

"Loan default is a matter of shame for an individual ... we don't have that shame ... very unfortunate."

FINANCE MINISTER AMA MUHITH AT A MEETING WITH INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS FORUM OF BANGLADESH (PAGE 81)



"No one gives freedom of speech to anyone. It has to be realised."

BISHWA SHAHITYA KENDRA FOUNDER PROF ABDULLAH ABU SAYEED AT YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2018 (PAGE 3)



Police want 'polls treat'

Police HQ presses for promoting 495 officials of the ranks of SP to addl IGP ahead of elections

SHARIFUL ISLAM

Police are pressing for promotion of 495 officials of the ranks of superintendent of police to additional inspector general ahead of the national elections.

As no post is vacant in the department's top tier, the police headquarters has come up with an in-situ solution, the British-era formula for promotion in the administration cadre.

An in-situ official is someone who continues to hold the same office and perform the same duties even after being elevated to a higher position.

The police headquarters sent a proposal to the home ministry on July 4, stating that "competent officials" have been serving in the same positions for a long time as suitable posts were not created at the upper level of police.

In the proposal, the headquarters used the words "super-numerary promotion" instead of in-situ promotions, which are given to admin cadre officials to ease commotion among officials serving without promotion for long.

"The government will need an additional Tk 4,98,480 a month [for implementing it]," reads the proposal.

The police demand followed a series of promotions in the administration, which has long been limping with a huge number of in-situ officials and OSDs (officers on special duty).

As of 2016, there were 416 additional secretaries against 120 posts, 908 joint secretaries against 350 posts and 1,301 deputy secretaries against 830 posts. And most of them are in-situ officials. The situation remains unchanged.

Days after sending the proposal, police high-ups had a meeting with Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan, who in principle agreed that the demand is logical, according to officials in the police and the ministry.

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Rabeya Begum, 60, eats under the open sky on what once used to be her home in Rajbari's Goalanda. Her children sleep nearby under a makeshift tent made with tarpaulin (not in the picture). The Padma river recently devoured her home and around 10-15 bighas of her land, leaving her with a few possessions. *Bottom right, a lone cabinet left behind by a family escaping the erosion.* Story on page 2.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



Jamaat a bar to 'greater national unity'

Left, Bikalpadhara say no direct or indirect link with anti-liberation force to be accepted

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

BNP's longstanding ties with Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami has emerged as an obstacle to its move to forge a greater unity with other political parties, aimed at realising its demands ahead of the national election, likely in December.

Bikalpadhara Bangladesh (BDB), a potential partner in the unity process, has already made it clear that BNP must cut its ties with the Islamist party before the BDB build any sort of unity with the BNP.

The BDB, led by former president Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury who is a former BNP leader, has also asked other parties not to share the stage with BNP if it does not sever its relations with Jamaat, which opposed the country's independence from Pakistan in 1971.

An alliance of eight left political parties is also against any unity process if Jamaat is directly or indirectly involved.

The issue also came up at a 20-party alliance meeting at BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's Gulshan office last night.

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Editors' Council postpones human chain

Welcomes information minister's talks offer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Sampadak Parishad (Editors' Council) has postponed tomorrow's human chain, which was called denouncing the passage of the Digital Security Bill 2018, upon request from Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu.

It also welcomed the minister's offer for talks on the bill on Sunday.

The Parishad made the move a day after the

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Why Muslims are repressed?

PM asks OIC member states to find out reasons

UNB, New York

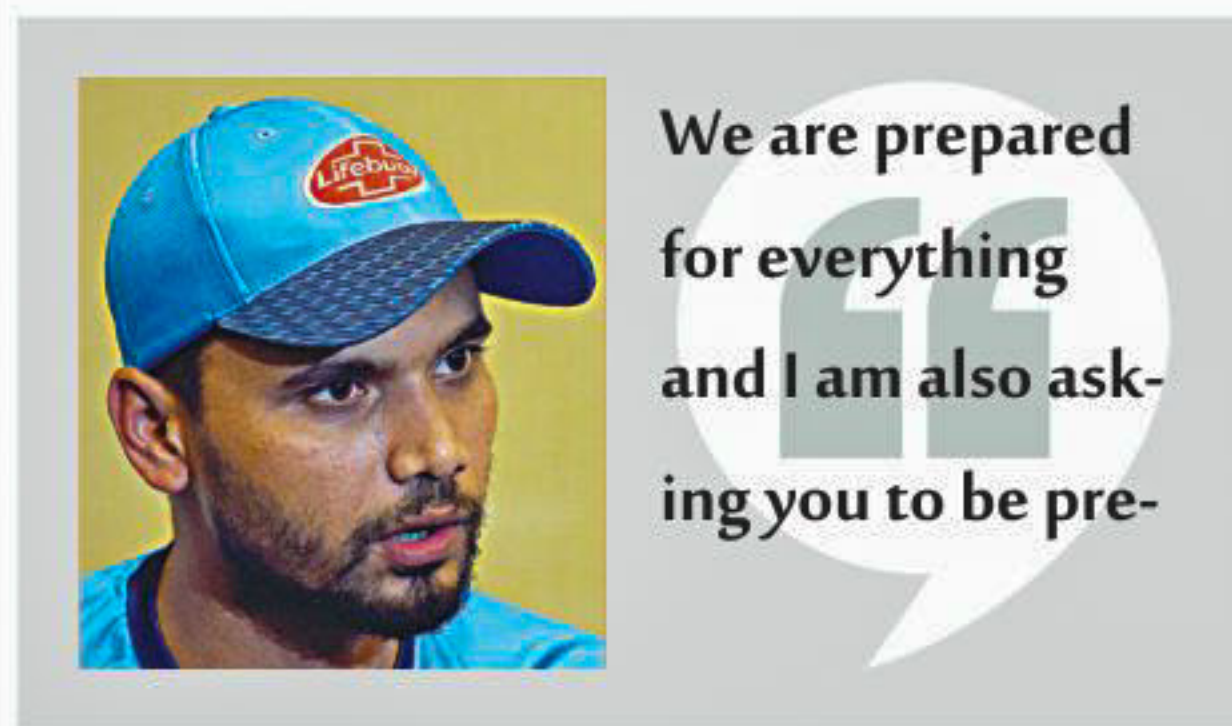
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the OIC member states to find out why Muslims across the world are being subjected to repression, torture and eviction.

"If there is any problem or discontent, this should be resolved through dialogue bilaterally or regionally. I would like to urge the OIC [Organisation of Islamic Cooperation] to play a more proactive role in mitigating the plight of the Muslims," she said.

Hasina was speaking at a high-level meeting on the situation of the Rohingyas in Myanmar, organised by Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia and the OIC Secretariat, at a

SEE PAGE 17 COL 1

Tigers' heart against India's pedigree



SAKEB SUBHAN from Dubai

When Bangladesh take on India in the Asia Cup final in Dubai today, it will be a battle between two sides who have come to the title clash through highly contrasting routes and with widely divergent levels of confidence.

The match will start at 5:30pm (Bangladesh time) at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

India had confirmed their place in the final by beating Pakistan by nine wickets on Sunday, the same day that Bangladesh had just managed to stay in contention with a three-run win over Afghanistan. India then rested their best players -- including captain Rohit Sharma and vice-captain Shikhar Dhawan -- for their last Super Four match against Afghanistan, who were inspired by leg-spinner Rashid Khan into forcing a thrilling tie against the world's top-ranked ODI team on Tuesday.

The following day, Bangladesh woke to the news that ace all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan would follow opener and highest run-scorer Tamim Iqbal out of the tournament, but

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ROHINGYA CRISIS UN votes to set up panel to prepare indictment

AFP, Geneva

The UN Human Rights Council yesterday voted to set up a panel to prepare criminal indictments over atrocities committed in Myanmar, amid allegations of genocide against the Rohingya minority.

The top UN rights body voted to "establish an ongoing independent mechanism to collect, consolidate, preserve and analyse evidence of the most serious international crimes and violations of international law committed in Myanmar since 2011."

The text, a collaboration between the European Union and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, says the panel will be responsible for preparing "files in order to facilitate and expedite fair and independent criminal proceedings... in national, regional or international courts or tribunals."

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