

## 'Toothless'

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Suu Kyi's office said the new commission would investigate the raids on police border posts on October 9 that sparked the deadly military lockdown as well as "international accusations" of army abuses.

It is the second body created by Suu Kyi to try to heal the religious divide that has split Rakhine state since deadly sectarian unrest killed more than 100 people in 2012.

In August she appointed fellow Nobel laureate Annan to head a separate body, which Buddhist nationalists have bitterly denounced as foreign meddling.

Oo Hla Saw, a senior politician from the Arakan National Party, said "the new commission will do nothing different".

"I don't have much hope for it," he told AFP.

Privately some Muslim leaders in Myanmar also said they were concerned their voices would not be represented, but asked not to be quoted for fear of reprisals.

More than 10,000 Rohingya have fled to Bangladesh in recent weeks, the United Nations said on Wednesday, fleeing a bloody army crackdown in the north of Rakhine state.

Arrivals in Bangladesh have told AFP horrifying stories of gang rape, torture and murder at the hands of Myanmar's security forces.

Myanmar has denied allegations of abuse, but has also banned foreign journalists and independent investigators from accessing the area.

Yesterday, former UN chief Annan was greeted by protesters holding signs reading "Ban the Kofi Annan commission" as he touched down in Sittwe airport on his first trip to Rakhine since the crisis erupted.

Commission member Aye Lwin told AFP the trip was for "gathering facts... we won't be giving any conclusion".

## All survived

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Syedul Islam, divisional forest officer for eastern zone, said, "The tourists were on the land when the fire broke out."

Fire fighters, coast guards and forest officials were trying to douse the fire, he also said.

Our Bagerhat correspondent reports, the tour vessel MV Pelican-1, with at least 26 passengers on board, was on an excursion to the Sundarbans arranged by a private tour operator.

## Pro-EU candidate wins 'Brexit by-polls' in London

AFP, London

Prime Minister Theresa May's government suffered a rebuke over its plans to pull Britain out of the EU yesterday after voters in the London suburb of Richmond ousted a eurosceptic lawmaker in favour of a pro-European candidate.

In a stunning upset, Liberal Democrat candidate Sarah Olney overturned a large majority to defeat Zac Goldsmith, who had held the seat for May's Conservative party since 2010, in a battle that became a mini-referendum on Brexit.

"Our message is clear: we do not want a hard Brexit," Olney said as she became her party's ninth MP with 49.68 percent of the vote, compared to 45.15 percent for Goldsmith.

"We do not want to be pulled out of the single market, and we will not let intolerance, division and fear win."

Goldsmith had resigned in protest at the government's decision to back a new runway at London's Heathrow airport, prompting a by-election in which he stood as an independent, although with Conservative support.

## Army at West Bengal

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what they called a disruption of India's federal structure.

They found support from the Congress and a number of other parties, who asked the government to clarify its role.

"Injustice is being done to the Bengal CM and this is a big attack on the Constitution. The army shouldn't be politicised," Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati told the Rajya Sabha, according to ANI.

The Congress, too, appeared to back Mamata, saying the prime minister must clarify why state's rights were being "impinged on".

"It seems out of the way. The army doesn't collect toll. There is no law and order issue in West Bengal for the army to be deployed?" Ghulam Nabi Azad was quoted as saying by ANI.

The BJP dismissed the charges with defence minister Manohar Parrikar expressing that a "routine exercise" had been made into a controversy. "It is a routine army exercise that has been carried out for many years," Parrikar said.

"Bengal was taken into confidence, it happened last year and last to last year. Let's not drag the army into controversy," Union minister Venkaiah Naidu was quoted as saying by ANI.

The army has also issued denials, saying they didn't collect toll and were present near Kolkata as part of

a routine exercise that spanned several states.

"They're only collecting data of heavy vehicles, this is an annual exercise carried out every year," Major General Sunil Yadav told reporters.

But the Trinamool wasn't convinced, accusing the minister of state for defence of trying to mislead the House.

The party says this is to intimidate Mamata, who has been the face of protests against the Centre's move to scrap high-value currency -- a decision which has seen millions of people line up outside banks and ATMs with the poor and small traders the hardest hit.

A furious Mamata left her Kolkata office yesterday evening after 30 hours amid THE row over the presence of army at toll booths, adds NDTV.

"The centre is trying to bulldoze us, we will fight them legally," she said.

Late Thursday evening, Mamata alleged the army was deployed at the behest of the Centre at two toll plazas, Palsit and Dankuni, on NH 2 without informing the state government.

The Trinamool says this move clearly violates the nation's federal structure.

"Is the army authorised to collect funds from toll plazas? The Eastern command said this is being coordinated, police knows...this is untrue," Trinamool parliamentarian Derek O'Brien was quoted as saying by ANI.

## HRW urges MPs

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Bangladesh's parliamentarians now have a crucial chance to stand up for girls, the researcher said.

She said the current law permits marriage after the age of 18 for women and 21 for men, with no exceptions.

However, the new draft law reportedly says child marriage below age 18 will be permitted in "special circumstances, such as accidental or unlawful pregnancy." The draft does not set any minimum age for such "exceptional" marriages, Barr mentioned.

"This is a major step backward," reads the statement, adding that although Bangladesh's law on child marriage was widely ignored, the existence of a strict law meant the focus was on enforcement.

Weakening the law is a setback for the fight against child marriage, and sends a message to parents across the country that the government thinks child marriage is acceptable in at least some situations, she said.

According to the US-based rights body's statement, Bangladesh has one of the highest rates of child marriage in the world, and the highest rate in Asia. Fifty-two percent of girls in the country marry before 18, and 18 percent are married before they turn 15.

It said child marriage is deeply destructive to the lives of married girls and their families; it pushes girls out of school, leaves them mired in poverty, heightens the risk of domestic violence, and carries

## Rasraj innocent

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Prabhas Chandra Roy, president of the Hindu alliance, said it seems that a conspiracy has been hatched to drive the Hindus out of the country.

He expressed concern over denial of bail to Rasraj by the court.

He raised some demands, including unconditional release of Rasraj, ensuring security for his family, providing compensations to Hindus for loss of valuables and properties, and formation of a special tribunal to bring the culprits to book.

Detectives on Tuesday arrested Jahangir Alam, owner of a cyber café at Horinber Bazar of Nasiragar, for sharing the post from Rasraj's Facebook account. He admitted to police that he made copies of it and distributed those to foment violence.

grave health risks for girls and their babies due to early pregnancy.

Ironically, the new draft law came out of a promise by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in 2014, to end child marriage. She pledged, by the end of 2014, to reform the law to set tougher punishments for child marriage; finalise a national action plan on how to end child marriage under 15 by 2021, and end all marriage before 18 by 2041, said Barr.

Two years later, there is no national action plan, and while the draft law does set tougher penalties - including, in another wrong-headed move, a penalty of 15 days imprisonment and a Tk 5,000 fine [63] for children who marry -- it also weakens existing law by making some child marriages legal, said the HWR's senior researcher.

It is also difficult to know just what is meant by "unlawful pregnancy" in the act. The law could lead to a situation where girls who have been raped are forced to marry their rapists, Barr opined.

## Petrol tanker explosion kills 14 in Nigeria

AFP, Kano

A petrol tanker skidded off the road and exploded in central Nigeria, killing at least 14 people yesterday, witnesses told AFP.

They said eight houses were razed following the accident which happened around 8:00 am (0700GMT) in the transit town of Tegna in Niger state.

"We buried 14 people including a six-month-old baby who died in the tanker explosion this morning," said Muhammad Sani who took part in the rescue operation.

Eight more victims were taken to hospital with burns, two of them in "very critical condition" while eight homes were burnt in the inferno, said another resident Abdullahi Egiwor.

A spokesman for Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) in the state confirmed the accident, but refused to give casualty figures.

"We received reports of an accident involving a petrol tanker in Tegna this morning but we are still awaiting details," Bitrus Max told AFP.

He said emergency officials were heading to the scene to assist in the evacuation of victims.

## A new way

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access is not fully understood, but a new study shines light on the concept.

The study says certain memories thought forgotten could be brought back to attention, using magnets.

Previously it had been thought our 'working memory', which remembers important information for a short amount of time, like dialling a phone number, required sustained activity to keep a hold of the information.

But a new study, from researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, showed brains track less-important information away somewhere beyond the reach of the tools that typically monitor brain activity.

The researchers were able to snap the information back into active attention with magnets.

They conducted a series of experiments in which people were asked to remember two items representing different types of information, using words, faces and directions of motion.

When the researchers gave their subjects a cue as to the type of question that was on its way, the electrical activity and blood flow in the brain associated with the word memory disappeared.

But if a second cue came letting the subject know they would now be asked about that word, the brain activity would jump back up to a level indicating it was the focus of attention.

The researchers were also able to bring the seemingly abandoned items back to mind without cueing their subjects.

Using a technique called transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) the researchers applied a focused electromagnetic field to a precise part of the brain involved in storing the word.

Then they could trigger the sort of brain activity representative of focused attention.

"People have always thought neurons would have to keep firing to hold something in memory. Most models of the brain assume that," said lead author Brad Postle, a psychology professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"But we're watching people remember things almost perfectly without showing any of the activity that would come with a neuron firing.

"The fact that you're able to bring it back at all in this example proves it's not gone. It's just that we can't see evidence for its active retention in the brain."

## Smart identity

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The database is likely to be ready by May next year. Once the database is developed, the government will conduct a research on the information of the database to identify the reasons for disabilities and ways to prevent those, he noted.

Zillur said the ministry will try to ensure all possible facilities, including government job, for the challenged people.

About the facilities, he said the government was giving therapeutic services, training and counselling to about 10,000 challenged people daily through 103 service centres under Jatiya Protibondhi Unnayan Foundation.

Besides, there are 10 free schools for autistic children under the foundation. Thirty-two mobile therapy vans are providing early screening, assessment and intervention services across the country.

The foundation was set up in 1999 during the then government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the secretary in charge said.

The government distributed allowances amounting to Tk 540 crore among 7.5 lakh insolvent challenged people this year, Zillur told the BSS.

According to the official, the government also gave stipends worth Tk 50 crore to 70,000 challenged students.

## RCBC ready to fight

FROM PAGE 1

from the Bangladesh Bank, nor did the money stay with RCBC, she explained.

In February, unknown hackers broke into the Bangladesh Bank's accounts in the Federal Reserve of New York, stealing \$81 million.

While hackers were able to hide the money in the Philippines through RCBC's branch in Jupiter St., Makati City, it was quickly withdrawn, converted to pesos and then gambled away at several casinos.

RCBC cannot be held civilly liable either since it did not cause the theft, Laurena said.

Turning the tables, she pointed to initial reports showing it was insiders at the Bangladesh Bank that hacked its system. That's why they knew how to get through layers of security, not just at the New York Fed, but also in SWIFT -- the global banking communication network -- and the correspondent banks that cleared the transaction.

"Under our laws, the doctrine of proximate cause, if it is by your own acts of negligence there is loss then you have to bear the consequences of your own negligent acts," she said.

A high-level Bangladeshi delegation, including Law Minister Anisul Huq, Attorney General Mahubey Alam and central bank Governor Fazle Kabir, was in the Philippines this week to seek help from the Philippine government in recovering the stolen funds.

So far, Bangladesh has only recovered \$15 million of the total \$81 million, returned by casino junket operator Kim Wong.

About \$2.7 million is frozen in Solaire Resorts and Casino by a court order, while another \$17 million was allegedly pocketed by Salud and Michael Bautista, owners of remittance firm PhilRem Service Corp.

The rest of the money is missing.

POINTING FINGERS

## Trump picks 'Mad Dog'

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team said there would be no more cabinet announcements this week.

Mattis will require both Senate confirmation and a special waiver of a law that bans uniformed military officers from serving as secretary of defence for seven years after leaving active duty.

At least one Democrat, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, already signalled she will oppose the waiver.

"Civilian control of our military is a fundamental principle of American democracy," the senator tweeted from New York.

Trump's surrounding himself with military figures -- he has picked retired lieutenant general Michael Flynn to be his national security advisor and is considering retired general David Petraeus for secretary of state -- has unnerved some observers who point to America's long tradition of civilian government.

Adam Schiff, the ranking Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, praised Mattis' "knowledge, experience and leadership" but also expressed concerns about the precedent being set.

"That concern would be further heightened should the president-elect nominate any further military personnel to high positions of civilian leadership in his administration," he said.

'NO CHOICE' BUT UNIFY

At the start of his address, Trump launched lofty appeals to unite what he called a "very divided nation" and reject "bigotry and prejudice in all of its forms."

Americans will "come together -- we have no choice, we have to," he added.

On the economy, "Americans will be the captains of their own destiny once again," he promised.

He even vowed to try to work with Democrats to end gridlock in Congress.

But the Manhattan property mogul, who defeated Hillary Clinton last month to win the White House, dramatically returned to the abrasive tone that marked his controversial and ultimately victorious campaign.

He savaged the nation's "extremely dishonest" press, slammed illegal immigration and the country's refugee program, mocked his critics and vowed to "drain the swamp" in establishment-heavy Washington.

It became a loose, swerving speech that kicked off what his team has branded a

Bangladesh continues to work with the Department of Justice, the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC) and the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp to find the missing \$66 million.

But at the same time, the law minister said RCBC should compensate the Bangladesh Bank, since it was liable for the cyber heist.

A Senate inquiry and an investigation by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) uncovered serious lapses by the Yuchengco-owned bank. For one, the bank accounts set up by hackers were fake. The RCBC, moreover, allowed the money transfer and the withdrawals despite stop orders coming from Bangladesh.

"It is clearly established that RCBC was very much involved in the scam," Huq said on Tuesday.

He also shrugged off accusation Bangladesh Bank was negligent. "The money that left the New York Fed was sent to RCBC, and RCBC accepted the amount. So, the stolen money was found in RCBC, and that is where RCBC is liable."

"It is not for RCBC to point fingers at anybody. They should be explaining their conduct, and their conduct has been culpable," he said.

The BSP handed down a record P1-billion fine for RCBC's violations, which the bank accepted. Laurena stressed, though, that it wasn't an admission of guilt since the BSP only filed an administrative case.

The AMLC, however, is pursuing criminal charges. On November 18, it filed a complaint at the Department of Justice against four officials in RCBC's retail banking group and two employees of the Jupiter branch.

The regulator accused them of ignoring "suspicious circumstances" and helping facilitate the \$81-million money transfer.

"thank you tour" -- a victory lap of sorts that will take him to several political battlegrounds including Ohio, perhaps the nation's ultimate swing state.

"I love you Ohio!" the populist political novice said to a loud cheer from a crowd that filled roughly half the US Bank Arena, which has a capacity of around 17,000. Trump lamented the roadblocks surrounding the venue, which he said had depressed attendance.

Earlier, the president-elect, who made guaranteeing jobs for blue-collar US workers a key campaign plank, strode triumphantly through an Indiana factory that makes Carrier air conditioners, trumpeting a deal to keep 1,100 manufacturing positions from moving to Mexico.

He then starkly warned other US firms that they will face "consequences" if they relocate abroad.

"The era of economic surrender is over," Trump said. "We're going to fight for every last American job. It is time to remove the rust from the rust belt and usher in a new industrial revolution."

'BUY AMERICAN, HIRE AMERICAN' During the race, the Republican billionaire threatened to slap tariffs on firms that decamped for places like Mexico or Asia, where labour and other costs are cheaper.

"Buy American and hire American," he said in Ohio. "That will be our new mantra."

Carrier has announced it will preserve more than 1,000 jobs and continue to manufacture gas furnaces in Indianapolis, thanks to \$7 million in state incentives negotiated with the help of Trump and Vice President-elect Mike Pence, Indiana's governor.

Several hundred jobs will still move to Mexico.

"What happened today in Indiana, we're going to do that all over the country," he said in Cincinnati.

The White House avoided criticizing Trump's effort, saying saving jobs is laudable, but expressed scepticism about the strategy of keeping jobs in America one company at a time.

"Mr Trump would have to make 804 more announcements just like that to equal the standard of jobs in the manufacturing sector that were created in this country under President Obama's watch," White House spokesman Josh Earnest said.



### পক্ষী কর্ম-সহায়ক ফাউন্ডেশন (পিকেএসএফ)

পিকেএসএফ ভবন, প্লট- ই-৪/বি, আগারগাঁও প্রশাসনিক এলাকা, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭  
ফোনঃ ৮৮০-২-৯১২৬২৪০, ফ্যাক্সঃ ৮৮০-২-৯১২৬২৪৪, Website: http://www.pksf-bd.org

## নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পক্ষী কর্ম-সহায়ক ফাউন্ডেশন (পিকেএসএফ)-এর নিম্নলিখিত পদে কর্মকর্তা নিয়োগের জন্য দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছেঃ

পদের নাম ও সংখ্যা : সহকারী মহাব্যবস্থাপক (নিরীক্ষা)- ১ টি

শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা : কমপক্ষে ২টি প্রথম বিভাগ/শ্রেণিসহ সকল পরীক্ষায় অনূন দ্বিতীয় বিভাগ/শ্রেণিসহ স্নাতকোত্তর বা সমমানের ডিগ্রী। হিসাব বিজ্ঞান/ ফাইন্যান্স/ ব্যাংকিং বিষয়ে স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রীধারীগণকে অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে। প্রার্থীকে অবশ্যই সিএ (ইন্টারমিডিয়েট) অথবা সিএ (এন্ট্রিকেশন লেভেল) উত্তীর্ণ হতে হবে। তবে, আইসিএবি'র এসোসিয়েট মেম্বরগণকে অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে।

অভিজ্ঞতা : খ্যাতনামা প্রতিষ্ঠানে ব্যবস্থাপনিক পদে ন্যূনতম ৪ বছরের বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতাসহ নিরীক্ষা সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজে কমপক্ষে ১২ বছর চাকরির অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে।

বয়স : সর্বনিম্ন ৪০ বছর থেকে সর্বোচ্চ ৪৮ বছর।

বেতনক্রম : টাকা ৭০,০০০-৩৫০০ X ১০- ১,০৫,০০০ এর আওতায় মূলবেতন।

অন্যান্য সুবিধাদি : মূল বেতনের ৬০% বাড়িভাড়া ভাতা, চিকিৎসা ভাতা ও সুবিধা, যাতায়াত ভাতা, প্রদেয় ভবিষ্য-তহবিল, আনুতোষিক, উৎসব ভাতা, নববর্ষ ভাতা, গোষ্ঠী বীমা, দেশে শিক্ষারত সন্তানের শিক্ষা ভাতা (অনধিক ২ সন্তান), গৃহ নির্মাণ ঋণ, গাড়ি ঋণ ও গাড়ি রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ ভাতা, অর্জিত ছুটি নগদায়ন ইত্যাদি। উল্লিখিত বেতনক্রম অনুযায়ী গাড়ি রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ ভাতা ব্যতীত অন্যান্য সকল প্রাপ্য ভাতা সহকারে মোট (gross) বেতন ১,২২,২০০/- (এক লক্ষ বাইশ হাজার দুইশত) টাকা।

প্রার্থীগণকে উক্ত পদের দায়িত্বাবলী, যোগ্যতা, অভিজ্ঞতা, অন্যান্য প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্যাদি ও আবেদন করার বিস্তারিত নিয়মাবলী পিকেএসএফ-এর Website: [www.pksf-bd.org](http://www.pksf-bd.org)-এ দেখার অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। অগ্রহী প্রার্থীকে আগামী ৩১ ডিসেম্বর ২০১৬ তারিখের মধ্যে পিকেএসএফ-এর ওয়েবসাইটের মাধ্যমে অনলাইনে আবেদন করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

পিকেএসএফ যে-কোন প্রকার তদবির নিকরংসাহিত করে। কেবলমাত্র বাহাইকৃত প্রার্থীদের নির্বাচনী প্রক্রিয়ায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য আমন্ত্রণ জানানো হবে। নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত যেকোন বিষয়ে পিকেএসএফ-এর সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে বিবেচিত হবে।

উপ-ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক (অর্থ)

**সুন্দর দৈর্ঘ্য চমকিত প্রতিযোগিতা**

**বিষয় :** ব্যক্তিগত সম্পর্ক বা বিয়ের ক্ষেত্রে সিদ্ধান্ত ও সম্মতির অধিকার। বাল্য বিয়ে নিরোধ। সহিংসতা। নির্ভাতনের বিরুদ্ধে অনলাইন এবং অফলাইনে প্রতিবাদ ও প্রতিরোধের অধিকার সংক্রান্ত মত প্রকাশের স্বাধীনতা এবং সীমাবদ্ধতা।

**প্রথম পুরস্কার ৫০,০০০ টাকা**

দ্বিতীয় পুরস্কার ৩০,০০০ টাকা  
তৃতীয় পুরস্কার ২০,০০০ টাকা  
সাধে সার্টিফিকেট ও ক্রেস্ট  
নির্বাচিত চলচ্চিত্র দেখার বিজ্ঞান হাসান প্রদর্শিত হবে

১৮-৩০ বছর বয়সী বাংলাদেশে অবস্থানরত যে কোনো ব্যক্তি এ প্রতিযোগিতায় অংশ নিতে পারবেন।  
চলচ্চিত্রের ব্যাস্তিকাল হতে হবে সর্বোচ্চ ১০ মিনিট।  
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