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Hunger stalks life in remote Thanchi

Local authorities show little interest in solving the problem

SANJOY KUMAR BARUA, Bandarban

The very existence of indigenous people deep inside Thanchi upazila of Bandarban remains shrouded in dense jungle...

Having been through a severe shortage of food for a month, some 25,000 people mostly from mro, khumi, tripura and marma communities...

Two more weeks have gone since the allocation of 180 tonnes of rice for the upazila but not even one-third of that has been distributed...

The well-known excuse is that it is difficult to go from Thanchi bazaar to the remote areas of Tindu and Remakri unions through the treacherous Sangu river.

It is even tougher to carry by small boats the relief materials to some 13,000 people living in those areas, said Thanchi Upazila Nirbahi Officer Anwar Hossain.

Besides, carrying one tonne of food to Tindu or Remakri costs more or less Tk 13,000.

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Getting no government relief, indigenous Mro women carry rice they bought from a local market to their homes in remote Remakri union of Bandarban's Thanchi upazila.

PHOTO: SANJOY KUMAR BARUA

Troops will be sent, if necessary

PM pledges to KSA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has assured the Saudi authorities that Bangladesh, if necessary, will send troops to protect the two holy sites of the Muslims -- Mecca and Madinah.



The prime minister told spontaneously [the Saudi authorities] that if any alliance is formed to protect these two holy sites, the Bangladesh Army will join that alliance.

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SEHRI, IFTAR TIMINGS table with columns for Ramadan, June, Sehri, and Iftar.

Transit gets operational

First consignment bound for Tripura to reach Ashuganj tomorrow

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and MD FAZLUR RAHMAN

Transit between Bangladesh and India is set to become fully operational with the first Indian consignment reaching Ashuganj tomorrow...

A Bangladeshi ship carrying the consignment of 1,000 tonnes of corrugated iron sheets started from Kolkata on June 3.

Anbis Development Ltd, a Bangladeshi operator, hired the ship to carry the goods from Kolkata to

Ashuganj, said its General Manager Mahmud-ur Rahman Siddiqui. The goods would be unloaded at Ashuganj port and then loaded onto Bangladeshi trucks...

With the arrival of the goods, India's request to Bangladesh for providing transit facilities would be met.

To make the transshipment a reality, the two countries signed a revised river

protocol in Dhaka in June last year.

Under the transit system, goods would be carried from Kolkata to Ashuganj through a river route and then from Ashuganj to Agartala, the capital of Tripura, through a land route.

The transshipment fee for carrying goods would be Tk 192.25 per tonne, said Mofizur Rahman, director (traffic) of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA).

Apart from the regular transit fee,

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Rising number of murders worries UN

Int'l groups call for urgent steps to reverse deteriorating climate for free expression in Bangladesh

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The UN rights chief yesterday expressed serious concern over the dramatic increase in brutal murders in Bangladesh and urged the authorities to ensure full respect for human rights...

cally increased number of brutal murders in Bangladesh that target freethinkers, liberals, religious minorities and LGBT activists.

In his opening speech at the session of United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva, Zeid shed light on

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Ashraf tears into JSD

Says AL may have to repent for having it in cabinet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Slating Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal for its role after the country's independence, Awami League General Secretary Syed Ashraf Islam yesterday said his party would have to repent for inducting a JSD member into the cabinet.

He also accused the JSD, a key component of the AL-led 14-party alliance, of making grounds for the assassination of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and creating controversy over the history of Liberation War.

Ashraf was speaking at the concluding session of a two-day extended meeting and workshop of Bangladesh Chhatra League at the TSC of Dhaka University.

"The political organisation named Jasad [JSD] is toadying us. One of them was inducted into the cabinet. It was a decision. If anyone errs while making a

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PHOTO: AFP

Mourners pay tribute to Orlando shooting victims in San Diego on Sunday.

Trump seems to connect Obama to mass shooting

US president says attack was homegrown

AGENCIES

The day after a shooting at an Orlando nightclub, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump railed against the president and warned that Muslims should be banned from entering the US...

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Exporters in trouble

Shahjalal airport again sees cargo backlog due to shortage of equipment

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

The exporters of perishable goods are in trouble again as Biman Bangladesh Airlines is going through a shortage of pallets and other cargo-loading equipment on the ground.

Usually, a Biman Boeing 777-300ER can hold 20 containers and eight pallets, on which the cargo is packed and loaded into planes, claimed exporters. But Biman has been running its activities with half of the

required equipment, they added. "I am hopeful that the crisis of pallets at the airport would be resolved by the first week of next month as we are importing those," said Rashed Khan Menon, minister of civil aviation and tourism.

The minister declined to comment further. In March, the exporters had incurred losses in millions of dollars by missing flights following Biman's failure to timely screen perishable goods.

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HC stays 10 cases against Star editor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday stayed for three months the proceedings of 10 cases against The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam.

The court also issued a rule upon the authorities concerned to explain why the initiation and continuation of the cases should not be declared illegal.

The home secretary, the inspector general of police and the complainants of the cases have been asked to respond to the rule.

The HC bench of Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Husain and Justice AKM Shahidul Huq gave the order after hearing a writ petition from the Star editor, who challenged the legality of the initiation of the case proceedings.

With yesterday's order,

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SIBL Social Islami Bank Limited PRAYER TIME JUNE 14

United Hospital 24/7 Appointment, Ambulance

Table with columns for item name, quantity, unit price, and total amount. Includes items like 'শুধু মূল্য সংযোজন কর', 'মুদ্রিত', 'সেবার কোড', etc.