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Cases Under Probe, SPL Drives Cops' access to journos restricted

RAFIUL ISLAM

The Police Headquarters recently instructed its members not to talk to the media about any cases under investigation and special or sensitive drives to avoid controversy.

"Some police officials speak to the media about cases under investigation which causes unnecessary controversy over the probe. Such statements raise question in people's mind about the secrecy and neutrality of the investigation," said a directive of the PHQ, signed by Additional Deputy Inspector General Rezaul Karim.

The directive issued on September 16 was sent to the Rab headquarters, chiefs of different police units and superintendents of district police, urging them to comply with it.

It comes against the backdrop of criticism of the superintendent of Barguna police by the High Court for giving a statement to the media that Ayesha Siddika Minni while on remand confessed to her involvement in the murder of her husband Rifat Sharif.

The HC on August 29 also directed the home secretary and the inspector general of police to formulate a guideline on statements to be given by law enforcers to the media on the progress of cases and those arrested during investigation.

"Superintendent of Police in Barguna Maruf Hossain appeared before the media while Ayesha Siddika Minni was on remand. His statement that Minni confessed to her

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Some Chhatra Dal activists, injured in an attack allegedly by BCL men near the TSC on Dhaka University campus yesterday, being taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital in an ambulance.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

BCL men 'attack' JCD activists on DU campus

Nine wounded

DU CORRESPONDENT

Nine Chhatra Dal activists were injured when they were attacked allegedly by BCL men at Dhaka University yesterday.

The Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal men came under attack when they went to the campus with their newly elected leaders for the second straight day. The JCD is the pro-BNP student body.

The activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League, pro-Awami League student body, also beat up three university reporters and snatched the mobile phone of one of them when they were capturing the incident.

According to witnesses, newly elected General Secretary of central JCD Iqbal Hossain Shyamol and some activists of the organisation went to Madhur Canteen around

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NID FOR ROHINGYAS 15 EC staffers involved in the forgery Says top EC official

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 15 Election Commission staffers were involved in providing forged National Identity (NID) cards to Rohingyas and most of them have been sacked for their involvement in different irregularities.

Brig Gen Saiful Islam, director general of the National Identity Registration Wing of the commission, made the announcement yesterday while addressing a press conference at the EC office.

He said they have specific data about how many staffers of the EC were involved in the NID scam.

"We're not going to disclose their names right now for the sake of the investigation. But the number is not more than 15," Saiful said, adding that the names will later be disclosed in phases.

The briefing was organised to reveal the primary reports of an EC investigation on NID cards being provided to Rohingyas -- an issue which recently surfaced.

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'How dare you?'

Teenage activist Thunberg asks world leaders at the UN climate summit

REUTERS, United Nations

Teenage climate change activist Greta Thunberg yesterday opened the United Nations Climate Action Summit with an angry condemnation of world leaders for failing to take strong measures to combat climate change - "How dare you," she said.

Days after millions of young people took to the streets worldwide to demand emergency action on climate change, leaders gathered for the annual United Nations General Assembly were to try to inject fresh momentum into stalling efforts to curb carbon emissions.

Thunberg, visibly emotional, said in shaky but stern remarks at the opening of the summit that the generations that have polluted the most have burdened her and her generation with the extreme impacts of climate change.

"This is all wrong. I shouldn't be up here. I should be back in school on the other side of the ocean yet you all come to us young people for hope. How dare you?" she said.

"You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words," Thunberg said.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, who convened the summit, had warned governments ahead of the event that they would have to offer action plans to qualify to speak at the summit, which is aimed at boosting the 2015 Paris Agreement to combat global warming.

In his opening remarks, he tried to capture the urgency of climate change and called out the fossil fuel industry.

"Nature is angry. And we fool ourselves if we think we can fool nature, because nature always strikes back, and around the world nature is striking back with fury," Guterres said.

"There is a cost to everything. But the biggest cost is doing nothing. The biggest cost is subsidising a dying fossil fuel industry, building more and more coal plants, and denying what is plain as day: that we are in a deep climate hole, and to get out we must first stop digging," he said.

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Distraught by husband's death, woman takes own life

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A woman was found dead in Sunamganj's Jamalganj upazila yesterday, a day after her husband died from electrocution at a construction site.

Body of Niyoti Rani Das, 28, wife of Nibul Das, 29, was found hanging from the ceiling of her in-law's house in Rampur village yesterday morning.

Nibul had died of electrocution while installing an aluminium window at a construction site in the upazila on Monday afternoon, according to Nurul Islam, sub-inspector at Jamalganj Police Station.

"His body was sent to the Sunamganj District Hospital for autopsy. Yesterday morning, when the family members were about to start for the hospital, Niyoti said that she needed to use the

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Fossil of 125m-yr-old giant pterosaur found



MAIL ONLINE

With a 20-foot wingspan and weighing a colossal 650lbs, the giant pterosaur cast an imposing figure swooping through the skies of the Jurassic Age.

And 125million years later, the beast's massive size continues to marvel scientists who have discovered the remains of one of the beasts wedged deep into the cliffs of the Isle of Wight.

The Hatzegopteryx fossil has shed new light on this magnificent species which some believe was the biggest flying creature of the period.

These winged monsters are believed to have ruled the skies for roughly 150million years, during which time they evolved from rodent-sized to a figure akin to a modern day fighter jet.

The find was made by British Fossils chief Robert Coram who said: "It might have been the largest flying creature that had ever lived up to that time," according to the Sunday Times.

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2 held with arms, ammo in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rab members arrested two men and recovered two illegal firearms and 72 bullets and shotgun shells from their possession in the port city's Chawkbazar early yesterday.

The arrestees are Nur Mostafa Tinu, and his associate Md Jasim.

Major Mehedi Hasan, deputy director of Rab-7, told The Daily Star that on information, a Rab team arrested Tinu and Jasim

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PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 24

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-40	12-45	4-30	6-05	7-30
JAMAAT 5-15	1-15	4-45	6-10	8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Khulna Gang Rape Victim sues OC, 4 other policemen

STAR REPORT

Five policemen, including a suspended officer-in-charge, have been sued on charge of gang-raping a woman inside a residential building of railway police in Khulna on August 2.

The victim yesterday filed a case with Khulna Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal-3, accusing Osman Gani Pathan, suspended OC of the Khulna Railway Police Station, Nazmul Haque, suspended sub-inspector of the same police station, and three unnamed policemen.

Osman and Nazmul were suspended on August 7 for their alleged involvement in the rape.

The tribunal's judge Md Mohiduzzaman took the case into cognisance after questioning the victim during a hearing.

Talking to The Daily Star, the plaintiff's lawyer Mominul Islam said the court had directed the Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) to

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Workers hired by the Public Works Department tear down part of a building during a drive against illegal structures in the capital's Motijheel AGB Colony yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

RARE MASS IN HOUSTON

Trump, Modi vow close alliance

Declare themselves united in relentless fight against terrorism

AFP, Houston

US President Donald Trump and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday declared themselves united in a relentless fight against "terrorism," vowing a close, personal alliance in front of tens of thousands of Indian-Americans.

The two leaders, like-minded nationalists fond of fiery rallies and skeptical of traditional media, heaped praise on each other in an unusual joint appearance inside a football stadium in Houston.

To the bhangra beats of four drummers in saffron turbans, Trump in his dark suit and Modi in a yellow kurta and vest made a grand entrance with arms clenched together to ecstatic cheers from a crowd estimated by organizers at 50,000.

Trump won his biggest applause when he told the crowd, many wearing the saffron of India's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, "We are committed to protecting innocent civilians from the threat of radical Islamic terrorism."

Taking the flavour of one of Trump's own boisterous rallies, Modi later asked the crowd to give a standing ovation to Trump for his stance.

Trump has stood by the Indian leader during controversial decisions this year, including his revocation of autonomy for Muslim-majority Kashmir and his order for jets to enter Pakistani territory in response to a suicide bombing.

With Trump watching in the front row and listening

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