

20 years

Reaching the Unreached

২০ বছরের অগ্রযাত্রা ব্যাংকিং সেবায় নতুন মাত্রা

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BGB, Rab and SWAT prepare
eration around 5:00am

on Thunderbolt"

s at 8:30am; 5 militants,



A light
shines in
darkness

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

July 1, 2016, is considered one of the darkest days in the history of Bangladesh that saw the worst terrorist attack in the capital's Gulshan.

In the darkness shone a bright light -- Faraaz Ayaaz Hossain whose courage and human qualities continue to inspire people all over the world.

Faraaz, 20, son of Simeen Hossain and Waqer Hossain, and a meritorious student of Emory University in Atlanta, USA, gave his life by refusing to abandon his friends during the attack at Holey Artisan Bakery.

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WHAT FOLLOWS

Eight firearms, including three AK-22 rifles, seven magazines, and 129 bullets recovered

Police file case with Gulshan Police Station on July 4, 2016

Investigation finds 21 people involved; five of them were killed on the spot and eight in anti-militancy drives later. The other eight are in jail.



Police pressed charges against the eight on July 23 last year; six of them gave confessional statements

211 shown as prosecution witnesses; number of seizure list 13

Court framed charges against the eight on November 26 last year

Trial proceedings began on December 3 last year and ended on November 17 this year



CLIMATE CRISIS Cut emissions now or face disaster: UN

AFP, Paris

The world will miss its chance to avert climate disaster without an immediate and all-but-impossible fall in fossil fuel emissions, the UN said yesterday in its annual assessment on greenhouse gases.

The United Nations Environment Programme said that global emissions need to fall by 7.6 percent each year until 2030 to limit global temperature rises to 1.5C.

The harsh reality is that emissions have risen on average 1.5 percent annually over the last decade, hitting a record 55.3 billion tonnes of CO2 or equivalent greenhouse gases in 2018 -- three years after 195 countries signed the Paris treaty on climate change.

The World Meteorological Organization said Monday that atmospheric

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ROHINGYAS GETTING NIDS

Top EC officials directly involved

Ctg EC staffer tells court in
confessional statement

FM MIZANUR RAHAMAN, Ctg

Some high-ranking Election Commission officials in Dhaka and Chattogram took money using their office staffers as middlemen and forged national ID cards for the Rohingyas.

The EC officials' direct involvement came to light after an office assistant made a confessional statement before a court mentioning the names of the officials, Chattogram court and police sources said.

Investigators are now waiting for the green light from higher authorities to arrest the officials.

According to the confessional statement of Chattogram Regional EC office's Office Assistant Md Najim, 40, the then Panchliash zone Election Officer Md Abdul Latif Sheikh and a top official of Dhaka NID wing were directly involved in the NID forgery.

They used to share the money, Najim told metropolitan magistrate Khairul Amin on November 21.

Latif is now the senior election officer at the Pabna EC office.

With Najim, five EC staffers, two data-entry operators and three office assistants, have given confessional statements in the much talked about NID scam case filed with Kotwali Police Station on September 17.

The Counter Terrorism (CT) unit of Chattogram Metropolitan Police (CMP) is investigating the case. So far,

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ONION PRICE HIKE CIID quizzes 32 more importers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Customs Intelligence and Investigation Directorate (CIID) yesterday quizzed 32 more onion importers and initially found that importers did not hoard the bulb that reached its highest ever price in recent days.

With them, the CIID has so far grilled 43 importers, who brought more than 1,000 tonnes of onions between August and November this year, to "gather information" on sales and stock of the cooking ingredient.

On Monday, the CIID questioned 11 other onion importers.

The CIID's initiative came in the wake of surging onion prices that hit as high as Tk 250 per kilogram last week, owing to a shortage of supply.

Earlier, the field office under the National Board

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DEMAND FOR KHALEDA'S RELEASE BNP men block road, vandalise vehicles in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Activists of a pro-BNP organisation and police personnel clashed after the activists, while agitating for Khaleda Zia's release, blocked a road in the capital's High Court area yesterday.

The protesters damaged several vehicles in the area, said police, adding that they also had not taken permission for the demonstration.

The incident happened two days after BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir said they would no longer seek any permission to hold any programmes.

"We will arrange programmes as per our wish," he said at a rally in front of the party's Nayapaltn headquarters on Sunday.

Around 1:00pm yesterday, around 200 BNP men, led by the party's Vice Chairman Abdullah Al Noman and under the banner of Jatityabadi Muktiyoddha Projonmo Dal, took position on the road and started chanting slogans demanding the release of the party chairperson.

The protest caused a huge traffic congestion in the area and police asked the demonstrators to leave.

As the BNP men defied the police call, the law enforcers baton-charged them and lobbed tear gas canisters to disperse them.

The agitators retaliated by throwing brickbats at the policemen, said witnesses. At one point, the protesters left.

Sazzadur Rahman, deputy commissioner (Ramna Division) of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said the BNP men were staging the protest without taking any police permission.

vandalised during a demonstration by Jatityabadi Muktiyoddha the city's High Court area yesterday, demanding release of BNP eda Zia from jail. Inset, a policeman chases protesters after a between the law enforcers and the demonstrators.