

Continue pressure

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“There is visible lack of political will and decisive action in the part of Myanmar government to improve the situation in Rakhine and to repatriate the forcibly displaced Rohingyas. International community should pressure Myanmar government to start time-bound repatriation programme, to allow civilian observers in Rakhine to monitor and guarantee security of the returnees and to ensure that Myanmar government does not erase the evidence of genocide and human rights violations,” said Masud bin Momen.

Dr Imtiaz Ahmed, professor of International Relations and director of Centre for Genocide Studies delivered a presentation at the conference.

“Altogether around 1,000 national and international stakeholders will be connected in the two-day conference over Zoom. Thousands more will join via social media. In the closing ceremony of the conference, Dhaka Declaration-II (2020) will be presented and shared among the stakeholders for the way forward in the Rohingya issue toward justice,” he added.

Farah Kabir, country director, ActionAid Bangladesh delivered vote of thanks to all participants at the inaugural session.

The inaugural session was followed by two panel discussions titled “Rohingya Diaspora: Canada, Saudi Arabia and

Japan” and “Rohingya Diaspora: UK, USA and Thailand” that consisted of Azeem Ibrahim, director, Center for Global Policy in Washington DC, and KAM Morshed, senior director, Brac respectively.

Azeem Ibrahim said, “It is not easy for the Rohingya diaspora to go back to their country. Their repatriation is a very complex process. They have been subjected to abuse for over half a century. The Rohingya Diaspora have to unite with other minority communities to resolve this issue”.

Bangladesh should pursue Myanmar in an aggressive way together with international community to settle the issue, he urged.

Besides, the first day of the conference saw participation from representatives of the Rohingya diaspora, teacher and researchers from Saudi Arabia, Japan, United Kingdom, United States of America and Thailand, who presented their views and research papers.

The discussants focused on violation of human rights, violence, genocide committed by the Myanmar government and their relations with the other countries. The discussants also spoke on the socioeconomic background and political situation of the Rohingya diaspora, and the process of inclusion in the host countries and their future plans to solve the issue.

Stay vigilant

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Parbatipur -- will displace around 4.60 lakh people.

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Nazrul's death

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It will place a wreath at the poet's grave and offer a fateha and dua at 9:00AM.

AL central leaders as well as presidents and secretaries of Dhaka south and north city units and its associate bodies will join the programme while maintaining social distancing.

Led by Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr Aktaruzzaman, teachers, students, officers and employees of the university will place a wreath at the poet's grave after a procession at 7:15AM on the campus.

Later, a virtual discussion will be held at the Professor Abdul Matin Chowdhury Virtual Classroom at 10:30AM with the DU VC in the chair and National Professor Dr Md Rafiqul Islam will address the discussion.

Besides, Bangladesh Betar, Bangladesh Television and other private television channels and radio stations will air special programmes, while national dailies will publish special supplements.

Kazi Nazrul was a poet, lyricist, musician and philosopher.

The nation found inspiration in Nazrul's poems and songs during the 1971 Liberation War and all other democratic movements and struggles.

Nazrul wrote nearly 3,000 songs and composed many of them which, known as Nazrul Geeti or Nazrul Sangeet.

After the independence of Bangladesh, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman brought poet Nazrul Islam to Dhaka from Kolkata along with his family and made arrangements for his living with state honour.

Bangabandhu also provided a residence for the family of the poet in the capital's Dhanmondi area.



Women now even deeper

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According to the research, the average monthly income of 96 percent of the families decreased while 91 percent respondents found themselves in economically unstable conditions.

Incomes of 47 percent families had gone below the global poverty level (Tk 160 or \$1.9 per day).

Moreover, 70 percent of the families have been facing food insecurity and 15 percent families either faced food crisis or could not take at least one meal a day.

In terms of mental health, the research found that frustration among the women of the low-income groups have increased. Around 68 percent of the respondents said their levels of anxiety have increased.

Also, more than half of the women who had previous experiences of mental and physical torture in family surroundings said such torture had increased during the shutdown.

JD Hamadani, chief researcher and emeritus scientist of icddr, said the findings would help policymakers in Bangladesh and other developed countries to take measures and successfully implement poor- and women-friendly stay-at-home orders.

Australia National Health and Medical Research Council funded the research, the release said.

Two sisters gang-raped

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enforcers arrested Sumon, the OC said.

Shamim Kabir, resident medical officer at Chuadanga Sadar Hospital, said they conducted medical tests on the victims and sent their reports to Dhaka.

Superintendent of Police Zahidul Islam said they would take further necessary steps upon receiving medical reports. “Operation is being carried out to arrest the other accused in the case,” he added.

Meanwhile, a group of criminals gang-raped an eighth grader in Barguna's Amtali upazila.

Police arrested two accused -- Jisan alias Sohel, 18, and Sagar, 21 -- for their alleged involvement in the incident.

According to police, Sohel established friendship with the girl over phone and took her to a private hotel in the town. There, he and his four others gang-raped her overnight on Monday.

Next morning, they boarded the girl on a Amtali-bound bus. Returning home, the victim shared her experience with her mother who later filed a case with Amtali Police Station.

Conducting raids, police arrested the two accused from different upazilas in the district, said Helal Uddin, officer-in-charge of Amtali Police Station.

The law enforcers are trying to arrest the rest of the accused, he added.

The victim was sent to Patuakhali General Hospital for medical tests.

Our Kushtia and Patuakhali correspondents contributed to this report

Trove of early Islamic gold

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Robert Kool, a coin expert with the antiquities authority, said an initial analysis indicates the coins date from the late 9th century, considered the golden age of the Abbasid Caliphate that controlled most of the Near East and North Africa.

The discovery was among the largest caches of ancient coins found in Israel. In 2015, amateur divers found around 2,000 gold coins off the coast of the ancient port city of Caesarea dating to the Fatimid period in the 10th and 11th centuries.

“It was amazing,” said Oz Cohen, one of the volunteers who found the treasure.

“I dug in the ground and when I excavated the soil, saw what looked like very thin leaves. When I looked again I saw these were gold coins. It was really exciting to find such a special and ancient treasure.”

JS body formed

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members of the committee also supported the proposal, sources at the meeting said.

AL MP Mostafizur Rahman, chief of the parliamentary watchdog, then formed the four-member sub-committee to enquire into the alleged corruption incident.

Talking to The Daily Star over phone, Mostafizur Rahman said Tk 150 crore was allocated to purchase 30 different books on Bangabandhu to set up “Bangabandhu Corner” at all government primary schools.

“Different media recently reported widespread corruption in purchasing of those books. It was reported that those books were purchased at a high rate compared to their original price. We have asked the sub-committee to enquire and reveal the truth,” added Mostafizur. He said the standing committee also asked the secretary to the primary and mass education ministry to submit a detailed report on the purchase process before the committee's next meeting.

Mostafizur Rahman said allegations have also been raised that copyright act has been violated while reprinting two books on Bangabandhu. Names of the two books are ‘Bangabandhu means independence and ‘3053 days’—a book on Bangabandhu's life in prison.

Allegations were raised against a senior reporter of a private television channel of violating the Copyright Act while reprinting and delivering those two books for Bangabandhu Corner.

HC questions

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In the case, it was alleged that the accused lured people into investing in gold, promising high profit against the purchase.

After getting registration from the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies & Firms on November 22, 2009, the accused started collecting money from people, which stands at around Tk 1,351 crore.

They deposited the money in three banks. The accused withdrew over Tk 270 crore and transferred some in their personal accounts. They also sold land in the company's name, which is tantamount to laundering money.

After an investigation, ACC on June 22, 2011 pressed charges against the six, which was framed on July 6, 2015.

Bhutto called

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Bangladesh Foreign Minister Abdus Samad says that his visit to Iraq would improve the chances of normalisation of relations between Bangladesh and Arab countries. Iraq, which is the only Arab country to recognise Bangladesh, can serve as a bridge between the 75 million people of Bangladesh and that of the Arab countries, he adds.

PERSPECTIVE POWER PLAN UNDER PREPARATION
A national perspective plan for power generation is being prepared, declares Power and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mofiz Chowdhury today in Dhaka. A planning committee in the ministry is engaged in compiling recommendations which will include the amount of electricity needed at different stages such as 1975-1985 and onwards. The report will also suggest mode of production of electricity.

SOURCES: August 28, 1972 issues of *Bangladesh Observer*, *Dainik Bangla* and *Dainik Ittefaq*.

Ukhiya OC

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The constable had met the plaintiff in a room of Khuniapalong Union Parishad building. Following that, he discontinued contacting her for some days.

The two talked again on July 7 when Sumon asked her to meet him on that day.

Accordingly, the college student met the constable in Ukhiya and asked him to marry her. At one stage, Sumon left the area, leaving her alone on a road around 10:00pm.

The plaintiff then went to the police station around 11:30pm to lodge a complaint against Sumon. She informed OC Morjina about the incident. But the OC assaulted her physically instead of recording the complaint, said the case statement.

She alleged that several other cops, who were present there, also beat her up, leaving her injured. She was released from the police station the following day.

The college student said she primarily received treatment at a hospital in Chakaria and later at Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital on July 9.

Speaking to journalists on Tuesday, she said, “I have taken the legal steps as I was tortured by the police personnel. Now I want justice.”

On Tuesday, the Cox's Bazar court took the case into cognisance and ordered the additional superintendent of police at Police Bureau of Investigation in the district to investigate the case and submit a report to it, said the plaintiff's lawyer Advocate Ekramul Huda, also a special public prosecutor at the court.

Despite repeated attempts, this newspaper could not reach OC Morjina over phone for comments as she did not pick up the calls.

Making masks from garment scraps

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She has been making around 100 masks a day from the scraps and getting Tk 4 per mask. “The amount is way better than the salary I would get through teaching.”

“My husband has been coordinating the process here -- collecting the scraps, arranging additional materials, and sending the ready masks to the capital,” she added.

Like Johora, three other teachers of a local private school and a madrasa and six homemakers in her area are earning around Tk 400 a day through this initiative.

According to the organisation, Ella masks are standardised as per the World Health Organisation (WHO) and Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines.

Mamunur Rahman, founder of ELLA Pad, said the organisation has been trying to develop a new supply chain for the women manufacturing the masks.

“We are connecting them with different institutional buyers. For instance, officials of the US Embassy and UN agencies such as UNFPA, UNDP, UNIDO, and UNCDE, are currently purchasing their masks, while USAID is also planning to buy through bulk orders. ELLA is just working as a matchmaker,” said Mamunur.

The women of Jamalpur have been deluged by orders.

BDnews24

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with the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court challenging the HC order, as there are specific allegations against him of depositing Tk 42 crore, which have no legal source, in different banks.

ACC on July 30 filed the case against Khalidi, for allegedly depositing Tk 42 crore which have no “legal source” in

EC Mahbub

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parties and others are also protesting the draft law, he said in the note of dissent.

After the meeting, Mahbub told reporters that he submitted the note after failing to get any ways of compromise regarding the matter.

EC senior secretary Md Alamgir was not available for comments after repeated attempts over phone regarding the note of dissent.

While briefing reporters after the meeting, Alamgir said the commission has finalised the draft of the law that will now be sent to the law ministry for their vetting.

When the RPO was passed at first there were no provisions for registration of political parties. The provision of registration of political parties was included in 2008.

“Then [in 2008], there was discussion on having separate law [for registration of political parties]... but it did not happen due to time constrain. Now current commission feels necessity of a separate law,” Alamgir said.

The Election Commission in June prepared a draft of a law with stringent

different banks.

Gulshan Anwar Pradhan, deputy director of the anti-graft watchdog, filed the case with ACC's integrated district office Dhaka-1, saying that Khalidi earned the money through illegal means by creating “fake documents”.

Khalidi, however, has denied the allegations of corruption against him.

rules for political parties getting registered. According to the proposed law, political parties will have to fulfill at least two conditions out of three to get registered with the EC.

The three conditions are: a party needs to secure at least one seat with its electoral symbol in two previous parliamentary elections; securing of five percent of total votes cast in the constituencies in which its candidates took part in any of the aforesaid parliamentary elections; it needs to set up a functional central office, by whatever name it may be called with a central committee, having offices at least in one-third administrative districts, and offices at least in 100 upazilas or metropolitan thanas; and the party must have a minimum 200 voters as its members in each upazila.

Till now, a political party needs to meet at least one condition out of the three to get registration.

Earlier, Mahbub Talukdar on Monday in a separate “note of dissent”, also differed with the EC's move to revise the Representation of the People Order, 1972, and the election-related laws of local government bodies.

“I usually work at my office from 9:00am to 2:00pm. In the afternoon, I start making masks at the Mouchak Mohila Unnayan Sangstha's factory, and bring back some scraps for stitching at night using my own sewing machine,” said Sahera.

Shamsul Alam, Ella mask coordinator at Melandaha and the founder of the Mouchak Mohila Unnayan Sangstha, said they try to involve women who lack financial independence.

Earlier, these women would do handicraft work on nakshikantha, three-piece suits, two-piece suits, and bedsheets, through which they would receive a small amount for their weeklong labours, said Shamsul.

“It takes around 15 days for two women to stitch a nakshikantha and they get a remuneration of around Tk 1,500-2,000 altogether.

“However, in mask-making, they are earning Tk 400 each day, without any additional expenses or hassle. We usually collect the scraps from factories in Gazipur and Narayanganj, and they just do the manufacturing,” said Shamsul.

Currently, Mamunur is aspiring to diversify the products from the garment scraps, once the demand for masks slows down -- into home textile items for one. This way, these women will continue to have regular employment, even beyond this time of crisis.

Abu Dhabi immigration authorities

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this month, Expatriates Welfare Minister Imran Ahmad said measures would be taken to send back the expatriate Bangladeshis who were directed back from Abu Dhabi airport after the filing of a report by Caab in this regard.

Following instructions by the civil aviation ministry, Caab formed a five-member investigation committee to probe the matter.

Revealing the investigation report at a briefing at the Caab headquarters, Caab Chairman Air Vice Marshal Mafidur Rahman yesterday said due to the Abu Dhabi immigration authority's fault, 112 Bangladeshi expatriate workers were denied entry to the Gulf country.

The investigation committee

recommended that the government should take necessary measures so that the 112 Bangladeshis can fly to the UAE again.

Regarding the investigation report, the Caab boss said they have already submitted the investigation report to the civil aviation ministry, which will take necessary measures based on the report.

The Caab chairman said Bangladeshi passengers had to return from Abu Dhabi mainly due to immigration complications in Abu Dhabi, but no such incident had taken place in Dubai and Sharjah.

He said Abu Dhabi's immigration department changed their immigration policy on August 10, but Bangladesh was not well

informed about it.

In the changed policy, they said those whose visas had expired must go to the Federal Authority for Identity and Citizenship (ICA) website and apply for permission to visit Abu Dhabi.

“But our passengers have missed this point. Biman Bangladesh Airlines and Air Arabia did not get clear information in this regard, because of which the passengers had to return even after going to the airport of that country,” said the Caab chief.

He also said not only Bangladesh, passengers of India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan had to return to their countries due to the changed immigration policy.

Two shot dead

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where he was shot after opening the door, according to a bystander video that went viral. Three of his young sons were in the car, witnesses said.

Blake was hit by four of the seven shots fired and left paralyzed and “fighting for his life,” his family and lawyers said on Tuesday, hours before the latest round of civil unrest broke out in the lakefront town between Milwaukee and Chicago.

Earlier Blake's mother Julia Jackson called for calm and urged peace ahead of a national protest planned for Washington this weekend.

She said the damage caused on previous nights in Kenosha “doesn't reflect my son or my family,” and issued a powerful call for unity and denunciation of racism in America.

“Clearly you can see by now that I have beautiful brown skin. But take a look at your hand. And whatever shade it is, it is beautiful as well,” she said.

Anti-racism protesters also clashed with police in Portland, Oregon, and Louisville, Kentucky, on Tuesday night, part of a wave of national protests that have continued since the May 25 death of a Black man in Minneapolis, George Floyd, who was pinned to the street under the knee of a white police officer.

The Kenosha protests have drawn self-styled militias, patrolling the streets with rifles or standing guard outside businesses to protect them from looters or arsonists.

“LIKE A VIGILANTE GROUP”

“They're like a vigilante group,” Kenosha County Sheriff David Beth told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, though he said he was unsure if the man at the center of the outburst was linked to such a group.

Beth predicted the main suspect would be caught, telling the newspaper: “I feel very confident we'll have him in a very short time.” Kenosha police, a separate agency

from the sheriff's office, asked for witnesses to come forward.

Devin Scott, 19, told the Chicago Tribune he was in a group chanting “Black Lives Matter” when the gunfire began and that he tried unsuccessfully to revive one of the victims.

“This guy with this huge gun runs by us in the middle of the street and people are yelling, ‘He shot someone! He shot someone!’ And everyone is trying to fight the guy, chasing him, and then he started shooting again,” Scott said in the Tribune report.

Scott said he hit the ground during the next burst of gunfire, then tried to aid a person who was lying prone in the street.

“I was cradling him in my arms. I was trying to keep this kid alive and he wasn't moving or nothing. He was just laying there,” Scott said. “I didn't know what to do and then this woman starts performing CPR. There was no pulse. I don't think he made it.”

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| Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Chief Controller of Stores Bangladesh Railway Pahartali, Chattogram-4202 | |
| No. P6/Bearing/Source Enlistment/2020 | 24/08/2020 |
| Corrigendum-1 | |
| The following amendment is being carried out in respect of the “Date of opening” of this office LTM (ICT) Tender No. P6/Bearing/Source Enlistment/2020 date: 01/07/2020: | |
| Date of opening: | 22/09/2020 |
| | For Existing entry. |
| All the other terms and conditions of the tender shall remain unaltered. | |
| স্বাক্ষর Md. Anwar Hossain Assistant Controller of Stores/P-2 For Chief Controller of Stores Bangladesh Railway Pahartali, Chattogram | |
| S(20)(170) GD-1340 | |