

6 sent

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On Sunday, police submitted a 624-page charge sheet to the court against 24 accused of the case.
The prime accused of the case, Nayon Bond, was killed in a "gunfight" with police on July 2.
Rifat Sharif was hacked to death near Barguna Government College on June 6. A footage of the incident went viral on social media, creating a public outrage.
The victim's father Abdul Halim Sharif Dulal filed a murder case against 12 with Barguna Police Station on the same day.
Rifat's wife Minni was the only eyewitness of the incident and made accused in the case 18 days after the incident took place.

All but 2 JP MPs

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Quader, also current JP chairman, and followers of Ershad's wife Raushan Ershad for deputy leader of the opposition has now widened.
"JP MPs sending a letter to make GM Quader leader of opposition is nothing but putting pressure on Raushan Ershad's group," said a JP presidium member.
The Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party will sit for a meeting before the parliament goes into session on September 8 to select the opposition leader, he said.
After the meeting, they will send a letter to the Speaker regarding who to appoint as the leader of opposition in parliament.

Mainul

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On August 18 asked his client to appear before the court concerned within two weeks. As per the directive, his client surrendered before the court.
On October 16 last year, Mainul hurled abusive words at Masuda and called her "a person of loose moral" during a live talk show at a private television channel.
Following the incident, Masuda on October 21 filed a case with the Court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Muhammad Asaduzzaman Noor in Dhaka.
The other case was lodged by convener of Jamalpur Jubo Mobila League Farzana Yasmin Lita with the Court of Senior Judicial Magistrate Soleiman Kabir the same day.
Both the courts in Dhaka and Jamalpur issued arrest warrants for Mainul. But the High Court later on that day granted him bail for five months in the two cases.
On October 23, the Detective Branch of police arrested Mainul at the capital's Uttara in a defamation case filed against him in Rangpur. The next day, a Dhaka court sent him to jail after detectives produced him before it.
As many as 23 cases were lodged against him across the country over the incident.
On January 13, the HC granted him ad-interim bail for six months in 11 cases.
It also stayed the trial proceedings of 15 defamation cases for the next six months and issued separate rules asking the government to explain why the case proceedings against him should not be stopped.
On January 27, Mainul was released on bail after he had spent three months in jail.

Rover finds

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The Chinese space agency said that the discovery was made while the lunar lander was examining an impact crater, and described the object as being "a gel with a mysterious lustre lying in the centre of the crater". It had a shape and colour that was different from the soil around it, researchers said.
Some researchers have suggested that the shiny gel could be a glass that formed when the original impact event formed the crater. The heat of that collision could have created the glass that was spotted by the lander, they suggested.
But it remains yet to be explained and scientists will do more to find out where it came from, according to the Chinese space agency.
The discovery began at the end of July, when engineers that control the Yutu-2 lander were beginning to power it down ahead of one of its regular naps. The lander has to shut down throughout the day because its parts could be damaged by the heat of the Sun when it comes directly overhead.
As that was happening, one of the team members spotted something strange in one of the panoramic photographs sent back by Yutu-2. They postponed the rover's nap and instead drove it to the crater to examine it.
It was there that they found that it was a shining substance that stood out from the soil around it. Despite further scans of the object, researchers were unable to find what it might be.

Maitree to run 6 days a week

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY
Bangladesh Railway has started working to increase the number of trips between Bangladesh and India.
Once the proceedings are completed, Maitree Express, on Dhaka-Kolkata route, would run six days a week instead of four and Bandhan Express, on Khulna-Kolkata route, would run three days a week instead of one.
Miah Jahan, additional director general (operation) of BR, yesterday told The Daily Star that they had started discussion with their Indian counterpart in this connection.
"We will send proposal [to Bangladesh's railway ministry] to increase the number of the trains soon," he added.
The date will be set after submitting the proposal to Bangladesh railway ministry. There are many things involved in the process such as timing, slot availability and others, he said, adding that they would further discuss the matter with their Indian counterpart after the proposal is submitted.

BR has taken the initiative after Railway Minister Nurul Islam Sujan visited India early last month.
At a meeting with Indian Railway Minister Piyush Goyal on August 6, both the ministers agreed to increase frequency of the trains and reduce running time of Maitree Express, railway sources said.
MAITREE PERFORMING WELL, BANDHAN POORLY
Railway officials said the passengers' response on services of Maitree Express was "good" but in case of Bandhan Express it was the opposite.
The operation of Dhaka-Kolkata train service resumed on April 14, 2008, ending the 43-year pause in the route as two passenger trains called the Maitree Express started simultaneously from Dhaka and Kolkata.
The passenger train service between the two countries that was introduced during the British rule was snapped in March 1965 because of India-Pakistan war.

It's a scheme

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eyewitnesses and survivors of human rights violations as well as members of civil society organisations and aid workers.
It said Myanmar authorities tortured the Rohingya so that they accept the NVCs and restricted the movement and livelihoods of those who refused NVCs.
Due to the highly restrictive environment created by the government, the international humanitarian agencies ended up furthering the government's NVC policies and erasing the Rohingya identity.
"The NVC is a tool of genocide," a Rohingya refugee in Bangladesh told Fortify Rights. "We want our citizenship restored first, and there should be equality, safety, and security in our motherland."
Using a citizenship law enforced in 1982, the government denied access to full citizenship for individuals who do not belong to certain "national" ethnic groups determined by the government.
The government relies on an arbitrary and disputed list of 135 recognised ethnic groups that excludes the Rohingya, effectively stripping them of access to full citizenship.
Successive Myanmar governments also created a series of administrative "citizenship scrutiny" processes involving a variety of "identification cards" that progressively limited the rights of the Rohingya. The NVC is the most recent process that fails to confer rights to the Rohingya and is implemented through further human rights violations, the report said.
"I was beaten everywhere, my head, back, chest, and all over my body," a Rohingya farmer told Fortify Rights. The Myanmar authorities had told him, "If you don't accept the NVC, we will kill you."
Myanmar state security forces also forced the Rohingya to accept NVCs at gunpoint, the report said.
Fortify Rights recommends that the Myanmar authorities, with international support, restore equal access to full citizenship rights for the Rohingya through a speedy administrative process developed with the Rohingya in Myanmar, Bangladesh, and the diaspora.
HRW UNCONVINCED
New York-based rights group Human Rights Watch has expressed scepticism over plans announced by the Myanmar's military to prosecute soldiers for crimes against the Rohingya.
Human Rights Watch said the announcement did not indicate a change of attitude by the military, which denies carrying out abuses in a self-proclaimed counter-insurgency campaign two years ago. It has said its military operations in Rakhine were justified in response to attacks by Rohingya insurgents.
"The Tatmadaw's [Myanmar armed forces] decision to court-martial a few soldiers is hardly enough when we're talking atrocities that included murder, torture, rape and arson that destroyed people and their communities. This court-martial looks like just another game to divert international

attention by sacrificing a few low-level scapegoats," Phil Robertson, deputy director of the Asia division of Human Rights Watch, said.
He urged that it should be the military's top commanders who face punishment.
SUUI KYI SLAMMED
Myanmar's civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi has washed her hands of the Rohingya crisis, UN rights investigator Yanghee Lee said in Seoul yesterday.
Yanghee Lee said Suu Kyi was "terribly misguided and misinformed" about the abuses against the stateless Muslim minority in her country, reports AFP.
The US in July banned Myanmar's army chief Min Aung Hlaing and other officers for their role in the campaign of "ethnic cleansing". Suu Kyi was spared from the sanctions but no longer deserved to be called a democracy activist, Lee told AFP.
"It's time for her to speak out and use the word, call them the way they identify themselves as the Rohingya."
REFUGEE RELOCATION
Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen yesterday said the government would not force the Rohingya to Bhashanchar.
"The crisis won't end if the Rohingya are sent to Bhashanchar. It would be a temporary solution. The prime minister had wished to transfer some of the Rohingya to Bhashanchar considering the risk of land erosion in Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar. They could have some livelihood options if they had gone there," he told a small group of journalists at the foreign ministry.
He made the comment hours after German media Deutsche Welle reported that the government might force the Rohingya to Bhashanchar.
Momen told DW, "Again and again local people are getting killed. We cannot allow that. We need to maintain law and order. To do that, maybe we will force them to Bhashanchar."
DW also reported that Bangladesh government was putting pressure on the UN and other aid agencies shouldering the humanitarian effort to agree to relocating the refugees to Bhashanchar.
The news agency claimed to have seen minutes of a recent meeting between representatives of the foreign ministry and UN officials.
A government representative "strongly advised the UN agencies to include Bhashanchar" in the Joint Response Plan (JRP) for 2020, which sets out priorities for aid agencies' work. Otherwise, "the government of Bangladesh would not be able to approve the JRP-2020 if Bhashanchar was not featured in the JRP," DW said.
The UNHCR's spokesman in Dhaka declined to comment, but off-the-record UN officials agree that there was strong pressure on them to endorse Bhashanchar. One concern was that refugees might be contained on the island for years and their freedom of movement severely restricted.
They said splitting operations between Cox's Bazar and Bhashanchar was logistically difficult.

UK PM loses majority in parliament

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In a theatrical show of defiance, Conservative MP Phillip Lee crossed the floor of the Commons while Johnson was making his statement, to defect to the pro-European Liberal Democrats.
As a result, the prime minister no longer has a majority in the 650-seat chamber -- but the defection does not automatically bring down the government.
This can only happen if the government loses a formal confidence vote.
On a day of high drama, an Edinburgh court meanwhile heard a legal challenge against Johnson's decision to suspend parliament next week for more than a month, which critics said was a bid to silence MPs.
The heightened political tension sent the British pound tumbling yesterday to its lowest level against the dollar in almost three years.
DELAYING BREXIT
Johnson took office less than six weeks ago, after his predecessor Theresa May was forced out over her failure to get her Brexit divorce deal through parliament.
From the start, he faced opposition from his own MPs who fear his threat of leaving the EU without an agreement with Brussels risks severe economic disruption.
Former finance minister Philip Hammond is among those who have joined with Labour to draw up legislation that could force the delay.

They will first try to make room in the parliamentary agenda for a debate of the bill by putting forward a motion set to be voted on by MPs.
If they succeed, they will introduce their bill today and seek to get it through before parliament is suspended next week.
NO CONCRETE PROPOSALS
Johnson has rejected the divorce deal on the table but insists he wants to reach an agreement with Brussels to ease the end of Britain's 46-year-old EU membership.
EU leaders have refused to reopen the current Brexit text but Johnson insists progress is being made, saying that only with a credible threat to walk away will he secure a new deal.

JU protesters besiege admin buildings

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new administrative buildings under the banner of a newly formed platform "Jahangirnagar Against Corruption" around 7:30am as part of their day-long programme.
During the protest, they also staged a street play titled "Ekta Non-Fiction" that showcased various irregularities in handling the ongoing projects of the university.
JU Vice-Chancellor Prof Farzana Islam was not in her office during the demonstration.
Talking to The Daily Star, Prof Mirza Taslima Sultana of Anthropology department who took part in the protest said, "We expected that the university authorities would take a

participatory masterplan based on the interests of different stakeholders.
"But all we found was an incomplete plan," she added.
JU acting proctor ASM Firoz Ul Hasan, the only administrative member who showed up on the protest spot, said, "It's illogical that the protesters didn't allow us to open the proctor office. We tried several times to convince them, but they didn't pay any heed to us."
Later, the protesters brought out a procession around 1:30pm and roamed around the campus chanting various slogans criticising the authorities.
Ashikur Rahman, president of Jahangirnagar Cultural Alliance, said

they would continue the blockade programme until Thursday.
The agitated students have been demonstrating on the campus since August 23 demanding the relocation of three male students' dormitories which the authorities planned to construct near Rabindranath Hall, and judicial probe into the allegations of corruption and irregularities took place before the approval of these mega projects.
Meanwhile, 17 out of 25 registered graduates of the university yesterday issued a statement urging the chancellor of the university, who is also the president of Bangladesh, and the education ministry to resolve the crisis.

Policeman hacked

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to his head and right hand, said Anirban Chakma, deputy commissioner (traffic) of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police.
The attack came just two days after another on-duty police constable Abu Bakar Siddik was run over by a motorcycle at a checkpoint in Godagari upazila's Premtoli area. He later died of his wounds.
Yesterday, Joy Ram went to the traffic police office to hand over a motorcycle which was seized at a checkpoint on Rajshahi-Chapainawabganj highway in the city's Kashiadanga area.
As the constable came out of the

office carrying a red helmet in hand around 4:30pm, a young man wearing lungi and a black T-shirt attacked him with a machete, said Golam Ruhul Kuddus, spokesman and deputy commissioner of RMP, quoting witnesses.
The attacker hacked him twice, snatched the helmet and fled the scene.
Later, some other policemen sent Joy Ram to the RMCH.
In the previous incident, a team of police set up a checkpoint in Premtoli area on the Rajshahi-Chapainawabganj highway around midnight on Saturday to check vehicles for narcotics.
As constable Abu Bakar signaled a motorcyclist to pull over, the biker ignored the signal and ran him over, leaving him critically injured.
Police said the biker, later identified as Sohel Rana Pintu, 35 from Madarpur village in Godagari upazila, was also injured in the incident.
The two were sent to the RMCH where the constable died of his injuries on Sunday morning.
Godagari OC Jahangir Alam said it seemed to them that it was an accident. The police filed an accident case in this connection. He said Sohel Rana was undergoing treatment at the hospital.

in the Indian Army while Mizanur Ali is posted with the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF). Luckily Subedar Saidul Islam cleared the list.
Speaking about the matter, Dilbar Hussain said, "We fight with enemies. We regard our Army family first. But, we are deeply disheartened after the release of the final NRC list. There we are Indian Army jawans, but here at home we are fighting to get Indian citizenship."
CISF jawan Mizanur appeared completely shaken by the news that he has been excluded from the final NRC. "At the time of verification, they said that I am an intruder and came from Bangladesh in 2003. How is this possible when my elder brother got commissioned in the Indian Army in 1993? Even District Superintendent of Police verified my candidature when I was about to join the CISF."
Like Mizanur and Dilbar, Aziz

Why is Sunam not an accused?

FROM PAGE 1
Magistrate's Court in Barguna.
On Sunday, police pressed charges against 24 people, including Rifat's wife Ayesha Siddika Minni, over the sensational murder. She was released on bail yesterday.
Sunam, son of Barguna-1 lawmaker Dharendra Debnath Shambhu, denied any wrongdoing.
"My name was not mentioned in any confessional statements given by the Rifat murder accused. None of them mentioned my name while on police remand," he told The Daily Star.
"We have a political rivalry with the district Awami League Chairman Delowar Hossain. For this, his brother-in-law's sons Rifat Farazi and Rishan Farazi mentioned my name on the court premises in a planned way," said Sunam, also the science and technology affairs secretary of the district AL.
Delowar said he did not think he had any enmity with the Debnath family, and denied that he instructed anyone to mention Sunam's name.
Barguna Police Superintendent Maruf Hossain declined to comment.
But several police officials involved in the investigation told this paper earlier that no suspect mentioned Sunam's name during interrogation or in their confessional statements.
Investigators also said they did not find his involvement in the daylight murder on a Barguna road.
A number of the accused and their family members hold posts in the AL and its front organisations, including the Chhatra League.
The charge sheet does not name a mastermind.
The court did not accept the charge

statements, the sources added.
75 WITNESSES, 50 PIECES OF EVIDENCE
In the 34-page charge sheet, police named 75 prosecution witnesses and submitted 50 types of evidence, police said.
The evidence includes two cell phones, the machete used in murder, screenshots of Facebook Messenger Group "007", 12 screenshots of social media status during the incident, and Minni's dress, pictures, comb, hair and makeup kits gathered from prime accused Sabbir Hossain Nayan's house.
Nayan, also known as Nayan Bond, was killed in a so-called gunfight with police in on July 2.
MOTIVES BEHIND THE KILLING
In the charge sheet, police mentioned two motives behind the brutal attack, sources said.
First, a rivalry between Rifat and Nayan began when Rifat got in the way of Minni and Nayan, who continued to have an affair even after Minni's marriage with Rifat.
Second, a dispute began after Rifat forcibly took away the cell phone of an accomplice of Nayan named Helaluddin.
"Two days before the murder, Rifat took away the cell phone of Helaluddin. Helal then sought Nayan's help to get his phone back," a police officer told The Daily Star.
Nayan then requested Minni to get the phone from her husband, said the official.
"Rifat physically abused Minni when she tried to take the phone. Minni then informed Nayan about the incident and asked him to handle the matter himself," the officer said.

Soldiers face identity crisis

FROM PAGE 16
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Like Mizanur and Dilbar, Aziz

Ali also finds it very difficult to understand as to how he was excluded from the final NRC. Aziz too is a soldier in the Indian Army. His name was excluded in the first and second list and the same happened in the final list too. He said everyone is very tensed at home.
"After the final NRC list, no one from the family speaks about, but all are burning inside. My father was crying yesterday. We wonder why we are alive when we have almost been declared as foreigners. What to do? Shall we fight with enemies on borders or solve this issue back at home," he asks.
People from their village said these jawans are the pride of their village and their matter should be resolved.
"This is fauji's village. We don't know why their names have been dropped. Now their government should do something for them immediately," said Babul Khan, a local resident.

Four sued over rape of 4 girls

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At that time, Mostakim entered the house and violated her.
After the incident, local influential people put pressure on the victim's family to settle the issue through arbitration, her mother alleged.
As the victim's condition was worsening, the mother took her to Jaldhaka Upazila Health Complex on Monday. The hospital authorities then informed police of the matter.
The mother yesterday lodged a case against the accused, who went into hiding, said Mostafizur Rahman, OC of Jaldhaka Police Station.
The victim is now undergoing treatment at Rangpur Medical College Hospital, said the police official.
In Cox's Bazar, police on Monday night detained two people for interrogation over an alleged rape of two teenage girls at a village in Chakaria upazila on Friday night.
The detainees are father of accused Nazrul Islam and brother of another accused Md Musa.

A girl's father said he, along with his wife, went to the district town for treatment on Friday night. They did not return home on that night. That is why, their daughter asked a friend to stay with her on that night.
"When we came back home on Saturday morning, our daughter told us that two men raped her and her friend," the father said.
On Monday evening, police detained the two to know the whereabouts of the accused after a complaint was lodged with Chakaria Police Station, said AKM Saful Alam Chowdhury, OC (investigation) of the station.
The two were freed yesterday.
Medical tests on the girls were conducted at Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital yesterday.
Two cases were filed against Nazrul and Musa with the police station yesterday.
Our Benapole, Nilphamari and Cox's Bazar correspondents contributed to this report.