

**U-18s BEAT BHUTAN**

Bangladesh finish second as Nepal retain SAFF U-18 Championship title

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'CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE'

Ousted Thai PM Yingluck jailed for five years in absentia

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**ROHINGYA CRISIS**

Bangladesh wants strong UNSC stance

Seeks support from members as security council meets today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka wants the UN Security Council to take "strong stance and swift action" to end the "ethnic cleansing" in Myanmar and to restore peace and stability in the strife-torn Rakhine State to facilitate a smooth return of Rohingyas.

"We expect such concrete steps through which the forcibly displaced people from Myanmar return to their homeland smoothly and without any fear," Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali said yesterday.

He made the comment after briefing the Dhaka-based

ROHINGYA | 4,80,000 INFLUX AND COUNTING

diplomats of the Security Council member countries ahead of the UNSC's meeting today to discuss the violence in Myanmar and hear a briefing from UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on the crisis.

Bangladesh will put its case to the UN Security Council debate as countries which are not UNSC members can also give their speech in the open debate beginning today.

Switzerland, France, the US and four other countries -- Sweden, Egypt, Senegal, and Kazakhstan -- have requested the meeting after nearly half a million Rohingyas fled a military crackdown in Myanmar since August 25 and crossed into Bangladesh.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein has called the security operation "a textbook example of ethnic cleansing" and French President Emmanuel Macron last week went further, calling it "genocide."

The diplomatic briefing held at state guesthouse Meghna was attended by the envoys of five UNSC permanent members -- the US, the UK, France, Russia and China -- and four non-permanent members -- Japan, Italy, Sweden and Egypt.

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Feverish toddlers put to sleep at Thyingkhali Rohingya camp in Ukhia. Their mother placed the branches to protect them from yesterday's sweltering heat. Below, a woman sobs after she lost two little sons amid the hubbub of Rohingyas gathering to collect relief at Balukhali yesterday.

REFUGEE CRISIS
WB offers \$400m, Japan gives \$3m

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh can avail as much as \$400 million from the World Bank as grants if it rolls out programmes exclusively for the Rohingya refugees and the hosting communities, the bank's country chief said yesterday.

The World Bank stands ready, I want to repeat the World Bank stands ready to support the government in addressing the Rohingya refugee crisis if the government seeks the World Bank's assistance," WB Country Director Qimiao Fan told reporters at his office in Dhaka.

He made the comment while speaking at the release of the Bangladesh Development Update, a WB report. Zahid Hussain, lead economist of the WB Bangladesh, delivered the keynote presentation.

The bank's first-ever move of such kind has allocated \$2 billion for the sub-window for refugees within the International Development Association (IDA). Those seeking refuge in different parts of the world, under which any nation can get a maximum share of \$400 million.

Qimiao said any official request in this regard would have to come from the official channel which is SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

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Heat, unsafe water take toll on kids

Diseases spreading at refugee camps

WASIM BIN HABIB from Cox's Bazar

Wrapping his two-year-old daughter in a towel, Jiraman Ali was walking fast towards a medical camp near their temporary shelter at Balukhali in Ukhia.

He looked pale and tired as the child, Fashmin Ara Bibi, had been running a high fever for the last four days.

"We took her to the camp two days ago. Doctors there gave her some syrup. She is taking it on time but the temperature is not coming down," said the

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Four remain missing for over a month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shrouded in her son's memory, Nasrin Akther is now bed-ridden and anxiously passing her time.

The mother can now only hope that her son, Ishrak Ahmed Fahim, a student of McGill University in Canada, who were missing from the capital's Dhanmondi on August 26, will return soon.

Ishrak's father, Jamal Uddin Ahmed, has asked for help from everyone -- the police, RAB and DB - to find his son. Yet, Ishrak remains traceless.

Like Ishrak, five other people have been abducted or gone missing since August 22. Of them, only two have been found. The remaining four are still without trace.

The list of missing individuals includes businessman Aniruddha Kumar Roy, McGill University student Ishrak Ahmed Fahim, Bangladesh Kalyan Party Secretary

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'Abducted' mayor found after 2 days

Sharishabari mayor who went missing in capital's Uttara ends up in a Sreemangal tea garden

STAR REPORT

Jamalpur's Sharishabari municipal mayor, who went missing from the capital's Uttara last Monday, was found in a tea estate in Sreemangal yesterday. Goural Yumij, a security guard of Kalaghat union spotted Mayor Rokonuzzaman Rokon, 42, at the estate around noon.

Goural told The Daily Star that he found Rokon standing under a tree and as he



approached, the mayor told him, "Please save me, if you do not save me, they will kill me."

"The mayor was talking like an insane person and I took him to the union parished [Kalaghat] chairman's room," he added.

Chairman Pranesh Goala said he informed police of the matter and they took Rokon away.

Quoting Rokon, Anowarul Haque, additional superintendent of Moulvibazar

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WB forecasts 6.4pc growth

Flood damage a key reason for lower projection for FY18

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The World Bank has kept unchanged its growth forecast for Bangladesh at 6.4 percent for the current fiscal year, much lower than the country's achievement in the last fiscal year and the government target for FY 2017-18.

The growth has set a growth target of 7.4 percent for the current fiscal year, up from 7.24 percent achieved a year ago.

The WB made the forecast in its Bangladesh Development Update report released in Dhaka on Friday.

The Washington-based lender's forecast is lower than that (6.8 percent) of the last fiscal year. This is because the growth in FY16-17 was overestimated as it undercounted the flood-induced losses in agriculture, among others, according to the report.

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Poverty reduction at a slower pace due to lower remittances, flat exports, higher food prices and adverse natural shocks

WORLD BANK

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Time to dig deep in tough Test

SAKIB SUBHAN

Among all the teams in Test cricket today, the home and away contrast in ability and expectation is possibly sharpest in Bangladesh's case. Statistics do not do that phenomenon justice -- four matches won away out of a total of 10 Test wins may hint at an even keeler than most, but close followers of Bangladesh cricket will know that most of the improvement that the world talks about has been achieved at home, with the victory in the 100th Test in Colombo being the exception. Away, and especially overseas, that improvement has not yet translated into results.

In the endeavour to prove that their newfound home prowess translates to meaningful performances in alien conditions, the Tigers embark upon arguably the toughest cricketing assignment for an Asian team with the first Test



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