



A notice at a bus counter in the capital's Gabtoli says no ticket is available for September 8, 9 and 10. Due to huge demand, many Eid holidaymakers had to return empty handed yesterday failing to get tickets for their desired dates.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

'Rab busts weapons factory'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Rapid Action Battalion yesterday claimed to have busted an arms-making factory in Ukhia of Cox's Bazar and detained an elderly man with components and equipment for making firearms.

Acting on a tip-off, a Rab team raided the hilly area of Choankhali and detained suspect Abul Hashim, 75, said Sarafat Islam, company commander of Crime Prevention Company-2 of Rab-7.

They recovered seven locally made guns and three partially made pistols and four bullets and firearm-making equipment, said Lt Col Miftah Uddin Ahmed, commanding officer of Rab-7. The drive began around 4:00pm and continued for two hours.

Mir Quasem

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financier of Jamaat, will not decide what to do next until his son, allegedly picked up by unidentified men 22 days ago, returns home, Ayesha told reporters.

His son Ahmed Bin Quasem was allegedly picked up from his Mirpur DOHS home in the capital on the night of August 9. He has remained traceless since then.

Inspector General of Prisons Brig Gen Syed Iftekhar Uddin, however, on Wednesday said the convict would get "reasonable time" to make his decision but the time would be more than seven days.

If Quasem, a central executive council member of Jamaat, seeks mercy, his plea will go to the president through the home ministry. If he doesn't, the jail authorities will prepare for his execution.

BACKGROUND
The SC on Tuesday dismissed Quasem's petition seeking a review of the judgment upholding his death penalty for crimes against humanity in 1971. The apex court released the full verdict and sent it to the International Crimes Tribunal.

The ICT then sent copies of the verdict to Dhaka Central Jail, the office of Dhaka district magistrate and law and home ministries. The Dhaka jail sent a copy to the Kashimpur jail.

Quasem, the chief of ruthless militia Al-Badr in Chittagong, had set up a torture camp during the Liberation War at Dalim Hotel in the port city. Torture and killing of many freedom-loving people were carried out on his instruction at the camp.

The ICT-2 sentenced him to death on two charges and awarded him different jail terms on eight other charges. He challenged the verdict at the apex court.

On March 8 this year, the SC upheld his death sentence on one charge -- the killing of young freedom fighter Jasim Uddin at Dalim Hotel -- and jail terms for his involvement in abduction, confinement and torture of freedom fighters and innocent people.

It, however, acquitted him of three other charges, including a murder charge on which he was sentenced to death by the ICT-2.

Quasem filed the review petition on June 19.

Mussolini's message

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the base of the monument but now - for the first time - two classical scholars have translated and studied what it says.

Bettina Reitz-Joosse and Han Lamers pieced together information found in libraries and archives in Rome to understand the text and created a book on what it means.

Mussolini unveiled the monument to the power of white marble in 1932. The giant obelisk of white marble bears the Latin inscription MVSSOLINI DVX.

What the cheering crowds didn't know when it was erected was that a metal box underneath it contained a few gold coins and the Codex Fori Mussolini.

The Codex, written by the classical scholar Aurelio Giuseppe Amatucci, presents a carefully constructed account of the rise of Italian Fascism and its leader Mussolini.

"Though written in the language of Roman antiquity, the Codex was supposed to reach audiences in the distant future.

"Placed under the obelisk with future excavation and rediscovery in mind, the Latin text was an attempt at directing the future reception of Italian Fascism," a blurb for the book explains.

Mussolini ruled the country as Prime Minister from 1922 until he was ousted

in 1943.

The three-part script 'presents Mussolini as a kind of new Roman emperor, but also, by using biblical language, as the saviour of the Italian people,' Dr Landers told the BBC.

Alongside the text is a medal showing Mussolini wearing a lionskin draped over his head.

Dr Reitz-Joosse believes the script was written in Latin in an attempt to link the Roman empire with the rise of fascism.

However, the text would only have been found if the monument to fascism was knocked down.

This month it was also revealed the crumbling tomb of Mussolini's murdered mistress may be demolished by authorities after her relatives failed to pay bills for its upkeep.

Clara Petacci, 33, who was executed by partisans near Lake Como alongside the former Italian leader, 61, in 1945, was buried in a tomb at the Verano cemetery in Rome.

But now city officials in Rome are reportedly concerned about what to do with Petacci's remains after the collapsing tomb was cordoned off for safety reasons.

About 1000 people visit the tomb each year compared to 100,000 people who visit Mussolini's tomb in his birthplace of Predappio, according to The Times.

City needs more of these

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ceramic urinal bowl looked clean. Another toilet meant for women has a mirror, bucket, ewer, toilet roll holder, and a soap case. The squatting stainless steel toilet pan was found clean as well.

"I clean the toilets at 11:00pm every night," said Rafiqul, who sleeps on a table on the footpath next to the toilets.

Locals said the surrounding area of the petrol pump used to be flooded with urine and faeces.

Now, the situation has changed for the better.

The footpath is now adorned with different types of plants. In the busiest area like Motijheel, Rafiqul even found a place to rear pigeons -- on top of the toilets.

One has to pay Tk 5 for urination and Tk 10 for defecation.

Rafiqul earns Tk 300-400 a day after bearing the maintenance cost of the toilets.

"Water costs Tk 220 per day while the electricity bill is Tk 60. There are costs of soap, washing powder and [toilet roll] tissue. In total, about Tk 400 is being spent on maintaining the toilets every day," he said.

During the lunch hour and evening, people crowd to use his toilets that are 19 months' old. Women often do not get the chance to use the toilet meant for them at peak hours as men use that one as well.

Demanding another toilet for female, he said, "Had there been another toilet for female, I would have kept it reserved for their use only."

Fifty-one mobile toilets have been set up in the city by ARBAN in associa-

Commendable

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Rani's classmate Nadisha Akhtar, also a scout member, said they were ready for the repair work for the good of the students.

Contacted, Bhaluka UNO appreciated the girls' role, saying the girls did a great job.

As different types of heavy vehicles run on the link road for transportation of fish to different parts of the country from here, it is difficult to keep the road fit round the year, said the UNO.

In the coming dry season, the road would be reconstructed so that students could go to their educational institutions without facing any problems, the UNO added.

tion with WaterAid Bangladesh, an international NGO, and both the city corporations of Dhaka.

Mohebur Rahman, specialist on public sanitation option at ARBAN, said they would soon set up multi-chamber toilets with a facility for physically-challenged people.

Four people will be able to use such a 16-foot toilet at a time, he added.

One killed

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a three-storey residential building at Bangabandhu Road around 12:30am when the vehicle caught fire and exploded.

Mizanur Rahman, 50, a dealer of Padma Oil Company, has been using the ground floor of the building as a depot for fuel including octane and diesel.

In no time, the fire spread and took a serious turn as there were hundreds of drums filled with fuel on the ground floor rented by Mizanur.

On information, five fire service units rushed to the spot and took three hours to bring the fire under control.

Six people, including Mizanur and his 23-year-old son Raihan, who suffered severe burns were sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). Raihan later died at the hospital.

The others are Noor Mohammad, 21, Badsha Miah, 50, Masud Hossain, 28, and Belal Hossain, 35.

Another burn victim received treatment at Chandpur Sadar Hospital. The injured others were treated at local hospitals.

Belal Hossain, a physician at Chandpur Government General Hospital, said that of the six burn victims referred to the DMCH, four sustained 80 to 90 percent burns while two others 50 to 60 percent.

Assistant Director of Chandpur North Fire Service Station Ratan Dutta said the extent of damage could not be estimated yet. There were diesel, petrol, octane, kerosene and gas cylinders in the warehouse.

The tanker was completely destroyed and most part of the building burnt.

Additional Superintendent of Police Asrafuzzaman said police were looking into the matter how Mizanur was using a residential building for business purpose.

Security must

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and order during the Eid-ul-Azha. The meeting was held at the home ministry auditorium with Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal in the chair.

Top officials of all law enforcement agencies, fire brigade, Border Guard Bangladesh, representatives of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA) and Bangladesh Tanners Association were present at the meeting.

Sources said the meeting decided to prepare a database of all employees of garment sectors and keep a close watch on them so that no one could get involved in militant activities.

The meeting asked the leaders of BGMEA, BKMEA and Bangladesh Tanners Association to pay salary and bonus to their workers before September 10 ahead of the Eid-ul-Azha and to grant their workers Eid-ul-Azha leave in phases to avert traffic jam on the highways.

Briefing journalists, the home chief said they would provide 24-hour security to 23 sacrificial animal haats in the capital and set up fake note detecting machines there.

Security would also be beefed up at all shopping malls in the capital for smooth Eid shopping, he added.

Kamal said there would be 15 watchtowers on Dhaka-Tangail highway to ensure security as well as to monitor the traffic situation.

The home minister added that there would be fire brigade teams and divers at all ferry terminals for emergency rescue if any accident happened.

Accused Obaidul

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investigators said.

During primary interrogation, Obaidul admitted his crime, Shibli Noman, assistant commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (Ramna Zone), told The Daily Star yesterday afternoon.

Eighth grader Risha was stabbed near her school in broad daylight. After a few days of struggling for life in the hospital, Risha breathed her last on August 28.

Obaidul was arrested at Domar upazila of Nilphamari and brought to Ramna Police Station around 11:00pm Wednesday night. Obaidul told police that he stabbed the girl as she refused his love, said police sources.

Meanwhile, a Dhaka court yesterday placed him on a six-day remand in connection with the killing.

Metropolitan Magistrate Delwar Hossain passed the order after Inspector (investigation) Ali Hossain of Ramna Police Station, also the investigation officer of the case, produced him before it with a 10-day remand prayer.

Obaidul did not get any lawyer to defend him during yesterday's remand hearing and he did not say anything against the remand prayer.

In tears, Risha's parents were present at the court yesterday but they did not say anything.

Obaidul, who used to work at a tailor shop in Dhaka, fled a day after stabbing Risha and went to his village home at Miradangi in Birganj upazila of Dinajpur on August 25, sources said.

After days of being on the run, Obaidul was arrested.

Students of Willes Little Flower School continued their demonstration yesterday forming a human chain in front of their school in Kakrail demanding justice. They have been agitating since the incident and threatened to go for tougher movement if necessary.

India making floods

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Khaleda spoke at the party's founding anniversary programme as the chief guest. In the previous years, Khaleda used to sit in the audience row in such programme, party insiders said.

In her hour long speech, Khaleda alleged that in the dry season, India diverts water from different joint rivers with Bangladesh and does not open the Farakka Barrage.

"But in the rainy season, they open the gates of the barrage for their own interest, which worsens flood situation in our country," she said.

"We don't have enmity or bad relations with our neighbour. We can resolve the problem through discussion to ensure our rights," she added.

The BNP chief also lambasted the Awami League for signing treaties with India that went against the country's interest.

She again called upon the government to cancel the Rampal coal-based power plant, considering adverse effect on the Sundarbans.

Pointing to the recent killing of militants in "gunfights" with law enforcers, Khaleda questioned whether they were actually mili-

tants.

She also came up with an explanation on the claims of Rapid Action Battalion and police on different times about arresting militants.

"The fact is that law enforcement agencies arrest some people and keep them without food and unshaven for several days. Then they have a bizarre look. Law enforcement agencies then bring those people before the media, claiming them as militants," she added.

"The militant suspects should be awarded punishment through legal procedures. Instead, the government is killing them. Even in some cases, their family members are also being harassed which cannot be acceptable," she added.

Khaleda yesterday opened her official fan page and personal accounts in different social media platforms, including Facebook and Twitter.

The former premier officially started publishing her status and opinions on the Facebook page and Twitter account at the programme.

In her first tweet, she says: "Appeal of the founding anniversary day -- let us defeat the autocratic rule, get united and build free and democratic country."

Bangladeshi woman

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victim was wearing traditional Muslim clothing when she was attacked. Police are not categorising it as such, according to PIX11 News.

The killing came hard on the heels of the killing of a Bangladeshi imam and his assistant in New York on August 13. The two Bangladeshi expatriates were Alauddin Akonjee, 55, imam of Al-Furqan Jame Mosque in Ozone Park, and his associate Tara Uddin, 64.

Chief of Detectives Robert Boyce, who arrived at the scene about 7:00am yesterday (NY time), said there was nothing to indicate this incident was a hate crime, reports PIX11 News.

Still, the Muslim community in Queens has been on edge since the execution-style killing of an imam and his associate. In that case, the victims were wearing religious attire but police have not commented on whether the shootings were a hate crime.

The slayings happened about five miles from where Nazma was killed.

Nazma, wife of Shamsul Alam of Atipara in Shariatpur, was a teacher of Shariatpur Govt Girls School, a correspondent reports from the district citing victim's relatives.

Eanyet Hossain, brother of Nazma, said his sister along with her husband, who was a teacher of Shariatpur Govt College, and one of their sons Naimul Alam left Bangladesh for the US in 2008 and the couple was running a

grocery store.

Their two children live in Bangladesh.

Citing relatives in the US, Enayet said miscreants stabbed her when she was returning home from their shop.

"My sister was a good person ... she has no enemy there ... Why was she killed?" Enayet said, adding that the body would be sent to Bangladesh after the completion of legal procedures.

PIX11 News reported that Nazma was reportedly walking ahead of her husband when she was attacked. Her husband was not able to save her in time.

"Her husband was one and a half blocks behind her and he didn't see anything," said Mohammed Rahman, a nephew of the victim.

The NYPD Muslim Officers Society tweeted about the incident, saying Nazma was the aunt of a city transit officer.

"Very sad to announce the death of the aunt of our member PO Kabir #TD2 @NYPDTransit who was stabbed in @NYPD107Pct tonight lets catch the perp," reads the group's tweet.

Sources said it was unknown if the attacker had made off with any of Nazma's belongings. Her nephew said police told him they did not.

"This neighbourhood, it's never happened like this," Rahman said. "I'm living here, like, six years."

'There will be no amnesty'

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route" to gain legal status if Trump were to win the Nov 8 presidential election: "To return home and apply for re-entry."

He added: "There will be no amnesty."

The billionaire candidate's plan includes deporting immigrants with criminal records, cancelling President Barack Obama's executive orders protecting millions of undocumented migrants, and blocking federal funding to so-called "sanctuary cities" that bar discrimination against the undocumented.

Clinton has expressed support for a pathway to citizenship for most of America's undocumented. Her campaign called Trump's performance part of his "campaign of hate".

Trump again vowed that Mexico would pay for construction of a "great border wall" between the two countries. He spoke hours after Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto told Trump in a face-to-face meeting in Mexico City that Mexico would not pay for it.

"We will build a great wall along the southern border," Trump said. "And Mexico will pay for the wall - 100 percent. They don't know it yet, but they're going to pay for the wall."

Trump said at a joint news conference with Pena Nieto that he and the Mexican leader did not discuss who would pay for the wall. Pena Nieto remained silent on the issue at the event, but said later on Twitter he did raise the issue.

"At the beginning of the conversation with Donald Trump I made it clear that Mexico will not pay for the wall," Pena Nieto said in a tweet.

Nieto, speaking on TV shortly after, went on the offensive still further, saying Trump posed a threat to his country: "His policy threats could represent a huge threat to Mexico, and I am not prepared to keep my arms crossed and do nothing," he said.

"That risk, that threat, must be confronted. I told him that is not the way to build a mutually beneficial relationship for both nations."

Trump used the Phoenix speech to clarify his stance on illegal immigration after prevaricating on the issue last week. He returned to the headline rhetoric that powered him to the Republican presidential nomination over 16 rivals, heartening those conservatives drawn to Trump by the issue.

Trump's "America First" positions are aimed at rallying mainly middle class white people who feel they have lost jobs to illegal immigrants or to the outsourcing of jobs abroad.

However, he may have put himself at risk of limiting his ability to broaden his base of support to include more Hispanic-Americans and more moderate Republican voters who do not think it is possible or practical to crack down on all illegal immigrants.

In his speech, Trump emphasized that his priority would be to quickly deport those among the undocumented population who have committed serious crimes.

A Rajuk peon

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He bought a 166.21 square feet shop in Shahin's name at Uttara Rajuk Commercial Market in 2013. The price of the shop is Tk 30 lakh, the ACC official said.

In 2014, Mobarak's wife inherited a 225.28 decimal land in Jhenidah.

She also got another three kathas of land as Heba Dalil (verbal donation). This piece of land is next to their leased plot in Uttara Sector-11.

The Rajuk staff had built eight tin-roofed houses spending Tk 12.56 lakh on this three katha land.

Pranab said Mobarak and his wife amassed a total of Tk 2.53 crore.

"Of the Tk 2,53,81,895, Mobarak could not show any document for Tk 1,38,81,895," he said, adding that Mobarak, as it seems, has earned the wealth beyond known source of income.

That is why the commission issued the notice, Pranab said.

The Daily Star could not reach Mobarak for comments.