programme and "continually to flip-

the Conservative prime minister's post-

Brexit trade proposals were selling

out British interests to US President

"Despite his denials, (the National

Corbyn's attack line underscores

Health Service) is up for grabs by US

corporations in a Trump-style trade

Labour's desire to shift the campaign's

focus to traditional social issues and

away from its past difficulties with the

nearly 100 years and third general

election in four years finds his party

splintered by bitter infighting.
Pro-EU supporters from big cities

have been at loggerheads with Brexit-

backing groups such as the powerful

Some of Corbyn's chief lieutenants

have further suggested the party should

pick a new leader should it flounder at

But the 70-year-old Corbyn, a

veteran socialist, is an energetic

score an upset victory in the last general means.

campaigner who nearly managed to

Britain's first December vote in

defining issue of UK politics.

Donald Trump.

deal," Corbyn said.

Corbyn shot back by claiming that

flop one way or the other" on Brexit.

UK starts election

re-nationalisation

"The choice at this election couldn't

"People have a chance to vote for

Labour's Brexit promise is to

real change after years of Conservative

seize power and then strike a more

European-friendly agreement with

Brussels that preserves many of the

It would then let voters choose

Government figures indicated there

between that deal and the option of

had been a spike in voter registration

since Tuesday, with people aged 18

to 34 leading the way, although their

MPs that they would not be seeking

re-election have also complicated

Liberal Democrats and the Scottish

National Party -- are adopting much

The SNP also sees the vote as

The fast-rising Lib Dems are going

another chance to bolster support for

into the vote on a simple promise of

stopping the EU-UK divorce by any

Announcements by dozens of sitting

The two other main players -- the

intentions are difficult to predict.

be clearer," he said yesterday.

and Liberal Democrat cuts.

simply staying in the EU.

firmer Brexit stances.

existing trade ties.

Will be able

FROM PAGE 16 option, which can now be used for

free, said a member of the joint team. The government now needs to make a regulation on the "SIM-less" emergency service can be used, he

"Against this backdrop, mobile operators need to align their network with this system and then users can access these facilities," said Md Zahik Hossain Khan, senior assistant director of the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC).

"It's like a normal call. The joint team has tested it by removing their SIM cards and they found response,' Khan, also the spokesperson of the BTRC, said.

The emergency number can prove very useful in cases of natural disasters, mostly in the coastal belt of the country, where mobile towers are often damaged. If even one mobile network is live, then mobile phone users can use that for the calls, said a senior member of the armed forces

He said in some developed countries these kind of channels already have been introduced.

"We have done our part; now the government needs to formulate a policy for it, which will be a milestone of our resistance against natural disaster.

To make this initiative successful, the joint team will bring all mobile operators under a single network and take support from Chinese network vendor Huawei, they said.

BTRC officials said mobile operators would be directed to facilitate the emergency services.

The trial for the initiative was held in Purbachal, Dhaka and Rangpur. Government and Rural Development Minister Md Tazul Islam and State minister for disaster management and relief Md Enamur Rahman were

86-yr-old

April 29 this year issued a rule asking the government to explain why the trial proceeding against Rabeya Khatun should not be quashed.

After hearing the rule, the HC bench yesterday scraped the trial proceedings of the case against Rabeya and acquitted her of the charges in the

The police allegedly arrested Rabeya Khatun with a firearm and six bullets from a residence of Garden Road area under Tejgaon Police Station on June 2, 2002.

Police filed a case against Rabeya and two others with Tejgaon Police Station on the same day.

On September 19, the same year, police submitted a charge sheet against Rabeya and another accused Zulhas before a trial court.

The trial court, on March 24 in 2003, framed charges against Rabeya and Zulhas but there was no progress of trial proceeding of the case. Detailed information about Zulhas

could not be known. After suffering in jail for six months, Rabeya was released from jail

on bail. Advocate Ashraful Alam Nobel himself moved the petition while Deputy Attorney General Harunur Rashid represented the state.

Separatists FROM PAGE 16

a press conference in London said that he was speaking on behalf of 'Maharaja of Manipur' Leishemba Sanajaoba.

Confirming the developments, Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh stated that a case has already been registered against the duo for "waging a war against the state".

Meanwhile, King Leishemba rejected that he had 'authorised' the two men to form a government-inexile, reported NDTV.

Manipur, one of India's smallest states with a population of around just 2.8 million people, is one of the so-called "Seven Sisters" -- a group of

restive northeastern states. The region, encircled by five other countries and connected to the rest of India by a sliver of land arching over Bangladesh, has been wracked by

armed conflict and instability. It has spawned more than 100 militant groups over the decades whose demands range from autonomy to secession.

Violence has been part of daily life for decades in Manipur, which borders Myanmar, with a strong presence of the Indian military.

The state has a strong ethnic mix, and its Meitei, Naga, Kuki and Pangal communities are all deeply committed to preserving their own

cultural autonomy Its people have also always tended to look eastwards in their search for cultural links.

Samarjit said he hoped the world would support its independence

"We are not free there and our history is going to be destroyed, our

culture is going to be extinct," he "So the UN should listen... we

raise our voice to the whole world that the people living in Manipur are human beings.

The High Commission of India did not respond to a request for comment.

JU assistant proctor assaults

Joy alleged.

The Daily Star obtained a video clip of the incident that showed Shaibal dragged Joy to the ground and took him away from the protesters.

In the footage, Shaibal was saying, "Let's go. Let's move."

Joy submitted a written complaint to the proctor in this regard.

Meanwhile, a second-year student of drama and dramatics department --Chamelia Sharmin Chura -- submitted written complaint demanding punishment of some students for assaulting her during the protest.

Proctor instigated some students and carried out an attack on us," she said in her complaint.

Contacted, Shaibal denied the allegations and said, "Rather, I suffered injuries".

He said, "I did not grab Joy by his collar. I rather held him by the shoulders and moved him from the

"Someone kicked me eight to ten times at that time."

of the show.

footwear industries."

friendly policies.

the world.

However, the footage that this newspaper obtained did not show anything of that sort happened to

The PM said as part of export

diversification, the leather and leather

goods sector has been defined as

a priority sector in Bangladesh's

economy and national industrial

development strategy. "For this,

various initiatives have been taken

to develop the leather and leather

Barely a decade ago, most of the

Hasina said footwear and leather

goods factories have expanded during

the last 10 years of successive Awami

League governments as they provided

incentives and laid out business-

She assured the businessmen of

extending all-out cooperation to them

in producing diversified products and

exporting those to new markets across

"Our government is always active

in producing new products and

exploring new markets across the

can crash into each other -- or one

neans the ring we see that makes up

about 100 million years -- a short

time on the universal time scale. The

which is filled with gas, dust and

stars, was pulled and stretched out by

This is the Arp-Madore 2026-

424 system 704 million light-

ring formed when each galaxy's disk,

country's export earnings in this sector

came mainly from exports of leather

as a raw material, she mentioned.

The assistant proctor further said that he suffered injuries near his urethra (urinary passage) and was being treated at Enam Medical College and Hospital in Savar.

Bangabandhur Adarsher Shikhakh, a teachers' platform backed by the VC, also issued a statement in this regard, saying Shaibal was "seriously wounded" by the protesters.

FRESH PROTEST FLARES UP Soon after the news spread among the students, they broke off into separate groups and started chanting slogans against Shaibal.

Professor Rayhan Rhyne of Philosophy department, also a spokesperson of Jahangirnagar Against Corruption, condemned the

He said that it was "tragic" that a teacher could do this to a protesting

At a press briefing, he said, "VC's

removal is the only solution to reduce

the crisis. So, we will continue our protest until the VC is removed." In the evening, a concert was also held in the university's transport area in solidarity with the protest. It was the third day of all-out strike on the

PM assures incentives for 5 years

A section of teachers and students

world for expanding the export basket.

You'll get all-out support from us in

this connection. We can give you this

The PM said Awami League, as

government, is not involved in

"We've given importance to

business. It rather creates scope for the

economic diplomacy to introduce

importers of the outside world to our

leather goods producers. As a result,

leather goods have become the second

largest export item in the country

overtaking the jute items over the last

and policy support would be ensured

for all the export sectors. Any

prevailing discriminatory barriers

taken effective steps to resolve the

environmental hazards of Hazaribagh

and has shifted the tanneries to a

and investors to invest in various

industries in Bangladesh, especially

years from Earth, as noted in the

Arp-Madore catalogue is the result

relatively rare, head-on collision. That Halton Arp and Barry Madore, who larger galaxies cannibalize smaller

both searched for unique galactic

detailing thousands of galaxies was

only a few hundred of them known

in our corner of the universe. The

circumstances that create them have

to happen in a certain way for the

Rings are rare because there are

The premier urged foreign buyers

would be removed, she added.

modern tannery estate in Savar.

Hasina said equal opportunities

She said the government has

businesspeople to do business.

have been staging demonstration on the campus demanding VC's removal since September 18 over corruption.

On the other hand, JU unit Chhatra League yesterday brought out a procession demanding "free environment for classes and

Syrian and Turkish armies in deadly border clash

The armies of Syria and Turkey traded deadly fire Tuesday for the first time since Ankara launched an anti-Kurdish offensive in early October, as Russia announced Kurdish forces had withdrawn from the key border area.

Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu said Kurdish forces had pulled back from the entire Turkish-Syrian border in accordance with a deal struck between Ankara and regime backer Moscow in Sochi earlier this month.

"The withdrawal of armed units from territory where a security corridor should be created has been completed ahead of time," Shoigu said, as quoted by Russian news agencies.

"At least 150 acres of land will be

allocated for the extended project

of leather industry city in Savar for

setting up composite leather products

and footwear factories following

international standards and Leather

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi,

Chairman of the Parliamentary

Standing Committee on Commerce

Private Industry and Investment

Adviser Salman Fazlur Rahman,

Association of Bangladesh President

Saiful Islam also spoke on the

A video presentation was screened

Over 300 exhibitors from nearly 20

at the programme, describing the

expansion of the country's leather

countries, including India, China and

Pakistan, will exhibit their products

at the event, to be held from October

31-November 2 at the International

And because the galactic centres

to be the same size, that means the

galaxies were equal in proportion

before they collided. Usually,

images, those of including unusually

interacting galaxies, can provide

astronomers with information

about how galaxies evolve. Hubble's

observations can also help determine

targets for future space telescopes,

like the James Webb Space Telescope

launching in 2021.

Convention City, Bashundhara.

and

Ahmed,

PM's

Footwear

Exporters

Working Group certification."

Tofail

and Leathergoods and

Ministry

occasion.

"Catalogue of Southern Peculiar of each one seen in the image appear

Manufacturers

Talks on for purchase

"We need to keep pace with the new Army, told Nikkei.

"Professionalism won't develop unless we modernise the military," Zaid said.

Since Bangladesh's independence from Pakistan in 1971, China, Russia, the US, the UK and South Korea have been the country's main suppliers of arms and ammunition.

Peace Research Institute. Asked whether procurement from

the US would antagonise China, Abdullah Ibn Zaid told Nikkei, "It's not an issue of making one happy while [the] other [is] unhappy.

Hubble's growing collection of is a foundational government- military gear because the importance to-government legally-binding agreement that permits greater collaboration, and ensures that governments understand and commit to protecting classified military information.

information or material. It ensures

trade unions.

he polls.

era," Abdullah Ibn Zaid, director of the Inter Service Public Relations Directorate, an arm of the Bangladesh

While China remains Bangladesh's

largest defense equipment provider, purchases from the US have grown steadily since the 1990s, reaching \$110 million for the nine years since 2010. The figure is dwarfed by its "\$1.92 billion in defense purchases from China in the 2010s", Nikkei reported, quoting the Stockholm International

"We have bought from the US before. We have a pact with China as US officials in Dhaka earlier on

October 17 told a group of journalists that US wants to sign two agreements the General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) and the Acquisition Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA) -- as Bangladesh last year sought to buy sophisticated military equipment.

The GSOMIA does not obligate governments to share classified protection of the information shared by partner governments, the officials

Meanwhile, ACSA allows US and partner nations' forces to procure and pay for common types of supplies and services, including food, water, clothing, transportation, training, petroleum, ammunition, maintenance and medical services.

"The agreement does not, in anyway, commit a partner nation to military action nor does it authorise stationing of ships, aircraft or military personnel in foreign countries," an A US official told Nikkei one

benefit would be "to significantly ease our ability to transfer major defense equipment that will help safeguard Bangladesh's sovereignty and our mutual interests in the region. "These agreements are

consistent with our expanding our partnership with Bangladesh in the areas of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, peacekeeping, defense trade, military cooperation and counterterrorism, as well as maritime security and regional issues," he told Nikkei.

Analysts told Nikkei that Bangladesh's booming economy and strategic location make a compelling case for Bangladesh to bolster its military strength.

Delwar Hossain, professor of international relations at Dhaka University, said it was imperative for of the Bay of Bengal has risen "all of a sudden", while China's Belt and Road Initiative has raised the profile of the region globally.

"It's a pragmatic decision," Hossain told Nikkei. "It's a new area of building strategic relations with the

SC to deliver verdict today against Azharul in connection with

Hubble spots spooky face

can cannibalize parts of another that Galaxies and Associations." The

But this system was formed by a of work published by astronomers

the face is ephemeral, only lasting interactions. Their combined work

released in 1987.

ring to form.

FROM PAGE 16

the collision.

the Liberation War in 1971.

A four-member bench of the Appellate Division, headed by Chief Syed Mahmud Hossain, pronounce the verdict at 9:00am. Yesterday, the case was seen at the top of today's cause-list of the court. Rest of the three judges of the apex

court bench are Justice Hasan Foez Siddique, Justice Zinat Ara and Justice Md Nuruzzaman. Shishir Manir, a defence lawyer, told The Daily Star yesterday that this would

be the eighth time the Supreme Court would be delivering its verdict on an appeal in the case related to war crimes.

On July 10 this year, the apex court bench kept the appeal of Azharul as CAV (Curia Advisari Vult) which means it would announce the verdict on any

day after concluding its hearing. The court heard the appeal between July 5 and July 10.

During the hearing, Azharul's lawyer Khandaker Mahbub Hossain prayed to the court to acquit his client of the charges, saying his client was innocent and was not involved in any crimes against humanity or war crimes.

Advocate Mahbub Hossain said the government implicated his client after 43 years of the country's independence out of political intention, which was unethical.

Neither any case nor a general diary was filed against Azharul before 2008 on the charges brought in the case, Mahbub said, adding that Azhar was 18-year-old during the Liberation War of the country.

Documents and evidence produced

lawyer argued. Meanwhile, Attorney General

the case are not believable, the defence

Mahbubey Alam prayed to the apex court to uphold the International Crimes Tribunal's verdict that sentenced Azharul to death. He told the Supreme Court that there was no reason for interfering into the ICT's verdict on the case against Azharul.

for committing crimes humanity during the Liberation War.

Azharul later filed an appeal with the Supreme Court challenging the verdict where he claimed innocence and prayed to the Appellate Division to acquit him of the charges.

On December 30, 2014, ICT-1 sentenced Azharul, assistant secretary general of Jamaat, with death penalty

the OC.

Govt dropped

"The ministry should have done an analysis on production and demand of onions. How much will we need to import? So we asked the ministry to remain alert in the future and take advance measures to avert such crisis,'

Meeting at the parliament

A member of the committee, Mahmud Us Samad Chowdhury, said the committee blamed a section of

are imported every year to meet the country's demand of 24 lakh tonnes. Bangladesh can produce 23 lakh tonnes of onions annually but a portion of it get damaged.

On the same day, Agriculture Minister Muhammad Abdur Razzaque admitted that there was a failure on the part of the government in facing the crisis.

regarding onion crisis much earlier. However, we have not done that. This is our mistake," he told a press Onion production was enough but

floods ravaged the crop, resulting in the present crisis, while India's ban on export aggravated it, the minister said. "In the future, we will take necessary measures to import onions in due

would provide free seeds and fertilisers worth Tk 80 crore to small and marginal farmers to ensure nutrition

As part of the initiative, an onion producer will get 1kg of seeds, 20kg of DAP [diammonium phosphate] fertiliser, and 10kg of MOP [muriate of potash] fertiliser for cultivating

Under the programme, 686,700 marginal farmers would get free seeds and fertiliser for cultivation of nine crops -- wheat, maize, mustard, sunflower, peanut, winter season mung, summer season mung, onion, and summer season sesame.

This will help earn more than Tk

The incentive would be given to 7,700 farmers for onion cultivation; 75,000 for wheat; 250,000 for maize; 240,000 for mustard; 4,000 for sunflower; 10,000 for peanut; 25,000 for summer season sesame; 30,000 for summer season mung, and 45,000 for winter season mung.

Eight arrested

FROM PAGE 2 in-charge (OC) of Ramgati police

charge of raping his daughter.

In Narayanganj's Bandar upazila, police yesterday arrested a father on

Police said the victim was raped by her father, when the mother was at work. He had allegedly raped the 18-year-old girl multiple times over the last one year.

Around three months ago, the victim shared the incident with her mother. Then, the mother and the victim left the house and started living elsewhere, said Raifqul Islam, OC of Bandar police station.

But the father would often visit and threaten them. Later, the victim and her mother informed the matter to locals who helped the victim file a case against her father yesterday, said

Following filing of the case, police arrested the father, who was later sent to jail by a court, added the police officer.

In a separate incident in Sonargaon upazila, police yesterday arrested two men on charge of gang-raping a domestic help.

The arrestees are Habibur Rahman, 40, and Shahinur Islam, 30.

Police said the 27-year victim used to live in a rented house owned by Habibur in Baghbari area of the same upazila. But recently, the woman left the house and started living

On Monday night, the woman came to Habibur's residence for some discussion over payment of house rent. Then, Habibur along with three of his accomplices, gang-raped her.

On Tuesday, the victim filed a case against the four. Police yesterday arrested the two, while the others accused were on the run, said

Moniruzzaman, OC of Sonargaoan police station.

In Chattogram, police arrested

a man for raping a minor girl at Banshkhali upazila yesterday morning. The arrestee was identified as Mohammad Ismail, 32, hailing from

Chambal village of the upazila. Police said the nine-year-old victim and the accused were related to each other. The accused raped the girl on Tuesday night around

9:00pm, said police. Afterwards, the victim's mother filed a case yesterday. Police arrested the accused, said Kamal Uddin, inspector (Investigation) of Banshkhali police.

In Jashore, a man was sued yesterday in Chowgacha upazila on charge of raping his neighbour. The accused was identified as

Korban Ali, 50, of Balidapara village under the same upazila. Quoting the victim's family members, police said she used to

work as a domestic help at Korban's house. But the girl with a learning disability quit as Korban often sexually harassed her. On October 24, the victim was going to a nearby shop, when she was intercepted by Korban, who forcibly

took her to a nearby banana garden and raped her. Korban then beat her with iron rod and threatened to kill her, if she disclosed the matter. Yesterday, the victim's father filed a rape case against Korban. Police was

conducting raid to arrest the accused, said Rajib Khan, OC of Chowgacha police station. (Our Noakhali,

Narayanagnj, Chattogram and correspondents contributed to the report.)

he told The Daily Star.

building, the committee also urged proper functioning of TCB and the Directorate of National Consumer Rights Protection in dealing with the

businessmen for the price hike as they stocked the daily kitchen essential after import. "The committee asked the ministry concerned to take action against these businessmen with the help of law enforcers."

Around 7-8 lakh tonnes of onions

"We could have taken steps briefing at the ministry.

Razzaque said the government

for all through crop diversification.

onions at one bigha land, he said.

840.29 crore, the minister said.