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# Misery mounts in north; Dhaka at flood risk

At least 39 killed so far; some 20 northern, central districts affected

**STAR REPORT**

The village of Khidrmatia in Belkuchi upazila, once a vibrant community with around 200 homes, now stands utterly deserted. Rising water levels have submerged the entirety of the Siraiganj village and residents have long since left behind the desolation.

Hatem Ali, 50, along with nine members of his family in tow, was wading along with what seemed like their most important belongings.

"The Jamuna has taken a turn for the worse in the last few days and my house is now under water. So we are moving to our in-laws' house," Hatem said, when approached by this correspondent. "On Saturday, flood waters reached near our knees. Now, they have risen near chest-high so we had to leave," he added.

For days, the family subsisted on a diet of puffed rice as they could no longer cook in the flooded conditions. They will now travel almost 40 kilometres to reach his in-laws house in Siraiganj Sadar upazila.

Elsewhere, in Mokimpur village, Shathi Begum was going with her husband to their relatives' house.

"On Tuesday noon, I saw the flood waters rushing with such strong current that it washed away our furniture. I tried to stay and fight the water but it is no longer possible," she said.

While many have opted to seek safety in an acquaintance's house, for some even that is not an option. Visiting different flood affected areas in Siraiganj, many people were



With their home gone under water, a family takes a boat for a safer place with a few cows and salvaged belongings at Char Bharua of Bhupur upazila in Tangail.

# India, China troops in fresh clash

Soldiers throw stones along disputed border in Ladakh

**AGENCIES**

Indian and Chinese troops clashed briefly on a disputed area of land in the Himalayas, officials said yesterday, exacerbating tensions during a months-long standoff between the two armies.

Chinese soldiers had twice tried to enter the Indian territory in Ladakh near the Pangong lake but had been pushed back on Tuesday an Indian defence official said.

Some of the Chinese soldiers carried iron rods and stones, and in the melee there were minor injuries on both sides as soldiers threw stones, reported Reuters.

The brief confrontation was resolved after Indian and Chinese sides retreated to their respective positions, the official added.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said in a statement that China was not aware of the latest reports, but she added that "Chinese

# Mobile court act contrary to CrPC provisions

**Says chief justice**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha yesterday said some provisions of the mobile court law were contradictory to a few sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

"I will give you a chart showing that the provisions of the mobile court act are against some sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure and those should be amended. We will hold the trial under the law. We will not go beyond the law," he

# Father, friend of 'suicide bomber' Saiful held

**STAR REPORT**

Khulna police yesterday arrested the suspected suicide bomber Saiful's father and a childhood friend, who gave him shelter in a mess in the capital's Mirpur for a few days after he came to Dhaka from Khulna.

But the duo was picked up by police on Tuesday.

Police, however, couldn't name the case in which Saiful's father Abul Khair and friend Abdullah Bin Mosaddek Sami were arrested.

The arrests came hours after Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia at a press briefing said that Saiful had more than one associate.

Counterterrorism officers of Dhaka Metropolitan Police are trying to arrest them and those who sent him to carry out the attack, the DMP commissioner said.

Saiful, a "Neo JMB" militant suspect, was killed during a raid in the capital's Hotel Olto International on Tuesday. Counterterrorism officials

# Earn people's trust

**Journalists tell EC, call for free, fair, inclusive national polls**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Editors and senior journalists suggested that the Election Commission should take all-out steps to earn trust of the people and political parties in preparation for holding free, fair and inclusive parliamentary elections.

Some of them also called for army deployment and reintroducing of "no vote" in the next polls while some opposed the ideas put forward by civil society representatives during their talks with the EC.

Following a meeting, EC acting secretary Helal Uddin Ahmed told the media that senior journalists were of the opinion that

# Rohingyas start coming again

**Cox's Bazar border sees fresh influx from Myanmar**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar**

Rohingyas have again started entering Bangladesh following a recent army operation in the Rakhine State of Myanmar, sources in the bordering areas say.

Different sources estimate the number of newly intruding Rohingyas to be over 1,000 who entered through different points including Balukhali of Ukhia, Hoikangway of Teknaf, and Ulubunia, Leda and Dhum Dhum Tumbur of Naikkhanchhbari.

Rohingyas are entering at a time and taking shelter in the unregistered refugee camps of Leda, Kutu Palang and Balukhali of Ukhia, the sources claim.

Ga For Uddin Chowdhury, chairman of Palongkhali Union Parishad in Ukhia, said about 1,000 Rohingyas arrived in his union in last one month.

Bakhtiar Ahmed, IIP member of Kutu Palang, said they learned that 150 Rohingyas took shelter in the area in last 20 days.

However, local administration and Border Guard



Tired of waiting, Mujibur, Lata, and Rahim, three pilgrims, doze off at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport yesterday. They hoped that they would be able to catch a flight at 3:00am Thursday. They reached the airport on Tuesday for a flight early Wednesday morning. But the haji agent did not get their visas and tickets on time. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

# 12 JMB men indicted

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur**

A Rangpur court framed charges against 12 members of the outlawed militant outfit Jama'at Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) yesterday for killing Khadem Rahman Ali in Kaunia upazila on November 10, 2015.

A special court framed the charges after a hearing in the presence of six militants.

The next hearing of the case is to be held on August 23, a public prosecutor said quoting the judge.

Officials of Kaunia Police Station filed a charge-sheet against 14 suspected JMB men on July 3 last year in the case.

The men are: Masud Bana, Ihsat Ali, Liton Mia, Abu Sreedy, Saddam



# Obama tweet gets 3m 'like'

**CNN ONLINE**

Former President Barack Obama's tweet reacting to the attack in Charlottesville, Virginia, is the most liked tweet ever on the social network.

Obama tweeted a quote from Nelson Mandela's

**পাইওনিয়ার ইন্স্যুরেন্স এখন নতুন ঠিকানায়**

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**বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, নারায়ণগঞ্জস্থ সলিমুল্লাহ রোড এলাকার ০৩, ৪এ, ০৫, ০৬, ০৮, ১৫এ, ১৬ ও ২১এ নং বাণিজ্যিক প্লটগুলো নিলামে বিক্রয় করার জন্য গণ ১১/৭/২০১৭, ১২/০৭/২০১৭ ও ১৭/৭/২০১৭খ্রিঃ তারিখে পত্রিকায় বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশ করা হয়। কিন্তু মহামান্য হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ কর্তৃক রিট মামলা নং-১০৭৮০/২০১৭-এ ০১/০৭/২০১৭খ্রিঃ তারিখের প্রদত্ত আদেশের পরিপ্রেক্ষিতে উক্ত নিলাম কার্যক্রম আপাতত স্থগিত করা হলো।

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**PRAYER TIMING AUGUST 17**  
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4:25 12:45 4:45 6:30 8:00  
JAMAAT 5:00 1:15 5:00 6:41 8:30

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