

Palestinians carrying stones stand behind a burning tyre during clashes following a protest against a US-led meeting this week in Bahrain on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, in the village of Halhul, near the West Bank city of Hebron yesterday.

# Court orders division for OC Moazzem in prison

a probe report into the matter.

Moazzem was arrested on June 16 from the capital's Supreme Court area when he tried to get bail from the

The tribunal on June 17 rejected the bail petition of Moazzem and sent him to jail.

hearing on charge framing against him. Nusrat, a student of Sonagazi

Islamia Senior Fazil Madrasa in Feni's Sonagazi upazila, was set ablaze on April 6 allegedly for refusing to withdraw a case filed against the

madrasa principal, Siraj Ud Doula, for showing Moazzem asking Nusrat some The tribunal also fixed June 30 for sexually harassing her. She died at Dhaka Medical College

> withdrawn as Nusrat's family alleged that he was not cooperating with them. During that time, a video clip

on social media, drawing widespread criticism. Nusrat had gone to his office On the same day, the OC was to file a complaint against Siraj. Moazzem was suspended on May 8

humiliating questions did the rounds

for negligence in duty and attached to the office of DIG (Rangpur range).

# Dengue takes alarming turn

FROM PAGE 12 23 of Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) and wards 41, 12, 17, 4, 39, 6, 7, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, 43, 47 and

Meanwhile, Health and Family Welfare Minister Zahed Malik yesterday said 853 people were infected with dengue in the country

48 of Dhaka South City Corporation

so far this year. But the number of deaths was still low compared to some other neighbouring countries like Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Myanmar

and India. This year, two people died of dengue fever in the capital in April.

Speaking at a press conference test blood for dengue. at his ministry office, the health minister said they were taking steps, including providing training to doctors and nurses on dengue patient management, as they did not want any death from dengue patients.

corporations and municipalities to take necessary steps to destroy the breeding grounds of Aedes number of Aedes mosquito. mosquitoes and also provided training to 1,500 doctors and nurses a bacteria and when it mates with a on proper management of dengue patients.

He said the ministry distributed kits among the city corporations to Dr Sanya Tahmina, line director

Hospital on April 10.

(communicable disease control) of DGHS, said it is very important to destroy the source of Aedes mosquitoes to reduce the number of She said they were thinking of

Zahed said they asked all city bringing from abroad a type of laboratory-born mosquito called "Ulbakia" which would reduce the The male mosquito is infected with

female, the female loses its breeding capacity, Sanya added.

The DGHS official said a working group was formed for the Ulbakia

project at the end of last year and they were working on how the mosquito would be brought to the country and what could be its impacts.

She said dengue fever in Bangladesh is now an endemic disease, meaning it will remain in the country throughout the year.

DSCC Chief Health Officer Brig Gen Sharif Ahmed and his counterpart in DNCC Brig Gen Md Mominur Rahman Mamun said they were taking different steps, including building awareness among the people, and giving more emphasis on larviciding and adulticiding to keep dengue cases in check.

#### ACC sues DIG Mizan

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(DSCC).

last year. According to the case statement, Mizan submitted his wealth statement to ACC in August last year, citing investigation, Mizan closed the FDR 24, 2019, according to ACC sources. that he has Tk 1.56 crore of wealth -- Tk 46.26 lakh worth of moveable property and Tk 1.1 crore worth of immoveable property.

But he concealed the information about the remaining amount -- about Tk 3.07 crore -- and kept this money in different forms under his wife and relatives' names.

In February 2012, Mizan bought a 211 sq ft shop at Police Plaza Concord in Gulshan-1 at Tk 24.21 lakh under the name of his nephew, Mahmudul, and concealed the information. Mahmudul

is a sub-inspector of police. He also opened a fixed deposit receipt (FDR) account under Mahmudul's name at a private bank in

Mahmud and Deputy Secretary

Aminul Islam Amin conducted the

discussion while Deputy Leader of the

Jatiya Sangsad and senior Presidium

member of the party Syeda Sazeda

Chowdhury and other senior leaders

The PM advised her party men to

"You'll have to dedicate yourselves

emulate the ideology of the Father of

to the welfare of the country and

were present.

the Nation.

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None can destroy AL

November 2013 and deposited about 59.9 lakh as the purchase price. Tk 30 lakh. Mizan was the nominee of the account.

account and withdrew Tk 38.88 lakh including the interest amount. He did not mention this information as well. In March 2016, he bought a 2,400

sq ft flat under the name of his brother, Mahbubur Rahman, on Bailey Road. It was worth Tk 65.99 lakh. During investigation, Mahbubur

failed to show the legal source of the money spent for purchasing the flat. Moreover, Mizan was in the possession of the flat. It, too, was not cited in the wealth statement.

wife, Sohelia Anar Ratna, for Tk 2.2 crore at Kakrail, and paid about Tk 1.7 crore. But he registered the flat under his nephew's name later, showing Tk

the 'simple living and 'high thinking'

to achieve many things by leading

a simple life and making sacrifices.

"Great sacrifice is needed for great

achievement and Bangladesh is

advancing towards the peak of

development as we're following this

She said the party leaders and

workers would have to mingle with

childhood," she said.

principle."

When ACC started the inquiry into his wealth, Mizan sold the flat to one Soon after the start of the Shefali Begum for Tk 61 lakh on April

As he was under ACC's watch, he took a series of steps to make the money invisible. First, he deposited Tk 55 lakh (out of Tk 61 lakh) in his nephew's bank account. Then he drew Tk 54 lakh from the account on six

different dates in April-June. money he earned illegally," said an ACC official, seeking anonymity.

His wife Sohelia, brother Mahbubur, and nephew Mahmudul were made accused in the case for abetting him In 2011, Mizan booked a flat for his in concealing information about the illegally-earned money.

said no leaders of any party except

before the independence and after

Bangabandhu's assassination. But

those only made the party shine like a

and workers endured torture and

repression since AL's inception. "AL

founding general secretary Shamsul

Haque lost mental balance due to

torture by the Pakistani rulers and

repeated jail and repression pushed

She said it was true that Maulana

Bhashani left Awami League but he

organisation. Pointing out the sacrifice Bangabandhu when he needed to 21 percent from 40 percent and I've

The prime minister said the leaders

She said many conspiracies were

**INQUIRY INTO BRIBING** 

diamond, she said.

him towards death."

ideology that we were taught in our Awami League made such sacrifices.

She added that it was possible hatched to split Awami League

with the ideology of the Father of the of the Awami League leaders and anything and the Father of the Nation announced that we will cut down the

Meanwhile, the ACC investigation had stumbled after DIG Mizan raised an

allegation of giving Tk 40 lakh as bribe to ACC deputy director and former inquiry officer Khandaker Enamul Basir. He had reportedly promised to free Mizan from the allegations.

After that, ACC suspended Basir

and formed a fresh three-member

committee to do the inquiry. The

committee submitted the report recently, and ACC approved the filing of a case against Mizan on Sunday. The commission also formed

"This way Mizan laundered the another committee to investigate the allegation of DIG Mizan bribing ACC official Basir.

As a part of the probe, the commission summoned Mizan and Basir for interrogation on July 1. ACC also asked senior reporter of ATN News Imran Hossain Sumon to appear before it on June 26. The television channel first aired a report where Mizan brought the allegation of bribing Basir.

The premier added that she also

Bangladesh's

extended support to Bhashani's family

after her return to the country in 1981.

stunning socioeconomic development

in the last 10 years, the prime minister

said it had been possible due to the

continuity of the Awami League

gratitude to the people and the party

men. "The people have given us the

scope to serve them by having faith in

the people changed and they got

something whenever the party came

The AL chief said the fate of

"We've brought down poverty rate

us and electing us time and again."

In this connection, she expressed

he needed," she said.

Highlighting

government.

to power.

known

# 7.3 quake felt in Indonesia, Australia

AFP, Jakarta

City

A 7.3-magnitude earthquake struck remote eastern Indonesia yesterday, forcing people to flee office buildings as far away as the northern Australian city of Darwin, officials and reports said. The deep and powerful earthquake

sent shockwaves around the region, with people on the tourist island of Bali as well as in East Timor reporting feeling the tremor. Indonesia was the epicentre of the

Asian tsunami in 2004 that killed more than 170,000 people but the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said yesterday's quake was too deep to trigger a destructive wave.

Indonesia's disaster agency, which urged people to "stay calm", said the to the north of Australia.

tremor was felt weakly in faraway Bali.

It hit at a depth of 208 kilometres (129 miles) south of Ambon island in the Banda Sea at 11:53 local time, according to the US

Geological Survey (USGS). There were no reports of casualties

or any major damage. "Wow, that was quite an impact for #Darwin, hope everyone is safe," the bureau of meteorology in Australia's Northern Territory said

on Twitter.

People in Darwin's central business district fled buildings after the quake struck, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation reported.

The Southeast Asian archipelago of Indonesia, which is one of the most disaster-prone nations on Earth, lies

#### BNP wins low turnout

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night. The parliamentary seat fell vacant

School.

Around

after BNP lawmaker-elect Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, also secretary general of the party, did not take oath.

for their cooperation and patience. I want to thank the CEC [Chief Election Commissioner], the local administration and police for playing a neutral role." However, he said, "Voters had

no clear idea about using EVMs. The turnout would have been better had there been ballot papers in the election," he said. While voting was underway

between 9:00am and 5:00pm, The

Daily Star correspondent visited 10

polling stations and found a thin presence of voters. Till noon, only 137 out of the expected 2,478 votes were cast at a centre at Belail Government Primary

Contacted over phone after the end of the voting, the centre's presiding officer Shahinur Islam told The Daily Star that a total of 839 votes were cast yesterday.

10:00am, correspondent found that only 106 of 2,982 were cast at the PTI Academy polling station. Later in the evening, the station's presiding officer ASM Mirazul Islam said as many as 455 votes were cast in the end. The situations in the other polling

centres, including at Pre-cadet High School, Noongola High School and Maltinagar High School, were similar. After casting votes through EVMs,

some expressed satisfaction while some said they were confused over its credibility. "Using the EVM is easier than

casting votes through ballots. I am happy with the new voting system," said Malik Ahmed, a voter at the PTI Academy polling station in the town.

After voting for his favourite candidate at Bogura Zilla School, Fazlul Karim, a resident of Bogura town's Sutrapur, said although he

felt good using the EVM, he feared electoral fraud.

Apart from the AL and the BNP candidates, five other contested the polls. They are Jatiya Party's Md Nurul Islam Omor; Bangladesh Congress's Md Monsur Rahman; Bangladesh In his post-polls reaction, Siraj Muslim League's Md Rafiqul Islam said, "I want to thank my oppositions and independent candidates Md Minhaj and Syed Kabir Ahmem.

#### Remove

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The announcement came at a meeting among the representatives of Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceutical Industries (BAPI), Importers Association of Bangladesh (Drug section) and Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA) held at the latter's office. of Association Importers

Bangladesh and BAPI will submit a detailed report to DGDA after destroying the expired drugs. Maj Gen Mahbubur Rahman,

director general of DGDA, said in the last six months they took action against 404 Pharmacies across the country and fined a total of Tk 81.95 lakh.

They also seized medicines worth Tk 22.81 lakhs during this period, he

Earlier, a High Court bench of

Justice FRM Nazmul Ahasan and Justice KM Kamrul Kader ordered the authorities to take legal action against those involved in storing, supplying and selling expired drugs within July 2. During the meeting, members of Bangladesh Chemist and Druggist

Samity (BCDS), an association of pharmacy owners, pledged not to sell expired and unauthorised medicines in the future. The association made a number of

demands, including decentralising the process of issuing training certificates to the pharmacists and relaunching the training course for medicine sellers which was shut in September 2018.

They also appealed to take action against doctors who prescribe food supplements and unregistered medicine.

### Iran denies

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with Saudi leaders to build a "global

coalition" against the Islamic republic. Tehran says the drone violated Iranian airspace and Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif has backed the claim with maps and coordinates -allegations dismissed by Washington.

US President Donald Trump claimed he called off a planned retaliatory military strike on Iran at the last minute, tweeting that Washington would instead place "major additional sanctions on Iran on Monday".

"Are there really any sanctions left that the United States has not imposed on our country recently or in the past 40 years?" Iran's foreign ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi said at a press conference in Tehran yesterday.

"We really do not know what (the new sanctions) are and what they want to target anymore, and also do not consider them to have any impact," he added.

Trump, who has waged a "maximum pressure" campaign against Iran, has also said the US is prepared to negotiate with the Islamic republic with "no preconditions". He yesterday told other countries to

protect their own Gulf oil shipments, declaring that the United States has only limited strategic interest in the "dangerous" region.

aims regarding Iran boil down to "No Nuclear Weapons and No Further Sponsoring of Terror." **GLOBAL COALITION** Pompeo met Saudi King Salman and

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in the Red Sea city of Jeddah and was later due to hold talks in the United Arab Emirates, US officials said. Saudi and Emirati leaders both

advocate a tough US approach against common foe Iran. Pompeo described Saudi Arabia

facilities in Iran.

hold talks with them," Coville said. "What more can be done? They

will no doubt tighten secondary sanctions... and most probably extend a list of Iranian firms banned from

## Life on Mars!

the party will have to move ahead

the weekend to run a follow-up experiment," Ashwin Vasavada, the project scientist for the mission, wrote to the science team in an email that was obtained by The New York Times.

The mission's controllers on Earth sent new instructions to the rover on Friday to follow up on the readings, bumping previously planned science work. The results of these observations were expected back on the ground yesterday.

by the possibility of aliens on Mars. But Nasa's Viking landers in the 1970s Two decades later, planetary

People have long been fascinated

Nation and they will have to follow workers since its inception, Hasina did not mind to send everything that rate further."

photographed a desolate landscape. scientists thought Mars might have a waste product. However, geothermal been warmer, wetter and more

habitable in its youth around four billion years ago. notion that if life ever did arise on Mars, its microbial descendants could have

migrated underground and persisted.

as methanogens thrive in places lacking oxygen, such as rocks deep underground and the digestive tracts of animals, and they release methane as

On Earth, microbes

reactions devoid of biology can also generate methane. It is also possible that the methane for millions of years but escaping

Now, they are entertaining the is ancient, trapped inside Mars intermittently through cracks. Nasa announced the methane

but called it an "early science result." A Nasa spokesperson added: "To maintain scientific integrity, the project

detection in a statement on Saturday

science team will continue to analyse the data before confirming results." Scientists first reported detections of methane on Mars a decade and a

telescopes on Earth.

half ago using measurements from and the UAE as "two great allies in the challenge that Iran presents". Mars Express, an orbiting spacecraft "We'll be talking with them about how built by the European Space Agency and still in operation, as well as from to make sure that we are all strategically aligned and how we can build out a

global coalition," Pompeo said.

He said the US sought a coalition "not only throughout the Gulf states but in Asia and in Europe that understands this challenge and that is prepared to push back against the world's largest state sponsor of terror".

world powers that negotiated the nuclear deal with Iran, denounced the planned new sanctions as "illegal". CYBERATTACK US media reports said Trump ordered a retaliatory cyberattack against Iranian

But yesterday Russia, one of the

missile control systems and a spy network after the drone was shot down. Yesterday, Iranian Minister Telecommunications Mohammad Javad Azari Jahromi said no cyberattack against his country had

ever succeeded. "The media are asking about the veracity of the alleged cyberattack against Iran. No successful attack has been carried out by them, although they are making a lot of effort," he said on Twitter.

He acknowledged that Iran has "been facing cyber terrorism -- such as Stuxnet -- and unilateralism -such as sanctions", naming a virus believed to have been engineered by Israel and the US to damage nuclear

has said it would reduce some of In a pair of tweets, Trump said US its nuclear commitments unless the remaining partners -- Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia -- help it circumvent US sanctions and sell its oil. Thierry Coville, an Iran expert at the French Institute of International

and Strategic Affairs (IRIS), also

With the US out of the deal, Iran

questioned whether there was room for further US action as previous sanctions have already severely hit Iranian crude exports. "The Americans are asphyxiating Iran economically in order to force them to

trade."

#### people by following the ideology of the people and cut off arrogance. the Father of the Nation and your "We'll have to build a country where other predecessors," she said. people's welfare will be ensured and Hasina said Bangabandhu loved where people will live holding their the country, its people, and aimed to heads up high." bring welfare. The prime minister asked the was a part of the history. "Maulana "So every leader and worker of party men to further strengthen the Bhashani used to write letters to