

Member states 'failed to deliver' on migrants

Says EU chief

European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker said EU member states have "failed to deliver" on the migrant crisis and warned that restoring borders in response to the problem could kill off the internal market.

Outlining his priorities for the New Year, Juncker vowed not to abandon his plans to relocate thousands of asylum seekers from Italy and Greece that were finally approved in October over the opposition of several eastern European capitals.

So far just 272 refugees have been moved to other countries out of the 160,000 that European Union nations agreed to relocate as the continent faced a wave of people fleeing conflict in Syria and elsewhere.

"It's not the commission that has not delivered," Juncker, the head of the executive branch of the 28-nation union, told a press conference.

"But a number of member states have failed to fully deliver on what we need to do and what needs to be done," he added.

Instead of working together for a common solution, he complained that member states were reintroducing border controls that ultimately threatened the Schengen system of passport-free travel and the broader EU project.

"Who kills Schengen will eventually put the internal market to the grave," Juncker said, adding it would lead to "an unemployment problem which will not be manageable any more."

Europe is already struggling with a massive economic problem with more than 10 percent out of work, including 50 percent of young people in countries like Greece and Spain.

"When all this breaks down, the economic price, the loss of growth and the damage for the European growth perspectives will be enormous," he said.

"Without Schengen, free movement of workers, without freedom of European citizens to travel, the euro makes no sense," he said, referring to the 19-country single currency zone.

Juncker said he was "getting a little tired" that the commission was coming under fire for not doing enough to resolve the worst migrant crisis since World War II when it has spent months drawing up joint relocation and other plans.

He excoriated member states for struggling to implement plans they had themselves agreed on, warning that the EU was "moving toward a serious crisis in terms of credibility" if they don't assume their legal and political commitments.

Two Saudi teachers home after release by Yemen rebels

AFP, Riyadh

Two Saudi Arabian religious teachers have arrived home after their release from more than nine months' detention by Huthi rebels in Yemen, official media reported yesterday.

Abdulrahman al-Sharari and Salem al-Ghamedi landed in Riyadh on Thursday evening from Djibouti, the Saudi Press Agency said.

They were accompanied by the kingdom's ambassador to Yemen and UN envoy Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed who on Thursday finished a five-day mission to the rebel-held Yemeni capital Sanaa, SPA said.

The teachers were on their way to work in the Comoros, on a flight which transited Sanaa, when air service was suspended at the start of a Saudi-led bombing campaign against the Iran-backed Huthi rebels on March 26, SPA said.

Three children

Zidan said they got two potatoes in the field of Mizan Mia when they went to his potato field to collect snail on Thursday afternoon.

Mizan caught them from the spot and took them to his house and verbally abused them.

At one stage, they were roped to a straw stack around 3:00pm and kept in this condition until 8:00pm amid shivering cold, Zidan told The Daily Star.

Locals said tying the minors outside amid cold was inhuman.

However, Mizan said thieves damaged a good portion of his potato field, and he was searching for those who damaged it. As he found the three children there, he caught them.

Hajiganj police said Mizan freed the children after journalists took pictures of the children.

Madrasa boys not involved

Claims principal, demands judicial probe into B'baria violence

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

The authorities of Jamia Islamia Yunusia Madrasa yesterday claimed their students were not involved in incidents of vandalism in Brahmanbaria town on Tuesday.

Speaking at a press conference at the madrasa, its Principal Mufti Mubarak Ullah demanded the government order a judicial probe into the incidents. He read out a written statement at the press conference.

He said some criminals carried out the attacks on Tuesday. If the probe finds the involvement of madrasa students in the attacks, legal action should be taken against them, he added.

The principal expressed sorrow over the attacks on some cultural organisations in the town.

Meanwhile, police on Thursday filed another case with Brahmanbaria Sadar Model Police Station, accusing over 5,000 unnamed people of violence, said Inspector Md Mafizul Islam Bhuyian of the police station.

Earlier, six more cases were filed with the police station in connection

with Tuesday's violence. The railway authorities on Wednesday lodged a case against 1,200 unnamed people for vandalising Brahmanbaria Railway Station and removing fishplates from rail tracks.

No case was filed yet over the death of madrasa student Masudur Rahman, said Mafizul.

Madrasa students went on a rampage in the district town on Tuesday morning, hours after the death of Masudur who was critically injured allegedly in a clash with the police the previous day.

Armed with bamboo sticks and iron rods, students attacked the railway station, removed fishplates from rail tracks near the station and set fire to a police van, said witnesses.

Police said the trouble started on Monday evening when an employee of a mobile phone shop allegedly assaulted a student of Jamia Islamia Yunusia Madrasa.

The violence led to suspension of train services between the capital and Chittagong and Sylhet for around seven hours on Tuesday.

Pakistan PM vows to eradicate honour killings after Oscar nod

AFP, Islamabad

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif vowed Pakistan would eradicate "evil" honour killings as he congratulated director Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy on her Oscar nomination for a harrowing documentary on the practice.

"A Girl in the River: The Price of Forgiveness", which follows the story of a rare survivor, was nominated in the documentary short category of the Academy Awards on Thursday.

Hundreds of women are murdered by their relatives in Pakistan each year on the grounds of defending family "honour".

Their male murderers are then "pardoned" by relatives under the country's controversial Islamic blood

money laws that allow murderers to escape punishment.

A statement from the prime minister's office late Thursday offered Chinoy, who made history in 2012 when she won Pakistan's first Oscar for the another documentary, Sharif's congratulations.

"Honour killings, the theme of the film, afflict several segments of Pakistani society," it quoted Sharif as saying.

He "expressed the government's commitment to rid Pakistan of this evil by bringing in appropriate legislation", the statement continued, adding that Chinoy's "insights" could prove helpful.

Chinoy said on Twitter that she was "delighted" that Sharif had made the commitment.

Jakarta on alert

National police chief Badrodin Haiti told reporters the attack likely indicates the involvement of a broader support apparatus, and implying that conspirators might still be at large.

"The planners, financiers, and supporters that provide (explosive) materials, assemble the bombs, facilitate accommodations and vehicles etc... of course this is the work of a team that could be big or small," he said.

"This obviously was not conducted by five men, this takes teamwork."

Police said that they had identified four of the five dead attackers, and launched raids by heavily armed police in Jakarta and other locations across the far-flung archipelago that resulted in the seizure of an Islamic State flag and other unspecified "books and posters".

"We've sent teams to several cities for operations against targets we identified," he told reporters.

IS FACTION BLAMED
Unconfirmed reports have said the police dragnet resulted in some arrests, but these have not been confirmed by authorities.

Police are yet to release the names of those identified or other details, but said two of the dead militants were fugitive terrorism suspects.

But authorities in the world's most populous Muslim country have already placed blame for the attack on Katibah Nusantara, which police and terrorism analysts say is a faction of the ruthless Islamic State group that has carved out a self-proclaimed caliphate in Syria and Iraq.

It would mark the first attack in the region by Katibah Nusantara, which is made up primarily of Malay-speaking Indonesians and Malaysians.

Authorities in Southeast Asia with significant Muslim populations have repeatedly warned of the potential for their citizens to return from IS jihad and carry out violence at home.

Indonesian police were put on their highest alert yesterday, with security stepped up at some foreign embassies, and officers in Jakarta and on the resort island of Bali patrolling in riot gear and with assault rifles.

The rapid-fire series of bombings and a shootout between gunmen and police erupted in the centre of the capital, shocking moderate Muslim Indonesians.

The two victims of Indonesia's worst terror incident in seven years

were a Canadian and an Indonesian man, according to police. Two dozen other people were wounded -- three foreigners, six police officers and the rest Indonesian civilians.

The attacks spilled out in dramatic fashion on a bustling street at mid-morning, transfixing Indonesia's hyperactive social media world, as images and videos of the carnage went viral.

Police have singled out Indonesian extremist Bahrum Naim, believed to be a founding member of Katibah Nusantara, as orchestrating the operation.

Indonesian police have explicitly likened the attack to the far bloodier violence in November in Paris that left 130 people dead and offered sobering proof to a horrified world of the reach and fanatical determination of IS jihadists.

President Joko Widodo has urged calm, and there seemed little evidence of public jitters, with Jakarta back to its bustling self yesterday, the Muslim holy day.

"I am not afraid of terrorists because life is in Allah's hands, and today is Friday so, God willing, nothing bad will happen," said Toto Suhadi, 52, a gardener watering plants near the attack site.

Netflix

FROM PAGE 16
the process of licensing content around the world.

But he said it had a long way to go before it could offer viewers the same films and shows everywhere.

"If all of our content were globally available, there wouldn't be a reason for members to use proxies or 'unblockers' to fool our systems into thinking they're in a different country than they're actually in," he said.

"In the meantime, we will continue to respect and enforce content licensing by geographic location." Subscribers that currently use proxies to view content outside their countries will only be able to access the service in their own countries in the coming week, the company said.

Those members that do not use VPNs will not be impacted by the crackdown, it added.

Second phase

FROM PAGE 16
street. Many of the people prayed on top of buses and rooftops because of the huge crowd.

Two devotees, including a woman, died yesterday.

Abdur Rahman, 60, of Gabtoli upazila in Bogra, died of cardiac arrest early yesterday, said Mohammad Adam Ali, one of the Ijtema organising committee members.

A female devotee who was burnt severely while cooking at the Ijtema ground in the morning died at the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) last night.

The dead, Habiba Begum, 45, suffered 92 percent burns to her body.

She was first taken to a local clinic and later shifted to the DMCH where she died around 9:00pm, said sources at the DMCH.

For the first time, the congregation is being held in four phases to deal with the huge crowd.

People from 33 districts are taking part in the first two phases this year, while those from the remaining 32 districts will attend the other two phases next year. Dhaka is in every phase. Foreigners can join any phase of the Ijtema.

The devotees from 16 districts along with foreign devotees are joining the second phase which is scheduled to be concluded with Akheri Munajat on Sunday.

The devotees from 17 other districts participated in the first phase.

The three-day Ijtema of the second phase includes delivering boyans (sermons) on the fundamental issues of Tablighi Jamaat, prayer for the spiritual exaltation and welfare of the Muslim Ummah, recitation from the holy Quran and Hadith and conducting dowry-free marriage.

The sermons will be delivered in Urdu. There will be interpretations in different languages, including Bangla, English, Arabic, Tamil, Malay, Turkish and Farsi.

Around 5,000 uniformed and plain-clothes policemen and members of Rab and intelligence agencies are deployed at the Ijtema ground for safety and maintaining order.

Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRITC) and Bangladesh Railway are operating special bus and train services since the first phase and will continue the services till the last day of the second phase.

Manila says worried Filipinos could join IS in Middle East

AFP, Manila

The Philippines said yesterday it was concerned that Islamic State jihadists could recruit its nationals working in the Middle East, a day after militants linked to the group carried out an attack on Jakarta.

President Benigno Aquino told reporters that Philippine intelligence authorities would ask their Middle East counterparts to monitor possible radicalisation within the Filipino community in the region, which numbers up to two million.

Aquino said there was no "credible threat" of attacks by the Islamic State group (IS) in the Philippines in the wake of Thursday's attacks in the Indonesian capital, which left two civilians and five attackers dead, but warned of a "general threat".

"We need to be prudent. We will coordinate with (Middle Eastern) intelligence agencies to monitor these communities to see if they have been influenced by ISIS," he said, using another acronym for the group.

"We can't be like an ostrich, which burrows its head in the ground to avoid seeing the problem," he said.

"Is there a credible threat? Is there a specific threat? There is none. Is there a general threat? Yes. We are not immune from the extremism problem."

CTG COCAINE HAUL

Key accused sent to jail

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Chittagong

Members of Rapid Action Battalion produced Nur Mohammad, the prime accused of a cocaine haul case, before a Chittagong court yesterday afternoon.

Nirmalendu Bikash Chakraborty, assistant commissioner (prosecution) of Chittagong Metropolitan Police, said Rab-7 officials produced Nur before Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Nurul Alam. Later, he was sent to jail.

Sources, however, could not confirm when and how Nur was arrested.

Contacted, Lt Col Mifta Uddin Ahmed, commanding officer of Rab-7 said they would not make any comment on the matter due to the case's sensitivity.

COCAINE HAUL CASE

The container carrying liquid cocaine with having 107 barrels of sunflower oil arrived at Chittagong port on May 8 last year from Bolivia via Uruguay.

Informed by police, Customs Intelligence officials sealed off the container at Chittagong Port on June 06 and opened it in the presence of different agencies on June 08.

Later, samples from each of the 107 barrels of sunflower oil were sent for test to two laboratories -- Drug Testing Laboratory and Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR) -- in Dhaka. The tests found presence of liquid cocaine in the sample of barrel No-96 on June 27.

On the same day, police filed a case in this connection with Bandar Police Station under 1(B) of section 19(1) of Narcotics Control Act-1990.

Good news

FROM PAGE 16
climate-resilient, reinforced concrete casting, said Hamidu Hoque, LGED executive engineer and deputy director of the project.

Trees would be planted on both sides of the 24-foot wide marine drive, he said.

The existing storm drainage system along the 10-km road was being improved so as to utilise it as outfalls for discharging waste and storm water of the municipal area into the canals.

Besides, dredging of 28km canals crisscrossing Khulna city and repair of flood control structures along the city were going on under the CRDP scheme, which would benefit around five lakh people in Khulna city, said Project Director Ahsan Habib.

A 2.25-km embankment with concrete casting driveway along the Bhairab river in Khulna city is also being developed under the scheme. This would protect the city from flooding. Also, trees would be planted along the embankment.

"Climate resilient cement uniblock concrete has been used instead of traditional bricks to build the embankment driveway, leaving enough space for planting trees," the PD said, adding that recreational facilities along these embankments were also integral parts of the scheme.

Concrete casting and cement cast-

ing concrete blocks are more durable and climate resilient, said Ahsan. Bituminous road is vulnerable to rainwater and inundation. Besides, it causes enormous carbon emission when bricks and bitumen, which is an expensive imported material, are burned, he added.

Three-fourths of the work of the Mongla component has been done so far, said Ahsan. Of the total project cost, Tk 76 crore would be required for the Mongla project.

The ADB provided \$120 million as soft loan for the implementation of the CRDP project.

Oleg Tonkonojenkov, deputy country director of ADB, said they would promote climate resilient and green development design as an overarching theme.

The CRDP project, which started in 2011 and is scheduled to be complete by 2016, aims at climate resilient waste management, drainage, water supply and sanitation, promoting solar energy and urban transport, urban planning and municipal management.

The project area encompasses four city corporations in Dhaka region and one in Khulna region, 12 municipalities -- seven in Dhaka and five in Khulna -- and 36 urban centres at upazila level.

Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk) is currently preparing a 20-year master plan for the capital city under the project.

TIB findings baseless

FROM PAGE 1
conference at the BGMEA office in the capital.

On Thursday, the TIB released a report that said the supply chain of the garment industry, the country's biggest export earner, is plagued by irregularities and corruption for which international apparel buyers are also responsible.

At yesterday's press conference, Rahman, top leader of the garment makers' platform, said, "This report is baseless, false and intentional. It has an ill motive."

"We urge all concerned to investigate how the TIB dared say anything like this."

"Such a statement about this important sector by any quarter is unacceptable," said Rahman.

He refuted the allegation made in the TIB report that local garment makers sell imported fabrics in the domestic market.

On another allegation that local suppliers sometimes give sub-contracts to non-compliant factories, he said garment makers enter into sub-contracts with the buyers' permission. "If the buyers allow this, it is not an

offence."

Rahman said the TIB came up with such findings at a moment when garment makers are trying to achieve the apparel export target of \$50 billion by the end of 2021.

"We did not expect such a report from the TIB at a time when the garment sector is reviving after twin industrial disasters -- Tazreen Fashions fire and Rana Plaza building collapse," he said.

In its report, the TIB mentioned that it had detected anomalies at 16 stages -- from order placement to shipment -- in apparel supply chain.

According to the anti-corruption watchdog, irregularities and corruption at different stages of the chain have become almost a custom in some cases. And various stakeholders, including factory owners, buyers, auditors and inspectors, are involved in it.

"We are habituated to blaming our factory owners, exporters and government employees. But buyers, who are buying and making profits, are no less responsible for irregularities," TIB Executive Director Dr Iftekharuzzaman said at a press conference at the TIB head office in the capital on Thursday.

ঢাকা পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড
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নির্ভরযোগ্য বিদ্যুৎ-উৎসফুল গ্রাহক গণশুনানি ও বিদ্যুৎ সংযোগ

গ্রাহক সেবার মান নিশ্চিত করার লক্ষ্যে ডিপিডিসি'র ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক নিম্নলিখিত দপ্তরসমূহে গণশুনানি ও বিদ্যুৎ সংযোগ বিষয়ে গ্রাহকের সাথে মত বিনিময় করবেন।

তারিখ	দপ্তরসমূহের গ্রাহকগণ	গণশুনানির স্থান	সময়
১৮/০১/২০১৬	এনওসিএস ডেমরা/সিদ্ধিরগঞ্জ/কাজলা/মানিক নগর/নারায়ণগঞ্জ (পূর্ব)/ নারায়ণগঞ্জ (পশ্চিম)।	প্রধান প্রকৌশলী, এনওসিএস (সাউথ) এর দপ্তর, ৩৩ ইসা খাঁ রোড নারায়ণগঞ্জ কিল্ডারপুল দোতলা ভবন।	সকাল-১০.০০টা থেকে দুপুর ১.০০টা
১৯/০১/২০১৬	এনওসিএস ফতুল্লা/শীতলক্ষ্যা/পোস্টগোলা/ জুরাইন/শ্যামপুর/মাতুয়াইল।		

উল্লিখিত নির্ধারিত স্থানে, নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময়ে ডিপিডিসি'র সম্মানিত গ্রাহকগণকে উপস্থিত থেকে বিদ্যুৎ সংযোগ ও বিদ্যুৎ বিষয়ক সমস্যাদি সরাসরি ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালককে অবহিত করে সেবা সুবিধা গ্রহণের জন্য অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।

গ্রাহকসেবার মান উন্নয়নে ডিপিডিসি বদ্ধপরিকর।

ডিপিডিসি কর্তৃপক্ষ