

# Ctg cop held with yaba

## 5 lakh pills seized in Cox's Bazar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A police official was arrested along with 1,700 yaba tablets on Saturday night when he was trying to sell those in Chittagong city's Kotwali area. The police official seized the tablets from a yaba trader around two weeks ago. Redwanul Islam, assistant sub-inspector of Bakalia Police Station, caught the trader on the night of November 10 in the city's Bakalia area and recovered the tablets from his possession. Instead of filing a case against the trader, the police official took the tablets and let the trader go, said Chittagong Metropolitan Police. On Saturday night, Redwanul himself went to sell the tablets in Kotwali area. But he was caught along with his two other associates by a team of the Department of Narcotics Control (DNC) of divisional intelligence office before he could sell those tablets.

"During primary interrogation, he admitted that he got the tablets from a yaba trader whom he arrested on secret information in Notun Bridge area on November 10 and took the tablets. He was trying to sell the pills, said Abdur Rouf, additional deputy commissioner of CMP (south zone), who had interrogated Redwanul. Rouf said the ASI had already been suspended and more departmental action would be taken against him. Yesterday, a case was filed against three people, including ASI Redwanul, with Kotwali Police Station by DNC Sub-inspector Mohammedul Huq. Two other accused are his associates Zillur Rahman, 32, and Isratul Noor Jerin, 20, of Boalkhali.

Idris Ali, superintendent of DNC divisional intelligence office, said acting on a tip-off, they arrested the three and found the yaba tablets in a packet inside a car. Abul Mansoor, officer-in-charge of Bakalia Police Station, said Redwanul joined his police station on March 3 this year. He was on leave from November 11 to 17 and scheduled to be on duty at MA Aziz Stadium from November 18 to 28.

"I was not informed about the incident of arresting a yaba trader and letting him go when he was

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6



Children of a Rohingya family fall asleep at a camp in Teknaf upazila of Cox's Bazar after their exhausting journey across the Naf river into Bangladesh from Myanmar.

PHOTO: STAR

# Khaleda asks govt to give shelter to Rohingyas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia last night called upon the government to give shelter to Rohingya people from Myanmar "as much as possible" on humanitarian grounds as they are facing genocide and brutalities in their own homeland.

In a statement, she also urged the international community, neighbouring, other Muslim countries and the Bangladesh government to make strong diplomatic efforts so that the Rohingyas can permanently live in their own country with security and all civic rights after returning there.

"The genocide and brutality being carried out against Myanmar's Rohingya people always touched Bangladesh as its closet neighbouring country. Many Rohingya refugees have long been staying in our country which is densely populated and witnessing shrink in livable land. We're also facing various social problems for it," Khaleda said.

She added, "Despite that, I call upon the authorities concerned to

give the Rohingya refugees shelter as much as possible on humanitarian grounds to save their lives as we're the nation attained our independence struggling against genocide."

"People having conscience are stunned and shocked over such heinous eradication drive against a minority community. I've no suitable words to denounce such brutal acts," added the former premier.

Coming down heavily on the administration of a democratically elected government, led by Nobel peace prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, Khaleda deeply bemoaned that it is not any military dictator, the present government of Myanmar is the mastermind of the inhuman and terror acts.

Pointing to atrocities on the Rohingyas, she said they are being shot dead, burnt to death and their throats are being slit. "They are being evicted from their homes, their homes are being torched, and village after village is being destroyed. Rohingya women are being raped. Even, minor children are not being spared."

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

# Other countries should come forward in aid of Rohingyas

## Says Bangladesh envoy to India

OUTLOOKINDIA.COM

Bangladesh High Commissioner to India today said Bangladesh has given shelter to Rohingya refugees from Myanmar but other countries should also come forward and give shelter to them.

The High Commissioner Syed Muazzem Ali also said that his country has not closed its border along Rakhine state, home to the minority community in Myanmar.

Scores of Rohingyas Muslims have fled Myanmar over the past few years alleging atrocities by the Myanmar army.

He stressed that the solution to the Rohingya problem should be found in Myanmar itself by giving the same rights as is given to 21 other tribes there.

"There are 8,00,000 Rohingyas and naturally the solution to the Rohingya problem must be found in Myanmar itself. They must be given the same rights as is given to 21 other tribes in Myanmar.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

# Polling centre set up for only one voter

AMANUR AMAN, Kushtia

A polling centre has been set up for only one voter in the upcoming district council election in Chuadanga.

Voter Hafizur Rahman is the vice-chairman of Jibonnagar upazila parishad. He is set to cast his vote at Monohorpur High School centre under Ward-14.

According to the final voter list, around 14 polling centres have been set up in the district where the number of voters varies from one to 100.

The matter came to light after the local election office had revealed the final voter list for the election scheduled to be held on December 28.

According to the list, 41 voters are set to vote at Chuadanga Technical School and College centre, 25 at Kushodanga Government Primary

School, 13 at Kharagoda Government Primary School, 41 at Alamdanga High School, 39 at Ghosbila High School, 39 at Gholdari High School, 40 at Hardi Government Primary School, 39 at Asmankhali High School, 27 at Darshana Government College, 27 at Damurhuda Pilot Girls High School, 39 at Natudah High School, 41 at Jibonnagar Bilateral Pilot High School and 39 at Roypur High School centre.

District Election Officer Anisur Rahman said division of a Union Parishad into three UPs caused the situation.

He added election of two of the UPs has not been held since 2008 due to case over demarcation.

He said if no instruction came from the Election Commission, one voter would cast his vote in one centre.

# PM reaches Budapest

FROM PAGE 1

told The Daily Star. After having the problem fixed, the Boeing 777-300ER left Ashgabat Airport at 6:37pm (BST) for Hungary, said Shakil Meraj, general manager (public relation department) of Biman, in a press release.

"The flight reached Budapest at 11:05pm [BST]," he said, adding that all passengers of the flight were safe. Shakil also said Biman would form an enquiry committee to investigate the incident. He, however, could not give details in this regard.

When the PM's plane was being fixed, a London-bound schedule flight of Biman was sent to Ashgabat Airport to be a backup for the premier and her entourage, the Biman release added. In June, a flight of Biman carrying the PM had to circle over Dhaka for around 20 minutes before landing at the Shahjalal International Airport. Fragments of titanium blades of an aircraft engine got scattered on the lone runway of the airport after it had aborted take-off.

During her brief stay at the Ashgabat Airport, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Turkmenistan, among others, called on Hasina, State Minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam said in a Facebook post.

From Bangladesh, Hasina left for Budapest on a four-day visit at the

invitation of Hungarian President Janos Ader to attend the Budapest Water Summit 2016 beginning today.

She was leading a 90-member delegation which includes three cabinet ministers -- LGRD, Water Resources and Foreign Affairs -- 12 senior officials from the Prime Minister's Office, nine officials from the foreign ministry, four high officials from different ministries, eight security personnel, 15 in the media team, and 39 businessmen.

# JMB man

FROM PAGE 16

opened fire and hurled crude bombs at the police vehicle, triggering a "gunfight," he added.

At one stage, the attackers fled the scene leaving one of their cohorts with bullet wounds, he informed.

The unidentified injured JMB suspect was whisked off to Khulna Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead, the SP said.

The police claimed to have recovered two firearms, three hand bombs and several bullets from the spot.

Three cases have been filed under the Arms and Explosives Act and for obstruction in discharging government duty with Bagerhat Model Police Station.

# Govt rules must serve people

FROM PAGE 1

Authority (BRTA) as a commercial vehicle, not a private one, which makes the point of Uber immaterial.

Uber was designed not to have a fleet of taxis driven by professional drivers to ferry people around. It was rather intended for dads picking up a passenger on their way home from the morning school run or moms having a couple of passengers on their way home from work or to work.

It was designed so that people dropping off loved ones at the airport could carry a few people back to the city. These people would otherwise return with an empty car.

A service like this could have revolutionised the quality of our city transport. We have thousands of cars in this city, which run around with empty seats most of the times while people hang from the door handles of buses.

Let's face the reality. We do not have quality here. We have buses running in the city, which most city junkyards across the world would not buy per kilogramme.

Auto-rickshaw drivers have minds of their own. You have to beg them to take you somewhere and if that place is not far away ... good luck. It

is quite unimaginable that auto-rickshaw drivers will take you according to the fare metre. You have to settle the fare before you hop on to the vehicle.

And taxis? Well the fares for taxis are not extraordinarily high compared to other countries where other means of transport are available as alternatives, but it is beyond the affordability of many living in our vast city.

So you might think well "what was wrong with Uber then?" "Why can I not move around in a vehicle, probably air-conditioned, certainly safer, and as affordable as a CNG-run auto-rickshaw?"

The answer probably is because the authorities don't want you to. When it comes to the BRTA, things are weird to say the least.

For example: If you want to buy a car with more seats and try to get it registered, you have to pay extra. A 1.5 litre five-seater costs Tk 1,150 less to get registered than a car that carries seven people. It feels like it's a tax on people trying to save the environment.

If you buy a new car, your registration fees are less than what you would pay for a second-hand one. There is a hefty reconditioned fee that has VAT

on top as well and it is nearly Tk 19,000 in total for a five-seater 1.5 litre car. This is going on when studies say it is more environmentally friendly to keep an old car going rather than scrapping it and buying a new one.

It is cheaper to register a taxi than it is for a family to have a car registered. Then the question is why does the government want to get people re-register their cars as taxis? It will certainly be losing money.

It could be because the government is not listening to the people. It is probably listening to the business people concerned.

It feels like the authorities do not want the middle class to have peace. It feels like they want families to pay more in the long run to get around, by paying taxi drivers, than have a car of their own.

It becomes very hard to believe the rhetoric that the authorities are working for the people, not for the few business people at the top, whom the government has lent its ears to.

Is Uber something that would harm the city people? Is it so dangerous that it ought to be killed? What it would do is "hurt" a lot of

business people involved in the transport sector. By "hurt" we mean less profit or having to compete.

This is probably what is going on now. Business people terrified of being "hurt" are filling the government's ears with fears of the unknown. What they actually care about is their business, not the people in Dhaka city, who have to go through a lot of hoops to get to work or come home every day.

However, a system should be put in place by which city dwellers will be able to know that they are getting into a safe vehicle. Uber, BRTA or the government needs to make sure passengers don't become victims of crimes. They have to make sure that registered drivers are driving the vehicles, not a mugger in disguise.

It is time the authorities realise that rules, regulations, and laws are for the people. They are supposed to help them, not stand in their way to get better services. They are supposed to make things easier.

It is time they take a look at what they are calling illegal and think about reviewing the motor vehicles act, probably enacted in the 80's, and put the people first.

As for politicians, the advice would be to stop listening to bureaucrats and people of special interests. They don't have to go to people for votes once in a while, the politicians do and people remember when they have been short-changed.

Perhaps they should do what State Minister for Telecomm Tarana Halim did yesterday. She clarified that the government would not be imposing restrictions on services like Viber and WhatsApp. She said the government didn't have any plan to do so.

Perhaps she realised that the government earned millions selling spectrum to carriers who use it to sell internet to subscribers. And that the government continues to earn a huge amount of money from taxes, duties and VAT on every single megabyte of internet that we use.

She perhaps realised that it was time not to worry about the old-school international call termination money the government used to earn.

It is time bureaucrats, politicians, and businessmen start thinking about the people and check their own backyards. Or else, "Digital Bangladesh" would be just another campaign slogan aimed to fool voters.

# 33 get HC bail

FROM PAGE 16

on their way to the lower court for surrender, Abu Obaidur Rahman, a lawyer for the petitioners, told The Daily Star.

Police filed the case on November 6 with Gobindaganj Police Station against 42 known and 300 to 400 unknown people following a clash between the Santals and the staff of Rangpur Sugar Mills.

On the day of the incident, indigenous Santals engaged in a violent clash on the mill's sugarcane farm at Sahebaganj where police, assisted by the sugar mill staff, launched a drive to evict the Santals from around 100 acres of land that had been acquired from their forefathers during the former East Pakistan era.

The Santals now want the land back as they believe that an agreement signed in 1962 following the land acquisition was violated.

The November 6 clash left 26 Santals dead, six missing and 20 others, including nine policemen, injured.

Meanwhile, on November 26, the Santals filed a case against 33, including local Awami League lawmaker Principal Abul Kalam Azad and Gobindaganj UNO Abdul Hannan on charge of "ordering" the attack on the indigenous community on November 6.

# Tamim, Gayle thrash Riders

FROM PAGE 1

and two fours were entertaining to watch, it was his opening partner Tamim Iqbal who went on to top-score for the Vikings with a well-paced half-century. Gayle's arrival seemed to inspire Tamim to go for a big knock as he hit nine fours and one six during his unbeaten 48-ball 62.

Batting first, the Rangpur Riders only managed to score 124 in the allotted 20 overs. While Rangpur did begin well with Soumya Sarkar hitting a fluent 21-ball 26, they collapsed once he was dismissed.

Soumya went down the track against Shubhashis Roy in the sixth over and only managed to top-edge the delivery to mid-wicket. Three overs later Taskin Ahmed struck twice to bowl both Mohammad Mithun and Mohammad Shahzad in the 10th over. After 10 overs Rangpur had slumped to 62 for three and never managed to recover from there.

Anwar Ali came towards the end and hit a quick 13-ball 20 with one six and one four to help the Riders cross the 120-mark.

However, with Chittagong's powerful batting line-up, a meagre 124 was never going to be enough. Gayle and Tamim wiped out more than half of that total in just nine overs when the duo hammered their way through to 70 runs.

What was perhaps most impressive about that partnership was that both the batsmen struggled to score runs in the first six overs. The first six produced just 30 runs with Gayle scoring seven runs from 13 balls while Tamim meandering along to 19 off 23.

Shohag Gazi, who had troubled Gayle a number of times in the past in international cricket, bowled well against both Gayle and Tamim at the start, leaking just seven runs in his first three overs.

However, Gayle began to unleash himself from the seventh over onwards and unfortunately that spoilt Gazi's figures. He was hit for two huge sixes down the ground in the seventh and he ended up with figures of none for 23.

After that, both Gayle and Tamim took on Shahid Afridi in the ninth. The

leg-spinner was clubbed for a four by Tamim in the first ball of the ninth over. Gayle then took over and whipped Afridi for two consecutive sixes.

Afridi bowled another flat delivery and managed to get the big man caught at the deep. Gayle was out, but he had already done the damage.

Tamim and Anamul took over from there and finished the game with nine wickets and 24 balls remaining.

Tamim took over after Gayle's departure. The highlight of his innings came in the 13th over when he dismissed Arafat Sunny for 14 runs in boundaries. He hit him for two fours and a six. The last four off the last ball brought up his half-century off 40 deliveries.

He eventually finished the game in style in the 16th over by driving Liam Dawson for two consecutive fours.

The win has taken the Vikings to third place with 10 points. Tamim's unbeaten 62 also catapulted the left-hander to second place in run-getters' list with 285 runs.

# Trump calls vote recount a 'scam'

FROM PAGE 16

Trump, the Republican presidential candidate, won Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin by a total of just over 100,000 votes. The razor-thin victories in those states pushed him above the 270 votes needed for victory in the Electoral College.

"It is important to point out that with the help of millions of voters across the country, we won 306 electoral votes on Election Day -- the most of any Republican since 1988," Trump said.

"This is a scam by the Green Party for an election that has already been conceded, and the results of this election should be respected instead of being challenged and abused, which is exactly what Jill Stein is doing," Trump added.

However, during the campaign Trump himself threatened to reject the result if he lost, alleging that the race was "rigged" by the media and the establishment elite.

Elias, the Clinton counsel, said that "because we had not uncovered any actionable evidence of hacking or outside attempts to alter the voting

technology, we had not planned to exercise this option ourselves."

"But now that a recount has been initiated in Wisconsin, we intend to participate in order to ensure the process proceeds in a manner that is fair to all sides," he added.

It was not immediately clear how the Clinton campaign plans to take part in the recount.

Although experts say there is virtually no chance of overturning the final result, the recounts could reignite debate over the legitimacy of Trump's election, already fueled by Clinton's lead in the popular vote, which now stands at more than two million.

Clinton lost by around 20,000 votes in Wisconsin, 70,000 votes in Pennsylvania and 10,000 votes in Michigan.

Elias noted that Trump's 10,000-vote lead in Michigan "well exceeds the largest margin ever overcome in a recount."

Elias said the Clinton campaign had been conducting its own investigation of the election results after receiving "hundreds of messages, emails, and

calls urging us to do something, anything, to investigate claims that the election results were hacked and altered in a way to disadvantage Secretary Clinton."

But he said the Clinton campaign had seen no evidence so far the election results had been manipulated in Trump's favor.

Stein has cited unspecified "anomalies" as grounds to mount a challenge to the November 8 election results in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

"After a divisive and painful presidential race, reported hacks into voter and party databases and individual email accounts are causing many Americans to wonder if our election results are reliable," Stein said on her website.

On Saturday she told CNN that "going into this election, and throughout the election, we saw hacking taking place all over the place, of state voter databases, of the democratic party's vote database, of private e-mail accounts. This was a hack-riddled election."