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Hall-Mark factories shut down

Indefinite closure notice comes during eid holiday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Controversial business group Hall-Mark yesterday shut down its factories at Hemayetpur in Savar sine die, keeping the police and local administration in the dark.

Abdul Baten, an inspector of Industrial Police in Savar, said at midnight yesterday they found the closure notices pasted at the entrances of the factories. "We are trying to find out who have pasted the notices."

A Bangladesh Bank investigation in May revealed that the group embezzled over Tk 2,686 crore from the state-owned Sonali Bank's Ruposhi Bangla Hotel branch between 2010 and 2012 on forged documents.

The factories went on Eid holidays from October 26 and were supposed to be reopened on November 3, said Mohammad Moniruzzaman, deputy director of Industrial Police.

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A paper sign taped to a Hall-Mark group factory gate at Hemayetpur of Savar on the outskirts of the capital tells employees that all factories owned by the group have been closed sine die.

PHOTO: STAR

Landslide kills tourist

8 injured

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

A tourist was killed and eight others were injured in a landslide at Himchhari waterfall in Cox's Bazar yesterday.

The deceased Md Amzad, 28, was a resident of Jatrabari in the capital. Amzad along with his 11 friends went to Cox's Bazar from Dhaka on Sunday. Yesterday afternoon, they went to visit the waterfall, said Sohagh, a friend of Amzad.

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POLLS-DAY VIOLATION OF LAWS

EC against army's arrest power

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The present Election Commission does not want the armed forces to get back their sweeping authority to arrest anyone without warrant on election day for violating electoral laws.

The previous EC led by ATM Shamsul Huda had proposed restoring the provision in the Representation of the People Order to give back the authority to the army, the navy and the air force.

But the current EC headed by Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad has decided not to ask

the government for restoring the provision, said a source in the EC.

It is now drafting a set of proposals for electoral reforms that will soon be sent to the government for turning them into law.

"We do not see any necessity of restoring the provision. The government is obligated to deploy the armed forces, if we ask for it to maintain law and order during the parliamentary election," Election Commissioner Shah Nawaz told The Daily Star recently.

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Road crash proves life saver!

AFP, Berlin

A road crash may have actually saved the life of a taxi driver in Germany, authorities said Monday.

The 50-year-old choked on a sweet and lost control of his cab during a coughing fit while on a job in the western city of Wuppertal on Sunday, police said.

First he hit a small truck parked at the roadside before losing

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Razakar was launched with 96 Jamaat men

Investigator tells war crimes trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After two prosecution witnesses, an investigator of international crimes tribunal yesterday also said Jamaat-e-Islami leader AKM Yusuf formed the Razakar force, an auxiliary force of the Pakistani army, during the Liberation War.

"Through investigation, I have found that the Razakar force was formed with 96 Jamaat activists at an Anser camp at Khan Jahan Ali Road of Khulna under the leadership of AKM Yusuf [in May 1971]," investigator Matiur Rahman told the

International Crimes Tribunal-1.

During his daylong cross-examination yesterday, Matiur, the investigation officer of the crimes against humanity case against Jamaat's former chief Ghulam Azam, said he got the information from locals and newspaper reports published even after the war.

Earlier, eminent war crimes researcher Shahriar Kabir and journalist Mahbub Kamal, the first and third prosecution witness in the case against Jamaat leader Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed,

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ILLEGAL TRIP TO MALAYSIA

Man survived 'boat capsized'

Tells BGB about the Oct 27 incident; coast guards in dark

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A man claiming to have survived a boat capsized in the Bay of Bengal on Saturday while going to Malaysia illegally was found by locals of Teknaf yesterday morning.

He was identified as Abu Bakar, 22, of Delpara of Sabrang union under Teknaf.

The locals on hearing Bakar's story handed him over to Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB).

According to what Bakar told the BGB members, he

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LATEST MYANMAR UNREST

Food, water shortage at victims' camps: UN

AFP, Sittwe

Food, water and medical help are in short supply at camps in western Myanmar that are "stretched beyond capacity", a UN agency yesterday said as authorities struggled to stem communal clashes.

Buddhist-Muslim bloodshed in Rakhine state has caused more than 28,000 people to flee their homes this month, the United Nations refugee agency said in a statement.

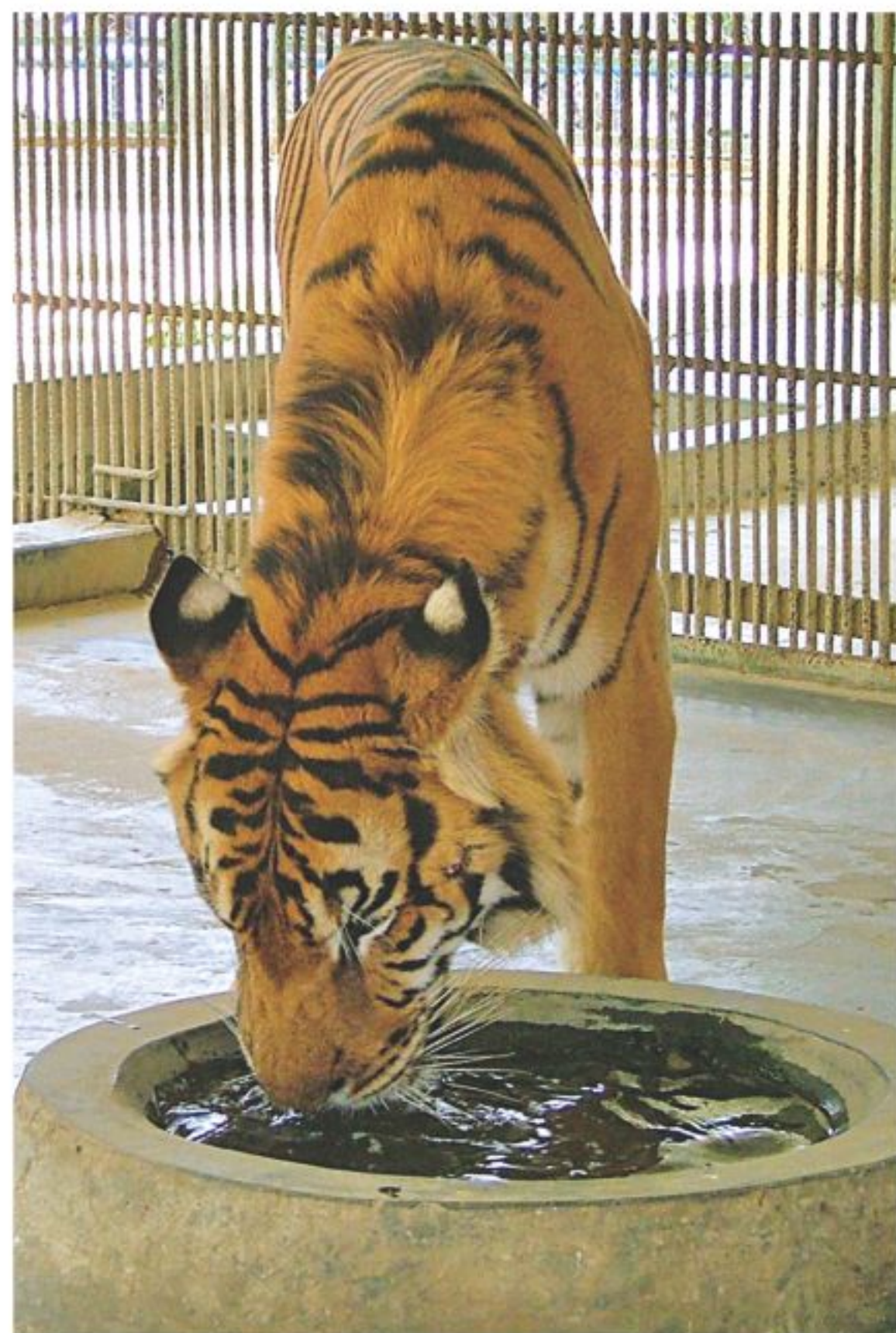
"It is clearly urgent that law and order be restored to prevent further violence,

and that access is facilitated so that aid can be provided to those in need," the agency said.

The ongoing fighting, which erupted on October 21 and killed dozens, has seen whole neighbourhoods razed in a spate of arson attacks that United Nations staff said had resulted in "widespread destruction and displacement".

Thousands from mainly Muslim communities in Rakhine state have streamed towards camps already struggling to cope with the 75,000 people displaced by

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This file photo is of Purnima, the tigress of Chittagong Zoo who died yesterday. The zoo does not have any tigers any more.

PHOTO: FILE

Lone Bengal Tiger at Ctg zoo dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The only Bengal Tiger at the Chittagong zoo died yesterday, leaving the zoo without tigers.

The tiger, named Purnima, had been suffering from intestinal cancer for around three years, said Manjur Morshed Chowdhury, veterinary officer of the zoo.

A Bengal Tiger usually lives about 15 to 16 years in captivity, said the vet. Purnima, however, lived 19 years. During the last week, she could not take any food and was on saline, he added.

Visitors to the zoo said they felt unhappy about the demise of the only tiger.

Eight-year-old Shanto

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Workers of Dhaka South City Corporation are at work at which was a makeshift cattle market in Nayabazar in the capital yesterday. The corporation has a massive clean up job after every Eid-ul-Azha.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited
ONLINE POLL
Do you think the Anti-Corruption Commission's ongoing investigation will help check corruption in the banking and financial sectors?
Yes (17%)
No (79%)
No Comments (4%)
TOTAL VOTES: 131

TODAY'S POLL
Do you think BNP chief Khaleda Zia's India visit will play any role in the next election?
PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net
YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT [facebook.com/dailystarnews](https://www.facebook.com/dailystarnews)

PRAYER TIMING **October 31**

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-50	5-25
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-32	5-35
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

The Daily Star

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