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Global protests against Trump

Women, celebrities lead mass protests in major cities against the new US president

AGENCIES

More than two million people flooded US cities on Saturday as women opposed to Donald Trump led a peaceful, stunning rebuke against the new US president that was echoed in sister protests around the world.

The Women's March drew members of Congress, world-famous actresses and countless citizens like Joanne Gascoyne of Albany, New York a 78-year-old retired teacher who traveled to New York City with her daughter and two granddaughters.

"I feel people are afraid to vote for a woman for president," Gascoyne said. "I'm really here for women and to inspire my granddaughters to carry on."

The protesters came out for a range of reasons, including immigration, health care and a general antipathy to Trump. But most said they wanted to show support for women and feared that there will be attacks on women's rights during Trump's presidency.

Marches were also held in cities around the world. The biggest demonstration took place in Washington, where protesters filled Pennsylvania Avenue, the same street Trump walked down a day before during his inaugural parade. In the evening, the crowd moved toward the White House.

On the mall, filmmaker Michael Moore, feminist icon Gloria Steinem, musician Alicia Keys and other speakers emotionally attacked Trump for his views on immigration, Muslims and women.

"It took this horrific moment of darkness to wake us the f-k up," Madonna told the crowd. "It seems as though we

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Protesters walk up Pennsylvania Avenue during the Women's March on Washington, with the US Capitol in the background on Saturday. Actress Scarlett Johansson, inset, speaks during a protest on the National Mall in Washington, DC, for the Women's March.

PHOTO: AFP/REUTERS

Send GD to Dhaka court

HC orders magistrate regarding teacher humiliation in N'ganj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the chief judicial magistrate of Narayanganj to immediately transfer the general diary lodged for public humiliation of headmaster Shyamal Kanti Bhakta to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka.

The HC also ordered the authorities concerned to submit to the CMM's court the judicial probe report and other relevant documents on the incident.

The CMM's court has been directed to take the next course of action in accordance with the law.

The HC bench of Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice JBM Hassan passed the order after going through the judicial probe report.

It disposed of the suomoto rule it issued on May 18 last year asking the government to explain why it should not be directed to take necessary legal action

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Man serving another's life term freed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A Sylhet court yesterday freed a man, who had been serving life term as proxy for a convict in a murder case, following a judicial probe prompted by media reports.

Ripon Ahmed Bhutto was imprisoned in October 2015, but the life sentence was for Iqbal Hossain Bakul in connection with the murder of Ali Akbar Sumon.

Sumon, son of Cherag Ali of Paschimpara village under Sylhet sadar upazila, went missing on September 25, 2009. After a few days his dead body was recovered from a wetland.

A probe body was formed on court orders after media reported that one man had been serving jail sentence for another convicted of killing Sumon.

District Chief Judicial Magistrate Kazi Abdul Hannan and Additional District Judge Md Rezaul Karim conducted an inquiry into the matter and submitted a report to the Sylhet District and Sessions Judge's Court on January 17.



Ripon Ahmed

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Dubai cracks down on illegal money transfers

Unearths 25 shops that lure Bangladeshis into sending money home via illegal channels

GULFNEWS.COM

A crackdown across Dubai unearthed an illegal money transfer racket run by 25 shops, the Department of Economic Development (DED) revealed on Saturday.

The shop operators lured Bangladeshi expatriates with the offer of cheaper money transfers to their home country. The practice left the customers vulnerable to fraud.

All 25 shops, which were involved in the illegal activity, were not authorised to offer remittance services.

"The DED acted on a tip-off and raided the shops, spread across different areas in Dubai, and found out that none of them were licensed to provide money transfer services. All the shops advertised the illegal activity in Bangla to avoid suspicion," said Mohammad Ali Rashid Lootah, CEO of the Commercial Compliance and Consumer Protection sector in the DED.

The transfers were done through SIM cards from Bangladesh installed in electronic devices and no invoices were issued to customers. The shopkeepers used to scribble down customer details and the amount to be transferred and the transfer was done electronically via mobile banking.

"We have also confiscated the devices that were used to

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Why sand filling in Sonargaon has not stopped

HC asks officials to explain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday asked all 12 respondents, including high government officials, to explain why its order for stopping destruction of agricultural land and wetlands by sand filling in six moujas of Narayanganj's Sonargaon has not yet been complied.

The HC bench of Justice Md Ashfaqul Islam and Justice Ashish Ranjan Das came up with the order while hearing a contempt petition.

On January 17, when Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (Bela) moved the petition before the court, alleging that sand filling of arable land was going on in defiance of the court order, the court verbally ordered an immediate halt to the land filling, said a lawyer of the petitioner.

Acting on a public interest litigation, the HC in March 2014 banned destruction of these ecologically-sensitive agricultural land, adjoining wetlands and ecology by the Meghna river in Jainpur, Chaihishya, Char Bhabnathpur, Bhatibanda, Pirojpur and Ratanpur moujas.

The court injunction then barred any

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Erroneous visa finally fixed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Baharul Akram Laskar, Indian national from Hailakandi district in Assam, got a separate visa on Saturday a week after he failed to travel to Dhaka due to an unexpected error in the Bangladeshi visa issued earlier.

"Finally, we got the visa corrected from the Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in Agartala yesterday (Saturday)," Quasar Laskar, elder brother of Baharul, told The Daily Star over the phone last evening.

The two brothers were all set to come to Bangladesh on January 13. They went to Zakiganj border checkpoint in Sylhet, but Baharul was not allowed to enter Bangladesh as the visa issued to him had the last date of entry expired before the issue date of the visa.

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'Outlawed party man' killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Criminals killed an alleged member of an outlawed party in Bera upazila of Pabna yesterday.

Kubad Ali Sikder alias Kubad, 40, of Dhalarchar village, was allegedly the regional leader of an outlawed Sarbahara faction.

Tajul Huda, officer-in-charge of Aminpur Police Station, quoting Kubad's family said unidentified

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PRAYER TIMING JANUARY 23

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esh
AZAN 5:30 12:45 4:15 5:43 7:15
JAMAAT 6:05 1:15 4:30 5:47 7:45
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Rescue workers search for victims at the site of the derailment of the Jagdalpur-Bhubaneswar express train near Kunderu station in southern Andhra Pradesh state yesterday. Rescuers battled to pull survivors from the wreckage of a train crash which killed 32 passengers in southern India.

PHOTO: AFP

36 killed in India train accident

AFP, New Delhi

Rescuers yesterday struggled to pull survivors from the wreckage of a train crash which killed 36 passengers in southern India, the latest in a series of disasters on the country's creaking rail network.

Officials were investigating whether Maoist rebels had tampered with the track, after eight coaches and the engine of the Jagdalpur-Bhubaneswar express were derailed at around 11:00 pm (1730 GMT) on Saturday.

"The death toll has gone up to 36. It is a possibility that it may rise further," Anil Kumar Saxena, national railway spokesman, told AFP.

Another railways official JP Mishra earlier said some 50 injured have been moved to nearby hospitals.

The accident happened near Kunderu railway station

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