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Rooppur project work in progress using Shah Cement



## CHILDHOOD WASTED

In Bholanath quarry, minor injuries are frequent and fatalities not rare. Yet, more than 500 children, some as young as 10, work there all day. Some of their fathers, who also work at the quarry in Sylhet's Companiganj, say sending them to a school, is a luxury they cannot afford. Parents also take into account the couple of hundred takas a child earns every day, when they consider sending them to school. The photo was taken on Monday. In the absence of monitoring, a culture of engaging children in risky work has become a norm in quarries.



PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

## 2 Myanmar journalists released

The duo were held for hiding identity

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Two Myanmar photojournalists accused of hiding their identities and gathering secret state information were released on bail on Friday night.

Though the journalists -- Minzayar Oo and Hkun Lat -- walked out of jail, they cannot leave the country, according to the bail order of the Senior Judicial Magistrate Court of Cox's Bazar. The charges brought against them have not been dropped yet.

Police arrested the duo on September 13 on charges of taking photographs and gathering secret information in the bordering areas of Cox's Bazar while hiding their journalist identity to law enforcers and local government officials.

They were also accused of violating immigration rules by entering Bangladesh as tourists to work as journalists.

Barrister Jyotirmoy  
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## Iran defies US, tests missile

AFP, Tehran

Iran said yesterday that it had successfully tested a new medium-range missile in defiance of warnings from Washington that such activities were grounds for abandoning their landmark nuclear deal.

State television carried footage of the launch of the Khoramshahr missile, which was first displayed at a high-profile military parade in Tehran on Friday.

It also carried in-flight video from the nose cone of the missile, which has a range of 2,000 kilometres (1,250 miles) and can carry multiple warheads.

"As long as some speak in the language of threats, the strengthening of the country's defence capabilities will continue and Iran will not seek permission from any country for producing various kinds of missile," Defence Minister Amir Hatami said in a statement.

The test comes at the end of a heated week of diplomacy at the UN General Assembly in New York, where US President Donald Trump again accused Iran of destabilising the Middle East, calling it a "rogue state whose chief exports are violence, bloodshed and chaos".

Previous Iranian missile launches have  
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## US bombers stage N Korea show of force

Russia slams Trump, Kim Jong-UN for 'mad,' 'kindergarten' fight; 3.5 quake rattles N Korea near nuclear site amid tension

AFP, Washington, United Nations

US bombers flew off the east coast of North Korea yesterday in a show of force designed to project American military power in the face of Pyongyang's weapons programmes, escalating already sky-high tensions.

The flight came after days of increasingly bellicose rhetoric between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un's regime, as international alarm mounts over Pyongyang's nuclear ambitions.

US bombers have carried out similar show of force flights as the United States and the international community struggle to rein in North Korea's weapons programmes.

But this was the furthest north of the Demilitarised Zone (DMZ) any US fighter or bomber aircraft has flown off North Korea's coast in this century, Pentagon spokeswoman Dana White said.

"This mission is a demonstration of US resolve



and a clear message that the president has many military options to defeat any threat," White said.

"We are prepared to use the full range of military capabilities to defend the US homeland and our allies."

The Air Force B-1B Lancer bombers used yesterday are based in Guam, and were accompanied by F-15C Eagle fighter escorts from Okinawa, Japan, White said.

A shallow 3.5-magnitude earthquake that hit North Korea near its nuclear test site yesterday was likely an aftershock from the hermit state's latest nuclear test on September 3, a nuclear test ban watchdog and other experts said.

The bomber flight and quake came at the end of a week that saw a blistering war of words between Kim and Trump, with the US leader using his maiden speech at the United Nations General Assembly to warn that Washington would "totally destroy" the North if America or its allies were threatened.

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## Coup tweet costs her beauty crown



AFP, Istanbul

The winner of Turkey's national beauty pageant was Friday forced to hand back her crown hours after winning, over a tweet relating to the failed coup that was deemed offensive.

Itir Esen, 18, won Miss Turkey 2017 during a ceremony in Istanbul on Thursday night and was going to represent the country in the Miss World competition in China.

But organisers said that would not be possible after they discovered an "unacceptable" tweet Esen sent around the first anniversary of the July 15, 2016 coup attempt aimed at ousting President

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## 'HUMAN BRIDGE' Arrest warrant issued for UZ chairman

UNB, Chandpur

A court here yesterday issued an arrest warrant for Haimchar upazila Chairman Nur Hossain Patowary in a case over walking on a "human bridge" formed by schoolchildren.

The judicial magistrate of Chandpur issued the warrant as Nur Hossain, also the general secretary of Haimchar Awami League,

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SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 24  
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-40 12-45 4-30 6-05 7-30  
JAMAAT 5-15 1-15 4-45 6-10 8-00  
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## Rohingya child dies of burns

He sustained injuries as Myanmar forces torched their home, family alleges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cig

A 35-day-old Rohingya infant died of his burns at Chittagong Medical College Hospital early yesterday, after a 10 days' battle for life.

The victim, Saiful Arman, son of Sayed Nur from Buchidong in Maungdaw of Myanmar's Rakhine, suffered the burns as Burmese security forces torched their house during a crackdown on their village.

Mrinal Kanti Das, head of Burn and Plastic Surgery unit of CMCH, said the infant, with 10 percent burns on his body, was taken to the hospital 10 days after the incident.

"Because of the delay, he was affected by septicemia, an infection resulting from burns, and failed to recover from it," he told The Daily Star.

The body was handed  
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A Rohingya settlement in Kutupalong area of Ukha. A sign calling for caution as it is a wild elephants' corridor.

PHOTO: PINAKI ROY

## Passage for elephants blocked

Makeshift camps set up for Rohingyas get in the way

PINAKI ROY and MOHAMMAD ALI JINNAT from Cox's Bazar

The natural corridors for around 50 wild elephants in Ukha's reserve forest area have been blocked by temporary camps set up for the helpless Rohingya refugees.

Experts say the animals, which come from Bandarban's Naikhyanghari usually during the winter, might face the threat of extinction if the situation does not change.

They say many parts of the 30,000 acres of forest land in Ukha have already been razed to the ground and the Rohingya settlement could be the final nail in the coffin for the large mammals.

Elephants, which move in groups, go on seasonal migrations in search of food, water, minerals, and mates.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, biodiversity expert Anisuzzaman, chief adviser of Isabella Foundation, said the around 50 elephants, which were already in trouble due to the construction of Cox's Bazar-Teknaf highway, could face the threat of extinction if their migratory routes are kept blocked.

He said once the corridors are closed, the animals would start mating within the group, resulting in weaker breeds. In the long run, the elephants might not survive, he added.

Anisuzzaman also said such closure of the corridors could trigger human-elephant conflicts in the area, leading to deaths on both sides.

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