



## Rising from dire straits

Bangladesh fares better in fighting hunger despite huge crop loss; World Food Day today

### AT A GLANCE

- ▶ Bangladesh moves 2 notches up in Global Hunger Index
- ▶ Fares better than India, Pakistan
- ▶ Over 15 percent people still face hunger
- ▶ Facing worst crop year since 2008
- ▶ Facing worst refugee situation in history
- ▶ Needs policy interventions to cope

REAZ AHMAD

Bangladesh has not had a food year so bad since 2008. That was a year now well marked in history books as the year of global economic meltdown, the worst since the Great Depression in the 1930s.

In 2007-08, Bangladesh had a bad crop year, and some of its neighbours were jittery about providing any support.

This year's World Food Day observation today comes as a watershed, with Bangladesh sourcing food grains from every possible country, including Myanmar, to offset a record domestic production shortfall.

All of this comes into play when the country has to play host to one of history's largest refugee populations amid an ethnic cleansing taking place in its backyard.

Dr Sue Lautze, who represents the United Nations Food

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Mushfiqur Rahim, left, hit a fantastic century in the first ODI against South Africa at the Diamond Oval in Kimberley yesterday, but it was not nearly enough as the hosts crushed the Tigers and cantered to victory without a scratch.

PHOTO: AFP



## Proteas prove superiority

Mustafizur to miss rest of the tour; Mashrafe

SAKEB SUBHAN from Kimberley

Halfway through South Africa's cakewalk to what seemed like a challenging target of 279 on a clear and windy day in Kimberley's Diamond Oval the large Bangladesh contingent, who were shouting themselves hoarse during the first half of the first ODI, became subdued. The fours and sixes from Bangladesh's batsmen, especially the 11 boundaries and two sixes off centurion Mushfiqur Rahim's bat, had given them something to cheer, but when Hashim Amla and Quinton de Kock opened a library of boundaries of their own, the green and red started disappearing from the stands, perhaps in the uncomfortable knowledge

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## SC admin reshuffled

ACC will probe CJ, says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two days after Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha flew to Australia, the Supreme Court brought major changes in its administration by transferring 10 key officials including the registrar general.

The apex court also transferred 15 other judicial officers, ranging from the rank of joint district judge to district judge.

The law ministry yesterday issued three separate notifications to this effect, saying the transfer orders have been made in public interest.

The development came a day after the top court in a rare statement said Justice Sinha is facing 11 charges including money laundering and corruption.

Yesterday, Law Minister Anisul Huq said the Anti-Corruption Commission will conduct an inquiry into the allegations and if these are primarily found true, a case will be filed against Justice Sinha.

Then the law will take its own course, he said at a press conference at his secretariat office.

Justice Sinha is now on a month's leave from October 3. Before leaving the country on Friday night, he said he was fully well, contradicting the government claim that

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## BNP's 20-point proposal to EC

Party demands polls-time 'supportive govt'; CEC says Zia restored multi-party democracy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP yesterday placed before the Election Commission a set of proposals, including dissolution of parliament and a polls-time 'supportive government' to oversee the next parliamentary election.

During the two-and-a-half hour electoral talks, the party also demanded that armed forces personnel be deployed during the polls and provided with magistracy power.

It also urged the commission to create a level-playing field for all political parties and candidates for holding a credible and inclusive election.

"In the current political situation, the Election Commission doesn't have much to do. Still, we are a little optimistic after the talks," BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir told journalists after leading a 16-member delegation at the dialogue with the EC at the Nirbachan Bhaban.

The party presented a 20-point proposal at the meeting chaired by Chief Election Commissioner KM Nurul Huda.

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<b>MAJOR DEMANDS</b>	Deployment of army with magistracy power during polls
	Provision of submitting nomination papers online
	No to use of EVM in the next general election
	Cancellation of contractual appointments 6 months before polls
	Demarcation of 300 constituencies as it was before 2008 polls
	Withdrawal of cases against party men, release from jail

## LAW STUDENT RUPA KILLING

# Five charged with rape, murder

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Police yesterday charged five transport workers for gang raping and killing law student Rupa Khatun on a running bus on August 25.

Sub-Inspector Kaiyum Khan Siddique, investigation officer of the case and also in-charge of Araonkhola Police Outpost in Madhupur, submitted the charge sheet before the Judicial Magistrate's Court in Tangail in the evening, said Mahbub Alam, superintendent of Tangail police.

The accused were: bus helpers Shamim,



Rupa Khatun

26, Akram, 35, and Jahangir, 20, driver Habibur, 45, and bus supervisor Safar Ali alias Gendu, 55.

Charges of rape, murder, and hiding the body and abetting the hiding of the body were brought against them, he said.

A total of 32 people, including police, doctors and government officials, were made witnesses in the charge sheet.

The bus, her mobile phone, her purse, spectacles, and bloodstained clothes of Rupa were mentioned as evidence.

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## ROHINGYA PERSECUTION WB suspends \$200m loan for Myanmar

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The World Bank has suspended \$200 million loan as budget support to the Myanmar government due to the persecution of Rohingyas of Rakhine State.

"We also assessed the conditions of our recently approved development policy loan and concluded that further progress is needed for the loan to be made effective," said the WB in a statement issued from Washington on Friday after analyzing the situation in

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## DEPORTED MILITANTS Rab arrests 2 convicted in Singapore

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab yesterday arrested two deported Bangladeshis from the capital's Sabujbagh area. The duo served jail time in Singapore after being convicted for having links to terror financing.

Daulat Zaman, 35, and Sohel Hawlader, 29, both went to Singapore as workers in 2004 and 2009 respectively.

Lt Col Emranul, commanding officer of the Rab-3 team that arrested the two, said Daulat and Sohel were radicalised by their gang leader, one Mizanur, after going to Singapore. They had four meetings with Mizanur in Singapore before their arrest in 2016.

In a meeting on March 25 last year at Water Front Park in Singapore, they took oaths to carryout militant activities in Bangladesh, the Rab official said quoting the duo. Daulat and Sohel,

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