

# Flow of hides

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He, however, expressed annoyance at the fact that there is a tendency of tanners to delay in making payments, at times even by a couple of years.

Had the practice of tanners providing funds to rawhide merchants been continued, a large scale of people sacrificing the animals could have saved the skins in the local markets at higher prices, he added.

The prices dropped by over 30 per cent from Rs 20 per kg to Rs 14, which traders say resulted from the lack of funding by tanners, near non-operation of tanneries and salt becoming costlier.

One of the 57 lakhs cow hide fetched Tk 600 to Tk 800 whereas last week it stood for Tk 1,200 to Tk 1,300, said this rawhide merchant.

This Eid, the price per square foot of cow hide was fixed at Tk 50-55 in Dhaka and Tk 40-45 elsewhere. In that of he-goat, it was Tk 40-45 and for she-goat Tk 15-17.

Moreover, the merchants said that the demand for cow hides, mostly due to financial constraints and floods, while about 5 percent of rawhides turned bad due to being treated with salt on time.

Of the 57 lakhs cow hides and sheep and 71 lakh goats and buffaloes expected to be sacrificed, according to commerce ministry data.

Traders say the figures ended up being around 40 percent of the total, as the weather was not so good, and the tanneries, some of the rawhides still got transported to the area for salting.

Most could not start operations either due to power cuts and connections or for their structures not being completely set up.

Leather and leather goods are the second highest export earning sector for Bangladesh, with a 6.2 percent increase in fiscal year, up to 6.2 percent year-on-year, according to data from Bangladesh Export Promotion Bureau.

# Interest rate

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2016-17 and is set to do so again this year.

# Malaysia, Turkey

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an already serious humanitarian situation," a top official of the European Commission said.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan yesterday condemned escalating human rights violations targeting the Rohingya Muslims minority during a phone call with Myanmar's civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi, AFP reports quoting European Union sources.

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu will visit Bangladesh today, the state-run Anadolu news agency reports.

In the phone call with Suu Kyi, a former political prisoner of Myanmar's military, Erdogan said growing human rights violations against Rohingyas Muslims "deeply concerned" the entire world, sources from his office said.

Suu Kyi has come under fire over her perceived unwillingness to speak out against the treatment of the Rohingyas or chastise the military.

Erdogan said Turkey "condemns terror and operations against innocent civilians", adding that the development of Myanmar had turned into a "serious humanitarian crisis which caused worry and resentment."

The Turkish leader had previously said he would bring up the issue at the next UN General Assembly in New York later this month.

Guteres on Friday said he was "deeply concerned" by the situation in Myanmar and called for "restraint and calm to avoid a humanitarian catastrophe".

A fresh upsurge of violence against Rohingyas, diplomatic ties, particularly with Muslim-majority countries in Southeast Asia such as Malaysia and Indonesia where there is profound public anger over the treatment of the Rohingyas.

Our diplomatic correspondent added that the UNHCR has been "deeply concerned" by the situation in Myanmar and called for "restraint and calm to avoid a humanitarian catastrophe".

The growing crisis threatens Myanmar's diplomatic ties, particularly with Muslim-majority countries in Southeast Asia such as Malaysia and Indonesia where there is profound public anger over the treatment of the Rohingyas.

Our diplomatic correspondent added that the UNHCR has been "deeply concerned" by the situation in Myanmar and called for "restraint and calm to avoid a humanitarian catastrophe".

In a statement yesterday, Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management of the European Commission Christos Stylianides also called on all sides to

# Govt to setup camp

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If necessary, the government would also expand the unregistered Rohingyas camps in Kutupalong and Balukhali of Teknaf, said sources.

# Modi to hold

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is now fleeing the country after being caught in violent ethnic clashes, has become a political issue in the northern states that share a border with Myanmar for nearly 1,600km, reports the Hindu.

The human rights organisation, Amnesty International, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi should "use his visit to urge the Myanmar authorities to protect civilians and allow humanitarian aid to the affected areas."

"As a historic friend of Myanmar, India can play an important role in de-escalating tensions and protecting lives. Prime Minister Modi must urge the Myanmar authorities to address the long-standing and systematic discrimination against Rohingyas and other Muslims in Rakhine State, which has left people trapped in a cycle of violence and deprivation," said Aakar Patel, executive director of Amnesty International India.

The issue was also heard by the Supreme Court on Monday after two undocumented Rohingyas immigrants sought asylum, challenging the Centre's deportation plan.

Modi arrived in Nay Pyi Taw in Myanmar yesterday on his first bilateral visit to Myanmar to chart out a roadmap for closer cooperation in areas like security and counter-terrorism.

Modi had said India and Myanmar will look at strengthening existing cooperation in areas of security and counter-terrorism, trade and investment, infrastructure and energy, and culture.

India is one of India's strategic neighbours and shares a 1,640-km long border with a number of north-eastern states including militancy-hit Nagaland and Manipur.

# Hard to cross

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Ro-Fire Bhusha Shaheed Park was being repaired in the floating workshop at Patuaria terminal, he added.

# Putin warns

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seven sets of the UN Security Council sanctions so far.

As well as the US, South Korea and Japan, plus permanent Security Council members Britain and France, have called for stronger measures against it, with several arguing for a potentially crippling oil embargo.

Russia made clear that Russia was opposed to further interdictions, and while China - North Korea's patron and closest political and economic partner - has yet to be drawn on the issue, it tends to resist placing pressure on Pyongyang.

Putin, speaking after an international gathering in China, said Russia condemned North Korea's "provocative" actions.

He called for dialogue and warned against other actions that could escalate the crisis.

"Resorting to just any sanctions in this situation is useless and inefficient," he told reporters in the Chinese capital following a summit of the five-nation BRICS club of emerging economies.

"All of this can lead to a global planetary catastrophe and a great number of victims."

"We eat grass but they will not turn away from the path that will provide for their security," he said.

World powers are scrambling to react to the latest ominous advance in the North's rogue weapons programme, which has sent global tensions soaring.

US President Donald Trump has approved in principle the sale of "millions of dollars' worth of military weapons and equipment" for South Korea, the White House said Monday.

South Korea said it fired a volley of ballistic missiles on Monday to simulate an attack on the North's nuclear test site, followed yesterday by major live-fire drills at sea.

At an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council, UN Ambassador Nikki Haley said Washington would present a new sanctions resolution for debate on Tuesday.

Declaring that "enough is enough," Haley said existing measures not worked and accused Myanmar's military of "begging for war" over the country's sixth and most powerful long-tail.

Seoul estimated the blast's yield at 50 kilotons, more than three times the size of the bomb detonated over Hiroshima in 1945.

# Aussie denigrate

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88 off 170 balls and 266 minutes in the race, during which he hit just four boundaries. Peter Handscomb was also beaten on a solid 69 from 113 balls, with five fouls, registering his fourth fifty. He added 11 runs for the third wicket with Warner to conclude a commanding day at the office.

# Jakarta offers

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national leader Aung San Suu Kyi, said she was tasked by Indonesian President Joko Widodo to visit Bangladesh to convey three things.

"One is to convey the sympathy of Indonesia's hundreds of thousands on the refugee issue. Second one is to convey Indonesia's readiness to support in easing the burden of the government of Bangladesh and the third was to discuss the situation on the ground," she said.

She said Sheikh Hasina Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina agreed in principle to take Indonesia's support. "We will continue to discuss what sort of support Indonesia will give."

The visiting foreign minister, who left Dhaka last night, told reporters that he had an in-depth discussion with the Bangladeshi leadership about the situation on the ground and conveyed Indonesia's sympathy to Bangladesh over the refugee issue.

Marsudi did not take any questions after her nearly two minutes press conference at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel.

The foreign ministry had announced a joint press briefing by Bangladeshi and Indonesian Foreign Minister but as there was no one from the Bangladeshi side to speak with her at the time, she made the statement on her own.

Earlier in the afternoon, Marsudi had a meeting with her Bangladeshi counterpart, Foreign Minister AG Mahmood Ali, at State Guesthouse Padma.

The Indonesian foreign minister last visited Bangladesh on December 20, 2016 when there was a discussion with the Bangladeshi authorities on finding a lasting solution to the Rohingya crisis.

# Schoolboy

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school to confront the headmaster about how his son was beaten. Then headmaster Lutfar Rahman and Nasir Uddin gave Ali some money for the boy's treatment. Nasir Uddin said he was taking his son to the local village quack Mono Ranjan Gosai who treated Torque.