



The Daily Star



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BANGLADESH UPDATE **2,265** New cases in 24hrs **2,92,625** Total cases **3,907** Deaths **1,76,567** Recoveries **GLOBAL UPDATE** **805,300** Deaths **23,235,279** Total cases

Sultan of swindle

ACC probe shows how PK Halder went to great lengths to pocket Tk 3,500cr from 4 NBFIs

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

He created some businesses that exist only on papers, took loans from one non-banking financial institution and used the money to buy shares of another to gain control of the latter.



Eventually Prashanta Kumar Halder took loans from four non-banking financial institutions (NBFIs) and is believed to have left the country with at least Tk 3,500 crore.

The four NBFIs are now in serious crisis, officials said.

But far from being bothered by law, he now lives in Canada.

The NBFIs he had ravaged are People's Leasing and Financial Services, International Leasing and Financial Services Ltd, Reliance Finance Limited, and FAS Finance and Investment Ltd.

The allegations against Halder were made after the ACC launched an enquiry into illegal casino owners last year. On January 8 this year, the Anti-Corruption Commission filed a case against him for amassing property worth around Tk 274.91 crore from unknown sources.

In order to hoodwink any future investigation, the suspected fraudster, better known as PK Halder, used to move his money among multiple financial institutions

and accounts.

PK Halder was a deputy managing director of Industrial and Infrastructure Development Finance Company Limited (IIDFC) in 2008. He joined Reliance Finance as its managing director in 2009. He became the managing director of NRB Global Bank in July 2015.

Between 2015 and 2019, his cousin Amitav Adhikari was the director of People's Leasing and Financial Services and former colleague Uzzal Kumar Nandi was its Chairman.

Amitav is also the managing director of Anan Chemicals. Its current director and chairman is Uzzal and his wife Anita Kar is its director. Although they were at the helm of the organisation, PK Halder was its actual owner, ACC officials said.

Anan Chemicals borrowed Tk 70.82 crore from International Leasing and Financial Services (ILFS) in 2015 to expand the business.

"But they mostly laundered the money out of the country," said an investigator requesting anonymity.

The probe found that no collateral was kept against the loan probably because PK Halder owned shares in the company.

Of the money, about Tk 5 crore was transferred to Ookayama Limited -- another

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Rayhan Kabir, the Bangladeshi who was arrested in Malaysia for speaking to Al Jazeera about state of Bangladeshis there, hugs his father in a car after returning home. They broke into tears as soon as they were reunited outside Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport early yesterday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Import of 20 products drop by a quarter

NBR loses Tk 5,554 crore in revenue

MOHAMMAD SUMAN, Chattogram

Import of 20 items dropped by 25 percent in the fiscal year 2019-20 compared to the previous fiscal year, shows customs and NBR data.

Those items include recondition cars, trucks, piston engines, motorcycles, high-speed diesel fuel, lubricants, crude oil, lube-base oils, scrap vessels, petroleum oil, cement clinker, finished ceramic products, wires of refined copper, and betel nut.

Importers and customs officials said the main reasons for the drop in imports were closure of industrial units and fewer vehicles plying amid the pandemic since March.

The other reasons include decline in power demand, hike in prices of some goods in the international market, fall in demand of some products, and increase in production of some others in the domestic market, they said.

According to data from Chittagong

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'Rab trying to frame' trader

Alleges family over arms case, says business rivalry behind it; crime busters deny allegation

FM MIZANUR RAHAMAN

The family of a businessman has accused a Rab team of arresting him in a false arms case because of his rivalry with a business partner in Anwara upazila of Chattogram.

However, the elite force officials said the arrestee, Md Nasir Uddin Shah, 43, son of late Abdul Sabur Shah, is a criminal and used to extort money from people.

They also claim to have recovered seven machetes, one Chinese axe, one shotgun and two cartridges from his bedroom on the third floor of Imam Shopping Centre in Battoli area of the upazila. However, the family alleged that a young man in civil clothes placed those under the bed during the drive.

Talking to The Daily Star on Friday, Nasir's younger brother Nazim Uddin Shah said, "My brother has the showroom of Malai Sweet on the ground floor of Imam Shopping Centre and he also has a fish farming project with Akhtaruzzaman Khan Mizan for the last eight years in Anwara's Lusai Park area.

"Recently, a rift started between the two over a financial issue of the fish project and some influential locals were trying to settle the matter through discussion."

Around 11:00am on August 18, an arbitration was arranged to solve the issues between Nasir and Mizan at Lusai Park. A team of Rab appeared all of a sudden and detained Nasir, said Nazim, a grocer by profession.

"We asked for the reason but they [Rab members] did not answer. When they left, we also asked Mizan where they had taken my brother.

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Pandemic may be over in two years

Hopes WHO; reports promising trend in Brazil, US

AGENCIES

The world should be able to rein in the coronavirus pandemic in less than two years, the World Health Organization said, as the number of deaths from the disease surpassed 800,000 around the world yesterday.

Western Europe has been enduring the kind of infection levels not seen in many months, particularly in Germany, France, Spain and Italy -- sparking fears of a full-fledged second wave.

The number of new infections in Germany topped 2,000 in the past 24 hours, a high not seen since the end of April, with authorities suggesting large numbers of returning tourists may be bringing the virus with them and other experts highlighting a big increase in testing.

South Korea yesterday announced it will ramp up restrictions across the

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Rayhan returns, head held high

He faced tough times for speaking out against Malaysia's mistreatment of migrants

SHARIFUL HASAN

Fajr azaan had just ended. Everyone was awake since midnight at a house in the Bandar area of Narayanganj, especially a mother who was praying since night. Her son was returning home. At five o'clock in the morning on Saturday, her wait ended with the sound of a car.

The car stopped in the Shahi Masjid area. Rayhan had arrived. Rayhan Kabir, for whom everyone had been waiting for so long, got out of the car and started walking towards the house. By that time his mother had also come out. The son practically jumped into his mother's embrace. Both started crying.

It can be hard to believe that crying can contain so much love, happiness and relief. The mother and son were hugging and crying. Rayhan's sister also joined in. His father was watching from a distance. Emotions running high touched the neighbours whose eyes watered too. It was Rayhan who stopped the crying after a few minutes. A bold voice who spoke out against unfairness, his mother should not cry. No more crying.

Rayhan's journey started from Kuala Lumpur at 9pm on Friday, for this long-awaited reunion. He received the message on Friday morning that he could return to Bangladesh at night. Earlier, he had to stay in custody of Malaysian immigration police for 27 days. Before that, Rayhan had to stay in hiding for 21 days. A four-hour interview with him revealed the events

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A car goes almost entirely into a bus after the bus T-boned the car when it was making a U-turn on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in Bhaluka yesterday. Inset, firemen trying to rescue the victims.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

8 killed in Mymensingh road crashes

Four of a family among the dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Eight people, including four of a family, were killed and five others injured in two road crashes in Mymensingh yesterday morning.

Hasna Begum, 30, her son Hasibul Hasan, 8, sister Nazma Begum, 26, and mother-in-law Jannati Begum, 60, their neighbour Billal Hossain, 45, and car driver Monir Hossain, 50, died when a bus rammed into their car on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in Bhaluka.

Five others in the bus were injured in the crash.

The car was making an U-turn on the highway around 8:45am when the bus of Imam Paribahan hit it, said Mohammad Mainuddin, officer-in-charge of Bhaluka Police Station.

Occupants of the car died at the scene, the OC said, adding that the bus driver managed to flee.

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গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
পরিচালকের কার্যালয়
ন্যাশনাল ইনস্টিটিউট অব ইএনটি
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ফোনঃ +৮৮-০২-৮৮৭৮১৫৫ (অফিস), ফ্যাক্সঃ +৮৮-০২-৮৮৭৮১৫০
মারক নং-এনআইইএনটি/প্রশাসন/২০২০/৯০৮ তারিখঃ ২০/০৮/২০২০

সম্পূর্ণ শ্রবণ প্রতিবন্ধীদের কক্লিয়ার ইমপ্লান্ট ডিভাইস প্রাপ্তির আবেদন প্রসঙ্গে

মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনার নির্দেশে সমাজ কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়ের উদ্যোগে জাতীয় নাক কান গলা ইনস্টিটিউট, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকায় সম্পূর্ণ শ্রবণ প্রতিবন্ধী শিশু/ব্যক্তির জন্য বিশ্বের সর্বাধুনিক চিকিৎসা পদ্ধতি কক্লিয়ার ইমপ্লান্ট কার্যক্রম চালু রয়েছে। সমাজ কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়ের নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদেরকে সার্জারীর মাধ্যমে এই ডিভাইস (যন্ত্র) প্রদান করা হয় এবং প্রার্থীদেরকে ডিভাইসের নামমাত্র আংশিক মূল্য পরিশোধ করতে হয়। উল্লেখ্য যে বরাদ্দের ক্ষেত্রে ৫ (পাঁচ) বছরের কম বয়সের শিশুরা অগ্রাধিকার পাবে।

কক্লিয়ার ইমপ্লান্ট ডিভাইস বরাদ্দ পাওয়া ও সার্জারীর মাধ্যমে কানে স্থাপনে অগ্রহীত শ্রবণ প্রতিবন্ধী রোগী/অভিভাবকদের পক্ষ থেকে আবেদন আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। প্রতিদিন সকাল ৯:০০ ঘটিকা হইতে দুপুর ১:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত (ছুটির দিন ব্যতীত) রুম নং ৭০৯ (সত্তম তলা) - কক্লিয়ার ইমপ্লান্ট কার্যক্রম, জাতীয় নাক কান গলা ইনস্টিটিউট, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা এই ঠিকানায় আবেদনপত্র বিতরণ ও জমা নেওয়া হবে। সংগৃহীত আবেদন ও প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্র ই-মেইল (cochlea.nient.bd@gmail.com) অথবা সরাসরি যেকোন একটি মাধ্যমে আগামী ১৫ই সেপ্টেম্বর, ২০২০ তারিখের মধ্যে জমা দেওয়া যাবে।

অধ্যাপক ডাঃ মোঃ আবু হানিফ
পরিচালক কাম অধ্যাপক
ন্যাশনাল ইনস্টিটিউট অব ইএনটি
তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা

জিডি-১৩০৩