



The Daily Star



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DENGUE PREVALENCE, INFECTION

Upscale areas more prone

Govt surveys show; 5 to 35 age group more vulnerable

BISHAKHA DEVNATH and HELEMUL ALAM

Dengue infections and Aedes mosquito prevalence are higher in areas with too many multistory buildings and shiny infrastructures adorned with decorative greeneries, although there are a few exceptions, analysis of two government surveys shows.

Take Baridhara, in Dhaka North City Corporation. It is one of the upscale areas in the capital and home to most foreign missions. But larvae presence in households is high here, and at least 50-75 people from this area have taken treatment for dengue so far.

In contrast, Gabtoli, a poorly maintained area inhabited mostly with low-income people, has so far seen 25-50 people taking dengue treatment. No Aedes larvae was found here during the survey last month.

In Baridhara, Aedes larvae was found in 50-70 percent buildings during the survey done by the health department. It is almost the same in Banani, Gulshan-1 and Gulshan-2.

In Dhaka south, areas such as Meradia, Goran, Sayedabad, Muradpur and Hazaribagh have seen fewer patients admitted to hospitals than Lalmatia, Segunbagicha, SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



A pillow is placed under the head of this child with dengue after he fell asleep while sitting on his Mughda Medical College Hospital bed yesterday. PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

OC, ASI closed over gang rape of Khulna woman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Two policemen, accused of raping a woman on Friday, were withdrawn and closed from Khulna Railway Police Station and attached to Pakshey Railway Police Lines yesterday.

The accused are Officer-in-Charge Osman Gani Pathan and Sub-Inspector Nazmul Haque.

"The action has been taken for a proper investigation into the allegation [of rape]. It is for ensuring that they [the accused] cannot influence the probe," said Assistant Superintendent of Police (Kushtia Railway Circle) Firoz Ahmed, also the chief of a three-member probe committee formed SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

DENGUE OUTBREAK

Situation worsens

Further spread feared during Eid vacation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Every day the dengue outbreak situation keeps getting worse and authorities fear the spread of Aedes mosquitoes could get even worse during the Eid holidays.

At least 2,428 dengue patients got admitted to hospitals in 24 hours since 8:00am Tuesday, taking the total to 32,340 this year, according to Director General of Health Service (DGHS).

Bangladesh never had more than 11,000 dengue cases in a year and the number of patients getting admitted every day has been increasing since August 3.

Meanwhile, another person died of dengue yesterday taking the unofficial death toll to 68.

Aulad Hossain, 32, who had been admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, passed away around 4:30am, Assistant Director of DMCH Naseeruddin told The Daily Star.

At the hospital, 54 dengue patients got admitted in the 24 hours. In Mitford Hospital, the number is 143 and in Mughda Medical College SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

REPORTS ON SC Journos need to show 'great responsibility'

Observes HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday expressed hope that journalists should be more responsible while preparing and publishing reports on Supreme Court proceedings.

"This holds most true for those burdened with the task of delivering news to the public. Being the mouthpiece of the agents of society and state, we hold journalists to high esteem and thus SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Remembering, with utmost admiration
Late **Afzalur Rahman Sinha**
on his 1st death anniversary

A great freedom fighter. Successful entrepreneur. Avid sports organizer. Devoted philanthropist.

- Chairman, The ACME Laboratories Ltd.
- Director, Bangladesh Cricket Board • Chairman, Bangladesh Premier League • Director, Abahani Ltd. • Vice President, Bangladesh Hockey Federation
- President, Dhaka Club Limited

Afzalur Rahman Sinha
(21 April 1950 – 08 August 2018)

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Journos need

FROM PAGE 1

expect them to also bear great responsibility. Such responsibility must entail, reflecting the whole truth, as opposed to simply highlighting fractions of it," said an HC bench.

The bench of Justice Obaidul Hassan and Justice Mohammad Ali came up with the observation while passing order on a writ petition filed by SC lawyer Shahinur Rahman yesterday seeking necessary order on the issue.

He submitted the petition as some "online newspapers" published reports on August 2 "misquoting" the observation made by another HC bench on July 31 about the importance of people's lives and the protocol for VIPs of the country.

The court also directed the authorities to continue providing privileges (protocol) without fail to those who are supposed to get such privileges as per the warrant of precedence.

"... the deputy commissioners and superintendents of police and other concerned in the metropolitan cities and all other townships have been directed to provide the requisite privileges by virtue of the constitution, warrant of precedence and the laws of this land," the bench led by Justice Obaidul Hassan said in the order.

The court said, "It is important to remind everyone that when the justice of the courts think aloud and speak their thoughts; it is risky to take their words in that situation as being the ultimate version."

"In the case at hand, the words of Justice FRM Nazmul Ahasan and Justice KM Kamrul Kader had been taken out of context and has thus gone on to create confusion in numerous cases."

"In the future, it is imperative that people not jump to conclusion simply based on the word uttered by the court without having gone through the final judgment where the court is allowed time to reflect and properly circulate its intentions and thoughts."

The HC judges said, "Though we are addressed as 'My Lords' in our courtrooms, it is imperative that the justices of this esteemed court are still human. We are not infallible. In shouldering the burdens of our duties, we are sensible enough to recognise that we may sometimes not be able to articulate our thoughts with perfection. We are thus, often hopeful, that such instances are viewed with a degree of indulgence by those who understand the work that we do."

"Having said so, it is important to recognise that while we do speak our thoughts in court; sometimes it may be taken out of context and it may be so that some fail to understand the message that we intend to convey. And so, it is important to wait for the final pronouncement of our judgements to truly understand or grasp what it is that we, as justice, intend to relay."

During hearing another writ petition filed over with the death of 13-year-old Titash Ghosh, the HC bench of Justice FRM Nazmul Ahasan and Justice KM Kamrul Kader on July 31 made an observation about the importance of the people's lives and security of president and the prime minister.

Family sources said Titash died in an ambulance as the ferry, which was going to Dhaka, delayed loading vehicles for three hours to wait for the arrival of a government official.

The bench had observed that government officials are merely the servants of the republic, and they are not "very important persons" (VIPs).

Only the president and the prime minister of the country are the VVIPs (very, very important persons) and security issues are involved with regard to their movements, said the bench.

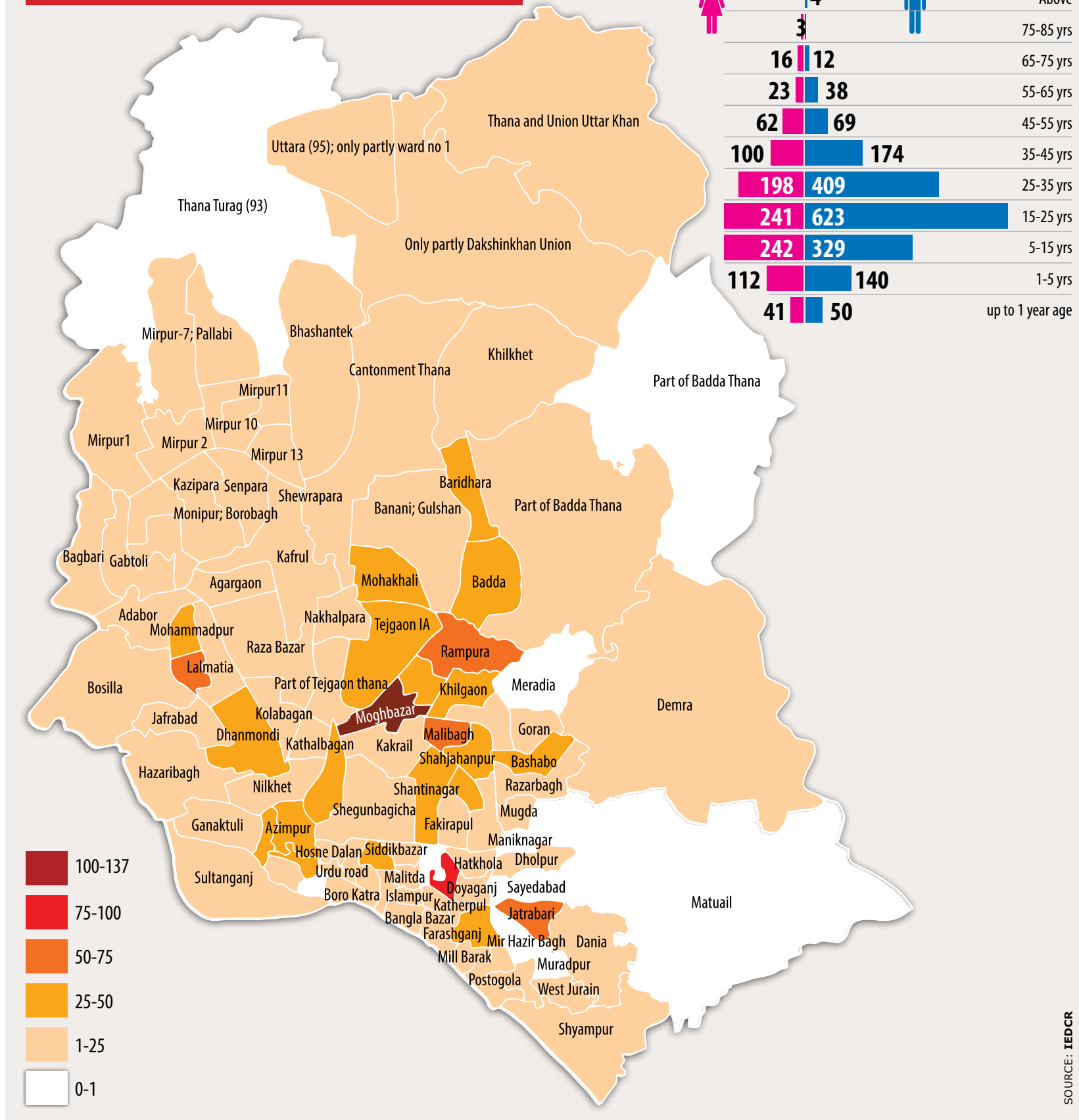
But some media on August 2 allegedly published reports misquoting the HC observation following which lawyer Shahinur yesterday submitted the petition before the HC bench of Justice Obaidul Hassan and Justice Mohammad Ali.

In the petition, the lawyer said different "online newspapers" -- The Bangladesh Today, Dhaka Tribune Bangla, Awaz BD, Barishal Times, Channel24, Purbopashchimbd-news and 24 Live Newspaper -- have published news on the issue which are absolutely derogatory and disrespect to the honour and dignity of the SC.

He prayed to the HC to order the government to restrain the electronic and print media in circulating and publishing the news regarding the protocol of the SC judges.

Ekrumul Haque Tutul, Syed Mamun Mahub and Tapas Kumar Biswas appeared for the petitioner while Deputy Attorney General Amit Talukder represented the state.

DENGUE POSITIVE CASE DISTRIBUTION IN 2 DHAKA CITY CORPORATIONS



Railway employees spray anti-mosquito aerosol in a train carriage at Kamalapur Railway Station yesterday before the train is to depart. The authorities decided spray every carriage recently to reduce the chances of dengue infection.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Upscale areas more prone

FROM PAGE 1

Malibagh and Moghbazar have.

In the capital, Moghbazar has been the worst affected, with at least 137 dengue patients taking treatment. Malibagh, next to Moghbazar, saw the second highest number of patients -- 75-100. As high as 40 percent households in this neighbourhood are infested with Aedes larvae.

The presence of larvae is similar in Segunbagicha, secretariat area, Dhaka University area, Sabujbagh and Rajarbagh, Narinda, Tikatuli, and Gandaria.

MM Aktaruzzaman, programme manager of Communicable Disease Control at the Directorate General of Health Services, said their survey team inspected under-construction buildings, semi-structured one- and two-story buildings, multistorey buildings as well as unoccupied flats.

Concentration of Aedes larvae was high in buildings where people stored water for aesthetic purposes, he said.

"This type of mosquito needs clean water for reproduction," he said, adding that many flats in upscale areas had unused bathrooms with commodes where female Aedes mosquitoes laid eggs.

The team found larvae in discarded tyres, water on the floors, plastic buckets, pottery/clay pots, flower vases and trays and metal cans with water stored in them.

The survey on the concentration of patients was done analysing

information about 3,000 patients who took treatment at 12 public and 35 private hospitals across the capital since May 1 to August 2. The Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research carried out this survey.

The survey on the mosquito larvae was done by the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) from July 17-27. It covered 100 areas of 98 wards in the two city corporations.

Aktaruzzaman recommended further studies for better understanding of mosquito prevalence and infection. 5-35 AGE GROUP MOST VULNERABLE

Findings also show that most dengue patients who took treatment are aged between 5 and 35, with the number of male patients much higher compared to female patients.

Kankar Ghosh, an epidemiologist at Dhaka Shishu Hospital, said students and job holders are at highest risk as they remain outside home in the morning and evening hours, when Aedes mosquitoes are known to bite.

These mosquitoes usually bite people two hours after sunrise and two hours before sunset, and people of these two groups remain outside home at these hours, he said. "For example, an officegoer leaves home before 8:00am and return after sunset."

And although people can keep their homes clean, they have to rely on the authorities or the city corporations for cleaning offices and educational

institutions, he said.

"The number of infections would come down by half if children stopped going outside their home at the risky hours," he noted.

The study found 56 percent children aged 5-11 were infected from schools, he said.

HM Nazmul Ahsan, associate professor at Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital, said students were very vulnerable as many schools, colleges and coaching centres were not cleaned properly, a reason why students are being infected there.

Situation worsens

FROM PAGE 1

Hospital, it is 100.

So far this year, 8,863 patients got admitted to hospitals outside Dhaka with dengue.

In Mymensingh, 153 were taking treatment at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH) after 49 more patients got admitted in 24 hours ending at 8:00am yesterday, said AB Md Shamsuzzaman, assistant director of the hospital.

Seventeen new patients got admitted to Pabna Medical College Hospital in the last 24 hours, said Ranjan Kumar, assistant director of the hospital, yesterday evening.

In Kishoreganj, 112 patients were taking treatment at different hospitals in the district, said Kishoreganj Civil

Surgeon Md Habibur Rahman.

EID WORRY

Worried that things could get worse during the Eid holidays when many homes in the capital would be unattended for days, the DGHS yesterday suggested that people cover traditional and western commodes before they leave.

It also asked them to remove water from the trays at the bottom of refrigerators, from air conditioning drain pipes, buckets, plant pots, and barrels.

The DGHS asked them to turn bowls, trays or kitchen pots upside down before they leave and cover water tanks.

The education ministry is also worried about the holidays. Education institutions will remain closed for 12 days.

The ministry in a circular issued yesterday asked schools to form six- to 10-member teams comprising teachers, staffers, scouts, BNCC members and students to monitor the institutions during the holidays so that Aedes mosquito do not get a free pass to breed. The teams would remove any stagnant water.

The ministry asked the offices of the institutions to remain open every day and teachers and staffers man them in terns.

MONEY FOR FIGHTING MOSQUITOES

The government has allocated Tk 51.5 crore to help Dhaka city corporations and municipalities fight mosquitoes, UNB reports

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Md Tazul Islam came up with the information at a views-exchange meeting with Bangladesh Climate Change Journalist Forum (BCJF) at the secretariat.

Of the amount, the two Dhaka city corporations were given Tk 7.5 crore each. Tk 1 crore each was allocated for Gazipur, Narayanganj, and Chattogram city corporations.

Other city corporations received Tk 50 lakh each.

The municipalities would get Tk 30 crore.

The minister said they were conducting mosquito extermination activities following Kolkata's experience. "The menace will be under control if everyone keeps premises of their homes and offices clean."

He said, "Kolkata achieved a lot by raising public awareness. They say they've got rid of this problem as 90 percent of the people were aware of dengue."

Meanwhile, Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday asked the authorities concerned to stop spraying ineffective anti-mosquito chemicals, reports UNB.

"Effective insecticide will arrive in Dhaka within two to four days and during this period there's no need to spray ineffective chemicals to show off," he said after attending a cleanliness drive in the city's Mirpur Mazar Road area.

Our, Dinajpur, Pabna, and Mymensingh correspondents also contributed to the report.

OC, ASI closed

FROM PAGE 1

by the Railway Police over the gangrape.

In the evening of August 2, the 30-year-old woman was detained inside a train by Railway Police in Khulna's Phultala Railway Station.

She was then taken to Khulna Railway Station and then to a residential building for members of General Railway Police (GRP) where she was gangraped by the OC and four other policemen, her sister said.

The next day, the alleged rapists filed a case against the victim for possessing five bottles of Phenylethyl, after which a court sent her to jail.

On Sunday, the victim filed a bail petition with the district's additional chief judicial magistrate's court. She also filed a complaint against the policemen with the court that day, the sister added.

Yesterday, the woman's lawyer Faruq Ahmed filed another bail petition with the court, which again rejected it, said the counsel, adding that they would file a case receiving the medical report.

On Tuesday, Khulna Medical College Hospital's forensic department chief Dr Shafuzzaman said it might take around a week to prepare the report.

Meanwhile, talking to The Daily Star yesterday, the victim's brother said he had gone to the police station immediately after his sister was detained.

He alleged that policemen there demanded Tk 1.5 lakh for her release.

"Primarily GRP members told me that my sister stole a mobile phone. When I opposed the allegation, they misbehaved with me and asked me to leave," he said.

"I stayed at the police station till 9:00pm. I repeatedly told them that my sister is innocent, but they did not pay any heed."

He further said their family continued to pass days in fear as policemen kept them under watch.

The mother of the woman, a 30-year-old widow, talked about the same fear while speaking to the correspondent at her home in Khulna city on Tuesday.

The brother added that members of a probe committee, formed by the Railway Police, assured them yesterday that the investigation would be fair.

The Daily Star repeatedly called the OC and the ASI yesterday for comments. They, however, did not answer the calls.

Earlier, the OC had denied his involvement in the rape, terming the allegation false and baseless. Even, he claimed he was not present at the police station that night.

Meanwhile, the incident has sparked outrage in Khulna.

On Tuesday, a human chain was formed at the city's Picture Palace area, demanding investigation into the rape and punishment of the rapists.

Civil society members and rights bodies also demanded an impartial investigation.

We want justice. It's possible only when the investigation will be conducted impartially and fairly," Advocate Mominul Islam, a civil society member in Khulna, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Greek police search for missing British scientist

AFP, Athens

Greek police have launched a large-scale search for a 35-year-old British scientist who went missing on the Aegean island of Ikaria, officials said yesterday.

Nicosia-based astrophysicist Natalie Christopher, who had been on holiday with her partner, reportedly failed to return from a run on Monday.

"A police helicopter carrying officers and special equipment to locate missing persons left Athens on Tuesday night," a spokeswoman for the Greek police told AFP.

They joined Ikaria port patrols, firefighters and volunteers already combing areas for the scientist, Northern Aegean police said in a statement.

According to Greek and Cypriot media, Christopher and her 38-year-old partner had arrived on Ikaria on Saturday and stayed near the port of Agios Kyrkos. She left their hotel for a jog on Monday morning but never returned, her partner told media.

Police have opened a preliminary investigation into the circumstances of her disappearance.

The incident comes three weeks after the murder of US molecular biologist Suzanne Eaton on the Greek island of Crete.

The 59-year-old had been attending a conference near the city of Chania and gone out on July 2 without taking her mobile phone, the police said.

Her body was only found six days later in an abandoned World War II bunker near the town of Hania.

A 27-year-old farmer confessed to raping and killing Eaton, who had worked for the Max Planck Institute at Dresden University.



Instead of staying inside Samsabad field in Nayabazar, leased out by Dhaka South City Corporation for a makeshift market for sacrificial animals, traders are showcasing cattle for sale on adjoining roads, violating a government ban. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Mayors misappropriated Tk 50 crore allocated for mosquito control: Ranga

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party Secretary General Moshir Rahman Ranga yesterday demanded that the mayors of Dhaka city corporations step down from their posts, as they failed to eliminate Aedes mosquitoes.

He also alleged that the two mayors misappropriated Tk 50 crore, allocated for mosquito control.

Ranga was speaking at a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club to generate awareness among people.

"The dengue situation in the country has turned alarming. The two Dhaka mayors have misappropriated Tk 50 crore allocated for mosquito control. Such mayors, who utterly failed to control the mosquito menace in the city, have to step down," Ranga said.

He said JP was forced to take to the streets to draw the government's attention as the parliament is not in session at present.

Pointing to relief activities during the recent flood, Ranga said, "Relief materials provided by the government were insufficient and there were irregularities in distribution."

"Irregularities and disorder [in different sectors] have increased as the prime minister is not in the country at the moment," he said.

Speaking at the programme, JP Chairman GM Quader called upon the authorities concerned to take effective measures throughout the year to prevent dengue outbreak.

"The two city corporations in Dhaka have failed to take necessary steps for eliminating Aedes mosquitoes and generating awareness among people -- to prevent dengue. The upward trend in the number of people being infected with and dying from the disease are vivid proof of the authorities' failure," GM Quader said.

"All the hospitals in remote areas across all the districts must be equipped with facilities for diagnosis of dengue fever and for platelet transfusion," he said.

Claiming Jatiya Party to be the voice of the countrymen, GM Quader said, "People are panicked over the dengue situation in the country, and we cannot sit idle at a time like this."

He also demanded that the private hospitals in the country provide treatment to dengue patients free of cost -- the same way state-run hospitals are doing.

The situation may go beyond control if effective measures in this regard are not taken immediately, he added.

JP presidium members and senior leaders were also present at the programme.

Clean up animal waste in 24 hours

Green activists urge Dhaka mayors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Environmental activists at a human chain yesterday urged the two Dhaka city corporation mayors to clean up waste within 24 hours of slaughtering sacrificial animals during the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha.

The city is already suffering from a dengue outbreak. If waste is not cleaned properly and timely, it may create a risk of spreading various communicable diseases, they added.

Eleven environmental organisations, including Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (Bapa), organised the event in front of Nagar Bhaban in Gulistan.

Activists also demanded that the city corporations stop people from setting up cattle markets at undesignated places, clean up waste from the markets daily and increase the number of designated slaughtering spots.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Adivasi women worst sufferers of a biased state machinery

Speakers say at event marking int'l day for indigenous people

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Many languages spoken by indigenous people do not have any word for rape. Women of these communities who grow up in a gender-equal environment, fall victim to rape and other sexual and physical torture against the backdrop of the state's apathy to ensure the rights of disadvantaged groups, speakers said yesterday.

They demanded that those involved in the crimes be given exemplary punishment and the victims be provided with treatment, compensation and legal aid. The demands were placed at a programme at Women's Voluntary Association auditorium in the capital, organised by Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha and Adivasi Women's Network.

The event was held on the occasion of International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples (on August 9).

Adivasi women are one of the worst sufferers of a biased state machinery while their contribution to sustainable resource management, food production, food security and tackling climate change -- done with the traditional knowledge passed down from generation to generation

-- remain unacknowledged, according to a press statement.

The state consciously decides how it would treat a group of people, said Ayesha Khanam, president of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad.

Like the divisions in society based on religion and class, indigenous people are divided to continue repression, she added.

During the third-time review of human rights situation in the country, in the May 2018 Universal Periodic Review, the government received 251 recommendations but rejected four of them tied to minorities and adivasis.

The press statement claims that had the recommendations been accepted, adivasi women and girl children would have seen themselves included.

The committee that oversees the implementation of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women expressed concern over the discrimination against women of adivasi and other disadvantaged communities at the 65th session in 2016.

Last year, 54 adivasi women and girl children were victims of physical and sexual harassment. Twenty-three

of them were raped and gang-raped. Twelve were killed after rape.

An analysis showed that 85 per cent of the incidents were committed by non-adivasis and 13 per cent by adivasis, as per the press release.

Rape is an instrument used to control the weak, said Robayet Ferdous, a teacher of journalism at Dhaka University.

This tool is used to force adivasis out of their homes and villages with the intention of grabbing their land, which is what has been happening with plainland adivasis for decades, he said.

CHT Accord has not been implemented even 22 years after the government signed the agreement with Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity. According to data of Kapaeng Foundation and Adivasi Women's Network, violence against adivasi women and children has doubled since 2013.

Adivasi' lives revolve around nature and they have been protecting hills, rivers, streams while others are destroying those, said Sanjeeb Drong, general secretary of Bangladeshi Adivasi Forum.

The environment will not be protected if they disappear, he added.

ILLEGAL WEALTH ACC files case against ex-AL MP Mizanur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday filed a case against former ruling party lawmaker (from Khulna-2) Mohammad Mizanur Rahman, over amassing wealth worth about Tk 1.5 crore beyond known sources of income.

ACC Director Monjur Morshed filed the case.

Last year, ACC received allegations that Mizanur -- also general secretary of Khulna city AL -- embezzled huge amount of money by misusing power at Khulna City Corporation and other public offices to secure work orders under name of his family members, and ran a drug ring.

ACC quizzed Mizanur on April 16 last year over the alleged illegal accumulation of wealth.

Mizanur submitted his wealth statement to the Commission on November 19 last year.

A curious decision

DNCRP drive against charging extra for dengue test put on hold

MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM

After successive drives in different hospitals, diagnostics and dispensaries by the Directorate of National Consumer Rights Protection (DNCRP), during which they had fined some top hospitals for charging higher than the government declared rate for dengue tests, the officials were not seen in the field in last three days.

During the drive, dispensaries selling medicines for mosquito control at much higher price were also fined.

Sources at the DNCRP and commerce ministry said after being guided by the top authorities, they have suspended their raid for an indefinite period.

Over last two weeks, the consumer rights protection directorate inspected over three dozen hospitals and diagnostic centres in Dhaka. Most top hospitals also

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

DHAKA TODAY

DISCUSSION

Eid Journey amid Dengue: Steps to be Taken
Organiser: Poba
Venue: Poba Office, Kalabagan
Time: 11am

SEMINAR

On Global Entrepreneurship
Venue: China Bangla Business Club,
Time: 11am

ENGLISH PRACTICE SESSION

Venue: American Center, Baridhara
Time: 2pm

DISCUSSION

Bangamata, Bangabandhu 0 Bangladesh
Organiser: Bangabandhu Gobeshana Parishad
Venue: Jatiya Press Club
Time: 10:30am



Discussants at the roundtable yesterday at The Daily Star Centre.

PHOTO: STAR

Skills training essential for youth development: speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a roundtable yesterday said the country's youths should be given skills training, which is required to develop their career amid future challenges.

They said the country's existing formal education system lacks many aspects of skill development needed for the present day job scenario.

IPDC Finance and The Daily Star jointly organised the discussion on "Life Skills for Progress and Prosperity: The Youth's Narrative" at The Daily Star Centre in Dhaka.

Tasmiah T Rahman, head of programme of skills development

at Brac, said that in Bangladesh, parents' financial situation determine which school a child will go to, which is unfortunate.

Sourav Saha of Jaago Foundation's Youth Development Programme said in their training programme they had found that youths lacked vision due to financial limitation. However, they could overcome such shortcomings through consultation, he added.

The government should look into this growing frustration among youths who have limited opportunities, he added.

Sakib bin Rashid, chief

instructor of 10 Minute School, said learning process should be fun because students often show lack of concentration in apparently uninteresting subjects.

G Sumdany Don, chief inspirational officer of Don Sumdany Facilitation and Consultancy, said besides students, teachers should be provided with training as well to ensure quality learning process.

Mominul Islam, managing director and chief executive officer of IPDC Finance, said what students in Bangladesh miss is the "ability to learn."

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

শাওমির খুশির হাট

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*দ্বিগুণ গুণিতক অফারের আওতায় থাকবে নির্ধারিত হ্যাডসেটের উপর ২ বছরের ওয়ারেন্টি
 *K20 Pro পাওয়া যাবে ৮ আগস্ট, ২০১৯ থেকে
 অফারকোড: শাওমি খুশির হাট
 Mi <Space>IMEI & Send to 26969 (সেই অফারে)



PHOTO OF THE DAY

TITU DAS



Caged ducks get to take a dip in the Kirtonkhola river for some relief from the heat. The photo was taken recently from Barishal's DC Ghat area.

'INSTIGATING ANARCHY'

Charge-sheet against four Ctg road safety activists under Section 57

FM MIZANUR RAHAMAN

Chattogram police has submitted a charge-sheet implicating four youths in a case filed with Kotwali Police Station under Section 57 of ICT Act, for instigating students through social media during road safety demonstrations in August last year.

Sub-Inspector Rasibe Khan of Counter Terrorism (CT) unit of Chattogram Metropolitan Police, also the investigation officer of the case, submitted the charge-sheet to the prosecution on Saturday, said court sources.

The four youths are Maruf Hossain, 23, and Aziur Rahman Ashaf, 20 -- joint secretary and political affairs secretary respectively of Chattogram metropolitan unit of Chhatra Federation; Imdadul Haque Asik, 24, a final year student of Chittagong University's Applied Physics department, and Abdullah Al Shahed, 20, said police.

Kotwali police foiled a protest rally organised by a group of youths via social media during the countrywide demonstrations demanding safe roads on August 6 last year, and arrested the four in front of Chattogram Press Club, on charges of instigating students to create anarchy.

Later, Sub-Inspector Ruhul Amin of Kotwali Police Station filed a case accusing the four youths under Section 57 of ICT

Act, for provoking students via spreading false information on social media and tarnishing government image by sharing anti-government updates and quotes.

SI Bikash Chandra of Kotwali police station was given charge to investigate the case. The case was handed over to CT unit on August 27 last year.

SI Rasibe Khan told The Daily Star, "Examining the seized cell phones from the four at the forensic lab of Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and according to expert reports, it was proven that the four accused posted different anti-government status updates from their social media platforms and instigated students to create disorder using the student demonstrations."

"As the allegations were found to be true and their involvement were proved during investigation, police submitted charge-sheet against them in the case," the IO said.

Talking to The Daily Star, Ashaf -- who got out of prison on bail 45 days after his arrest last year -- said, "The anti-government status updates which were posted from our Facebook IDs were given after our arrest; the allegations against us are all baseless."

The country saw a wave of protests from students demanding safe roads last year, after two college students were run over by a bus in Dhaka on July 29.

Two lighter vessels capsize at bay

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two lighter vessels, carrying cement clinker, capsized at bay near Bhasan Char yesterday due to rough tides.

Two crew members of one of the lighter vessels remained missing while rescuers of Bangladesh Navy with the help of two helicopters of Bangladesh Air Force managed to rescue 21 following the incidents.

Three Navy vessels -- BNS Suravi, BNS Samudra Joy and BNS Saibal -- continued search operation till filing of this report as 8:30pm.

MV Titu-18 and MV Titu-19, after loading around 3,000 tonnes of cement clinker from a mother vessel anchored at Kutubdia, arrived at the outer anchorage of Chattogram Port on Tuesday night, said Belayet Hossain, executive officer of the mother vessel's local agent Litmond Shipping.

The vessels left the outer anchorage yesterday morning and were on their way to Narayanganj when they were caught up in stormy wind near Bhasan Char around 11:30am, he added.

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) Deputy Director Mohammad Selim said the vessels started sinking after water entered into one of the vessels through crack developed on its bottom while the other tilted on one side.

Cautionary signal no-3 has been hoisted for Chattogram

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Aedes breeding at RMCH!

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

The regional health directorate in Rajshahi has found breeding grounds of Aedes mosquitoes, which are carriers of the virus responsible for dengue fever, at several areas in the city.

In an entomological survey report submitted yesterday, the directorate said it found Aedes mosquitoes breeding at the residence of the medical college principal, a hostel of female medical students and on RMCH campus.

They also found existence of the mosquitoes on rainwater collected in abandoned containers at different houses, shops and even on the city corporation's town beautification equipment.

The report's findings came after the five-day survey was conducted in five areas of the city, Dr Gopendra Nath Acharya, regional health director, told The Daily Star.

The areas are -- RMCH, Sepoypara near RMCH, Seroil bus terminal, Rajshahi Police Lines at Keshabpur, and Uposhohor area.

On August 1, the health directorate formed a three-member team, headed by the district entomologist Tayazul Islam, for conducting the survey. Other team members were entomology technicians

Abdul Bari and Umme Habiba.

"Our aim was to gather information on the spread, density and breeding of Aedes mosquitoes in the city, and take necessary actions in this regard," Dr Gopendra said.

The team conducted the survey between August 2 and 6, Tayazul said.

"Our survey is based on visual examinations of the sites and laboratory tests of the collected samples," he added.

The team collected and examined samples of mosquito larvae from numerous spots of the five selected areas. They found existence of Aedes mosquitoes and larvae in many of the total 100 examined spots.

At RMC and RMCH areas, the team found Aedes larvae at seven spots, including RMC principal's residence.

Besides, the tests came out positive at five spots inside RMCH, including one at a broken basin of a ward and at an abandoned ice-cream cup at Falguni Hostel, a dormitory for female medical students.

Most of the beautification pipes that were used to decorate road islands between Seroil bus stand and Bhadra intersection were also found to have carried the mosquito larvae.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

TORTURING DOMESTIC HELP

Woman sent to jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chattogram court yesterday sent a woman to jail, after police produced her before the court on charge of torturing an underage domestic help.

Earlier on Tuesday night, police arrested the woman, Alfa Akter, 25, from her house at Lalkhan Bazar in the port city, upon tip-off from her neighbours that a house help was being tortured in the house, said Sub-Inspector Nur Uddin of Khulshi Police Station. Her husband is a banker.

Police also rescued the victim -- Yasmin Akter, 11, he said.

Yasmin, an orphan, had been working in the house for three years, he said, adding that Alfa used to torture her physically every now and then over trivial matters.

Alfa poured boiled water in Yasmin's body as she broke a glass while working 15 days ago, said the police officer. "We found burns on her neck and thigh."

Yasmin informed the matter to the neighbours and they informed police about it.

Sub-Inspector Khaza Enam Elahi filed a case with Khulshi Police Station in this connection.

Police produced Alfa before the court of Additional Metropolitan Magistrate of Chattogram Mohiuddin Murad yesterday, said Kazi Shahabuddin Ahmed, assistant commissioner (prosecution). The court sent her to jail.

The victim was in police custody, said SI Nur.

9TH WAGE BOARD

Journo demand publication of gazette

BSS, Dhaka

Ten journalists' platforms, including Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ), yesterday demanded that the government immediately publish the gazette of 9th wage board award for journalists.

In a joint statement, journalist leaders condemned the writ petition filed by Newspaper Owners' Association of Bangladesh (Noab) challenging legality of the 9th wage board, as the High Court -- following the writ petition -- issued status quo for two months on publication of the gazette.

They said while the journalist community was waiting for the gazette publication, Noab filed a writ petition before the High Court to delay a settled issue.

They also sought Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's intervention in the matter.

The issue was settled at a tripartite meeting with Road Transport and Bridges Minister and head of the Wage Board Cabinet Committee Obaidul Quader in the chair, they said.

That is why filing a writ petition before the High Court was "ill-motivated", they added.

The petition will create a crisis of trust between media owners and newsmen, they said.

BFUJ is set to demonstrate in front of Jatiya Press Club at 11am today, along with its associate bodies doing the same at local press clubs across the country, a statement said.



Traders have turned a rubber plantation on Lakkatura Tea Estate near Sylhet city into a makeshift cattle market. The photo was taken on Tuesday.

PHOTO: STAR

Illegal cattle markets sprouting in Sylhet ahead of Eid-ul-Azha

Only three permitted in city but over 20 operating

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

With Eid-ul-Azha approaching fast, illegal cattle markets are being set up here and there in Sylhet sadar upazila.

Only 21 markets are permitted in the whole district, but there are more cattle markets inside Sylhet city alone.

Excluding the permanent cattle markets at Kazirbazar in Sylhet city, there are only two permitted temporary cattle markets at Laldighir Par and Tilagarh. Two more markets are permitted by the District Administration near the city at Tukerbazar and Prierbazar.

But this correspondent found at least 20 more markets either set up or being set up ahead of Eid and all these markets are backed by local influential political leaders of different parties.

Illegal cattle markets are already

being set up at Shahi Eidgah, Tilagarh, Rikabibazar, Chowkidekhi, Akhalia, Ghositula, Mendibagh, Uposhohor, Teroratan, Dakshin Surma, Kadamtali, Bagbari, Malnichhara, and other areas.

Shahadat Hossain Lulon, manager of the city's traditional and permanent cattle market at Kazirbazar, alleged, "For the last couple of years, we are getting fewer number of cattle as the people behind the illegal markets are forcing traders to sell there. This must be stopped so that buyers and traders are not cheated when buying sacrificial animal."

Kazi Mahua Mamta, upazila nirbahi officer of Sylhet Sadar, said, "Only two markets are permitted in the upazila but as far as we are concerned, a lot of markets are sprouting up. We have already taken

action to remove a market from Daldali section of Lakkatura Tea Garden and asked another market at Baluchar to clear the premises soon. We will not let anyone set up illegal markets anywhere".

Bidhayak Roy Choudhury, chief executive officer of Sylhet City Corporation, said, "So far only two temporary markets and a permanent market are permitted in the city. We have requested the District Administration to take necessary action along with police to remove all illegal markets here."

Zedan Al Musa, additional deputy commissioner (media) of Sylhet Metropolitan Police said, "We haven't got the final permitted list of markets yet. Once we get the list, all other illegal markets will be removed at once."

Road crashes kill eight

STAR REPORT

Eight people were killed and eight injured in road accidents across the country in the last two days, according to reports from our correspondents and news agencies.

In Bogura, a motorcycle rider was killed and the pillion passenger was injured when a truck hit their vehicle in Shilkoir area of Kahalu upazila yesterday, said police.

The deceased is Al Hadi, 20, a student of Dargahat Degree College, hailing from Kallyanpur village of the upazila.

The accident occurred around 10am, leaving Hadi dead on the spot. Injured Shah Jamal was admitted to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital.

The truck was seized and a case was filed in this connection.

In Dinajpur, two people were killed in two separate accidents yesterday.

The deceased are Dr Abdul Hakim, 50, from Bhoma village in Ghoraghat upazila of the district, and Prosenjit Roy, 23, from Kalikapur village in Dinajpur Sadar upazila.

Dr Hakim was killed on the spot when a truck hit him at Raniganj area on Dinajpur-Gobindaganj road in Ghoraghat upazila, said police.

Prosenjit was killed when a speeding truck hit his rickshaw-van at Doshmole area on Dinajpur-Rangpur highway in Kaharol upazila.

In Joypurhat, two people were killed in two separate accidents on Tuesday.

The deceased are Abdul Gafur, 70, from Joypurhat Sadar upazila, and Abdul Barik, 55, from Panchbibi upazila of the district.

They were killed when speeding buses hit them while they were crossing the road at Shimultali of Joypurhat Sadar and Kashiagari of Panchbibi, respectively, police said.

Drivers of the trucks and buses fled the scene after the accidents.

In Habiganj, two people, including a college student, were killed and seven were injured when a motorcycle collided with an auto-rickshaw.

The accident took place on Habiganj-Baniachong regional highway near Atukura area in Baniachong upazila on Tuesday.

The deceased are Mukhles Miah, 35, and Shakil Miah, 18, a student of Brindaban Government College.

Everyone was critically injured after the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



Workers install glass panels on a high-rise in Chattogram while sitting and leaning precariously on the frames without any form of harness. The photo was taken yesterday at Wasa intersection in Dampara.

Minister's suggestions are bewildering

What about the rights of expatriate workers?

We are left surprised and confused by the expatriates' welfare minister's suggestion that the police not record cases under the Anti-trafficking Act against recruiting agents should workers, sent abroad with proper documents, fall victim to trafficking. The rationale behind this suggestion stems from the fact that the Anti-trafficking Act carries harsher punishment (up to death penalty). And as we learn from our esteemed minister, a police probe into such cases puts the recruiting agencies under increased scrutiny which, apparently, is scaring away recruiting agents and this in turn may cause a fall in the number of people going abroad to seek employment, eventually hurting inward remittance.

Such a directive, if it becomes government policy, will achieve only one thing: taking away the rights of the victim to seek redress from erring recruiting agencies, of which there are many. While recruiting agencies registered with Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (BAIRA) may cry wolf and complain about police harassment, there have been many cases of ordinary people being fleeced off their savings and sent abroad with proper documentation but ending up in jobs that are different from what was promised (or not jobs at all). There have been cases where they have been treated as "slaves" with limited pay and poor working conditions, with their passports confiscated, etc.

We find that the minister's suggestions are squarely based on giving benefit to recruiting agencies, and nowhere in his statement do we find any reflection on the rights of citizens who risk everything, often selling off what little worldly possessions they have and even resorting to money lenders to cough up the money demanded by recruiters to go abroad for work. We love to show off the billions of dollars generated by our expatriate workers who often toil under very difficult circumstances, but wish to shy away from giving them the protection of the law. This suggestion does not deserve any consideration and the right to file cases under the existing trafficking act must remain.

Striking case of gang-rape by police

Bring the perpetrators to justice

We are outraged at the alleged gang-rape of a woman by an OC and other policemen at the Khulna Railway Station on August 2. From what we learned from reports that have emerged since, the accused allegedly have committed the crime in a very organised manner: detaining the woman inside a train, forcing her to disembark from there and taking her to the police station only to rape her. What is more, the alleged rapists even filed a case against the victim for possessing five bottles of Phensedyl reportedly to cover up their crime.

Now, while the victim is languishing in jail, her family members are feeling insecure as some plainclothesmen are constantly keeping them under watch. According to the victim's mother, unknown callers warned them several times of dire consequences if they did not settle the matter through negotiations outside court. Some even came to their home and threatened them.

The incident is reminiscent of the shocking rape and murder of Yasmin by three policemen more than two decades ago. Although we do not often come across such horrific news where law enforcers are involved in such crimes, what we often see is law enforcers taking the side of the rapists and deterring the victims from filing cases. We saw this in the case of Nusrat, a madrasa student who was sexually harassed by her principal and later burned to death allegedly at his order. We also regularly see the nonchalant attitude of the law enforcers towards the victims of rape and sexual harassment when they seek help.

In the latest case, with some members of the police themselves accused of raping, we wonder where the victim's family would go to seek justice and how safe they would be should they continue to pursue justice. The way they are allegedly being threatened and intimidated only goes to show how vulnerable they are against such powerful perpetrators.

We hope necessary steps would be taken to ensure the safety of the rape victim and her family. At the same time, we demand a fair investigation into the incident and punishment of the perpetrators, if found guilty. The delay in preparing the medical report and completing the investigation will only mean that our law enforcers are above the law.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

letters@thedailystar.net

Eid, dengue and waste management

Around this time last year, the government fixed 2,954 spots in 11 city corporations of the country for slaughtering sacrificial animals to speed up the disposal of waste, blood and leftovers after the slaughters. Around 21,000 cleaners employed by the Dhaka south and north city corporations (DSCC and DNCC) were involved in clearing out waste on August 22, 2018 (Eid day). We hope to see similar actions this year also, and it is even more crucial that officials enforce the requirement that sacrificial slaughtering only takes place in designated places, in order to combat further spread of Aedes mosquitoes—the primary vector of dengue.

Though officials have implemented programmes to protect citizens from dengue infections, it is imperative to efficiently devise strategies for animal waste removal in light of the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha. As for city dwellers, it is important for them to understand that removing waste swiftly will prevent these deadly mosquitoes, which have been terrorising our nation for the past month, from continuing to do so. We must all fulfil our collective social responsibility to remove waste swiftly.

Md Shamiul Islam, by email

Jobs are the reason 'it's the economy, stupid!'

THE OVERTON WINDOW



ERESH OMAR JAMAL

BA NGLADESH'S economy has made massive strides since 1971. After independence, the initial challenges that the economy faced were enormous. And while Bangladesh managed to overcome most of them, many new challenges emerged in the years that followed.

Economic difficulties often arise from external factors independent of the actions and decisions that are made within a nation. Nevertheless, good policies and visionary thinking should always anticipate and aim to mitigate those. At other times, economies need to undergo structural change, as Bangladesh did during the last few decades by gradually moving from an agrarian to a more industry- and services sector-based economy. Today, one of the biggest challenges that we have is to create enough employment opportunities for our people. Although the current unemployment rate stands at 4.2 percent (which is not very high), according to the Labour Force Survey 2016-17, the youth unemployment rate stands at an astonishingly high 12.3 percent. The inactivity rate—i.e. the proportion of working age population not in the labour force—is also high, at 41.8 percent, which is one reason why the unemployment rate looks deceptively low on paper and doesn't give an accurate picture of the real unemployment rate, which is surely higher than 4.2 percent.

What is more concerning, especially for policymakers, is that job creation slowed down in recent years despite Bangladesh recording impressive GDP figures during that time. Between 2013 and 2016-17, while the average annual GDP growth was 6.6 percent, the average annual growth of jobs was only 0.9 percent. And as Dr Selim Raihan pointed out in an article in *The Daily Star*, the decline in the employment elasticity over the last decade, from 0.54 during 1995-2000 to 0.25 during 2010-2018, further reflects "the slow growth in job creation." He says one of the major aspects of creating jobs is "the need for economic diversification," but "the manufacturing sector in Bangladesh is highly concentrated around low value-added readymade garments." And new businesses remain reluctant to open shop and sell different products given that Bangladesh has still one of the least business-friendly environments in the world, ranking 176th among 190 countries in the World Bank's 2019 Doing Business index.

By consistently ranking poorly, Bangladesh has proven itself to be unadaptable and slow in making changes even when they are badly needed. And this is a big problem, particularly in light of a recent study conducted by Access to Information (a2i) programme under the ICT Division, along with local and international experts, which estimated that around 53.8 lakh jobs spread across five specialised industries—garments, food and agriculture, furniture, tourism and hospitality, and leather and footwear—are at serious risk because of the impending fourth industrial revolution. Of the five, the garments sector is expected to be the worst hit with as many as 27 lakh jobs disappearing by 2041, followed by 13.8 lakh jobs in the furniture sector, 6 lakh jobs in the food and agro-processing and tourism and hospitality sectors, and 1 lakh jobs in the footwear industry. This leaves the economy very little time to undergo another round of structural change, one that will strengthen it enough to absorb the blow of losing all these jobs without collapsing under the weight of rising unemployment, and other socio-economic unrest that may occur as a result.

Steps should be taken to shift workers from sectors that are bound to become more machine-intensive to others. Greater numbers of people should be trained to operate advanced machineries that will have to be adopted in the near future. However, a major drawback

here that experts continue to mention is that our education system is nowhere near capable of adequately providing that training, nor is it sufficiently flexible to incorporate the latest methods and ideas into its curricula fast enough.

In addition to woes in the domestic job market, Bangladesh's overseas employment has also dropped by 18 percent in the first six months of the current year, following a reduction in recruitment by Middle Eastern nations, according to official data. Whereas a total of 332,754 workers went abroad during the period between January and June this year, 392,002 workers left the country during the same period last year, according to data of the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training. This decline has happened consistently in the last years: in 2018, Bangladesh sent 734,181 workers abroad compared to 1,008,525 in 2017. Manpower recruiters believe reversing this trend will be difficult considering the realities prevailing in those countries, and because demand for low-skilled workers, which is what the vast majority of Bangladeshi workers in the Middle East are, has been waning.

The combination of these factors means there is a

fact that, in this century and the last, high unemployment, particularly among young people, has been one of the foremost catalysts that sparked social upheaval, violence, revolution, civil wars, and all sorts of other unsavoury situations. In fact, when we look at other catalysts such as foreign intervention and instigation, we will see that instigators rely primarily on the existence of such conditions, as anyone who wants to create social disharmony knows what impact employment and unemployment levels can have on the broader public psyche.

The challenge of creating more jobs, therefore, is not restricted to only GDP or any other isolated issue or statistic. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that it is much more than that, as we can see from numerous examples around us—Syria: where US diplomatic cables show how US officials were working to stir up the young unemployed Syrian population against their government; Greece: where around 50 percent of the youth are unemployed, and its parliament and other government buildings are regularly surrounded by angry mobs setting whatever they can find on fire; France: where the Gilet Jaunes (Yellow-Vests) have been swarming the streets



Youth unemployment remains a big problem for Bangladesh's economy.

SOURCE: CORPORATESANGBAD

perfect "storm" that is brewing slowly—and has, in fact, been "gathering" for some time now. One of the biggest problems we have when it comes to our government, its institutions and officials, is their slow recognition/admission that not everything is always hunky-dory, as their natural tendency has become to first attempt to fool the public into believing that everything is, and admit the truth only as a last resort. As a result of such childish delay, the kind of policy and administrative interventions that are necessary often arrive late. And by then, the issue at hand tends to snowball into something much bigger.

When it comes to matters related to employment/unemployment, that game plan is certainly a recipe for disaster. Firstly, the number of young and working-age people in the country is now around about at its peak. These people are going to do something. If they do not find proper employment, many of them might resort to a life of crime. Secondly, in addition to the different types of social costs, there are various kinds of economic losses that we, as a nation, will incur if we cannot incorporate these people into the larger economy and society.

Yet what needs to be understood most crucially

every weekend since November 17, 2018, despite getting beaten to a pulp by the extremely brutal French police.

With all these alarms ringing, one would hope the government and its various institutions would move swiftly to address this coming crisis from every possible angle. However, given the record of irrationality and apathy governments usually tend to portray, it may not be wise to just settle for that.

Here, while citizens should whole-heartedly try and persuade the government to take the right course of action when it comes to policies and decisions that concern job creation, as well as their implementations, other important and influential stakeholders in society should also step forward and find their ways to help—whether that be through funding educational institutions that can develop the high-skilled Bangladeshi workers of tomorrow, or establishing a business that would thrive and create employment opportunities for thousands of people, or some other means that best suits them.

Eresh Omar Jamal is a member of the editorial team at *The Daily Star*. His Twitter handle is: @EreshOmarJamal

Despite global climate extremes, why is climate action so slow?



SNEHA PANDEY

OVER a hundred people have died and hundreds of thousands have been displaced in the first few weeks of the South Asian monsoon this year. These numbers were

highest in Nepal, where the heaviest rainfall of the decade swept people, hillsides and highways away, leaving some of the world's poorest to deal with unfathomable losses. Similar extreme conditions have been reported in other parts of South Asia, including India and Bangladesh, as well. With still a few more weeks of monsoon left, however, this disaster is far from over and casualties will continue to mount. Referring to these flood damages, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) sent out a message reminding people of the "urgent need to act on climate change".

There was initial speculation that richer countries (of the Global North) would fare much better because, among other reasons, the weather was likely to get more pleasant as the climate warmed. However, this assumption is fast proving to be short-sighted, with temperatures surpassing 40 degrees Celsius in the region. This July—the month shaping out to be the hottest in Earth's recorded history—heatstroke has been responsible for the deaths of several dozens of people in the US and Canada. New temperature highs are also being set in France, Britain, Germany and other European nations. In fact, the UK is seeing a record number of drownings as people desperately use bodies of water to stave off the heat. Other major economies aren't faring

much better either. The Middle East is experiencing higher-than-normal temperatures in the 50s. Australia reported scorching temperatures in January this year—the hottest month in recorded history for them. Today, climate change has indiscriminately swept across the globe creating "hellish" conditions for all.

As the mercury continues to rise, the environmental and human impacts of climate change will become much bigger than they currently are. However, once the temperature rises to 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels—the upper limit that the Paris Agreement has famously identified—these impacts will become irreversible. Despite this understanding, however, the UN calculates that the current 2030 mitigation commitments are nowhere close to being enough. The fight against climate change has, surprisingly, not picked up the pace. Why?

Climate denialism

Modern civilisation was built on the back of fossil fuels. Therefore, today, much of the world's economy, technology, infrastructure and lifestyle is complexly tied to the carbon-intensive Big Oil industry. However, modern innovation in green technology is beginning to make fossil fuel somewhat obsolete. To fight back, Big Oil lobbyists have infiltrated some of the biggest markets—like the USA and Australia—and effectively managed to turn climate change into a partisan issue. This has fueled climate denialists, which eventually led to President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw the US from the Paris Agreement.

A 2019 survey conducted in 23 of the world's biggest countries found that among developed economies, the US and Australia had the greatest percentage of people who doubted the legitimacy of climate change. In the US, for example,

as much as 17 percent of the people agreed that "the idea of manmade global warming was a hoax that was invented to deceive people."

Such climate-denying constituencies, that vote for candidates who promise to scrap environmental protection policies, obviously hinder climate progress. However, climate denialism by itself does not paint a complete picture. After all, for every climate denialist, the study shows that there are many more who concede that fossil fuel emissions are leading to a rapidly destabilising planet. What then is keeping countries (and their people) from pursuing stronger mitigation actions?

Behaviour lag

Because the science behind the changing climate is so complex, there is no straightforward solution that can completely rectify this issue. Addressing climate change requires fundamental shifts of cemented human behaviour on many fronts—a feat that is hard to achieve. For this reason, climate change has been referred by experts as a "policy problem from hell".

Low carbon technologies like alternative fuels and energy storage have existed for well over a decade. However, the policies and infrastructure of many nations, which were designed during the age of fossil fuels, are locked in. Any change is perceived as too costly for the economy. This happens despite evidence that once initial capital costs are met, greener technology often tend to be more cost-effective.

As climate change increases the frequency of extreme weather, recent research suggests that people may start perceiving these events as normal. The study, which analysed the tweets of two billion Americans, shows that after as little as two to eight years of repeated impact, people tended to see extreme events as a result of natural climate

variation (and by extension, not a consequence of climate change).

Compounding this problem is the fact that the causation between one particular extreme event and climate change is rarely established. Because climate change causes environmental disruptions in so many different (often hidden and cascading) ways, tying any particular event to climate change requires extensive research and resources. These causal linkages are, therefore, rarely established, leaving room for people to question the role of climate change in any single extreme episode.

These tendencies to normalise or question the legitimacy of climate change impacts in our own lives and immediate environment often lead us to justify that the rapidly warming climate is not affecting us. It is often perceived as a threat to distant people from another generation, other socio-economic strata or geographic region. This rationalisation gives us plenty of mental space to postpone action—to not change lifestyle, consumption, footprint, or policies.

Consensus and cooperation

It is human nature to look for immediate benefits over long-term ones. And this is exactly what we tend to do when it comes to climate change. We either deny that there is a crisis or rationalise that taking action is expensive or unnecessary because the impacts are so very far away.

However, it is becoming increasingly clear that climate change impacts are already on all our doorsteps. The climate emergency is a global collective problem—it can only be solved with every nation's consensus and cooperation. It is, therefore, time to put short-term interests behind us and work towards the greater good.

Sneha Pandey is a graduate of the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. She tweets at @SnehaPandey92.

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Taka policy in a changing world



IT is still widely believed that depreciation of taka vis-à-vis foreign currencies—especially US dollar—will boost Bangladesh's export earnings. This is true only if our exports are priced or invoiced in Bangladeshi taka.

For example, if a shirt made in Bangladesh is invoiced at Tk 1,000, at an exchange rate of USD 1 = Tk 85, the shirt will cost USD 11.76 in the international market.

Now, suppose taka depreciates in value, with USD 1 equalling Tk 88—a 3.5 percent weakening of taka. At this exchange rate, the Bangladeshi-made shirt will cost USD 11.36, or 3.4 percent cheaper. As can be seen, when exports are priced in the local currency, a depreciation of taka will reflect an almost equal reduction in the price of a locally made shirt. If exchange rates of our competing countries such as India and Vietnam do not change, it is hoped that comparatively cheaper Bangladeshi shirts will lead to higher international demand for shirts followed by higher export earnings.

But our exports are invoiced in US dollar, not in taka. So, a depreciation of taka does not lead to an automatic reduction in the prices of goods that Bangladesh exports. To see this, consider again the example used above. A Bangladeshi-made shirt is priced at USD 11.76 in the international market and the current exchange rate is USD 1 =



Is taka depreciation good for economy or bad?

FILE PHOTO: REUTERS

Tk 85. Now, even if taka depreciates relative to the US dollar, with USD 1 equalling Tk 88, the international price of Bangladeshi shirt remains unchanged at USD 11.76. Other things held constant, the demand for Bangladeshi shirts also remains unchanged as well as its export earnings.

Thus, when exports are invoiced in foreign currencies, as is the case with Bangladesh and many developing countries, changes in the value of taka do not have a direct

impact on its export revenues. Instead, when taka depreciates, rather than boosting export revenue, Bangladesh's import prices rise. Higher import prices, in turn, push up the inflation rate at home. Given the large import content of raw materials and other intermediaries in RMG manufacturing, a weak or depreciating taka will thus make the cost of RMG production higher.

The point is simple. If a country's trade (exports and imports alike) is invoiced in

foreign currencies, its trade becomes more sensitive to fluctuations in foreign currencies than changes to its own currency. The theory and evidence behind this argument are demonstrated by Harvard economist Gita Gopinath, who is currently serving as chief economist of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

If a depreciation of the local currency does not boost export, why do Bangladeshi exporters lobby for a weaker taka? To some extent, our exporters suffer from money illusion. When an exporter receives USD 1,000 as a payment for his exports, the equivalent amount in taka is higher if we have a weaker currency (USD 1 = Tk 88 instead of USD 1 = Tk 85). But the higher nominal export earning of Tk 88,000 instead of Tk 85,000 is illusory because due to price inflation, the real purchasing power of Tk 88,000 is less than its nominal value. The only way exporters gain from a weaker taka is when the rate of taka depreciation exceeds that of the increase in price inflation.

Is taka over- or undervalued? Some market observers have pointed out that taka is overvalued. Bangladesh Bank intervenes heavily in the foreign exchange market to keep the value of taka against US dollar stable. If Bangladesh Bank had not intervened, taka per US dollar would have been higher than the current 83-85 range.

A rigorous way to determine whether taka is over- or undervalued is by estimating equilibrium exchange rate models for the taka-dollar exchange rate. In the absence of such models, any conclusion on the value of taka is premature. Moreover, the difference

between the official taka-dollar exchange rate and the parallel market rate is less than Tk 2, suggesting that the extent of currency misalignment may not be very severe.

Does Bangladesh Bank follow a "weak taka" or a "strong taka" policy? Up until a few years ago, Bangladesh Bank's exchange rate policy was clearly favouring exporters (i.e. stable but sustained weakening of taka). But sustained economic growth over the past decade has created an affluent consumer group with annual income exceeding USD 5,000. These consumers have a voracious demand for imported goods and services that the country is unable to satisfy.

Consequently, a group of import lobbyists has emerged who prefers a stronger taka to keep import prices under check. The surprising low volatility of the taka-dollar exchange rate trading within a narrow range likely suggests that Bangladesh Bank's exchange rate policy is addressing the concerns of both exporters and importers.

A strong taka not only makes our imports cheaper, our exporters also benefit from cheap imports of raw materials they need. While it may sound counterintuitive, a strong taka may be good news for exporting industries as this may trigger industry restructuring and spur productivity growth. If the Bangladesh Bank is to blame for the loss of export competitiveness due to an overvalued taka, it should also receive credit for its contribution to the country's economic development through cheap imports and lower imported inflation.

Syed Basher is Professor of Economics at East West University.

Assam NRC: Should Bangladesh be concerned?



IN July last year, the draft NRC (National Register of Citizens) in Assam had primarily delisted more than four million people from Indian citizenship—a process that is now pending for its final publication on August 31 of this year. NRC

was meant to identify and delist those who are considered "illegal migrants", who entered Assam after March 24, 1971. The draft NRC, which raised concern for many in Bangladesh, was published when Bangladesh was going through its own struggle of having to shelter more than a million refugees fleeing from Myanmar. The concern was rather valid as the possibility of "deportation" of the alleged illegal migrants to Bangladesh was being emphasised time and again in political discourses and media debates in India. Since India has always refrained from bringing up the illegal migration issue in any official meeting with Bangladesh, Bangladesh did not officially express any concern over the NRC process.

However, in unofficial media exchanges, high-level government officials did clarify Bangladesh's position stating that there had been no unauthorised migration from Bangladesh to Assam after the country's independence in 1971. Reportedly, however, through personal communications between the highest-level state officials of both countries, Bangladesh had been reassured that this was simply an "internal issue" pertaining to India and that India had no plans to deport those people excluded from the NRC to Bangladesh.

However, all these informal exchanges, interviews and media analyses took place in the pre-election context of India. Although this had never been spelt out, for many Bangladeshis, this process of delisting citizens prior to the Lok Sabha election was initially thought to be just a political rhetoric or a stance of BJP to influence the electoral landscape in Assam. However, the way the illegal migration issue had been emphasised in the pre-election campaigns and the pace with which the NRC process was being conducted after the election, did raise an alarm that the promise to delist the alleged "illegal migrants" was perhaps never only a



People wait in queue to check their names on the draft list at a National Register of Citizens (NRC) centre in Nagaon district, Assam, India.

PHOTO: REUTERS/ STRINGER

political rhetoric. The last election manifesto of BJP had even promised to repeat the NRC process in future, in other parts of India.

As such, the essential post-election question for Bangladesh was if it should rest assured, based on only some informal communications, that the entire process of NRC is simply an "internal issue" of India with zero effect on Bangladesh. The so-called illegal Bangladeshis have always been at the centre of all debates and discussions surrounding the NRC in Assam. Even though there may have been debates over whether or

not they should be returned to Bangladesh, there had hardly been any disagreement in the public discourse regarding the status of the illegal migrants as Bangladeshis. Even the very decision of the Supreme Court of India, which had sanctioned the NRC process, clearly expressed that the illegal migrants detected through the process should eventually be deported to Bangladesh. As such, there is hardly any scope to regard the NRC process as a mere "internal issue" of India that has no connotations for Bangladesh.

However, keeping in mind the friendly diplomatic relations that the two countries share, this much can be hoped that India would never send back such large numbers of denationalised people to the borders of Bangladesh. It had been indicated several times on behalf of the ruling BJP leaders and NRC officials that those who are finally delisted will have the chance to appeal to the Foreigner's Tribunals in Assam and the process can go as far up as the Supreme Court. Thus, although there is no specific policy explaining what would be the fate

of the people whose names will not appear in the final NRC, the Indian government has from time to time assured that the entire process will take up a significantly long period of time before any person's citizenship claim can be finally settled by the Supreme Court. This implies that no one will probably be deported to Bangladesh in the near future.

However, even if not deported immediately, throughout this potentially long process, millions of people will, in effect, lose all their political rights for an indefinite period of time and will probably end up in some detention camps. The crucial question then is—for how long will these people, arbitrarily deprived of their nationality and political freedom, feel safe in Assam? The entire process of denationalisation will create an unprecedented number of stateless persons in this region and it cannot be assumed with certainty that they will not be subjected to persecution based on their communal or linguistic identity within Assam. This fear of being persecuted and the indefinite state of rights deprivation will inescapably drive these stateless people to seek refuge at the borders of neighbouring countries. Thus, the way this denationalisation process is drawing a dangerous polarisation in the region, the possibility that Bangladesh may have to face refugees crossing borders from India at some point cannot be negated.

Other than the potential refugee crisis, it is also to be seen as to how far this divisive political process, which may result in a state of communal instability in Assam, will eventually affect the existing communal harmony in Bangladesh. In fact, it doesn't require much political foresight to infer that this politically motivated division and the resulting communal discontent will not be limited within the borders of India alone. Depriving such large numbers of people of citizenship will certainly have an adverse effect on the overall regional peace and security, and the country that will be affected most, for understandable reasons, is Bangladesh. In the context of the upcoming final NRC publication on August 31, how far the diplomatic effort from Bangladesh is prepared to effectively address the ensuing crisis remains to be seen.

Taslima Yasmin teaches at the Department of Law, University of Dhaka. Email: taslima47@yahoo.com

QUOTABLE Quote

ANNE FRANK
(1929–1945)
German-born Dutch-Jewish diarist and one of the most discussed Jewish victims of the Holocaust

Human greatness does not lie in wealth or power, but in character and goodness. People are just people, and all people have faults and shortcomings, but all of us are born with a basic goodness.

CROSSWORD BY THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Be bold
- 5 Served perfectly
- 9 "Separate Tables" actor
- 10 Styling site
- 12 Studio sign
- 13 Sculpting medium
- 14 "Snookums," e.g.
- 16 Spot's foot
- 17 Stretch of years
- 18 Sentiment for an ailing friend
- 20 Chestnut horse
- 22 Water whirl
- 23 Washington's successor
- 25 Golf bunker
- 28 "Impressive!"

DOWN

- 1 Moolah
- 2 Online icon
- 3 Rider's strap
- 4 Furious
- 5 Good quality
- 6 Lynx or lion
- 7 Wed in secret
- 8 Daisy's love
- 9 Slangy denials
- 11 Afresh
- 15 Scarlett's friend
- 19 Sunset site
- 21 Hip-hop songs
- 24 Blotchy
- 25 Chinos fabric
- 26 Fix
- 27 Without delay
- 29 "Help me out here"
- 30 Take wing
- 31 "Divine Comedy" author
- 33 Pecks and pounds
- 37 Apple variety
- 39 Lend a hand

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TUESDAY'S ANSWERS

P	E	S	O	A	R	K	S
Q	E	I	P	P	I	N	T
R	U	B	L	E	A	P	O
P	A	M	R	A	C	E	W
S	T	A	T	U	R	E	W
S	E	R	A	S	E	G	E
I	C	E	M	U	D		
H	A	N	K	T	O	N	G
O	N	E	V	E	S	S	E
V	I	B	R	A	N	T	B
E	M	A	I	L	E	L	A
L	A	S	S	O	L	A	S
L	E	E	R		L	D	E

BEETLEBAILEY by Mort Walker

BABYBLUES by Kirkman & Scott

NEWS IN brief

UN raises \$331m aid appeal for Zimbabwe

AFP, Harare

The UN food agency on Tuesday launched a \$331-million appeal for aid donations to feed millions of people in crisis-hit Zimbabwe, which is reeling from a drought and the high cost of food. Around five million people, or a third of the 16 million Zimbabweans, are in need of aid and at least half of them are on the cusp of "starvation", according to the World Food Programme (WFP). Speaking at the launch of the appeal, WFP executive director David Beasley said 2.5 million Zimbabweans were "in crisis emergency mode... marching towards starvation".

US warns off Venezuela allies China and Russia

AFP, Lima

Washington warned China and Russia to avoid doing business with the Venezuelan regime of Nicolas Maduro, as delegates from some 60 countries discussed ways of ending the crisis in the South American nation. The admonition Tuesday came a day after President Donald Trump ordered a freeze on all Venezuelan government assets in the United States and barred transactions with its authorities. But Russia's foreign ministry said there was "no legal basis" to freeze Venezuelan assets.

Violent blast rocks Danish tax office

AFP, Stockholm

Danish police said yesterday foul play was involved in a powerful explosion that rocked the national tax agency in Copenhagen, causing severe damage to the building's exterior but no serious injuries. The cause of the blast, which occurred Tuesday around 10:00 pm at the agency's headquarters in Osterbro, was not immediately known. Investigators were treating the incident as a criminal act.



Afghan security forces investigate the site where a Taliban car bomb detonated at the entrance of a police station in Kabul yesterday. Inset, a man carries an injured woman to a hospital after the blast. At least 14 people were killed and 145 wounded in the blast, sending a massive plume of smoke over the Afghan capital and shattering windows far from the blast site.

PHOTO: AFP, REUTERS



IS resurging in Syria as US pulls troops
Says defense dept watchdog

AFP, Washington

The Islamic State (IS) jihadist group was "resurging" in Syria while the United States withdrew troops, and has solidified its insurgent capabilities in neighboring Iraq, a Defense Department watchdog said Tuesday.

The jihadists -- who suffered major territorial losses at the hands of Iraqi and Syrian forces backed by a US-led international air campaign -- are exploiting weaknesses in local forces to make gains, the report from the Office of Inspector General said. "Despite losing its territorial 'caliphate,' the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) solidified its insurgent capabilities in Iraq and was resurging in Syria this quarter," according to the report, which uses an alternate name for the jihadist group.

IS has been able to "regroup and sustain operations" in the two countries partially because local forces "remain unable to sustain long-term operations, conduct multiple operations simultaneously, or hold territory that they have cleared," the report said.

The group's Syria resurgence came as Washington "completed a partial withdrawal" from the country, a move made despite commanders saying that the local US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) "needed more training and equipping for counterinsurgency operations."

N Korea's Kim sends missile warning to US, South Korea

Trump says US in talks with Seoul to hike payment for troops

AFP, Seoul

North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un says the country's latest missile launches were a warning to Washington and Seoul over their joint war games, state news agency KCNA reported yesterday, as tensions rise on the Korean peninsula.

The latest launch by the nuclear-armed North came after the South Korean and US militaries began mainly computer-simulated joint exercises on Monday to test Seoul's ability to take operational control in wartime.

Those drills are taking place despite Pyongyang's warnings that the exercises would jeopardise nuclear negotiations between the United States and North Korea.

KCNA said Kim had watched the launches early Tuesday, which verified the "war capacity" of the "new-type tactical guided missiles".

With the launches carried out satisfactorily, "Kim Jong Un noted that the said military action would be an occasion to send an adequate warning to the joint military drill now underway by the US and South Korean authorities," KCNA said.

Pyeongyang on Tuesday fired two projectiles that

"are assumed to be short-range ballistic missiles" into the sea, the South's Joint Chiefs of Staff said earlier.

The latest weapons tests were the fourth pair of projectiles fired in less than two weeks, and the North has threatened more.

US President Donald Trump said yesterday his administration is in talks with South Korea to pay "substantially more" for protection against North Korea, with tensions rising on the Korean peninsula.

"Over the past many decades, the U.S. has been paid very little by South Korea, but last year, at the request of President Trump, South Korea paid \$990,000,000," Trump posted on Twitter.

Trump last week downplayed the North's launches, saying Kim would not want to "disappoint" him.

Trump and Kim held a historic summit in Singapore last year, where the North made a vague pledge on denuclearisation.

A second summit in Hanoi this February broke up amid disagreements over sanctions relief and what Pyongyang might be willing to give up in return.



REMOVAL OF KASHMIR'S SPECIAL STATUS

Ladakh enclave jubilant, but China angered

REUTERS, Mumbai

The Buddhist enclave of Ladakh cheered India's move to hive it off from Jammu and Kashmir state, a change that could spur tourism and help New Delhi counter China's influence in the contested western Himalayas.

Beijing, though, criticised the announcement, made on Monday by the Indian government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi as part of a wider policy shift that also ended Jammu and Kashmir's right to set its own laws. In a statement on Tuesday, China said the decision was unacceptable and undermined its territorial sovereignty.

Ladakh is an arid, mountainous area of around 59,146 square kilometers (22,836 square miles), much of it uninhabitable, that only has 274,000 residents. The rest of Jammu and Kashmir is roughly 163,090 square kilometers (62,969 square miles) with a population of some 12.2 million.

China and India still claim vast swathes of each other's territory along their 3,500

km (2,173 mile) Himalayan border.

"The fact that India took this move ... can be seen as one way that India is trying to counter growing Chinese influence in the region," said Sameer Patil, a Mumbai-based fellow in international security studies at the Gateway House think-tank.

In a statement, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said China contests the inclusion of what it regards as its territory on the Indian side of the western section of the China-India border.

By announcing it would turn Ladakh into its own administrative district, the Indian government fulfilled a decades-long demand from political leaders there. Ladakh locals were tired of being hurt or ignored because of the many years of turmoil in the Kashmir Valley resulting from separatist militant activity and the Indian military's moves to crush them.

"We are very happy that we are separated from Kashmir. Now we can be the owners of our own destiny," Tsering Samphel, a veteran politician from the Congress party in Ladakh, said on Tuesday.

VISITS TO MASSACRE SITES

Trump faces cold shoulder, protests

AFP, Washington

President Donald Trump was flying to the sites of mass shootings in Ohio and Texas yesterday, but the divisive Republican risks meeting protests by Americans who blame him for stoking the violence.

Trump has been walking a difficult line since the massacres of 31 people over the weekend -- 22 at a Walmart frequented by large numbers of Hispanic people in El Paso, Texas, and nine killed by a second gunman in Dayton, Ohio.

The visits "will be about honoring victims, comforting communities, and thanking first responders & medical professionals for their heroic actions," White House Press Secretary Stephanie Grisham tweeted.



Lawyers and members of the election committee's legal sector hold a silent march against what they claim is political persecution by the Secretary for Justice, while demanding an independent inquiry into the anti-extradition law crisis, in Hong Kong yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Silk Road sweeteners

China woos Myanmar's ruling NLD with junkets

REUTERS, Yangon

The National League for Democracy was forged in an uprising against one-party rule. Its activists spent years in jail under Myanmar's military junta. But since taking power three years ago, the party led by Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi has found an unlikely ally -- the Chinese Communist Party.

The friendship has blossomed in high-level exchanges between Suu Kyi and Chinese leaders, but also in interactions between party members on visits that mix tours of container terminals or education projects with boozy dinners and shopping trips.

The trips are part of a push to make Myanmar a vital stop on Chinese President Xi Jinping's flagship Belt and Road Initiative, offering to build deep-sea ports, hydropower dams and economic zones in a country desperate for investment.

Reuters interviewed more than 20 party members and lawmakers who have visited China on expenses-paid trips, through which Beijing hopes to overcome historic distrust and fears among many in Myanmar of becoming indebted to their much larger neighbour.

The invites have flowed since Myanmar's relations with Western countries soured following their sharp criticism of

a 2017 army crackdown in its northwestern Rakhine state from which 700,000 Rohingya Muslims fled to Bangladesh. NLD stalwarts such as Aung Shin, a former political prisoner, have welcomed China's hospitality.

"They want to show that they are not like before, so they invited us and showed us," said Aung Shin, who has been on at least 10 junkets to China since 2013.

Despite such perks, NLD leader Sandar Min says the party's members are not unduly influenced by the visits, which they say are useful learning experiences.

The visit would not prevent her from voicing her concerns over the New Yangon City project, she said.

Another controversial Chinese project in Myanmar is the \$3.6 billion Myitsone dam in conflict-torn northern state of Kachin, which was suspended in 2011 amid concerns it would be environmentally damaging and mainly benefit China.

In October 2018, Aung Shin, the party newspaperman, led a nine-strong Myanmar delegation that visited at least five dams on China's Yellow River.

Three other participants said they were under the impression the trip was paid for by the State Power International Corporation (SPIC), the giant state-owned enterprise behind the hydropower project.





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WHAT'S ON

Live Performance
 Title: Black at Jatra Biroti
 Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
 Date: August 9
 Time: 7 pm onwards
 Tickets: BDT 300

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: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
 Date: August 26 - 28
 Time: 10 am - 7 pm

Concert
 Title: 3 for 1
 Venue: 3rd Space, Dhanmondi
 Date: August 9
 Time: 6:30 pm onwards

Art Exhibition
 Title: Muhurtama solo art exhibition by Shamset Tabreej
 Venue: Dwp Gallery, Lalmatia
 Date: July 27 - August 22 (except Mondays)
 Time: 5 pm - 9 pm

Three upcoming films this Eid



Every year when Eid is around the corner, the work schedules for many in the entertainment industry tend to get busy. During these times, a variety of films, tele-fictions, songs and other ventures are released to keep the festive season vibrant and entertaining. Often, popular films are also screened in theatre halls. During the upcoming Eid ul Adha, three new films are scheduled for release this season.

SHAH ALAM SHAZI
 One film that the audience is highly anticipating is, *Moner Moto Manush Pailam Na*. Expectations are high for this big-budget film since it stars the 'King' of Dhallywood, Shakib Khan, and is being directed by Zakir Hossain Raju, one of the most renowned directors in the industry. Apart from its release in Dhaka, the film will also be released in various cinema halls

across the nation. Bubby will star opposite Shakib in *Moner Moto Manush Pailam Na*. Another upcoming film in the list is *Beporwa*, directed by Raja Chanda. It will star actors Roshan and Bobby, who are enthusiastic about their venture. *Beporwa* will also be released nationwide during Eid. *Bhalobashar Jala* is the third film in the list, to be released during Eid ul Adha. The film is directed by Bashir Ahmed. It star new-comers Orpa and Shakil in the lead roles.



(From left) Stills from 'Beporwa', 'Moner Moto Manush Pailam Na' and 'Bhalobashar Jala'.

PHOTOS: COLLECTED



PHOTO: COURTESY

Chhayanaut pays homage to Rabindranath Tagore

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

To commemorate the 78th death anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, Chhayanaut arranged a cultural programme recently at their premises, a practice the organisation has been carrying out committedly. Various vibrant performances based on the bard's songs, poems and dance

recitals were presented during the occasion.

During the event, performers from Chhayanaut staged the musical drama, *Shyma*, while Kanthashilan, a cultural group, staged *Ami Tomay Chharbo Na Maa*, adapted from Tagore's works. They also presented a poetic drama titled, *Karnakuntee Shangkbad*.

In memory of beloved author TONI MORRISON

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Recently, it was reported that Nobel Prize-winning author Toni Morrison has passed away at the age of 88. Tributes from many artists, writers and leaders quickly poured in for Morrison as soon as news broke of her death.

"Her writing was a beautiful, meaningful challenge to our conscience and our moral imagination. What a gift to breathe the same air as her, if only for a while," former US President Barack Obama — who awarded Morrison the Presidential Medal of Freedom — wrote on Twitter.

"What a life," wrote author Clint Smith on the woman whose books focused on African American people. "What a remarkable remarkable life. She not only changed the landscape of American writing, she changed the landscape of America."



PHOTOS: TWITTER

"She wasn't just the queen of American letters," said bestselling author Ibram X Kendi. "She wrote America's letters. And whether we realize it or not, all Americans and all writers are indebted to Toni Morrison. Sleep well. We are eternally grateful for you. We are eternally grateful for America's letters." Oprah Winfrey also posted a heartfelt message on social media, in honour of the beloved author.



'Aleya Twist' - A modern-day Bengali adaptation of a Dickens classic

SHARMIN JOYA

The British Council Cultural Centre, in partnership with Komola Collective, worked on *Aleya Twist*, a modern day Bengali adaptation of the celebrated English novel, *Oliver Twist*, by Charles Dickens, as a part of a three-week project. Komola Collective is a London-based arts organisation dedicated to telling the stories from female perspectives that often go untold. The play is adapted by Leesa Gazi and directed by Filiz Ozcan. They are both Joint Artistic Directors of Komola Collective. The play introduces Aleya, a female protagonist, in place of Oliver Twist.

Aleya is played by Ritu Akter. A group of young girls from English and Digital for Girls' Education (EDGE) Clubs of Tangail and BRAC also performed in the play. The rest of the cast and crew were hired from local theatre groups.

"It is a privilege to play Aleya. I am thankful to British Council for arranging such a great project and allowing me to have such a beautiful experience, working with so many professionals," says Ritu.

Although the story is set nearly two hundred years later and many thousands of miles away from the original story, the



PHOTOS: COURTESY

difference in time and place does not take away the harsh reality that the original *Oliver* had to face. *Aleya* is a ten-year-old whose mother passes away right after childbirth. *Aleya*'s struggles of surviving in unforgiving and greedy surroundings is the major plot point of the play. Before finally reuniting with her father, *Aleya*

encounters many harsh sides of the society, including child trafficking and stealing.

The whole team rehearsed in Madhupur, Tangail, where they staged their first show. The play was staged at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy yesterday.



Marking the 44th death anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy is hosting a month-long tribute to the Father of the Nation. Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Shishu Dol performed on the song 'Dhonno Mujib Dhonno' whereas the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Nritya Dol performed on 'Dukhini Bangla, Jononi Bangla' on August 6, 2019, in a cultural event, before the staging of the play 'Mujib Mane Mukti'. PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

5 high-ups

FROM PAGE 16
Hasan, Addl IG at PHQ Shahabuddin Qureshi and Addl IG Iqbal Bahar.

All five officials joined the police cadre in eight BCS, 1989.

Police sources said the prime minister might make the selection for the post after Home Minister Asaduzzaman returns from his three-day tour of India.

Al Mamun, who earlier served as the deputy inspector general of Dhaka range, was recently transferred to the PHQ as an Addl IG. Mamun's name is the most discussed as the next commissioner in the force. He hails from Sunamganj district.

Sources said Mamun was in the "good books" of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Mohammad Javed Patwary as he had a "clean image". The IGP wants to see him as the next DMP commissioner, sources added.

Since Javed Patwary took charge on January 25 last year, the PM has prioritised his opinions on bringing changes to the police force.

Additional IG Shafiqul is another one touted for the post, but sources said since he was appointed as the CID chief on May 16, he might not be transferred.

Hailing from Chuadanga district, Shafiqul, has been known as the "clean image" officer in the police force.

Meanwhile, officials said if the prime minister chose any of the juniors, then DMP Addl Commissioner Monirul Islam might be picked.

In the last couple of months, changes were brought to police super posts in different districts across the country and well-reputed officers got priority for the postings, sources said.

Three students

FROM PAGE 16
The three, aged between 13 and 15, were arrested on Monday.

According to police, the three students told the court that they strangled Abir to death over personal rivalry and then raped him.

After recording the statements, the accused were sent to jail. They were expected to be transferred to juvenile correction centre in Kushtia.

The beheaded body of Abir, a grade-II student of Koiradanga Nurani Hafizia Madrasa and Orphanage in the district's Alamdanga upazila, was found in a brick kiln on July 24.

The victim's mother filed a case with Alamdanga Police Station on the same day.

Earlier, police arrested the madrasa's principal Abu Hanif and assistant teacher Tamim Bin Yusuf in connection with the murder.

The duo was sent to jail on July 31.

Meanwhile, Mahbubur Rahman, superintendent of Chuadanga police, said the case had taken a new turn after the juveniles confessed their involvement in the murder.

"We want to further investigate the case to identify the real culprits," he said.

NAZI PROPERTY THEFTS

US senators want Poland to pay Jews

AFP, Washington

US senators are urging Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to encourage Poland to pay victims of Nazi property thefts, a move that earned praise from Jewish groups but risked antagonizing Poland's pro-American administration.

Eighty-eight out of the chamber's 100 lawmakers asked the top American diplomat in a letter Monday to "act boldly" to help Poland resolve the issue that has lingered for decades.

"In the decades since the fall of the Iron Curtain, Jewish Holocaust survivors of Polish origin and their families as well as others have found it nearly impossible to reclaim or seek compensation for the property that was nationalized by the Polish Communist regime" after being confiscated by war-era Nazis, they wrote.

"Now is the time, while the last Holocaust survivors are still alive, to back up our words with meaningful action," the senators added, referring to Pompeo's February speech in Warsaw where he called on Poland to take meaningful steps to restitute the property.

"We encourage you to pursue bold initiatives to help Poland to resolve this issue as quickly as possible."

Among the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis, three million were from Poland -- about 90 percent of the country's Jewish population.

A joint statement by Republican Senator Marco Rubio and Democratic Senator Tammy Baldwin that highlighted the letter quoted rights groups as well as Holocaust survivors who applauded the message.

Warsaw and Washington have cooperated closely on security issues, but the longstanding allies remain at odds over restitution.

Poland's Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki was condemned by Jewish groups in May when he said that holding Poland liable for the restitution would hand a "posthumous victory" to Adolf Hitler.



Communist Party of India (CPI) activists draw graffiti on the ground during a protest in New Delhi yesterday, in reaction to the Indian government scrapping Article 370 that granted a special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

PHOTO: AFP

Sporadic protests flare up in Kashmir

FROM PAGE 16

A police official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told AFP that in one incident a youth being chased by police "jumped into the Jhelum river and died".

The incident happened in Srinagar's old town which has become a hotbed of anti-India protests during the three-decade insurgency in Kashmir that has left tens of thousands dead.

A source told AFP that at least six people have been admitted to hospital in Srinagar with gunshot wounds and other injuries from protests.

More than 100 people, included political leaders and activists, have been arrested as part of the lockdown for being a threat to the peace in the Himalayan valley, officials told the Press Trust of India.

Meanwhile, eight Muslims MPs from UK Labour Party have written to Prime Minister Boris Johnson urging the British government to condemn the recent transgression by India in

occupied Kashmir.

The letter spearheaded by the Shadow Justice Minister Yasmin Qureshi, was signed by MPs Rushanara Ali, Rosena Allin-Khan, Shabana Mahmood, Afzal Khan, Khalid Mahmood, Faisal Rashid, Mohammed Yasin, as well as Liberal Democrat peer Baroness Shas Sheehan.

PAK DOWNGRADES TIES
Pakistan said yesterday it will "downgrade" diplomatic relations and suspend bilateral trade with arch-rival India.

"We will call back our ambassador from Delhi and send back their" envoy, Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi announced in televised comments, while a government statement declared that Pakistan will suspend trade in a downgrading of diplomatic ties between the arch rivals.

The decision was taken at a meeting of Pakistan's National Security Committee led by Prime Minister

Imran Khan and attended by the heads of the armed forces and senior government officials.

Pakistan's prime minister Imran Khan vowed on Tuesday to fight the issue "on every forum" and demanded the international community take action, accusing Modi of an anti-Muslim agenda.

The Pakistani military has also said it "firmly stands" with Kashmiris.

A spokesman for India's foreign ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

MEDICAL SERVICES
All telephone, television, and internet connections stayed severed in Kashmir. By night, police vans had patrolled the streets, with loudspeakers warning residents to stay indoors.

South Kashmir, the epicentre of the insurgency in recent years, was completely locked down, said a state government official who visited the area.

"The highway was deserted, except for some trucks and buses carrying

labourers out of the valley," added the official, who asked not to be named.

Local authorities have not declared a curfew, but instead clamped down on non-essential travel and gatherings of four or more, effectively keeping restive people in their homes, reported Reuters.

Officials of emergency services, such as hospitals and the fire department, said their staff were also frequently stopped at checkpoints, with access sometimes blocked.

The principal of Srinagar's Government Medical College, which runs the state's largest hospital network, comprising about 3,500 beds, has to personally visit district officials to coordinate services or seek approvals, a hospital official said.

"The principal doesn't have any means of communication," added the official, who asked not to be identified. "Police stations have been given satellite phones but not him. That shows their (government's) priority."

3 killed in 'gunfights'

FROM PAGE 16

After receiving the body, the family members went in front of Jashore Press Club where they spoke to journalists.

Denying the family's allegations, Md Moniruzzaman, OC of Kotwali Police Station, said Shishir was a listed criminal and there are at least 17 cases against him on charges including murder, possession of arms and explosives, and extortion, he added.

Police claimed that a DB team detained Shishir around 10:00pm on Tuesday from the town's Chicken Farm area. It recovered four crude bombs from his possessions and then filed a case under the explosives act against him, the OC claimed.

Shishir allegedly admitted

possessing firearms during primary interrogation.

Later, Kotwali police and DB took Shishir to Mahidia area near a Brick Kiln to recover the firearms.

"Sensing the presence of law enforcers, his associates opened fire. Policemen then retaliated, triggering a gunfight," the OC claimed.

Shishir was later found on the spot with bullet wounds and was taken to Jashore General Hospital, where he was declared dead.

Police claimed to have recovered a pistol and two bullets from the spot.

Shishir's uncle Sunil said there were 10 to 12 cases filed against Shishir, but he was on bail in all of them and that there was no arrest warrant against him.

"Earlier in 2017, police picked him

up and shot him on his leg. But this time, they shot him on the head," Sunil said.

Meanwhile in Bogura, two suspected robbers were killed in what police described as a turf war between two criminal gangs in Sherpur upazila.

Officer-in-charge of Sherpur Police Station Humayun Kabir claimed the dead, Dhanesh alias Sukumar, 38, and Afzal Hossain, 55, belonged to two different robbery gangs who got into a gunfight on the eastern side of the Bhabanipur bridge area around 1:30am.

"As we reached the scene, we found the two men on the ground with bullet wounds. They were declared dead after being taken to the Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College," said

Sonaton Chakraborty, additional superintendent of police in Bogura.

Their identities were later confirmed through police's Crime Data Management System, he added.

Police claimed to have recovered two firearms and ammunition from the scene.

According to police, both Dhanesh, from Gaibandha, and Afzal, from Natore, were wanted in several cases over robbery and extortion. Afzal was charged with murder as well.

Despite concerns from human rights defenders, deaths in alleged gunfights have been going on unabated as at least 198 people were killed in "gunfights" with law enforcers between just January and June this year, according to rights body Ain o Salish Kendra.

Sir Abed to guide future strategy of Brac

FROM PAGE 16

About his decision to retire from the top post, Abed said, "Over the past year, a process has been underway to develop BRAC's global strategy. I would like to invest time in ensuring that the leadership succession and governance structures are in place to strengthen our ability to progress as a unified, 'One BRAC' team globally."

About the future plan of BRAC, Abed wrote, a "sustainable and cohesive global operating structure" was much needed as the organisation aimed to expand in the next 10 years.

"While remaining as Chair Emeritus of BRAC, I will also work closely with respective leadership teams to ensure a smooth and successful transition."

He said for the past few years,

he had put a lot of thought and preparation into his succession plans.

"As you know, I handed over my management responsibilities as the Executive Director of BRAC at the age of 65 in 2001 and remained on the Board as Founder and Chairperson. Transitioning from the governance role of BRAC and BRAC International Boards has also been on my mind for quite some time."

Before sharing his decision, Abed in the letter described how BRAC became his story.

"I started BRAC when I was 36. Growing up, starting an NGO and working in the remote villages of Bangladesh were never in my plans. With my privileged upbringing, 14 years in London, first as a student, then as a Chartered Management Accountant, having a comfortable lifestyle as a multinational company's

executive -- my life was on an entirely different trajectory."

He said the devastating Bhola cyclone of 1970 was a turning point in his life. He also wrote that the liberation war, which began soon after the cyclone incident, completely transformed him.

"I sold my flat in London for 16,000 pounds and returned home in January 1972. With that money and some funds from a few close friends, I set up a relief and rehabilitation project in the remote area of Sulla. The Sulla project covered three unions in the Sunamganj and Habiganj districts in northeastern Bangladesh. That is how BRAC was born."

Abed also had a few words of encouragement for those coming after him -- Dr Muhammad Musa, who joined as the executive director of BRAC International in May 2019,

and Asif Saleh, who was appointed as the executive director of BRAC Bangladesh.

"I am confident in their ability to lead BRAC. Together, they will ensure that we continue to build an equal world."

"I have spent my life watching optimism triumph over despair when the light of self-belief is sparked in people. As a team, I want us to keep lighting these sparks. Our work should always reflect our faith in human spirit and our respect for their inherent power."

Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman, renowned academic, economist and policymaker will join BRAC as chairperson. Ameerah Haq, former UN undersecretary general for the Department of Field Support, has been elected as the chairperson of the BRAC International.

Eid rush

FROM PAGE 16

battered roads on Dhaka-Rajshahi and Dhaka-Bogura highways might cause sufferings to people.

Although Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader on Monday directed the authorities to complete the repair works of all dilapidated roads three days before Eid, many of the regional and district roads could not be repaired within the deadline.

A total of 565km roads and highways under the Roads and Highways Department (RHD) have been damaged by recent floods across the country. Of them, 107km are national highways, 51km regional highways and 405km district roads, according to data compiled by the RHD central control room till July 31.

SHIMULIA-KATHALBARI FERRY ROUTE

Operation of vessels on Shimulia-Kathalbari ferry route remained suspended since 10:00am yesterday due to rough waves and strong currents in the Padma, leaving hundreds of vehicles stranded at the Shimulia terminal.

Over 700 light and heavy vehicles, including around 50 buses, had been stranded at the Shimulia end of the ferry route since morning.

Kamal Hossain, employee of a private bank, along with his wife reached Shimulia around 9:00am on way to Gopalganj.

"We could not catch the last ferry that left the terminal around 10:00am as the ferry was occupied with people who reached there before us. We waited there for around nine hours as operations of launches and speedboats have also been suspended since morning," Kamal said.

Talking to this newspaper over the phone at 6:25pm, he said they were returning to Dhaka.

Ferry services at the terminal remained suspended till filling of this report at 7:30pm.

WAIT AT TRAIN STATION

Thousands of people thronged the Kamalapur Railway Station since morning yesterday. The rush got bigger in the afternoon. Those who bought advance train tickets on July 29 (the first day of sale of advance tickets) left Dhaka yesterday.

People going to the northern and western districts had to suffer delays as at least five trains ran behind schedule by 1-3 hours. Two other trains bound for Mymensingh and Kishoreganj were also delayed.

The other trains ran on schedule. A total of 52 trains were scheduled to leave the station yesterday.

Monir Hossain, a private university student, said, "I had collected a ticket of Silkcity Express after waiting at the counter for about 11 hours. The delay in train schedule now is causing suffering to me."

Asked about the reason for the delays, Aminul Hoque, station manager at Kamalapur Railway Station, said holidaymakers usually take a long time to embark and disembark trains at their respective stations, resulting in such delays.

Besides, damage to a coach caused delay of Kishoreganj Express, he added.

ROAD TRAFFIC SMOOTH

Although the conditions of Dhaka-Chattogram and Dhaka-Sylhet Highways are better, vehicles bound for northern districts slowed down after crossing the Bangabandhu Bridge.

Mosharref Hossain, general manager of Hanif Paribahan, said the authorities should deploy additional law enforcers to keep the traffic situation under control when the home rush reach its pick.

He demanded all repair works be stopped for now.

Meanwhile, Alamgir Kabir, joint director of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority at Dhaka Sadarghat, said rush of passengers will start from today after office hour. Our Munshiganj correspondent Farhana Mirza contributed to this report.

No-deal Brexit to cause food shortages: lobby

AFP, London

Britain will experience shortages of certain foods in the event of a "disastrous" no-deal Brexit, with "serious disruption" expected for months, the country's food and drink lobby warned yesterday.

"The food sector is absolutely clear that a no-deal exit is a disastrous outcome for us, but we've never said that the country is going to starve," Tim Rycroft, corporate affairs director at the Food and Drink Federation, told BBC Radio 4's Today programme.

"There will be selective shortages and they will be to some extent random because it depends on which trucks get through," he added.

Britain is due to leave the European Union on October 31, but there appears to be little prospect at the moment of a deal being reached to ensure the free-flow of goods after that date.

New Prime Minister Boris Johnson has vowed to take the country out, deal or no deal, which would mean trading with the EU according to World Trade Organization rules.

Fossils of giant parrot found in NZ

FROM PAGE 16

stood about one metre (39 inches) tall and weighed up to seven kilograms (15.5 pounds), according to a report by an international team of palaeontologists published in the latest edition of Biology Letters.

"It could have flown but we're putting our money on it being flightless," Paul Scofield, the senior curator of natural history at Canterbury Museum, told AFP yesterday.

When the bones were found in 2008 no one was certain what they were, and they spent 11 years gathering

dust on a shelf until the team looked at them again earlier this year.

"The thought they were from a giant parrot did not enter our minds. We thought it could be some type of eagle until we went back and looked at it again," Scofield said.

The parrot has been named *Heracles inexpectatus* to reflect its Herculean size and strength -- and the unexpected nature of the discovery.

"Heracles, as the largest parrot ever, no doubt with a massive parrot beak that could crack wide open anything it fancied, may well have dined on more than conventional parrot foods,

perhaps even other parrots," Mike Archer, from the University of NSW Palaeontology research centre, said.

The bird was approximately the size of the giant "dodo" pigeon and twice the size of the critically endangered flightless New Zealand kakapo, previously the largest known parrot.

Evidence of the parrot was unearthed in fossils near St Bathans in southern New Zealand, an area that has proved a rich source of fossils from the Miocene period which extends from about five million to 23 million years ago.

New Zealand, home to the now-extinct flightless bird moa which was up to 3.6 metres tall with neck outstretched, is well known for its giant birds.

"But until now, no-one has ever found an extinct giant parrot -- anywhere," associate professor Trevor Worthy from Flinders University said.

"We have been excavating these fossil deposits for 20 years, and each year reveals new birds and other animals... no doubt there are many more unexpected species yet to be discovered in this most interesting deposit."

বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগাযোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন
আইইবি ভবন, রমনা, ঢাকা-১০০০, বাংলাদেশ
ফোন নং: ১৪.৩২.০০০০.০০৭.৫৩.৯৯৪.১৯.২১৩৬
তারিখ: ০৫-০৮-২০১৯

VoIP Service Provider (VSP) লাইসেন্স
বাতিল সংক্রান্ত জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগাযোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন (বিটিআরসি) হতে ইস্যুকৃত VoIP Service Provider (VSP) লাইসেন্সধারী প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের মধ্য হতে নিম্নবর্ণিত ১২৪টি প্রতিষ্ঠানের লাইসেন্স মেয়াদ উত্তীর্ণ হওয়ায় বাতিল করা হলো। উল্লেখ্য যে, বর্ণিত ১২৪টি প্রতিষ্ঠানের মধ্যে ১০৬টি প্রতিষ্ঠান সরকারের বকেয়া পাওনা পরিশোধ ও যথাসময়ে নবায়নের আবেদন করেন এবং ১৮টি প্রতিষ্ঠান যথায়থভাবে আবেদন করেন। বিধায় উক্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের VSP লাইসেন্স নবায়ন করা সম্ভব হয়নি। উক্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহকে তাদের অনুকূলে ইস্যুকৃত VSP লাইসেন্সের কোন বৈধতা নেই। বিধায় VSP সংশ্লিষ্ট সকল প্রকার কার্যক্রম অনতিবিলম্বে বন্ধের জন্য নির্দেশনা প্রদান করা হলো।

বর্ণিত অবস্থায়, নিম্নবর্ণিত VSP লাইসেন্সধারী প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের অনুকূলে ইস্যুকৃত VSP লাইসেন্সের কোন বৈধতা না থাকায় কমিশনের অনুমোদনক্রমে উহা এতদ্বারা বাতিল করা হলো। সুতরাং উক্ত লাইসেন্সসমূহের অধীনে কার্যক্রম অবৈধ এবং বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগাযোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ আইন, ২০০১ এর অধীন শাস্তিযোগ্য অপরাধ।

Sl No.	Name of the organization	Registered address	License number
1	Con Voice Limited	99, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1217	3
2	Communication One Pvt. Ltd.	Bashati Comdominium, Flat B 9/10, House-15, Road-17, Banani, Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh	15
3	ICALL BD PVT. LTD.	Aziz Shopping Center (1st Floor), Reazuddin Bazar, Chittagong-4000.	36
4	A Tel Communications	Redcrescent Borak Tower (Level-7), 71-72, Old Elephant Road, Eskaton Garden, Ramna, Dhaka-1000	56
5	Smart Voice Telecom	2/1, Azgor Lane, Dhaka	75
6	Base Fashions Limited	62, Sataish Road, Gazipur, Tongi, Gazipur.	79
7	Zayantex Limited	Shameem Complex, 3rd Floor, 216, Shataish Road, Gazipura, Tongi, Gazipur.	83
8	Mysha Traders	9/C, Motijheel C/A, 3rd Floor, Room-703, Dhaka	98
9	Nahyan Telecommunication	288, Shantibagh, Dhaka-1000	103
10	S.S. Enterprise	334, South Goran, Dhaka-1209.	109
11	Fahad Communication	121/1-2, Tejkunipara, Tejgaon, Dhaka.	113
12	KRC Technologies	68, Kudroli-E-Khuda Road, New Market, Dhaka.	118
13	IS Pros Limited	ZEENAT BHABAN (5th floor), 41/1, KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM AVENUE, KAWRAN BAZAR, DHAKA-1215.	122
14	SUMMER CNG AND CONVERSION LTD	House-15, Road-20, Sector-3, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka, Bangladesh	124
15	INU IT	148, Hajeribagh Road, Dhaka.	127
16	Rajen Telecom	Room # 792, Redcrescent Borak Tower (Level-7), 37/3/A, Eskaton Garden Road, Dhaka-1000.	158
17	ISLAM TELECOM	Dhanpur, Halima Nagar, Adarsha Sadar, Comilla.	187
18	VONZER	80, Motijheel C/A (1st Floor), Motijheel, Dhaka-1000.	193
19	BUSINESS TRADE SYNDICATE LIMITED	46, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue (3rd Floor), Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.	199
20	Connect Asia Ltd.	166, Lake Circus, Kolabagan, Mirpur Road, 4th Floor, Dhaka.	227
21	Sky Road	JA-89, Middle Badda, Dhaka-1212.	230
22	Easy Trade Link	315 Ulan Road (1st Floor), West Rampura, Dhaka-1219.	234
23	Idea Networks and Communications Limited	12/1, SALIMULLAH ROAD, MOHAMMEDPUR, DHAKA-1207.	235
24	Arc Solutions	14/3, Ring Road, Shemoly, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh.	249
25	NKN Communication	Flat-A, House-25/A, Road-5, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1207.	253
26	Memory Information Technology	56/1, Nadda Bus Stand, Progotishorony, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212.	292
27	Telecom Asia BD Ltd.	Gani Bhaban, House # 06, Road # 16, Sector # 06, Uttara, Dhaka-1230, Bangladesh.	304
28	Reflect Voice Limited	72, Purana Paltan Line, Flat-A/7, Dhaka.	317
29	Unitel Technology	Holding # B-66/3, South Badda, Badda, Dhaka-1212.	319
30	Banhi International Limited	Beaumont, Apt-AB-4, 26/A/1, Monipuripara, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.	320
31	IGATE COMMUNICATION	47, Kallyanpur Main Road, Kallyanpur, Mirpur, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh.	324
32	Hussain Enterprise	339/B, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka.	329
33	Base Technologies Ltd	Hosna Centre (5th floor), 106, Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka-1212.	341
34	E2E Solutions Ltd	225, Fokirapul, 1st Lane, Dhaka-1000.	342
35	SA Communications	D-9, Monico Mina Tower, 48/3, West Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.	350
36	Gold Dust International Ltd.	228, Green Road, Dhaka-1205.	353
37	Gola Communications Ltd.	Rupayan Golden Age (4th Floor), 99, Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka-1212.	360
38	Vertex Linkers	263, Fakirapool, Wahed Complex (1st Floor), Room-05, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.	362
39	Spondon Power & Energy Ltd	219, Bara Moghbazar, Dhaka-1217.	369
40	Nest Enterprise	56/B, Road 132, Gulshan 1, Dhaka.	376
41	Latest Communication Shad Telecommunication	204/1, West Shewrapara, Mirpur, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Section-10, Block-A, Road-06, Plot-09, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216.	387
42	Royal Telecom	444, Berek Mansion, Nazrul Avenue, Kandirpar, Comilla.	393
43	Mamun Traders	House # H/40, Block # E (Ground Floor), Jakir Hossain Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka.	398
44	Empathy Trading	Plot-34, Road-46, Gulshan Uttor B/A, Dhaka-1212.	402
45	Development Design Consultants Limited	47, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212.	412
46	WASO Engineers & Consultants Limited	Haque Chamber (Level-05 & 06), 89/2, West Panthapath, Dhaka-1215.	416
47	Navana Trade International	House # 37, Block-E (4th Floor), West Side, Jakir Hossain Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207.	438
48	Fakson Telecom Limited	86, Monipuripara, Apartment # A4 (1st Floor), Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.	439
49	Dot Communication System	House-50, Block-B, West Rasulpur Kamrangir Char, Dhaka-1211.	451
50	Samanta Engineering & Construction	17, Dhaka Housing Adabor, Dhaka-1207.	458
51	SK Trade International	75/C, Asad Avenue, Mohammadpur Dhaka-1207.	464
52	Brothers International	134, Nawabpur Road (3rd Floor), Dhaka.	468
53	Shamsher Corporation	ANZIR MONZIL, HOLDING # 1026, JHAWTALA, COMILLA-3500, BANGLADESH.	492
54	Elan Communication	75/C, Asad Avenue, Mohammadpur Dhaka-1207.	494
55	BDTone Infocom	Unit: A-2,213/Ka, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208.	504
56	SMA Technologies	BA 1/4, South Badda, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212.	513
57	Altaf IT Solution	152/1, Tejkuni Para (5th Floor), Tejgaon, Dhaka-1212	518
58	Elite Telecom	84, Tejkuni Para, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215	519
59	Sinha Fashion	House # 56 (1st floor), Road # 03, Sector # 13, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230.	526
60	Connect BD Ltd	House # 41, Road # 1/A, Plot # 1, Banani, Dhaka.	531
61	Unique IT	Khawja Tower, 95, Bir Uttam A.K. Khandaker Sorok, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka.	539
62	Infotech IT	Kaderia Tower, Ja-28/8-B, Mohakhali, Dhaka.	543
63	APT Telecom	47/1/A, Totenbe Circuler Road, Dhaka.	555
64	Link Tel	67/1, Paltan Super Market, Shop-44, Paltan, Dhaka.	556
65	GEN IT	Kaderia Tower, ka-28/8-B, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212.	559
66	Sova Construction	House No-10, Road No-03, Nikunjo-2, Khilkhet, Dhaka-1229.	562
67	Anex Agency	950/B, YAKUB BUILDING, KHATUNGONJ, CHITTAGONG.	564
68	Polycom Communications	14, Purana Paltan, 6th Floor, Dhaka.	565
69	Z & Z Associates	20/2, West Panthapath (2nd Floor), Panthapath, Dhaka.	577
70	SH Agro and Company Ltd.	AKRAM TOWER, 10th FLOOR, 15/5, BIJOYNAGAR, DHAKA.	583
71	M/S ANONDO LAL SAMODDOR	Batagor Bus Stand, Gournadi, Baisal.	584
72	Base Textiles Ltd	9, CDA Industrial Area, Al-Amin Baria, Kalurghat, Chittagong-4221, Bangladesh.	595
73	Akash CNG Filling Ltd	Hosna Centre (5th Floor), 106, Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka-1212.	596

75	Base Papers Limited	Hosna Centre (5th Floor), 106, Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka-1212.	597
76	Promoda Textiles Ltd.	House No. 406, Lane 6, DOHS Baridhara Gulshan, Dhaka-1212.	617
77	Impress Telecom	Ka-44/A (Ground Floor), Kalachandpur, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212.	618
78	Bangla Voice Networks Limited	HOUSE-15/A (2ND FLOOR), GREEN ROAD, KALABAGAN, DHAKA-1205.	624
79	Haque's IT	Khawaja Tower, 95, Bir Uttam A.K Khandaker Sarak, Mohakhali, Dhaka.	631
80	Shamparko Shakti	BADARPUR (DARBAR SHARIF) MOUKARON, PATUAKHALI SADAR, PATUAKHALI.	648
81	Roja Telecom	29/1, Joykoli Mondir, Dhaka.	651
82	VIS-A-VIS Telecommunications	161(1/A), Ulan Road, Rampura, Dhaka-1219.	659
83	AB Technologies	GA-13 (GR FL), Mohakhali, Gulshan, Dhaka-1212.	660
84	Virtual Technology Limited	205/4, Fakirapool Bazar, Khan Plaza (4th Floor), Motijheel, Dhaka.	661
85	Aloha Limited	Suit- 7A; House-31; Road-03; Sector-10, Uttara Model Town; Dhaka.	668
86	Noore Badar Telecom	78/3, LOYAL STREET (PATUATULLY ROAD) SADARGHAT, DHAKA.	671
87	Vista Export Import Trading Company	160, GREEN ROAD (GROUND FLOOR), DHANMONDI, DHAKA-1205	672
88	Nazmus Sadat Telecom	BADARPUR (DARBAR SHARIF) MOUKARON, PATUAKHALI SADAR, PATUAKHALI.	673
89	SR Communications	48/3, West Agargaon, Monico Mina Tower, Flat # F-5, Dhaka -1205	682
90	SM Communication	48/3, West Agargaon, Monico Mina Tower, Flat # D-8, Dhaka -1205	683
91	Gateway Telecom	Taj Casilina, 3rd Floor, Flat # D4, Plot# SW11/4 25 Gulshan Avenue, GULSHAN-01, DHAKA-1212	684
92	Safe Talk Telecom	53, GREEN ROAD STAFF COLONY, KALABAGAN 1ST LANE, EAST SIDE, DHAKA-1205	685
93	Newell Technologies	39/6/1, Baishtaki, Hazi Ali Hossain Road, Mirpur #13, Dhaka.	689
94	Labaid Limited	House No.1, Road No. 4, Dhanmondi, Dhaka - 1205	692
95	Labaid Properties Limited	House No. 3/1, Road 4, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka - 1205	693
96	GPI Asia Tel	Plot # 711/4, Road # 11, Baitul Aman Housing Society, Adabor, Shyamoli, Dhaka-1207	696
97	MS Nahar Trading	Amzad Ali Road, East Sriramdi, Puranbazar, Chadpur	697
98	Digital World	166, Lake Circus Kolabagan, Mirpur Road, 4th Floor, Dhaka	708
99	Conficem Agencies Limited	14-15, Motijheel CIA 6th Floor, Dhaka 1000.	722
100	Five Star Telecom	223/A, Uttor Tejkuni Para, Buoil Shoroni Link Road, Dhaka-1215	728
101	S & S Associates	56, Tejyury Bazar Chawk, West Rajabazar, Tejgaon, Dhaka	740
102	Shasha Telecom	Plot # 107/A, Mascot Plaza (10th floor), Sonargaon Janapath, Sector # 7, Uttara C/A, Dhaka-1230	745
103	Sikder Metal Product and ICT Communication	Village: Vogra, Post Office: National University, Gazipur Sadar, Gazipur	747
104	Thein Ching Global Traders Limited	14/A, 31/A, Tejkunipara Center Point Concord, 13 (E) Floor, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215	755
105	Bijoy Communications	Red Crescent Borak Tower (Level-7), 37/3/A, Eskaton Garden Road, Dhaka-1000.	759
106	TechSource Limited	127 Fakir Pool, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka, Bangladesh	770
107	M/s. Munshi Telecom	23/1, COURT HOUSE STREET, DHAKA-1100	779
108	Bex Buy Trading	93, Soharwardi Avenue, Baridhara, Dhaka-1212	798
109	SASA Enterprise	2/B, Square Tower, 36/6, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205	802
110	Bismillah Technologies Ltd.	21/C, Zigatola, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209	806
111	Rahman Telecom	47/2, West Agargaon, Dhaka -1207	821
112	Fashion Trek Ltd	House 21/2, Road 17/c amfort housing, Adabor, Dhaka -1207	824
113	Khawja IT	Khawja Tower, 95 Bir Uttam A.K Khandaker Sarak, Mohakhali, Dhaka.	825
114	Burbery Telecom	92, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000	826
115	Infocom Limited	Shama, Bataili Hills, Ambagan, Chittagong	829
116	Nation Communication	120 (1st Floor), Bankers Row (Back of PM Office), West Nakhla Para, Tejgaon, Dhaka: 1215	832
117	Zaman Trade International	56, Purana Polton Lane, VIP Road, Suit 7/5	837
118	Anwar Enterprise	6/7, Rose Garden, Block F, Lalmatia, Mohammadpur	845
119	Imtize Communication	Orchard Faruque Tower, 72, Nayapaltan (Level 17), Paltan, Dhaka-1000.	864
120	Consulting Alliance Bangladesh Limited	House 6, Road 124, Gulshan 1, Dhaka 1212	865
121	ORBIT	256, VIP, Tower Shopping Mall, Kazir Dewri, Chittagong.	866
122	Saleha Mofiz & Sons	48/3, West Agargaon, Monico Mina Tower, Flat # E-7, Dhaka -1207	867
123	Smooth Telecommunication	956/3, Outer Circular Road (Flat#D-5), Rajarbagh, Dhaka	877
124	M.R. Business Center	Noakhali Complex (3rd Floor), 10/2, Rupnagar R/A, Pallabi, Mirpur, Dhaka	883

উপরোক্ত যে সকল প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট সরকারের সকল পাওনা বকেয়া (যদি থাকে) অত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি জারীর তারিখ হতে পরবর্তী ০১ (এক) মাসের মধ্যে পরিশোধের জন্য নির্দেশনা প্রদান করা হলো। অন্যথায়, বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগাযোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ আইন, ২০০১ এবং Public Demand Recovery Act, 1913 এর বিধান মোতাবেক মাল্শা দায়েরসহ অন্যান্য প্রয়োজনীয় আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে।

স্বাক্ষরিত/-
এম. এ. তালেব হোসেন
পরিচালক (লাইসেন্সিং)
লীগ্যাল এন্ড লাইসেন্সিং বিভাগ
বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগাযোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন

জিডি-১৩৪৪

Bangladesh Land Port Authority
TCB Bhaban (5th Floor)
Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215
www.bsbc.gov.bd

Memo No-18.15.0000.022.08.041.16-184 Dated: 07/08/2019

e-Tender Notice

Only e-Tender shall be accepted covered through National e-GP Portal and submission of any offline/hard copies shall be rejected at once.
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 of following packages shall have to deposit online through registered bank's branches as designed of National e-GP System.

Sl. No.	Package No.	Name of work	Tender ID	Last date & time of selling documents	Last date & time of submission documents	Tender/proposal opening date & time
1.	BLPA/Tra/e GP/01/2019-2020	Appointment of cargo handling Contractor (Manually) at Bhoma Land Port, Bhoma, Shatkira.	347970	09.09.2019 at 12:00	09.09.2019 at 13:00	09.09.2019 at 14:00
2.	BLPA/Tra/e GP/02/2019-2020	Appointment of cargo handling Contractor (Manually) at Nakugaon Land Port, Nalitabari, Sherpur.	348617	09.09.2019 at 13:30	09.09.2019 at 14:00	09.09.2019 at 15:30
3.	BLPA/Tra/e GP/03/2019-2020	Appointment of cargo handling Contractor (Manually) at Tamabil Land Port, Tamabil, Sylhet.	348457	09.09.2019 at 13:00	09.09.2019 at 13:30	09.09.2019 at 14:30

N.B. Pre-tender meeting will be held on 27 August, 2019 at 11:00am.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Anis Ahmad
Director (Traffic)
Phone: 55013797

GD-1343

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Bangladesh Shipping Corporation
BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road Chittagong-4100, Bangladesh
Memo No 18.16.0000.373.97.002.19/V04 Date: 06-08-2019

Invitation for Tender (LTM)

1	Invitation for	Sealed tenders are invited from enlisted brokers with the Interministerial Chartering Committee for transportation of 100,000 mt (+/-10% supplier's option) Arabian Light Crude Oil from Rastanura, Saudi Arabia to Chittagong, Bangladesh basis lay-can 28-30 September 2019 on account of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC).
2	Tender closing	Date: 26 September 2019 Time: 12.00 hours.
3	Tender opening	Date: 26 September 2019 Time: 12.05 hours.
4	Place	BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road Chittagong-4100, Bangladesh.
5	Website	The documents with details terms and conditions are available in the websites of Ministry of Shipping (www.mos.gov.bd), BSC (www.bsc.portal.gov.bd) and CPTU (www.cptu.gov.bd)

General Manager
Chartering & Tramping Bangladesh

GD-1346

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
জেলা সুপারের কার্যালয়
জেলা কারাগার, শরীয়তপুর
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

০১	এজেন্সি/সংস্থা	১। কারা অধিদপ্তর, বাংলাদেশ, ঢাকা।
০২	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর নাম	২। জেলা সুপার, জেলা কারাগার, শরীয়তপুর।
০৩	দরপত্রের নাম	১) জেলা কারাগার, শরীয়তপুর ০১/০১/২০১৯ হতে ০১/০৩/২০২০ সময়ে বিধি দ্রব্য সরবরাহের পূর্ণ দরপত্র।
০৪	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি বরাদ্দ ও তারিখ	১। কারা অধিদপ্তরের পর ৫৮-০৪.০০০০.০০০০.১২.০০১.১৮-৬০৫(১০০) তারিখ ১৬/০৬/২০১৯
০৫	দরপত্র আহ্বান পদ্ধতি	১। সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।
০৬	দরপত্রদাতার হানতম যোগ্যতা	২। দরপত্র নিউইউইউ উল্লিখিত শর্তাঙ্কযুক্ত।
০৭	দরপত্র দাখিল করার স্থান	১। কারা মহাপরিদর্শকের কার্যালয়, বাংলাদেশ, ঢাকা।
০৮	দরপত্র দাখিল করার শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২। জেলা সুপারের কার্যালয়, জেলা কারাগার, শরীয়তপুর।
০৯	দরপত্র জমা দেয়ার স্থান	১। জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, শরীয়তপুর। ২। পাল বাসা, শরীয়তপুর। ৩। জেলা কারাগার, শরীয়তপুর এর প্রধান ফটক।
১০	দরপত্র জমা দেয়ার তারিখ ও সময়	২১/০৮/২০১৯ হতে ৩১/০৮/২০১৯ পর্যন্ত।
১১	দরপত্র উন্মুক্তকরণের তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	২১-০৮-২০১৯ হতে ১২.৩০ মিনিট। জেলা সুপারের কার্যালয়, জেলা কারাগার, শরীয়তপুর।
১২	মুদ্রায়ন কমিটি সভা অনুষ্ঠানের স্থান ও সময়	জেলা সুপারের কার্যালয়, জেলা কারাগার, শরীয়তপুর। ২১-০৮-২০১৯ হতে ২.০০টা।
১৩	দরপত্র দাখিলের মূল্য	৭৫০/- (সাতশত পঞ্চাশ টকা মাত্র (অক্ষরতয়োগ্য))।
১৪	জামানতের পরিমাণ	২০,০০০/- (বিশ হাজার)।
১৫	দরপত্রের সময়সীমা	০১-১০-২০১৯ হতে ০১-০৩-২০২০ পর্যন্ত।
১৬	দরপত্রের সাথে যে সকল কাগজপত্র জমা দিতে হবে	১। দরপত্র নিউইউইউ উল্লিখিত শর্তাঙ্কযুক্ত।
১৭	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী	২। জেলা সুপার, জেলা কারাগার, শরীয়তপুর।
১৮	দরপত্রদাতার প্রতি বিশেষ নিদেশাবলী	১। দরপত্র নিউইউইউ উল্লিখিত শর্তাঙ্কযুক্ত যথাযথভাবে অবহিত হয়ে দরপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে।
১৯	দরপত্র সংক্রান্ত অন্যান্য তথ্যাদি জানার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট কারা কর্তৃপক্ষের দপ্তরে যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারে।	
২০	কোন কারণে দরপত্র বাতিল করা হলে দরপত্র ফি/এজেন্সির ক্ষতি/কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন।	

০৫ঃ মাধ্যমিক স্বাক্ষর লেখ উপরে/নিচে/বাম/ডান অক্ষরে
শরীয়তপুর সদর ও জেলা সুপার (সিডি/সিডি) জেলা কারাগার, শরীয়তপুর।

তারিখ: ০৬-০৮-২০১৯

Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University
Trishal, Mymensingh
Ref: JKKNIU/P&D/PRODAN/O.DE.TV-6/2019/44(A) Date: 05/08

e-Tender Notice

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

Sl. No.	Invitation Reference No.	ID No.	Name of work	Last date & time of downloading e-Tender documents
01	JKKNIU/DJKK NIU/Tender/G-1/2019-20	347839	Supply of Furniture for Student (Male) Hall	04/09/19 17:00
02	JKKNIU/DJKK NIU/Tender/G-2/2019-20	347836	Supply of Furniture for Student (Female) Hall	04/09/19 17:00

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 document from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any member of schedule banks for e-GP.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Engr. Md. Hafijur Rahman
Project Director, DJKKNIU (2nd Revised)
&
Director (Planning & Development)
Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University
Trishal, Mymensingh

GD-1345

Haor boat makers happy with good business

MINTU DESHWARA, back from Habiganj

With haors in Sylhet division getting filled to the brim by monsoon rains, the demand for boats has peaked.

Traditional boat makers in the region are now swamped with orders for new boats -- the primary mode of transport for people living around the haors.

Many residents of the area are also getting their old boats repaired so those can withstand the wear and tear for at least another season.

This is the time when the boat makers are the happiest and many of them are now working day and night to furnish the orders according to the needs of their customers.

Sale of boats has also picked up at different boat markets around Hakaluki and Kawadighi haors in Moulvibazar, Ikram haor in Habiganj and Sunamganj haor in Sunamganj.

Prices of a boat range from Tk 2,000 to Tk 45,000, depending on its

size, type and quality.

Boloram Das, a boat maker from Khowaimukh area in Habiganj town, said various aspects including design, size, workmanship, protective coat, cost of labour and quality of materials used contribute to the price of a boat.

He also said the timber, the main component of a boat, is gathered from local trees such as koroil, raintree, jarul, shal and mahogany.

Abdush Shukkur, another boat maker from Ikram Haor in Baniachong upazila of Habiganj, said he prefers timber form raintree to make his boats.

This is the season which all boat makers look forward to during the rest of the year, said boat maker Shiraj Mia from Hakaluki haor's Bhusimol area in Kulaura upazila of Moulvibazar.

When water is everywhere and people cannot go about their everyday business, they feel the need for a boat, said boat maker Bikash Das from

Tangaur haor's Sripur area in Tahirpur upazila of Sunamganj.

So far, he has six orders on hand and when the monsoon is over, there will be no job for him, he said, adding that boatmaking has been the livelihood of his family for generations.

A local named Mohibur Rahman said he recently bought a flat-bottomed traditional boat from a market in the area.

The boat is suitable for shallow waters and a person or two can paddle it, he added.

Boats are an integral part of the haor region and livelihoods of many depend on the profession of boatmaking, said Syed Mosharrif Ali, convener of Moulvibazar Jela Khet Mojur Samitee.

Nurul Huda Mukut, chairman of Sunamganj district council, at least 70 percent of the haor population rely on water transport and boats play a crucial role in the local economy.



Demand for boats peaks during monsoon in haors of Sylhet division. In a recent photo, a boat maker is seen at work in Khowaimukh area of Habiganj town. PHOTO: MINTU DESHWARA



Several hundred farmers from Lalmonirhat's Aditmari upazila yesterday blocked Lalmonirhat-Burimari Highway in front local storage depot (LSD). Forming a human chain there, they alleged that the food inspector at the LSD has been extorting money from them while buying paddy for the government. PHOTO: S DILIP ROY

BASIC LITERACY PROJECT IN LALMONIRHAT

No bribe, no honorarium for teachers

The 6-month project ended on June 30

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Thirty-five teachers in Lalmonirhat's Hatibandha upazila have complained that they were under pressure to bribe the authorities in order to receive their dues for working under a literacy programme of the government that ended over a month ago.

A total 1,200 teachers were appointed under a six-month project to educate 36,000 people at 600 centres in Aditmari and Hatibandha upazilas.

They were promised a monthly salary of Tk 2,400 under the project that ended on June 30. In order to keep the chunk on the hook, the authorities did not pay them the total sum every month, rather, deducted a portion and promised that the deposited amount would be disbursed upon the end of the project.

Now, in order to receive the due Tk 3,230, the project officer is charging Tk 1,000 per head, according to a written complaint submitted to Aditmari Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Mohammad Asaduzzaman on Sunday.

Taslima Akhter of Mahishkhoa village in Aditmari, said she had given Tk 4,000 bribe to the project officer to be recruited. "They promised us that the project would continue and eventually we would get a monthly salary of at least Tk 5,000."

"But now the project has ended and the

project officer is demanding Tk 1,000 for clearing my dues," she said.

Similar account came from 25 other teachers that this correspondent spoke to.

"I was not given Tk 3,230 as I denied to pay the bribe," said Shamsul Islam, another teacher of Mahishkhoa village. "We submitted a written compliant to the UNO on Sunday but no steps are visible yet," he told this paper.

Dipti Rani of Sarpukur village said she received the due amount after paying Tk 1,000. "Project supervisors are collecting the bribe from us."

"I paid Tk 1,000 to supervisor Shafiqul Islam and got Tk 3,230," said Rashedul Islam of Bhelabari village.

"During recruitment, I had paid Tk 4,000 to the project officials," he added.

When contacted, Project Supervisor Shafiqul Islam said he had no say on the matter as it was being handled by Shafique Hasan, programme officer in Aditmari upazila.

Shafique also shrugged off the claim saying, "I am just discharging by duties by handing over the dues. Seven hundred teachers have received the dues so far."

Saidur Rahman, assistant director of Basic Literacy Project in Lalmonirhat, said he was not aware of the matter. "I would look into it and bring to book if any official is found guilty."

Aditmari UNO Asaduzzaman echoed him.

Youth killed in rivals' attack

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A youth was killed while trying to save his father allegedly from the wrath of a rival gang at Pahardanga village in Terokhada upazila on Tuesday night.

The deceased, Naim Sheikh, 25, was son of Piru Sheikh, 65, of the village.

Naim's father Piru, who also sustained stab injuries during the attack, is now undergoing treatment at Khulna Medical College Hospital.

Local resident Taher Bepari said criminals entered Piru's house by cutting its mud wall and attacked him sharp weapons on Tuesday night.

They also stabbed Naim indiscriminately when he tried to save his father from the attackers, leaving his dead on the spot.

Officer in Charge of Terokhada Police Station Mohammad Salekuzzaman said rival groups might have killed Naim over previous enmity.

Organically fattened beef breeds increase ahead of Eid-ul-Azha

SHYKH SERAJ

Dear readers, Bangladesh has a total stock of 11.18 million (one million equals to 10 lakh) cows, buffaloes, goats and sheep ahead of Eid-ul-Azha, the second largest religious festival of the Muslims, a little up than that of the previous year. We know that preparations have already been taken regarding the stock of the sacrificial animals and supplying those to the selected markets. The government at an inter-ministerial meeting, chaired by State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Ashraf Ali Khan, has taken necessary steps to implement a contingency plan and ensuring fool proof security.

Bangladesh has attained self-sufficiency in meat production and significantly it is important to reduce cattle imports and illegal entry of sacrificial animals from neighbouring countries. Departments concerned are working with livestock department and city corporations to prevent cow fattening and using steroid and hormone injections.

Many farmers expect that they'll get a good price for their cattle. However, farmers from the flood-affected regions don't foresee good profit this year, as they witness signs of malnourishment due to feed crisis amid the ongoing floods across the country.

During the 80s, farmers of the country used to nurture their cows and feed them natural foods. Those cattle were their wealth, ahead of Eid-ul-Azha.

However, in time's course, as the demand for meat increased vastly in the country, the concept of beef fattening came along. I featured these changing scenarios on BTV's Mati O Manush. Dr Saad Ullah, the then head of livestock department of Bangladesh Agricultural University brought into the light Urea Molasses Block, a cattle feed especially suitable during disasters like flood. This was a brick-shaped solid food, which the cows used to eat by licking. Afterwards, came Urea Molasses Straw Technology, a mixture of water, urea, molasses and straw.

Farmers, consumers and traders, all are now aware of the harmful effects of fattening cows by growing them with steroid or other harmful chemicals. Many consumers can now identify cows which have been fed steroids. You would see them very calm and quiet. You would also notice saliva dripping from their mouth. Farmers are trying their best to fatten the cows by feeding pure, natural and organic food.

The country's development in the farming sector is quite encouraging and inspiring. There

is no doubt that there has been a revolution in the livestock sector in the last few years. Many unemployed youths have become self-reliant by establishing their farms. Women's success in bringing solvency to the family by raising goats is a remarkable story for all of us. Thus, country's livestock sector is expanding day by day. The number of farmers is also increasing and it means, livestock sector has ample potential for employment.

Without doubt, future farming scenario means smart farming, IoT (Internet of Things) based on artificial intelligence is adding new dimensions to livestock farming alongside mainstream farming. Some of the cattle farms are using digital technology at their farms and fetching new information. It is quite evident when technology is used more in numbers, then the cost comes down and becomes relatively low. It really does help the farmers hugely when the data of animal movement, health status is always being updated.

Throughout the year, cattle farmers concentrated more on fattening using organic and natural methods. As I have said earlier, the customers are more aware about the effects of antibiotics, artificial growth promoters and harmful chemicals. So, most people are looking to find the 'organic' one.

Few years back, I also wrote an article on

Shykh Seraj is Bangladesh's pioneer development journalist. He received country's two highest civilian honours, Swadhinata Puroshkar and Ekushey Padak respectively. He is an Ashoka and Bangla Academy Fellow. He also received highest award for agricultural journalism from the United Nations, FAO, H. Boerma Award, Gusi Peace Prize (Philippines) and many other prestigious accolades at home and abroad. At Channel I, he is the Founder Director and Head of News. He is also Director and Host of Channel I's popular agro-documentary, Hridaye Mati O Manush.



Shykh Seraj visits a cow fattening farm. PHOTO: HRIDOYE MATI O MANUSH

the beef breed, 'American Brahman'. It's been a few years that Brahman's new home is Bangladesh. In 2008, under the Beef Cattle Development Project, 10,000 samples of semen were brought to be used experimentally in Bangladesh. Then another 60,000 samples of semen were brought in. It is highly positive that Brahman has spread as an organic breed. During the first phase of the project in 2014-15, 130 selected cattle farmers in 80 upazilas of 38 districts applied Brahman semen on 260 cows. Meanwhile, advanced research on the breed is going on at Savar's Artificial Insemination (AI) and Research Centre and farmers are getting benefited hugely through this. This Brahman

breed can weigh up to 1000 kg.

In 2016, I rode from port city Ghent to reach the municipality of Avelgem, located in the Belgian province of West Flanders, to see something they call the monster beef breed, 'Belgian Blue', which can weigh up to 1200 kilograms. Big cattle farmers of our country have taken up the expensive beef breed 'Belgian Blue' to their farms, as well.

Dear readers, dengue and flood seem to have lessened the delight of Eid. We have always fought hard against any disaster, whether natural or manmade, and we will fight back. Keeping Eid-ul-Azha ahead, beef fattening is a profitable and promising business sector, you

already know. A large part of unemployment can be eradicated by expanding this sector. Livestock sector has been playing an important role in the country's economy. The march for 'organic' livestock should flourish even more. This sector will definitely create more employment opportunities for the youth. We must not forget one thing: we have to ensure a clean environment during and after the sacrifice of the animals as responsible citizens, since dengue has been spreading quite hugely across Dhaka and in many parts of the country. Clean and healthy surroundings is what we should give utmost priority to. My heartfelt Eid greetings to all of you.



With water level falling in the Jamuna, erosion by the mighty river has taken a serious turn in Govindasi union of Tangail's Bhuapur upazila. The photo was taken from Bhalkutia village yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Jamuna erosion wreaks havoc in Tangail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Riverbank erosion at different villages under Govindasi union in Bhuapur upazila has resumed as the water level recedes in the Jamuna river.

The people of several villages, including Bhalkutia, Kostapara and Khanurbari, are passing sleepless nights as their lands and homes are under threat. Last month, flooding damaged their crops and cattle, leaving them in despair.

Jorina Akter of Kostapara in Bhuapur upazila said, "My house was partially submerged in water for the flood in July. I was starting to feel relieved when the water began receding in the last week of the month."

"However, the mighty river devoured my home a few days back. I could do nothing to save it," she said.

Bisha Mondol of Bhalkutia village said erosion has already claimed several homes along the river.

When the water level first began to rise in the first week of July, locals had urged authorities to take steps to check erosion; but nothing was done, he added.

Earlier, the river devoured around 300 homes at Kostapara, Khanurbari and Bhalkutia villages at the beginning of the monsoons.

The affected people had taken shelter at different embankments or at relative's homes in nearby areas, said Ovijit Ghosh, a rights activist in Bhuapur and a resident of Kostapara village.

"The Water Development Board did not take any effective steps to protect the localities from the dreadful erosion," he alleged. "The WDB dumped some sacks at Khanurbari area, but those bags were filled with earth and not sand."

"Ever since a flood protection embankment was damaged in 2011, the local public representatives could not take proper initiatives to construct an embankment to meet the long standing demand of the riverside people," he said.

Jahangir Hossain Mondol, former chairman of adjacent Nikrail union parishad, said Jamuna is devouring fresh areas in the 300-year-old localities almost every day due to a lack of any effective steps to protect the area from erosion.

Jhoton Chanda, upazila nirbahi officer in Bhuapur, said they have already informed the WDB about the fresh erosion of the river.

This correspondent was unable to speak to Md. Sirajul Islam, executive engineer of WDB in Tangail, despite several attempts over the phone.

Cattle market at college ground during degree exam!

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

A cattle market was set up on Tuesday at the ground of Shaheed Smriti Government College in Akhaura upazila of Brahmanbaria, violating the Section 144 when a degree examination was going on at the college centre.

During a visit, this correspondent found that the college ground was abuzz with sellers and buyers of sacrificial animals.

It was learnt that leaseholder Alaul Karim arranged the makeshift market of sacrificial animals, which will continue the till day before Eid-ul-Azha.

Teachers and students of the college have expressed grievance over setting up of the cattle market at the college ground.

At 2:30pm on Tuesday, it was found that four examinees were appearing at the examination on the third floor of the college building while hundreds of sacrificial animals were kept on the college ground for sale.

"Upazila Nirbahi Officer [UNO] Tahmina Akter Reina, also chairman of the college governing body, has given permission for setting up the cattle market at the college ground. We have nothing to do in this regard," said Md Joyal Abedin, principal of Akhaura Shaheed Smriti Government College.

Several teachers of the college, on condition of anonymity, said the administrative authority has given permission for setting up the cattle market despite the college principal's objection.

Contacted, leaseholder Alaul Karim said he has set up the cattle market at the college ground with permission from the UNO and local public representatives are informed about the matter.

Asked about the matter, UNO Tahmina Akter Reina told this correspondent, "Only four examinees are taking part in an examination on the third floor of the college building and they have not faced any disturbance due to the cattle market."

As there is no alternative place for setting up a cattle market, the college ground has been considered, she added.

Farmers receive jute extraction machines

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Jute fibre extraction machines were handed over to ten farmers from different villages in Lalmonirhat's Adimari upazila yesterday.

Under a project funded by European Commission, non-governmental organisation RDRS Bangladesh in technical collaboration with Practical Action Bangladesh (PAB) procured ten machines at a cost of Tk 2.50 lakh each.

During the handover ceremony at RDRS Bangladesh office in Saptibari area, Lalmonirhat Deputy Commissioner Abu Zafar said the equipment will enable farmers to extract jute fibre at low cost.

Nirmal Chandra Bapary, project coordinator of PAB, said their objective is to help create demand for jute in national and international markets through extraction of quality jute fibre.

Jute produced on one bigha land can be processed in one week with each machine, he also said.

The equipment can also be used for thrashing of paddy and transport of agricultural products, said farmer Kashem Ali.



Indigenous Santal women from Gobindaganj upazila of Gaibandha participate in a traditional dance performance yesterday, marking International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, to be observed on tomorrow (August 9). Local indigenous communities during a day-long event also participated in a cultural programme, traditional archery show, discussion and rally on this occasion at Changuara Kacher Chura High School ground in Kamdia of the upazila.

PHOTO: KMREZAULHOQUE

"Strengthening of BITAC for the Establishment of an Institute for Tool Technology with Common Testing Facilities (1st Revised)" Project
Bangladesh Industrial Technical Assistance Centre (BITAC)
116 (kha), Tejgaon Industrial Area
Dhaka-1208

Ref: 36.06.0000.025.07.432.18.1-10 Date: 08/08/2019

Invitation for International Tenders

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

1	Ministry/division	Ministry of Industries.
2	Agency	Bangladesh Industrial Technical Assistance Centre (BITAC).
3	Procuring entity name	Project Director, "Strengthening of BITAC for the Establishment of an Institute for Tool Technology with Common Testing Facilities (1 st Revised)" Project, BITAC, 116 (kha), Tejgaon IA, Dhaka-1208.
4	Procuring entity code	224057200
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
6	Invitation for	Procurement of Tool Making Machine (Tool & Cutter Grinder).
7	Invitation Ref. No. & date	36.06.0000.025.07.432.18.1-10, Date: 08/08/2019
8	Procurement method	Open Tender Method (International).
9	Budget and source of funds	GOB.
10	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable.
11	Project/programme code (if applicable)	224057200
12	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Strengthening of BITAC for the Establishment of an Institute for Tool Technology with Common Testing Facilities (1 st Revised).
13	Tender package No.	BITAC Tool. GD19.
14	Tender package name	Tool Making Machine (Tool & Cutter Grinder).
15	Tender publication date	08/08/2019
16	Tender last selling date	22/09/2019
17	Tender closing date and time	23/9/2019 11:00am
18	Tender opening date and time	23/9/2019 11:15am
19	Name & address of the office(s)	Address -Selling tender document (principal) Accountant, Tool Institute Project, 1 st Floor, Administrative Building, Bangladesh Industrial Technical Assistance Centre (BITAC), 116 (kha), Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208. -Selling tender document (others) Not applicable. -Receiving tender document Project Office, BITAC Premises, 116 (kha), Tejgaon IA, Dhaka-1208. -Opening tender document Conference Room, Admin Building, Ground Floor, Room No. 103, BITAC, Dhaka/23/9/2019 at 11:15am.
20	Pre-tender meeting (optional)	04/9/2019 at 11:00am.
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER		
21	Eligibility of tenderer	(i) The tenderer shall have a minimum of 3 (three) years experience in supplying goods and related services. (ii) Tenderer must have up-to-date trade license, up-to-date income tax payment certificate, VAT registration certificate and bank solvency certificate.
22	Brief description of goods or works	Tool Making Machine (Tool & Cutter Grinder).
23	Brief description of related services	Not applicable.
24	Price of tender document	Tk. 2,000.00 (non-refundable).
	Package No.	Identification of package
	GD19	Procurement of Tool Making Machine
		Location
		Tender security amount (Tk. in lac)
		Completion time in weeks/months
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS		
25	Name of official inviting tender	Dr Syed Md Ihsanul Karim.
26	Designation of official inviting tender	Project Director.
27	Address of official inviting tender	Tool Institute Project, BITAC, 116 (kha), Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208.
28	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: 880-02-8870727 E-mail: pd_tool@bitac.gov.bd Fax No. 880-02-8870728
29	Approving authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.	
30	The advertisement can be seen at BITAC website address: http://www.bitac.gov.bd & cptu website.	
Dr Syed Md Ihsanul Karim Project Director Tool Institute Project BITAC, Dhaka-1208		

GD-1339

50 hurt in villagers' clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

At least 50 people were injured in a clash between two groups of villagers over occupying a local waterbody in Derai upazila of Sunamganj on Tuesday night.

Of the injured, 12 were admitted to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital while the rest are now undergoing treatment at Derai Upazila Health Complex.

Quoting villagers, police said there had been a longstanding rivalry between the supporters of one Moshahid Chowdhury Khurshed Mia of Modhurapur village over establishing supremacy in the locality.

As a sequel, supporters of both the group locked in an altercation over occupying a waterbody in Modhurapur Bazar area on Tuesday evening.

At one stage, both the groups locked in a fierce clash around 11:00pm that left at least 50 people from both sides injured.

Officer in Charge (OC) of Derai Police Station KM Nazrul Islam said, being informed, police rushed to the spot and fired several rubber bullets and teargas-shells to disperse the clashing groups and bring the situation under control.

Man found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A man was found dead at Haripur village in Joypurhat Sadar upazila yesterday, a day after he went missing on Tuesday.

The deceased, Abdur Rahim, 40, a rickshaw van puller and son of late Mozirul Islam of Mukindipur village in Naogaon's Dhamoirhat upazila, went out of his house on Tuesday and remained missing since then.

Villagers spotted Rahim's body at Haripur village and informed police.



Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Issuing Date of the IFB: 06th August, 2019

People's Republic of Bangladesh

Procurement of 150 Nos. Meter Gauge Passenger Carriages for Bangladesh Railway
EDCF Loan No.: BGD-21

- The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has applied for a loan from the Export-Import Bank of Korea from the resources of the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) of the Republic of Korea in the amount of 101,000,000 (one hundred one million) US dollars for Procurement of 150 Nos. Meter Gauge Passenger Carriages for Bangladesh Railway under the contract for BR/EDCF/150 MG Carriage dated 06th August, 2019.
- The Project Executing Agency now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the procurement of the following goods and services.
 - Different types of 150 Nos. MG passenger carriages
 - Supply of spare parts and workshop facilities Maintenance Tools
 - Education and Training and
 - O&M support
- Bidding will be conducted through Competitive Bidding (CB), single stage: Two envelope system, among the Korean Passenger Carriages manufacturer and supplier procedures specified in the Guideline for Procurement under EDCF Loans.
- Delivery period: 18 months to 30 months (Including delivery +commissioning & trials).
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Bangladesh Railway and inspect the bidding documents during office hours at the address below, from 7th August/2019 to 19th September from 10am to 4pm.
- A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of BDT 15,000.00 (Taka fifteen thousand) in the form of Pay Order in favour of Financial Advisor & Chief Accounts Officer/Projects, Bangladesh Railway, Dhaka.
- The bidder shall have minimum 05 years experience of supply railway rolling stock and manufacturer shall have 08 years of overall experience of manufacturing passenger carriages/EMU/DEMU and specific experience of manufacturing and supply of 200 passenger carriages/EMU/DEMU in last 10 years and also have production capacity of 60 passenger carriages per year. Detail qualification criteria will be found in bid document.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 22nd September/2019 at 12:00pm. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of USD 1,500,000.00 (one million five hundred thousand US dollar). Late bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the address below: on 22nd September/2019 at 12:30pm.
- A pre-bid meeting will be held on 27th August/2019 at 11:00am Room No. 411, Rail Bhaban, Dhaka.
- The Bangladesh Railway, Ministry of Railways will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids. Bidding document can be purchased by submitting authorization letter from the Korean Passenger Carriages manufacturer.

Mohammad Hassan Mansur
General Manager (Project Director)
Procurement of 20 MG Diesel Electric Locomotives
and
150 MG Passenger Carriage
Rail Bhaban (Room No. 627)
Bangladesh Railway
16-Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
Mobile: 088 01711-691150
E-mail: pdedcf@railway.gov.bd

DG/PR-101

GD-1340



Mahela, Moody want consistency in BPL

MAZHAR UDDIN



There has been a lot of discussion since the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) governing council disclosed plans for a new four-year cycle, but their communication seems arbitrary given how everything is set to change in the upcoming season, with the sixth edition having marked the end of the first cycle.

The governing council has communicated how things are going to change, including players' contracts and also the BPL's agreement with franchises.

Matters came to a head when the BPL organising committee informed that Shakib Al Hasan's move from Dhaka Dynamites to Rangpur Riders was not endorsed by the governing council. That created a lot of confusion and uncertainty among the franchises.

Now, franchise owners are clamouring for consistency when it comes to setting rules and regulations, which have constantly changed across almost every edition. With the seventh edition starting from December 5, questions have been raised about whether there is enough time



MAHELA JAYAWARDENE

for franchises to settle into this new realm with just three months in hand.

Sri Lanka legend and Khulna Titans head coach Mahela Jayawardene -- who has played in and been part of the coaching staff in many franchise tournaments across the world, including the Indian Premier League -- underlined how consistency provides a fair opportunity to everyone.

"Having long-term planning is important. I feel that when you keep changing the rules every year, and even while the tournament is on, it is not healthy for franchise cricket. If you look at the other tournaments around the world, they always have a consistent set of rules which guides all franchises and is quite fair for everyone. If you are starting a



TOM MOODY

new cycle then it is important that you set it up in a manner that is quite consistent for all franchises," the 42-year-old said.

Since 2016, icon players have been free to change franchises. Since then, icons have made moves every season and those have always caused controversy. In fact, rule changes were made after 2016 as well. In 2016 only two local players could be retained, but in 2017 four local players could be retained.

"If you want a clean slate then have one local icon as a direct signing and if you want to have one or two foreign direct signings then it's quite fine. But after that every other player should either be in a draft or auction. And if you are having an

auction then you can always have a salary cap. That is quite a fair way of setting up the franchise and adds competitiveness into the tournament because then most of the teams will be equally balanced. That's what the public wants and that's what will be healthy for Bangladesh cricket," he opined.

Another top coach who has been part of franchise tournaments across the world and is reportedly in contention for the India head coach job alongside Jayawardene, Rangpur Riders lead coach Tom Moody, said that consistency in the rules was important to grow a fan base.

"Having been involved in many T20 leagues over the past 12 years, it has become very clear that one of the most important elements is consistency in the playing conditions and rules set out for the franchises," the Australian said.

"It is not only important for franchises or management, it is crucial for the fan base to have an understanding of the playing group, not only local (players) but international as well, they are following. It gives them a loyal fan base. If we see things constantly changing on whims, the integrity of the tournament can be questioned both locally and internationally."



Domingo first of three in BCB's list

SPORTS REPORTER



The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has started the process of interviewing shortlisted applicants for the vacant head coach position of the national team, with former Proteas coach Russell Domingo the first to give an interview yesterday.

The BCB have been looking to fill the head coach role since the departure of Steve Rhodes after the World Cup.

Domingo took over the role of head coach for South Africa's T20 side in 2012 before he replaced Gary Kirsten in the Tests and ODIs in 2013. He held that position till 2017, when he took over as coach of South Africa A and Otis Gibson replaced him as national team head coach.

The BCB were happy with Domingo's presentation, which involved a short-term plan till the T20 World Cup in 2020 and a long-term version which looked behind 2023. Domingo outlined the players that would not be there after 2023 and underlined his vision to find players from the pipeline in preparation for the 50-over World Cup through the High Performance and academy teams.

BCB media committee chairman Jalal Younus informed yesterday that the board would conduct two more interviews for the role.

Domingo is reportedly also shortlisted by the Sri Lankan cricket board for their position of head coach after the incumbent, Chandika Hathurusingha, was suspended yesterday.

However, according to sources the Sri Lankan is a fourth option in contention for the Bangladesh job. Paul Farbrace, the current Sport Director of Warwickshire, is expected to interview for the job. A high-profile New Zealand coach is also understood to be in BCB shortlist, though he has applied for the India job and the board is unlikely to get his signature. That individual is most likely Mike Hesson, who was reported by the Hindustan Times to be one of the final three in India's shortlist alongside Mahela Jayawardene and Tom Moody.

Hathurusingha suspended

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lankan cricket authorities Wednesday suspended head coach Chandika Hathurusingha and appointed a temporary replacement for the upcoming New Zealand series.

Crickets board chairman Shammi Silva said former Sri Lanka fast bowler Ramesh Ratnayake was made interim coach pending a final decision on the status of Hathurusingha.

"Hathurusingha will not be involved in this (New Zealand) series," Silva told reporters in Colombo.

"We can't tell you details because this might end up being a legal issue."

Sports Minister Harin Fernando said this month that Hathurusingha would be given until the start of Sri Lanka's home Test series against New Zealand, which begins on August 14, to quit and make way for a new coach.

"If Hathurusingha does not leave, we may have to consider legal action or offer him a different job at the board," Fernando said at the time.

Women going straight back to work

SPORTS REPORTER



Having concluded their tour of South Africa, Bangladesh's women cricketers will now turn their focus to their next challenge -- qualifying for the Women's T20 World Cup slated for March 2020.

The A team players were accompanied by national cricketers on their recent tour to South Africa for a three-match one-day and three-match T20 series with South Africa's Emerging Team. The contingent returned to Dhaka on Tuesday.

They will now start preparing for the qualifying rounds of the Women's T20 World Cup with hopes of getting a ticket to the mega-event. According to Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) women's cricket wing development manager, Nazmul Abedin Fahim, the girls will start training from today.

"The qualification rounds for the T20 World Cup will begin from September 27. Bangladesh need to earn their spot to feature in the T20 World Cup. We will go to Scotland in September to play the qualification round but before that we will have a 10-day preparation camp in the Netherlands. We will play four practice matches in Netherlands before going to Scotland for the preparation camp," said Nazmul.

Nazmul added that the final



It is our request to you people [media] is that the more you give us coverage, the more we can go further. Bangladesh women's emerging team went to South Africa but it did not create as much buzz as it would have been in case of men's A team or under-19 team.

RUMANA AHMED
BANGLADESH CRICKETER

14-member squad for the qualifiers had not been confirmed, so all the players would undergo training.

"Before this, both the national team and the A team players went to South Africa. There, the A team players played their scheduled matches while the other players trained. Now all the players are here and they will have a 4-5 day training session, starting from tomorrow [today]. There is a gym session and a nets session and they will also play two practice matches at BKSP against a Dhaka Metro under-16 team.

Nazmul was also hopeful that the team would be announced before the end of the week.

"We have one or two fitness concerns. After the fitness tests tomorrow [Thursday], we can confirm the team that will go to play the qualifiers. Hopefully by tomorrow we will know who will feature in the 14-member team and maybe we can announce the squad the day after tomorrow [Friday]."

The women's team had managed to win two one-day matches but they lost all three T20 matches against the South Africans. However, Nazmul said that despite the results, it was good preparation for the girls, especially for the ones who do not get international exposure for the national side. He believed that giving the chance to many new faces on the tour would help the Tigresses in their upcoming fixtures.

Ind U-19s post 244

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh under-19 team were set a target of 245 runs by their Indian counterparts in their round-robin fixture of the Tri-nation T20 series at Beckenham, England yesterday.

Batting first after winning the toss, India under-19 posted 244 runs losing all their wickets in 49.3 overs in their rain-interrupted innings.

Captain Shubhang Hegde anchored the Indian innings with a 97-ball 69, his innings featuring four boundaries. Pacers Shoriful Islam and Avishek Das and spinner Shamim Hossain took three wickets each for Bangladesh.

The two sides have already ensured their final berth after confirming the top two spots ahead of this match in the three-nation affair. Bangladesh have 10 points from seven matches while India have seven points from six matches.

England, the other team in the tournament, have only three points from seven matches. England and India will play the last round-robin match tomorrow before the final between Bangladesh and India on August 11.

Dhawan makes a comeback

First ODI against West Indies today

PTI, Providence

With an air of invincibility, India return to the format that gave them a heartbreak in the not-too-distant past, facing West Indies in the first of three-match ODI series here on Thursday.

Shikhar Dhawan makes a comeback in the format where he has been India's third best player after skipper Virat Kohli and his deputy Rohit Sharma.

With 17 hundreds in 130 ODIs, Dhawan will rightfully take his place at the top of the order alongside Rohit and like the initial matches of the World Cup, KL Rahul is likely to go back to being the number four batsman.

With Kedar Jadhav expected to come in at No 5 or 6 depending on how Rishabh Pant is used as a floater, it will be a toss up between Manish Pandey and Shreyas Iyer for the remaining middle-order slots.

Both are players with a certain amount of flair but Pandey couldn't exactly seal it in the T20 Internationals and it's about time that the team management would think of giving Iyer a go and see how it pans out.

Extremely disappointed and hurt: Arthur

AFP, Karachi

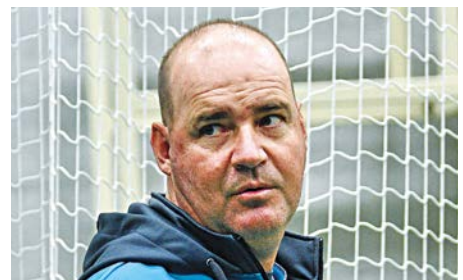


Mickey Arthur said he was "disappointed and hurt" on Wednesday as he was axed as Pakistan coach following an underwhelming World Cup.

Arthur, who has been linked with a move to England, said he had done his best with Pakistan who narrowly failed to reach the World Cup semi-finals.

"I am extremely disappointed and hurt," the South African told AFP shortly after the Pakistan Cricket Board announced his departure.

"I did my wholehearted effort to lift Pakistan cricket," he added.



Arthur's contract expired after last month's World Cup, won by hosts England, and he had asked for a two-year extension.

But Pakistan Cricket Board chief Ehsan Mani said Arthur and his coaching staff, including assistants Grant Flower and Azhar Mahmood, were all out.

"PCB will be immediately undertaking a robust recruitment process after it decided not to renew the contracts of head coach Arthur, bowling coach Azhar Mahmood, batting coach Grant Flower and trainer Grant Luden," the board said in a statement.

Pakistan's new coaching staff will be appointed after a four-member committee assesses the team's performance at the

World Cup, it said.

Reports say Arthur is on the shortlist of names for the next England coach after Trevor Bayliss departs following the ongoing Ashes Test series.

Pakistan lost heavily to arch-rivals India at the World Cup but finished with a record of five wins from nine matches, including one game that was rained off.

They scored 11 points and were unlucky to be pipped to the semi-finals by New Zealand -- who also had 11 points -- on net run-rate.

The PCB committee, which includes former captains Wasim Akram and Misbah-ul-Haq and which met on Friday, was unanimous in calling for new coaches.

"The committee comprised of individuals who possess tremendous acumen, experience and knowledge," Mani said.

"The unanimous recommendation of the committee was that it was time for new leadership and a fresh approach."

The PCB said it would advertise the posts soon.

Arthur joined Pakistan in May 2016, leading them to a drawn Test series with England that lifted them to the top of the rankings.

Pakistan also won the Champions Trophy in England in June 2017, raising their stock in limited-overs cricket.

That win, Arthur said, "brought on a whole new team of young players."

"We also became world number one in Twenty20 cricket in this period, which was an achievement," he said.

However, Pakistan have wilted in Tests in the last two years, losing 2-0 to Sri Lanka in the United Arab Emirates in 2017.

In all, Pakistan won 10 out of 28 Tests under Arthur, losing 17 and drawing one.

Pakistan have also struggled in ODIs in the last two years. Under Arthur, Pakistan won 29 of 66 ODIs, losing 34 with three no-results.

Chahar's new ball skills on par with Bhuvi, says Kohli

REUTERS, Providence



Deepak Chahar's new ball skills are comparable to that of an experienced Bhuvneshwar Kumar, India captain Virat Kohli said after the rookie seamer's match-winning opening spell against West Indies on Tuesday.

Playing only his second Twenty20 international, Chahar posted figures of 3-1-4-3 to leave West Indies reeling in the third and final match of the series in Guyana which India won by seven wickets to complete a 3-0 sweep.

Kumar, 29, is renowned for his ability to swing the new ball in both directions and has played 21 Tests, 111 one-dayers and 40 T20 matches for India.

Chahar has played a lone ODI and made the Indian squad on the back of a strong 2019 season in the Indian Premier League T20 tournament during which he finished third on the list of wicket-takers with 22 wickets.

"He was really lethal with the new ball," Kohli said at the post-match presentation. "The way he swings it and the areas he bowls in, he puts the batsman in a lot of trouble. "With the new ball, his skills are right up there (with Kumar's), swinging it both ways and getting a lot with the new ball in any conditions, and that has been his USP in the IPL as well."

Chahar's strikes reduced the hosts to 14-3 inside the first four overs and West Indies could never recover sufficiently and managed 146-6 in their 20 overs.

India then rode on an unbeaten 42-ball 65 from wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant and captain Kohli's 59 to reach their target with five balls to spare.

Pant, 21, has been long earmarked as the successor to long-serving wicketkeeper Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who is a veteran of 350 one-dayers and is widely considered as the best 'finisher' in contemporary cricket.

The 38-year-old Dhoni is sitting out India's tour to discharge his responsibilities as an honorary colonel in the Territorial Army, a reservist force that draws on civilians who can do short stints to assist the military.

Pant has used his chances well in the test format and hit a century in an Oval test last year while also smashing an unbeaten 159 against Australia in Sydney in January but scored nought and four in the first two T20s.

"He's got a lot of skill and talent," Kohli said. "It's about winning and finishing games like these and gaining



India captain Virat Kohli holds the series trophy after beating West Indies in the third T20I at the Guyana National Stadium in Providence on Tuesday. PHOTO: AFP

confidence, which he wants to do as well.

"It's about giving him a bit more space to ease himself into international cricket and not putting too much pressure because of the way he's played in the IPL.

"At the international level, you need to tackle pressure differently and play yourself into the whole set-up. He has come a long way since he started. If he plays like this more regularly, we will see his potential shine for India."

ROONEY ALWAYS HAD AN EYE ON MANAGEMENT

Wayne Rooney, fresh from signing a deal on Tuesday to become a player-coach at Derby County from next January, told reporters that he had always hoped to become a manager once his playing days were over. The 33-year-old, Manchester United and England's most prolific scorer, also said he had been excited to see former England teammates Frank Lampard and Steven Gerrard make their way in a world usually dominated at the top level by foreign coaches. Rooney will be following most closely in the footsteps of Lampard, who last season took the team he is set to join all the way to the Championship playoff final. Lampard has now taken over at Chelsea, while Steven Gerrard is in charge of Scottish side Rangers. "It's great to see them going into management. But it's not just because of that, I've always had an ambition to go into management," Rooney told reporters.

—REUTERS



Wearing the jersey of his new club Sao Paulo, Brazil national team captain Dani Alves poses for photographers during his official presentation at the Morumbi Stadium on Tuesday.

PHOTO: AFP

Allegations against Squash federation GS

SPORTS REPORTER

Bringing allegations of financial misappropriation, irregularities and autocracy against Bangladesh Squash Rackets Federation (BSRF) general secretary Jahangir Hamid Sohel, executive member Hedayetullah Turkee requested authorities concerned to launch an investigation against the GS and dissolve the federation's ad-hoc committee, which was formed in May, 2015.

Turkee, also an assistant registrar of Jagannath University, brought 29 allegations against Hamid, with the major allegations being misappropriation of fund, keeping the federation office closed, travelling abroad at federation's expenditure, using federation employee for personal purposes, not attending National Sport Council or sports ministry meetings, nepotism in selecting national squad, providing less money to athletes of SA Games camp, participating in foreign tournaments without BSRF president's approval and government order, submitting budget for Mujib Year without any approval from the executive committee.

"We have an office at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium, but it has been opened only once in last four years. An office employee named Gopal is being used for Sohel's personal purposes, but taking remuneration from the federation regularly," said Turkee at a press conference at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Turkee was accompanied by Bangladesh Squash Players' Association president MA Gani, general secretary Bholal Lal Chouhan, squash player Jobayer Ahmed and coaches of different clubs.

"NSC allocated Tk 12 lakh for talent hunt programme in 2016 but the training was conducted in cantonment areas in

Jashore, Cumilla, Rangpur, Ghatail for two or three days while in 2019, training was conducted in two cadet colleges. However, the expenditure was submitted for five cadet colleges with fake documents because there was no expenditure for accommodation, transport for the cadet students," alleged Turkee. "Players took part in different international tournaments at their own expenditure but the GS toured four countries this year with federation's money."

MA Gani alleged, "As a player I have seen there is disorder in selecting players and it is very disappointing that new players are not coming up. There is no consistent programme to develop squash. An unelected person becomes autocrat if he holds a key post for 16 years."

Hamid, son of prominent sports organiser MA Hamid and chess player Rani Hamid, however denied all allegations, terming those as hilarious, baseless and unacceptable. However, he welcomed any investigation against him.

"I don't know why he brought such allegations against me. The issue of financial irregularities is not right because the 2019 programme is still ongoing and I haven't yet submitted anything to the NSC. It is baseless that I am sending the squad without permission of the president," said Sohel.

"It is true that there is a lack of manpower at the federation. Is it possible to hold a post if no one likes me? But I myself also want someone else to take charge of the federation," said the former squash champion.

It is mentionable that BSRF organises four to five tournaments each year and the sport won bronze medals in men's team event in the last two editions of the South Asian Games.

City, Liverpool ready for heavyweight battle

AFP, London

Manchester City have Premier League immortality in their sights as they start their title defence this weekend, but Liverpool's burning desire to get their hands on the trophy will fuel a heavyweight battle for supremacy.

In the blue corner, treble winners City are at the peak of their powers and look capable of enjoying a period of sustained dominance not seen since Manchester United earned three successive Premier League titles from 2007 to 2009.

But in the red corner, European champions Liverpool, chasing a first English title since 1990, have more than a puncher's chance of ending City's reign after pushing Pep Guardiola's side all the way to the final day last season.

The first blows will be landed this week as Liverpool kick off the new Premier League campaign against promoted Norwich at Anfield on Friday, before City head to West Ham on Saturday.

Sunday's no-holds-barred Community Shield clash showed the growing rivalry between England's pre-eminent teams, with City beating Liverpool on penalties following a 1-1 draw that underlined how little there is to separate the sides.

Adding Atletico Madrid's Rodri for a club-record £63 million (\$77 million) gives Guardiola an even greater embarrassment of riches.

With five major trophies over the past two seasons -- including Premier League crowns clinched with unprecedented hauls of 100 and

then 98 points -- City are the bookmakers' favourites to become only the second club to win a hat-trick of English titles in the past 35 years after United did it twice.

Guardiola is a keen student of football history and has revelled in City's record-breaking feats, so the opportunity to further bolster his team's credentials as one of England's all-time greats will not be lost on the Spaniard.

Although City have never won the Champions League and Guardiola last lifted it back in 2011 with Barcelona, he said domestic bliss remains his preferred passion.

"To maintain the health and focus of the team, the most important thing is the Premier League," Guardiola said.

"It is the standout competition because it is every weekend. In the Champions League, many things can happen in one or two games.

"We will be closer to achieving in Europe when we have more Premier League titles. That is a nice process and the right process to do at Manchester City.

"If I could have one thing this season, right now, it would definitely be the title."

It would be a surprise if Liverpool do not make City sweat right to the finish once again after bouncing back from last season's agonising near-miss in the title race by winning their sixth European Cup.

No team has ever gathered more points without winning the Premier League than second-placed Liverpool did last season with their tally of 97.

Jürgen Klopp's side lost just once in their 38 league games -- crucially that defeat came against City -- but their 2-0 Champions League

final win over Tottenham ensured there was no title hangover.

Liverpool had the Premier League's meanest defence last season and boast an attack featuring two of the campaign's three leading scorers in Mohamed Salah and Sadio Mane.

Despite that wealth of talent, Liverpool midfielder Georginio Wijnaldum admits making a fast start is essential to stop City establishing a stranglehold at the top.

"You just have to collect as many points as possible, especially in the beginning, and try to build a team who will be even better at the end of the season," Wijnaldum said.

"We can try and do even better than last season. Basically it starts now because now we have the whole team together."

Challengers to City and Liverpool are likely to be thin on the ground.

Since winning the Europa League, Chelsea have lost star playmaker Eden Hazard to Real Madrid and hired an idolised but inexperienced new manager in Frank Lampard, who is working under the club's transfer ban.

Guardiola suggests Manchester United are contenders after making £80-million-man Harry Maguire the world's most expensive defender and landing young talents Aaron Wan-Bissaka and Daniel James.

But it is hard to imagine United, who ended 32 points adrift of City in sixth place, bridging that gap this season.

Arsenal have the look of pretenders rather than contenders, while Tottenham have not invested enough to satisfy boss Mauricio Pochettino despite a paying a club record of around £54 million for Lyon's Tanguy Ndombele.



Bayern Munich's record 80-million-euro signing, French defender Lucas Hernandez warms up during a training session in Rottach-Egern, southern Germany on Tuesday.

PHOTO: AFP

Zidane snubs Bale again

AFP, Madrid

Gareth Bale's stand-off with Real Madrid continued on Wednesday after the forward was left out of Zinedine Zidane's squad to face Red Bull Salzburg in a friendly.

Bale has only played in two of Real Madrid's five pre-season games so far, coming on as a substitute against Arsenal and Atletico Madrid, and has now been left out completely for a third fixture in a row.

James Rodriguez and Mariano Diaz, who are both expected to be sold, were also not included for the match in Austria.

Zidane has made clear that Bale is not in his plans as he looks to rejuvenate Real Madrid following their miserable season last term.

The club are keen to sign Manchester United midfielder Paul Pogba, with Tottenham's Christian Eriksen and Ajax youngster Donny van de Beek potential alternatives.

But Madrid first need to raise funds, after already spending around 300 million euros (\$336 million) this summer.

Zidane said last month that Bale being sold would be "best for everyone", while Bale's agent Jonathan Barnett told AFP: "Zidane is a disgrace - he shows no respect



GARETH BALE

for a player that has done so much for Real Madrid."

Bale is in no rush to leave the Santiago Bernabeu, where he has a contract until 2022, worth around 18 million euros a year.

He agreed terms with Chinese Super League club Jiangsu Suning last month but the move was called off after Madrid failed to agree a fee for the 30-year-old.

Bayern Munich retain an interest but any deal would be hugely expensive, making it increasingly likely Bale will remain at Madrid for the start of the La Liga season next weekend.

Forlan calls it quits

REUTERS

Former Uruguay striker Diego Forlan has announced his retirement, bringing to an end a 21-year career in which he played club soccer on three different continents.

Forlan, who started his career in South America with Argentine club Independiente, played for major European teams such as Manchester United, Villarreal, Atletico Madrid and Inter Milan before ending his career in Asia.

Forlan, 40, was also instrumental in Uruguay's run to the 2010 World Cup semifinals, where he was awarded the Golden Ball for best player at the tournament and finished as one of the tournament's top scorers with five goals.

"After 21 years I made the decision to end my career as a professional footballer," Forlan said in a statement.

"A beautiful stage closes full of great memories and emotions but another of new challenges will begin. Thanks to all who in one way or another accompanied me on this path!"

Forlan won the Premier League and FA Cup with United before moving to Spain where he helped Atletico win the Europa League in 2010 with a double in the final against Fulham.

He also led Uruguay to the Copa America title in 2011, grabbing another two goals in a final, when they beat Paraguay 3-0.

After a short stint in the Indian Super League with Mumbai City in 2016, he last played for Hong Kong Premier League side Kitchee Sports Club last year, wrapping up a career where he scored over 250 goals for club and country.

Hernandez starts Bayern training

AFP, Berlin



Bayern Munich's record signing Lucas Hernandez took part in his first squad training session on Tuesday, four months after a serious knee operation, the Bundesliga champions reported on their website on Wednesday.

The 23-year-old French World Cup winner has yet to feature for Bayern since his 80 million euro (\$89 million) move from Atletico Madrid in March.

His medical showed damage to the medial collateral ligament in his right knee that required an immediate operation.

Hernandez is unlikely to be ready for the opening game of the season against Hertha Berlin on August 16 but it is good news for his new teammates and manager Niko Kovac.

"I think the most important thing for the time being is that he's properly fit and starts to settle in," German international Leon Goretzka told the Bayern website.

The defender's return coincides with a media broadside aimed at the club by

striker Robert Lewandowski who has called on Bayern to bring in at least three new players.

"In attack we lost three players in the shape of Franck Ribery, Arjen Robben and James (Rodriguez)," Lewandowski told Sport Bild on Wednesday.

"And for the moment we have no new recruits for these positions."

While Robben has retired, Franck Ribery is out of contract and seems likely to be heading to Saudi Arabia while James has come to the end of a two-year loan period and has returned, for the moment at least, to Real Madrid.

Veteran defender Rafinha has also left in order to return to Brazil.

So far this summer, Bayern have only reinforced their defence with French world champions Hernandez and Benjamin Pavard while promising 19-year-old striker Jann-Fiete Arp has arrived from Hamburg.

The German champions have also been trying for weeks to attract Leroy Sane from Manchester City but no announcement has yet been made.

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Eid rush begins with hiccups

Many homegoers suffer due to suspension of launch, ferry operations at Shimulia-Kathalbari ghat; trains bound for western, northern districts face delay

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Eid holidaymakers heading for south-eastern and north-western districts endured sufferings yesterday due to suspension of ferry services at a major terminal and delay in some train schedules.

People who took Dhaka-Mawa Highway to reach south-western districts suffered the most as operation of ferries, launches and speed boats on Shimulia-Kathalbari route remained halted for hours due to strong current in the Padma river.

Bus terminals and railway stations in Dhaka were crowded with homebound people who were leaving the city to celebrate Eid-ul-Azha on August 12 with

their near and dear ones.

The home rush, however, is expected to intensify today and is likely to reach its peak two days before the Eid.

Although the three-day public holiday will begin from Sunday (August 11), a large number of government and non-government staffers will leave Dhaka today, taking a leave for the only working day on Wednesday next week, securing a nine-day vacation at a stretch.

Due to the long vacation, homegoers' trips are supposed to be a little comfortable this year compared to the last few years, said transport operators. But they feared that rain, strong currents in rivers and

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6



Children leaving the capital on their Eid holidays stick their heads out of train carriage windows and wave. The photo of the train heading for Rajshahi was taken yesterday at Kamalapur Railway Station.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Sir Abed to guide future strategy of Brac

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Founder and Chair Emeritus of BRAC Sir Fazle Hasan Abed yesterday in a letter said that after stepping down from his role as chairman of the non-government organisation, he would now focus on guiding the future strategy of BRAC.

"Now, at the age of 83, I feel it is the right time for me to step down from my role as chairperson and focus my time on guiding the future strategy of BRAC," he said in the open letter to his colleagues.

"Hence, I am retiring from my role as the chairperson of BRAC Bangladesh and BRAC International Governing Bodies," he said.

"I will continue to come to office. However, in the coming months, I will focus my time on shaping the global strategy and governance structure of BRAC."

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PRAYER TIME AUGUST 8

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

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Fossils of giant parrot found in NZ

AFP, Wellington

The remains of a super-sized parrot that stood more than half the height of an average human and roamed the earth 19 million years ago have been discovered in New Zealand.

Judging by the size of the leg bones, the bird would have

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MADRASA BOY MURDER Three students confess before magistrate

OUR CORRESPONDENT, KUSHIA

A Chuadanga court has recorded statements of three juveniles in connection with a case filed over the murder of their fellow student Abir Hossain.

Senior Judicial Magistrate Sazedur Rahman recorded their statements under section 164 of the CrPC on Tuesday night, said police.

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Sporadic protests flare up in Kashmir

One protester dies; scores arrested during curfew; Pak downgrades ties with India

AGENCIES

A protester died after being chased by police and more than 100 people were arrested during a curfew in Kashmir's main city after the restive region's autonomy was scrapped by India, officials said yesterday.

The death was confirmed by police after the government passed a presidential decree on Monday stripping the Muslim-majority state of its longstanding semi-autonomous privileges.

Despite a paralysing curfew imposed to head off unrest, sporadic protests have been reported by residents in the main city, Srinagar.

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3 killed in 'gunfights'

One victim's family claims he was picked up from in front of his house; police say they detained him elsewhere with explosives

STAR REPORT

Three men were killed in alleged gunfights with law enforcers in Bogura and Jashore yesterday.

In Jashore, the dead was identified as Shishir Ghosh, 32, a resident of the town's Sasthitola area.

Shishir's family, however, has alleged that police picked up Shishir from in front of his house and killed him just hours later.

Sunil Ghosh, Shishir's uncle and a local journalist, said a team of the detective branch (DB) of police picked Shishir up from on Tuesday around 8:30pm.

"In the name of recovering arms, they took him near a brick kiln in Mahidia area

and shot him dead. They then left his body at the hospital," Sunil said.

"I had called the DB's officer-in-charge [OC] over phone [after Shishir was taken] and he said nothing would happen to Shishir and that they just took him for questioning. But I later found his dead body at the hospital," Sunil said, adding that he would file a murder case in court against the police officers.

He wrote a Facebook post in this regard yesterday morning and sought attention of the government and human rights organisations to take action against the law enforcers.

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বিএলআরআই কর্তৃক উদ্ভাবিত পদ্ধতিতে হুটপুটকৃত গবাদি প্রাণী কোরবানি করি, নিরাপদ মাংস নিশ্চিত করি



হুটপুটকৃত গবাদি প্রাণী চেনার উপায়-

- নাকের উপরের কালো/লাল অংশ বা ম্যাজেল ভেজা ভেজা ও চকচকে থাকবে
- পিঠের উপরের কুঁজ সোজা, মোটা ও টান টান থাকবে
- কান খাড়া থাকবে ও লেজ নড়া চড়া করবে
- সাধারণ চামড়ার ও জাবর কাটবে
- পিঠের চামড়া টান টান থাকবে, পশম মসুন ও উজ্জল দেখাবে
- চামড়া টান দিয়ে ছেড়ে দিলে দ্রুত পূর্বের জায়গায় ফেরৎ আসবে
- আঙ্গুল দিয়ে ২০-৩০ সেকেন্ড চাপ দিয়ে ধরে থাকলে সুস্থ প্রাণীর চামড়ায় কোন গর্তের সৃষ্টি হবে না
- মুখের সামনে হাস জাতীয় খাবার ধরলে নিজে নিজেই জিহ্বা দিয়ে টেনে নিবে

প্রাণী খাদ্যে এন্টিবায়োটিককে "না" বলুন, নিরাপদ প্রাণিজ আমিষ উৎপাদন নিশ্চিত করুন

মৎস্য ও প্রাণিসম্পদ মন্ত্রণালয়
বাংলাদেশ প্রাণিসম্পদ গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট
সাতার, ঢাকা-১৩৪১
ই-মেইল: info@blri.gov.bd, ওয়েবসাইট: www.blri.gov.bd
ফি: ১০৪১

5 high-ups in race for the post of DMP boss

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The names of five top police officials have already surfaced as forerunners to the Dhaka Metropolitan Police commissioner post, which will fall vacant on August 13.

The service tenure of the existing commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia, who was appointed to the top post of DMP four and a half years ago, will end. He joined as DMP commissioner on January 7, 2015.

The officials most discussed for the soon-to-be vacant post are Additional Inspector General at Police Headquarters Chowdhury Abdullah Al Mamun and Additional IGP and chief of Criminal Investigation Department Shafigul Islam.

The ones in the race are Additional IG and rector of Mirpur Police Staff College Sheikh Mohammad Maruf

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১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের প্রধান ৪টি নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্য

জাতির জনক বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান এর প্রতিকৃতি সম্বলিত ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমানের নোট লেনদেনের সময় নিম্নবর্ণিত ৪টি নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্য খেয়াল করলে আমরা সহজেই আসল নোট চিনতে পারব :

- ০১। নিরাপত্তা সূত্র: ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের নিরাপত্তা সূত্র বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের লোগো এবং নোটের মূল্যমান মুদ্রিত আছে যা নোট এদিক-ওদিক (Tilt) করলে দেখা যাবে। জুন, ২০১৭ হতে প্রচলিত ১০০ ও ৫০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটও এদিক-ওদিক করলে চূলের বেনী সদৃশ নিরাপত্তা সূত্রের একটি অংশ (Band) লাল হতে সবুজ রঙে পরিবর্তন হবে এবং অপরাটর সম্পূর্ণ অংশে বাংলায় লেখা নোটের মূল্যমান দেখা যাবে। সাধারণ আঙ্গুর নোটের মূল্যমান আংশিক দেখা গেলেও টেলিভিশন স্ক্রিনে টাচ লাইটের নীচে নোট ধরলে পুরো Band জুড়ে মূল্যমান দেখা যাবে।
- ০২। রং পরিবর্তনশীল কালি: ১০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোট এদিক-ওদিক করলে রং পরিবর্তনশীল কালিতে মুদ্রিত অংশ সোনালী হতে সবুজ এবং ৫০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোট এটি লাল হতে সবুজ হবে। তাছাড়া, ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের পেছনে বামদিকে থাকা হালকা নীল রঙের BANGLADESH BANK লেখাটি নোট এদিক-ওদিক করে দেখা যাবে।
- ০৩। অসমতল ছাপ: ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমানের প্রত্যেক প্রকার নোটের সামনের ও পেছনের পিঠের ডিজাইন, মাঝখানের লেখা, ইংরেজী ও বাংলা সংখ্যায় লেখা নোটের মূল্যমান, ৭টি সমান্তরাল হেলানো সরলরেখা এবং এর ঠিক নীচে অবস্থিত ছোট ছোট বৃত্তাকার ছাপ খসখসে অনুভূত হবে।
- ০৪। অতি সূক্ষ্ম আকারের লেখা: ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের পেছনের পিঠের ডিজাইনে অংশে অতি সূক্ষ্ম আকারে BANGLADESH BANK লেখাগুলো আতশী কাঁচ ছাড়াও উন্নতমানের স্মার্ট মোবাইল ফোনের ক্যামেরা প্রয়োজন মত জুম করে কিংবা "Flashlight & magnifying glass" App এর সহায়তায় নিচে প্রদর্শিত অংশগুলোর উপর মোবাইল ফোন ধরে দেখা যাবে।

UV লাইটযুক্ত জালনোট সনাক্তকারী মেশিন ও মোবাইল ফোন এবং আতশী কাঁচ দ্বারাও জালনোট সহজে পরীক্ষা করা যায়।

নোট জালকারীচক্রের প্রতারণা থেকে নিজেকে রক্ষা করুন এবং এসকল নোট জালকারীকে ধরিয়ে দিন। আসল নোটের বিভিন্ন নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্য সম্পর্কে নিজে জানুন এবং অপরকে জানতে সহায়তা করুন।

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