



# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

**THOUGHTS ON REBEL**  
Nazrul: the unparalleled prodigy of music  
PAGE 9

REGD. NO. DA 781 | VOL. XXVII No. 220 | BHADRA 12, 1424 BS | **Your Right to Know** | ZILHAJ 4, 1438 HIJRI | 20 PAGES PRICE : TK 12.00

## Crisis deepens

*Myanmar fires on fleeing Rohingyas; refugees keep thronging border; US calls for protecting human rights as Rakhine violence toll now 92*

STAR REPORT

Amid continued bloodshed in Rakhine State of Myanmar and influx of Rohingyas towards Bangladesh, Myanmar troops fired twice on fleeing people near the Bandarban border yesterday.

The first shooting took place at the no man's land of the Naf River near Toombro border under Naikhyangchhari upazila around 1:15pm, said Lt Col Manjurul Ahsan Khan, director of BGB Battalion 34.

The official said the Rohingyas had been staying on boats at the no man's land since Friday night as they were trying to cross the river to enter Bangladesh.

They could not get into the country's territory as BGB members enforced a zero tolerance policy on trespassing, he said, adding that it could not be confirmed if there was any casualty.

The second shooting occurred near Ghumdhum border of the upazila around 4:30pm, the official told The Daily Star.

An AFP reporter saw in Ghumdhum civilians running for their lives as the troops opened fire. It was not immediately clear if there were any injuries.

The news agency quoted a senior BGB official saying that the troops fired on civilians, mostly women and children, hiding in the hills near the zero line. "They fired machine guns and mortar shells suddenly, targeting the civilians. They have not consulted the BGB."

As violence left at least 92 dead since early Friday and clashes continued between suspected Rohingya militants and Myanmar security forces, terrified civilians tried to flee remote villages in northern Rakhine for Bangladesh yesterday afternoon.

In the evening, over "two thousand Rohingyas" entered Bangladesh through different points of Naikhyangchhari, according to a local public representative.

"Around 2,000 to 2,500 Rohingyas got into Bangladesh from Myanmar this evening [yesterday]," Md Zahangir Alam, chairman of Ghumdhum Union Parishad, told our Cox's Bazar correspondent.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5



Rohingya refugees gathered by BGB at Ghumdhum of Naikkhanchhari in Bandarban last night. Over 2,000 people crossed the border into Bangladesh to flee fresh escalation of violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State. PHOTO: STAR

## 'Stop fresh exodus of Rohingyas'

*Dhaka hands protest note to Myanmar envoy*

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka yesterday handed over a protest note to the Myanmar envoy and called upon the neighbouring country to stop any fresh flow of Rohingyas towards Bangladesh, said foreign ministry sources.

The move came at a time when Bangladesh has seen a sudden influx of the Myanmar nationals in the wake of violence in Rakhine state and a statement from the Myanmar army has said "extremist Bengali insurgents attacked a police station in Maungdaw region".

Yesterday, the foreign ministry summoned the Myanmar envoy and expressed "serious concern" over the recent happenings, including the fresh entry of Myanmar nationals into Bangladesh.

Thousands of unarmed civilians, including women, children and elderly people

**TOP QUOTE**

"We are not playing against aliens. We are playing against Australia."

BANGLADESH TEST CAPTAIN  
**MUSHFIQUR RAHIM**  
WHEN ASKED IF IT WAS POSSIBLE TO WIN THE TWO-MATCH TEST SERIES AGAINST AUSTRALIA STARTING TODAY

## Education paused

*Flood affects 3,900 schools, colleges in north, north-eastern districts*

STAR REPORT

Academic activities of institutions, from primary schools to colleges, in more than a dozen districts have been seriously hampered by the floods.

According to a preliminary estimate of the directorates of primary and secondary education, the recent flooding damaged around 3,900 educational institutions in the north and north-eastern districts and had affected several lakh students.

Even though the floodwater started receding in most places, many of the affected institutions could not resume classes. A number of them started holding classes of late but had poor show of students.

Besides, many flood victims were still in schools that were being used as shelters.

Education officials at district levels said the floods not only caused the suspension of classes but also delayed the second-term exams in primary schools. The exams have been moved to mid-September in Rangpur division.

The officials of the education ministry said they were preparing a list of damaged institutions. After getting complete data from the districts, they would assess the damage and then start repair work.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

## Tk 117cr project taken up for flood victims in North

*Says prime minister*

UNB, Gaibandha

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the government would import 15 lakh tonnes of food grains, if necessary, to ensure food security of people.

"We'll distribute free food among the extreme poor who cannot buy food. Our plan is to ensure that not a single person suffers from hunger until the next crops are harvested," she said.

The PM was giving out relief materials and seedlings to flood victims at Gobindaganj Upazila Parishad.

She said her government has taken up a



SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

## I feel ashamed

*Muhith about surge in default loans; discussion on ailing public banks sees debate, buck-passing over corruption, theft*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance Minister AMA Muhith is "ashamed" of the fact that bad debts in state-owned banks stand at 27 percent, nearly triple the national average.

The national average of such loan is 10 percent in all the banks combined -- eight state-run and 50 private and foreign commercial banks.

As of June this year, the total national default loan is Tk 74,194 crore, of which Tk 40,100 crore is in the eight state banks -- six commercial and two specialised.

"I feel ashamed," Muhith told a workshop organised by the finance ministry to review the conditions of the state-owned banks (SoBs).

The workshop at the capital's Cirdap



auditorium also discussed the authorities' reluctance in pursuing large-scale financial scams involving public banks in recent years.

Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, chairman of the parliamentary committee on the finance ministry, accused the Anti-Corruption Commission of "miserably failing" to bring to book the perpetrators in loan scams involving state-run BASIC Bank.

The ACC failed to take action even though the House committee sent "specific evidence" in this regard to the anti-graft body, he said.

"This is a failure... This causes pain," he said, adding that what happened in BASIC Bank was "pure robbery in broad daylight".

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

**VANITA**  
PREMIUM BATHROOM & KITCHEN TILES

Glamorous & Classy

Introducing VANITA-premium bathroom and kitchen tiles. With international designs that make your home glamorous and classy. Now get ready for compliments!

BY AKU CERAMICS  
Promise of Perfection