

# Dhaka loses

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BCCRF beyond 2017," said an official who did not want to be named. The BCCRF had received around \$130 million from a number of donors, including the European Union, Australia, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, USA and the UK, since it was set up.

The annual report of BCCRF mentions that all activities financed through the BCCRF are governed by Bank Policies and Procedures, especially on trust fund management, financial management, procurement, environmental and social safeguards.

The Bank's Trusteeship continues until the end disbursement date of the BCCRF. The original BCCRF end disbursement date was June 30, 2015. In July 2012, the end disbursement date was rescheduled to June 30, 2017.

Earlier, in a statement, the World Bank confirmed that the BCCRF had been closed after a joint decision by donors and the bank.

"Following a review of BCCRF, the donors and the bank jointly decided not to extend the trusteeship, and communicated the desire for strategic planning for a pipeline of climate financed projects," the WB statement read.

Bangladesh is considered as one of the top vulnerable countries to have the negative impacts of global warming, according to studies of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Scientists and climate experts predicted that Bangladesh needs billions of dollars for adaptation.

Apart from the government's fund, Bangladesh also formed another fund called Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund (BCCTF) and now has allocated about \$400 million equivalent towards tackling climate change.

Though BCCTF and BCCRF had different government structures, both funds supported climate change related projects identified under the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategic and Action Plan (BCCSAP).

# UNO's nod

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uploaded from that mobile or someone had stolen his password and uploaded that photo from another device.

The committee has also identified 15 to 20 people who led the attacks on the Hindu community.

Police have so far arrested 74 people. The committee has 30 recommendations to prevent such incidents from happening in future.

Those include investigating all such incidents that had happened in Brahmanbaria and ensuring punishment of all criminals in those cases, taking precautions before giving permission to a rally, increasing communication between local people and police-administration officials, creating awareness among people so that they do not get instigated by fake photos and improving communication of religious leaders of different communities with the administration and police.

Asked if Rasraj uploaded the photo, he said police were investigating to find out the culprits.

# Grooving

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chairman of organiser Sun Events, delivered a welcome address, thanking the prime minister and the partners and sponsors, the Army and the police, for their assistance and support for the festival.

On behalf of the sponsors, Syed Mahbubur Rahman, managing director and CEO of Dhaka Bank; Sonia Bashir Kabir, managing director of Microsoft Bangladesh and Yasir Azman, chief marketing officer of Grameenphone; spoke next.

Anisul Haq, mayor of Dhaka North City Corporation, spoke at the event. "The folk music of our region influenced classical music, Rabindranath and Nazrul," he said, thanking the organisers for bringing Bangladesh's culture close to the country's youth.

Addressing the programme as chief guest, Finance Minister AMA Muhiuh said people of this country are cultured, because an affinity to music and dance is inherent in every Bangladeshi.

He said folk music is a great exponent of our rich culture, and thanked Anisul Chowdhury for organising such an event.

Tuntun Baul, another noted folk exponent of the country, took the stage next. He opened with a Lalon song "Bolo Swarup" and performed "Ke Banailo Emon Rongmohol Khana" and more.

The audience kept pouring in as the next performers on the day's lineup included Simon Thacker (UK) featuring Raju Das Baul (India) and Farida Yasmin (Bangladesh), celebrated Pakistani qawwal Javed Bashir and the crowd favourite, the soulful and energetic Momtaz.

The three-day festival, organised by Sun Events and presented by Meril, continues today and tomorrow from 6:00pm-midnight every day at the venue, and features performers from seven countries.

# CJ's status

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On January 11 last year, a five-member bench of the Appellate Division of the SC, headed by the then chief justice Md Muzammel Hossain, delivered a short verdict after disposing of the appeal against the 2010 HC order that declared the existing Warrant of Precedence illegal and void.

The bench included Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha (now chief justice), Justice Md Abdul Wahhab Miah, Justice Hasan Foez Siddique and Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury (retired).

In its full verdict, the SC observed that the freedom fighters, honoured with gallantry award Bir Uttam, should be included in the table of the Warrant of Precedence.

"As such, it is expected that those dignitaries who have been honoured or decorated with civil awards, e.i., Swadhinata Padak, or Ekushey Padak, and those valiant freedom fighters who have been honoured with gallantry awards of Bir Uttam should be included in the table of the impugned Warrant of Precedence in such order as deemed appropriate," it said.

"... The judges of the Appellate Division should be placed at serial no 7 and those of the High Court Division as well as the attorney general be placed at serial no 8. The members of parliament, the comptroller and auditor general and ombudsman should be placed at serial no 12.

"The chairman of the Public Service Commission should also be placed at serial no 15 in the impugned Warrant of Precedence. We hope that the government shall act accordingly in the light of the above observation," the bench noted.

In the existing warrant of precedence, the position of the Appellate Division judges is eighth and that of the HC Division judges is ninth.

The attorney general, the comptroller and auditor general, and the ombudsman hold 15th, parliament members 13th, and the PCB chairman 16th position.

In the verdict, the apex court directed the government to amend the Warrant of Precedence, giving priority to the constitutional functionaries.

"As the constitution is the supreme law of the land, all constitutional functionaries shall be placed first in order of priority in the table of the impugned Warrant of Precedence," the SC judges said.

"Members of judicial service holding the posts of district judges or equivalent posts of district judges shall be placed at serial no 16 in the table along with the secretaries to the government and equivalent public servants in the service of the republic. Additional district judges or holders of equivalent judicial posts shall be placed at the serial number 17 immediately after the district judges," they added.

Talking to The Daily Star, Additional Attorney General Murad Reza said they would decide on moving a petition before the apex court for its judgement on the Warrant of Precedence after scrutinising it and consulting with the authorities concerned.

Asked, Sabbir Faiz, additional registrar of the HC Division of the SC, said the judicial officials are happy with the SC verdict, as they had been fighting for it for several years.

Following a writ petition, the HC on February 4, 2010, directed the government to issue a new Warrant of Precedence for the republic's officers and give district judges and equivalent judicial officers precedence over the chiefs of the armed forces, and government secretaries.

Now, the cabinet secretary, the chiefs of staff of the army, the navy and the air force, and the principal secretary to the PM hold 12th position.

Earlier in 2006, Md Ataur Rahman, a former secretary general of Bangladesh Judicial Service Association, filed the petition on behalf of the organisation.

The petition said the Cabinet Division had framed the existing Warrant of Precedence in 1986 in an arbitrary manner, without evaluating the dignity and status of judicial officials.

Later in 2011, the cabinet secretary filed the appeal with the SC on behalf of the government, challenging the HC

# Riders hand Titans

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the wicket of Mohammad Shahzad, who was caught and bowled by Junaid Khan for 13.

Earlier, Afridi and Sunny combined to take seven wickets to bundle out Khulna Titans for just 44 runs in 10.4 overs.

It was the lowest total in the four seasons of the BPL so far and the joint-third lowest in T20 matches overall. The 64 balls that Khulna lasted was also the joint-fourth shortest innings in T20 history.

Rangpur Riders skipper Naem Islam called correctly at the toss for the day's lone match in the evening, and the Titans' procession of batsmen started from the first over, with Shohag Gazi bowling Nicholas Pooran off the second ball of the innings.

Abdul Mazid was run out in the third over and when Richard Gleeson got rid of Khulna skipper Mahmudullah Riyad in the following over, the signs were clear.

Afridi then came in and snapped up Riki Wessels (bowled), Alok Kapali (leg-before) and Shuvagata Hom (bowled) in the space of two overs -- the fifth and the seventh -- to have Khulna at 31 for six.

Sunny then repeated the dose, getting rid of Ariful Haque and Junaid Khan in the ninth over. Afridi then came back to pick up his fourth wicket -- that of Nur Alam -- in the 10th over to bring Khulna down to 44 for nine. He finished that over, his third, having conceded just 12 runs and taken four wickets.

Sunny then wrapped things up by bowling Mohammad Asghar for even more astonishing figures of three wickets for zero runs in 2.4 overs. In doing so, he became the bowler to bowl the most balls in a T20 innings without conceding a run.

There was only one double-digit score in Khulna's sorry innings, Shuvagata's 12, while four batsmen were dismissed for ducks.

# Bangladeshis

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scripted reply. He quoted the latest statistics of the immigration department while giving the figures.

Zahid said, "The hiring of foreign workers is a temporary measure to fill the job vacancies. After the employment period is over, they are required to go back to their country of origin."

Now, the governments of Bangladesh and Malaysia are in the final talks to start the recruitment of the workers from Dhaka under private managements for only three sectors -- construction, manufacture and services, said officials.

This time the entire recruitment process will be maintained online, they added.

vested interests in both the countries. Malaysia has declared that it would recruit 1.5 million Bangladeshis over the next three years through private sector, but the move got halted following a hue and cry by the trade unions and civil society in Malaysia over alleged involvement of syndicates that wanted to control the recruitment process.

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# Manna

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Ataur Rahman Khan granted the bail to Manna after hearing his bail petition.

Deputy Attorney General Md Bashirullah said the HC earlier had granted him bail in a sedition case, but the Supreme Court stayed the order. Therefore, he cannot be freed now.

The government will move an appeal in the Supreme Court challenging yesterday's HC order, Bashirullah told The Daily Star.

Manna was arrested on February 25 last year, a day after audio of his phone conversations with BNP leader Sadeque Hossain Khoka regarding strengthening the anti-government movement, among many other issues, was leaked.

The same day, a case was filed against the former Awami League leader for instigating the armed forces to topple the government.

On March 5 last year, Gulshan police lodged the sedition case against him.

# Another injured

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Subrata, OC of Gobindaganj, rejected the allegation of patrol by outsiders.

Santal people who are now not allowed to leave the villages over security concerns are in fear of fresh attacks.

Women prefer to stay at home while most male members of the community fled fearing arrest.

Tarun Murmu, an affected Santal, said even after criminals set fire to their houses, looted and damaged their properties in front of police, the local administration was yet to form a committee to find out what had prompted law enforcers to fire shots that left two Santals dead.

"We demand a probe into the incident," he said.

The administration has not yet prepared a list of those affected either.

Abdul Hannan, Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Gobindaganj, along with the OC visited Madarpur and Joypur yesterday.

Talking to The Daily Star on phone, he said there was no arson and eviction drive on Sunday.

The UNO, however, said policemen fired bullets as Santals shot arrows when law enforcers tried to remove them from the land that they claim of their forefathers.

Meanwhile, Santal children have not been attending school.

Abdul Baki, headmaster of Sahebganj Farm High School, said his school has some 60 students from the indigenous community but they were absent from classes since Sunday.

Rafayel Hasda, a leader of the community, said Dijen Tudu, who had received wounds around his eyes and had been shown arrested, was at Rangpur Medical College Hospital, but he should immediately be transferred to an eye hospital.

Advicis said some people of their community were still missing.

Abdus Sattar, deputy commissioner of Gaibandha, said the authority would investigate Sunday's incident.

Abul Kalam Azad, lawmaker of Gaibandha-4, described the attack on Santals as inhuman.

Visiting Madarpur and Joypur villages, he said the landless people would be rehabilitated as early as possible.

A team of rights body Ain o Salish Kendra along with other human rights organisations visited the areas.

In Rangpur, students of Begum Rokya University formed a human chain in front of the press club protesting the attack, looting and arson.

They also demanded exemplary punishment to the people who had caused deaths and injuries of Santal men.

# Greening disease

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The hope has been to reduce reliance on imported citrus fruits, with Bangladesh currently spending large amounts of money to import around 1.1 lakh tonnes each year in order to meet a national demand for citrus fruits of 2.5 lakh tonnes per annum.

According to the scientists citrus greening disease could undermine national expansion efforts and create significant citrus fruit shortages in the future. If this disease can be checked, say the scientists, the government's plan to reduce dependence on imported citrus fruit will have the best chance of success.

# Rubik's Cube

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making commercial use of their inventions without their approval for a certain period of time while trademarks give intellectual property owners' an exclusive and perpetual right to their designs, logos, phrases or words as long as they use them.

The German company took its case to the Luxembourg-based European Union Court of Justice (ECJ) after EUIPO and a lower EU court dismissed its lawsuit.

ECJ judges agreed with Simba Toys' arguments. Their decision is final and cannot be appealed.

"In examining whether registration ought to be refused on the ground that shape involved a technical solution, EUIPO and the General Court should also have taken into account non-visible functional elements represented by that shape, such as its rotating capability," they said.

EUIPO will now have to issue a new decision based on the ECJ judgment.

Apart from logos and brand names, three dimensional (3D) objects can also be trademarked, such as the design of Nestle's Perrier bottles or the colour of Duracell batteries.

Rubik's Brand Ltd's president David Kremer said he was baffled that the court ruled that functionality or a technical solution is implicit in the trademark.

"This judgment sets a damaging precedent for companies wishing to innovate and create strong brands and distinctive marks within the EU, and is not what European lawmakers intended when they legislated for 3D trademarks," he said.

# Obama 'a very good man'

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"Here's a good rule. Don't answer questions when they just start yelling," Obama told Trump, referring to the press.

Trump thanked Obama for the meeting which he said had originally been scheduled for 10 minutes and went on for 90.

"Mr President, it was a great honor being with you and I look forward to being with you many, many more times," Trump said, adding that he and Obama had spoken about some wonderful and difficult things and "some high-flying assets."

It was not immediately clear about what he meant.

As the pool of reporters were led out, Trump told them several times that Obama was "a very good man."

White House officials said that the two men had discussed a range of issues including Obama's meetings with leaders from Germany, Greece and across the Asia-Pacific during foreign travel next week.

On that trip, Obama is likely to be inundated with panicked questions about America's role in world affairs.

HINTS OF NEW CABINET  
The Obama-Trump meet came as first hints of the new US cabinet emerged.

On Wednesday, Trump huddled at Trump Tower in New York with a group of advisers, planning a transition strategy to take over stewardship of the world's largest economy.

Trump's early list of potential appointments to top positions appears to reward people who were loyal to him after a campaign in which many Republican Party leaders kept their distance.

Jeff Sessions, an Alabama senator who was one of Trump's most fervent supporters in the US Congress, is said to be under consideration for a prominent role, perhaps defense secretary, sources familiar with transition planning said on Wednesday.

Retired General Michael Flynn emerged as a possible pick for Trump's national security adviser, the sources said.

Flynn, a former director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, played a prominent role during the campaign, often serving as an introductory speaker at campaign rallies and has provided private counsel on foreign affairs.

In addition, former House of Representatives Newt Gingrich and US Senator Bob Corker of Tennessee were also considered potential selections for secretary of state, the sources said. Corker chairs the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Both Corker and Gingrich had been under discussion as potential vice presidential picks for Trump, a position that eventually went to Indiana Governor Mike Pence.

These same sources said Republican National Committee Reince Priebus, who has emerged as a trusted adviser to the New York businessman, was being talked about as a potential White House chief of staff.

A Priebus deputy, RNC senior strategist Sean Spicer, was a possibility for White House press secretary.

Trump's campaign manager, Kellyanne Conway, who helped bring about a more disciplined approach to the candidate, was seen as potential White House senior adviser.

Retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson, who endorsed Trump after dropping out of the 2016 Republican presidential nomination fight, was a possible education secretary.

Richard Grenell, a former spokesman for the United States at the United Nations, was a potential US ambassador to the United Nations, as was New York Republican Representative Peter King.

Mike Rogers, a former chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, was in the mix for CIA director, the sources said.

Late Wednesday, anger over the Republican property mogul's upset election win over Clinton spilled out onto the streets of US cities as chanting

# 'Stalkers' beat

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As the girl and her classmates were returning home in a battery-run easy bike yesterday, Shamim along with his five associates intercepted the vehicle and asked the girl to give her mobile phone number. As her classmates protested it, Shamim and his associates beat them up with sticks, they said. Later, locals rescued them.

The girl said she was travelling with her classmates as she was afraid of Shamim.

Babul Miah, headmaster of Binodpur Public High School, demanded exemplary punishment to the culprits. He also said a case would be filed against them.

Shariatpur Sadar Hospital's Resident Medical Officer Sumon Kumar said there were injury marks on the students' bodies. They were undergoing treatment and that they would get better in two to three days.

Palong Model Police Station's Officer-in-Charge Khalilur Rahman said filing of a case was underway. Drives were on to arrest the culprits, he added.

protesters lit bonfires and snarled traffic.

After Trump's shock election win, which virtually no poll had predicted, both sides spoke of healing the deep divisions sown in a bruising two-year campaign.

Trump's vanquished Democratic rival Clinton, holding back the bitter disappointment of not becoming America's first female president, urged the country to give Trump a chance.

"We owe him an open mind and the chance to lead," she said Wednesday in a concession speech.

Obama, addressing disconsolate staff in the White House Rose Garden on Wednesday, played down Trump's win as part of the messy "zig-zag movement of a democracy."

"Sometimes you lose an argument," he said, adding that all Americans should now be "rooting" for Trump's success.

In the battle for the soul of America, those who helped elect its first black president now appear to be in retreat and pondering whether his eight years in power have come to naught.

Both Obama and Clinton issued a faint -- but clear -- warning that Trump must respect institutions and the rule of law if a modicum of goodwill is to hold.

That "likely" observance of rule of law may not suffice for Washington's partners and allies, who see an entire global political order built around US leadership cast into doubt.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel was quick to underscore the importance of shared democratic values.

"On the basis of these values, I offer close cooperation to the future president of the United States of America," she said.

Europe, already beset by financial and social crises and internal divisions, now faces existential questions about its own security. Trump has questioned the US-led Nato's key collective defense guarantee.

The leaders of America's neighbors, Canada and Mexico, quickly made clear their willingness to work with the new president.

President Enrique Pena Nieto of Mexico, a prime target of Trump's anti-immigration campaign rhetoric, reached out to congratulate the incoming leader and announced they would soon meet.

The Republican Party leadership too, embraced their newfound champion.

House Speaker Paul Ryan, who had distanced himself from Trump in the final month of the campaign, pledged to "hit the ground running" and work with him on conservative legislation.

The two, along with Vice President-elect Mike Pence, met on Capitol Hill for lunch after Trump's talks with Obama.

During a bitter campaign that tugged at America's democratic fabric, the tycoon pledged to deport illegal immigrants, ban Muslims from the country and tear up free-trade deals.

Those campaign messages were embraced by a large section of America, grown increasingly disgruntled by the scope of social and economic change under Obama.

But they were passionately rejected by Clinton supporters.

Thousands of protesters -- in New York, Los Angeles, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, Portland and other cities and school campuses -- rallied Wednesday to express continued opposition to the incoming leader they accuse of racism, sexism and xenophobia.

In Los Angeles, a giant Trump head was burned in effigy.

# Palestinian president says he knows who killed Arafat

AFP, Ramallah  
Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas said yesterday he knew who killed Yasser Arafat as he marked the 12th anniversary of the former leader's death but stopped short from giving a name.

Speaking in front of thousands, Abbas said "you ask me who killed him, I know -- but my testimony alone is not enough."

"A commission of inquiry is digging into that, but you'll find out at the earliest opportunity and be amazed when you know who did it."

"I do not want to mention names, because these names do not deserve to be remembered," he added.

Arafat rose to become the leader of the Palestinian movement in the late 1960s, leading an armed struggle against Israel.

He died on November 11, 2004 at a hospital near Paris from unknown causes at the age of 75.

More than a decade after his death, he remains a towering figure in Palestinian culture, politics and society.