Sonatala and Sariakandi upazilas), five candidates, including AL candidate Mannan and JP candidate Moksedul Alam, took part in the by-election.

Mannan bagged 145,295 and her nearest contender independent candidate Md Yasir Rahamatullah Intaz got 1,563 votes. Jatiya Party candidate Moksedul Alam received 1,251 votes.

In Jashore-6 (Keshabpur), only two candidates contested for the

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## SEX TRADE RACKET CID looking for cohorts of Azam Khan

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

Alamin Hossain alias Diamond used to call himself a dance teacher and had been running a so-called dance academy in the capital's Mirpur for the last eight years.

He had some female staffers who were assigned to bring young and underprivileged girls to the academy for "dance practice". Once the girls were in, Alamin would offer them jobs abroad with lucrative pay scheme.

Those who would fall into this trap were taken to meet Azam Khan, the ringleader of the sex-trafficking racket that police recently busted, for "final selection".

After getting confirmation from Azam, his accomplices would manage passports and other documents to send the girls to Dubai.

When the girls would

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## Scientists discover tiny dinosaur ancestor



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

A pocket-sized, insect-eating reptile that lived 237 million years ago was an ancestor of giant dinosaurs that went on to dominate the world, newly studied fossils suggest.

Kongonaphon kely, whose scientific name means "tiny bug slayer," stood at just 10cm (4ins) tall and 40cm (16ins) long. It inhabited a floodplain region of what is now southwestern Madagascar during the Triassic period, according to scientists who unveiled the species this week.

A long-legged and possibly bipedal predator, the Kongonaphon was a member of a group called Ornithodira, which evolved into dinosaurs and their flying cousins pterosaurs. The origins of

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

## DIGITAL LAND SURVEY Ecneec gives go ahead to 2 projects

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To reduce public sufferings and ensure transparency, the government is going to bring the land-related services of the whole country, except the three hill districts, under automation.

People are likely to get the services from mid-2025.

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecneec) yesterday approved two projects involving around Tk 2,410 crore in this regard.

The Ecneec meeting, presided over by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was held via video conference.

Under the project titled "Increase Capacity of Department of Land Records and Surveys to Conduct Digital Land Survey", the land of Barguna and Patuakhali

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

### Special envoys to arab countries

July 15, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

#### ALLOWANCES FOR DEPENDENTS OF STRANDED BANGLAHEES

Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman today issues an order that the dependants of the civilians and member of the armed forces now detained in Pakistan should be paid subsistence allowance by the government. The subsistence allowance will be to the extent of one-third of their pay, subject to a minimum of Tk 100 and maximum of Tk 400.

#### TWO SPECIAL ENVOYS APPOINTED

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad announces today that two special emissaries of Prime Minister Sheikh Mujibur Rahman will very soon visit

Arab and African countries to establish direct contacts and project Bangladesh's cause to these countries. The special emissaries will also create opinion in those countries for the repatriation of Bangalees stranded in Pakistan. Iqbal Athar, a former Pakistani non-Bangalee Ambassador in Sweden who resigned after the army crackdown in Bangladesh protesting against the genocide will be the prime minister's special envoy to the Arab countries. MH Ahmed, an officer on special duty in Bangladesh Foreign Office and former Pakistani Ambassador to Lebanon, will visit the



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## Handcuffed body found in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police found a man's handcuffed body in Chattogram's Anwara upazila early yesterday.

As the victim's face, aged between 25 and 30, is totally decomposed, he could not

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#### PRAYER TIMING JULY 15

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-15 12-45 5-00 6-54 8-15  
JAMAAT 4-50 1-15 5-15 6-58 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Police and the members of leftist alliance Pragatishil Shangathan get locked in a clash at Zero Point near the health ministry yesterday. The left activists had gone there to lay siege to the ministry building to protest the corruption in the healthcare system, which is being increasingly exposed in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

## CORONAVIRUS TREATMENT Antibodies from llamas can help

AGENCIES

UK researchers are celebrating a breakthrough in efforts to develop an effective coronavirus treatment based upon the immune response of llamas.

Antibodies derived from llamas have been found to block coronavirus from entering human cells, in a study published in Nature Structural & Molecular Biology on Monday.

Laboratory tests have shown the antibodies can fight the coronavirus - and scientists hope to be able to push the

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## Millions back into lockdown

India's tech hub, other towns re-impose curbs, California rolls back reopening plans

AGENCIES

Cities and states on several continents re-imposed restrictions as new coronavirus infections spread like wildfire.

India's IT hub Bangalore went into a new week-long lockdown yesterday, while new economic figures from Singapore to Britain revealed the shocking extent of the damage wreaked by the global pandemic.

California drastically rolled back its reopening plans on Monday and ordered all indoor restaurants, bars and cinemas to close again as cases soared across America's richest and most populous state.

Latin America on Monday recorded the world's second-highest death

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## Congratulations



Iftekharul Islam  
Vice-Chairman  
Uttara Bank Limited

Mr. Iftekharul Islam, the Managing Director of Aftab Group, a young entrepreneur and industrialist, has been elected the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Uttara Bank Limited, Vice Chairman of the Executive Committee and Chairman of the Risk Management Committee.

Mr. Iftekharul Islam is also the Chairman of Uttara Bank Securities Limited (Brokerage House), a subsidiary company of Uttara Bank Limited & UB Capital and Investment Limited a Merchant Bank which is also a subsidiary company of Uttara Bank.

He is also a member of the Executive Committee and General Body of the Bank Owners Association "Bangladesh Association of Banks". We heartily congratulate him for his success.

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- ♦ Aftab Cotton Mills Ltd. ♦ Aftab Holdings Ltd. ♦ Aftab Properties Ltd. (A Property Holding Company) ♦ Aftab Real Estate Ltd. ♦ Aftab Construction Ltd. ♦ Aftab Hotels & Resorts Ltd.
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