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PROTECTING ROHINGYAS IN MYANMAR

# Bangladesh seeks quick UNSC action

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has sought the UN Security Council's action to ensure that Myanmar refrains from targeting Rohingyas under the pretext of security operations, because that may lead to further refugee influx into Bangladesh.

Expressing deep concerns over mobilisation of troops along the Bangladesh-Myanmar border, Bangladesh Permanent Mission to the UN in New York wrote an Aide Memoire to the UN Security Council (UNSC) president on September 15.

In a separate letter to Naypyidaw on September 14, Dhaka also called on Myanmar to immediately withdraw troops from there and respect its commitment regarding the exchange of information about any civilian and military activities near the international border.

On September 13, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs summoned Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh Aung Kyaw Moe to express concern over the suspicious movements of Myanmar soldiers along the border.

Kaladan Press reported that around 3,000 Myanmar troops were deployed in the bordering areas of Maungdaw -- a town in Rakhine State -- raising fears of 2017-like operations that forced some 750,000 Rohingyas to Bangladesh. More than three years after the brutal crackdown, Myanmar now faces a genocide case at the International Court of Justice and investigation by the International Criminal Court.

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The Tangail-Torabganj road in Tangail has been hit hard by the erosion of the Dhaleshwari river with its increasing water level. The road connects four unions of Sadar upazila with the district headquarters. The road can be devoured by the river if steps are not taken quickly.

PHOTO: MIRZA SHAKIL

WAIT FOR FERRIES

## Truckers pay extra to cut the queue

ZAHANGIR SHAH, Manikganj

Cashing in on heavy flow of vehicles on Paturia-Daulatdia ferry route, some dishonest BIWTC employees are allegedly overcharging goods-laden vehicles to board ferries for crossing the Padma through the route.

The route has been facing huge pressure of vehicles as ferry services on the country's another major ferry route -- Shimulia-Kathalbari -- resumed on a limited scale on Saturday, around a week after ferry operations were suspended due to poor navigability.

It causes long tailbacks of vehicles at the Paturia end of Manikganj and at the Daulatdia end of Rajbari.

Paturia-Daulatdia and Shimulia-Kathalbari ferry routes are considered the gateways to the country's southwestern districts.

Passenger, emergency and perishable goods-laden vehicles get priority to board ferries. So, trucks

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INDIAN ONIONS

## Importers count losses due to rot

STAR REPORT

A large portion of onions that were imported to Bangladesh from India in the last few days have been rotten, inflicting huge losses on the traders.

Several hundreds of onion-laden trucks, which were ready to enter Bangladesh, were stranded at different land ports of India after the neighbouring country imposed a sudden ban on onion export on September 14.

The ban caused a sharp rise in onion prices.

But only those traders, who could prepare the import documents before imposing the ban, were allowed to import onion to Bangladesh.

The trucks started entering Bangladesh from Saturday.

In Satkhira, around 829 tonnes of onion were imported through Bhomra land port on Saturday and Sunday, said Mohsin Hossain, revenue officer at the port.

Major portion of these onions have been rotten, said traders.

These trucks were stranded for around five to six days at Ghojadanga land port in India, said Mustafizur Rahman, general secretary of clearing and forwarding (C&F) agents Association on Bhomra land port.

As a result, these onions have been rotten, he said.

At least 235 onion-laden trucks are still stranded at Ghojadanga land port while

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FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

## 19 MCAs expelled from AL



The charge d'affaires of Indonesia in Bangladesh calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the GonoBhaban on September 22, 1972.

September 22, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

AL DRIVE AGAINST CORRUPTION

19 members of the constituent assembly belonging to the ruling Awami League have been expelled from the party on charges of corruption, nepotism and misuse of power, General Secretary of Bangladesh Awami League Zillur Rahman announces in Dhaka today. In a reply to a question Zillur Rahman tells BSS that if similar charges are found against more MCAs or party workers in future they would also be expelled from the party. Awami League being a people's party will always uphold justice and devote itself to people's welfare, he adds.

UK'S EEC ENTRY WILL NOT AFFECT BANGLADESH

Geoffrey Rippon, Britain's chief negotiator for common market, says in Dhaka today that the British entry into the European Economic Community (EEC) would not adversely affect the future trade prospects of Bangladesh in the enlarged community.

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## 170 return from war-torn Libya today

JAMIL MAHMUD and RASHIDUL HASAN

A group of 170 Bangladeshis is expected to be repatriated from war-torn Libya in a chartered flight today.

They include about 40 individuals, who have been rescued off the Libyan coast during their attempts to reach Europe via illegal sea route over the past two or three months.

The Bangladesh Embassy in Libya has enlisted the 170 Bangladeshis, who agreed to return voluntarily, while the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the UN migration agency, has been supporting the repatriation process.

The flight is scheduled to take off around 12:00pm (local time) from the Mitiga International Airport in Tripoli, according to a social media post of the Bangladesh mission there.

The flight is expected to reach Dhaka Wednesday early morning.

Bangladesh Ambassador in Libya Sk Sekander Ali yesterday said the number of the total returnees may drop depending on their

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## Lost surfboard found 8,000km away



AFP, Manila

When big wave surfer Doug Falter lost his board in a wipeout in Hawaii, his best hope was for a local fisherman to pick it up. He never imagined it would be found more than 8,000 kilometres (5,000 miles) away in the southern Philippines.

More than two years after watching his pale blue custom-shaped board disappear in the huge swell of Waimea Bay, Falter was alerted via social media that it had been found near the remote island of Sarangani.

And the new owner -- local primary school teacher and aspiring surfer Giovanna Branzuela -- was happy to give it back to him.

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COVID-19

## 40 more die, death toll nears 5k

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Forty more people have died from Covid-19 yesterday, while 1,705 new patients were recorded in the country in the last 24 hours, according to a press release issued by the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

The total number of deaths has now reached 4,979 and the death rate stands at 1.42 percent. The total number of people

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PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 22

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-40 12-45 4-30 6-05 7-30  
JAMAAT 5-15 1-15 4-45 6-10 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Locals dump waste on both sides of the Asian highway in Jajor area of Gazipur on a regular basis. With time, the dumped waste narrowed down the highway and has not only become a hazard for road users but also for the locals. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

## UK at critical point in pandemic

Warns top medical adviser; US deaths near 200,000

AGENCIES

England is on track for about 50,000 coronavirus cases a day by mid-October and a surging death toll unless the public gets serious about preventive action, top UK advisers warned yesterday.

Rates of infection in England are replicating the strong resurgence of Covid-19 seen in France and Spain, roughly doubling every seven days, the government's chief medical officer Chris Whitty told a media briefing.

"We are seeing a rate of increase across the great majority of the country," he said, urging the public to respect stricter guidelines

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WE MOURN

MRS ROWSHANA MAHFUZ

(1946-2020)

We deeply mourn the sad demise of **MRS. ROWSHANA MAHFUZ**, wife of Late Dr. Mohammad Ahamad Karim, on 20/09/2020 at 11:00 pm. Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilayhi Raji'un. She left us at the age of 74. May Allah grant her eternal salvation and Jannatul Firdaus. We pray for the departed soul and request all our well wishers to always keep her in their prayers.

- Requested by

Dr. Ruksana Karim & Dr. Rezina Karim (Daughters)  
Dr. Mohammed Mohsen Chowdhury & Dr. S M Moslehuddin Ahmed (Sons in law)  
Fahad M A Karim (Son), Nora Lahlali (Daughter in Law)  
Madiha Mohsen Chowdhury, Daaniya Ahmed, Muqueet Mohsen Chowdhury, Fares Karim (Grand Children) & other bereaved family members