

PM heads for China

Say experts about Rohingya crisis as

Beijing must play due role

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina leaves for China on a five-day visit today and she will discuss various issues with Chinese leaders, including Rohingya repatriation.

The PM will hold bilateral meetings with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Prime Minister Li Keqiang and Chinese National Peoples' Congress Chairman Li Zhanshu.

Besides, Bangladesh

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## Household gas Tk 175 pricier

Energy regulator says the rise is to help govt bear high LNG import cost

	CONSUMER	EXISTING PRICE	NEW PRICE	HIKE IN %
<p>PRICES ARE in Tk/Unit</p>	Power Plant	3.16	4.45	40.82
	CNG: End-user	40	43	7.5
	Captive Power	9.62	13.85	43.97
	Industry	7.76	10.7	37.89
	Single Burner	Tk 750/Month	Tk 925/Month	23.33
	Double Burner	Tk 800/Month	Tk 975/Month	21.88

According to the new rates, households using a single burner will pay Tk 925 instead of Tk 750 a month. Those using a double burner will pay Tk 975 in place of Tk 800.

With this, gas tariff for households has more than doubled in the last decade.

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## 4,200km of roads in bad condition

RHD survey finds; over Tk 10,000 crore needed for their repair, upkeep this fiscal year; gets only Tk 2,550cr

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Around 25 percent roads under the Roads and Highways Department (RHD) across the country are in "poor, bad or very bad" condition, and fixing those would require Tk 10,679 crore in the current fiscal year, an RHD survey has found.

But the government has allocated less than a quarter of the amount or Tk 2,550 crore for the repair and maintenance of all roads and bridges. This means, much of the broken roads will get worse for a lack of repair work due to fund shortages.

Roads with huge cracks and

STATE OF ROADS, HIGHWAYS TOTAL 17,453 km		
GOOD	8,723 km	50%
FAIR	4,482 km	25%
POOR	2,211 km	13%
BAD	1,020 km	6%
VERY BAD	1,017 km	6%

the RHD is often overburdened with huge repair and maintenance work, said Rezaul Rahman Rajon, executive engineer (HDM Operation Division) at the RHD.

The RHD has to prioritise the maintenance work on the basis of traffic movement. As a result, roads that carry thinner traffic get less attention most of the time even though they need urgent repair, he added.

"In many cases, we can't repair roads in time. We then have to go for major treatment of those roads, whereas only minor work would do

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potholes that need immediate repair are treated as "bad or very bad" roads, said an RHD engineer.

But because such roads are left unrepaired for long for fund shortage,

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## Tigers back to business

SAKEB SUBHAN from Birmingham

The Bangladesh team got back to business with their first practice session after a five-day break at the practice ground in Edgbaston yesterday, with one eye on the India-England game taking place a stone's throw away at the main venue.

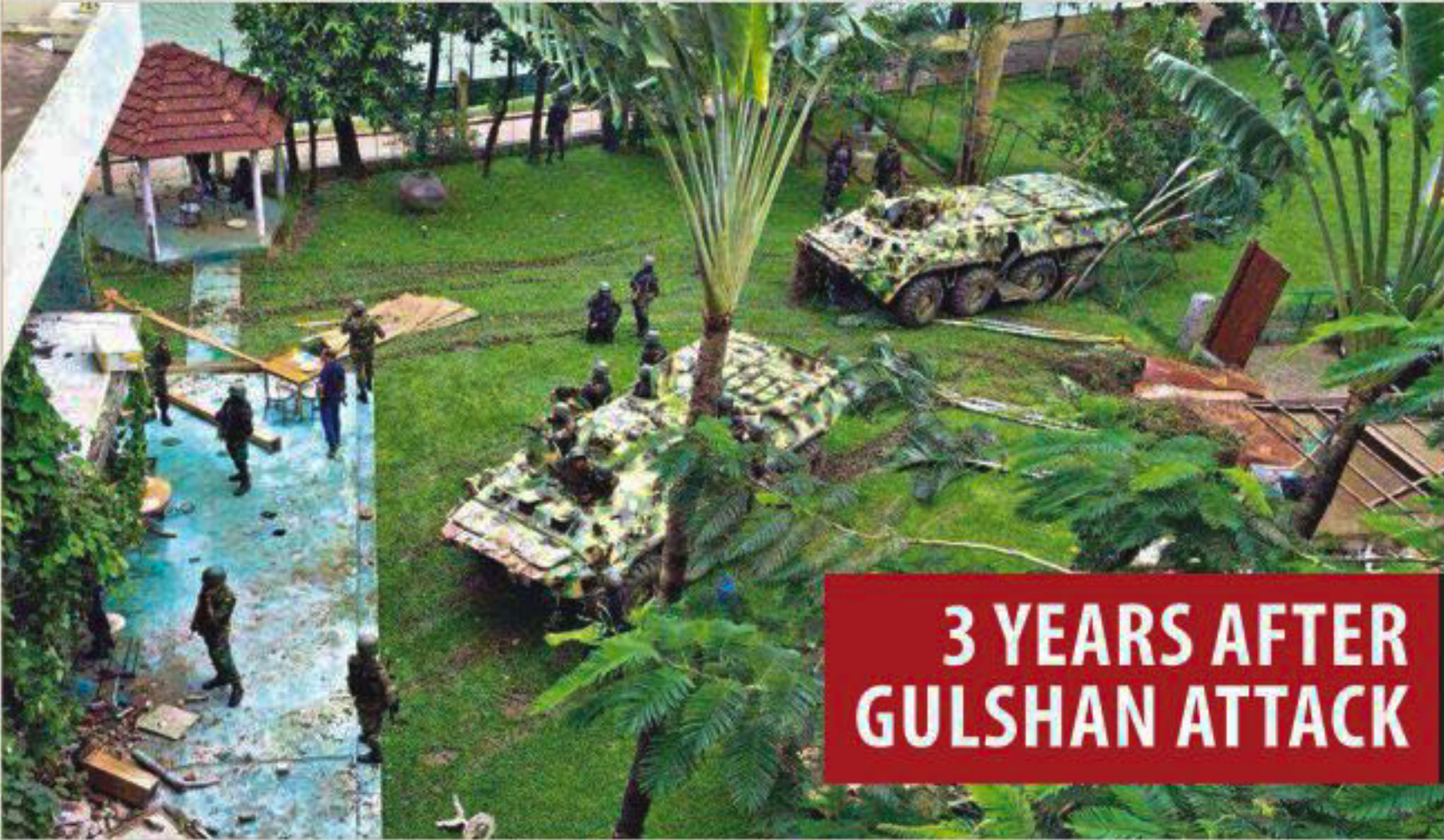
The Tigers, who will play inform India at the same ground tomorrow, have been left needing some other results to go their way in their quest to land a first ever World Cup semifinal berth. All of Bangladesh would have been hoping for an Indian win because an English victory would have left Bangladesh needing to win both their remaining matches -- against India tomorrow and against Pakistan at Lord's on June 5.

The Tigers, however, were focusing on one match at a time. They have not beaten India since besting their celebrated neighbours 2-1 in a home ODI series in 2015. They have lost all four matches since then.

The Tigers did receive a boost ahead of the stiff challenge as batsman Mahmudullah Riyad batted in the nets yesterday, five days after sustaining a Grade 1 tear on his right calf muscle during Bangladesh's 62-run win over Afghanistan in Southampton on June 24.

Mahmudullah was seen on crutches while boarding

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## Trial 'to be completed' by year end

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The trial for the case filed over the terror attack on Holey Artisan Café in the capital's Gulshan in 2016, the worst terrorist attack in the country, is expected to be completed by this year.

"We will try our best to conclude the trial of the case by this year," Ja-hangir Alam Chowdhury, public prosecutor of the Dhaka Anti-Terrorism Special Tribunal which is dealing with the case, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Five armed militants stormed the upscale eatery in the diplomatic zone on July 1 and held the diners hostage before brutally killing 20 of them -- three Bangladeshis, seven Japanese, nine Italians and one Indian.

Two police officials were also killed during the 12-hour standoff.

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England opener Jonny Bairstow struck a century to help the side reach 337 for 7 in yesterday's World Cup match against India.

PHOTO: REUTERS

## পদ্মা সেতুর মূল কাঠামোতে ব্যবহৃত হচ্ছে শুধুমাত্র স্ক্যানসিমেন্ট

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## England beat India to stay alive

AFP, Birmingham

Jonny Bairstow hit a hundred before Chris Woakes starred as England ended India's unbeaten run at this World Cup with a 31-run win on Sunday to once again leave semifinal qualification in their own hands.

England, who came into this match on the back of successive defeats by Sri Lanka and Australia, will be assured of a place in the last four if they beat New Zealand in their last group match on Wednesday.

India can reach the knockout phase by beating Bangladesh when they return to Edgbaston on Tuesday.

England's bid to win a first World Cup title is based on aggressive top-order batting but the runs had dried up lately.

That made their 337-7 after captain Eoin Morgan won the toss on a good pitch in Birmingham all the more heartening.

Bairstow top-scored with 111 and all-rounder Ben Stokes added a brisk 79, with India paceman Mohammed Shami taking a career-best 5-69.

No side have made more batting second to win a World Cup match than Ireland's 329-7 against England

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## Ershad in 'critical condition'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party Chairman and Leader of the Opposition in parliament HM Ershad was being given oxygen yesterday as his condition deteriorated significantly.

The condition of the former president worsened yesterday compared to that of the day before, said party acting chairman GM Quader at a press briefing in the capital.

"He has been suffering from breathing difficulties since this [yesterday] morning. That's why the doctors gave him the oxygen support," said Quader.

The briefing was held at the party chief's Banani office around 6:00pm.

On June 27, Ershad was admitted to Combined Military Hospital (CMH)

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## Congratulations!

Engineer Abdus Sobhan, Respected Managing Director of AUKO-TEX GROUP has been honored with the **President Award on Industrial Development** for the year 2017 for 2<sup>nd</sup> time by the Ministry of Industries in recognition of his Extra Ordinary Performances, Ethical Business Practices and massive contributions towards Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) on Environmental & Social issues. On June 29, 2019 H.E. Md. Abdul Hamid, Honorable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh handed over the prestigious award to him.

On this auspicious occasion, we acknowledge and appreciate Honesty, Integrity, Strong Leadership, Intellectual Rigor, Determination and Dedication of our Managing Director, which helped him in paving ways to achieve this significant milestone.

We, all proud members of AUKO-TEX GROUP, express our cordial wishes and heart-felt greetings for this achievement. We also pray for him along with our beloved company to achieve more glory and laurels in future.

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