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DEPARTING SHAHJALAL

Agonising wait vexes flyers



RASHIDUL HASAN

The outbound passengers at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport go through a painful ordeal as they need to wait even for hours in long queues just to enter the airport and drop off luggage for scanning.

Besides, people who arrive late at the airport because of the city's horrific traffic jams sometimes miss their flights after further delays at the gates, officials of a private airline said.

Different airlines are now requesting their international passengers to come to the airport three to four hours ahead of schedule.

For the chaotic situation at the airport, officials blame the shortage of entrance doors equipped with luggage scanning machines as passengers need to stand in queues to complete the security checking procedures.

Following a hijack bid of a Biman flight on February 24, the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh has asked the authorities to ensure foolproof security checks at all airports including Shahjalal.

Taking advantage of negligence by some staffers in security checking, a youth named Polash Ahmed boarded BG-147 flight carrying a toy gun and some plastic pipes

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Dengue patient Sania from the city's South Banasree area sits beside her brother Adham at a ward in Mughda Medical College and Hospital yesterday. They along with their other sister Prova, *not in picture*, have been in the hospital with dengue since Friday.

PHOTO:
SK ENAMUL HAQ

RAPE BY 'OC, OTHERS' Victim's family being followed, threatened

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

Family members of a woman, allegedly gang-raped by an OC and several other policemen in Khulna on Friday, say they are feeling insecure as some plainclothesmen are constantly keeping them under watch.

Several unknown callers also warned them of dire consequences if they did not settle the matter through negotiations outside court, alleged the woman's mother.

Talking to The Daily Star at her home in Khulna city yesterday, the mother of the woman, a 30-year-old widow, said unknown people had gone

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

We don't support torture in custody

Hasina tells the BBC

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday told the BBC that her government does not support torture in custody.

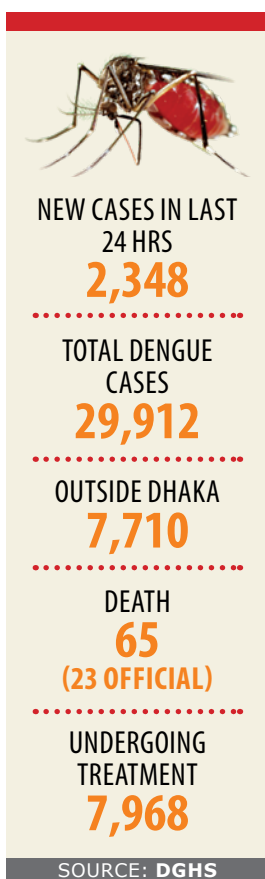
"To tell you the truth, our government is never led by any intention to torture people in custody and it [government] also doesn't do it [either]," she said.

Senior broadcast journalist at BBC World Service Manoshi Barua interviewed the PM in London when issues of Bangladesh economy, politics and social issues came up.

Her comments on the custody issue came as Manoshi asked what steps the present government took to stop such torture, which the journalist described as a legacy of subsequent governments.

"Incidentally, some [one or two incidents] may happen. . . if you see our position in the last 10 years, we could take appropriate measures to control crime," Hasina said.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6



DENGUE OUTBREAK

Ensure there's no still water

Experts urge Eid-vacationers; 5 more die; 2,348 new cases

HELEMUL ALAM and MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

Health experts fear the exodus of thousands of people during the upcoming Eid ul Azha vacations could increase the record spread of the dengue outbreak in the city, as mosquitoes might use the empty homes, schools and offices as prime breeding grounds.

If stagnant water in any of those sources is not cleaned, then they may become breeding sites for the Aedes mosquito.

Educational institutions will remain closed for Eid for 10 days from August 8. Office holidays will be observed on August 11, 12 and 13, following the weekend holidays.

According to the Centre for Disease Control in America, an Aedes mosquito takes approximately 8-10 days to go from being an egg to an adult mosquito.

A big worry for experts during this period are educational institutions. "If the authorities of educational institutions do not take proper steps to clean the property, eventually it will become a breeding ground of

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

Govt focuses on hospitals outside Dhaka

Takes measures to deal with outbreak during Eid holidays

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

The government has taken a number of initiatives to provide dengue infected patients with services, including the opening up of help desks in all government and private hospitals, and logistical support to all district and upazila hospitals.

It has also directed all community clinics across the country to be operational during the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha vacation, with adequate round-the-clock logistical support.

Keeping in mind the rush of home-goers ahead of Eid-ul-Azha, health officials have begun providing training to district and upazila doctors on dengue treatment and patient management through video conferences.

"Many people will go outside Dhaka

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

Kashmir on edge

Lockdown continues; Pak army vows to stand by Kashmiris

AGENCIES

A communications blackout in disputed Kashmir entered a second day yesterday, after India snapped television, telephone and internet links to deter protests over its scrapping of special constitutional status for the Himalayan region.

Moving to tighten its grip on India's only Muslim-majority region, the government dropped a constitutional provision for the state of Jammu and Kashmir, which has long been a flashpoint in ties with neighbouring Pakistan, to make its own laws.

"We are managing for now," said a senior official at a hospital in the region's main city of Srinagar that was among the medical facilities hit by the communications crackdown.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



Workers repair the battered Hatikumrul-Bonpara highway in Sirajganj's Tarash upazila yesterday. Locals said parts of the highway to Rajshahi were badly damaged last month due to waterlogging and flood. The repair work was already causing long tailbacks. Eid holidaymakers fear they would suffer delays on their journeys.

PHOTO:
STAR

For whose welfare?

Expatriates' welfare minister wants no trafficking cases by legal migrant workers against recruiting agents

PORIMOJ, PALMA

Expatriates' Welfare Minister Imran Ahmad wants police not to record cases under the anti-trafficking act if workers sent abroad with proper documents come up with complaints against recruiting agents.

He rather suggests actions be taken through the ministry, Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET) or Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira) instead of filing the cases.

Experts and activists say migrants can fall victim to human trafficking even after going abroad for jobs maintaining all legal procedures. So, they should be able to file cases under the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012.

"The suggestion of expatriates' welfare minister will encourage human traffickers and leave victims unprotected. Therefore, I would say this is an ill-advised instruction," said Prof Mizanur Rahman, former chairman of National Human Rights Commission.

In a letter to the home minister on June 25, Imran Ahmad said over 1,400 licensed recruiting agents, mostly members of Baira, are involved in sending the workers abroad under the Overseas Employment and Migration Act, 2013.

After collecting job demand letters and visas, the agents get those verified by the Bangladesh missions in

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Haftar forces say they hit pro-govt airbase in Libya

AFP, Tripoli

Forces loyal to Libyan strongman Khalifa Haftar said they launched air strikes early yesterday against an airbase in third city Misrata held by government loyalists.

“Our air force carried out several raids against the Misrata airbase, targeting anti-air defences as well as a Turkish aircraft transporting ammunition, drones and missiles,” Haftar’s self-styled Libyan National Army said in a statement on its Facebook page.

Pro-Haftar television channel Libya Al-Hadath said a Turkish Ilyushin aircraft “was destroyed as it landed at the Misrata base”.

It aired footage, which could not be independently verified, of the alleged strikes.

Forces loyal to the UN-recognised Government of National Accord (GNA) did not immediately confirm or deny the reported attack.

Haftar forces launched an offensive in April to wrest Tripoli from the GNA.

Many of the government’s best equipped and most seasoned fighters come from Misrata, which is east of the Libyan capital.

Turkey and Qatar have been the main supporters of the GNA government, while Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates have backed Haftar.

Agonising wait

FROM PAGE 1

with wire attached to those in his backpack.

The plane made an emergency landing at the Chattogram airport after the suspect allegedly had tried to storm the cockpit of the plane. He was killed later in an eight-minute commando operation.

Officials of a number of local private airlines say they have information that the long queues in some cases have been leading to passengers missing their flights since the airport authorities introduced checks at both heavy-luggage and anti-hijacking gates.

Outbound passengers need to pass through the heavy-luggage gates while entering the terminals and anti-hijacking gate before boarding.

Some passengers said they don’t have any objection regarding the security measures. But long waits at the entrances cannot be acceptable, they said.

THE QUEUES

While visiting the outbound terminals of the airport in May, this correspondent found passengers waiting, from 20 minutes to over an hour, at the entrances of Terminal-1 and Terminal-2.

There are six gates -- three each at Terminal 1 and 2 -- at the departure terminals. Two of those were not in operation due to shortage of necessary security equipment during the visit of this correspondent.

Passengers said the authorities should increase the number of entry gates for better management of the entrances.

Group Captain, Abu Sayeed Mehboob Khan, director of the airport admitted that passengers often suffer because of long queues.

“Within the existing structure, we cannot add more gates. But the government has taken an initiative to construct a third terminal,” he told The Daily Star on August 3.

“We have appointed supervisors at different points inside the terminals to make sure passengers face no hassle.”

Talking to The Daily Star on May 18, Iqbal Hossain, who was waiting at the entrance of Terminal-2, said he was not sure whether he would be able to catch his flight.

“Considering the city’s huge traffic jam, I started around 11:00am from my Lalbagh home to catch my 4:00pm flight,” he said.

“I reached the airport at 1:45pm and since then I have been standing in the queue to enter the airport terminal. It’s now 2:30pm -- I am not sure whether I

will be able to catch my flight.”

Several passengers next to Iqbal expressed their frustration.

“We don’t object to the security checking. But this checking shouldn’t be at the cost of our flight,” shouted Nurul Islam, a migrant worker who came from Cumilla.

Several passengers said they were not aware that additional one or two hours will be required only for entering the terminal.

“The airport authorities should run media advertisements about the long queues for security checking,” Abdul Maleq, a Dubai-bound passenger said, asking, “Who will take the responsibility if I miss the flight?”

Some passengers raised a hue and cry while talking to the security staffs.

“For VIP passengers, the situation is different as there is no long queue at the VIP gate. But ordinary passengers are left to fight the chaos at the entrance in the name of security checking,” said Enam Hossain, a Singapore-bound passenger.

This correspondent saw around 70 to 80 passengers standing in queues at each of gate no 1 and 3 around 4:30pm on May 9.

Some security staff of the airport said the number of passengers in queues increases a lot at night when large planes depart one after another.

“Passengers need to wait even more than one and a half hours,” said a security staff of the airport, wishing anonymity.

After entering the terminal through heavy luggage checking, a passenger needs to complete three phases standing in queues -- collecting boarding pass from check-in counter, facing immigration, going through anti-hijacking security gate before boarding the aircraft.

Their sufferings are compounded also due to delays in those formalities.

A passenger travelling to the US in February, said she had to wait at least 45 minutes at the immigration queue before she could board the aircraft.

“When I was standing at the immigration queue, I heard the airlines staff making the last call for passengers,” she said, wishing anonymity.

When she asked an immigration official why there was such a long queue, he said there are five to six large aircraft that will depart within a short time of each other.

“Besides, the immigration officials are mostly new at their job. Often, whenever an official gets trained, he or she is transferred to another department,” he said.

For whose welfare?

FROM PAGE 1

the destination countries concerned. Then they apply to the BMET for immigration certificates by paying a certain amount of fees.

Upon scrutiny, the BMET issues immigration certificates and smart cards for the aspirant migrants.

“If any worker faces any problems after going abroad, recruiting agents address those as per the instructions of the Bangladesh mission concerned, the ministry and the BMET,” read the letter.

The minister further said migrants make complaints -- “true or false” -- to police stations or other agencies and the complaints are recorded under the anti-trafficking act, instead of the migration act.

Because of this, the recruiting agents regularly face harassments, searches, passport seizures and detentions, and remain fearful of law enforcement agencies, he said.

“It has a serious negative impact on the overseas jobs sector. Overseas employments are going down. There are fears that remittance inflow will come down and it will affect the overall economy of the country,” the letter read.

Under the anti-trafficking act, the highest punishment is death penalty while under the Overseas Employment and Migration Act, a criminal faces maximum ten years of rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Tk 5 lakh.

“The overseas employment act is much softer than that of the anti-trafficking law. So, not allowing the victims to file case under this law means allowing the human traffickers to get off scot-free,” added Prof Mizan.

Talking to The Daily Star, Prof Mizanur Rahman said police certainly assess the merit of any complaint and a case is filed accordingly.

“So, if the case has merit, why shouldn’t police accept it? Why should a minister make such a suggestion to the home ministry?” said Prof Mizan, who also teaches at Dhaka University law department.

“If this instruction is to be followed, the victims would be doubly victimised -- once abroad and then at home,” he added.

“This is totally a wrong strategy,” he added.

Shakirul Islam, executive director of Oivbashi Karmi Unnayan Program, observed that agents are luring many jobseekers into going abroad after painting a rosy picture of destination countries though the reality is very different.

“The purpose of this is to squeeze money out of jobseekers. This is a clear element of human trafficking,” he said.

Mohammad Harun Al Rashid, a migrant rights researcher and activist living in Malaysia, said a worker can surely file a case under the anti-trafficking act if he or she has to pay higher cost than legal fees for recruitment, does not get a job or salary as per the contract or faces confinement or forced labour by the employer.

Explaining his research in 2007-08 in Malaysia, he said he interviewed several hundred Bangladeshis, who had all the legal documents. But still they did not have jobs as some of the companies were dodgy and had secured the papers through corruption.

“In such cases, the officials who issued documents or those who attested those also can be sued under the anti-trafficking law,” he said.

According to the Police Headquarters, since enactment of the act, a total of 4,668 cases were filed, but only 245 were settled.

The number of cases filed under the anti-trafficking act is tip of the iceberg, Harun Al Rashid said, explaining that there are thousands of incidents having elements of trafficking.

If the recruiting agents, Bangladesh missions, the ministry or BMET could address the migrants’ problems, hardly any complainants would have gone to the court, he said.



The mangled remains of a microbus that collided head-on with a bus in Boalia area of Gaibandha's Gobindaganj upazila around noon yesterday. The accident left two people dead and five others injured. Story on page 5. PHOTO: STAR

Victim’s family being followed, threatened

FROM PAGE 1

there several times since Saturday.

“They are looking for the male members of our family. They are not saying why they are doing this.”

Meanwhile, the Police Headquarters yesterday formed a separate three-member probe committee, headed by Shehela Parvin, superintendent of Railway Police, to investigate the incident.

The body was asked to submit its report within seven working days, said Assistant Inspector General (media) Md Sohul Rana.

Earlier on Monday, the Railway Police had formed another three-member committee, headed by Firoz Ahmed, assistant superintendent of police (ASP) of Kushia Railway Circle. It would also file its report within seven days.

Talking to The Daily Star, the mother of the woman said, “Yesterday, three men appeared here and asked about my son. He is now hiding to avoid harassment. I along with my grandchildren is passing days in fear.”

The victim, a 30-year-old widow, has a son aged 10 and two daughters aged 2 and 4.

Talking to the newspaper, a cousin of the woman, who is running a legal battle on her behalf, said, “During the last two days, some 10 to 12 people came to my home and interrogated me about different issues. I can’t move freely.”

Their lawyer, advocate Faruq Ahmed, said they would file a case over the rape

once the medical report was available.

Contacted, Khulna Medical College Hospital’s forensic department chief Dr Shafiuzzaman said it might take around a week to prepare the medical report.

He, however, said they found no injury marks.

But when the victim was taken to a court on Saturday, she seemed ill. At this, some court staffers suggested the Railway Police to take her to a hospital. She was then taken to Khulna Sadar Hospital and prescribed some medicines, said court sources.

The Daily Star has obtained a copy of the prescription from the sources.

Meanwhile, the probe body, formed by the Railway Police, visited several areas yesterday of the city as part of its investigation.

The correspondent went to Khulna Railway Police twice yesterday, first at around 11:00am and then around 3:00pm, but none of the accused was found there.

Contacted, the district’s superintendent of police, M Safiullah, suggested this correspondent to talk to the Railway Police.

When this correspondent called Mohammad Nazrul Islam, SP of Pakshi Railway Police, on his mobile phone, he said he would talk later.

On Friday evening, the woman came to Khulna from Jashore by train to visit her mother, who was undergoing treatment at Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH).

The woman was detained inside the

Govt focuses on hospitals outside Dhaka

FROM PAGE 1

ahead of Eid and the situation might worsen during that time. Not a single patient in the countryside will remain without treatment,” Abul Kalam Azad, director general of Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), told The Daily Star yesterday.

He added that special instructions were given to prioritise dengue patients in hospitals.

The DGHS has already asked government and private hospitals to open up help desks to provide service during Eid vacation.

The number of dengue patients outside Dhaka is increasing every day and it would worsen further when so many people will rush towards their respective districts around the country for the holidays, health officials said.

According to DGHS, at least 2,348 patients -- 1,278 in Dhaka city and 1,064 in other divisions -- were diagnosed with dengue in last 24 hours.

With that, the number of cases jumped to 29,912, a record in

Bangladesh, with 23 deaths.

However, the unofficial number of deaths to dengue is higher.

The number of patients diagnosed with dengue in one day, outside of Dhaka, yesterday crossed a thousand for the first time.

On July 30, a total of 536 patients had been admitted in hospital outside Dhaka with dengue fever.

Yesterday, the number of admitted patients was 1064.

The increase in number of patients outside of Dhaka was higher than in the capital.

B N Nagpal, senior entomologist of WHO Southeast Asia region now visiting Dhaka, said Aedes aegypti is the main vector for dengue.

“Mainly Aedes albopictus is common in rural settings. It is less virulent when it comes to spreading dengue. It is not a strong vector. Only few cases can be generated by the albopictus,” he said.

NO KIT CRISIS

The Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA) said there was

no more a crisis of kits in the country, as various steps were taken to solve it.

According to the DGDA, a total of 4,43,700 dengue-test kits were imported into the country till yesterday.

Ruhul Amin, director of DGDA, said around 1.5 lakh kits will be imported every day in the country.

A hotline number -- 01708506047 -- was also launched to learn about the updates regarding the kits.

Anyone can be updated on the storage of kit. They can also know the names of the kit importers and their contact numbers.

The government has already exempted import duty, VAT, advance tax and advance income tax from the dengue-detection kits. The exemption is applicable for the kits, dengue reagents, and platelet and plasma kits.

Sadar hospitals were given Tk 10 lakh and Upazila hospitals Tk 2 lakh to buy dengue-detection kits and all necessary medicines, the DGHS DG said.

they were kept in the dark about the move and feared a wider crackdown in the next few days. Three leaders Reuters met on Monday at their homes in Srinagar had little knowledge of the situation outside.

“This will be difficult - difficult for people, difficult for political parties,” said Rafi Ahmed Mir, spokesman of the People’s Democratic Party, which was part of the BJP coalition that ruled the state until last year.

TIGHT SECURITY

Armed police patrolled every few hundred metres in the city, where a ban on public gatherings of more than four people stayed in force yesterday. Educational institutions and most shops in residential neighbourhoods were shut.

Security forces fired tear gas and pellets in response to sporadic protests on Monday in Kashmir’s main city of Srinagar, said one police official who declined to be identified.

“There was stone-pelting in some parts of the city,” he added.

Some shopkeepers said they were running out of stock after days of panic buying.

“No provisions are left in my shop, and no fresh supplies are coming,” said grocery store owner Jehangir Ahmad.

India and Pakistan have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir, where tens of thousands of people have been killed in a nearly 30-year-long armed revolt that India has sent hundreds of thousands of troops to quell, reported AFP.

India blames the rebellion on Pakistan, saying Islamabad provides money, training and weapons to Islamist militants who either live in Indian-controlled Kashmir or enter it from the Pakistani side.

We don’t support

FROM PAGE 1

Manoshi’s question was Bangladesh had a long history of custodial torture and it did not take place during any specific government and what steps the incumbent government took to come out of it.

Hasina said there are some international rules to interrogate presumed and suspected criminals and her government is providing law enforcement agency personnel with training in this regard, sending them in countries like the US and the UK.

“Information is gleaned from criminals using methods practised by other countries and nothing is done beyond it.”

The PM said now incidents of custodial deaths appear rarely while torture in custody also largely disappeared.

Hasina, however, reminded the BBC journalist that the past regimes virtually developed a culture of impunity and she herself was a victim of that situation after losing her parents, brothers and other near and dear ones in 1975.

“The killers were provided indemnity instead of exposing them to trial . . . that meant you [actually] entertained the culprits,” the PM said, adding that it could be very difficult to check crimes in a country where a social system is built by recognising the crimes.

Hasina said she had to wait 35 years to get justice.

Again asked what initiatives her government took to stop such culture, Hasina said all “appropriate measures in this regard” had been taken.

Hasina said Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was assassinated within three and a half years of independence and this culture continued for many years when military dictators ruled the country directly and often in the guise of politicians.

“This culture continued for year after year and it was a difficult task to bring back the country to a healthy trend . . . we performed that difficult task.”

The PM said there is a class or section of society which is spearheading a propaganda on the rights situation while democratic system runs the country.

“They always desperately try to find out our faults . . . as their status become elevated when an unconstitutional or abnormal government or martial law rules the country.”

The PM said she knew that the question was raised in Geneva where Bangladesh law minister and other representatives were present.

“The law minister and others gave reply properly in this regard.”

On a question whether the people are getting the benefits of economic growth, Hasina said the people are certainly getting the benefits.

“Think a little that the country’s poverty rate was over 41 percent in 2005-2006 and the rate has been brought down to 21.04 percent . . . we could attain this success within 10 years.”

The PM said the country’s per capita income surged to about \$2,000 from \$400/500 and the country achieved 8.1 percent GDP in the last fiscal year.

“When higher growth is achieved, the inflation increases naturally. But we didn’t allow raising inflation and we maintained it at 5.5 or 6 percent,” she said.

About migration of the people, Hasina said there is a tendency of the people since the ancient period that they will have to build their fate by moving to other places.

“You cannot lock the issue with poverty and it’s a tendency of the people,” she said, mentioning that her government is giving loans without security to the youths who want to work.

When the interviewer questioned about the “vulnerable situation” in banking sector and loan default culture, the PM said the matter is not to that extent as publicised.

She said the culture of not repaying bank loans was initiated during the rule of military dictators. “Whenever we came to power, we tried to realise the loans,” she said, adding that if action is not taken always, it will not yield any results.

Hasina said special incentives were given in this year’s budget. “Those intending to take loan have been asked to repay within the timeframe; otherwise they won’t be given credit,” she said.

About the press freedom, Hasina said there was a television channel (Bangladesh Television), one radio centre and a few newspapers in the country until 1996.

But after coming to power in 1996, she said the Awami League government made open all things in the private sector.

“There are 44 television channels in the country,” she said, adding that her intention was to generate employment.

She said there is full freedom of mass media. “If it doesn’t exist how is a propaganda mixing truth with falsehood being carried out against me and my government?” she asked.

The PM asked whether anybody enjoyed such freedom during the rules of military dictators. “Even it was absent during the regime of Khaleda Zia,” she said.

Hasina said many people are saying that there is no freedom of the media. “But how do they speak if freedom of speech doesn’t exist?”

The PM said her government is making strides to maintain a peaceful atmosphere in the country. “If anybody gives any provocative speech, will others remain idle? . . . No, they cannot do it,” she said.

“Security will have to be given to the people first and we’ll have to do whatever necessary for their security.”

TIB places proposal for quality education

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Citing 2.28 crore unemployed youth in the country, Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) yesterday placed a 12-point recommendation for ensuring quality education.

The anti-corruption watchdog claimed that the country's younger generation is failing to outsmart the competition in both home and abroad due to lack of adequate skills and quality training.

The recommendations titled “Tarunner Prottyasha: Chai Gunogoto Shikkha” (Youth's Aspiration: Quality Education) were placed at a human chain at Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) premises on Dhaka University campus, marking International Youth Day to be observed on August 12. Students from different schools, colleges and universities participated.

Referring to the country's poor quality of higher education according to the World Economic Forum, TIB Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman said that Bangladesh ranks at



TIB formed a human chain ahead of International Youth Day at Dhaka University's TSC premises yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

number 84 among 136 countries. “The country needs to develop vocational education to produce educated manpower as per market demands,” he said.

While reading out the recommendations, he said that

specific short, medium, and long-term national strategy for ensuring quality education through active participation of experts and youths is needed to achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Saying that the education system

does not meet the needs of modern times and remains “unrealistic” in many cases, he recommended allotting adequate budget, and building modern, information-technology based infrastructure.

The other points include ensuring the youth's freedom of expression and legal right to protest against any incongruity in the fields of society, politics and economics; ensuring active involvement of the youth in implementing SDGs; taking comprehensive measures to increase institutional ability; an effective step to establish research-based communication among universities and industrial sectors; increasing scope to practice creativity and intelligence; significantly increasing the budget allocation for research and bank loans for young entrepreneurs; creating markets and self-expression opportunities; proper implementation of youth development guidelines, and ensuring a merit-based recruitment process devoid of corruption in public and private sectors.

‘Have I lied? You be the judge’

Law minister says about statement made at UNCAT review meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday claimed that the United Nations Convention Against Torture (UNCAT) is satisfied with the anti-torture report of Bangladesh.

“I have placed the report, describing the present situation and reality, and the condition of rule of law in Bangladesh before them [review committee of the UNCAT in Geneva, Switzerland]. We observed that they were satisfied,” he said.

The law minister said this while talking to reporters after inaugurating a training programme as chief guest at Hotel InterContinental Dhaka.

On August 4, BNP leader Barrister AM Mahbub Uddin Khokon told the media that the real situation in Bangladesh does no corroborate the recent statement placed by the law minister at the review meeting of UNCAT in Geneva.

Yesterday, Anisul Huq said the present government has ensured the trial of many important cases, including war crimes

committed during the country's Liberation war in 1971, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman murder case, jail killing case, 10-truck arms haul case and August 21 grenade attack case.

“In this context, I have said the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina-led government has taken all necessary steps to establish rule of law in Bangladesh. Have I lied? You be the judge,” he said.

The law minister placed an anti-torture report on behalf of Bangladesh for the first time before the review committee of the UNCAT. The minister led a 19-member delegation which included State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam and senior officials from different ministries, departments and agencies of the government to the meeting held on July 30 and 31.

At the meeting, the minister conveyed to the committee that it can count on having a credible, willing and engaged partner, working at enhanced compliance with its Human Rights Treaty obligations.

Missing journalist found in Sunamganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A journalist of private television channel Mohona TV, who went missing on Saturday evening from Dhaka, was found in Sunamganj Sadar upazila yesterday morning.

FM Mushfiqur Rahman, staff reporter of Mohona TV, was found at Gobindapur area in the upazila, Abdullah Al Mamun, inspector and acting officer-in-charge of Sunamganj Sadar Police Station, said.

Mohona TV's Sunamganj District Correspondent, Kulendu Shekhar Das, said, “After Fajr prayers, some locals saw him in front of a mosque in the area.”

Inspector Abdullah Al Mamun said, “After rescuing, he was admitted to Sunamganj Sadar Hospital. He could not

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Bangladesh-India home minister talks start today

Bss, Dhaka

A 16-member Bangladesh delegation, led by Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal, left for New Delhi yesterday to attend the seventh Bangladesh-India home minister talks, according to a home ministry press release.

The delegation will stay there for three days. Different bilateral issues, including trans-border security, cross-border trafficking and border management issues, are expected to be discussed at the event, which will begin at 4pm today.

Asaduzzaman Khan and his Indian counterpart Amit Shah will lead their respective sides at the talks, according to home ministry officials.

The sixth round of home minister talks was held in Dhaka last year when former Indian Home Minister Rajnath Singh led the Indian side.

IRREGULARITIES IN EC TRAINING

TIB demands resignation of CEC, other commissioners

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International Bangladesh yesterday demanded immediate resignation of the chief election commissioner, four other election commissioners and concerned officials of the Election Commission (EC), for their alleged involvement in irregularities and corruption in the name of giving speech and training ahead of the national and upazila elections.

The anti-corruption watchdog also demanded

fair investigation into the allegations and ensuring accountability.

In a statement following a newspaper report in this regard, it also expressed deep concern over the alleged irregularities and corruption by the CEC, four other election commissioners and other officials of EC.

TIB executive director Iftekharuzzaman said such activities by the CEC, election commissioners and officials of the constitutional organisation is completely immoral and unexpected.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

9TH WAGE BOARD

HC issues status quo on publishing gazette notification

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued status quo for two months on publication of gazette notification on implementing the recommendations of 9th wage board for journalists.

The court also issued a rule asking the respondents to explain why the unilateral finalisation of the award by the 9th wage board without giving the stakeholders opportunity to raise objections to the recommendations should not be declared illegal.

In the rule, the HC also asked the respondents to show cause why sending such recommendations to government for the final publication of the gazette notification should not be declared without lawful authority.

The cabinet committee for finalisation of 9th wage board award, represented by its convener -- road transport and bridges minister, secretaries to the ministries of information and labor and employment, and chairman of 9th newspaper wage board have been made respondents to the rule.

The HC bench of Justice Obaidul Hassan and Justice Mohammad Ali passed the order and issued the rule following a writ petition filed by the Newspaper Owners' Association of Bangladesh (Noab) -- challenging the legality of the 9th wage board and its recommendation.

Following the HC order, the government cannot implement the recommendations, Advocate Md Yousuf Ali, lawyer for Noab, told The Daily Star.

Contacted, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam said his office will move an appeal before the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court against the HC order.

Citing the writ petition, Advocate Yousuf Ali said the chairman of 9th wage board finalised the award unilaterally, without first publishing a gazette notification complying with the provision of Rule 128 of the Bangladesh Labour Rules, 2015, enabling stakeholders concerned to submit their respective objections, if any.

The award determined by the respondents in absence of the petitioner in the process of the wage board is absolutely unilateral, mala fide and arbitrary and hence it cannot be allowed to be finalised and published in the gazette notification without final scrutiny of the HC, he added.

On July 25 this year, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said a cabinet committee on 9th wage board award for newspaper and news agency journalists and employees has finalised its report for cabinet endorsement, after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina returns to the country.

Quader, who heads the seven-member cabinet committee, told newsmen “after the final approval [by the cabinet], a gazette will be published” for its implementation.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

DHAKA TODAY

DISCUSSION

Preventing atrocities against women

Organiser: Bangladesh Indigenous Women's Network
Venue: WVA, Dhanmondi
Time: 10:30am

LECTURE

Memorial speech on Bangabandhu
Venue: Shilpakala Academy
Time: 5pm

DISCUSSION

Current situation of dengue & our responsibilities
Organiser: Dhaka University &

Nature Conservation Society
Venue: Jatiya Press Club
Time: 11am

ACADEMIC SESSION

Graduate & Undergraduate University Search Process
Venue: Education USA Bangladesh, Baridhara
Time: 3pm

SEMINAR

Awareness on dengue
Organiser: BMA
Venue: Mugda Medical College & Hospital
Time: 11am



ঢাকা উত্তর সিটি কর্পোরেশন

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যাঁদের কাছে ফোন করলে আপনার এলাকার মশক নিধনের ব্যাপারে বিভিন্ন রকম সহযোগিতা পাবেন

ওয়ার্ড	কাউন্সিলর	মশক সুপারভাইজার/ওয়ার্ড সচিব
১	জনাব মোঃ আফজার উদ্দিন খান ০১৭১৫৬১৯২৬১	জনাব মোঃ জহুরুল রহমান খান ০১৭১৫৮০০৪৬২ জনাব মীর নজরুল ইসলাম ০১৭১৬৪৮০৭৭০ জনাব বি কে এম নাসিম ০১৭১১১০৯৯২২
১৭	ডা. জিন্নাত আলী ০১৯১১৩৫০০৯৯	জনাব গোলাম মোস্তফা ০১৯৩১৭৯৯৩৩৩ জনাব মোঃ তারিা মিয়া ০১৭৪৩৭৯৮০৩৯

অফসল-২ (উত্তর মডেল টাউন ১-১৪ নং সেক্টর, আবদুল্লাহপুর, পুরাকৈর, শৈলপুর, দক্ষিণ খান, ফায়াদাবাদ, বাড়িনিয়া, রানাতোলা, রাসদিয়া ও মাসুমপুর, কুড়িল, জোয়ার সাহারা, জগন্নাথপুর, কুড়াতলী, নিমুজ, ফিলাফেত ও টানপাড়া ইত্যাদি)।
আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তাঃ জনাব মোঃ সেলিম ফকির ০১৭১১০২৫০২৫, ০১৮২৩২৩০০৬৯
মনিটরিং কর্মকর্তাঃ ডা. আজিজুন নেছা ০১৭৫৫৪২০৯৪৮২

ওয়ার্ড	কাউন্সিলর	মশক সুপারভাইজার/ওয়ার্ড সচিব
১৭	জনাব মোঃ আফজার উদ্দিন খান ০১৭১৫৬১৯২৬১	জনাব মোঃ জহুরুল রহমান খান ০১৭১৫৮০০৪৬২ জনাব মীর নজরুল ইসলাম ০১৭১৬৪৮০৭৭০ জনাব বি কে এম নাসিম ০১৭১১১০৯৯২২
১৭	ডা. জিন্নাত আলী ০১৯১১৩৫০০৯৯	জনাব গোলাম মোস্তফা ০১৯৩১৭৯৯৩৩৩ জনাব মোঃ তারিা মিয়া ০১৭৪৩৭৯৮০৩৯

অফসল-২ (মিরপুর, পল্লবী, রূপনগর, অ্যানটেক, দুয়ারীপাড়া, দামালকোট, মানিকদি, বালুঘাট, চিড়িয়াখানা, লালাসরাই, আলবদী, বানরটেক, বাইগারটেক ইত্যাদি)।
আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তাঃ জনাব এস এম শফিউল আজম ০১৭১১০৯২২৩০
মনিটরিং কর্মকর্তাঃ ডা. মাহমুদ আলী ০১৭১৫৪২০৬৬৯৮

ওয়ার্ড	কাউন্সিলর	মশক সুপারভাইজার/ওয়ার্ড সচিব
২	জনাব মোঃ সাজ্জাদ হোসেন ০১৬৭৬০৮৫৮০৪	জনাব মোঃ জহুরুল ইসলাম ০১৯১৪৮২৮৮৩০ জনাব মোঃ সামাউল ইসলাম ০১৬৭০৭৬৭০৩৪
৩	জনাব কাজী জহিরুল ইসলাম মানিক ০১৯৭৭৭২৮৮৮৮	জনাব মোঃ হাশেম আলী ০১৭১১০৪৮২২৫ জনাব মনিরুজ্জামান ০১৯১৫৬৩৪০৯০
৪	জনাব মোঃ জামাল মোস্তফা ০১৭২০১১৩০২২	জনাব মোঃ জহুরুল ইসলাম ০১৯১৪৮২৮৮৩০ জনাব মোঃ হাশেম আলী ০১৭১১০৪৮২২৫
৫	জনাব আবদুর রউফ নান্নু ০১৭৮২৭৯০০৪০	জনাব কাজী হানাদুল্লাহ ০১৭২৫৩৬৫২৮২ জনাব আবু সাইদ চৌধুরী পল্লী ০১৯৮৮০০৯৮০৩
৬	জনাব মোঃ রজ্জব হোসেন ০১৬৭৩৮৯০২২৩	জনাব মোঃ জহুরুল ইসলাম ০১৯১৪৮২৮৮৩০ জনাব মোঃ ফারুক আহমেদ ০১৭১৪৪০৫২৩৯
৭	জনাব মোঃ মোবাক্কের চৌধুরী ০১৯১৭২২২৭১৫	জনাব মোঃ জহুরুল ইসলাম ০১৯১৪৮২৮৮৩০ জনাব মোঃ নজরুল ইসলাম ০১৮৫৪৪৪৪৪৮০
৮	জনাব মোঃ কাজী টিপু সুলতান ০১৯১১৩৫২১৬৪	জনাব মোঃ জহুরুল ইসলাম ০১৯১৪৮২৮৮৩০ জনাব নুরুল ইসলাম হাওলাদার ০১৮১৬০৭৬৪৬২, ০১৯৪৬৯৪১০৩০
১৫	জনাব সালেক মোস্তা ০১৮১৯২৫৪৪৫৬	জনাব মোঃ হাশেম আলী ০১৭১১০৪৮২২৫ জনাব মোঃ সেলিম উদ্দিন ০১৭৫৪৪৪৬০৪৪৪

অফসল-৩ (বারিধারা, শাহজাদপুর, কালাদাচপুর, গুলশান, বনানী, এয়ারপোর্ট রোড, মহাখালী, নিকেতন, বাজা, রামপুরা, মালিবাগ চৌধুরীপাড়া, হাজীপাড়া, তেজগাঁও, কুনিপাড়া, বেঙ্গলবাড়ী, নাখালপাড়া, আরজতপাড়া, বড় মগবাজার, পেয়ারাবাগ, নয়টোলা, পশ্চিম মালিবাগ, বাগানবাড়ী ইত্যাদি)।
আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তাঃ জনাব হেমায়েত হোসেন ০১৭১২৭২০৭৫
মনিটরিং কর্মকর্তাঃ ডা. এস এম ওয়াসিমুল ইসলাম ০১৭০৫৫৮৪৬৬৩৩

ওয়ার্ড	কাউন্সিলর	মশক সুপারভাইজার/ওয়ার্ড সচিব
১৮	জনাব মোঃ জাকির হোসেন ০১৭১১৫৩৯৪৪৯	জনাব মোঃ শামীম হোসেন ০১৭৫৬২৭৪৬৭১
১৯	জনাব মোঃ মফিজুর রহমান ০১৮১৯১১৮৪৬২	জনাব মোঃ শামীম হোসেন ০১৭৫৬২৭৪৬৭১ জনাব মোঃ নিজাদুর রহমান ০১৭২০১০২০৩৮৬
২০	জনাব মোঃ নাছির ০১৭৪৭৯৯২২৮২	জনাব সুলতান ফরাজী ০১৭১৬৫৭৪৪৭ জনাব মোঃ শাহ আলম ০১৯১১৫০৪৯২৭
২১	জনাব মাসুম গনি ০১৭৯৩৩১২২৮৮	জনাব সুলতান ফরাজী ০১৭১৬৫৭৪৪৭ জনাব উত্তম কুমার দত্ত ০১৭১৬৬৩৩২০১
২২	জনাব মোঃ লিয়াকত আলী ০১৭১১৮৫৬৮০৯	জনাব মোঃ জাহাঙ্গীর আলম ০১৭১৪৪৪৪৪০৭ জনাব মোঃ ফরহাদ হোসেন ০১৭১২১৪৪৪৭৩
২৩	জনাব মোস্তাক আহমেদ ০১৮৩৬৪৪৪৪৪৪	জনাব মোঃ জাহাঙ্গীর আলম ০১৭১২৫০১০৭৮০
২৪	জনাব মোঃ শফিউল আলম ০১৭১২১১১১১৬	জনাব বদরুল আলম ০১৭১২৫০১০৭৮০ জনাব খান্দকার এনামুল ইসলাম ০১৭৫৬১৯৮৮৭৭
২৫	জনাব শেখ মজিবুর রহমান ০১৯৪০৯৯৭৪৪০	জনাব বদরুল আলম ০১৭১২৫০১০৭৮০ জনাব মোঃ শওকত হোসেন ০১৭১৬২২২২২৬
৩৫	জনাব মোজার সরদার ০১৭১১৪৪২৭৭২	জনাব বদরুল আলম ০১৭১২৫০১০৭৮০ জনাব মোঃ রেজাউল ইসলাম ০১৭১১১৯৩৩৪২
৩৬	জনাব তৈমুর রেজা ০১৮১৮৭৫০৩০২	জনাব বদরুল আলম ০১৭১২৫০১০৭৮০ জনাব মোঃ সোলায়মান ভূঞা ০১৭১৬১২০০৯০

অফসল-৪ (বাগবাড়ী, হুরিরামপুর, আনন্দনগর, গোলাবটেক, জাহানারাবাদ, গৈদারটেক, গাবতলী, দারুস সালাম, কল্যাণপুর, পাইকপাড়া, শাহ আলীবাগ, টোলাবাবা, আহমদনগর, বড়বাগ, পীরেবাগ, মনিপুর, কাজীপাড়া, শেওড়াপাড়া, সেনপাড়া পর্বত, ইয়াহিমপুর, কাফরুল ইত্যাদি)।
আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তাঃ জনাব সালেহা বিনতে সিরাজ ০১৭২০৮০০১৬৪
মনিটরিং কর্মকর্তাঃ ডা. মোঃ ফিরোজ আলম ০১৭১৬৩৯৮৮৮৬

ওয়ার্ড	কাউন্সিলর	মশক সুপারভাইজার/ওয়ার্ড সচিব
৯	জনাব মুজিব সারওয়ার মাসুম ০১৮১৯২০১০৪৫	জনাব মোঃ নুরুল নবী ০১৮৬২৯৩৫৪৪৯ জনাব তুফানী লাল রবি দাস ০১৯৫৫২৮৭০২৭
১০	জনাব আবু তাহের ০১৮১৮৭৭৭৭৭৭	জনাব মোঃ নুরুল নবী ০১৮৬২৯৩৫৪৪৯ জনাব মোঃ আউলান হোসেন ০১৮৬২৯৩৫০৩৯৪
১১	জনাব দেওয়ান আবদুল মান্নান ০১৭১১৯৩৫০৬৭	জনাব মোঃ নুরুল নবী ০১৮৬২৯৩৫৪৪৯ জনাব মোঃ কামরুল ইসলাম ০১৭২০৪৪৭৩৬৩
১২	জনাব মোঃ ইকবাল হোসেন তিতু ০১৭১৫৫৬১১৮৮	জনাব মোঃ নুরুল নবী ০১৮৬২৯৩৫৪৪৯ জনাব মোঃ তোফাজ্জল হোসেন ০১৭১২৫০৩৯৬৪
১৩	জনাব মোঃ হারুন অর রশিদ ০১৮১১৫৪৭৭৫	জনাব মোঃ আজিম উদ্দিন শেখ ০১৭১৫০৩১৫৬৪ জনাব মোঃ নওশাদুজ্জামান ০১৮১৯৪৪২৯২৮
১৪	জনাব মোঃ হুমায়ুন রশিদ জনি ০১৯৩৭৫৮২৪২৯	জনাব মোঃ আজিম উদ্দিন শেখ ০১৭১৫০৩১৫৬৪ জনাব মোঃ হাশেম ০১৭১১৯৩২১৪৪৪
১৬	জনাব মোঃ মতিউর রহমান ০১৭১১৫২৭৫৬৭	জনাব মোঃ আজিম উদ্দিন শেখ ০১৭১৫০৩১৫৬৪ জনাব মোঃ শাহ আলম ০১৭২০৩৬৭৭৬৬

অফসল-৫ (কোরওয়ান বাজার, পূর্ব ও পশ্চিম তেজদুগী বাজার, তেজদুগী পাড়া, পূর্ব ও পশ্চিম রাজাবাজার, মনিপুরী পাড়া, গ্রীন রোড, শেরে বাংলা নগর, শ্যামলী, আগারগাঁও, তালতলা, লালমাটিয়া, মোহাম্মদপুর, আদাবর, রায়েরবাজার পূর্ব, পশ্চিম ধানমন্ডি, জফরাবাদ, বহিলা, কাটাপুর, বাঁশবাড়ি, কাদেয়াবাদ, মোহাম্মাদীয়া হাউজিং, নবাবদা হাউজিং, ঢাকা উদ্যান, পিসি কালচার হাউজিং, বায়তুল আমান হাউজিং, মনসুরাবাদ হাউজিং ইত্যাদি)।
আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তাঃ জনাব মীর নাসিম আহসান ০১৭২৬১০২২৮৬
মনিটরিং কর্মকর্তাঃ ডা. মোঃ ফিরোজ আলম ০১৭১৬৩৯৮৮৮৬

ওয়ার্ড	কাউন্সিলর	মশক সুপারভাইজার/ওয়ার্ড সচিব
২৬	জনাব শামীম হাসান ০১৭১১৫২৯৯৯৩	জনাব মোঃ শাহাদাত হোসেন ০১৭১৫৪৭৩৬২১ জনাব মোঃ আবুল কালাম পাটওয়ারী ০১৯১৭০৯৯৭৩২
২৭	জনাব ফরিদুর রহমান খান ০১৯১১৩৮০৬৩৩	জনাব মোঃ শাহাদাত হোসেন ০১৭১৫৪৭৩৬২১ জনাব মোঃ দবির আলী লস্কর ০১৯১১০৪৭৫৬৬
২৮	জনাব মোঃ ফেরকান হোসেন ০১৮১৯১১৫০৭৭	জনাব মোঃ আবদুল কাইয়ুম ০১৭১৪৪৪৫৭৮৪ জনাব মোঃ জাকির হোসেন ০১৭১১০০৯৬৭৭
২৯	জনাব মোঃ নুরুল ইসলাম রতন ০১৭৩২৭১৪০০	জনাব মোঃ আবদুল কাইয়ুম ০১৭১৪৪৪৫৭৮৪ জনাব মোঃ ইকবাল হোসেন ০১৭১১০০৯৬৭৭
৩০	জনাব আবুল হাসেম হাসু ০১৭১১৩৫৯২৫৪	জনাব মোঃ আবদুল কাইয়ুম ০১৭১৪৪৪৫৭৮৪ জনাব মোঃ ইকবাল হোসেন ০১৭১১০০৯৬৭৭
৩১	জনাব শফিকুল ইসলাম ০১৭০১৯২৮৩৩৩	জনাব মোঃ আবদুল কাইয়ুম ০১৭১৪৪৪৫৭৮৪ জনাব মোঃ ইকবাল হোসেন ০১৭১১০০৯৬৭৭
৩২	জনাব হাবিবুর রহমান ০১৭০১৮৫১৩২২	জনাব মোঃ আবদুল কাইয়ুম ০১৭১৪৪৪৫৭৮৪ জনাব মোঃ ইকবাল হোসেন ০১৭১১০০৯৬৭৭
৩৩	জনাব তারেকুজ্জামান রাজিবে ০১৯২২৪৪৪৪৪৪	জনাব মোঃ আবদুল কাইয়ুম ০১৭১৪৪৪৫৭৮৪ জনাব মোঃ ইকবাল হোসেন ০১৭১১০০৯৬৭৭
৩৪	জনাব আবুল হাসেম হাসু ০১৭১১৩৫৯২৫৪ (অতিরিক্ত দায়িত্ব)	জনাব মোঃ আবদুল কাইয়ুম ০১৭১৪৪৪৫৭৮৪ জনাব মোঃ ইকবাল হোসেন ০১৭১১০০৯৬৭৭

অফসল-৬ (সাবেক হুরিরামপুর ইউনিয়ন)
আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তাঃ জনাব মাসুদ হোসেন ০১৭১৫৪০৭৩৯

ওয়ার্ড	কাউন্সিলর	মশক সুপারভাইজার/ওয়ার্ড সচিব
৫১	জনাব মোহাম্মদ শরীফুর রহমান ০১৮১৯১৩৭৮০০	৪৭ জনাব মোতায়েন মিয়া ০১৭১১২২৯৮১৬
৫২	জনাব মোঃ ফরিদ আহমেদ ০১৭১০৩১০৭৮১	৪৮ জনাব মাসুদুর রহমান দেওয়ান ০১৭১১০৬৩৭৭৮
৫৩	জনাব মোঃ নাসির উদ্দীন ০১৭১১৫২৩২৩৪	৪৯ জনাব মোঃ আনিছুর রহমান নাসিম ০১৭১৩৫৫০০০৬
৫৪	জনাব জাহাঙ্গীর হোসেন ০১৭১১৬২৬২৬৪	৫০ জনাব ডি.এম. শামীম ০১৭১১৪৮৭৬৬৫

অফসল-৭ (সাবেক দক্ষিণ খান ইউনিয়ন)
আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তাঃ জনাব মাসুদ হোসেন ০১৭১৫৪০৭৩৯

ওয়ার্ড	কাউন্সিলর	মশক সুপারভাই
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Missing journalist found

FROM PAGE 3

say who were behind his abduction. His family has been informed and they will be in Sunamganj soon."

Nasir Uddin, a doctor of the hospital, said, "There are some signs of physical torture on his body and he is also very weak."

He is having difficulty seeing, as some kind of dust was thrown in his eyes, the doctor added.

Mushfiqur told journalists that he was abducted from Dhaka's Gulshan area on Saturday night. Someone put something in his eyes so he could not see anything.

All he could remember was that he walked till he fainted.

"When I regained consciousness, I found my eyes covered and my hands tied up," he said.

The abductors intimidated him, beat him several times, and fed him only a piece of cake and some guavas, Mushfiqur described.

"I don't remember how I reached Sunamganj. Some people forced me out of a car and asked me to run and I started running. Then I realised I'm in Sunamganj and asked the locals to help me," he said.

Mushfiqur went missing when he was returning home from Gulshan-1 after meeting his uncle. A general diary was later filed with Gulshan Police Station.

He received a threatening phone call on July 21, and filed a general diary with Pallabi Police Station the next day.

TIB demands resignation

FROM PAGE 3

"Such allegations against almost all officials of a commission is rare in the history of Bangladesh," he said in the statement.

TIB said such immoral activities by the top EC officials maligned the "pillow scam" at Rooppur Nuclear Power plant.

Saying that such allegations raises questions about the entire commission, TIB said the CEC and other election commissioners should resign as the highest responsible persons for the serious irregularities and moral turpitude, in a bid to restore the constitutional dignity of EC.

According to a report on Bangla daily Prothom Alo on Tuesday, the CEC, four commissioners, EC secretary, an additional secretary and two joint secretaries, have pocketed over Tk 2 crore, allocated for delivering 'special talks' at training programmes for the 11th national parliamentary election and the upazila polls which followed.

Additionally, the EC secretary at the time (presently secretary of the local government division) alone drew Tk 47 lakh as the 'course consultant'. He was paid separately as a 'special speaker', though the exact

remuneration for this is not known.

According to EC sources, the election commission allocated Tk 61.25 crore for training during the parliamentary election held on 30 December last year. And another Tk 61.75 crore was allocated for trainings pertaining to the upazila elections.

According to information from the election commission, those who received payment in the name of delivering talks as 'special speakers', included chief election commissioner (CEC) KM Nurul Huda, election commissioners Mahbub Talukdar, Rafiqul Islam, Shahadat Hossain Chowdhury and Kabita Khanam, secretary Helal Uddin Ahmed, additional secretary Mokhlesur Rahman and two joint secretaries Abul Kasem and Kamrul Hasan.

Another four joint secretaries were added as 'special speakers' during the upazila election. And director general of the Election Training Institute (ETI) Mustafa Faruk took around Tk 19.39 lac as 'course director' for an upazila election training course. In other words, these officials pocketed over Tk 2 crore as 'special speakers', 'course advisor', and 'course director'.

HC issues status quo

FROM PAGE 3

Writ petitioner's lawyer said the labour ministry is responsible for the formation of the wage board as per the rules of business issued by the president. But the 9th wage board has been formed by the information ministry in violation of the rules of business, he said citing the writ petition.

The government on January 29 last year constituted the 9th wage board to propose

enhanced salary and other benefits for newsmen and employees of newspapers and news agencies.

The owners who were made members of the body are: Newspaper Owners' Association of Bangladesh president Matiur Rahman, vice-president AK Azad, treasurer Motiur Rahman Chowdhury, members Mahfuz Anam and Tasmima Hossain, and convener of Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Parishad MG Kibria Chowdhury.

Unapproved cattle market

FROM PAGE 5

counter inside the market, said the leaseholder of the market was Saifur Rahman Sumon. He, however, could not say who Sumon leased it from.

Atikur Rahman Atik, Savar upazila unit president of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) was also seen sitting inside the counter, among others. Asked about Sumon, Atikur said he was an associate of Sumon. The cattle market has permission, he said, but could not provide any documents. He also tried to intimidate this correspondent.

Sumon was contacted over phone numerous times; he picked up the calls twice but avoided questions about the haat.

Savar Upazila Nirbahi Officer Parvezur Rahman also told The Daily Star yesterday that the cattle market is illegal.

"We have asked a magistrate and Savar Model Police Station's officer-in-charge to stop the market, and directives have already been issued to the cattle market organisers to stop it," said Parvezur Rahman, adding that if they do not stop the market, a mobile court will be conducted there.

He also questioned why the municipal mayor did not take action against an illegal cattle market set up in an area under his jurisdiction.

"On behalf of the municipality, we had applied to Deputy Commissioner's office for approval for a makeshift cattle market, but we were told no cattle market can be set up here, as grounds are next to Dhaka-Aricha highway," said Abdul Goni, mayor of Savar municipality.

When asked about the UNO's remarks, the mayor said, "We have already sent notices to different offices including the DC office to stop the market, as we do not have magistracy."

Savar Model Police Station's Officer-in-Charge AFM Sayeed told this newspaper that he has been informed by the UNO and mayor about the illegal market. "We will go to the haat and provide necessary assistance when we are asked to accompany a magistrate," he said.

Meanwhile, the cattle market was still open till filing of this report at 8pm yesterday.

Missing man found dead in Barishal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

A man was found dead in Barishal yesterday hours after he had gone missing.

Police recovered the body of Riaz Sarder, 30, a rental motorbike rider, from a canal beside Barishal-Lakutia Road. The body bore marks of injury, said Airport police, adding he had been missing since Monday night.

They started drive to arrest the killers and ascertain the reasons behind the killing, said the law enforcers.

Prof Md Ismail

FROM PAGE 5

Toronto in 1985.

Prof Ismail is the life member of Bangladesh Economic Association and Bangla Academy. He has authored and co-authored book chapters and numerous scholarly articles in refereed academic journals.

He has supervised 14 PhD theses at JU and worked as chairman and member of PhD examination committees at different public universities.

With extensive experience in consulting the government and international organisations such as the World Bank, ADB and UNDP, he currently is a member of the panel of economists for preparing the eighth five-year plan of Bangladesh.

Mohammad Yaqub passes away

CITY DESK

Mohammad

Yaqub, a sportsman, passed away in Oldenburg, Germany on Monday. He was 69, says a press release.

Son of late Prof Muhammad Ishaq, Yaqub left behind his wife, two daughters and a son.

Yaqub was a businessman after he moved to Germany in the early 1970s. He played both cricket and football in Dhaka in the 1960s. He was given the coveted Dhaka University blue for representing the Combined Universities XI in football.



Anti-Aedes campaign in Ctg tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A daylong anti-Aedes mosquito campaign will be launched tomorrow in all districts and upazilas of Chattogram division.

The decision was made at a coordination meeting to kill Aedes mosquitoes and prevent dengue, organised by Chattogram division and district commissioners at Chattogram Circuit House.

Chattogram City Corporation Mayor AJM Nasir Uddin was the chief guest, with divisional commissioner Abdul Mannan in the chair.

Mannan said the dengue situation in Chattogram is much better compared to the rest of the country. Some 1,100 patients were identified with dengue fever in the 11 districts while 400 patients were undergoing treatment.

"Of them, only two patients, one in Cox's Bazar and another in Noakhali, died," he said. However, authorities should not be lax in dealing with the situation, he added. Mayor Nasir said making people aware and getting them involved in cleanup campaigns is key to destroying breeding grounds of mosquitoes. "CCC has been prioritising this matter from the very beginning of the season," he added.

Deputy Commissioner of Chattogram Ilias Hossain suggested conducting a one-day programme to destroy Aedes mosquitoes and their breeding grounds, and his suggestion was later accepted at the meeting.

INVITATION FOR TENDER

Pubali Bank Limited, the largest online commercial Bank in Bangladesh is hereby inviting Sealed Tender from the eligible Tenderers for Supply of 01 (One) unit 100% Reconditioned Toyota Allion Car, CC: 1500, Color: Silver, Year of Manufacturing: 2017, Auction Grade: 4 & above, Push Start with remote key, All auto power switch, DVD player, Alloy Rim, New Tyres, Low Milage, Standard tools with spare wheel, etc.

Tender to be submitted in their own pad.

Please visit our website - <https://www.pubalibangla.com/tender.asp> for more details. Interested parties may submit Tender in the Tender Box kept at Pubali Bank Limited, Establishment Division (7th Floor), Head Office, 26, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000 by **28 August 2019** (before 11:00 A.M.) & Tender will be opened on **28 August 2019** at 11:30 A.M. in presence of bidders (if any).

Abu Habib Khairul Kabir
General Manager



পুণালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
PUBALI BANK LIMITED

ESTABLISHMENT DIVISION
Head office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka.

Credit of 10% Stock Dividend & Proceeds of Fractional Dividend



Corporate HQ

2/F HRC Bhaban, 46 Kawran Bazar C.A., Dhaka-1215

This is for information of our valued Shareholders that the 10% Stock Dividend for the year 2018 as approved in the 20th Annual General Meeting held on August 1, 2019 was credited to share-holders' respective BO Accounts on August 6, 2019 (except those who have not yet provided us with their BO Account Numbers). Shareholders who do not have BO Accounts yet are requested to open BO Accounts immediately and provide us with their BO Account numbers so that we can credit their Stock Dividends on the basis of their entitlement.

Proceeds of Fractional Dividend will be disbursed through Bangladesh Electronic Fund Transfer Network (BEFTN) system. Shareholders whose Bank Accounts are not connected with the above network will be issued Dividend Warrants which will be dispatched through courier.

Dhaka

August 7, 2019

John Sarkar

John Sarkar

ADMD & Company Secretary

INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE Supply of Truck Mounted Sulfuric Acid Tank

Tender Ref.: 3200432.10009476 - Truck Mounted Sulfuric Acid Tank

KAFCO-Karnaphuli Fertilizer Co. Ltd., a multinational joint venture process industry producing Anhydrous Ammonia and Urea Fertilizer located near at Chattogram seaport in Bangladesh.

KAFCO intends to procure the following equipment on FOB (Seaport name) or CFR, Chattogram basis under two stage bidding process.

3200432.10009476 - Truck Mounted Sulfuric Acid Tank (One unit)

Brief Specification: # Commodity of Transportation: 98% Sulfuric acid (UN 1830); # Tank Capacity: 10 MT / 5,500 Litter; # Tank Material: Carbon Steel; # Fuel: Diesel Driven; # Cabin/drive/seat: Tilt type single cabin with Air condition/Right Hand Drive/2 seats; # Carrier Preferred Origin: Japan/USA/ UK/Germany/ Sweden/France/Singapore; # Tank fabrication Preferred Origin: Japan/USA/UK/Germany/Sweden/ France/ S. Korea/Singapore.

Technical proposals are hereby invited from the eligible manufacturers/exporters or their local representatives. Tender Documents for Technical Proposal will be forwarded to interested bidders upon receipt of their request on a company letterhead addressed to the General Manager, Procurement by courier or facsimile at +880-31-610512 or +880-31-619081 or email <mannan.chowdhury@kafcobd.com> or <marouf.khan@kafcobd.com> or <khairul.amin@kafcobd.com> on/ before 22 August 2019. Local representatives or exporters must submit appointment letter of the manufacturer with the request.

Commercial proposals will be invited only from technically qualified bidders. Required conditions for eligibility are stipulated in the Tender Documents. **KAFCO** reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Md. Abdul Mannan Chowdhury
General Manager, Procurement
Karnaphuli Fertilizer Co. Ltd.
Rangadia, Anowara
Chattogram, Bangladesh

ADN Telecom Limited

Red Crescent Concord Tower (19th Floor)
17, Mohakhali Commercial Area, Dhaka – 1212.
Tel: +8802 9841234, Ext.:124, 113
IP Phone: +880961 000 8888, Fax: +880 2 9887551
✉ info@adnsl.net, 🌐 www.adntel.com.bd



DECLARATION on IPO of ADN Telecom Limited

This is for the information of all concerned that following changes in the Board of Directors of the Company has been made in the draft prospectus of ADN Telecom Limited after the successful completion of bidding ended on November 08, 2018 by the Eligible Investor (EI).

Previous Board of Directors	Current Board of Directors
Asif Mahmood- Chairman	Asif Mahmood- Chairman
Md. Moinul Islam- Director	Md. Moinul Islam- Director
Md. Mahfuz Ali Sohel- Director	Md. Mahfuz Ali Sohel- Director
Khandker Mahmooda Saeed- Director	Niaz Ahmed- Director (Nominee of Savoy Ice Cream Factory Limited)
Ghulam Rasool- Independent Director	Waqar Ahmad Choudhury- Director (Nominee of Vanguard AML BD Finance Mutual Fund One)
Khondkar Atique-E-Rabbani- Independent Director	Ghulam Rasool- Independent Director
Henry Hilton- Managing Director (Ex-Officio)	Khondkar Atique-E-Rabbani- Independent Director
-	Henry Hilton- Managing Director (Ex-Officio)

The reason of above changes stated as, one of the Board Members, Mrs. Khandker Mahmooda Saeed was diagnosed with Cancer and was under treatment in Bangkok, Thailand for a long time. To bear the high cost of cancer treatment in abroad, she had to sell her entire holding of shares to Savoy Ice Cream Factory Limited and accordingly released from the Board of ADN Telecom. Unfortunately, during treatment she passed away on 7 April 2019.

In such a situation, to fulfill the vacant position of Mrs. Saeed, Mr. Niaz Ahmed representing Savoy Ice Cream Factory Limited along with Mr. Waqar Ahmad Choudhury representing Vanguard AML BD Finance Mutual Fund One have been appointed as two representative Directors to further strengthen the Board of ADN Telecom Limited.

Sd/- Asif Mahmood Chairman	Sd/- Md. Moinul Islam Director	Sd/- Md. Mahfuz Ali Sohel Director	Sd/- Niaz Ahmed Director (Nominee of Savoy Ice Cream Factory Limited)
Sd/- Waqar Ahmad Choudhury Director (Nominee of Vanguard AML BD Finance Mutual Fund One)	Sd/- Ghulam Rasool Independent Director	Sd/- Khondkar Atique-E-Rabbani Independent Director	Sd/- Henry Hilton Managing Director
Sd/- Md. Sohel Rahman Chief Executive Officer (Additional Charge) ICB Capital Management Limited			



Prof Md Ismail Hossain new NSU pro-VC

CITY DESK

Prof Md Ismail Hossain has been appointed as the new pro-vice chancellor of North South University (NSU) on July 24. Prof Ismail was appointed at the Department of Economics of NSU in 2012. Prior to that he was an economics professor at Jahangirnagar University (JU) from 1994-2012. He also taught at Rajshahi University (RU) and Shahjalal University of Science & Technology. He completed his BA and MA in economics from RU. He was also a Canadian Commonwealth Scholar and obtained his PhD from University of

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2



A student leaves MC College campus under police supervision yesterday. Resident students of the college informed that some students of Sylhet Government College stormed MC College Hall on Monday night. In order to avoid further untoward incidents, the principal declared Eid holiday and informed Shahporan Police Station.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Six killed, six injured in road accidents

STAR REPORT

Six people were killed and six injured in road accidents in four districts yesterday, according to reports from our correspondents. In Manikganj, a man was killed as a bus ran him on Dhaka-Aricha highway in Falsatia area. Abdur Razzak, 60, a cattle trader, died on the spot in the accident happened around noon, local sources said. In another accident, Zahura Begum, 60, was killed as an auto-rickshaw hit her in Niharpur area of Shiblaya upazila. In Gaibandha, two people were killed and five injured as a bus and microbus collided in Boalia of Gobindaganj. Nusrat Jahan Kumu, 30, sub-registrar of Rajarhat upazila in Kurigram; and Jannat Khatun, 12, a domestic help, died on the spot, said police. Abdul Kader Jilani, officer-in-charge of Gobindagnaj Highway Police Station, said they were travelling in the microbus to Dhaka. The injured -- including the microbus driver -- were taken to Gobindaganj Health Complex. Later, the driver, Sirajul Alam, 27, was transferred to Bogra Medical College Hospital in critical condition. They seized both the vehicles, said the OC. In Kurigram, an auto-rickshaw passenger was killed as a truck ran him over on Bhurungamari-Andharijhar road in Bhurungamari area. The deceased was identified as Hanif Uddin, 42, from Nageshwari. Jahidul Islam, inspector (investigation) of Bhurungamari Police Station, said the accident occurred after Hanif fell off the vehicle. They seized the truck but the driver fled, he added. In Faridpur, a car driver was killed and another person was injured as his vehicle and a truck collided on Dhaka-Khulna highway in Kharakandi of Bhanga. Ismail Hossain alias Rony, 28, died instantly, said Ataur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Bhanga Highway Police Station. The injured, owner of the car, was taken to Faridpur Medical College Hospital, said the OC.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার		
জেলা সুপারের কার্যালয়, জেলা কারাগার, মানিকগঞ্জ		
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি		
০১	মন্ত্রণালয়	ঃ স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়।
০২	এজেন্সি/সংস্থা	ঃ কারা অধিদপ্তর, বাংলাদেশ, ঢাকা।
০৩	প্রকৃতির এনটিটি ও জেলা	ঃ জেলা কারাগার, মানিকগঞ্জ।
০৪	দরপত্রের নাম	ঃ জেলা কারাগার, মানিকগঞ্জ এর ০১-১০-১৯জি হতে ০১-০৩-২০২০জি পর্যন্ত সময়ের বিভিন্ন প্রকার ভাল সরবরাহের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি।
০৫	দরপত্র প্যাকেজ নং	ঃ ডিটিএ-০১/২০১৯
০৬	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির বরাত ও তারিখ	ঃ বিভাগীয় দপ্তরের পত্র নং- ৫৮.০৪.২৬০০.০৬১.০৪.০১১.১৯-৬৭৪(১৮) তারিখঃ ২৬/০৭/২০১৯জি।
০৭	দরদাতাদের ন্যূনতম যোগ্যতা	ঃ দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লিখিত শর্তনুযায়ী।
০৮	বায়েট ও ফাত প্রান্তির উপল	ঃ জাতীয় রাজস্ব তহবিল।
০৯	দরপত্র আহ্বান পদ্ধতি	ঃ উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।
১০	দরপত্র সিডিউল প্রান্তির স্থান	ঃ মানিকগঞ্জ জেলা কারা কার্যালয়।
১১	দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ দরপত্র দাখিলের পূর্ব দিন বেলা ২.৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১২	দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান, তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ ১। জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, মানিকগঞ্জ। ২। সদর থানা, মানিকগঞ্জ এবং ৩। জেলা কারাগার, মানিকগঞ্জ-এর প্রাচীর ফটকে তে বোঝা যাবে ০১-০৯-২০১৯জি বোলা ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১৩	দরপত্র বাজর উন্মুক্তকরণের স্থান ও সময়	ঃ জেলা সুপারের কার্যালয়, জেলা কারাগার, মানিকগঞ্জ ০১-০৯-২০১৯জি বোলা ১২-৩০ ঘটিকা।
১৪	মূল্যায়ন কমিটির সভা অনুষ্ঠানের স্থান ও সময়	ঃ জেলা সুপারের কার্যালয়, জেলা কারাগার, মানিকগঞ্জ ০১-০৯-২০১৯জি বোলা ২.০০ ঘটিকা।
১৫	দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য	ঃ ৭৫০/- (সাতশত পঞ্চাশ) টাকা মাত্র।
১৬	জমাভানের পরিমাণ	ঃ প্রস্তাবিত মোট মূল্যের ৩% হারে।
১৭	দরপত্র অনুমোদনকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ	ঃ কারা মহাপরিদর্শক, বাংলাদেশ, ঢাকা।
১৮	সরবরাহের মেয়াদকাল	ঃ ০১-১০-২০১৯জি হতে ০১-০৩-২০২০জি পর্যন্ত।
১৯	দরপত্রের সাথে যে সকল কাগজপত্র জমা দিতে হবে	ঃ দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লিখিত শর্তনুযায়ী।
২০	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ	ঃ জেলা সুপার, জেলা কারাগার, মানিকগঞ্জ।
২১	দরদাতাদের প্রতি বিশেষ নির্দেশাবলী	ঃ দরপত্র সিডিউলের শর্তাবলী পাঠান্তে যথাযথভাবে অবহিত হয়ে দরপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে এবং অনূমোদিত নমুনা মোতাবেক উন্নতমানের ভাল সরবরাহের ব্যাধ থাকবেন।
২২	দরপত্র সংক্রান্ত অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী জানার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট কারা কর্তৃপক্ষের দপ্তরে যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে।	
২৩	কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন/সকল দরপত্র/বাতিস/গ্রহণ করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন।	
মোঃ মশিউর রহমান খান অতিরিক্ত জেলা ম্যাজিস্ট্রেট মানিকগঞ্জ ও জেলা সুপার (ভারপ্রাপ্ত) জেলা কারাগার, মানিকগঞ্জ		
জিডি-১০৩৬		

LOAN SCAM

Ctg businessman arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested a businessman from the capital's Gulshan area on Monday night in connection with several cases filed by different financial institutions of Chattogram over loan scams and bank cheque frauds. The arrestee is Md Jahid Hossain Mia, 65, from Hathazari upazila of Chattogram. Inspector (investigation) Jahir Hossain of Double Mooring Police Station said, "He is managing director (MD) of eight business institutions while he is also the distributor of six different companies." "Police arrested him in front of Radisson Blu Hotel with help from Bhatara Police Station," told Inspector Jahir. Police sources said Union Finance Ltd, National Finance Ltd and Eastern Bank Ltd had filed seven cases against Jahid for

loan scams, the warrants for which are with Double Mooring Police Station. He also has six arrest warrants with Halishahar Police Station, and 33 arrest warrants with Panchlaish Police Station over loan scams and bank cheque frauds. The amount of default loan and cheque frauds could not be known, but police suspect that it would be nearly Tk 500 crore. Jahid is the MD of ZE Steel Ltd (Ship Breaking), Jahid Food and Beverage Ltd, Jahid Fisheries Ltd, Jahid Enterprise Ltd, Discovery Trading Company Ltd, Rehan Fisheries Ltd, ZE Telecom, and ZE Steel Ltd. He is also the distributor of Reckitt Benckiser, Grameenphone Ltd, Marico Bangladesh Ltd, Transcom Beverage Ltd, Nestle Bangladesh Ltd, and Bangladesh Olive Oil Ltd.

Unapproved cattle market set up by Dhaka-Aricha highway

Local administration yet to take action



A colourful archway invites buyers into the cattle market.

PHOTO: STAR

AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH, Savar

A cattle market has been set up in Savar's Ulail without permission from local administration, on the same ground that municipality authorities earlier failed to get a lessee for despite inviting tenders twice. For the last three years, Savar municipality authorities have been leasing out the Ulail Balur Matth, a land beside the Dhaka-Aricha highway, for a temporary cattle haat ahead of Eid-ul-Azha. The municipality earned Tk 44 lakh from it in 2016, Tk 48 lakh in 2017 and Tk 62 lakh last year, according to official sources. This year, two tenders were submitted

for the market but both were rejected for being incomplete. Municipal authorities called for tenders a second time but found no bidders. However, a cattle market has sprouted on the grounds. Sharf Uddin Ahmed Choudhury, chief executive officer of Savar municipality, said they did not award any lease, as no one bought tender applications in the second phase of invitations. This correspondent visited the cattle market on Monday evening, where livestock were already seen lined up for sale, and loudspeakers blared invitations to locals to visit the haat. One Liton, who was sitting at a

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2



Rajshahi City Corporation
Engineering Department
Nagar Bhaban, Rajshahi

Memo No.46.12.5081.006.07.136.19.1428

উন্নয়নের পথতর
শেখ হাসিনার মূলমন্ত্র

Date: 06-08-2019

Invitation for Tenders (IFT)
02/2019-20

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works:

Sl No.	Reference No.	ID No.	Name of works	Tender/proposal document last selling time and date
01	46.12.5081.006.07.135.19.1429	348243	Supply of 1000 Nos. Ballast for 120W LVD Light & LED Decorative Tree Light.	12:30pm on 25-August 2019
02	46.12.5081.006.07.136.19.1430	348262	Supply fitting fixing & installation of 16m High Mass Pole with lighting system.	12:30pm on 08-Sept-2019

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.
To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

রাসিক/জশা-১৬(২০১৯-২০২০)
তারিখঃ ০৬-০৮-২০১৯
জিডি-১০৩৬

Md. Reazat Hossain
Executive Engineer (Elec.)
Rajshahi City Corporation
Tel: 0721 772215
E-mail: reazatrb@gmail.com

College student killed in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A college student was killed in Rajshahi yesterday, while he was returning home in Dinaipur to celebrate Eid. The victim -- Fardin Isna Asharia Rabby, 18, son of Mozaffar Sarker of Parbatipur -- was a 2nd year HSC student at Rajshahi Government City College, said Nibaron Chandra Burman, officer-in-charge of Boalia Police Station. Informed by locals, police recovered his body -- in a pool of blood -- from the roadside in Hatemkhan area at 6am, he said. Police said they were yet to find an eyewitness, although the crime scene is within 100 metres of a local mosque, and the murder happened around the time of Fajr prayers. "Analysing the crime scene, we think it was a planned murder," the police official said. He said, the victim's body bore a single stab injury on the head and his bag, watch, mobile phone and wallet were found intact on the scene. Rabby's blood-stained fingerprints were found on a nearby electric pole, said the police officials, suggesting that he fought back. He went out of his room at a private dormitory in the area at 5am to catch the intercity train Titumir Express -- scheduled to start for Dinaipur at 6:20am. He was supposed to travel along with his friend and classmate Ripon Mohonto. "I was waiting for him at the station and called him repeatedly. He answered at 5:20am and said he was walking to the station. I couldn't reach him again," Ripon said. At 6:20am when Ripon boarded the train, police called him from Rabby's phone and asked him to come to the police station. Police interrogated Ripon and another classmate Badsha Sekandor. Rabby's sister Mansura Parveen filed a murder case with Boalia Police Station, accusing unnamed miscreants.

DOG CULLING IN CUMILLA

Authorities backtrack after animal rights group intervenes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cumilla


An animal rights organisation has raised allegations against Cumilla City Corporation (CCC) of violating a high court order against indiscriminate culling of dogs -- in different places of the city. In a press release, Rakibul Haq Emil, chairman of People for Animal Welfare (PAW) Foundation said, "Cumilla City Corporation has been killing dogs indiscriminately for the last 15-20 days, in blatant violation of a high court order against killing dog, and what is a punishable offense according to section 7 of Animal Welfare Act 2019. Sharing a video in which some men were seen picking up dogs using metal tongs and putting them in a cage, Emil claimed that conservancy staff of CCC were catching dogs in a brutal manner. In a phone conversation with a representative of PAW Foundation, Alamgir Hossain, inspector of conservancies of CCC admitted that dog culling had taken place. "I know about the order of the high court. We are conducting drives because local residents report against dogs." He claimed they were only picking up "sick" dogs, but could not confirm that the dogs were rabid, or how many people were bitten by dogs. He further said they were doing it upon "oral permission from mayor and councilors," and would not do it any more. The Daily Star obtained a recording of the conversation, but could not reach Alamgir despite repeated attempts. About the allegation, CCC sanitary inspector Mejbah Uddin said, "Everyday people come to us with allegations of dog bites. Dogs have bitten a primary school teacher, some college girls, and many people including school students have been complaining against dogs." CCC Mayor Monirul Haque Sakku, said, "Everyday a lot of people come to us complaining against dogs. As it is against the law, we will not carry out any drives against dogs any more. We only used to do it if anyone complained." Dr Md Mozibur Rahman, Civil Surgeon of Cumilla told this newspaper, "Cumilla General Hospital is treating 50 to 100 people daily from all over the district who were bitten by dogs. In recent times, we did not identify any rabies-infected dogs or patient, but in general if a dog bites several people it is thought to be rabid."

Woman

found dead in Narayanganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Police recovered the hanging body of a woman from her residence in Shubakardi of Narayanganj Bandar upazila yesterday afternoon. The deceased was identified as one Hasiba Akter Rita, 28. Her husband Swapan Mia is a Saudi expatriate. She was a homemaker and mother of a five-year-old boy, according to locals. Rita's mother Hasina Begum alleged that her daughter had a financial dispute with her brothers-in-law -- Saifuddin and Apan. "They have killed Rita because of this dispute and I want justice for it." However, Rita's in-laws denied claims of any disputes, and claimed that Rita died by suicide. Rafiqul Islam, officer-in-charge of Bandar police station, said they rushed to the spot on information from locals. The body bore no marks of injury, but police were yet to ascertain whether it was a murder or suicide, The OC added. The body was sent to Narayanganj General Hospital morgue for autopsy. However, no case was filed connection with the incident until 9pm.



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বাংলাদেশ সরকারি কর্ম কমিশন সচিবালয়
আগারগাঁও, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭

উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানকে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ সরকারি কর্ম কমিশন কর্তৃক পৃথিব্য লিখিত পরীক্ষার মূল উত্তরণের উপরে ব্যবহৃতব্য লিখোকোড ওএমআর স্বরম ও মানসিক দক্ষতা বিষয়ের ওএমআর উত্তরণ প্রদান করে সরবরাহের নিমিত্ত উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা হয়েছে। এ সংক্রান্ত পূর্ণাঙ্গ উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি বাংলাদেশ সরকারি কর্ম কমিশন সচিবালয়ের ওয়েবসাইট www.bpsc.gov.bd এ প্রকাশ করা হয়েছে। দরপত্র সিডিউল নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিস কক্ষ থেকে আগামী ১৮-০৮-২০১৯ তারিখ বেলা ৪.৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত সংগ্রহ করা যাবে।
শোভন সমদার
সহকারী পরিচালক [প্রশাসন-৩]

জিডি-১০৩২



Bangladesh Shipping Corporation
Saltgola Road, Chittagong
www.bsc.gov.bd

Request for Expression of Interest for Providing e-mail Hosting Service (G-Suite)

EOI Ref. No. 18.16.0000.353.16.005.19.02 Dated: 05-08-2019

Sl. No.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Shipping, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
01.	Agency	Bangladesh Shipping Corporation.
02.	Name of procuring entity	Bangladesh Shipping Corporation.
03.	Procuring entity district	Chittagong.
04.	Invitation for	Procurement of e-mail Hosting Service (G-Suite) for 60 users.
05.	Invitation Ref. No.	02/2019/Admin/BSC
06.	Procurement method	OTM
07.	Budget and source of fund	BSC's own fund.
08.	Tender document last selling date	22/08/2019.
09.	Tender submission date & time	25/08/2019 at 12:00 Noon.
10.	Tender opening date and time	25/08/2019 after 12:05pm only office hours.
11.	Name & address of the office(s)	Accounts Department, Bangladesh Shipping Corporation, BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road, Ctg. General Manager (Administration), BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road, Ctg. Accounts Department, Bangladesh Shipping Corporation, BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road, Ctg.
12.	(a) Selling tender document: (b) Receiving tender document: (c) Opening tender document	N/A.
13.	Eligibility of tenderer	As mentioned in the tender document.
14.	Brief description of goods	e-mail Hosting Service (G-suite) for 60 users (30GB storage capacity for each users).
15.	Price of tender document	Tk 500/- (five hundred) only.
16.	Performance security	Tk 10% of the price of agreement.
17.	Tender security amount	Tk 20,000/- (twenty thousand) only.
18.	Name of official inviting tender	Abu Safayat Muhammad Shahe Dul Islam, Deputy Secretary.
19.	Designation of official inviting tender	General Manager (Admin).
20.	Address of the official inviting tender	Administration Department, BSC, Chittagong.
21.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone: 031-724832, Fax No. 031-710506, 722380 e-mail: gm-admin@bsc.gov.bd
22.	BSC authority reserves the right to accept any tender or reject the whole tender or part of it, at any stage without assigning any reason thereof whatsoever.	

Abu Safayat Muhammad Shahe Dul Islam
Deputy Secretary
General Manager (Admin)
Bangladesh Shipping Corporation

GD-1328

The Daily Star

FOUNDER EDITOR
LATE S. M. ALI

DHAKA WEDNESDAY AUGUST 7, 2019, SRABAN 23, 1426 BS

Change of Kashmir’s status

Scrapping Article 370 and more

IN an unprecedented but not quite unexpected move, the BJP government has scrapped the 70-year-old Article 370 of the Indian Constitution that had accorded a special status to the state of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K). In fact, this was one of the points in the BJP election manifesto in the last general election which it has followed through on. But not only that, the BJP government has also bifurcated the state into two with J&K and Ladakh becoming Union Territories, the latter coming under the direct rule of New Delhi.

Admittedly, this is patently an internal affair of India, and under normal circumstances might neither merit any comment nor evoke much international interest were it not for the fact that the issue has to do with J&K. The state has a unique dynamic of its own, and the political developments in Kashmir have both direct fallouts and trickle-down effects. It affects not only the countries of South Asia but the consequences also go much beyond the region. One cannot lose sight of the fact that India and Pakistan have gone to war on Kashmir thrice since the partition of the subcontinent.

While it is not for us to question the rationale of the Indian leaders, who in their wisdom have thought it fit to do what they have done with Article 370, one is curious to ask, why, after seven decades, a ruling party in India thought it was appropriate to change a political dispensation accorded to a state whose accession to the Union of India in October 1947 was effected under a situation which was far from normal. While the BJP narrative is that the new arrangement has been compelled by the prevailing internal situation in J&K, the party also feels the new arrangements would enhance the development of the region. However, critics traduce the move as blatantly political and ascribe motives that go beyond the pious desire to bring peace in the valley.

The state of J&K has been strife-ridden for a while but statistics show that the incidents of terror have gone down considerably in the state post-1990s. One only hopes that the desired purpose for which the Act was repealed would be fulfilled, alienation of the people of J&K would disappear, and there would be lasting peace and development in J&K.

How much does a lecture cost?

Expenditure on ‘training’ by EC should be investigated

A news report that was published in the front page of a leading Bangla newspaper on August 6 gives us pause to think about the flagrant way in which money is spent by the Election Commission (EC). EC records show that each commissioner has given 520 speeches in 18 days, which translates into 14 public speeches every day—a feat that is not possible for any human being!

It is the job of the EC officials to carry out training for its officials to conduct elections. So why should they be paid to give lectures? We are informed that people who took money as “special” guest speakers include the chief election commissioner himself, and the four election commissioners. These officials can at best take travel/daily allowance to go to various venues in the country, but what sort of message does it give out when they take money for giving lectures which is their job?

A former election commissioner has stated that during his time in office, no EC official received any monetary benefit for speeches they gave in different parts of the country as part of training officers on the conduct of electoral procedures. The report also points out that a particular secretary, who had been deputed to the EC during the last national elections, had received Tk 47 lakh as a course “adviser”. We are aghast to think that a part of the public money for the purposes of training—a total of Tk 123 crore which was allotted to conduct training for the last general election and upazila elections—has been squandered!

The EC is a constitutional body and it plays a crucial role in conducting elections in the country. The officials employed by the EC are supposed to be people of integrity and hence when questions are raised about the way money meant for training is being spent, it shows blatant disregard for public money by the people running the EC. This is a serious matter and it needs to be properly investigated. As the government has adopted a “zero-tolerance” policy towards corruption, no stone should be left unturned to preserve the sanctity of the office of the EC.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

letters@thedailystar.net

No scope for outdoor activities for children

Physical activities should be incorporated as a mandatory part of elementary school. The fact that physical exercises and sports are integral for physical and mental development of children is unfortunately not understood by most parents. People think that good grades are what’s most important and therefore physical training takes a backseat.

Insufficient open spaces and little exposure to the natural environment make children over-dependent on electronic devices which ultimately limit their growth. In urban areas, we barely see children running across the field wearing football or cricket gear, and yet we do nothing about it. This essentially points to our indifference and negligence regarding this issue.

It seems like we are failing to acknowledge the pivotal role outdoor activities can play on children’s development. The issue is not given importance even when parents choose schools for their children. Therefore, schools that do not have adequate open space or playgrounds continue to operate. The number of students who have access to playgrounds is negligible compared to those who don’t. Yet, no significant steps are taken by the concerned authorities to address this problem. How long will the government keep turning a blind eye to this issue?

Abu Hasnat Evna Mostafa, by email



TASNEEM TAYEB

specist TV presenter, further added that mosquitoes, in fact, should be allowed to bite humans, except in Africa, where people might get infected with malaria.

Mr Caron perhaps is unaware of the human toll that dengue, a mosquito-borne disease, is taking in South East Asian and South Asian countries, especially in Bangladesh which this year registered the highest number of dengue cases in its history.

In Bangladesh, according to unofficial sources, so far this year, at least 60 people have succumbed to the deadly menace caused by Aedes mosquitoes. And a staggering 27,437 people have been infected with the disease. This is more than double the number of dengue cases last year (10,148). Government figures, however, put the death toll at 18.

With the increase in the number of dengue cases, various narratives have emerged from different quarters, including the government, the city corporation and the politicians. While the prime minister has urged the countrymen to keep their surroundings clean and has instructed her party leaders and activists to conduct countrywide cleaning campaigns to battle the dengue outbreak—with dolled-up celebrities instantly obliging by taking to the streets with brooms to swipe away the mosquitoes—the Local Government Division (LGD) minister of her cabinet, Md Tazul Islam, claimed that dengue was “under control”, as hospitals kept scrambling to accommodate the influx of newly infected patients.

And although DSCC Mayor Sayeed Khokon has said that dengue “cannot be called an epidemic yet”, the number of people infected by the disease is increasing by the hour, setting a new record for the country, every day. With the health minister, after his recent return from Malaysia, sensing conspiracy centring dengue, it is unclear how many more lives will be wasted before we can counter the conspiracy of the mosquitoes against the human race.

On Monday, the health minister claimed that the number of dengue cases was coming down, the same day 2,065 dengue-infected people were admitted in various hospitals across the country, the highest number of dengue patients to be admitted in hospitals in a day this year. The very same day, the country also witnessed the highest number of deaths (seven) related to dengue in a 24-hour span. Such comments coming from government authorities reflect either their ignorance or their apathy towards the sufferings of the common people.

Narratives have been quick to emerge.



POLITICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

SALEEMUL HUQ

100 billion every year to support the developing countries tackle climate change, both by mitigation and adaptation.

The UNFCCC also set up the Green Climate Fund (GCF) with its headquarters in Korea to handle a significant part of these funds. The GCF started with around USD 10 billion that has been allocated over the last few years and they are currently seeking a major replenishment from richer countries.

The GCF Board also made a laudable early strategic decision to allocate half the funds to mitigation and half to adaptation and to prioritise the most vulnerable and poorest developing countries for adaptation funds.

In practice, however, while allocation for mitigation projects has been relatively better, allocation for adaptation has been slow and allocation for the poorest and most vulnerable countries has been quite small.

The GCF also laid out a complicated set of procedures for countries to prepare proposals and have national-level accredited institutions to be eligible to submit proposals. This is one of the major reasons for the inability of the most vulnerable developing countries to get accreditation and submit proposals for funding.

DENGUE OUTBREAK

A result of inaction and lack of farsightedness

What has unfortunately been slow in coming, however, are initiatives by the concerned authorities to tackle the dengue outbreak. From the use of ineffective pesticides to the inadequate supply of mosquito repellents in the market, the people of this country are having to face multiple hurdles day in and day out just to protect themselves and their loved ones from lethal mosquito bites.

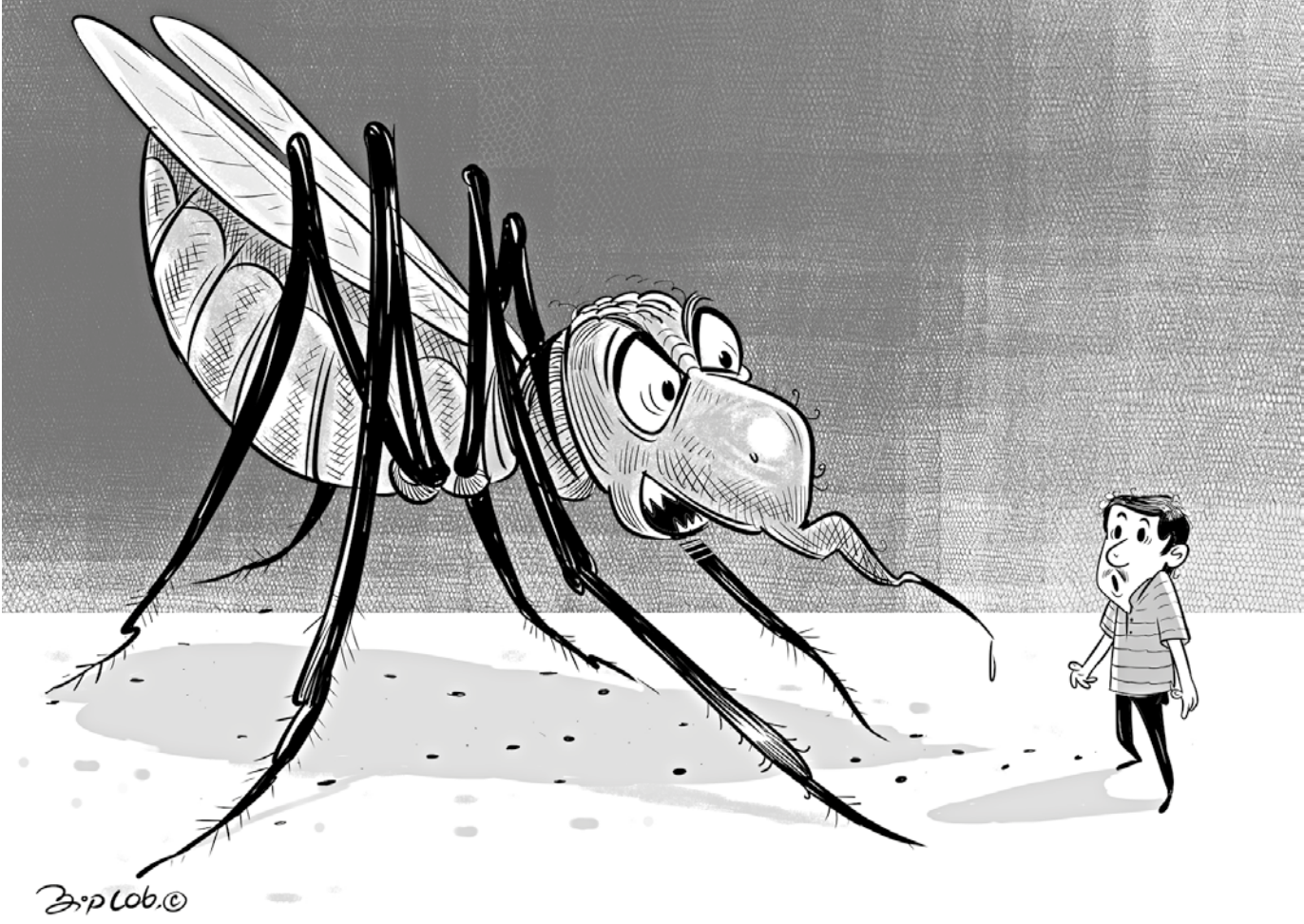
Adult Aedes population in Dhaka has increased manifold over the last few months. According to a report by *The Daily Star*, a recent Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) survey shows that the current density of adult vector Aedes population in the country is 487, which is almost 14 times higher in comparison to

the comparatively limited concentration of Aedes mosquitoes in the off-peak season will only make it easier for the city corporations to contain their numbers.

Professor Rahman also added that spraying pesticides on roadsides is not very effective in containing Aedes mosquitoes; instead focus should be on destroying mosquito larvae, and for this, workers will need to visit individual houses to inspect them and destroy the larvae. A similar view has been shared by the World Health Organization (WHO) which recently suggested that fogging the streets and roadsides might not be effective in destroying mosquitoes, since Aedes mosquitoes travel less and mostly stay in darker places. The WHO recommended

The city corporations’ fix over the pesticide issue and the lack of pace in importing an effective pesticide reflect poorly on their preparedness and ability to combat this disease.

The authorities did take up some measures though, including waiving tax on dengue testing kits, site inspections and fixing rates for dengue tests; however, these measures can at best be considered piecemeal initiatives, with very little impact on long-term protection from the disease. The government’s knee-jerk reaction to the dengue outbreak reveals the lack of a policy framework that is of the essence now, in order to combat and, if possible, eliminate this disease from the country. The government must now roll



only 36 in the pre-monsoon period. The pre-monsoon study was commissioned between March 3 and 12, while the recent survey was conducted between July 17 and 27, in 100 locations around the capital. The survey also reveals that the concentration of mosquito larvae is high, which essentially means more Aedes mosquitoes and a further spread of the disease.

While discussing the ongoing dengue outbreak across the country with this writer, Professor Mahmudur Rahman, former director of Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control and Research (IEDCR), suggested that the city corporations should intensively conduct anti-Aedes drives across the country round the year, since dengue is not a seasonal disease. If exhaustive drives are continued throughout the year, it will be easier to combat the prevalence of dengue during the peak season; and

using mosquito aerosol at home and leave temephos, a larvicide, in water containers, to contain mosquito-breeding.

With dengue spreading across the country, one wonders how long it would take for the new insecticides to arrive and contain the situation. On August 2, DNCC Mayor Atiqul Islam said that new samples of insecticides to kill mosquitoes “will arrive in a day or two.” According to a newspaper report, DSCC has started testing a sample of a new US-made pesticide since Friday, with a success rate of up to 26 percent. According to the same report, entomologist Professor Kabirul Bashar of Jahangirnagar University has suggested that the success rate of a pesticide below 80 percent is not satisfactory. Another sample of pesticides has arrived from India lately, which will also be tested to assess its effectiveness.

up its sleeves and get down to work to prepare a dengue prevention and control policy to curb its increasing menace.

With so many quarters making so many comments, and so little effective action being taken, people have resigned to their fate—living in constant fear of mosquito bites. News of fathers burying little children and husbands burying expecting wives and their unborn babies have become a common feature on the front pages of our newspapers. And amidst all this, the only thing that is shining bright is the failure of the concerned authorities to save people from the grip of a deadly disease that could have been contained at an early stage with comprehensive planning and effective implementation.

Tasneem Tayeb works for *The Daily Star*. Her Twitter handle is @TayebTasneem.

How Bangladesh can improve access to climate funding

The GCF is going to hold its major annual event with partner countries in Korea in late August and this column is the first of three columns that will shed light on the topic of how Bangladesh and other vulnerable countries can more easily access the funds meant to support adaptation actions at national and local levels.

This column will focus on the success (or a lack thereof) of Bangladesh in accessing global climate change funding

accreditation proved to be quite onerous and difficult and only two entities managed to get accredited after nearly two years of back and forth with the GCF.

These two entities are the Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL), which specialises in renewable energy projects for mitigation, and the Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), which specialises in adaptation projects, especially for vulnerable communities.



PHOTO: DIN M SHIBLY

from GCF, as well as other sources.

Bangladesh was able to set up its institutions for engaging with the GCF quite quickly. The main National Designated Authority (NDA) on behalf of the government was the Economic Resources Division (ERD) of the finance ministry who then selected and invited six public sector entities to apply for accreditation from the GCF. This process of

Both these agencies are now in the process of submitting project proposals for funding (but none has been approved yet).

At the same time, the government of Bangladesh applied for two projects through multilateral agencies which were already accredited by GCF. The first one was a project for building climate-resilient infrastructure by the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) through

a German development bank called KfW. The second was a project to provide fresh drinking water to pregnant women, and others, in the low-lying coastal districts already suffering from salinity in drinking water which adversely affects pregnant women. This was to be implemented by the Ministry of Women and Children’s Affairs (MoWCA) submitted through UNDP which is already accredited. Both these projects were finally approved by the GCF and are about to start being implemented by the concerned agencies.

Bangladesh’s success rate in accessing GCF funding has been moderate but not great. It is important that all the relevant institutions both within and outside the government get up to speed in the procedures for accessing climate change funds available through the GCF.

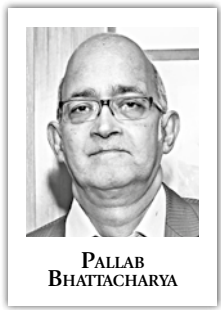
While it has taken a long time to set up the correct institutions and build our own capacity to follow all the complicated procedures of the GCF, we are going up the knowledge curve and need to improve our understanding and performance. This will be particularly important as we enter the next phase to enable NGOs and private sector entities to apply and get accreditation for the private sector window of the GCF which Bangladesh has yet to tap.

Finally, while developing our capacity to access more climate funding, it is also important for us to come up with good monitoring mechanisms to ensure that the money is actually used for the purpose it is meant for. Our access to potentially larger amounts will depend on spending the money we get well and effectively.

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Life after Article 370

Abolition of 'special status' of Jammu and Kashmir calls into question India's traditional vision of unity in diversity



It was a dramatic momentous Monday for Jammu and Kashmir. In one go, the Bharatiya Janata Party-led Indian government put the militancy-hit state in a new template of its future journey along a path that is set to be very different from the one it has treaded for the last seven decades since the accession of the princely state to India after Partition in 1947.

On August 5, Home Minister Amit Shah introduced two bills and two resolutions regarding Jammu and Kashmir in the Rajya Sabha that repealed Article 370 of the Indian Constitution—which gave the state a special status—and bifurcated the state into two federally-administered territories, drastically reducing its powers to function with a greater degree of autonomy and putting it under the decisive control of the federal Indian government.

All the bills and resolutions were passed with emphatic majority by the Rajya Sabha where the BJP and its allies lack a favourable arithmetic, thanks to the government's deft management in bringing the lawmakers of some opposition parties and a group of key regional parties on board to back its most audacious move on Kashmir. India has not witnessed such landmark legislative amendments with far-reaching ramifications for its polity within a day. The abrogation of Article 370 came after much speculation about the massive security build-up in Jammu and Kashmir over the last one week and about the strategy of the government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In his speech while announcing the revocation of Article 370, which has since long been one of the three pillars of the BJP's Hindutva ideology and vision of India, Amit Shah viewed Jammu and Kashmir's past

and future through the prism of economic development or rather the absence of it. An overwhelming portion of his speech was devoted to how Jammu and Kashmir has lagged behind in economic progress and how robust economic infrastructure can turn the state around by attracting private investment and increasing employment opportunities for the youth. He pointed to Article 370 as the source of all problems in Jammu and Kashmir—economic backwardness, lack of democracy, corruption and terrorism. Post-repeal of the Article, he said, doors to private investment in the state would be opened, which would in turn increase the potential for development there. Land would be opened up for purchase which would bring in investments from private individuals and multinational companies and give a boost to the local economy, he added.

Article 370 did not allow people from outside Jammu and Kashmir to do business there and led to the absence of economic competition, the home minister said, and he pointed out that "land prices are at rock bottom because no one can buy land there and no industry is allowed to flourish there." Over the decades, the Indian government pumped hefty funds into the state but adequate educational and health services were missing. Article 370 prevented skilled professionals from outside the state to settle down there and prevented some of the welfare schemes of the Indian government from reaching the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

There appears to be a short-term and a medium- to long-term strategy behind the Indian government's actions. It is quite possible that Prime Minister Modi will come up with plans of mega investments and other measures for Jammu and Kashmir which would help generate jobs for locals as well as plans for land allotment for setting up industries and incentives for private sector investments. The assumption is, economic prosperity would alleviate the sense of



Indian paramilitary troopers stand guard at a roadblock at Maisuma locality in Srinagar, the capital of India-administered Kashmir, on August 4, 2019. Some 40,000 fresh troops were reportedly deployed in addition to 500,000 already in the disputed region.

PHOTO: AFP

alienation among the people of Jammu and Kashmir and drive them away from the appeal of militancy.

Interestingly, the economic-development-and-good-governance narrative was flagged upfront in Indian Foreign Secretary Vijay K Gokhale's briefing of envoys of key countries, including the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, explaining the rationale behind the repeal of Article 370. Thus, the Modi government deftly cloaked its Hindutva plank with the robe of a grand economic vision for Jammu and Kashmir. So, the performance of the Modi government in delivering economic progress to the state would be its biggest challenge in the time to come.

Abrogation of Article 370, construction of a Ram temple in Ayodhya and introduction of a uniform civil code have, for decades, served as the three key pillars of the BJP's Hindutva agenda. They had so far remained statements of intent because the party had lacked the requisite parliamentary strength and astute political management to overcome adverse legislative arithmetic to implement them. But the Modi government has a reputation for taking calibrated risks when it comes to furthering its foreign policy (as was seen in Modi's unscheduled stopover in Lahore to meet Nawaz Sharif, the then Pakistan PM, in December 2015) and its ideological planks at home (witnessed by its daring foray into Muslim personal law and outlawing the

practice of instant triple talaq last week). The parliamentary passage of the bill against instant triple talaq, which the BJP projected as a gender-justice issue, and scrapping of Article 370 are set to find greater salience among the growing constituency of Hindu nationalists and position these changes as an alternative to Jawaharlal Nehru's vision of secularism. While the law against instant triple talaq is seen by many as the BJP's march towards a uniform civil code, the majority of the public pulse in India today is against the continuation of Article 370. The BJP's assessment was that the time was ripe for abrogation of Article 370 as most of the mainstream political parties stand accused of failing in governance, indulging in corruption—feasting on the Indian government's financial assistance to the state—and milking the autonomy issue for perpetuating the status quo.

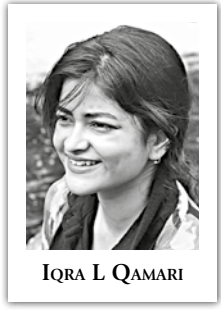
There is little doubt that after the repeal of Article 370, the BJP will up its ante in re-shaping the future of India, calling into question the Nehruvian ideas of secularism, citizenship and federal structure and the traditional vision of India's unity in diversity. With the opposition fragmented and in a quandary about its own future after this year's parliamentary poll debacle, the BJP is expected to push through its Hindutva planks with more aggression.

The abolition of Article 370 has set off anxiety in the entire north-eastern India where almost all the seven states have special laws barring sale of land to "outsiders" and allowing for preservation of local social and religious practices. Should different ethnic, religious and linguistic communities be viewed through the lens of their distinctiveness and not as part of a monolithic structure? This fundamental question will now be increasingly asked across India post-demise of Article 370.

Pallab Bhattacharya is a special correspondent for The Daily Star.

Fighting a different kind of war

Millennial 'burnout' and why this generation simply cannot seem to catch its breath



Dutch have even coined a term for this luxury: "Niksen", which, in plain English, translates to "enjoying idleness" and which, in plain reality, is an almost impossible task for Gen Y.

Being born during the time bracket of 1981-1996 may have its bright sides (we were thankfully spared the horrors of the World Wars and the Great Depression) but it was accompanied by its own set of stumbling blocks.

According to Chuck Palahniuk, author of *Fight Club*, "Our generation has had no Great War, no Great Depression. Our war is spiritual. Our depression is our lives." With all that has been unfolding in our era, which is taut with economic and political tensions, this generation has been suffering. The millennials, the witnesses and the unenthusiastic participants of the seismic changes worldwide are struggling to stand out and fit in at the same time. They cannot seem to heave a sigh of relief or catch a break. At all.

Psychologist Herbert Freudenberger came up with the term "burnout" in 1974—which describes a constant state of chronic stress resulting in physical and emotional fatigue—and in 2019, Anne Helen Petersen made her readers re-adjust in their seats when she associated millennials with this very condition. Her viral Buzzfeed article titled "How Millennials Became the Burnout Generation" stirred all kinds of reactions among its readers—from mass approval to mocking scoffs. For a generation that is rebuffed for being lazy, whiny, confused and is frequently asked to "grow up", especially by the Baby Boomers, the concept of "burnout" may appear to be yet another generational idiosyncrasy that is simply romanticising laziness or glorifying exhaustion. According to many critics, the burnout syndrome may be a cover-up for millennial lethargy.

But the picture is far more complex because this demographic group has been caught right in the eye of the vortex of massive turbulent and unpredictable changes throughout their lives and has constantly been pressurised to thrive under these circumstances.

The pace of the global economic and political shifts fuelled by social media, cellphones and advanced technology has created an alarming degree of disillusionment and frustration among these people. From the dominance of Facebook

and Netflix to the downfall of TV and radio, from China's accession to the breakneck speed of the fourth industrial revolution, from widespread terrorism, rampant corruption and rising debt to the sense of foreboding that the world is nearing its doomsday—all these factors have been at play at the time this generation was coming of age. And let's not forget the universal threat of global warming. The future seems so bleak for this generation that they have to continuously hear about the blaring warning of climatic catastrophes in the coming decades when their career/family life may be at its peak.

Combine these factors with the exclusive features of a millennial's trajectory—intensive parenting, striving for perfection in personal and professional domains, neoliberal meritocracy and of course hyper-connectivity and information overload—and what we have is

In the curious case of the millennials, a period of rest or inactivity may not mitigate their stress but rather aggravate it. They get conscience-stricken for not utilising every moment to work towards their goals, pertaining to both their personal and professional life.

generational panic.

According to a 2018 report by the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, a federation of a number of US health insurance organisations and companies, there has been a 47 percent rise in major depression among millennials since 2013 and they have the highest incidence of anxiety compared to all other generations as substantiated by the American Psychological Association. The disturbing undertone of these statistics is how millennials have to bear the brunt of a world that is constantly in transition, and yet they are deemed as "entitled" adults with a perpetual sense of ennui.

But one could argue about the context of historical tunnel vision as surely the previous generations had their own share of adversities. Historians and cultural enthusiasts speak of the widespread feeling of listlessness, *acedia*, in medieval times

that prevented true connection with God, or the condition recognised in the nineteenth century, *neurasthenia*, that referred to extreme stress on the nervous system due to the advent of the industrial society. But how is millennial burnout different enough to be causing this generation to turn into cases of a neurotic mess?

Victims of millennial burnout easily become guilt-ridden and cannot rest even for short periods of time, and this is where the burnout of this generation diverges from the concept of simple fatigue—where an act of repose feels rewarding and does not leave any feelings of guilt afterwards. In the curious case of the millennials, a period of rest or inactivity may not mitigate their stress but rather aggravate it. They get conscience-stricken for not utilising every moment to work towards their goals, pertaining to both their personal and professional life.

Anne Helen Petersen talked about "errand paralysis"—a condition where doing simple chores becomes overwhelming. This burnout also induces cynicism, low self-esteem, depleted energy levels and insomnia, which might overlap with the already prevalent problems of depression and anxiety. Many millennials already suffer from the Imposter Syndrome—they credit mere luck for their achievements and feel paranoid about being exposed as frauds. One of the things that have given rise to this condition is over-expectation from guardians who adopted parenting strategies that sent mixed signals, switching between over-praising and harsh criticism.

Other factors include societal pressure which comes along with the constant nagging sense of "always having to prove a point", technological advancement, fierce competition in a cut-throat job market and the dire need to achieve perfection in all aspects of life exacerbated by social media comparisons. Social media instigates millennials to fall into a sad spiral of comparisons. They then resort to posting Instagram pictures of themselves, brandishing their "good life"—#LivingTheMoment. They paint a picture of themselves as young, exuberant and accomplished whereas in reality they are in distress.

This overworked, overexposed and overstimulated generation has to navigate itself through the maze of socially constructed standards of career, beauty and relationships, being thrown at them by screens of all sizes. They work relentlessly. They are swimming in debt. They are struggling to attain the same living standards as their parents, while striving for perfection in the face of constant upheavals. Their inner battles are taking a collective toll on their psyche and yet they have to maintain a stoic disposition of having everything under control.

This situation is somewhat akin to the "Stanford Duck Syndrome", a term that means putting up a facade of false ease. Picture a duck floating on water, gliding effortlessly, but

below the surface, its duck feet are paddling furiously. Millennials are not any different. It may look like they have it together, but underneath it all, they are scampering frantically

and are running out of breath. They are fighting a different kind of war.

Iqra L Qamari is a student of economics at North South University and an intern at The Daily Star.

॥ নিরাপদ খাদ্য আইন, ২০১৩ মেনে চলুন
জীবন ও স্বাস্থ্য সুরক্ষা করুন ॥

**আসন্ন ঈদুল আযহা উপলক্ষে কোরবানির মাংসের নিরাপদতায় সম্ভাব্য
ঝুঁকিসমূহ মোকাবেলায় করণীয় সম্পর্কে**

গণবিজ্ঞপ্তি

পশুপালনকারী ও বিক্রেতার জন্য করণীয়:

- স্বাস্থ্যসম্মত ও নিরাপদ উপায়ে কোরবানির পশু পালন করুন।
- পশুর খাবার হিসাবে নিরাপদ পশু খাদ্য ব্যবহার করুন।
- খামারে সঠিকভাবে জীব নিরাপত্তা মেনে চলুন, খামারকে রোগ বালাই এর হাত থেকে রক্ষা করুন।
- চিকিৎসকের পরামর্শ ব্যতীত স্টেরয়েড, হরমোন, এন্টিবায়োটিক, ইত্যাদি ঔষধ ব্যবহার করবেন না।
- কোরবানির জন্য রোগাক্রান্ত পশু ক্রয়-বিক্রয় থেকে বিরত থাকুন।
- এন্টিবায়োটিকসহ অন্যান্য ঔষধের দ্বারা চিকিৎসা করা হলে 'প্রত্যাহারকাল' শেষ হওয়ার পূর্বে জবাইয়ের উদ্দেশ্যে পশু বিক্রয় থেকে বিরত থাকুন।
- পশু অসুস্থ হলে নিকটস্থ প্রাণী চিকিৎসকের সহায়তা নিন।

ক্রেতাগণের জন্য করণীয়:

- কোরবানির জন্য সুস্থ-সবল পশু ক্রয় করুন। সুস্থ পশু বাহ্যিকভাবে চেনার উপায়: সতেজ, স্বাভাবিক ভঙ্গি, জাবরকাটা, নাকের নীচের লোমবিহীন অংশে (মাজল) ভেজাভাব ও উজ্জল চেহারা।
- কোরবানির জন্য প্রাপ্তবয়স্ক পশু ক্রয় করুন যেমন-গরু অন্তত ২ বছর, ছাগল/ভেড়া অন্তত ১ বছর; কোরবানির জন্য গর্ভবতী পশু ক্রয় থেকে বিরত থাকুন।
- প্রয়োজনে নিকটস্থ প্রাণী চিকিৎসকের সহায়তা নিন।
- কোরবানির পশুকে জবাইয়ের ১২ ঘণ্টা পূর্ব থেকে পানি ব্যতীত অন্য কোন খাবার খাওয়ানো থেকে বিরত থাকুন।
- সংক্রামক ব্যাধিমুক্ত দক্ষ ব্যক্তি দ্বারা পরিচ্ছন্ন পরিবেশে স্বাস্থ্যসম্মত উপায়ে নির্ধারিত স্থানে পশু কোরবানি করুন।
- পশুজবাই ও মাংস প্রস্তুতকরণে পরিষ্কার ও জীবাণুমুক্ত ছুরি, দা, বটি ও অন্যান্য সরঞ্জামাদি ব্যবহার করুন।
- পশুর চামড়া ছাড়ানো ও মাংস কাটার সময় মাংস যেন সরাসরি মাটি, ধূলাবাগি বা অন্যান্য আবর্জনার সংস্পর্শে না আসে এবং কুকুর, বিড়াল, হাঁস-মুরগী, পোকামাকড়, মাছি বা অন্যান্য পোষা প্রাণীদ্বারা মাংস যাতে দূষিত না হয় সেদিকে লক্ষ্য রাখুন।
- মাংস প্রস্তুতের সময় রোগাক্রান্ত অংশ যেমন সিস্ট, অস্বাভাবিক বড় লসিকাক্ষি, সিমেন্টের মত শক্ত কলিজার কোন অংশ ইত্যাদি পাওয়া গেলে সতর্কতার সাথে সে অংশটুকু পৃথক করে স্বাস্থ্যসম্মত উপায়ে মাটিতে পুতে ফেলুন অথবা বিনষ্ট করে ফেলুন।
- কাঁচা মাংস স্বাভাবিক তাপমাত্রায় চার ঘণ্টার বেশি রাখবেন না; যত দ্রুত সম্ভব রান্না করুন অথবা মাংস স্বল্প সময়ের জন্য সংরক্ষণ করতে চাইলে রেফ্রিজারেটরে ৫ ডিগ্রি সেলসিয়াস তাপমাত্রার নীচে রাখুন এবং দীর্ঘ সময়ের জন্য সংরক্ষণ করতে চাইলে ডিপফ্রিজে মাইনাস ১৮ ডিগ্রি সেলসিয়াস বা তার নীচের তাপমাত্রায় রাখুন। প্রতিবারের রান্নার উপযোগী পরিমাণ মাংস স্বতন্ত্র প্যাকেটে আলাদাভাবে সংরক্ষণ করুন।
- মাংস সঠিক তাপে ভালভাবে সিদ্ধ করে রান্না করুন, এতে মাংসে কোন ক্ষতিকর জীবাণু থাকলে তা নষ্ট হয়ে যাবে।
- কোরবানির বর্জ্য দ্রুত অপসারণ করে নির্ধারিত স্থানে ফেলুন।

নিরাপদ খাদ্য আইন, ২০১৩ এর আওতায় অপরাধের জন্য সর্বোচ্চ ৫ বছর পর্যন্ত কারাদণ্ড অথবা ২০ লক্ষ টাকা পর্যন্ত জরিমানা বা উভয়দণ্ডের বিধান রয়েছে

বাংলাদেশ নিরাপদ খাদ্য কর্তৃপক্ষ
Bangladesh Food Safety Authority

জীবন ও স্বাস্থ্য সুরক্ষায় নিরাপদ খাদ্য

খাদ্য মন্ত্রণালয়

৭১-৭২ ইন্সটিন গার্ডেন, রমনা, ঢাকা-১০০০, ফোন- ৫৫১৩৮৬০৯, ফ্যাক্স-৫৫১৩৮৬০১/৬০২
ই-মেইল: info@bfsa.gov.bd, ওয়েব- www.bfsa.gov.bd

GD-1331

REMOVAL OF KASHMIR'S SPECIAL STATUS

Legal challenges to test move

REUTERS, New Delhi

India's move on Monday to strip Kashmir of special rights is likely to face legal challenges, constitutional experts and Supreme Court lawyers said, with some questioning the legality of the route used to make the change.

New Delhi's action also provoked condemnation in Pakistan, which has disputed sovereignty over Kashmir with India for decades. India's revocation of the Himalayan territory's special status is a bid to fully integrate its only Muslim-majority state with the rest of the country.

Indian Home Minister Amit Shah said the government would scrap the constitution's Article 370 that grants special status to Jammu and Kashmir state and allows permanent residents rights to property, state government jobs and college places.

To do so, it used a provision under Article 370 of the constitution that allows the law to be tweaked by a presidential order - provided there is consensus in the constituent assembly of Jammu and Kashmir.



One problem, though, is that the constituent assembly of the state was dissolved in 1956.

The government has tweaked another constitutional article so that a reference in Article 370 to "constituent assembly of the state" becomes "legislative assembly of the state". The legality of that move, the lawyers said, could be questioned in court.

Furthermore, New Delhi said all the changes were agreed to by the state government. And that, some lawyers say, could be another issue for the government of Prime

Minister Narendra Modi as there currently is no government in Jammu and Kashmir.

For the past year the state has been under presidential rule, after Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) pulled away from an alliance with a local Kashmiri party and dissolved the state assembly.

"If there is president's rule, then how does that work? Does it fulfil the requirement?" said senior Supreme Court advocate Akhil Sibal. "That to my mind would be the legal faultline."

Malavika Prasad, a constitutional

lawyer, said: "How did the government of Jammu and Kashmir concur with the changes if the state has been under presidential rule for a year now?"

Shah said earlier on Monday that the changes would pass "every legal scrutiny." But lawyers said they expect several petitions challenging India's changes to Article 370. One group of lawyers in New Delhi is already working on a possible petition, an attorney said.

There could also be legal objections to related government legislation concerning the division of Jammu and Kashmir into two entities, including a separate Buddhist-majority but sparsely-populated mountainous territory, Ladakh. That law will rely on the constitutional changes made on Monday.

Critics of Modi's government and the BJP have accused it of changing the constitution to shift Jammu and Kashmir's demographics - it is currently majority Muslim - as well as to pander to many in its Hindu nationalist base that have long demanded the right to own property in Kashmir.

Water bankruptcy looms

Researchers warn one in four people worldwide will soon face dangerous water shortages

THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION, New York

A quarter of the world's people are just a few dry spells away from facing dangerous water shortages, a US think tank warned yesterday, with India home to the bulk at risk of running dry.

Seventeen countries face "extremely high water stress" because they consume 80 percent of their available water annually, a situation worsened by more frequent dry shocks tied to climate change, the World Resources Institute (WRI) said.

"We're currently facing a global water crisis," said Betsy Otto, director of WRI's global water program.

New data in WRI's Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas showed the lion's share of the most thirsty countries are located in the largely arid Middle East and North Africa region.

Qatar is the most water-stressed country, followed by Israel and Lebanon.

India ranked 13th among "extremely high" water-stressed nations. But with a population of more than 1.3 billion, it has over three times more people than the other 16 countries combined whose agriculture, industry and municipalities depend on

avoiding water "bankruptcy".

In recent weeks, India's sixth-largest city, Chennai, was the latest metropolis worldwide to warn its taps could run dry, as reservoir levels plunged.

That followed similar countdowns to water "Day Zero" in South Africa's Cape Town last year and Brazil's Sao Paulo in 2015, WRI said.

"We're likely to see more of these kinds of 'Day Zeros' in the future," said Otto.



The world's water supplies are threatened by many factors, from climate change to mismanagement in the form of water waste and pollution, Washington-based WRI said.

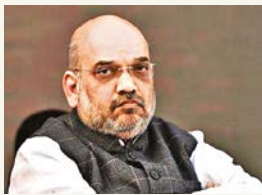
A high reliance on depleting groundwater supplies - difficult to measure and manage because they are buried deep - is an additional concern, Paul Reig, who leads work on the Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas, told journalists.

Nearly a third of the world's fresh water is groundwater, according to the United States Geological Survey.

"Because we don't understand (groundwater), and don't see it, we manage it very poorly," Reig said.

SCRAPPING OF ARTICLE 370: WHO SAID WHAT

The BJP-led government in India has gained much support for the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill, 2019, both from political parties and netizens. Besides its allies, a number of regional parties supported the move. But it has also received some stern rebukes from the Kashmiri leaders as well as from Congress and some left-leaning parties. Here are some key quotes from the parties involved:



"Article 370 was the root of terror in Jammu and Kashmir. It is time for it to go... if it doesn't go today, we can't remove terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir."

Indian Home Minister Amit Shah



"It accurately highlighted the monumental injustices of the past and coherently presented our vision for the sisters and brothers of J&K."

Indian PM Narendra Modi praising Amit Shah's argument

"The scrapping of Article 370 has been a part of BJP's core ideology since the days of Jan Sangh."

BJP patriarch and former deputy PM LK Advani

"A historical wrong has been undone today. Article 35A came through the back door without following the procedure under Article 368 of the Constitution of India. It had to go."

Senior BJP leader Arun Jaitley

"It is something the country has been waiting for the last 70 years. Even our manifesto mentioned the need to abrogate Article 370, so it is not something we brought out suddenly like a rabbit from a magic hat."

Indian finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman

CONGRESS

"National integration isn't furthered by unilaterally tearing apart J&K, imprisoning elected representatives and violating our Constitution. This nation is made by its people, not plots of land. This abuse of executive power has grave implications for our national security."

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi

"This is not the Indian democracy we have cherished for more than seven decades. The assurances that successive rulers of India including those of BJP have given people & leaders of Kashmir and the international community now stand torn into shreds."

Congress leader Shashi Tharoor

"Momentarily you may think you have scored a victory, but you are wrong and history will prove you to be wrong. Future generations will realize what a grave mistake this house is making today."

Congress leader and former finance minister P Chidambaram

REGIONAL INDIAN PARTIES

"We have opened the way for Kashmir to become Palestine. I urge you to let go of your ego and embrace Kashmiris."

Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Manoj Jha

We support the govt on its decisions on Jammu and Kashmir. We hope this will bring peace and development in the state.

Delhi CM and AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal

"Without consulting people of Jammu

and Kashmir, Article 370 has been taken away. Democracy has been murdered. AIADMK is also supporting the decision which is condemnable."

DMK President MK Stalin

"It is a black day. Indian constitution has been raped by BJP govt. You didn't consult people of J&K-Ladakh. You dissolved Assembly, you don't want to hold any election. You've taken another

35,000 Army people there. You're creating another Palestine."

CP(M) leader TK Rangarajan

"Our party gives complete support. We want that the Bill be passed."

BSP leader Satish Chandra Mishra

"It is a dark day for Parliamentary democracy, federalism, Constitution, Rajya Sabha, and the idea of India."

Trinamool Congress leader Derek O'Brien

KASHMIRI LEADERS



Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti

"GOIs intention is clear & sinister. They want to change demography of the only muslim majority state in India , disempower Muslims to the extent where they become second class citizens in their own state."

"The decisions will have far-reaching and dangerous consequences. . . . A long and tough battle lies ahead. We are ready for that."

Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah



PAKISTAN

"What they [BJP] did in Kashmir is in accordance with their ideology. They have a racist ideology,"

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan

"Pakistan Army firmly stands by the Kashmiris in their just struggle to the very end. We are prepared and shall go to any extent to fulfil our obligations in this regard."

Pakistan army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa

DENGUE FEVER

Philippines declares nat'l epidemic

662 killed this year

AFP, Manila

The Philippines yesterday stood firm on its ban on the world's first dengue vaccine while declaring a nationwide epidemic from the mosquito-borne disease that it said has killed hundreds this year.

Dengue incidence shot up 98 percent from a year earlier to 146,062 cases from January 1 to July 20, causing 662 deaths, Health Secretary Francisco Duque told a news conference in which he announced a "national dengue epidemic".

Manila banned the sale, import and distribution of the Dengvaxia vaccine in February following the deaths of several dozen children who were among more than 700,000 people given shots in 2016 and 2017 in a government immunisation campaign.

Duque said Thursday the government is studying an appeal to allow French pharmaceutical firm Sanofi to put the vaccine back in the Philippine market, but ruled out using the drug to combat the ongoing epidemic which has hit small children hard.

The vaccine, now licensed in 20 countries according to the World Health Organization, is approved for use for those aged nine and older.

Duque said the United Nations agency also advised Manila that the vaccine was "not recommended" as a response to an outbreak.

Dengue, or haemorrhagic fever, is the world's most common mosquito-borne virus and infects an estimated 390 million people in more than 120 countries each year - killing more than 25,000 of them, according to the WHO.

Do not 'play with fire'

China tells Hong Kong protesters, warns them not to mistake Beijing's restraint as weakness

REUTERS, Beijing

Protesters in Hong Kong must not "play with fire" and mistake Beijing's restraint for weakness, China said yesterday in its sharpest rebuke yet of the "criminals" behind demonstrations in the city whom it vowed to bring to justice.

Hong Kong has suffered weeks of sometimes violent protests that began with opposition to a now-suspended extradition law, which would have allowed suspects to be tried in mainland courts.

But the protests have swelled into a broader backlash against the government of the Asian financial hub, fueled by many residents' fear of eroding freedoms under the increasingly tight control of the Communist Party in Beijing.

"I would like to warn all of the criminals: don't ever misjudge the situation and mistake our restraint for weakness," the Chinese government's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office said in a document issued during a briefing in Beijing.

A small group of violent radicals were at the forefront of the protests, with "some kind-hearted citizens who have been misguided and coerced to join," according



to the document attributed to two officials, Yang Guang and Xu Luying.

It said anti-China forces were the "behind-the-scenes masterminds" who had "openly and brazenly emboldened" the protesters.

China has been quick to label US officials as "black hands" instigating unrest in Hong Kong in an attempt to contain China's development, but it has not provided any concrete evidence.

The protests are the greatest political threat to Hong Kong's government since the territory returned to Chinese rule in 1997, and one of the biggest popular challenges to Chinese leader Xi Jinping since he came to power in 2012.

US MISSILE PLANS IN ASIA

Beijing warns of 'countermeasures'

AFP, Beijing

China warned yesterday it would take unspecified countermeasures if the United States goes ahead with plans to deploy ground-based intermediate-range missiles in the Asia-Pacific region.

The comments come days after US Defense Secretary Mark Esper said Washington was now free to deploy the weapons following its withdrawal last week from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty with Russia.

"China will not stand idly by and will be forced to take countermeasures should the US deploy intermediate-range ground-based missiles in this part of the world," said Fu Cong, the director of arms control at the Chinese foreign ministry.

"And we also call on our neighbours, our neighbouring countries, to exercise prudence and not to allow a US deployment of its intermediate-range missiles on (their) territory," he added, naming Australia, Japan and South Korea.

"That would not serve the national security interest of these countries." Fu said it was important to recognise that the US is proposing to install the weapons at China's "doorstep".

"Especially for a country that has experienced the Cuban missile crisis, I think the American people should understand China's feelings."

Australia on Monday ruled out the possibility of the missiles being deployed on its soil, saying Canberra had not even been asked to host them.

South Korea's defence ministry said it had not had any discussions with the US about the deployment of intermediate missiles.

"We have also not internally reviewed the issue and have no plan to do so," ministry spokesperson Choi Hyun-soo told reporters.

Iran 'favours' talks despite Trump snub

AFP, Tehran

President Hassan Rouhani yesterday said that Iran favours talks with the US if it lifts sanctions against the Islamic republic, despite his top diplomat turning down a meeting with US President Donald Trump.

Rouhani said "peace with Iran is the mother of all peace" and "war with Iran is the mother of all wars" as he defended a landmark 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers.

Tensions between Iran and the US have been rising since Trump unilaterally withdrew the US from the nuclear deal in May 2018 and began imposing sanctions on it as part of a "maximum pressure" campaign.

In response, the US ambassador on disarmament Robert Wood said: "Iran simply needs to make up its mind to decide what it wants to do".

However Rouhani described as "weird" the US approach of calling for negotiations and then slapping sanctions on Zarif.



A girl releases paper lanterns yesterday on the Motoyasu River facing the gutted Atomic Bomb Dome in remembrance of atomic bomb victims on the 74th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, in this photo taken by Kyodo.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Taliban warns Afghans against taking part in polls

The Taliban warned Afghans to keep away from election rallies and ordered its fighters to "stand against" the planned September vote. The militants and other insurgent groups conducted frequent attacks during previous elections, and this year's campaign season has already been rocked by deadly violence. The presidential election is slated for September 28, but the race has got off to a lacklustre start and some candidates have yet to launch their campaigns. Many observers think the poll will be postponed again -- it has already been pushed back twice this year -- to create space for a peace deal to be finalised between the US and the Taliban. In a statement, Ghani's office said security forces are "fully prepared" to protect Afghans against Taliban threats and would not allow anyone to disrupt polls.

Venezuela accuses US of 'economic terrorism'

Venezuela's government yesterday accused the United States of trying to derail political crisis resolution talks with the opposition after President Donald Trump ordered a freeze on its US-based assets. The regime of President Nicolas Maduro, in a foreign ministry statement, denounced the US move as "another serious aggression by the Trump administration through arbitrary economic terrorism against the Venezuelan people." US national security adviser John Bolton yesterday called for tougher international action against Maduro. "The time for dialogue is over. Now is the time for action," Bolton said. "Maduro is at the end of his rope," Bolton said, warning Russia not to provide him with further support.

Korea tests missiles, slams US-S Korea drill

North Korea yesterday threatened to carry out more weapons tests after it fired its fourth pair of projectiles in less than two weeks following the start of joint exercises between the US and the South. The rising temperature on the peninsula threatens to derail putative negotiations between Pyongyang and Washington, with the North saying the combined drills were a "flagrant violation" of the process. Pyongyang has always been infuriated by military exercises between the South and US, seeing them as rehearsals for invasion, but in the past it has tended to avoid carrying out missile tests while the war games were taking place. The speed of its statement Tuesday was also unusual, coming within an hour of the launch, rather than the more normal day later.



SOURCE: AFP

WHAT'S ON



Art Exhibition
Title: Speed of Color by Khurshid Alam Saleem
Venue: Shilpangan, Lalmatia
Date: Today
Time: 3 pm – 8 pm



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Prologue 1
Venue: Dhaka Gallery, Banani
Date: Jul 13 - Aug 9
Time: 3 pm - 8 pm



Photography & Poetry Exhibition
Title: ProjectDebi: Revolutionary Photography And Poetry Exhibition
Venue: ENK Center, Dhanmondi
Date: August 26 - 28
Time: 10 am - 7 pm



Theatre
Title: Aleya Twist
Venue: BSA
Date: Today
Time: 7 pm onwards



Art Exhibition
Title: Muhurrama solo art exhibition by Shamsat Tabreez
Venue: Dwpj Gallery, Lalmatia
Date: July 27 - August 22 (except Mondays)
Time: 5 pm - 9 pm

FERDOUS

to host BTV's 'Anandamela' this Eid

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Even though Ferdous is an active member of the film fraternity, he can also be seen anchoring programmes every now and then. This upcoming Eid ul Adha, he will be hosting *Anandamela*, a renowned show on BTV. Having acted in many films together, Popy will be co-hosting the show for the first time alongside Ferdous.

Earlier, Ferdous co-hosted *Anandamela* with Purnima and Jaya Ahsan separately. In both those shows, he also paired up with his co-hosts for a dance performance. The shows were well-received by the audience and Ferdous is optimistic about his upcoming show as well.

Ferdous further expressed that he feels the majority of the population watches BTV and he is rather proud to anchor a show on a channel of such magnitude.

Ferdous is also busy with his film endeavours. He recently returned from a shoot in London, and is also busy shooting for *Save Life*. Besides, he is scheduled to feature as a guest in an Eid programme which will be hosted by Moushumi.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



(Clockwise from top left) Artworks by Titas Chakma, Nayan Tripura and Lumbiny Dewan.



An art exhibition dedicated to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

'Paharer Bornil Sangskriti' concludes today

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Commemorating the death anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) has organised multiple programmes under the title, 'Shilper Aaloy Bangabandhu' that is taking place throughout this month of mourning. To initiate the series of events, BSA officials placed floral wreaths at the tombstone of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on August 1.

As part of the aforementioned initiative, BSA, in association with Bangladesh Ethnic Artist Forum, is hosting a group art exhibition titled, *Paharer Bornil Sangskriti*, at Gallery 2 of the National Art Gallery of BSA, which concludes today.



International Affairs Adviser to the Prime Minister, Dr Gowher Rizvi, graced the inauguration ceremony of the exhibition as the chief guest on August 5, while Director General of BSA, Liaquat

Ali Lucky, presided over the event. Member of Parliament of the Rangamati constituency Dipankar Talukdar, and Cultural Affairs Ministry Secretary Dr Md Abu Hena Mostofa Kamal, were in attendance as special guests. Bangladesh Ethnic Artist Forum's Adviser, renowned artist Kanak Chanpa Chakma delivered the welcome address during the event.

A number of artworks shedding light on the vibrant cultures, lifestyles and cuisines of various indigenous communities together with the graceful landscapes of Chittagong Hill Tracts are on display at the show. Besides, 70 artists of Bangladesh Ethnic Artist Forum, led by artist Kanak Chanpa Chakma are holding a four-day (August 14-17) art camp in Rangamati. The forum, together with Abinta Gallery of Fine Arts, is organising the art camp.

Moreover, a reading and discussion session, on a book written on Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, was organised at the seminar room of the National Theatre Hall of BSA. Minister of Information Dr Hasan Mahmud was the chief guest of the session, which was also presided over by Liaquat Ali Lucky. Bangabandhu's Birth Centenary Celebration National Implementation Committee's President and Chief Coordinator, Dr Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury, inaugurated the event.

JCI hosts 'Battle of Brush 4.0'

ASHLEY SHOPTORSHI SAMADDAR

With an objective to build a bridge between differently abled and abled children, Junior Chamber International (JCI) Dhaka West hosted their art competition, 'Battle of Brush 4.0' recently at Mirpur.

Over a thousand young artists from 80 different government and primary schools, belonging to different backgrounds, came together on one

platform at the competition.

Irfan Islam, National President of JCI Bangladesh attended the event as the chief Guest. National Vice President Arman A Khan, National Secretary General Erfan Haque, Abdullah Safi, Local President of JCI Dhaka West, and National Director Mehedi Hossain were also present as special guests. The jury panel consisted of cartoonists Syed Rashad Imam Tanmoy and Morshed Mishu.



PHOTO: FARZANA AKHTAR

The participants were categorised into four sections: Group 1 consisting of students from Play Group to KG, Group 2 consisting of kids from Grade 1-4, Group 3 with students from Grade 5-8, and Group 4 with students from Grade 9 to 12.

The winners of Group 1 were Kazi Tasfia Alam Tazrian (first), Amisha Amisba (second), and Manha Rahman (third). The winners from Group 2 were Sariaf Wamia Hassan (first), Adnan Ariz (second), and Tanzeen Wazeda (third). Zaima Amzad (first), Tanha Abdin Sneha (second), and Suhita Ahmed (third) were the winners from Group 3 and Arnika Tahsin (first), Kareemun Mahnoor (second), and Sadia Noor Eisha (third) had won the positions from Group 4.

All the winners were awarded crests, certificates and prize money of BDT 5,000 (first), BDT 3,000 (second), and BDT 2,000 (third).

A lucrative amount of prize money, sponsored by Acron, was awarded in recognition of the talents along with gifts from Acron and Onnorokom. Besides that, 50 of the best artworks are to be exhibited at various art galleries and the collected money will be donated for the education of students with special needs.

The sponsors for this event were Battery Low Interactive (gold sponsor), Acron (prize sponsor), RR Kabel (silver sponsor), Provati Insurance Company Limited (bronze sponsor). The supporting partner was *Unmad*. The grooming partner was Cartoon People and logistics partner was Onnorokom Bigganbaksho. The merchandising partner was Chizel, along with Metro Wedding as the documentation partner and Lighter Youth Foundation as the volunteer provider.

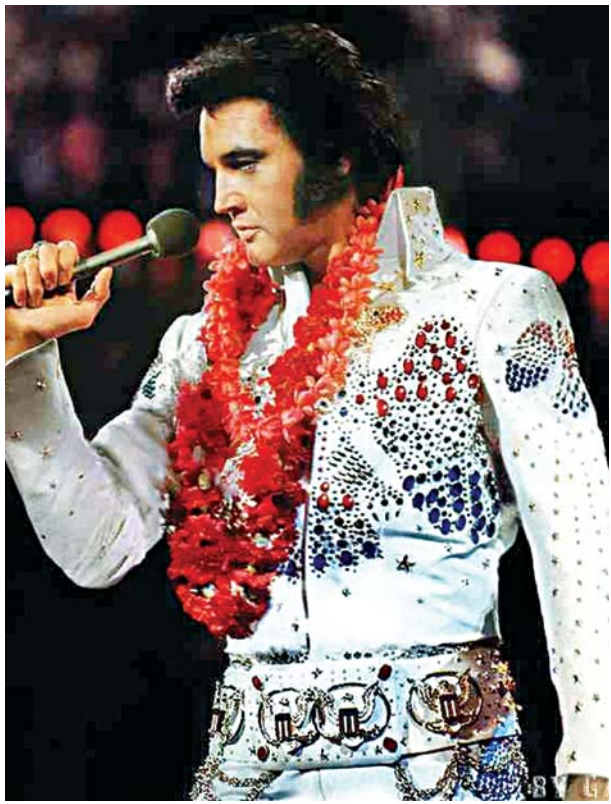


PHOTO: COLLECTED

Elvis Presley

biopic to release in October 2021

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Warner Bros will release the yet-untitled film on legendary singer Elvis Presley on October 1, 2021.

To be directed by Australian filmmaker Baz Luhrmann, the biographical drama film will feature Austin Butler in the role of Presley and Tom Hanks as his manager Colonel Tom Parker, according to reports.

Butler was finalised after an extensive search by the studio during which it screen tested a number of actors, including Ansel Elgort, Miles Teller and Harry Styles.

The biopic will chronicle the relationship between the veteran manager, Colonel Tom Parker and young Elvis Presley, who was born in 1935 to a poor family in the small town of Tupelo, Mississippi.

Luhrmann, whose directing credits include films such as *Moulin Rouge*, *Australia* and *The Great Gatsby*, has penned the script along with Craig Pearce.

'Krishoker Eid Ananda' shot in Kulaura

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Shooting of one of the most popular entertainment programmes, *Krishoker Eid Ananda*, was recently completed in Kulaura, Moulvibazar. Directed and hosted by Shykh Seraj, the TV show will be aired on the second day of Eid ul Adha on Channel i at 4:30 pm. The host will visit the magnificent tea gardens of Kulaura. The show, as always, will feature rural sports and untold stories of the region. Special segments filmed abroad will also entertain the audience.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Minni's bail

FROM PAGE 16

hear the petition yesterday.

The court said it would hear the petition in detail on Thursday, advocate Panna said, adding that the court could not hear the issue yesterday as other issues were pending to be heard and disposed.

Aysha Siddika Minni, who is now in jail, submitted the bail petition to the HC on Monday through her lawyers citing different grounds on which the HC may consider her bail.

In the petition, Minni said she was innocent and not involved in the murder in any way.

She also said she had been made accused with an ulterior motive and on the instructions of a vested quarter.

Earlier, two courts in Barguna rejected Minni's bail on July 22 and July 30.

Police arrested Minni after a daylight interrogation on July 16. A court placed her on a five-day remand the following day. Three days later, a Barguna court recorded her statement.

On June 26, Rifat Sharif, 25, an internet service provider, was hanged to death in broad daylight in Barguna town.

In a footage of the incident that went viral on social media, Minni was seen screaming and trying to save her husband from the attackers.

Rifat's father filed the murder case with Barguna Sadar Police Station against 12 people on the day of the murder.

Prime accused in the case, Nayan Bond, was killed in a "gunfight" with police on July 2.

HC asks 4 BNP

FROM PAGE 16

Hossain, Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury and Gayeshwar Chandra Roy.

Earlier in the day, the BNP leaders collectively filed a petition with the HC seeking anticipatory bail in the case lodged by AB Siddique, president of Bangladesh Jananetri Parishad, a pro-Awami League organisation.

On Monday, Metropolitan Magistrate of Dhaka Satyabrata Sikder issued arrest warrants for BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman, now in London, and eight other leaders, including the four, in the case.

According to the case statement, the complainant alleged that Hafizur Rahman Rana, an expelled teacher of Buet, sent him a letter on July 25 this year.

It was alleged that the teacher, in his letter, threatened to assassinate Hasina, other family members of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the complainant by Islamic State (IS).

The memorial complex of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman would be destroyed by bombing. It has been said that a new Bangladesh will be established under the leadership of Tarique, the letter said.

The plaintiff also appealed to the court to issue arrest warrants for the accused.

Khandker Mahbub Hossain, Zainul Abedin, AJ Mohammad Ali, AM Mahbub Uddin Khokon and Sagir Hossain Leon appeared for the BNP leaders, while Deputy Attorney General Rezaul Karim represented the state.

'Drug dealer'

FROM PAGE 16

In the noon, a car tried to escape the check-post. Following the car, Rab officials reached an isolated area. At one point, the car got into a roadside Tamarisk bush. Finding no way out, Ashraful, who was driving the car, pointed a gun at the Rab officials, the superintendent claimed.

In self defence, the Rab official shot a gunfire that injured Ashraful. In response, Ashraful fired back, forcing the Rab officials to retaliate with more gunshots. The man died on the spot, the Rab official further claimed.

Rab handed over the body to police, said said Akter Hossain, inspector (operation) of Sreepur Police Station, adding it was sent to Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmad Medical College morgue for autopsy.

Rab also claimed to have recovered a private car, a revolver, four bullets and 100 bottles of phensedyl from the spot.

The Daily Star, however, could not independently verify Rab's claims.

Israel advances plans for more than 2,300 settlement homes

AFP, Jerusalem

Israel has advanced plans for more than 2,300 settlement homes in the occupied West Bank, the latest in a surge of such approvals since US President Donald Trump took office, an NGO said yesterday.

A defence ministry planning committee issued the approvals while meeting over the past couple of days, the Peace Now NGO said in a statement. The 2,304 housing units are at various stages in the approval process.

RAMPANT FOREST FIRES

Indonesian leader threatens to sack firefighters

AFP, Jakarta

Indonesian leader Joko Widodo yesterday warned that officials would be sacked if they failed to stamp out rampant forest fires that are belching out toxic smog over Malaysia and Singapore.

The threat came as Indonesia faced pressure from its neighbours to douse the blazes, which are blamed for sending air quality plummeting in parts of Southeast Asia.

"I've told the military and police chiefs to sack people who don't tackle forest fires," Widodo told a ministers meeting on the issue in Jakarta.

"We'll be humiliated in front of other countries if we can't solve this haze problem.

"No matter how small the fire is, put it out immediately," he added.

Indonesian authorities are deploying thousands of extra personnel to prevent a repeat of the 2015 fires, which were the worst for two decades and choked the region in haze for weeks.

The blazes are an annual problem during the dry season but they have worsened in recent weeks.

Many of the worst fires occur in carbon-rich peat, which is highly combustible once drained to make way for agricultural plantations.

Widodo said the 2015 fires caused some 221 trillion rupiah (\$15.5 billion) in financial losses and burned about 2.6 million hectares (6.4 million acres) of land.

"That should never happen again," Widodo said.

Officials from Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Brunei discussed the pollution issue at an annual meeting in Brunei which wrapped up yesterday, Malaysia's environment ministry said.

Malaysia will ask participants to "take pro-active action" to make sure that forest and peat fires in Southeast Asian countries can be controlled to avoid haze, the ministry said in a statement ahead of the gathering.

Malaysia said smog had appeared around Kuala Lumpur and on the west coast of peninsular Malaysia due to fires on Indonesia's Sumatra island and the Indonesian part of Borneo island.

Syria regime, Russia resume Idlib air strikes

AFP, Khan Sheikhun

Damascus and Russia resumed air strikes on Idlib in northwest Syria on Monday, a monitor said, scrapping a ceasefire for the jihadist-run bastion and accusing the regime's opponents of targeting a Russian air base.

The northwestern region, which hosts some three million people, is one of the last major centres of resistance to President Bashar al-Assad's regime after eight years of war.

Damascus said Thursday it had agreed to a truce from Friday to halt three months of regime and Russian bombardment on the area, which has killed more than 790 civilians and pushed 400,000 people from their homes.

But jihadists running the region on Saturday refused to comply with a key condition to that truce, declaring they would never withdraw from a planned buffer zone around the area.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said regime air strikes resumed on the region minutes after the truce was cancelled, before Russian planes joined in too.

Russian planes pounded the western edge of the enclave, while aircraft from both sides resumed bombardment of its southern flank, the Britain-based war monitor said.

Further south, the monitor said four civilians were killed in regime barrel bombings on the town of Morek in the northern Hama region, adding that these were the first civilian victims since the regime bombardments resumed.

Earlier, an AFP correspondent saw the wind blow plumes of white smoke across the fields after planes and helicopters pounded Khan Sheikhun town in the south of the region.

A few families fled the town in cars or trucks piled high with their belongings, women and children perched on top, the correspondent said.

Syria's military said it was scrapping the truce as "armed terrorist groups, backed by Turkey, refused to abide by the ceasefire and launched many attacks on civilians in surrounding areas", according to a statement carried by state news agency SANA.

11 dead, dozens missing in DR Congo boat accident

AFP, Kananga

Eleven people have drowned and dozens are missing after a barge sank on a river in central Democratic Republic of Congo, authorities said yesterday.

Sixteen people survived the accident on the overcrowded vessel by swimming to safety on the Lukenye river, a journalist working for a local community radio told AFP.

The disaster -- the latest in a string of deadly accidents in Congolese waters -- occurred a week ago in a remote and densely forested region of Kasai province where rivers are the main means of transport due to a lack of driveable roads.

"We have recovered 11 bodies and about 50 people are missing," Kasai governor Dieudonne Pieme told AFP.

The local journalist said most of those on board were travelling to the DR Congo capital of Kinshasa.

Boat accidents are common in the vast country, typically caused by overloading of passengers and cargo.

Tolls are often high because there are no life jackets and many Congolese do not know how to swim.

In May, 32 people died in a boat accident on Lake Mai-Ndombe in the west of the country.

In April, at least 167 people died in two accidents, prompting President Felix Tshisekedi to make it mandatory for boat passengers to have lifebuoys.

Dhaka's

FROM PAGE 16

Union were supporting it.

He said the government now cannot fully meet the gas demand.

He expressed optimism that the situation would improve by the end of this year.

The government was expediting the exploration of onshore gas fields, the state minister added. "We have found gas in Bhola. We see possibilities of striking gas in greater Mymensingh and Madaripur."

He said the use of LNG has been on the rise in the country recently. "We hope that the LNG sector will be expanded within the next two years."

Nasrul said affording LNG remained a challenge for the consumers. And that was why the government were trying to explore new onshore gas fields. "If we get it soon, a scope will be created for producing mixed fuel of LNG and gas. And the price situation will reach a position then."

Currently, Bangladesh imports LNG from Qatar's RasGas and Oman's Oman Trading International.

All Events Group and Global Event Management Services Limited jointly organised the LNG Forum.

Ensure there's no still water

FROM PAGE 1

Aedes mosquito," said HM Nazmul Ahsan, associate professor at Shaheed Suhrawady Medical College Hospital.

Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education Director Abdul Mannan said they would instruct all educational institutions to clean their buildings and classrooms before resuming the classes after Eid ul Azha vacation.

He said that the education ministry in a directive on July 25 had already instructed to keep campuses clean to stop the spread of dengue.

Drain out all stagnant water at playgrounds and anywhere else in the buildings, and clean all water-filled containers and pots regularly, it said.

Shahan Ara Begum, acting principal, Ideal School and College, said they were aware of the problem. "Our guards will remain on duty. They will take care of the matter during the vacation."

Moreover, she said, school authorities will clean their school the day before classes begin on August 18.

As many travel to their ancestral homes to celebrate Eid, experts say the resulting empty apartments can become ideal breeding spots for Aedes mosquitoes, which can lay eggs in stagnant water sources left behind in pots, trays and under refrigerators.

Prof Mahbubur Rahman, also principal of Norail Govt Mohila College, who did his doctoral research on Aedes mosquito, said that if the several million people leaving Dhaka during Eid do not clean up their apartments properly, it could become a big issue.

"If 50 or 60 percent of the people leave a single container with some water at their houses, chances of it becoming a breeding ground for Aedes mosquitoes is huge," he said.

Former director of Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control And Research Mahmudur Rahman urged all to clean all stagnant water at houses, offices and school premises after returning.

It is a regular phenomenon that people unknowingly leave some water in pots or the office toilet which was dangerous, said Mahmudur.

DGHS's Communicable Disease Control Director Prof Sanya Tahmina said they had taken different awareness measures centring the upcoming Eid vacation.

The Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) director said they would urge Eid-vacationers to keep water storage containers, pots and other kitchen utensils upside down before leaving their homes during the vacation.

"We will circulate this message among people through bulk SMS service shortly," she said.

Health experts said non-monitored construction sites could be another big factor in fighting Aedes mosquitoes. Flower pots, water tanks on the

roofs of offices and water at toilet commodes could also be breeding grounds for Aedes mosquitoes.

Dengue has spread to almost all the districts and health workers say it has claimed the lives of 65 people diagnosed with the disease. The government maintains that 23 have died of dengue so far.

But both figures may be higher as many dengue cases go unreported.

A record 2,348 dengue patients got admitted to hospitals across the country in 24 hours since 8:00am Monday, according to a DGHS report.

A total of 29,912 people have been infected with the mosquito-borne disease until yesterday, the highest ever in the country. Last year the number was 10,148.

BN Nagpal, senior entomologist at the South East Asia Regional Office of the World Health Organization, at a press briefing at the DGHS on Sunday said it was very important to search for and destroy Aedes mosquitoes.

He said the onus was on people to stop the spread of the disease, adding "source detection" was the key.

"It can breed even in 2ml water," he said.

"It's a smart mosquito. It does not rest on walls. It rests under the tables, beds, sofas, curtains, hanging clothes and dark places," he said, suggesting spraying those places with aerosol during the peak time of the mosquito's activity.

Five people die At least five people, including a three-year-old girl, died after contracting dengue fever in Dhaka, Dinajpur and Rangpur districts yesterday, bringing the unofficial death toll to 65.

In Dhaka, three patients died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Of them, Monwara Begum, 75, died at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the hospital around 3:00am, Assistant Director of the hospital Nasir Uddin told The Daily Star.

Monwara was admitted to DMCH on August 3 with symptoms of dengue fever, the doctor said.

Hailing from Chandpur district, she had been residing in Mirpur area of Dhaka, hospital sources said.

In Dinajpur, Rabiul Islam, 17, died at M Abdur Rahim Medical College and Hospital around 5:00am, our Dinajpur correspondent reports, quoting the hospital's Director Abu Mohammad Khairul.

Hailing from Thakurgaon's Ranisankail upazila, Rabiul was admitted to the hospital with symptoms of dengue fever.

In Rangpur, a three-year-old girl died at Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

Rianna, 3, contracted dengue fever in Dhaka and was being treated at a clinic in Dhaka, but was admitted to the hospital on August 3, ABM Shahiduzzaman, a doctor of the hospital's medicine department, told our Dinajpur correspondent.

Toni Morrison passes away

FROM PAGE 16

friends," they said.

"Although her passing represents a tremendous loss, we are grateful she had a long, well lived life," the statement added, describing her as "the consummate writer who treasured the written word."

Morrison wrote 11 novels, many of them touching on life as a black American, in a glittering literary and award-laden career that lasted over six decades.

She won the Pulitzer Prize and the American Book Award in 1988 for her 1987 novel "Beloved". Set after the American Civil War in the 1860s, the story centred on a slave who escaped Kentucky to the free state of Ohio.

The book was later turned into a film starring Danny Glover and Oprah Winfrey.

Morrison received numerous other accolades including the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1993.

In 1996, she was honoured with the National Book Foundation's Medal of Distinguished Contribution to American Letters.

In 2012 then President Barack Obama presented her with the Presidential Medal of Freedom and in 2016 she received the PEN/Saul Bellow Award for Achievement in

American Fiction.

Tributes quickly poured in for her yesterday.

"She was a great woman and a great writer, and I don't know which I will miss more," Robert Gottlieb, Morrison's longtime editor at Knopf publishers, said in a statement sent to AFP.

Sonny Mehta, chairman of Knopf, said he could "think of few writers in American letters who wrote with more humanity or with more love for language than Toni."

"Her narratives and mesmerizing prose have made an indelible mark on our culture. Her novels command and demand our attention. They are canonical works, and more importantly, they are books that remain beloved by readers," he said.

Morrison was born in Ohio on February 18, 1931. "The Bluest Eye," her first novel, was published in 1970. She followed up with "Sula" in 1973, going on to publish another nine novels.

She also spent time as an editor at Random House and taught at Princeton University.

Morrison died at the Montefiore Medical Center in New York on Monday.

DU suspends

FROM PAGE 16

of police, adding that the final decision regarding the suspended students would be taken in the next syndicate meeting after receiving replies to the show cause notices.

Besides, 31 other students were served disciplinary action for adopting unfair means during different examinations of the university.

On June 23, CID pressed charges against the 125 people, including 87 DU students, under the Public Examinations Act and the Information and Communication Technology Act.


A Dhaka court on June 26 issued arrest warrants for 78 of the 125 accused in a case filed over their alleged involvement in the question paper leak of Dhaka University's "Gha" unit admission test in 2017.

The CID had arrested 47 of the 125 suspects, including the alleged mastermind, Alip Kumar Biswas, a suspended assistant director of Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan, in different times and most of them are now on bail.

Forty-six of them have already given statements before a magistrate, confessing to their offences.

In its very first raid at two DU dormitories, the CID arrested two BCL leaders -- Mohiuddin Rana, an assistant secretary of the then BCL central committee, and Abdullah Al Mamun -- theatre and debate affairs secretary of the then BCL Amar Ekushey Hall unit -- only hours before the university's "Gha" unit admission test on October 20, 2017.

Police tracked down the gang members following a series of arrests since then.

 <div> Janata Bank Limited Divisional Office, Dhaka South 48, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 Tel : 7168883, 9554654, 9571676, 9554063 Fax : 880-2-7113233 e-mail: dhakasouth@janatabank-bd.com web site: www.jb.com.bd </div>																																															
<h2 style="text-align: center;">e-Tender Notice</h2>																																															
An e-Tender is invited under the provisions of the Public Procurement Rules - 2008 for the Goods and related services and under the terms and conditions outlined below and detailed in the Tender Document:																																															
<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">1. Tender Ref.</td> <td colspan="3">: JBL/DO-DS/OTM-01/19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Tender Name</td> <td colspan="3">: Supply And Installation of Workstation and off-line UPS for area offices Branches under Janata Bank Limited, Divisional office, Dhaka-South, Following Open Tendering Method (E-Tendering Process) On Turn Key Basis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. This is an electronic Tender, Where Tenderer must submit their e-tender by using https://www.jb.com.bd/ web site and no offline Tender will be accepted.</td> <td colspan="3"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Brief description of Goods /Service : The Item shall be internationally renowned brand item. No clone/ Assembled items wit be Accepted :</td> <td colspan="3"></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="width: 10%;">Lot</td> <td style="width: 10%;">SI</td> <td style="width: 10%;">Item</td> <td style="width: 10%;">Quantity</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Lot -1</td> <td>i)</td> <td>Workstation</td> <td>130 Units</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Lot -2</td> <td>ii)</td> <td>Off-Line Ups (1000V A)</td> <td>130 Units</td> </tr> </table>				1. Tender Ref.	: JBL/DO-DS/OTM-01/19			2. Tender Name	: Supply And Installation of Workstation and off-line UPS for area offices Branches under Janata Bank Limited, Divisional office, Dhaka-South, Following Open Tendering Method (E-Tendering Process) On Turn Key Basis			3. This is an electronic Tender, Where Tenderer must submit their e-tender by using https://www.jb.com.bd/ web site and no offline Tender will be accepted.				4. Brief description of Goods /Service : The Item shall be internationally renowned brand item. No clone/ Assembled items wit be Accepted :					Lot	SI	Item	Quantity		Lot -1	i)	Workstation	130 Units		Lot -2	ii)	Off-Line Ups (1000V A)	130 Units													
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Floating or home address shall not be considered as established offices (for both Lots). 6.5 - The participating company may offer proposals for the items in any or all lots and must quote all the items in that / those lots). Evaluation will be done Lot by Lot basis and contract will also be awarded Lot by Lot basis Partial offer for any lot will not be accepted. 6.6 - The offers should have validity for at least 120 (One hundred twenty) days from the date of opening the Tender. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. Name and address of the Offices) Selling Tender Documents</td> <td colspan="3"> Janata Bank Limited, Divisional Office, Dhaka-South, 48 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 Tel : 7168883, 9554654, 9571676, 9554063 between 10.00 a.m and 06.00 p.m on all working days. Interested Tenders may view the Notice at the web site of the bank. (We site: www.janatabank-bd.com or www.jb.com.bd). </td> </tr> <tr> <td>8. Price of Tender Document</td> <td colspan="3"> Tk. 1000/= (One thousand) only (non-refundable) payable in the form of Pay Order favoring Janata Bank Limited from any scheduled Bank in Bangladesh. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>9. Amount of Tender Security</td> <td colspan="3"> A tender security in the form of Pay Order favoring "Janata Bank Limited" from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh Shall be required for: Lot-1 : BDT 1,20,000/- (One Lac Twenty Thousand only) Lot -2 : BDT 35,000/= (Thirty five thousand only) The Tender Security must be valid till : 31-12-2019 </td> </tr> <tr> <td>10. Last Date and Time for Selling e-Tender</td> <td colspan="3">: 28-08-2019 within 6.00 P.M</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11. Last Date and Time for Submission of e-Tender</td> <td colspan="3">: 29-08-2019 within 02.45 P.M</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12. Date of Pre-Tender Meeting</td> <td colspan="3">: 20-08-2019 at 11.00 A.M at SI. No. 07</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13. Name and address of the Offices) Receiving Tenders</td> <td colspan="3">: As at SI No. -7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14. Name and address of the Office opening Tenders</td> <td colspan="3">: As at SI No. -7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15. Date and Time for Opening of Tenders</td> <td colspan="3">: 29.08.2019 at 03.00 P.M Tender's authorized representatives are allowed to attend if any.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16. Special Instructing :</td> <td colspan="3"> a. The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the Tender proceedings without showing any reason. b. The Bank shall not be under any obligation to accept the lowest quotation. c. If any " Force Major" situation arises in the specified date mentioned in the Tender data sheet and Invitation for Tender, the event will take place on the next working date. </td> </tr> </table>				6. Eligibility of Tenders :	6.1 - The Tenderer shall be a minimum 5 (five) years of overall experience in the supply of similar goods and related service (for both Lots). 6.2 - The Tenderer must have successfully completed supply, installation and commissioning of at least 100 pieces of workstation under a single contract within last 2 (two) years (for Lot-1). 6.3 - The Tenderer must have successfully completed supply, installation and commissioning of at least 125 pieces of offline UPS under a single contract within last 2 (two) years (for Lot-2) 6.4 - Must have strong presence and 2 (Two) support offices with well-equipped service cell manned by adequately qualified technical personnel for maintaining and support for the proposed goods and service. Floating or home address shall not be considered as established offices (for both Lots). 6.5 - The participating company may offer proposals for the items in any or all lots and must quote all the items in that / those lots). Evaluation will be done Lot by Lot basis and contract will also be awarded Lot by Lot basis Partial offer for any lot will not be accepted. 6.6 - The offers should have validity for at least 120 (One hundred twenty) days from the date of opening the Tender.			7. Name and address of the Offices) Selling Tender Documents	Janata Bank Limited, Divisional Office, Dhaka-South, 48 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 Tel : 7168883, 9554654, 9571676, 9554063 between 10.00 a.m and 06.00 p.m on all working days. Interested Tenders may view the Notice at the web site of the bank. (We site: www.janatabank-bd.com or www.jb.com.bd).			8. Price of Tender Document	Tk. 1000/= (One thousand) only (non-refundable) payable in the form of Pay Order favoring Janata Bank Limited from any scheduled Bank in Bangladesh.			9. Amount of Tender Security	A tender security in the form of Pay Order favoring "Janata Bank Limited" from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh Shall be required for: Lot-1 : BDT 1,20,000/- (One Lac Twenty Thousand only) Lot -2 : BDT 35,000/= (Thirty five thousand only) The Tender Security must be valid till : 31-12-2019			10. Last Date and Time for Selling e-Tender	: 28-08-2019 within 6.00 P.M			11. Last Date and Time for Submission of e-Tender	: 29-08-2019 within 02.45 P.M			12. Date of Pre-Tender Meeting	: 20-08-2019 at 11.00 A.M at SI. No. 07			13. Name and address of the Offices) Receiving Tenders	: As at SI No. -7			14. Name and address of the Office opening Tenders	: As at SI No. -7			15. Date and Time for Opening of Tenders	: 29.08.2019 at 03.00 P.M Tender's authorized representatives are allowed to attend if any.			16. Special Instructing :	a. The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the Tender proceedings without showing any reason. b. The Bank shall not be under any obligation to accept the lowest quotation. c. If any " Force Major" situation arises in the specified date mentioned in the Tender data sheet and Invitation for Tender, the event will take place on the next working date.		
6. Eligibility of Tenders :	6.1 - The Tenderer shall be a minimum 5 (five) years of overall experience in the supply of similar goods and related service (for both Lots). 6.2 - The Tenderer must have successfully completed supply, installation and commissioning of at least 100 pieces of workstation under a single contract within last 2 (two) years (for Lot-1). 6.3 - The Tenderer must have successfully completed supply, installation and commissioning of at least 125 pieces of offline UPS under a single contract within last 2 (two) years (for Lot-2) 6.4 - Must have strong presence and 2 (Two) support offices with well-equipped service cell manned by adequately qualified technical personnel for maintaining and support for the proposed goods and service. Floating or home address shall not be considered as established offices (for both Lots). 6.5 - The participating company may offer proposals for the items in any or all lots and must quote all the items in that / those lots). Evaluation will be done Lot by Lot basis and contract will also be awarded Lot by Lot basis Partial offer for any lot will not be accepted. 6.6 - The offers should have validity for at least 120 (One hundred twenty) days from the date of opening the Tender.																																														
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Md. Abdul Jabbar General Manager Janata Bank Limited																																															
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Two farmers are seen preparing floating Aman seedbeds made from water hyacinth at Ramjibon village in Gaibandha's Sundarganj upazila. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: KM REZAUL HOQUE

Floating Aman seedbeds to overcome seedling crisis

KM REZAUL HOQUE, Gaibandha

Prolonged flood in the char lands of Gaibandha district has completely damaged aman seedlings causing local farmers to worry about their crops. However, with advice from agriculture officers, farmers found a solution in the floating seedbed technology. This year the Brahmaputra river rose 150 centimetres above danger mark, the highest in two decades, and inundated croplands including aman seedbeds. According to district agriculture extension office, aman seedlings on 2,881 hectares of land in Gaibandha went under five to seven feet of standing water, damaging all prospect of transplanting the seeds in the next phase of aman cultivation.

Instead of waiting for the water to subside for preparing regular seedbeds on land, the agriculture department advised farmers to prepare floating aman seedbeds on the floodwater. This way the saplings will be ready for transplantation in time within the aman cultivation season and also not get damaged if another flood occurs. While visiting the flood ravaged unions of Sundarganj upazila, farmers were seen sowing aman seeds on floating beds made from heaped up water hyacinths and mud. "I have prepared two floating beds as suggested by our upazila agriculture officer and sowed seed of BRRI- 51 aman variety. The seedlings can later be transplanted to cover four and half bighas of land," said

Raju Mia, a farmer of Ramjibon union in Sundarganj upazila. BRRI- 51 aman, a flood tolerant variety suitable for flood prone areas, specially char lands along river basins, survives for two weeks under water, said SM Sarower Hossain, sub-assistant agriculture officer of Ramjibon union. Another farmer Rafiqul Islam of Bochagari village in Kapasia union, said "My aman seedbed on five decimals of land, which could have been transplanted on five bighas of land, got damaged in the recent flood. The land would remain fallow if I do not arrange aman seedlings in time." When asked why Rafiqul did not prepare floating seedbeds, he said, "I don't know how to do so but I will

talk to the agriculture department and try to start it soon." Syed Reza-e-Mahmud, Upazila Agriculture Officer (UAO) of Sundarganj said at least 32 floating seedbeds have already been prepared in different areas of Sundarganj Upazila, some people have leased water bodies to prepare floating seedbeds to sell saplings commercially. Deputy Director S M Ferdous of the Agriculture Extension Directorate, Gaibandha, said, "As per instruction of the agriculture ministry, we have selected 56 farmers of seven upazilas of the district, trained them, and gave each of them an incentive grant of Taka 1165 to prepare floating seedbeds." This will encourage other farmers to follow suit, he hoped.

ATTAKER'S THREATS Injured madrasa girl cannot return home

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A female madrasa student of eighth grade has been staying away from her home in Kulaura upazila of Moulvibazar as her stalker, who stabbed her on June 30, has been making threats on her and her family to withdraw a case against him. The girl's family filed the case with Kulaura police station the day after the attack. According to the case statement, Ruhul Amin, 22, son of Monaf Mia from a neighbouring village, along with two others stopped the girl on her way to the madrasa in the morning and demanded her to accept his marriage proposal. As she refused, Ruhul and his accomplices beat her up with bamboo sticks and at one stage, they started hacking her with sharp weapons. When locals responded to her cry for help, the attackers fled the scene. Dr Zakir Hossain, resident medical officer of Kulaura Upazila Health Complex, said the injured girl was initially admitted to the health complex and later transferred to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital. Afraid of possible repercussions, the girl and her family have been staying at undisclosed locations after she was released from the hospital. Family members of the girl said they could not return home out of security concern as no security was provided for them despite repeated threats made by the attackers, roaming free in the area. Asked about the alleged threats made by the accused, the police station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Yardous Hasan said Ruhul secured bail after he surrendered before a court on July 8. However, following the report of threats, they were conducting raids to arrest all the accused, he also said.

Three youths jailed for life in rape case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A Barguna court on Monday sentenced three youths to life imprisonment in connection with a case for raping a garment worker in 2007. The lifers are Hasib, 25, son of Anser Ali, Idris Ali, 24, son of Hayat Ali, and Hayder Ali, 25, son of Sona Mia. They all hail from Manikkhali village in Pathorghata upazila. Barguna Women and Children Repression Tribunal Judge Mohammad Hafizur Rahman also fined one of the convicts Hasib Tk 20,000, in default, he is to suffer one month more in jail, Advocate Mostafizur Rahman Babul said. According to the prosecution, Hasib developed a relationship with the neighbouring 17-year-old girl, then a garment worker in Chattogram, over cell phone. On July 10 in 2007, Idris and Hayder called the girl out of her home saying that they would arrange her marriage with Hasib and took her to an isolated place. Later, Hasib with the help of his two cohorts raped the girl there. On July 15, five days after the incident, the victim filed a case with Barguna Women and Children Repression Tribunal accusing the three.

Panchagarh growers leaning towards lotkon

QUAMRUL ISLAM RUBAIYAT, Thakurgaon

Mouth-watering fruit Burmese grape, commonly known as lotkon, is gaining popularity among growers in Panchagarh. Rising demand coupled with good selling price and high yield are drawing most growers to invest in the fruit for commercial production in recent times. Most growers are also taking interest in Burmese grape because its plant grows on higher land where other cash crops do not grow well. Many of them now find it more profitable to grow Burmese grape in betelnut orchards on such fallow land. Much to the delight of the growers, the commercially produced larger, tastier and bright-coloured variety of Burmese grape, especially from Panchagarh, is now in high demand across the country. Abu Hanif, deputy director of Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) in Panchagarh, said Burmese grape is being cultivated on nearly 35 hectares of land in betelnut orchards in the district this year.

The fruit is being cultivated on 28 hectares of land in Panchagarh Sadar alone, while on 7 hectares in other four upazilas of the district, he said, adding that climate condition in Panchagarh is favourable for Burmese grape, a fruit that contains higher nutritional value than most other common fruits grown in the region. More and more people, who have betelnut orchards around their homesteads, are finding it attractive to grow Burmese grape alongside the betelnut trees after witnessing success of others and because the fruit tree grows well without much space. Initially, around 200 saplings of Burmese grape can be planted on 30 to 35 decimals of land. After reaching maturity, a tree usually produces more than 40 kilograms of fruit, the DAE official also said. During a recent visit to Panimachpukuri, Haribhasa and Boleyapara villages in Sadar upazila and Bhaulaganj Tistapara village in Debiganj upazila of Panchagarh, the areas were found abuzz with growers harvesting the fruit. Buyers from faraway places were also busy

packing the fruits for transport. Hasan Ali, a fruit trader from Panimachpukuri village, said "Lotkon produced in Panchagarh has a high demand in other parts of the country for its good taste, size and colour." He also said he paid Tk 5 lakh for harvesting the fruit from 1,000 trees in different villages and spent and additional Tk 1.20 lakh to nurture the trees. He hoped to make Tk 2 lakh profit from selling Burmese grape this season. Currently, fruit traders are paying Tk 50 to growers for each kg of the fruit. Its retail price is now more or less Tk 100 per kg. Another grower, Gokul Chandra Roy, said he planted 70 Burmese grape saplings in his betelnut orchard about two decades ago in Bhaulaganj Tistapara village of Debiganj upazila. After the trees matured this year, he earned Tk 2 lakh from the sale of the fruit. The older the tree gets, the more profitable it becomes for the grower as a matured tree does not need as much care as opposed to the care it needs during the earlier stage, he also said.



Over six hundred cucumber plants belonging to a farmer were damaged with the use of sharp tools in Bagerhat's Kormoni village under Chitalmari upazila on Saturday night. The farmer filed a written complaint with local police station against four villagers and claimed to have incurred a damage of Tk 2 lakh. Chitalmari police said they launched an investigation.

PHOTO: PARTHACHAKRABORTTY

Indian among 2 Tablig men get corrosive burns

They had taken bottled water allegedly mixed with acid

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Two members of Tablig Jamat, including an Indian national, sustained burn injuries after taking bottled 'acidic' water in Khetlal upazila of Joypurhat on Monday night. They are Md Shahabuddin, son of late Rahmatullah of India's Rajasthan, and Emdad Haque, son of Jalal Uddin of Mymensingh. Twelve Tablig men sat for a discussion at Khetlal Upazila Zame Mosque on Monday evening, said local police. A dinner was arranged for them and bottled water was served there. Immediately after taking the bottled water, Shahabuddin and Emdad sustained burn injuries and they were rushed to Khetlal Upazila Health Complex. Seeing their condition, other participants of the programme refrained from taking the water. "It appears that the two men took acidic water. Shahabuddin sustained corrosive

burn injuries in the oesophagus and windpipe while Emdad's tongue was badly damaged," said Dr Omar Faruk, medical officer of Khetlal Upazila Health Complex. It seemed to the attending doctor that the acid generally used in battery was mixed with the bottled water, he said. As their condition was worsening, they were referred to Joypurhat Modern Hospital and later shifted to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital in Bogura. Shahabuddin was on the way of Dhaka yesterday afternoon. Joypurhat Deputy Commissioner Zakir Hossain and Superintendent of Police Mohammad Salam Kabir visited the spot yesterday and assured taking action if anybody is found guilty. "A case will be filed regarding the incident if we receive a complaint from the Tablig men," said Shahriar Khan, OC of Khetlal Police Station.

Fisherman found dead

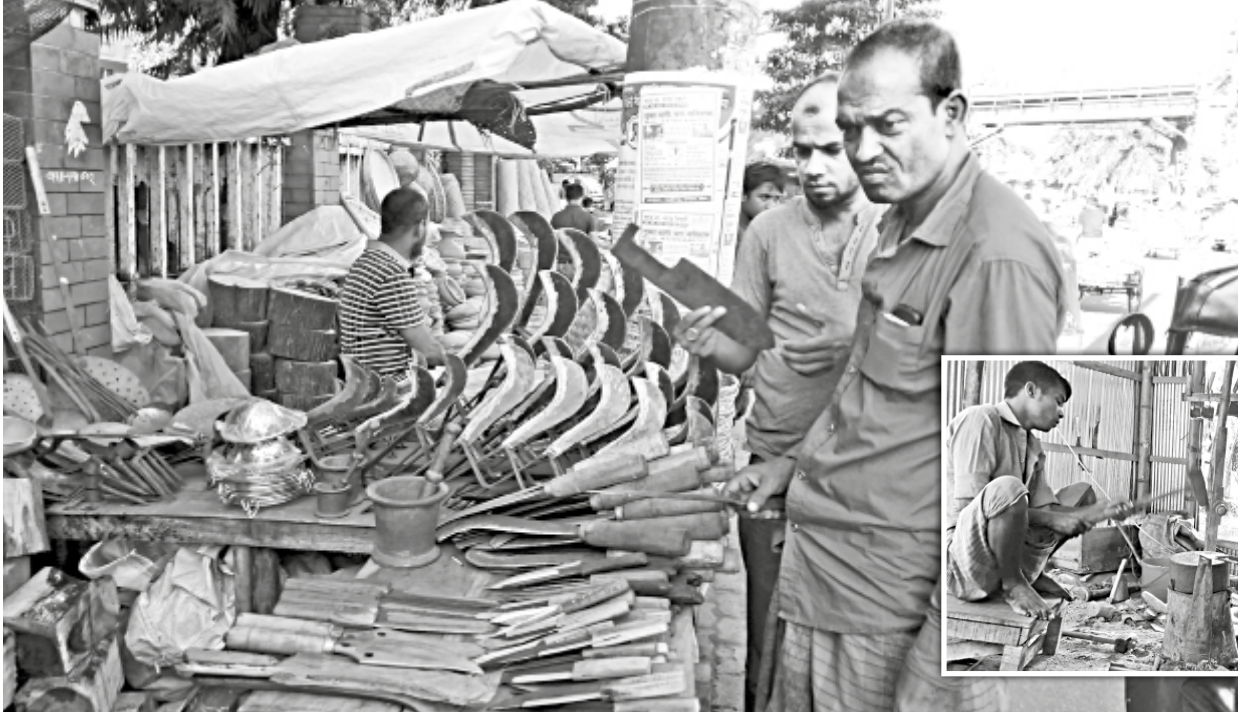
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Police recovered the body of a fisherman hanging from a tree in west Kuakata area under Kalapara upazila of the district yesterday morning. The victim, Al-Amin, 28, son of Abdur Razzak of Mirzaganj upazila of the district. Officer in Charge (OC) of Mohipur Police Station Mohammad Sohel Ahmed said Al-Amin had been living at his in-laws' house in Kuakata area since the marriage a few years ago. Being informed by the villagers, police recovered the body, hanging from a palm tree, and sent it to Patuakhali General Hospital for autopsy, the OC added.



Burmese grape or lotkon is increasingly gaining popularity among growers in Panchagarh for its high demand all over the country. The photo of the sweet and sour fruits hanging from one such tree was taken recently in Haribhasa village of Panchagarh Sadar upazila.

PHOTO: STAR



Buyers see sharp tools at a shop in Sylhet city's Kazir Bazar yesterday ahead of the Eid-ul-Azha. Inset, two blacksmiths make such tools at their smithy at Mohishkhocha Bazar in Aditmari upazila of Lalmonirhat.

PHOTO: STAR



Blacksmiths pass busy time as Eid-ul-Azha nears

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Blacksmiths are passing busy time making sharp tools used for slaughtering sacrificial animals and processing the meat, as the Eid-ul-Azha is only a few days away.

Our Lalmonirhat Correspondent reports: A good number of people are approaching blacksmiths for machetes, choppers, knives and other iron-made tools.

Depending on the sizes of tools and quality of the iron used, machetes are priced between Tk 300 and Tk 800, butcher knives between Tk 200 and Tk 300, small knives between Tk 70 and Tk 200 and cleavers between Tk 300 and Tk 500.

Many blacksmiths have stopped receiving fresh orders to make tools as they are too busy, said Nur Islam, 48, a resident of Saptana in

Lalmonirhat town.

The demand of tools used for slaughtering animals sees a sharp rise during Eid while many people bring damaged tools for repair, said several blacksmiths including Subodh Kumar Karmakar and Suresh Chandra Karmakar at Mahishkhocha Bazar in Aditmari upazila during this correspondent's visit there yesterday.

Blacksmith Maqbul Hossain, 56, at Bhelabari Haat in Aditmari upazila said usually they earn Tk 400 to Tk 600 a day but it rises to over Tk 1500 ahead of Eid.

Knife sharpeners also get added work during this time. They are sharpening knives and cleavers for Tk 70 to Tk 100 per piece.

Other items used during slaughter of animals – pieces of tree trunks, bamboo mats and bags for

disposal of cattle waste are also in high demand.

Citing gradual increase in prices of raw materials like iron, charcoal and wood as a problem, several smiths said facilities like banks loans on easy terms would help them make and market the tools easily.

Our Sylhet Correspondent adds: Blacksmiths are working long hours ahead of Eid-ul-Azha as people are coming for machetes, choppers, knives and other sharp iron-made tools.

Considering the size of the tool and the quality of the iron, a machete is priced between Tk 500 and Tk 1,200, a butcher's knife between Tk 250 and Tk 500, a small knife between Tk 100 and Tk 300 and cleavers between Tk 400 and Tk 700 in

the local markets.

Tophkana, Kazirbazar, Mirabazar and Ambarkhana in Sylhet city are well-known for smithies while the tools are sold at every bazaar of the city.

While visiting the blacksmiths at Tophkana and Amberkhana area, this correspondent found that they are passing busy hours.

The sale this year is good although the price is higher than last year's, said Anongo Karmakar, a blacksmith of Tophkana area.

Several blacksmiths of the area said the period before the Eid-ul-Azha is the only time of the year when they do good business.

Blacksmiths demand support like soft loan from banks, so that they do not have to depend on moneylenders who charge high interest.

Youth gets life term for murder

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A Panchagarh court on Monday sentenced a man to life term rigorous imprisonment (RI) for killing his brother-in-law in Tentulia upazila in 2016.

The convict is Mohammad Rubel, 30, son of Sharif Uddin of Mominpara village in the upazila.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Anisur Rahman also fined the convict Tk 10,000. In default, he is to suffer six months more in jail.

Besides, the court acquitted two other accused in the case as charges brought against them could not be proved.

According to the prosecution, Rubel married Parul Begum, 23, daughter of Chiharu of Shatadal cluster village, couple of years ago.

After the marriage, a feud developed between the two families centring various family issues.

As a sequel, Rubel called Parul's younger brother Abdul Momin, 20, at Tentulia Bazar on August 22 in 2016 and killed him in a nearby sugarcane field behind Tentulia Met Office.

The following day, deceased's mother Romena Bewa filed a case with Tentulia Police Station against three people, including Rubel.

Man held for rape attempt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Police arrested a man on charge of attempting to rape a physically challenged girl in Jashore Sadar upazila yesterday.

The arrestee, Shahinur Rahman, 36, a shopkeeper, is son of Abdur Rahim of Sheikhkhata area in the upazila.

Shahinur forcibly took the neighbouring 12-year-old victim to a banana orchard around 9:00am and tried to rape her, Officer in Charge of Jashore Kotwali Police Station Sheikh Tasim Alam said, quoting the case statement.

Hearing her scream, villagers rushed to the spot but Shahinur managed to flee, he said.

Following a case filed by the victim's father with the police station, they arrested Shahinur from Jashore town around 2:00pm.



The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd.

Gazipur-1703

Corrigendum

Ref: 53.18.3300.019.07.02.19-155

Dated: 06/08/2019

Amendment of Local e-Tender No. 55/2019 for Construction of 5-storied E-type building at The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd., Gazipur

The information for all concerned that, due to unavoidable circumstances of local e-Tender No. 55/2019 is hereby amended as follows:
The price of e-Tender schedule will be Tk. 5000 (five thousand) instead of existing data (e-Tender schedule price) at e-Tender document.
All other terms and conditions of the e-Tender schedule shall remain unchanged.

Maruf Ahamed
Executive Engineer (Civil)
Phone: 88-02-9205110-15, Ext.-266

GD-1333

উন্নয়নের গণকল্প
শেখ হাসিনার মূল্যায়ন

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
Noakhali

www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.02.7500.000.07.003.19-2276

Dated: 01/08/2019

Invitation for Tenders (IFT for Works)

e-Tender Notice No. 17/2019-20

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following Tender ID & Schemes.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	
1	Ministry
2	Division
3	Organization
4	Procuring entity name
5	Procuring entity code
6	Procuring entity district
7	Invitation for
8	Invitation Reference No.

9	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM) (OSOE).
10	Budget type	Development.
11	Source of fund	Government and Aid.
12	Development partner (if applicable)	Asian Development Bank (ADB).

PARTICULAR INFORMATION	
13	Project code
14	Project name
15	Tender/proposal package No. and description

16	Category
17	Scheduled tender publication date and time
18	Tender document last selling/download date and time
19	Pre-tender meeting start date and time
20	Pre-tender meeting end, date and time
21	Tender closing date and time
22	Tender opening date and time

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER	
23	Eligibility of tenderer
24	Brief description of works
25	Evaluation type
26	Document available
27	Tender document price (in BDT)
28	Mode of payment
29	Lot No.

Identification of lot	Location	Tender security (amount in BDT)	Start date	Completion date	
30	Single	Package No. CW-25(B)/RCIP/NOA Improvement of the following roads: 1. Improvement of Kachihata-Thana Hat Road (Palaoan Pol RHW-Amanullapur UP-Eadgha Amin Bazar-Amishapara UP) Ch. 0+000-14+214km. under Sonaimuri Upazila, District-Noakhali, (ID-475882006). 2. Improvement of Dirijan Bazar-Ambamagar UP Road, Ch. 0+000-5+450km under Ambamagar UP, Sonaimuri Upazila, District-Noakhali, (ID-475883018). 3. Improvement of Banglabazar-Rajgong Road at Ch 00-7245m under Begumganj, Noakhali, (ID-475072004). (Total cost of salvage materials: Tk 4789314.00).	53,00,000.00	01-11-2019	30-04-2021

31	Name of official inviting tender
32	Designation of official inviting tender
33	Contact details of official inviting tender

PE reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul/cancel the tender proceedings.

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

M. A. Sattar
Executive Engineer
Phone: 0321-61340
Mail: ven.noakhali@lged.gov.bd

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Education
Secondary and Higher Education Division
Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics (BANBEIS)
"Establishment of 160 Upazila ICT Training and Resource Centre for Education (UITRCE)" Phase II Project
1 No. Zahir Raihan Road, Palashi-Nilkhet, Dhaka-1205, Bangladesh
Phone: 9615368, 55151666, Fax: 880-2-9665457, website: www.banbeis.gov.bd

Invitation for International Bid

1.	Ministry/Division	Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education
2.	Name of Procuring Entity	Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics (BANBEIS)
3.	Procuring Entity code	12507
4.	District of Procuring Entity	Dhaka
5.	Invitation for Bid	Procurement of the project "Establishment of 160 Upazila ICT Training and Resource Centers for Education (UITRCE)-Phase II" (BGD-23) includes Works, Goods & Services
6.	Invitation Ref No.	No. 37.20.2642.003.14.026.17/327
7.	Date	05.08.2019
8.	Project Code	223015700
9.	Project name	"Establishment of 160 Upazila ICT Training and Resource Centre for Education (UITRCE)" Phase II Project
10.	Procurement Method	Competitive Bidding only among Korean Firms/Companies or an association between Korean Firms/Companies registered in the Republic of Korea. (Single Stage Two Envelop Bidding)
11.	Budget and Source of Fund	Government Development Budget and Korea Exim Bank under Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF), Republic of Korea.
12.	Development Partner	Korea Exim Bank under Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF), Republic of Korea.
13.	Bid Package No.	CB No. WGS-01 (BGD-23)
14.	Bid Package Name	Procurement of the project "Establishment of 160 Upazila ICT Training and Resource Centers for Education (UITRCE)-Phase II" (BGD-23)
15.	Bid Publication Date	06.08.2019
16.	Bidding Document Last Selling Date & Time	19.09.2019 up to 17.00. hours (BST)
17.	Bid closing Date & Time	22.09.2019 at 15.00 hours (BST)
18.	Bid Opening Date and Time	22.09.2019 at 16.00 hours (BST)
19.	Eligibility of the Bidder	The qualification criteria for eligible bidders are as follows: i. A minimum of five (5) years' business experience record in ICT equipment/system field for the Main bidder. ii. A minimum of five (5) years' business experience record in building construction for Building Construction Company. iii. Experience record in ICT equipment/system Projects outside Bidder's country of origin with at least one (1) successful project experience within the last three (3) years for the Main bidder. iv. Experience record in building construction Projects outside Bidder's country of origin with at least one (1) successful project experience within last three (3) years for the Building Construction Company. v. The Bidder that has been negative in its net profit for the last three (3) consecutive years shall be treated as "Non Responsive." vi. The Bidder that has been negative in its net worth for the very last year (2018) shall be treated as "Non Responsive." vii. Documentation of company registration in the country of residence (Republic of Korea) of both the Main Bidder and Building Construction Company. viii. A Bidder, and all parties constituting the Bidder (except local subcontractors and local consultants), shall be nationals of the Republic of Korea ix. In case of JVA, the Main Bidder should be the ICT Company and the Building Construction Company should be included in JVA.
20.	Name and Address of the Office Selling Bidding Document	4 th Floor, BANBEIS, 1 No. Zahir Raihan Road, Palashi-Nilkhet, Dhaka-1205.
	Receiving Bidding Document	4 th Floor, BANBEIS, 1 No. Zahir Raihan Road, Palashi-Nilkhet, Dhaka-1205.
	Opening Bidding Document	Conference Room, 2 nd Floor, BANBEIS, 1 No. Zahir Raihan Road, Palashi-Nilkhet, Dhaka-1205. Bangladesh
21.	Brief Description of Goods, Works & Services	Construction of two storied Building with four storied Foundation & Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning ICT and other equipments in selected 160 Upazilas in Bangladesh, upgrading DMC in BANBEIS, upgrading EMIS software, e-learning, training etc. Under the Project titled "Establishment of 160 Upazila ICT Training and Resource Centre for Education (UITRCE) Phase II".
22.	Brief Description of Related Services	Installation of equipment, Testing, Commissioning, upgrading EMIS software, e-learning, training etc.
23.	Price of Bidding Document	Taka 65,000 (USD 800). To be purchased by cash from the address mentioned in serial 20. No Bidding Document will be sold by post.
24.	Amount of Bid Security	Bid Security amount US\$ 1,000,000 (US Dollar One Million) Only in the form of Bid Bond and issued by a reputable bank located in the eligible country specified in Section III Eligible Country of the Bidding Document.
25.	Time of Completion of Work	20 (Twenty) Months
26.	Place, Date & Time of Pre-Bid Meeting	Will be informed to the Bidders by email, if necessary.
27.	Name of Official Inviting Bid	Md. Fashuallah
28.	Designation of Official Inviting Bid	Director General, BANBEIS & Project Director, UITRCE Phase II
29.	Address of Official Inviting Bid	1 No. Zahir Raihan Road, Palashi-Nilkhet, Dhaka-1205, Bangladesh
30.	Contact Details of Official Inviting Bid	Phone : +880-2-9615368, +880-2- 55151666 Fax: +880-2-9665457 E-mail: sutree2013@gmail.com khan01_1234@yahoo.com
31.	The Purchaser reserves the right to accept or reject any bid or to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to Contract award without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

This bidding notice will also be available at www.cptu.gov.bd, www.banbeis.gov.bd and www.koreacxim.go.kr (Korea Exim bank website)


(Md. Fashuallah)
Director General &
Project Director, UITRCE Phase II Project
BANBEIS, Ministry of Education.

GD-1330



‘No final word on Mash farewell’

SPORTS REPORTER



The issue of Bangladesh ODI skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza’s retirement is still a cloudy one as the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) are yet undecided on how to provide the inspirational cricketer a farewell.

Making the issue murkier still is that the 35-year-old has not clarified his thoughts on retirement.

As there are no more ODIs for Bangladesh this year in ICC’s Future Tours Programme, there has been speculation about whether the BCB would arrange any fifty-over series at home to bid farewell to Mashrafe, who has already retired from T20I cricket.

There is a one-off Test and two T20Is against Afghanistan at home later this year. Plans are afoot to include Zimbabwe and host a T20I tri-series after the Test.

There was also talk about whether the BCB would change the T20I tri-nation series involving Afghanistan and Zimbabwe into an ODI series – which presumably would give Mashrafe a chance to retire in front of a home crowd, as he wished – but according to BCB CEO Nizamuddin Chowdhury, that is still not confirmed.

“I am yet to receive any final instructions [on arranging a series to bid farewell to Mashrafe] as it’s a policy-based decision. So far, what we have communicated [to ZCB] is that there is a tri-nation series involving

Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Zimbabwe and we are heading in that direction,” Nizamuddin told reporters yesterday.

Meanwhile, the BCB is yet to announce the schedule for the one-off Test against Afghanistan and it was learned that the visitors will take part in the Test between August 31 and September 10, which will be followed by the tri-nation series.

“First, there will be a Test series with Afghanistan and then we will play the tri-nation or bilateral T20I or ODI series during the first week of September. So far there are some optional discussions going on between the boards but I think if Afghanistan confirms, we will go with the T20s,” he said.

Although Zimbabwe cricket has been suspended by the ICC over political interferences, the BCB CEO informed that there will not be any issues for Zimbabwe to take part in the series.

Questions still remain for the Tigers fans on when actually Mashrafe will retire from international cricket as the cricketer previously informed that he wished to bid farewell to the game in front of a home crowd.

Even if the BCB manages to arrange an ODI series at their own expense as a tribute to the legendary cricketer, it will mean little without an official announcement from Mashrafe – who has maintained radio silence recently – about his retirement to make his stance clear.

BCB yet to receive WC reports

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) CEO Nizamuddin Chowdhury informed yesterday that they are yet to receive a manager’s and coach’s report on the Tigers’ overall performance in the recent ICC Cricket World Cup in England.

The team reached home on July 7 from the World Cup, and Nizamuddin said that they did not get the report as the team embarked on a tour of Sri Lanka soon after.

“Right after the World Cup we had a series against Sri Lanka. And during the board meeting, our team was already in Sri Lanka. We hope that we will get the report soon and we will discuss it in the next meeting,” said the BCB CEO.

The usual norms followed by any cricket board is that the manager of the team will provide an evaluation report while an official report is also expected from the coach regarding the team’s overall performance following any international tour or tournament.

However, the BCB is seemingly reluctant to get the report from former head coach Steve Rhodes – with whom the game’s local governing body parted ways after the World Cup – and the overall team report from Khaled Mahmud, who was team manager during the quadrennial mega event. This brings in to question about the BCB’s ideology on long term planning just ahead of another possible series.

Steyn among the best that I played: Sachin

AGENCIES, New Delhi



Legendary Sachin Tendulkar paid a fitting tribute to great Dale Steyn the day he announced his retirement from Test cricket after playing 93 matches in the game’s traditional format for South Africa.

Tendulkar hailed Steyn among the best he faced during his 24-year stay at the top, a compliment to savour for any bowler.

“I have to say that without any doubt, he’s amongst the top bowlers that I played in my 24-year career,” the master himself told on Monday. “I thought that something which was incredible, but he managed to do consistently was that late outswinger and that angle that he developed.”

Tendulkar versus Steyn remains one of the game’s greatest ever contests and a lifelong memory to cherish for anyone who saw the two amazing gentlemen try and outperform each other.

Home or away, it was always fierce and never one-sided.

“The only other guy who bowled very much like him was possibly James

Anderson,” Tendulkar added. “Their wrist positions were similar. But Steyn had a more whippy action. He could go through the crease much faster.

“The swing that he consistently got at that pace was incredible. When he was at his peak, he was bowling close to 150kmph, so it wasn’t that easy to handle. That’s where he had mastered that art. When he wanted to be really quick, he could do so.

“I remember the spell that he bowled to me on the morning of the third Test in Cape Town [Tendulkar scored 146 in the first innings in January 2011]. Gautam [Gambhir, who scored 93] played Morne Morkel, and I played Steyn.”

“For close to an hour, we couldn’t rotate the strike at all. Whatever runs we scored, we scored in boundaries! That one hour, I can say, is one of the most thrilling, interesting and challenging hours that I’ve played in Test cricket. That was a decisive moment.”

“I enjoyed my battles with him and congratulate him on a wonderful career,” Tendulkar signed off.



Anderson ruled out of 2nd Test

AFP, London

James Anderson has been ruled out of the second Ashes Test, with England uncertain when he will be fit to return after injuring his right calf.

England’s record wicket-taker broke down after just four overs in the series opener at Edgbaston and did not bowl again as Australia romped to a 251-run victory.

Scans have confirmed he has no chance of taking part in next week’s game at Lord’s, the second of the five-match series, with assessment taking place “on an ongoing basis”.

Anderson’s absence is a huge blow for England, whose deflating defeat in Birmingham came just three weeks after they won the World Cup.

The veteran, who has taken 575 Test wickets, had not played competitive cricket for a month leading into the match after injuring the same calf playing for Lancashire.



JAMES ANDERSON

Faf to lead SA in Tests against Ind

AFP, Johannesburg

Faf du Plessis will captain South Africa in the Test series against India in October but may not lead the side in all formats, Corrie van Zyl, Cricket South Africa’s (CSA) new acting director of cricket said on Tuesday.

Van Zyl, who was appointed to the acting role following the weekend purge of head coach Ottis Gibson and his coaching staff, said he would chair a selection meeting “in the next day-and-a-half” to discuss future strategy, which would include planning for the 2023 World Cup.

“Faf will be the captain of the Test team,” said Van Zyl.

“But we need to look forward and we will talk about the white-ball strategy to 2023.”

South Africa will play three Twenty20 Internationals in India next month ahead of the Test series, their first in the new World Test championship, which starts on October 2.

Pollard fined

AGENCIES, Lauderdale

Kieron Pollard, the West Indian all-rounder, was fined 20% of his match fee and received one demerit point for violating Level One of the ICC Code of Conduct in the second T20I game against India in Florida.

Pollard was found guilty in relation to Article 2.4 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, with regard to not following the umpire’s instruction. The incident took place when the aforementioned player called for a substitute to take the field despite the fact that the veteran cricketer was repeatedly instructed by the umpires that a request has to be made for the substitute, and he was also asked to wait for the next over to finish.

‘The best problem-solver’

REUTERS, Birmingham



Justin Langer has hailed Steve Smith’s ability to find a way out of even the toughest situation and says his performance against England in the first Ashes Test showed all the traits of a cricketing great.

With Australia struggling on 122-8 in the first innings, Smith guided his team out of trouble with a sensational 144.

Three days later he became the fifth Australian to score successive centuries in an Ashes Test, his fluent 142 putting the visitors in control and helping them to a 251-run win over the hosts on Monday.

It was the first Test in 16 months for Smith, who was stripped of the captaincy and banned for a year after teammate Cameron Bancroft was caught on camera attempting to change the condition of the ball with sandpaper during a March 2018 Test in South Africa.

“I said during the summer that Virat Kohli is the best player I have ever seen but that (Smith’s centuries) is just another level,” former Australia opener Langer told reporters.

Langer said Smith had shown “enormous character, enormous courage, ... unbelievable concentration, unbelievable physical stamina, unbelievable mental stamina, all traits of great players”.

Langer said Smith always seemed to have the answers.

“You throw to him in the nets and you literally feel like you can’t get him out and there’s no batsman like that and you just end up throwing a million balls and you are just lost for answers,” Langer said.

“I guess you would have to ask England how they feel about that and they had some interesting tactics for him ... They would have studied him closely but he just has a knack, well, he is the best problem-solver in the game.”



I said during the summer that Virat Kohli is the best player I have ever seen but that (Smith’s centuries) is just another level.
JUSTIN LANGER
Australia coach

Aus media revel in Smith redemption

AFP, S YDNEY



Australians basked in rediscovered pride in their cricketers Tuesday after Steve Smith inspired a thumping Ashes Test win over England, redeeming himself following a ball-tampering scandal that left the team in disgrace.

Smith, pilloried and banned for a year over the infamous ‘Sandpaper-gate’ affair, rose above taunts of “We saw you cry on the telly” with centuries in each innings before England crumbled to a 251-run defeat in Birmingham.

“It’s a redemption story like no other, from Sandpaper-gate to standing up to England, in England,” tweeted 7News Brisbane.

“The Miracle of Birmingham”, trumpeted The Australian, as any lingering embarrassment from the tampering scandal more than 18 months ago evaporated.

Instead, attention turned to the “redemption” of Smith from a tearful press conference last year to his Test-defining innings which humbled England, just

weeks after they were crowned ODI world champions.

Nathan Lyon and Pat Cummins took all 10 wickets as England’s second innings folded for 146, but it was the knocks of 144 and 142 by Smith that set up the victory and renewed comparisons with the great Donald Bradman.

At the start of the Test the Australians were mocked as “cry-babies” and endured taunts of “cheats and losers”, but five days on they were winners, the Herald’s Malcolm Knox noted.

Knox described the fidgety Smith’s centuries as “pure cricket alchemy, turning base metals into gold”. The net effect of the abuse by England fans “was to knit the Australians together” and bring out their best cricket, he wrote.

“Even as he received his player-of-the-match award, Steve Smith had to speak above the songs of the last desperates whose claim to fame was having seen him cry on the telly. He wasn’t crying now.”

News Corp. Australia’s James Matthey

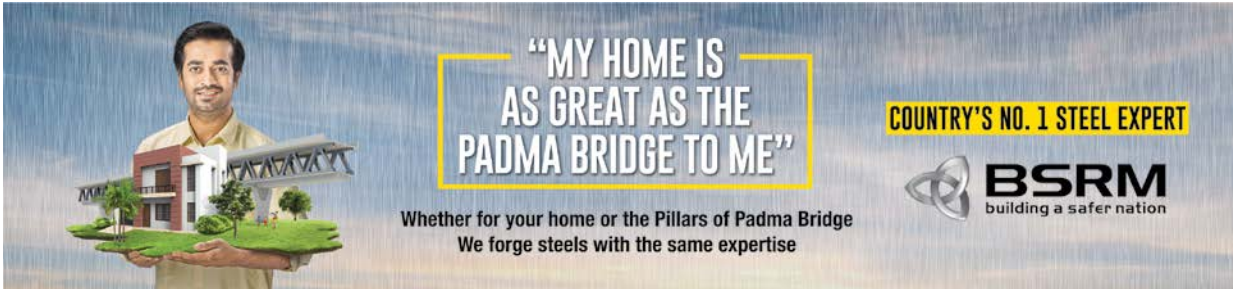
said the vocal Edgbaston crowd “wasn’t able to provide the spark needed to overcome an Australian team welcoming the ball-tampering trio back into the fold”.

Smith, David Warner and Cameron Bancroft were playing in their first Test together since receiving lengthy suspensions for their part in the sandpaper affair.

The Australian called Smith’s performance “a redemption tale” and said he “brings to a dressing room a belief in bright sides and silver linings, if not unicorns and rainbows... Has any previous Australian team, it is also worth asking, been so leveraged to the fortunes of a single player?”

Former Australian captain Gregg Chappell, who had his own scandal in the past with the infamous underarm bowling to New Zealand in 1981, said Smith couldn’t rest on his laurels.

“He’s taken a huge stride towards that redemption,” Chappell was quoted as saying. “The way forward for that redemption is to keep making runs.”



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Toni Morrison passes away

AFP, New York

Toni Morrison, the first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature, has died following a brief illness, her family said in a statement yesterday. She was 88.

"It is with profound sadness we share that, following a short illness, our adored mother and grandmother, Toni Morrison, passed away peacefully last night surrounded by family and friends." SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

DU suspends 69 for forgery in admission tests

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University's disciplinary board has suspended 69 students on charge of committing forgery during admission tests.

The board, comprising the VC, deans, provosts and the proctor, took the decision yesterday during a meeting chaired by VC Prof Akhtaruzzaman, said a press release of the university.

All the suspended students took admission between 2012-2013 and 2017-2018 sessions, according to the press release.

The university authorities will issue a show-cause notice to the suspended students, asking them to explain within seven days why they should not be expelled.

Talking to The Daily Star, DU Proctor Prof AKM Golam Rabbani said they had expelled 15 students in January last year for the same reason.

"We took the decision following university's rules and regulation," Prof Rabbani added.

He confirmed that all the suspended students were charged by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



The Jamuna devours a part of Bhalkutia village in Tangail's Bhuapur upazila. Locals said around 300 houses of three villages went into the river early last month, but the authorities were yet to take any measures to save the rest of the villages. The photo was taken on Sunday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Minni's bail hearing at HC tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday deferred until tomorrow the hearing of Aysha Siddika Minni's bail petition in the case filed over her husband Rifat Sharif's murder.

ZI Khan Panna, the petitioner's advocate, said the bench of Justice Sheikh Md Zakir Hossain and Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman was scheduled to SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



PRAYER TIME AUGUST 7

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-20 12-45 5-00 6-47 8-15
JAWAT 4-55 1-15 5-15 6-50 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

'THREATENING' HASINA HC asks 4 BNP leaders to surrender

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered four BNP leaders, including its Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, to surrender before a Dhaka court within six weeks in a case filed over issuing death threat to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

It also asked the law enforcers not to harass or arrest them by this time.

Three other BNP leaders are Khandaker Mosharraf SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Dhaka's rusty gas pipes to be replaced

Says Nasrul Hamid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid yesterday said the government would replace the capital's old gas distribution pipelines with new ones.

"We are taking up a large project. We will remove all old gas pipelines in Dhaka and will lay new lines," he said.

Nasrul was addressing the inauguration ceremony of the two-day South Asia LNG Forum 2019 at a city hotel.

He said the project would cost the government around Tk 1,200 crore.

According to officials, Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company

Limited found that about 160 million cubic feet (mmcf) of gas is being wasted every day either through pilferage or through leakage in old pipelines.

There are 7,000-km distribution pipeline in the capital and many of those have become worn out as those were installed around 35-40 years ago.

The Titas Gas distributes gas to its 2.78 million consumers, including households, power plants, fertilizer factories, industries and CNG refueling stations.

Nasrul said the government was expecting a better management in the gas sector and the country's development partners like the JICA and the European SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

'Drug dealer' killed in 'gunfight'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A suspected drug peddler was killed in a "gunfight" with Rab officials in Gazipur's Sreepur upazila yesterday.

The dead is 34-year-old Ashraful Islam.

Muhammed Mohiuddin Faruque, superintendent of Rab-2, said they set up a check-post on Dhaka-Tangail highway in Kaliakoir upazila on information that a consignment of drugs was scheduled to pass by from Dhaka to Chuadanga.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



A man tries to tame a bull as it runs towards a temporary cattle market near the city's Postogola Shashan Ghat yesterday after being offloaded from a boat. With the Eid-ul-Azha only four days away, a lot of traders from across the country have been brining sacrificial animals to the capital hoping to make good profits.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council

Public Notice

Clarification on antibiotic and heavy metal residue in milk

This is the announcement to the public interest that recently pasteurized and unpasteurized milk were tested by Nutrition Unit, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) to know the status of antibiotic, sulpha drug and heavy metals residue from the SGS, Chennai. However, in social media some people raised debate as to why these tests were done in Chennai, India, which came under the notice of the authority.

SGS is a leading organization dealing with the issue of inspection, analysis and test certificate for the quality of different goods including agricultural products. SGS (Société Générale de Surveillance) is the internationally recognized accredited laboratory and was established in 1878. SGS, presently operates 2600 offices and laboratories in more than 170 countries and one of these laboratories are located in Chennai, India. Also, nearby there is another laboratory in Thailand. Earlier, Nutrition Unit, BARC also tested successfully pesticide residue of raw, washed and cooked vegetables; antibiotic residue of poultry feeds; gamma oryzanol of rice bran oil; as well as pesticide residue of cooked and steamed vegetables available in different classes of hotels including hotel Intercontinental and Radisson of Dhaka city from the SGS, Chennai.

Hence, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council believes that tested results of milk done by SGS, Chennai are correct, authentic and reliable. There is no iota of doubt in these tests results. However, if anybody has any confusion about these results, BARC will be happy to welcome to test the milk samples in other countries in any internationally recognized accredited laboratory.

It is noted that ICDDR,B and BLRI has no capacity to conduct antibiotic and heavy metal residue analysis. Indeed, sometimes partial report produced by such organizations and reported in mass media results in misconception to the public.

Authority (Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council)

GD-1336

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