

BGB, coast guards on alert to check infiltration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Border Guard Bangladesh and the Bangladesh Coast Guard are on alert along the border with Myanmar so that people from Myanmar cannot enter Bangladesh, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan said yesterday.
"A sense of unease is prevailing along the border with Myanmar," the home boss said while talking to journalists after a meeting of the national committee on resisting smuggling.
The minister came up with the remark when hundreds of Rohingya people are trying to flee a military crackdown by

Fresh worries over fleeing Rohingyas

Despite heightened efforts of border, coast guards, many from Myanmar infiltrate into Bangladesh thru' Teknaf border

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar
Ali Hossain along with four members of his family was waiting for a bus in Hoyaikong Bazar area on Cox's Bazar-Teknaf highway around noon yesterday.
He was accompanied by his mother Jahera Begum, sister Halima Khatun and Halima's two minor children. They were going to their relatives in a village in the district's Chakoria upazila.
Behind this seemingly ordinary scene, there is a story of pain and suffering. Ali Hossain is a Rohingya Muslim, often called one of the most persecuted minority groups in the world.
The 30-year-old said they were among some 15 Myanmar nationals who crossed

the Naf river in small boats before dawn and entered Bangladesh through Lombabeel in Hoyaikong union of Teknaf upazila.
They are from Kuikkhali in Maungdaw of Myanmar's Rakhine state.
Ali said they fled to evade "torture by Myanmar army".
Moulavi Syed Karim from Myanmar's Raimmya Ghona area and Habibullah from Keyari Para, two other Rohingyas, left home for the same reason -- to escape persecution.
"Myanmar army burned down our houses and killed our relatives," alleged Habibullah.
Along with their relatives, they entered Bangladesh through Jhimongkhali of Hoyaikong on Friday.

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120 killed in Indian train accident

More than 200 injured; probe launched as damaged tracks blamed for accident

AFP, Pukhrayan
Emergency workers raced to find any more survivors in the mangled wreckage of an Indian train that derailed yesterday, killing at least 120 people, in the worst disaster to hit the country's ageing rail network in recent years.
Shocked passengers recalled being

jolted out of their early morning slumber by a violent thud as 14 carriages leapt from the tracks in a remote area near Kanpur city in Uttar Pradesh state.
Survivors also told of their desperate search for loved-ones on the train, which was carrying at least one wedding party with the marriage season in

India in full swing.
"My 12-year-old daughter is missing, I have been looking for her for hours," a survivor told AFP at the accident site, breaking into uncontrollable sobs.
"My wife has received serious head injuries and I have lost all my

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Rescue workers search for survivors at the site of a train derailment in Pukhrayan, south of Kanpur city, India, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS



Titans triumph to take top spot

SPORTS REPORTER
Khulna Titans reached the top of the seven-team Bangladesh Premier League table with a convincing 22-run win over Barisal Bulls at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong yesterday. The Titans were powered by a couple of sparkling innings from skipper Mahmudullah Riyad and Riki Wessels, before Shafiqul Islam notched career-best T20 figures of four for 17 to skittle Barisal out for 129 in 19.3 overs.
Barisal had dithered too long in their chase of 151, and the loss of skipper

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NCC Polls BNP makes a shortlist of 2

Party may name its final mayoral candidate today

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and RASHIDUL HASAN

The BNP has shortlisted two mayoral candidates for the December 22 Narayanganj City Corporation election.
They are ABM Kamal, Narayanganj city BNP secretary, and Shakhawat Hossain, a leader of the city BNP.
The party is expected to name its final candidate today.
Sources said the party was not considering Taimur Alam Khondoker as a candidate anymore, mainly because of his repeated refusal to contest in the polls.
BNP chief Khaleda Zia last night held a closed-door meeting with Taimur, Kamal and Shakhawat and then made the shortlist, party sources said.
Talking to The Daily Star Taimur said he categorically told Khaleda that it was meaningless to take part in the election under the present "subserving" Election Commission.
Shakhawat Hossain, also a prosecution counsel in the Narayanganj seven-murder case, confirmed and that he and Kamal were indeed on the shortlist.

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"Discuss with parties that have representatives in parliament and adopt a realistic system for holding elections. ... Those not in parliament have no right to talk about this."

JATIYA PARTY CHAIRMAN
HM ERSHAD
AT A PROGRAMME IN THE CAPITAL YESTERDAY ABOUT AN ACCEPTABLE ELECTION SYSTEM

HONOUR for a young hero

Mother, brother of Faraaz receive Mother Teresa Award for his bravery during Gulshan cafe attack

"When my son stood by his friends, including Tarishi who was an Indian, he represented true Islam while those who murdered them were monsters. I refuse to accept the terrorists were Muslims."
SIMEEN HOSSAIN, MOTHER OF FARAAZ AYZAZ HOSSAIN

"Faraaz is a hero and we feel privileged to honour him."
HARMONY FOUNDATION'S PRESIDENT ABRAHAM MATHAI

Faraaz Ayaaz Hossain's mother Simeen Hossain, with her son Zaraif Ayaat Hossain beside her, receives the Harmony Foundation's Mother Teresa Memorial Award for Social Justice 2016 conferred on Faraaz from former Afghanistan president Hamid Karzai at a Mumbai hotel last night.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The bravery and selflessness he showed with death staring him in the face is a source of inspiration for people across the globe.
During the July 1 terror attack at Holy Artisan Bakery in Dhaka, 20-year-old Faraaz Ayaaz Hossain refused to desert his friends and was brutally killed by the terrorists.
His sacrifice is now being recognised all over the world.
Yesterday, he was posthumously awarded Mother Teresa Memorial International Award for Social Justice 2016 at a ceremony at the JW Marriott, Sahar, Mumbai.

PHOTO: AFP
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