

Journalists stage hunger strike for new wage board  
BSS, Dhaka

Journalists yesterday staged a day-long hunger strike as part of their protest against the delay in constituting the proposed 9th Wage Board for increasing the wage package.

A large number of journalists representing mainstream media took part in the strike in Latya Press Club auditorium where journalists' associations and unions had used the information ministry of delaying the process.

Veteran journalist Kamal Lohani, former president of the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFU); Abul Kalam Azad, managing director and chief editor of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), and Kazi Rafique, former president of the Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ), made them break the fast by offering fruit juices.

"The 8th wage board was declared on September 22, 2013... the journalists became victims of discrimination when the national

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This incomplete structure of the museum in memory of Asad, a martyr of the 1969 mass uprising, outside the DMCH emergency gate has turned into a rickshaw garage. Construction of the two-storey building started in 2009, and was supposed to be completed in June 2013. The photo was taken yesterday.

Light to moderate rain/thunder showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at most places over Sylhet, Mymensingh & Chittagong districts and at many places over Rangpur & Barisal divisions and at a few places over Khulna, Dhaka, and Rajshahi divisions with moderately heavy fall of rains over the country in 24 hours till 6:00pm today. The Met office said. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:56pm and rises tomorrow at 6:47am. Highest and lowest temperatures recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

REMARKS ON PM  
Imran faces arrest for skipping court hearing  
COURT CORRESPONDENT



A Dhaka court yesterday issued an arrest warrant against Gonobajrang Mancha a spokesman Imran H. Sarker and cultural activist Sanatan Ullash as they skipped hearing of a defamation case filed for making "derogatory remarks" about Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

First Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Sheikh Chandan had passed the order as their lawyers did not take any step for their non-appearance before the court yesterday.

Yesterday was the first scheduled date in the court where they were supposed to secure bail. But they did not comply with the order. Later their bail was cancelled and the warrant was issued.

The court set October 26 to submit report on execution of the arrest warrant.

BCL leader Golam Rabiani filed the case

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BRAC UNIVERSITY  
Ghazi Shamsur  
Rahman  
Scholarship  
Fund created  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bruce University and its English and humanities department signed a memorandum of understanding between Ghazi Shamsur Rahman Scholarship Fund in the latter's seminar room in the capital yesterday.

Prof Samina Sultana, director of History Academy and a visiting professor at the department, and Shubra Narayan Kaiti, treasurer and accounting registrar, signed the documents on behalf of the two organisations.

Renowned jurist Ghazi Shamsur Rahman was the father-in-law of Prof. Samina and father of Professor Emeritus Aminur Nishat of the university's

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## Women major driver of transformation

PM tells UN roundtable on their economic empowerment

UNB, New York

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has stressed the need for recognising women's unaccounted works, building more support facilities for female workers and eliminating social stereotypes against them.

She was speaking at a roundtable of UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel (HLP) on Women's Economic Empowerment for Leaving No One Behind" at the UN Headquarters in New York on Tuesday.

Hasina said women are the most important drivers of transformation. "Through empowerment of women, the world can most effectively succeed in the realisation of sustainable development for all."

"We believe women should be supported with education, proper training, right tools and access to equal opportunities," she said.

In the political spectrum, she said, Bangladesh has ensured the representation of women at all levels.

Hasina mentioned that Bangladesh has given priority to women's economic engagement to attain SDG on women empowerment in the seventh Five Year Plan. "Twenty-seven percent of our budget is allocated for women's social and economic empowerment activities."

She said 10 percent of posts for women are reserved in judicial, administrative, civil service, armed forces and law-enforcing agencies while 60 posts of primary school teachers are set aside for them.

Hasina also said the government has introduced six months' paid maternity leave for working women as well, while the central bank is providing collateral-free loan up

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Army to help distribute relief

Says Quader

UNB, Cox's Bazar

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday said the army would be deployed at Rohingya camps for proper distribution of relief materials and rehabilitation of the refugees who have fled to Bangladesh amid persecution in Myanmar.

The government has decided to deploy the army at Rohingya camps... they'll help the refugees build makeshift shelters and distribute aid among them, he told a press conference at a hotel in Cox's Bazar.

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## ROHINGYA CRISIS

### Food aid reaching all Govt official tells Ctg meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

No Rohingyas, who took refuge in Bangladesh fleeing Myanmar military crackdown, have been suffering from any shortage of food and water, said additional refugee relief and rehabilitation commissioner of the army and relief ministry at a meeting in Chittagong yesterday.

Apart from that, vaccination programme for Rohingya children has already commenced, said Mohammed Shamsud Douza, also a deputy secretary. He, however, said they were facing problems in reaching out to remote areas of Teknaf for distributing relief due to a poor road communication.

With the international community, international organisations are also distributing relief among the Rohingyas, he informed the meeting of a 14-member committee at the office of Chittagong divisional commissioner in the port city with Divisional Commissioner Md Abdul Mannan in the chair. To identify Myanmar citizens who took refuge in Bangladesh, the committee was formed on January 26 this year making the divisional

commissioner and additional divisional commissioner (development) president and member secretary respectively. Though the committee met on a few occasions before hand, this is its first meeting after the recent Rohingya influx into Bangladesh following Myanmar military crackdown starting on August 25.

At yesterday's meeting, Divisional Commissioner Md Abdul Mannan was present to six deputy commissioners (DCs) on September 16, asking them to ensure cordial atmosphere while distributing relief materials.

Moreover, on Tuesday, a letter was also sent to the Ministry of Public Administration seeking 10 officials with the status of deputy secretary to assist and monitor the relief distribution among the Rohingyas, he told the meeting.

At the meeting, Chittagong Metropolitan Police Commissioner Iqbal Bahar proposed forming a refugee camp management committee. He said, "Administration can put fence around the 2,000 acres of land which has

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## Int'l community needs to make united effort

Eminent citizens in 11-point recommendation urge countries to bring an end to Rohingya persecution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent citizens of the country yesterday called upon the international community to make a concerted effort immediately to bring an end to the persecution of Rohingya in Myanmar meet their basic human needs and repatriate them through diplomatic means.

To overcome the crisis, the platform placed an 11-point recommendation before Bangladesh and other countries.

According to the United Nations, around 4,15,000 Rohingya have so far taken refuge in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar to flee the latest military persecution in Rakhine State of Myanmar.

The speakers said it is now imperative that Bangladesh ratify the UN Refugee Convention to ease the situation facing the country at present.

They demanded severe punishment to the perpetrators, especially the Myanmar army and police personnel, after trying them at international courts for committing

Dhaka Reporters' Unity.

Welcoming the efforts being taken to tackle the present situation, they looked forward to a heightened cooperation in repatriating the refugees as advised by the report of the Kofi Annan Commission.

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AL-led alliance bins Suu Kyi's speech

Nasim warns of stern action if anyone tries to destroy communal peace

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ruling Awami League-14-party alliance yesterday rejected Myanmar's de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi's proposal to return to the nation after military crackdown in Rakhine State since August 25 that forced thousands of Rohingyas to flee to Bangladesh.

In a speech on Tuesday, Suu Kyi condemned rights abuses but did not blame the army or address the allegations of ethnic cleansing.

"Aung San Suu Kyi had not condemned or stood about Rohingyas in her address. Rather she termed the Rohingyas Banglaeles. It is not acceptable at any cost; therefore, we are rejecting

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With Durga Puja around the corner, the port city markets are abuzz with shoppers.

The photo was taken in Teri Bazar area on Tuesday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

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