



# The Daily Star



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<b>BANGLADESH UPDATE</b>	<b>2,907</b> New cases in 24hrs	<b>2,60,507</b> Total cases	<b>3,438</b> Deaths	<b>1,50,437</b> Recoveries	<b>GLOBAL UPDATE</b>	<b>735,341</b> Deaths	<b>20,105,982</b> Total cases
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## 'Drama by cops' gone wrong

Some policemen took the bomb inside Pallabi Police Station to stage a bomb-recovery and frame someone in a case. But due to clumsy handling, it exploded in an officer's room, injuring four policemen and a civilian at the station on July 29.

Officials familiar with the matter said a section of crooked policemen "collected" the bomb which was fitted inside a weighing machine from the associates of a local political leader. The aim was to frame the associates of another leader.

And they received hefty sums to pull off the staged "bomb recovery", the officials said, requesting not to be named.

After the explosion, Dhaka Metropolitan Police formed a three-member committee led by Joint Commissioner (operations) Monir Hossain to investigate the incident.

The committee concluded that the policemen posted at Pallabi Police Station were solely responsible.

The officers were not supposed to take the bomb inside the police station and they did not inform the bomb disposal unit on time, the investigators said after a weeklong probe.

The investigators also said the officer-in-charge of Pallabi Police Station and deputy commissioner of Mirpur Division failed to give proper instructions regarding the situation.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



Standing in over ankle-deep water, a boy opens the tap of a line from a water pump in Bagpara of the capital's Nasirabad area. As the locality does not get water supply from Dhaka Wasa, locals have to rely on this pump, which they set up two years ago. Together, they also pay for the electricity needed to pump up the water. Each line supplies water to 70-75 households. The photo was taken on Friday, when the place got waterlogged after rain.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## Bangladesh confirms over 2.6 lakh virus cases

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh's officially confirmed novel coronavirus cases went up to 260,507 with the detection of 2,907 new cases in 24 hours till 8:30am yesterday.

The death tally rose to 3,438 with 39 new deaths, said Dr Nasima Sultana, additional director general of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), at a regular online briefing in the afternoon.

Of the deceased, 79.14 percent are men and 20.86 percent women.

Bangladesh's fatality rate stands at 1.3 percent while the recovery rate is 57.7 percent. The country reported its first Covid-19 cases on March 8 and the first death on March 18.

Labs around the country SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

## Sefat gets out on bail

Shipra, Sefat have to stay in Cox's Bazar for quizzing

STAR REPORT

Stamford University student Shahadul Islam Sefat was released yesterday from jail after a Cox's Bazar court granted him bail in two separate cases -- murder and narcotics -- filed by Teknaf police.

The court also ordered the handing over of the investigation of the two cases to the Rapid Action Battalion instead of police, Sefat's lawyer Mohammad Mostafa told The Daily Star.

Around 2:15pm, Sefat came out of Cox's Bazar Jail. Witnesses said that he was escorted by plainclothes men in a silver coloured microbus without a number plate. No media could talk to him.

Speaking to The Daily Star later in the afternoon, Sefat's uncle Masum Billah said Sefat was with him in Cox's Bazar and they

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

## SINHA MURDER CASE Four accused give 'vital info'

Rab seeks their 10-day remand

STAR REPORT

The investigation officer of the Maj (retd) Sinha murder case yesterday sought 10-day remand for four of the seven accused as they "disclosed very important information" during a two-day interrogation at jail gate.

"We have gleaned very important and sensitive information from the four accused. So, we sought their remand from the court for quizzing them intensively," Lt Col Ashik Billah, director of Rab Media Wing, told The Daily Star yesterday.

He, however, refused to disclose the information gleaned from them during their grilling at the Cox's Bazar jail gate.

The Rab official, however, said the four accused, who were on duty at the check post in Teknaf where Maj (retd) Sinha Md Rashed Khan was shot dead, gave details of the incident during interrogation.

About the three key accused in the case, he said, "After collecting more information, we will take them in custody and interrogate them."

The three are suspended police officers Pradeep Kumar Das, former officer-in-charge of Teknaf Police Station, Inspector Liaqat Ali, and Sub-Inspector Nandadulal Rakhshit. Liaqat is the main accused in the case.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

## Be ready to deal with long-lasting flood

PM asks officials

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed the authorities concerned to make preparations in advance to face any possible long-term flood as forecasted by the meteorological department.

She gave the directive during the weekly cabinet meeting. The PM chaired the virtual meeting through videoconferencing from the Gono Bhaban, while the other cabinet members joined from the secretariat.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, Cabinet Secretary Khandker Anwarul Islam said, "The prime minister has made us

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

## Kotwali OC, 4 cops sued for extortion

Trader claims they took Tk 3.5 lakh threatening him; court orders PBI to probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five members of the capital's Kotwali police station were sued in an extortion case yesterday and Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) was instructed to carry out the investigation.

The accused are Officer-in-Charge Mohammed Mizanur Rahman, sub-inspectors Pabitra Sarkar and Sheikh Khalid, Assistant Sub-inspector Shahinur Rahman and constable Md Mizan.

Magistrate Abdus Sufian Mohammed Noman of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court-31 in Dhaka accepted the case and instructed the PBI to look into it, said Md Zakir Hossain Hawlader, lawyer for the plaintiff.

The plaintiff, Sohel Miah, a 50-year-old cloth trader and also toll collector at Waizghat in Old Dhaka, alleged that SI Pabitra and the others extorted Tk 3.5 lakh from his family by threatening to falsely implicate him in a case.

The case document says, "The incident happened on August 8, at about 4:00pm. I had just crossed the river on a boat and was coming ashore Waizghat when the sub-inspectors, the assistant SI, and the constable

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Nasima Akhter, mother of former army major Sinha Rashed Md Khan, speaks at a briefing at her home in the capital's Uttara yesterday. Sinha was killed in police firing in Teknaf on July 31.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## REDUCING ROAD CRASHES Activities aplenty, achievements little

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Whenever a major road accident occurs, people of the country see the same old tired response from the government.

Amid public outrage, probe committees are formed in no time at all, recommendations are made, and that is the job done. A majority of the recommendations of these investigation committees are left to gather dust in some bureaucratic labyrinth till the next major crash stirs public emotion.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

## CHINESE VACCINE Decision on phase-III trial next week

MOUDDUD AHMED SUJAN

The health ministry is going to sit next week to decide phase-III clinical trial of a Chinese Covid-19 vaccine, its Secretary Abdul Mannan said.

"There is no decision [on icddr,b's vaccine trial] yet. [We] will sit next week," Mannan said while talking to The Daily Star

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

# Janata Bank Ltd.

## Credit Rating Report

Rating Mode	Long Term	Short Term
Government Support	AAA	ST-1
Without Government Support	A	ST-2
Outlook	Developing	
Date of Rating	19 July 2020	
Expiry Date	18 July 2021	

**AAA** Bank rated in this category is adjudged to be of best quality, offer highest safety and have highest credit quality.

**A** Bank rated in this category is adjudged to offer adequate safety for timely repayment of financial obligations.

**ST-1** Highest Grade: Highest Certainty of timely payment. Short-term liquidity including internal fund generation is very strong and access to alternative sources of funds is outstanding. Safety is almost like risk free Government short term obligations.

**ST-2** High Grade: High certainty of timely payment. Liquidity factors are strong and supported by good fundamental protection factors. Risk factors are very small.

The above rating has been done by Credit Rating Information and Services Limited on the basis of audited financial statements of YE 2015-2019 and other available quantitative and qualitative information up to the date of rating declaration. The affirmed rating reflects the strengths of the bank, which is backed by its support from the government being a government owned bank, dynamic guidance of the Board of Directors, experienced management, good liquidity position, good market share, diversified earnings and country-wide network of branches.

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