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"No party in power had ever carried out a correction drive against its own men... Sheikh Hasina is now doing that. We are showing our courage."
ROAD, TRANSPORT AND BRIDGE MINISTER OBAIDUL QUADER AT A PRESS BRIEFING AT HIS SECRETARIAT OFFICE (PAGE 3)

"If we fail to arrange sufficient sports and entertainment facilities for the children, we would not get a complete nation."
POBA CHAIRMAN ABU NASER KHAN

"We would not like any state to tell us what to buy or not to buy from Russia any more than we would like any state to tell us to buy or not buy from America."
INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER S JAISHANKAR DURING HIS US TRIP (PAGE 8)

NATIONAL BUILDING CODE Disregarded all along

Made 26 years back; lone revision of the rules took more than a decade

- PREPARED 1993
- APPROVED 2006
- REVISION BEGINS 2010
- NO GAZETTE YET

TAWFIQUE ALI

Despite tragic loss of lives and properties in repeated building disasters, the country's national building code has been lying largely unimplemented for 26 years, getting obsolete in the absence of an enforcement authority, said leading professionals.

The government has neither constituted a building regulatory authority nor designated building officials all these years for the enforcement of Bangladesh National Building Code (BNBC), considered the most essential tool for safe and environment-sensitive building construction.

The revision of the code was initiated a decade ago but the process has not yet completed with its publication in the gazette.

Leading professionals have expressed disappointment that the government has made hollow pledges vowing building safety whenever there is a tragic disaster, but actually it is not doing much to put the code

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Vehicles are caught in long tailbacks on the waterlogged Mirpur Road near Dhanmondi-27 intersection after a downpour flooded the capital yesterday afternoon. Such rain often spells trouble for city dwellers mainly due to a poor drainage system. Inset, people trying to push a CNG-run three-wheeler out of a pothole on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue.



PHOTO: COLLECTED, ORCHID CHAKMA

People suffer as city roads inundated

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Many important roads in the capital were inundated after over an hour-long heavy rain yesterday noon, causing commuters to suffer.

In many areas, lanes and by-lanes were also partially or fully submerged. People had to cross these roads by walking amid dirt and human waste that floated out of sewers.

Traffic movement on flyovers were also disrupted. On the Mouchak-Moghbaraz flyover, water was found logged at places.

The Bangladesh Met office said the rain, caused by active monsoon, started on Thursday noon and has continued in intervals till yesterday. It is likely to rain in the city over the next day or two.

Dhaka saw a total of 46mm rainfall from 12:00pm to 2:15pm, according to the Met office.

The Daily Star correspondents found waterlogged roads

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PM leaves for Delhi tomorrow

Water-sharing, Rohingya crisis to top her agenda

PORIMOL PALMA and REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The Rohingya crisis, water-sharing of 54 common rivers and the National Register of Citizens of India will feature prominently in talks during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's four-day visit to Delhi starting tomorrow.

The PM will be visiting the country at the

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ONLINE GAMBLING Salim, partner got Tk 9cr in a month

Rab seizes cash, foreign currencies, liquor from his home, office; BB freezes his account

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least Tk 9 crore was deposited in a month in a single payment gateway used for online gambling, with the amount shared equally between two businessmen -- online gaming "kingpin" Salim Prodhan and his North Korean partner Doo, Rab said yesterday.

Sarwar-Bin-Quasem, commanding officer (CO) of Rab-1, in a media briefing yesterday afternoon after a 20-hour raids at the office and residence of Salim Prodhan in Gulshan and Banani, also said they discovered a few more online payment gateways.

The raids came after Salim was picked up from Hazrat Shahjalal Airport on Monday and he provided law enforcers with information related to the gambling operation.

Rab CO Sarwar said a huge amount of money earned through the gambling operation was siphoned off from the country by Salim and Doo.

"Sometimes they sent the amount through hundi [unofficial channels of transaction] and sometimes they carried the money themselves or made their associates do it," the CO, who is also the director of legal and media wing of Rapid Action Battalion, added.

During the raid, the law enforcers seized around Tk 29 lakh in cash, foreign currencies of 23 countries amounting to Tk 77.63 lakh, 32 cheque books of three banks, five master cards, two pieces of spotted deer hide and

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RESHUFFLE IN DMP Seven out of 50 OCs transferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a major reshuffle in the Dhaka Metropolitan Police, seven out of 50 OCs were transferred yesterday.

Of them, four were posted to other police stations and three to the Detective Branch of DMP.

Besides, four inspectors (investigation) of as many police stations were made officer-in-charge of four other police stations.

The DMP headquarters made the move amid an ongoing anti-gambling drive which led to surfacing of an allegation that some field level police officials patronised gamblers.

Besides, there were complaints that a section of DMP officials had been discharging their duties as OCs at different police stations for years.

Talking to The Daily Star on condition of anonymity, an additional deputy commissioner of DMP said, "Some deputy commissioners of DMP were recently made SPs of different districts. Some OCs have links with influential people and the authorities could hardly

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BLAST AT KHULNA AL OFFICE Similar to attacks on Dhaka cops

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

The bomb that went off at an Awami League office in Khulna city on Monday is similar to the Improvised Explosive Devices used in attacks on policemen at three spots in the capital between April and August.

From the spot in Khulna, the investigators for the first time found an intact remote control circuit with an IED.

They say the bomb was powerful enough to kill people and cause destruction but its design was flawed.

In the previous attacks, the remote control circuits attached to the IEDs were found completely damaged.

The bomb disposal team of the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit has revealed this to The Daily Star after primary inspection of the spot in Khulna.

Additional Deputy Commissioner of the CTTC unit Rahmatullah Chowdhury, who coordinates activities of the bomb disposal team, told this newspaper that the explosives didn't cause massive destruction as the materials used in the IEDs were insufficient to blow up the container.

Earlier on Monday, the IED exploded at the AL office in Khulna around 6:30pm, minutes after a bearded man wearing a cap left a bag there.

As in the previous incidents, the SITE Intelligence Group which tracks online activity of jihadist organisations and white supremacists, said early yesterday that the Islamic

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TIMELINE

- April 29, 2 cops, community policeman injured in IED blast at Gulistan
- May 26, policewoman, another wounded in bomb explosion at Malibagh
- July 24, IEDs recovered from Paltan, Khamarbari
- August 31, 2 cops injured as a bomb went off at Science Lab intersection

ARRESTS, RECOVERY

- August 9, CTTC unit arrested 5 'Neo-JMB' men and recovered 10 detonators, 4 gas bottles
- September 23, the unit detained two members of a Neo-JMB cell, busted a laboratory and seized 2 toy guns, fake pistol and two vests.



A mobile court, led by an executive magistrate of the Chattogram district administration, inspects a wholesale onion shop in the port city's Khatunganj yesterday. The magistrate warned traders not to sell onion at excessive prices. The essential cooking ingredient was selling between Tk 90 and Tk 100 a kg at wholesale yesterday. Story on page 16

PHOTO: STAR

In Fond Remembrance of Iftexhar Uddin Ahmed (Ifti)

(August 27th 1950- October 2nd 2015)
Founding Chairman Bonanza Group of Companies and Raj Overseas Ltd

"The void left by your passing can never be filled
Your smile and indomitable spirit within us is forever instilled.."

Our prayers, deeds and acts will forever be dictated by the template of his integrity, discipline and fair mindedness. May the Almighty Allah in His Infinite Compassion grant him Eternal Peace.
We request all friends and family members to pray for his departed soul.