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**I have always said that we don't have substitutes for two players -- Mashrafe as a captain and Shakib as a player.**  
BCB PRESIDENT NAZMUL HASSAN



**No sympathy whatsoever for Shakib Al Hasan, none whatsoever... Two years isn't enough. Should have been longer.**  
FORMER ENGLAND CAPTAIN MICHAEL VAUGHAN



**I can sleep peacefully with the thought that under his leadership, we will play the 2023 World Cup final. Because his name is Shakib Al Hasan.**  
MASHRAFE BIN MORTAZA

## Shakib banned for 2 years

ICC suspends the world's top all-rounder for not reporting three separate 'approaches or invitations' he received to engage in 'corrupt conduct'; subject to satisfying ICC's conditions the ban will be reduced to one year and he can resume playing from October 29 next year

**SPORTS REPORTER**

Bangladesh cricket was rocked to its foundations last evening when the International Cricket Council (ICC) informed that it had banned Shakib Al Hasan from all forms of cricket for two years for not reporting the ICC's anti-corruption unit (ACU) of three separate 'approaches or invitations' he received to engage in 'corrupt conduct' by a bookmaker seeking match information.

According to the ICC press release, the second year of that ban will be suspended if Shakib does not commit further offences under the ACU code or the anti-corruption code of any national federation and if he participates promptly and fully in any anti-

corruption education and/or rehabilitation programmes specified by the ICC. In that case, Shakib will be able to return to international cricket on October 29, 2020.

With the ban to take immediate effect, Shakib, Bangladesh's Test and T20I captain till yesterday, will not be part of the squad that departs for India today to play three T20Is and two Tests.

Shakib had initially been contacted by a bookmaker named Deepak Aggarwal during the Bangladesh Premier League in November 2017, according to the full reasoned decision on the ICC's website. The first two approaches were made during the ODI tri-series at home involving Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe in

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AL-AMIN

Let's face facts first: Bangladesh cricket's biggest icon ever, Shakib Al Hasan, has been banned by the game's governing body for two years for not reporting a bookie's approach on three separate occasions.

And then take a deep breath before reflecting on arguably the darkest moment in Bangladesh cricket history. Bangladesh cricket sans Shakib is a body blow in every sense. He has not just been an all-rounder but an omnipresent influence in almost every success story Bangladesh scripted since he donned the national cap in 2006. He formed part of the 'fantastic five'. Still, Shakib was the best of the lot not just for his sheer skill but more for his determination to take the fight to the opposition.

The ICC sanction is a bolt from the blue not just for the all-rounder's millions of fans; it also caught everyone involved in cricket by surprise. Rumours were rife over the past few days that something was still wrong even after the players' boycott over demands for improved wages and benefits was sympathetically handled by the Bangladesh Cricket Board.

When Shakib was leading that 13-point demand, no one had the slightest notion what he was actually thinking about regarding his own future. There were signs of what was coming -- he missed most of the national team's training camp for

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**I am extremely sad to have been banned from the game I love, but I completely accept my sanction for not reporting the approaches... I didn't do my duty in this instance.**

SHAKIB AL HASAN

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

## Whoever corrupt getting caught

PM says govt not considering culprits' backgrounds in anti-graft drive; nothing much can be done for Shakib

**BSS, Dhaka**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said her government launched a massive anti-graft campaign ignoring the backgrounds of the suspects.

Speaking at a press conference at the Gono Bhaban, she brushed off the BNP's suspicions that the drive was an "eyewash".

The PM urged the people to wait to see the fate of the suspects. "Let's wait and see whether it is an eyewash or not."

Hasina said it was rather the BNP which knew the "business of eyewash" well as the party adopted "corruption" as part of its policy.

The press conference was organised to brief the media about her recent visit to Azerbaijan where she joined the summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

The premier said actions were underway against the corrupts linked to her own party, Awami League.



Hasina said the drive would continue and actions would be taken against several BNP leaders on charges of committing crimes, including corruption, arson attack, murder and money laundering.

"All of them will be exposed to justice in phases... there's no doubt about it. But we'll have to wait for some time to see that happen."

Asked if she feared any backlash as

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## ACC sues Anis, wife Sumi for illegal wealth

Says couple has no known sources of income

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday filed two cases against expelled Jubo League office secretary Kazi Anisur Rahman and his wife Sumi Razman for amassing about Tk 14 crore beyond known sources of income.

Anis, who fled after the recent drive against illegal casinos, is now reportedly in the UAE.

Meanwhile, the ACC wrote to the Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU) of Bangladesh Bank, seeking information of the people whose names have come up after the drive.

"We asked BFIU to give us accounts information of the people whose bank accounts are being monitored and have been frozen in the last few days," said ACC's Public Relations Officer Pranab Kumar Bhattacharya, quoting the letter sent on Monday.

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## Abused abroad, humiliated at home

Tortured female migrants again face intimidation during arbitration on return; remain silent due to social stigma

**PORIMOL PALMA**

On their return from the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia and Lebanon, abused female migrant workers often face intimidation and injustice during government arbitration at home.

Many don't even dare to file complaints fearing social stigma, while others face threats from the manpower brokers.

These were the findings of a research conducted by migrant rights body Ovivashi Karmi Unnayan Program (OKUP) on 110 female domestic workers who returned from the Middle Eastern countries between January and December last year.

OKUP Executive Director Shakirul Islam, who led the research, titled "Access to justice for Bangladeshi migrant workers: improving the arbitrary system", said it is not a national representative research, but brings out the realities of how the arbitration takes place.

The experience of Shafia Begum (not her real name), a returnee from Lebanon, could be a case in point. She had gone to the Middle Eastern country as a domestic worker in January 2015, spending Tk 30,000 though it was supposed to be free. She was promised a monthly salary of Tk 12,000. Shafia could work only for a month.

The 30-year-old was not given enough food and whenever she asked for more, she was mercilessly beaten by her employer.

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## Miladunnabi on Nov 10

**UNB, Dhaka**

Eid-e-Miladunnabi, the day of birth and demise of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SM), will be observed in the country on November 10 as the moon of Rabiul Awal was sighted in Bangladesh sky yesterday.

The decision was made in a National Moon Sighting Committee meeting at the Islamic Foundation's Baitul Mukarram office, said an Islamic Foundation press release.

Joint Secretary to the Religious Affairs Ministry MA Hamid Jamadar, Islamic Foundation Secretary Kazi Nurul Islam and Senior Pesh Imam of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque Hafez Maulana Muhammad Mizanur Rahman, among others, were present at the meeting with Religious Affairs Secretary Anisur Rahman in the chair.

On this day in 570, the 12th of Rabiul Awal of the Hijri calendar, Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was born in Makkah of Saudi Arabia with divine blessings and messages of peace for mankind. He also passed away on the same day.



A man talks on a phone while on a motorbike with three other passengers on Airport Road in the capital's Kurmitola area yesterday. The two children are not even wearing helmets. Such flouting of traffic rules and carelessness towards safety often lead to fatal road crashes.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

## NASIRNAGAR ATTACK PROBE

### It is just 'eyewash'

Say locals, minority leaders as they lose hope for justice while police prolong legal process

**MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR and Masuk Hridoy**

Even three years after arson attacks and vandalism on the homes and temples of Hindus in Brahmanbaria's Nasirnagar upazila, those responsible are still to face any punishment as the investigations of most of the cases are yet to be complete.

Following the attacks, eight cases were filed with Nasirnagar police station accusing some 2,000 unidentified people, but law enforcers are yet to complete investigations and submit the charge sheets for seven of those cases.

In one of the eight cases, police pressed charges against 228 suspects, including several Awami League and BNP leaders, for the attacks on the Hindu community in Nasirnagar, in December 2017. No hearing has taken place since then.

Police arrested 124 in connection with the case, all of whom are now on bail, said the law enforcers.

Locals and minority community leaders have expressed their doubts and said they lost any hope of getting justice and the legal process is being prolonged by police.

"I don't have any hope that the people of Nasirnagar will get justice. There is saying, 'justice delayed is justice denied,'" said Rana Dasgupta, general secretary of Bangladesh Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad.

"What the police is doing is just an eye wash," he added.

During the October 30, 2016 attack, religious zealots swooped on Hindus and vandalised and looted over 100 homes and 17 temples. The attackers also physically assaulted over 100 people of the community. In continuation of the attacks, the zealots set nine Hindu homes on fire on November 4, 5, 13 and 16.

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