



BCB HANDS OUT HARSH BAN

Bowler who conceded 92 off four is banned for 10 years, while his club is banned for life

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INDO-PAK WAR OF WORDS

Delhi vows "unequivocal" response after soldiers killed; Islamabad too talks tough

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LAST TRIBUTE TO QAZI ARIF

The elocutionist, who passed away Saturday night, is honoured at Central Shaheed Minar

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\$6-9b lost in 2014

Global research reveals \$75b fly out of Bangladesh in a decade

ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS IN 2014

Bangladesh's total int'l trade: \$70.07 billion	Trade misinvoicing: 7-11%	Balance of payments leakage: 2%	Illicit money entering Bangladesh: \$4.06 billion
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REJAUL KARIM BYRON and MD FAZLUR RAHMAN

Bangladesh has lost between \$6 billion and \$9 billion to illicit money outflows in 2014, according to a Global Financial Integrity (GFI) report.

The Washington-based research and advisory organisation on Monday released the report based on a research on 150 countries.

Bangladesh lost \$75 billion due to trade misinvoicing and other unrecorded outflows between 2005 and 2014, according to the report.

The report -- Illicit Financial Flows to and from Developing Countries: 2005-2014 -- provides low and high estimates of illegal flow of money out of the developing world, referred to as illicit financial flows (IFFs).

The GFI analysed discrepancies between bilateral trade statistics and balance of payments data, as reported to the International Monetary Fund, to detect flows of capital that were illegally earned, transferred, or utilised.

Illicit trade outflow equalled to 9 to 13 percent of Bangladesh's total trade of \$70.07 billion in 2014 -- 7 to 11 percent due to trade misinvoicing and 2 percent due to balance of payments leakage.

As per the low estimates, \$6.06 billion moved out of the country through IFFs. The figure is \$8.97 billion if the high estimate is considered, which is enough to build three Padma Bridges.

The 2014 IFFs estimate for Bangladesh is lower than that of 2013.

If the highest estimate is considered, the outflow fell by 10.66 percent from 2013 when it was \$10.04 billion, the highest recorded.

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Sing for the UNSUNG

The Daily Star - IPDC initiative brings seven women change-makers under the spotlight



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu, third from left, AKM Shahidul Hoque, inspector general of police, second from left, Parveen Mahmud, chairperson at the Micro Industries Development Assistance and Services (MIDAS), left, and Mominul Islam, IPDC Finance Ltd managing director and CEO, third from right, with the seven women who received The Daily Star-IPDC Unsung Women Nation Builders Awards at the Krishibid Institution Bangladesh last night.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sonajan Akter is not familiar with the razzle-dazzle of an award show. She looked a little surprised when she came across glittering lights, colourful decorations and loud sound at the city's

Krishibid Institution Bangladesh last night.

The 68-year old midwife from Manikganj, who has selflessly been providing care to newborns and pregnant women in her locality for the last 50 years, also did not expect any reward for

her work.

"I don't look for anything in return. I rush to those in need because I just can't say no to anyone," said Sonajan, who also volunteers to wash the bodies of deceased women before burial.

Unsung heroes like her, who work

tirelessly for the wellbeing of others, however, do not always go unrewarded.

IPDC Finance Limited in association with The Daily Star presented the first "Unsung Women Nation Builders Awards" to Sonajan and six other

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GRID FAILURE Power outage hits half the country

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People of 32 districts saw several hours of power outage yesterday following a failure of two major transmission lines.

The problem began after a 230kV tower of Ashuganj-Sirajganj transmission line was damaged by a nor'wester in Kishoreganj's Bhairab upazila Monday night causing power cuts in several districts, Sajjadur Rahman, managing director of Ashuganj Power Station told The Daily Star.

The Ghorasal-Ishwardi transmission line too failed

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Dissenting voices being stifled

Says Amnesty Int'l

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh government has not only failed to protect dissenting voices or hold accountable the armed groups that threaten them, it has also stifled freedom of expression through a slew of repressive tactics and new laws, said an Amnesty International report yesterday.

The report styled "Caught between fear and repression: Attacks on freedom of expression in Bangladesh" documents how armed groups have thrived in a climate of impunity, carrying out high-profile spate of killings of secular bloggers with few consequences.

The UK-based rights organisation released the report in London.

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Bhagya Rani Banik

Woman of green

When she became the director general of BRRI in June 2016, Bhagya Rani Banik was the first woman to hold that post.

She graduated from Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University and joined Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI) in 1983. Ms Banik earned her PhD from Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

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Irani Baroi

An indomitable soul

Even though her legs became paralysed, Irani Baroi did not give up her mission of helping the sick. Irani is a senior nurse today at the 100-bed general hospital in Madaripur.

She earned her diploma in Nursing from Dhaka Medical College and Hospital in 1986 and started her career in Madaripur General Hospital. She came

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Fatema Begum

First female police officer

First woman police officer and additional inspector general of police

Fatema Begum is one of the first two women who chose to join the police service after their Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) exam in 1984.

The other quitted soon but she continues to serve in the police and became the first woman to become an

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Rokeya Begum

Blindness no bar to teaching

Rokeya Begum, who became blind at the age of 3, is an assistant teacher of Tambulkhana govt primary school. Her indomitable spirit has brought her to this position. She teaches like any regular teacher.

Moreover, she is a popular teacher. She had to struggle to be here today. Her father Sheikh Mujibur Rahaman

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Sonajan Akter

Selfless midwife

Sonajan Akter of Chowbaria at Manikganj has been serving as a midwife for the entire village as well as at least 15 other villages for the past 50 years. The sixty-eight-year-old does not accept any payment for her services despite her family being extremely poor.

She takes care of the mothers, and later, their babies, for up to 10 days

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Maftahul Jannat Likhon

The light of Joypurhat

Because Maftahul Jannat Likhon decided to install solar panels free of charge in three villages two years back, students from the poorest families can now study at night in these villages of Joypurhat's Panchbibi upazila.

When many people would leave empty handed from her solar power sales center because of the high

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Shahida Akhter Shorna

Malala of Bangla

For her work against child marriage, Shahida Akhter Shorna was dubbed the 'Malala of Bangla' by Norwegian Prime Minister Erna Solberg at an international conference of Plan International, an organisation that works for children's rights worldwide.

Shorna endured pressure for early marriage like all the other girls in her

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Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant

AKS is a proud partner in the new era of advancement

Nuclear Power Plant construction demands highest strength and safety of the materials. AKS TMT Bar, produced after 100% refinement in the only **Electric Arc Furnace (EAF)** of Bangladesh is being used in the Rooppur Power Plant project.

We are delighted, proud .

100% REFINED STEEL

AKS

TMT 500W & 550W