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SECOND EDITION



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Public indifference to voting is now being noticed. It is an ominous sign for democracy.
ELECTION COMMISSIONER MAHBUB TALUKDER SPEAKING ON THE OCCASION OF NATIONAL VOTERS' DAY.



If he [Tamim] can get one or two more boundaries, all you guys [media persone] will get off his back.
BANGLADESH BATTING CONSULTANT NEIL MCKENZIE ON THE CRITICISM FACED BY OPENER TAMIM IQBAL (PAGE 14)



The doors are now open. Now, you will have to take your share of the burden.
TURKISH PRESIDENT RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN UPS PRESSURE ON WESTERN COUNTRIES OVER REFUGEE CRISIS (PAGE 8)



Seven killed in a single 'gunfight'

Rab says they were members of a notorious Rohingya robber gang; firearms recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Seven suspected Rohingya robbers were killed in an alleged gunfight with Rab in Cox's Bazar's Teknaf early yesterday.

This is the highest number of casualties in a single incident of "gun-battle" in Bangladesh in recent times.

With the seven, at least 15 alleged Rohingya criminals have been killed in "gunfights" with law enforcers since February last year, show media reports.

Talking on the issue, rights activists said such incidents were the result of a culture of impunity prevailing in the country.

Wing Commander Azim Ahmed, commanding officer of Rab-15, said acting on a tip-off that a group of robbers was hiding in Shalbagan Lalporirjum Hill, adjacent to Jadimura-Nayapara 26 and 27 Rohingya Refugee Camps, a Rab team raided the area around 2:00am yesterday.

First, the Rab members cordoned off the area and then using a megaphone asked the robbers to surrender. But at this, the criminals opened fire on them, forcing the law enforcers to fire retaliatory shots, he claimed at a press briefing at his office in Cox's Bazar last evening.

The "gunfight" continued for nearly four hours. After it ended, the Rab members searched the area and recovered seven bullet-hit bodies, he said.

Talking to The Daily Star, Sakia Hoque, a doctor at the emergency unit of Teknaf Upazila Health Complex, said the seven bodies and three injured Rab members were taken there early yesterday morning.

The seven were brought dead and the Rab members were released after they were given primary treatment, he said.

Azim also claimed to have recovered three pistols, seven one-shot guns, 12 bullets and 13 abandoned bullet shells from the spot.

Rab officials said the deceased were members of a notorious robber gang led by Zokir Ahmed.

Azim said they had been trying to nab the gang for the last 15 days. Its members were involved in robbery, yaba trade and human trafficking.

He identified four of the deceased as Md Faruk, 35, a resident of

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Buses going against traffic on the newly-built one-way overpass on Dhaka-Mawa highway in the capital's Postogola area. On-duty traffic policemen on the bridge were not doing anything to stop them. Such violations of road rules pose risks of accidents, putting lives at risk. The photo was taken around noon yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

SAGAR-RUNI MURDER

Nothing new in Rab report on probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eight years after the murders of journalist couple Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Rumi, Rapid Action Battalion could not produce anything new information as the High Court wanted to know the latest update of the investigation.

Rab yesterday handed over a report regarding the inquiry into the murders of Sagar and Rumi to the attorney general's office to place it before the HC.

"There is no new information. Earlier, we used to take the case docket to court. Now the High Court asked the investigation officer to submit it through an affidavit. That is why the progress report was sent to the AG office," Maj

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CAA misunderstood in many senses

Indian foreign secretary tells seminar in Dhaka

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Indian Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla yesterday said the Citizenship Amendment Act passed by Indian parliament late last year was misunderstood in many senses.

"This is a proactive legislation that has been undertaken on humanitarian grounds. In other words, the people who were refugees or faced political persecution and came to India within a cut off time were allowed fast track citizenship," he told a seminar in the capital.

The seminar, Bangladesh and India: A Promising Future, was organised by Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) and Indian High Commission in Bangladesh at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon hotel in the capital.

Shringla arrived yesterday on a two-day visit meant to prepare the

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Harsh Shringla

End border killings, allay concern over internal issues

Dhaka urges Delhi

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh wants India to bring border killings to an end and address the peoples' concerns caused by the "internal issues" of India.

"We had decided to bring [down] border killings to zero, but it increased in the recent months. It is regrettable. Shringla said he would look into the matter,"

Bangladesh's Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen said after a meeting with the Indian Foreign

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CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

EU raises risk level to 'high'

Toll tops 3,000; cases soar; OECD warns of severe economic hit from outbreak

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|---|--|
| COVID-19 UPDATE | 3,043 DEATHS | 80,174 confirmed cases in mainland China | The virus spread to at least 65 countries |
| | 88,930 confirmed cases | | |

AFP, Brussels

The death toll from the new coronavirus epidemic surpassed 3,000 yesterday as more people died in China, Iran and the US and Europe raised its state of alert.

The virus has now infected more than 89,000, spread to over 60 countries and threatens to cause a global economic slowdown -- after first emerging in China late last year.

With fears of a pandemic on the rise, the World Health Organization urged all countries to stock up on critical care ventilators to treat patients with severe symptoms.

In Brussels, EU president Ursula von der Leyen said the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) had increased its risk assessment for Europeans after Italy's outbreak doubled in 48 hours.

The virus has raised fears for the world economy, with the OECD lowering its global growth forecast by half a point to 2.4 percent, the worst performance since the 2008 crisis.

China's economy has ground to a halt with large swathes of the country under quarantine or measures to restrict travel. Takings at Macau casinos fell a record 88 percent in February.

Other countries have started to enact their own draconian containment measures, including banning

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Tigers looking to seal series today

MAZHAR UDDIN from Sylhet

Hosts Bangladesh will be desperate to secure the series when they take on Zimbabwe in the second of the three-match ODI series at Sylhet International Stadium today. The match is scheduled to start at 1:00pm.

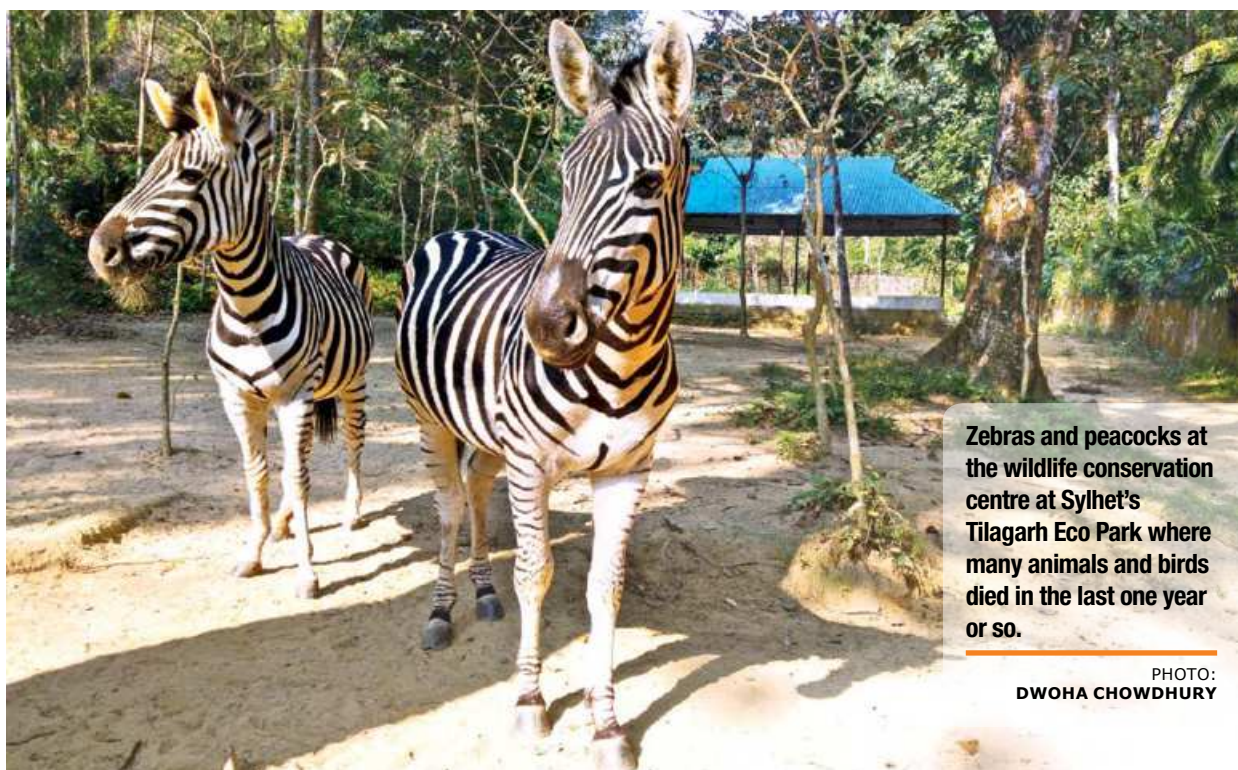
Following the 169-run win -- Bangladesh's biggest in ODIs -- in the first ODI on Sunday Bangladesh will be oozing with confidence and will look to continue the right kind of attitude to improve their skills.

It will not just be about winning the game against a weaker and less experienced opposition side ranked 12th in the world in ODIs; instead head coach Russell Domingo's charges will look to display a commanding approach to show the difference between the two sides.

Things have not gone well for the Tigers since the eighth-place finish in

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WORLD WILDLIFE DAY TODAY



Zebras and peacocks at the wildlife conservation centre at Sylhet's Tilagarh Eco Park where many animals and birds died in the last one year or so.

PHOTO: DWOHA CHOWDHURY

Condemned cell for animals

Everything wrong with Sylhet wildlife conservation centre

DWOHA CHOWDHURY, Sylhet

The wildlife conservation centre in Tilagarh Eco Park of Sylhet has turned into a death trap for animals since it started operation in November 2018.

Over these months, at least 33 animals and birds died at the centre, said Forest Department officials.

Confirming the number of deaths, Chayanbrata Choudhury, acting beat officer of Tilagarh Forest Beat, said four deer, four chukar partridges, four peacocks and one swamp hen were among the dead.

Besides, 20 love birds either died or managed to escape from the cage, he added.

An insider who closely monitored the animals, however, said the number of deaths was as high as 50 and at

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Shringla calls on PM

UNB, Dhaka

Visiting Indian Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Gono Bhaban yesterday.

Briefing the media, PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim said the upcoming Bangladesh visit of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, sub-regional connectivity and various bilateral issues were discussed at the meeting.

Modi is scheduled to reach Dhaka on March 17 to join the birth centenary celebration of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Hasina briefly described various programmes that have been taken to celebrate "Mujib Borsho".

The press secretary said both sides also discussed coronavirus. The PM said Bangladesh already dedicated a hospital to coronavirus patients. Anyone found to be infected would be sent to that hospital.

Shringla praised Bangladesh's economic development and RMG industry.

PM's Principal Secretary Ahmad Kaikaus, Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen, Bangladesh High Commissioner to India Muhammad Imran and Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Riva Ganguly Das were also present.

Later, a seven-member delegation from Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons (BCPS), led by its President Prof Quazi Deen Mohammad, called on the PM.

The BCPS team invited Hasina to their upcoming convocation.

Press Secretary Ihsanul said the delegation raised various problems regarding their profession and medical education before the PM.

Senior Vice-President of BCPS Prof TIM Abdullah Al Faruque, Vice President Maj Gen Abdul Ali Mia and PM's personal physician Prof Dr ABM Abdullah were also present.



Indian Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Gono Bhaban yesterday.

PHOTO: PTD

EU raises risk level

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arrivals from virus-hit nations, locking down towns, urging citizens to stay home and suspending major events such as football matches and trade fairs.

Health officials monitoring the virus at the ECDC announced that it had increased its risk assessment to "moderate to high".

The Louvre -- the world's most visited museum -- closed on Sunday and yesterday after staff refused to work because of fears about the virus.

China reported 42 more deaths yesterday-- all in central Hubei province. The pathogen is believed to have originated in a market that sold wild animals in Hubei's capital, Wuhan.

The death toll in China alone rose to 2,912, but it is also surging abroad.

The WHO says the virus appears to particularly hit those over the age of 60 and people already weakened by other illness. It has a mortality rate of between two and five percent.

Infections are now rising faster abroad than in China, as the country's drastic measures, including quarantining some 56 million people in Hubei since late January, appear to be paying off.

Iran reported 12 more deaths yesterday, raising the country's toll to 66, the second biggest after China.

South Korea, the biggest nest of infections outside China, reported nearly 500 new cases, raising its total past 4,000.

Half of South Korea's cases are linked to a sect whose leader apologised yesterday for the spread of the disease.

Seoul's city government have asked prosecutors to press murder charges

against him for failing to cooperate in efforts to contain the virus.

A second person died in the northwestern US state of Washington as President Donald Trump, who has downplayed the risk of a major outbreak, faced criticism over his administration's preparedness.

EU Health Commissioner Stella Kyriakides said: "As of this morning, we have 2,100 confirmed cases in 18 EU member states and we have 38 citizens who have lost their lives."

After an increase on Sunday, China's National Health Commission reported 202 new infections on Monday, the lowest daily rise since late January, bringing the nationwide total over 80,000.

In a symbol of the improving situation, authorities in Wuhan closed on Sunday one of 16 makeshift hospitals built or repurposed from public buildings to treat the city's huge number of patients.

By contrast, Iran reported more than 500 new cases, raising its total number of infections to 1,501.

Four more people died in South Korea, taking its toll to 22.

South Korea's cases are expected to rise further as authorities test more than 260,000 people associated with the Shincheonji Church of Jesus, the religious group often condemned as a cult that is linked to more than half the infections.

In Italy, Europe's hardest-hit country, infections nearly doubled to around 1,700 cases over the weekend.

In the United States, a man in his 70s with underlying conditions died on Saturday, health officials said, as New York reported its first case in a woman who had visited Iran.

Condemned cell for animals

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after completion of the project, all problems will be solved."

Talking to The Daily Star, animal rights activists blamed the lack of experienced manpower and appropriate environment for the animals led to so many deaths in such a short time.

Visiting the conservation centre, this correspondent found out no veterinary surgeon was officially appointed there. A hospital that was set up for the animals did not even have a surgical bed.

Talking to this newspaper, Ahmed Rafi, president of Pradhikar, an animal rights organisation of Sylhet Agriculture University, said the conservation centre had the "worst management team".

"The animals are kept in cages that are not liveable at all. Plus, vehicles' access to the centre are troubling these animals."

Ashrafal Kabir, coordinator of Bhoomishontan Bangladesh, an environment and animal rights-based organisation, termed the conservation centre a "condemned cell for animals".

"The Forest Department showed the highest level of negligence by bringing in animals at the centre without appointing any expert veterinary surgeon or animal keeper."

Besides, leasing out the conservation centre to a corporate group is outrageous, he added.

In October 2018, the conservation centre was leased out to Tanha Enterprise for Tk 5,05,000. The same company took lease of the centre for Tk 757,000 in October 2019.

Contacted, Anwar Hossain, proprietor of Tanha, said their responsibility was selling entry and parking tickets, managing animal keepers and maintaining security only as per the lease agreement.

"There is no problem in taking care of the animals as we brought in two animal keepers from Bangabandhu Safari Park."

He alleged that the conservation centre was constructed in an unplanned way and that is causing trouble.

"We have a veterinarian from Sylhet Agriculture University who comes routinely to check the health of the animals; but it is not enough."

"Now we are hopeful as the Forest Department is already planning a project to develop it and

after completion of the project, all problems will be solved."

According to the Forest Department sources, the lessee was given all the responsibilities to manage the centre, even to bear the cost of keepers and the vet surgeon.

The department has proposed a project of Tk 100 crore for the development of the centre, which is awaiting ministry's approval.

Contacted, SM Sajjad Hossain, deputy conservator of forests and divisional forest officer in Sylhet, said, "The project seeks reconstruction of existing cages and building new, allotting human resources and many other aspects that will help the conservation centre to become a true conservation centre for wildlife."

Admitting there are acute manpower shortage and the lessee does not have the resources to operate the centre properly, he said, "In the project, we have asked for allotting 27 persons including a surgeon and nine keepers."

"Many things were overlooked when the centre was inaugurated and now we want to avert the problems it is facing. We are hopeful to make the centre as a true conservation centre for the wildlife."

With 62 animals, mostly from Bangabandhu Safari Park, the conservation centre was opened on November 2, 2018. Around 40 more animals were brought in later at different times and some were brought in after being rescued by different animal rights organisations.

A total of 45.34 hectares of forest was declared as Tilagarh Eco Park in 2006. After years of leaving it uncared for, the Forest Department in 2012 took the initiative to establish a wildlife conservation centre there.

According to the Forest Department, the initial budget of the project was 9.79 crore and the work of establishing the centre started in 2013. It was supposed to end by June 2016.

After revising the deadline, the Forest Department completed the construction work by the mid 2018 in a hurry. As they did not have proper human resources to open it, the department leased it out.

Of all the issues, two spotted deer gave birth to two calves at the conservation centre on January 18 and February 13 this year.

CAA misunderstood in many senses

FROM PAGE 1

groundwork for Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit on March 17-18. Modi is coming to Bangladesh to attend an event observing Bangabandhu's birth centennial.

Shringla also held meetings with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen, Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen and Roads and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader.

Shringla's visit comes against the backdrop of violence in Delhi that claimed over 40 lives and injured some 200 others since February 23 over protests in Delhi against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).

The act created a pathway to get Indian citizenship for migrants belonging to Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi, and Christian communities from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. It excludes the Muslims.

Critics say the CAA violates India's secular constitution.

Responding to a question, Shringla said there were hundreds of thousands of homeless and stateless people in India. They will be allowed to apply for citizenship on fast track basis. This means, instead of waiting 10 years, they will get it in five years, he added.

"That does not mean in any way that other people are not benefited by the act. India has a normal process of application for citizenship."

For example, he said, about 5,000 nationals from Pakistan were granted citizenship in the last 10 years.

CAA is not targeted against any religion. Under the current government in Bangladesh, the minorities are taken care of really well, Shringla said, adding that Bangladesh had a secular constitution and laws were enacted accordingly.

Religious persecution took place in the post-1975 period when there was no spirit of secularism in the constitution of Bangladesh, he added.

Shringla repeated that the National Register of Citizenship (NRC) was an internal matter of India and would not affect Bangladesh.

It is being done under the guidance of Indian Supreme Court, and those who are not registered will have opportunities to appeal to the court, he said.

The final list of NRC published in August last year left out over 19 lakh people in Assam. They are allowed to appeal legally. But what happens to those who fail in the legal battle is not clear.

While addressing the seminar as chief guest, Prime Minister's International Affairs Adviser Dr Gowher Rizvi said Dhaka accepted the assurances of India on NRC, and had good reasons to believe that it had nothing to worry over the issue.

"Our commitment to secularism is absolutely central and we do not want to have any situation where our secularism will be threatened in any way," he said.

Bangladesh attaches high priority to protecting minorities and ensuring their welfare, he said, adding that the country would continue to work with India so "our secular society grows from strength to strength".

Rizvi said there was no way Bangladesh would look away if minorities were affected in any way.

DEAL ON SEVEN COMMON RIVERS

At the seminar attended by many politicians, academics, diplomats, civil society members, and journalists, Shringla said water sharing agreement of seven common rivers, including the Murchi, Monu, Dharla, Khowai, Gumti and Dudhkumar, might be signed by this year.

India and Bangladesh have exchanged information on waterflow of the seven transboundary rivers, Shringla said.

"We need to expedite harmonisation of this data so that water sharing agreements can be finalised as early as possible, possibly within this year itself."

Water sharing agreements of the Teesta and the Feni were finalised in 2011. During Hasina's visit to Delhi in October last year, Bangladesh and India signed a deal, allowing India to withdraw 1.82 cubic feet of water from the Feni per second.

Teesta deal, which was supposed to be signed in 2011, was not finalised following objections from then West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee.

"Given our federal system, an agreement can only be finalised on the basis of consensus among stakeholders. We certainly want to show you that we are working on concluding the deal as soon as possible," Shringla said yesterday.

BORDER KILLINGS

During the question-answer session Shringla said India wanted to bring border killing to zero, but the criminal activity along the borders and attacks on security forces of both the countries lead to the killings.

"There have been attacks on border

guarding forces on both sides. Deaths on the border are not necessarily confined to the citizens of Bangladesh. There are equal number of Indian citizens."

Shringla said in 2019 alone, 12 Indian citizens were killed, four injured and 83 members of Border Security Forces of India were injured and one was killed.

The Daily Star could not verify the claim.

Shringla said modern fencing on the remaining 165 kilometres of Indo-Bangla borders would allow both countries to improve security and enhance cross-border trade.

INDIAN LINES OF CREDIT

Gowher Rizvi expressed frustration over the slow disbursement of Indian LoC.

"Despite all these lines of credit available to us, almost ten years down the road we have just about completed the first line of credit.... This truly needs serious attention," he said, referring to the about \$7.5 billion Indian LoC.

Bangladesh managed to use \$523 million of the \$862 million of the first LoC and \$14 million of the \$2 billion of the second LoC.

"We need to find a way to remove these things quickly. Otherwise, the opportunity being lost is too costly," Rizvi said.

INDIA TO ADDRESS ROHINGYA CRISIS

India is committed to offering the fullest support for any mutually-acceptable solution that will enable the earliest possible return of Rohingyas to Rakhine state in a safe, secure and sustainable manner, Shringla said.

Apart from providing assistance to the Rohingyas in Cox's Bazar, India is also investing in housing and other socio-economic aspects of Rakhine. This will make sure there is an incentive for their return, he added.

"In other words, there is no difference between India and Bangladesh on the way forward in addressing this major humanitarian problem."

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Riva Ganguly Das, BISS Chairman M Fazul Karim and BISS Acting Director General Col Sheikh Masud Ahmed also spoke at the seminar.

Dhaka has asked about the recent Delhi violence during the meeting between Shringla and Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen.

Shringla said they were probing if the violence was instigated by any third party, a foreign ministry official told The Daily Star.

Seven killed in a single 'gunfight'

FROM PAGE 1

Block-D at Camp 27; Nur Hossain Nuraiyya, 35, a resident of Block-E at Camp 27, Md. Imran, 22, a resident of Shalbagan Camp, and Ali Hossain, 27, a resident of Camp-27.

Identities of the three others could not be confirmed till late last night.

Pradiip Kumar Das, officer-in-charge (OC) of Teknaf Police Station, said the bodies were sent to Cox's Bazar General Hospital for autopsy.

Rab has filed a case with the police station in this connection.

The law enforcers said they were raiding different areas to arrest the gang leader, Zokir.

After the "gunfight", policemen visited the refugee camps and sought cooperation from the Rohingyas to

arrest robbers.

Meanwhile, panic gripped the camp areas since the incident.

'GUNFIGHT WITH BGB'

A man was killed in another gunfight with Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) in Damdamia area of Teknaf around 11:00pm on Sunday night.

The identity of the deceased could not be known, reports Bangla Daily Prothom Alo.

BGB claimed to have recovered 1.5 lakh yaba pills, a fire arms and two cartridges from the spot, said Lt Col Md Payscale Hasan Khan, commander of BGB's Teknaf-2 unit.

RIGHTS ACTIVISTS EXPRESS CONCERN

At least 412 people were killed in 2018 after the government launched

an anti-narcotics drive on May 4 that year. Last year, the figure was 356.

Noted human rights activist Nur Khan said the sharp rise in extrajudicial killings was extremely worrisome.

"Seven people killed in a single operation is definitely the biggest one. We can't accept it. The area where it happened is notorious for various types of criminal gangs, including those of robbers. The law enforcers, however, should be more careful in bringing criminals to book."

Such killings raise fears in the society and also lead to a culture of impunity, he said.

Nur observed that extrajudicial killings were taking place as law enforcers themselves lack faith in the country's judicial system.

End border killings

FROM PAGE 1

Amendment Act (CAA) passed in December last year triggered violent protests in India.

Recent violence in Delhi over the CAA left 42 people dead and over 200 injured. India maintains these are its internal issues and won't have any impact on Bangladesh.

Eminent citizens in Bangladesh expressed concern over the Delhi violence, while some Islamic and left political parties have demonstrated against such violence.

"I said we want you not to do anything that creates problems for us. He [Shringla] said the issues are temporary and won't create problems for us," Momen said.

Momen said Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be visiting Bangladesh on March 17-18 to attend the birth centenary celebration

of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

India is the biggest contributor to the independence of Bangladesh. The two countries share common democratic values, tradition and history, and Bangladesh will pay the highest respect to the Indian PM during his visit, he said.

"We will also expect our guests to be aware of the expectations and concerns of our people."

Meanwhile, Dhaka has asked about the Delhi violence during Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen's meeting with Harsh Vardhan Shringla, a foreign ministry official told The Daily Star.

Shringla said they were investigating if the violence was instigated by any third party, he said without elaborating.

Tigers looking

FROM PAGE 1

the 10-team ICC World Cup in England last year, which was followed by a 3-0 whitewash at the hands of Sri Lanka. It will be important for the Tigers to have the right frame of mind and to have the right processes in place, keeping the future in mind.

A win in the second game today can make the occasion special as it will be the 100th victory for veteran batsman Mushfiqur Rahim, who has been playing ODIs for Bangladesh since August 2006.

In the first ODI, Bangladesh were boosted by opener Liton Das's dominant century and a collective approach from the others and posted their highest ever ODI total against Zimbabwe of 321 for six.

The Bangladesh bowlers then followed it up with a clinical bowling performance, with young seam-bowling all-rounder Mohammad Saifuddin picking up three wickets after a 15-ball 28 cameo, during which he displayed his big-hitting abilities.

Skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, who had all the focus on him ahead of the series as he had been going through a lean patch that saw him take just one wicket in eight World Cup games last year, made a good comeback, which would be a great relief for everyone involved with Bangladesh cricket.

The 36-year-old picked up two wickets, and with the second he became only the fifth bowler to bag 100 ODI wickets as a captain after Shaun Pollock, Wasim Akram, Jason Holder and Imran Khan.

Off-spinner Mehedi Hasan Miraz also bagged two scalps as Zimbabwe were bundled out for a mere 152 runs.

For Zimbabwe it will be a daunting task yet again and skipper Chamu Chibhabha will have to correct course to break a 14-match losing streak against Bangladesh.

With experienced campaigners in Sean Williams and Craig Ervine set to come back into the playing eleven, the side will surely gain some strength today.

Zimbabwe, in the first ODI, were depleted as Ervine was ruled out with flu while Williams could not report to the team early enough to be ready for the game.

Regular Zimbabwe captain Williams had opted sit out the one-off Test and was supposed to join the team in Sylhet ahead of the ODI series.

Zimbabwe's bowling lacked the bite in the first game, while it was equally frustrating that none of the batsmen were able to show any resistance apart from 19-year-old Wesley Madhevere on his debut.

The low turnout in Sylhet in the first game also remained a topic of discussion as the north-eastern city is hosting their first full-fledged international series.

Clarification

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics has sent a clarification to a report run by The Daily Star on February 25 under the headline "9 in 10 children suffer violent disciplining".

The BBS said this was one of the key findings of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2019, conducted by the BBS and Unicef. The survey found that 88.8 percent children aged between one and 14 years experienced physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by their parents and caregivers. The figure was 82.3 percent in 2012-2013.

In the clarification sent last week, the BBS gave an explanation on the nature of violence children endure in households as they collected data based on some questions asked to parents and caregivers.

According to the survey, 28.6 percent children in Bangladesh are hit or slapped on their face, head or ears by their parents or caregivers while 38 percent on their hands, arms and legs.

Besides, 38 percent children are spanked, hit or slapped on their back with bare hand while about 15.6 percent parents and caregivers used different objects, such as belt, hairbrush, stick or other hard objects to hit them on their back or elsewhere on the body. Around 32 percent of the respondents also said they shook their children.

Five percent parents and caregivers said they beat up their children repeatedly as hard as they could.

On the other hand, an overwhelming majority of children faced verbal abuse as almost 87 percent parents and caregivers said they shouted, yelled or screamed at them. About 27.5 percent of the respondents said they belittled and demeaned their children with name-calling like dumb or lazy.

The MICS is a global survey, conducted as part of the Global MICS Programme, developed by Unicef in 1990s. It measures key indicators that allow countries to generate data for use in policies, programmes, and national development plans, and to monitor progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The survey is done in every 3-4 years with the same methodology for every country.

According to the BBS, the percentage of violence against children was 82 percent in Nepal (MICS 2014), 82 percent in Bangladesh (MICS 2012-2013), 81 percent in Pakistan (MICS 2017) and 74 percent in Afghanistan (MICS 2010-2011).



WIRES HAYWIRE... The ubiquity of cables and wires hanging above Dhaka streets have desensitised residents of the danger they possess, not to mention the sheer eyesore. In this photo taken from Gulistan yesterday, loose cables and unprotected light holders can be seen dangling above footpaths. How they got there is another story of irregularity -- they were put up by a "syndicate" that illegally occupies the pavement and rents it out to streetside vendors. PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

KSA planning to abolish kafala system

JAMIL MAHMUD

Saudi Arabia is planning to abolish its controversial sponsorship system, known as kafala, amid economic reforms and frequent allegations of labour exploitation in the Gulf country.

The much-anticipated decision to abolish the system is imminent, English-language daily Saudi Gazette reported recently, citing sources.

The news report says the abolition will give expatriate workers the freedom to secure exit and re-entry visas as well as take up new employment without previous employers' restriction or approval.

International labour rights groups and activists have been blaming the kafala system for limiting migrant workers' job opportunities in the Gulf.

They have long been demanding its complete abolition in the six Gulf countries and in the Arab states of Jordan and Lebanon.

Shariful Hasan, head of Brac Migration Programme, said Saudi Arabia's abolition of the kafala system will benefit Bangladeshi migrant workers greatly because they are subject to exploitation under the present system.

The system limits a migrant worker's movement because it authorises one single person instead of an organisation or company to monitor a foreign worker's daily activities, Shariful said.

"It is a form of modern-day slavery," he added.

Under the current sponsorship system in Saudi Arabia, migrant workers need an employer's approval to enter the country. They also need such approval for residence permit renewal, employment termination, changing their place of employment, and for exit from the country, according to International Labour Organization (ILO).

Taking advantage of the system, errant employers exploit migrant workers by applying various means such as confiscating workers' passports to be "assured" that the migrant worker stays for the duration of their contract and does not "abscond".

Such dependency on employers increase chances of impeding "fair migration", says a whitepaper published by the ILO Regional Office for Arab States in 2017.

The paper cites the benefits of reforming the sponsorship system -- particularly the economic benefits and worker protection.

"The possibility of migrant workers moving into better paid employment may act as an incentive for workers to acquire new skills -- benefiting the national economy as a whole by gradually increasing the overall skill level of the

migrant workforce," it notes. "Allowing migrant workers to change employers would contribute to better functioning and more dynamic national labour markets and would help ensure that the skills of migrant workers are better matched with industry and employer needs," the paper also states.

Other Gulf countries have made reforms to the kafala system, to different extents, in recent years.

Of these, Bahrain established the Labour Market Regulatory Authority in 2006 with the responsibility of sponsoring migrant workers, and declared that it would abolish the kafala system in 2009. However, migrant workers still require individual sponsors to enter the country, according to the ILO paper.

Around 20 lakh Bangladeshi workers are currently in Saudi Arabia.

Around 24,000 workers were deported from there last year. Of whom, many

Saudi Arabia's abolition of the kafala system will benefit Bangladeshi migrant workers greatly because they are subject to exploitation under the present system.

Shariful Hasan
Head of Brac Migration Programme

women said they were subjected to physical violence, while both men and women said their salaries were not paid regularly and they had to work in unfavourable conditions.

As per Saudi Arabia's current rules, a royal decree has to be issued to bring the abolition of kafala into effect, an official at Bangladesh embassy in Riyadh recently told The Daily Star over phone.

It will be a massive step if the new abolition law is passed, because almost everything regarding foreign labour recruitment in Saudi Arabia is linked to the kafala system, the official said, seeking anonymity.

The kafala system was introduced in the region in the 1950s, after the discovery of oil there. Following that, countries began hiring expatriate workers to speed up development activities.

The Saudi Gazette report says the move by the Kingdom comes in light of a series of economic reforms in the country since the launch of its "Vision 2030".

The reforms envision a plan to reduce the Gulf country's dependency on revenue generated from the oil sector.

NUSRAT MURDER

CJ for quick disposal of case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain has recently assigned a High Court bench for hearing and disposing of the death reference and appeals in the sensational Nusrat Jahan Rafi murder case.

The bench of Justice Soumendra Sarker and Justice Shahed Nuruddin may now fix a date for starting hearing the death reference and appeals in the case, Supreme Court Spokesman Md Saifur Rahman told The Daily Star yesterday.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told this correspondent that his office will conduct the case on behalf of the state before the HC bench after it includes the matter in its cause list and fixes a date for hearing.

Nusrat Jahan Rafi, a 19-year-old madrasa student in Feni, lost her battle for life on April 10 last year, four days after she was set afire. She was sexually harassed by the

Delhi violence condemned

Hindu Buddhist Christian Oikya Parishad urges India to maintain peace

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Oikya Parishad has expressed its concern and condemnation over the recent violence in New Delhi, India.

The condemnation came during the council's standing committee meeting at its office, said a press release yesterday.

The participants urged the government of India and its people to maintain peace, harmony and security of the minority groups in line with the

An ominous sign

Mahbub Talukdar on people's indifference to voting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Election Commissioner Mahbub Talukdar yesterday expressed grave concern over the present voting system and underscored the need for reformation of the electoral process.

"Public indifference to voting is now being noticed. It is an ominous sign for democracy," Mahbub Talukdar said while addressing a programme in Dhaka on the occasion of National Voters' Day.

The lack of trust in the voting system will have to be addressed at any cost, the commissioner said.

While addressing the same programme, Chief Election Commissioner KM Nurul Huda said the number of voters in the country at present is around 100 million.

Of them, 5,54,82,530 are male while 5,43,36,222 are female voters, he said.

Some 360 transgender people were added to the voter list for the first time, he added.

According to an EC official, 55,79,030 new voters were

All that remains are memories

A family lost to Eskaton fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Another person died in the fire that broke out at a building in Eskaton on Thursday, taking the death toll to five.

Shahidul Kirmani Rony (40), who lost his wife and son in the fire, breathed his last while undergoing treatment at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of Sheikh Hasina National Burn and Plastic Surgery Institute around 6:30am yesterday, said Dr Samanta Lal Sen, national coordinator of the burn institute.

Earlier, buying house staffer Abdul Kader Liton (40) and Vigarunnisa Noon School and College student Afrin Jahan Juthi (17) died in the fire that started around 4am at building no 45/A on Dilu Road.

Rony's four-year-old son AKM Rushdi also died that very day. Rushdi's mother Jannatul Fardous (38) passed away on Sunday, after suffering from 95 percent burn injuries.

Rony tried to escape the building through the stairs, carrying Rushdi in his arms. But unable to see in the dark, Rony stumbled down the stairs and Rushdi fell



PHOTO: COLLECTED

out of his arms.

Rony had then tried to crawl back up the stairs [for his son], but lost consciousness, Rony's sister Nasrin Akhter told The Daily Star earlier.

The family had big plans for their future. Jannatul had set up her own online business and the young family was planning to expand it. Rushdi was recently enrolled in a school.

A five-member committee headed by Abul Hosen, deputy director of Mymensingh Fire Service and Civil Defence, was formed to probe the incident. The committee has been asked to submit a report within 15 days.

Tabith files lawsuit for cancellation of DNCC polls

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Tabith Awal, who contested Dhaka North City Corporation polls for mayor post from BNP, filed a lawsuit with an election tribunal in the capital yesterday, demanding cancellation of the February 1 election.

Judge Utpal Bhattacharya accepted the suit and will pass an order today whether to summon the defendants, Advocate Masud Ahmed Talukdar confirmed to The Daily Star.

The chief election commissioner, commission's secretary, winner candidate Atiqul Islam and five others have been made defendants to contest the suit.

In the suit, Tabith claimed that the February 1 election was held



Sitting on the edge of Tongi-Abdullahpur bridge, a woman waits for customers with her baskets of betel nuts on display. Like her, many occupy the bridge in the afternoon to sell produce. This photo was taken recently. PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

DHAKA TODAY

- PROTEST**
Protesting the recent violence in Delhi
Organiser: Alliance for Resistance of Terrorism and Communalism
Venue: Shahbagh
Time: 11am
- RALLY**
Marking the World Hearing Day
Venue: Block-A of BSMMU
Time: 9am
- EXHIBITION**
Innovation Exhibition by Abu Sayeed
Venue: Central Public Library
Time: 11am
- CELEBRATION**
Marking International Women's Day
Organiser: ActionAid Bangladesh
Venue: Central Public Library, Shahbagh
Time: 10am
- SESSION**
EMK Book Club: Book for Encouragement
Venue: EMK Center
Time: 5pm

EMK Book Club
Books for Encouragement
March 3, 2020
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
EMK Center

Set up public toilets in each ward

Activists demand at discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The two Dhaka city mayors should establish adequate public toilets in each ward in a bid to avert environmental pollution and health risk, said activists at a discussion yesterday.

They said the capital has only 62 public toilets run by two city corporations.

The people -- including day labourers, street children and those who have to stay outdoor for work -- suffer from various health problems as they often have to hold excreta for a long time due to limited facility of toilets.

People's Health Movement and PHM Bangladesh jointly organised the discussion titled "Public toilet crisis in the city, health risks and way forward" at an auditorium of Gonoshasthaya Nagar Hospital in the capital.

Addressing the programme, architect and environment activist Iqbal Habib said open urination by workers of various informal sectors -- including rickshaw-pullers -- causes environmental pollution, putting city dwellers at health risk.

Before setting up public toilets, he recommended, the authorities should design a proper map after discussing the issue with different stakeholders. He demanded that public sanitation issue be included in the agenda of ward-based standing committees under the city corporations.

Doctors for Health and Environment President Abu Sayeed said cleanliness of the environment can be ensured by building adequate public toilets.

Gonoshasthaya Kendra founder Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury urged the government to ensure use of public toilets for free.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

9PC INTEREST RATE ON LOANS HC refuses to hear petition challenging BB decision

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A High Court bench yesterday refused to hold hearing on a writ petition that challenged the legality of Bangladesh Bank's decision which instructed the scheduled banks to set a maximum nine percent interest rate on all loans except credit cards.

The bench of Justice Tariq ul Hakim and Justice Md Iqbal Kabir also dropped the petition from its cause-list, saying that this bench has no jurisdiction to hear such a matter involving bank related issues.

The judges, however, said the petitioner has liberty to move the same petition before another HC bench having jurisdiction to hear the matters.

After this bench passed the order, petitioner's counsel Syed Sayedqul Haque Suman placed the petition before another HC bench of Justice Abu Taher Md Saifur Rahman and Justice Md Zakir Hossain for its hearing.

The bench led by Justice Abu Taher Md Saifur Rahman said the writ petition will

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

'CASINO BROTHERS' Enamul, Rupon on 6-day remand

STAR REPORT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed brothers Enamul Haque Enu and Rupon Bhuiyan on six-day remand each in a case filed under the Special Powers Act.

Enamul is former vice-president of Gendaria unit of Awami League while Rupon is the unit's joint general secretary.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Jasim passed the order after police produced them before the court with a 10-day remand prayer. Both brothers are now in jail after being arrested on January 13 for allegedly running a casino.

On February 25, a Rab team launched a drive at their house on Wari's Lalmohon Saha Street and recovered Tk 26.55 crore in cash and fixed deposit receipts worth Tk 5.15 crore.

They also recovered around one kg of gold, 9,300 USD, 174 Malaysian ringgit, 5,350 Indian rupees, 1,195 Chinese yuan, 11,560 Thai baht, 100 UAE dirhams and some gambling chips from the same flat.

Rab suspected that the money was collected from their illegal casino business. Enamul and Rupon were the directors of a casino at the Wanderer's Club in Motijheel.

On February 27, Rab filed a case against Enamul and Rupon with Wari Police Station under the Special Powers Act in connection with the recovery of cash and deposit money, gold, foreign currencies and gambling chips.

Appeal for help

CITY DESK

Mohammad Omar Faruque, deputy director of SCI's HIV programme, met with a dreadful accident on April 13, 2019. The bike carrying him was hit by a truck, which then ran over the lower part of his body, smashing his hip bone.

After nine months in hospitals in Dhaka and Bangkok and eight grueling operations, Faruq has graduated from bed to wheelchair. However, it took the family all its savings, and yet it was not enough. Finally, their family and friends stepped in to raise a total of around Tk 50 lakh.

However, another Tk 50 lakh is needed in treatment cost if Faruq is to get back to full health and start living a normal life with his wife and two sons. With this money, Faruq can return to his former, beaming self, sporting his trademarked smile, said relatives and friends, who requested the well-off sections of society to lend a helping hand.

Assistance can be sent to: A/C name: Mohammad Omar Faruque; A/C number: 1161030040837; Dutch-Bangla Bank, Gulshan Branch; Routing number: 090261725; SWIFT code: DBBLDDHH. Bkash account number: 01730311691 (personal)

Solidarity with Maria Ressa

FROM PAGE 5

Monika Eigensperger, director of radio, Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF), Austria; Stephen Giagama, group CEO, Nation Media Group, Kenya; Kadri Gürsel, chair, IPI Turkey National Committee, Turkey; Sami El Haj, head, Human Rights and Public Liberties Desk, Aljazeera Media Network, Qatar; Kim Fletcher, editor, The British Journalism Review, UK; Johannes Hano, bureau chief, ZDF German Television (New York/Canada), Germany; David Jordan, director, Editorial Policy, BBC, UK; Hiroshi Komatsu, editor-in-chief, The Mainichi Shimbun, Japan; Daoud Kuttab, director general, Community Media Network, and founder, AmmanNet, Jordan; Wada Maida, chairman, People's

Media Limited, Nigeria; Riyad Mathew, editor, Malayala Manorama and The Week, India; Kaius Niemi, senior editor-in-chief, Helsingin Sanomat, Finland; Khadija Patel, editor-in-chief, Mail and Guardian, South Africa; Virginia Pérez Alonso, deputy editor-in-chief, Publico.es, and chair, Platform for the Defence of Free Expression (PDLI), Spain; Markus Spillmann, founder and CEO, SPILLMANN Media Strategy Management GmbH, Switzerland; Martha Steffens, professor, SABEW Chair in Business and Financial Reporting, University of Missouri School of Journalism, USA; Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher, The Daily Star, Bangladesh; John Yearwood, deputy editor, Politico, USA; and Zaffar Abbas, editor, Dawn newspaper, Pakistan.

Army chief inaugurates

FROM PAGE 5

Lalmonirhat to provide necessary training, General Aziz Ahmed said, adding that new and modern infrastructures will also be built there to increase the power of Army Aviation. The Army Aviation Group is a specialised institution of Bangladesh Army. An Army Aviation School was established in Dhaka in 2012 as a sister organisation of

Army Aviation Group. Among others, Lt Gen Shamsul Haque, Quartermaster-General (QMG); Maj Gen Md Abu Syed Siddique, Master General of Ordnance; Maj Gen Md Nazrul Islam, GOC, 66 Infantry Division, Rangpur Cantonment; Abu Jafer, deputy commissioner, Lalmonirhat; and Abida Sultana, superintendent of police were present.

CJ for quick disposal

FROM PAGE 3

then madrasa principal Siraj Ud Doula, on March 27 last year. Her mother filed a case against Siraj, who was later sacked, arrested and sent to jail.

A Feni court on October 24 last year handed down death sentence to all 16 accused, including Siraj Ud Doula and two expelled local Awami League leaders, over the murder, an incident that shocked the nation.

The accused burnt Nusrat by pouring kerosene on her in a planned way, and they deserve exemplary and harshest punishment, the trial court said while delivering the

judgement in a packed courtroom. The documents of the murder case reached the HC on October 29 last year, as a death reference to examine the trial court verdict.

If a lower court sentences any person to death in a case, its judgement is examined by the HC through hearing arguments for confirmation of the death sentence. The case documents and judgement reach as death reference to the HC from the lower court in seven days after the latter delivers the verdict.

Later on, convicts Siraj Ud Doula filed separate appeals with the HC, seeking acquittal of the charges.

SA Bari's death anniv today

CITY DESK

Today is the 34th death anniversary of SA Bari, former deputy prime minister, says a press release. On the occasion, meetings will be held and prayers will be offered at his home and mosque.

Bari was born in Dinajpur on March 28, 1927. He was elected VP of central student parliament of Dhaka University in 1953-54. In 1971, he participated in the Liberation War.

Habibul Haque

CITY DESK

Today is the 18th death anniversary of Syed Md Habibul Haque, founder managing director of Crystal Insurance Company Ltd, who hailed from Chakher area in Barishal, says a press release. On this day in 2002, he passed away due to heart failure at Shikder Medical College Hospital, Dhaka.

Board of directors, shareholders, executives, officers and staff of the insurance company prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul.

Conserve water, soil to ensure dev: speakers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, M Singh

Speakers at a workshop yesterday said soil and water are essential for development, so these natural resources should be conserved.

To feed the ever-growing population and work toward development, extensive pressure is being put on soil and water resources, they said at the workshop at Faculty of Agriculture of Bangladesh Agricultural University.

The discussion titled "Draft Watershed Management Policy and Developing Implementation Framework" was organised by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and funded by Food and Agriculture Organization.

Delhi violence

FROM PAGE 3

country's non-communal and democratic values, said the council's General Secretary Rana Dasgupta.

Its leaders said although seven decades already passed after the Indian subcontinent had been divided based on religion, problems relating to communalism are still getting worse and complicated in the region.

With Dr Neem Chandra Bhowmik in the chair, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Subrata Chowdhury and Kajal Debnath.

Germany

FROM PAGE 5

"I am deeply moved by their plight. Such ethnic cleansings and crimes against humanity are unacceptable," he said.

Germany will provide 15 million euros in additional funding for education and sanitation measures to help the Rohingya refugees living in the camps in Bangladesh as well as the communities hosting them.

The minister also said Europe should now "seriously consider" imposing further sanctions, such as visa restrictions or trade sanctions.

Set up public

FROM PAGE 3

"All development activities are being conducted with public money; therefore, it is the responsibility of the government for such public service," he said.

He urged PHM Bangladesh and other authorities concerned to recommend the government in taking such initiative as early as possible.

PHM Bangladesh President Zakir Hossain urged the two newly elected mayors of the city to give first priority on the issue in their next one year programme.

PHM Coordinator Aminur Rasul read out a keynote paper at the discussion.

His recommendations include building separate public toilets for male and female; forming local committees to monitor cleanliness of those toilets; charging toilet users within Tk 5; providing free water and electricity services to public toilets; ensuring adequate management of public toilets at different places including transport terminals; setting up adequate public toilets in each market; resuming closed toilets and making people aware of using public toilets properly.

To-Let in Gulshan Area
House # 1/A, Road # 79, 1st Floor, Gulshan-2, 2700 sqft, 4-Bed, 4-Bath with 2-Garage for rent. Mobile: 01762-327361, 01795-594960, 01718-553961

To-Let in Basundhara Area
House # 81, Road # 2, Block # A, 1st Floor to 4th Floor, 1800 sqft, 3-Bed, 4-Bath, Drawing, Dining, Garage and complete new residence with modern fittings for rent. Preferable for foreigner. Mobile: 01762-327361, 01795-594960, 01718-553961

LAND SALE with two storey Building
Mirpur-6 (near stadium) 1.75 katha land (6 storey foundation) with two storey Building. Price: 2,80,00,000/- (negotiable). Canadian Expatriate (12pm-10pm). Contact only serious Buyer. 01843-997404, 01406-111047. Email: wazed.canada@yahoo.com

An ominous

FROM PAGE 3

added to the updated voter list.

At the programme, Law Minister Anisul Huq in his speech as chief guest, urged all to research how to use state-of-the-art technologies like Electronic Voting Machine in the election process.

"Invent such a technology so that people can cast their vote online from their home," he said.

Tabith files lawsuit

FROM PAGE 3

amid irregularities and corruption, adding that on the day, a satisfactory number of voters did not turn up to cast their votes.

Tabith also alleged that the election commissioner, in collusion with others, declared Atiqul the mayor of DNCC. He also appealed to the tribunal to declare election process for the post of mayor in the DNCC polls 2020 void and order for a fresh election.

HC refuses to hear

FROM PAGE 3

be included in its today's cause-list for hearing, Barrister Sumon told The Daily Star.

On Sunday, Md Mahfuzur Rahman, an apprentice lawyer, submitted the writ petition to the HC challenging the legality of the central bank's decision that instructed the scheduled banks to set a maximum nine percent interest rate on all loans except credit cards.

In the petition, he prayed to the HC to issue a rule upon the respondents to explain why the direction issued by the bank on February 24 should not be declared illegal. The finance secretary, Bangladesh Bank governor and its general manager (banking regulation and policy department) have been made respondents to the prayed rule.

The petitioner also requested the HC to stay all operation of the direction till disposal of the rule.

In the writ petition, Mahfuzur Rahman said the central bank's February 24 decision may severely affect the already suffering banking sector and such restriction about reducing the interest rate is unlawful against establishment of financial policies and international practices of free market economy.

Chittagong Dry Dock Limited
Bangladesh Navy
East Patenga, Chattogram, Bangladesh
Phone: +88(031)2501117, Mobile: +8801769744452
Fax: +880-31-2501123, E-mail: drydock.bd@gmail.com, Website: www.cddl.gov.bd
23.02.1565.341.53.006.19.1161 Dated: 01-03-2020

Invitation for Re-Tender

| | |
|--|--|
| 01. Procuring entity name | Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd. |
| 02. Invitation for | Purchase of 1 (one) No. Universal Lathe Machine (Heavy Duty). |
| 03. Invitation reference No. | 23.02.1565.341.53.006.19.1160 Date: 01-03-2020 |
| 04. Procuring method | Open tender. |
| 05. Budget & source of funds | Own finance. |
| 06. Tender last selling date (office time only) | 02 March 2020 to 02 April 2020 at 11:00am. |
| 07. Tender closing date and time | 02 April 2020 at 11:45am. |
| 08. Tender opening date & time | 02 April 2020 at 12:00 noon. |
| 09. Name and address of the office(s) for selling, receiving and opening of tender documents | (1) Cash Section, Accounts Department, Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd., Bangladesh Navy, East Patenga, Chattogram. |
| a. Selling tender document | |
| b. Receiving tender document | Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd. |
| c. Opening tender document | (1) Chittagong Dry Dock Ltd., Bangladesh Navy, East Patenga, Chattogram. (2) Tenderers' and their authorized representatives are allowed to attend. |
| 10. Price of tender document | 1000 (one thousand) Tk each (non-refundable). |
| 11. Contact details | Phone: +88 031 2501117, Fax: 880-31-2501123 E-mail: drydock.bd@gmail.com |
| 12. Special instructions | The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all or any tenders prior to acceptance without showing any reason. |

Head of Commerce Department
GD-409 For Managing Director

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
জেলা সুপারের কার্যালয়
নারায়ণগঞ্জ জেলা কারাগার
www.jailsupernarayanganji@gmail.com
পত্র নং- ৫৮.০৪.৬৭০০.০৯.১.০৪.০০৫.২০-৬৯ তারিখঃ ০১/০৩/২০২০ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| ১ | সংস্থা | কারা অধিদপ্তর, বাংলাদেশ, ঢাকা। |
| ২ | দরপত্রের নাম | নারায়ণগঞ্জ জেলা কারাগারে বিভিন্ন প্রকার খাদ্যদ্রব্য সরবরাহের তসি বাবের দরপত্র। |
| ৩ | দরপত্রের বিজ্ঞপ্তির ব্রাত ও তারিখ | কারা অধিদপ্তরের স্মারক নং ৫৮.০৪.০০০০.০৩.০১.০১৬.২০-১৯৪ তারিখঃ ২৬/২/২০২০খ্রিঃ। |
| ৪ | ইচ্ছুক দরদাতাদের ন্যূনতম যোগ্যতা | দরপত্র সিডিউলের সাথে সংযুক্ত টেন্ডার ডকুমেন্টে উল্লিখিত শর্ত মোতাবেক। |
| ৫ | বাজেট ও ফান্ড প্রাপ্তির উৎস | জাতীয় রাজস্ব তহবিল। |
| ৬ | দরপত্র আহবান পদ্ধতি | উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি। |
| ৭ | দরপত্র দলিল প্রাপ্তির স্থান | জেলা সুপারের কার্যালয়, নারায়ণগঞ্জ জেলা কারাগার। |
| ৮ | দরপত্র জমা দেয়ার স্থান | নারায়ণগঞ্জ জেলা কারাগার কার্যালয়, ফতুল্লা খানা ও জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, নারায়ণগঞ্জ। |
| ৯ | দরপত্র খোলার স্থান | জেলা সুপারের কার্যালয়, নারায়ণগঞ্জ জেলা কারাগার। |
| ১০ | দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য | ৭৫০/- (সাতশত পঞ্চাশ টাকা) মাত্র। |
| ১১ | নিরাপত্তা জামানতের পরিমাণ | ক-ফ্রপ-৫০,০০০/-, খ-ফ্রপ-৬০,০০০/-, গ-ফ্রপ-৪০,০০০/-, ঘ-ফ্রপ-৪০,০০০/- ও ঙ-ফ্রপ-৩৫,০০০/-টাকা। |
| ১২ | কার্যক্রমের সময়সীমা | ১/১/২০২০ খ্রিস্টাব্দ হতে ৩০/৬/২০২০ খ্রিস্টাব্দ পর্যন্ত। |
| ১৩ | দরপত্রের সাথে সংযুক্ত কাগজপত্রাদি | দরপত্র সিডিউলে সংযুক্ত টেন্ডার ডকুমেন্টে বর্ণিত শর্ত মোতাবেক। |
| ১৪ | দরদাতাদের প্রতি বিশেষ নির্দেশাবলী | কারা কর্তৃপক্ষের টেন্ডার অর্ডার মোতাবেক মালামাল সরবরাহে বাধ্য থাকবেন। |
| ১৫ | দরপত্র আহবানকারীর নাম | সুভাষ কুমার ঘোষ, জেলা সুপার, নারায়ণগঞ্জ জেলা কারাগার। |
| ১৬ | দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ | ১৪/৩/২০২০ খ্রিস্টাব্দ তারিখ বেলা ২.৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত। |
| ১৭ | দরপত্র দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময় | ১৫/৩/২০২০ খ্রিস্টাব্দ ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত। |
| ১৮ | দরপত্র বাস্তব খোলার তারিখ ও সময় | ১৫/৩/২০২০ খ্রিস্টাব্দ দুপুর ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা। |
| ১৯ | দরপত্র মূল্যায়নের তারিখ ও সময় | ১৫/৩/২০২০ খ্রিস্টাব্দ দুপুর ০২.০০ ঘটিকা। |
| ২০ | কারা কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যেকোন/সকল দরপত্র বাতিল/গ্রহণ করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন। | |

সুভাষ কুমার ঘোষ
জেলা সুপার
নারায়ণগঞ্জ জেলা কারাগার
জিডি-৪১৪

ছাড়! ছাড়!! ছাড়!!!
বঙ্গবন্ধুর জন্মশতবর্ষিকী ও মুজিববর্ষ উপলক্ষে আকর্ষণীয় ক্রমভাড়া ছাড়!
ইম্পেরিয়াল হোটেল ইন্টারন্যাশনাল
৩৩-৩৪ বঙ্গবন্ধু এলিনিট, ঢাকা-১০০০ ফোন: ৯৫৫৯৫৮০, ৯৫৫২১২৬, ০১৮৪ ৩২৪ ২০০২
www.facebook.com/Imperialhoteldhaka, imperialhoteldhaka@gmail.com


কম্পিউটার বিজ্ঞান ও প্রকৌশল বিভাগ
ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, ঢাকা-১০০০।
ঃ পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি ঃ

ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের কম্পিউটার বিজ্ঞান ও প্রকৌশল বিভাগে ল্যাপটপ ক্রয়ের জন্য প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে পুনরায় দরপত্র আহবান করা হচ্ছে। ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের টি.এস.সি.তে অবস্থিত জনতা ব্যাংকে ২,০০০/- জমা দিয়ে উক্ত জমার কপি অত্র বিভাগের অফিসে (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে) জমাদান পূর্বক দরপত্র সংগ্রহ করা যাবে (হিসাব নং ৩৬০০০৩৯২, হিসাবের নাম: টেন্ডার সিডিউল ক্রয় বিক্রয়)। আনুমানিক ৩ মার্চ, ২০২০ ইং তারিখ হতে ১৮ মার্চ, ২০২০ ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে দরপত্র ক্রয় করা যাবে। ১৯ মার্চ, ২০২০ ইং তারিখ দুপুর ১২:০০ টার মধ্যে বিভাগীয় অফিসে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র জমা দেয়া যাবে। এদিন দুপুর ১২:৩০ টায় দরপত্র দাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে খোলা হবে। কোনরূপ কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীত কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা রাখেন।
চেয়ারম্যান

"Unable are the loved to die,
For love is immortality."
---Emily Dickinson

18TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In Remembrance of our founder Vice-President
This day in 2002, we lost our founder Vice-President Syed Md. Habibul Haque, whose effective guidance, vast knowledge with positive approach still influence our mission towards excellence.
He also served Crystal Insurance Co. Ltd. as the founding Managing Director and one of the Sponsor Directors. On this grief-stricken day we pray for the salvation and eternal peace for him and all other departed souls to be endowed with the divine blessings of the Almighty.
The Volunteers and Staff of
Serve the People.



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, DPHE
Bagerhat District, Bagerhat

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No: 46.03.0100.061.07.032.15-214 Dated: 02/03/2020

e-GP Tender Notice No-14(2019-20)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works. Details are given below:

| Sl No. | Package No. | Tender ID & Ref No. | Description of works | Tender closing date & time | Tender opening date & time |
|--------|-------------|--|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | WD-33 | 436129 PD, G & B Pauroshava WSP, MEMO-174, Dated-17/2/2020 | Laying of distribution pipe line supply and installation of water meter & house connection in Bagerhat Pauroshava under Gopalganj and Bagerhat Pauroshava Water Supply and System Improvement Project. FY 2019-20 | 02/04/2020 14:00pm | 02/04/2020 14:00pm |

The interested persons/firm may visit the website www.eprocure.gov.bd to get the details of the tender.
This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal is required.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

S M Shamim Ahmed
Executive Engineer
GD-415

BFC
Biman Flight Catering Centre বিমান ফ্লাইট ক্যাটারিং সেন্টার
Ref: 30.34.2600.63.e-GP Tender.44.2020/08 Date: 01-03-2020

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following goods/works:

| Tender ID No. | Invitation Reference No. | Description of goods | Publication date & time | Last security submission/ selling or downloading date & time | Closing/opening date & time |
|---------------|---|--|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 434671 | 30.34.2600.63.28.HS.44.2020/125 Date: 26-02-2020 | Procurement of Bhetki Fish Fillet and Prawn without Head | 01 March 2020 at 12:00 hrs | 22 March 2020 at 17:00 hrs | 23 March 2020 at 12:00 hrs |

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.
To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered branches of bank.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

For more details please contact with the following person.
Dy. General Manager, BFC
GD-418 Telephone: 88-02-8901760-64 Ex - 13

Army chief inaugurates aviation school

UNB, Lalmonirhat

Chief of Army Staff General Aziz Ahmed inaugurated the Army Aviation School base at Lalmonirhat Cantonment yesterday.

He also inaugurated new infrastructures, a newly-built helipad and laid the foundation stones of an Officers' Mess and SM Barrack.

Additionally, General Aziz inaugurated a modern and automated Milking Parlor for Lalmonirhat Military Farm where over 6,000 litres of milk is being produced daily.

Aiming to cope with current trends, the aviation school will be run by the Army Aviation Group where all aeronauts, engineers and crew of Bangladesh Army will get training under 14 trades, said the army chief.

The aviation school has been extended to

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

Solidarity with Maria Ressa

24 editors, media executives call on Philippine authorities to end 'harassment' of Rappler exec editor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Twenty-four leading editors and media executives from 20 countries yesterday called on the Philippine authorities to end their "campaign of harassment and intimidation" of Maria A Ressa, the chief executive officer and executive editor of Philippines-based online news site Rappler.

Issuing a statement, the editors and media executives -- all executive board members of International Press Institute (IPI) where Ressa is a fellow member -- condemned the continued legal harassment of Maria Ressa and expressed solidarity with her.

Ressa faces a verdict on April 3 in a politically motivated "cyber-libel" trial. She faces up to 12 years in prison in the case, one of 11 criminal complaints against her, reads the statement.

The 11 cases filed against Ressa are an attempt to silence her and shut down Rappler in retaliation for its critical coverage on President Rodrigo Duterte and his administration, it says.

"The harassment of Rappler is part of a larger assault on press freedom in Philippines under President Duterte," it

adds.

Maria Ressa is a journalist and editor of the highest calibre. She and Rappler, the recipient of 2018 IPI-IMS Free Media Pioneer Award, have displayed great courage in defending press freedom and continuing to deliver quality news in the public interest, it says.

The ongoing cyber-libel trial against her must end with an acquittal, the editors and media executives said in the statement.

The offence of cyber-libel should be repealed to ensure it will not be abused against journalists in the future, they said in the statement.

"We call on the Philippine authorities to drop all other charges against Maria Ressa and Rappler, ensure that all attacks -- online and offline -- against journalists are investigated, and stop all forms of harassment and intimidation against the media."

The signatories include Beata Balogová, editor-in-chief, SME, Slovakia; Ole Kristian Bjellaanes, managing editor, Norwegian News Agency, Norway; Woosuk Kenneth Choi, editor, Chosun Ilbo, South Korea; John Daniszewski, vice president, Standards, Editor at Large The Associated Press, USA;

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2



As river water starts to recede in Sylhet's Companiganj, fishing has reached fever pitch. It's as if everyone from Borni area, where this photo was taken, has come down to bait a meal or two out of the water. While professional anglers set out on their boats, inset, shallow waters were occupied by amateurs of all ages.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

Germany suspends dev cooperation with Myanmar



Germany's Development Minister Gerd Müller speaking to Rohingya women at Kutupalong camp in Cox's Bazar.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Germany's Development Minister Gerd Müller said they will suspend all development cooperation with Myanmar until the country ensures safe repatriation of Rohingya refugees.

The minister also said Myanmar has an obligation to guarantee that one million refugees can return safely to their homeland, and that it will protect the Rohingyas still living within its borders, according to a press release.

"Until Myanmar commits to do so, we

will suspend our development cooperation with the country," said the minister.

He made the comments during his second day of visiting the largest Rohingya refugee camp in Kutupalong on February 26.

"I have spoken to Rohingya women today, who have experienced immeasurable suffering. Here in Kutupalong, 800,000 Rohingyas people are living in straw huts under the most basic conditions in one of the world's largest refugee camps," said Gerd Müller.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

2 burnt to death in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two people were burnt to death and one sustained injuries after a fire engulfed a living space in port city's Halishahar area yesterday.

The deceased are Md Mohon (35) of Cumilla and Md Jakir Hossain (36) of Chandpur.

The injured, Kabir Hossain (35), was admitted to Chattogram Medical College Hospital.

Farid Ahmed, assistant director of Fire Service and Civil Defence headquarters, said the fire broke out around 1:30am at a building, which also housed six shops.

Md Jahangir, a resident of the building, said, "After the fire broke out, we called for the victims but they were sleeping in their rooms. We managed to get out but they couldn't."

The entrance to the living space is too narrow and has a small main door. During the incident, the victims were asleep and were burnt to death inside the room, said officials.

Three firefighting units doused the flame around 2:30am.

JOINT HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN UN to seek \$877m for Rohingyas

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The United Nations and NGOs, in support of Bangladesh government, will launch the 2020 Joint Humanitarian Response Plan in Geneva today, seeking \$877 million from the international community for the Rohingya refugee crisis.

"We appeal to the international community to continue to provide vital support to the Rohingya community and humanitarian needs in Bangladesh," said a statement of UNHCR) yesterday.

Bangladesh State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi, IOM Director General António Vitorino, Brac Executive Director Asif Saleh and UN Resident Coordinator in Bangladesh Mia Seppo will be present there.

Three Rohingya youths will also attend the event. They were chosen because of their creative pursuits -- poetry, storytelling, and photography -- which are contributing to the richness of their culture and broadening understanding of the lives

of Rohingya youths.

A separate event following the launch of the Joint Response Plan will showcase their creative works and provide a forum for them to talk about their lives as refugees and their hopes and vision for future.

"We see their presence as an opportunity for the Member States, UN agencies and NGO partners in Geneva to hear directly the voices of Rohingya refugees," the statement said.

There are some 1.1 million Rohingyas living in the camps in Cox's Bazar.

Road crashes claim four lives

Human hauliers cause three separate accidents in Magura



Two Dhaka-bound buses jostling to overtake each other caused a road accident in Mymensingh that killed one and injured 15.

STAR REPORT

In another grim day on the road, four more people were added to the tally of deaths caused by accidents, report our correspondent and UNB.

In Mymensingh, at least one person was killed and 15 others were injured in a road accident at Masterbari area on the Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in Bhaluka upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased was a male of around 50 years of age. However, his identity could not be confirmed as of filing this report, reports our Mymensingh correspondent.

Quoting locals, Al Mahmud Adnan, in-charge of Bhaluka Highway Police Outpost, said the accident took place around 10am when a Dhaka-bound bus hit a sand-laden truck from behind while jostling to overtake another Dhaka-bound bus. This killed the deceased on the spot.

The injured were taken at Bhaluka Upazila Health Complex. Later, four of them were referred to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH) as their condition deteriorated.

Police seized the bus and truck but the drivers managed to flee the scene. Police drives are on to arrest the drivers. A case was lodged with Bhaluka Police Station in this regard.

In Magura, three people -- including a student -- were killed and five others were injured in separate road accidents, all involving human hauliers, in the Sadar upazila yesterday, reports UNB.

The deceased were identified as Kiblu Mridha (45), Yasin Molla (25), and Bayzid Molla (14).

In front of the Pamanduali mosque, a truck collided head-on with a human haulier around 5:30am, leaving human haulier driver Kiblu dead on the spot.

Meanwhile in Chumgati area, another human haulier driver Yasin was killed and five others were injured after a truck hit Yasin's vehicle.

In Pistorpur area, ninth grader Bayzid died after his motorcycle was hit by a human haulier. Officer-in-Charge of Sadar Police Station Saiful Islam said the body has been sent to Sadar Hospital for autopsy. Three separate cases were filed over the accidents, he said.

534 killed in February

Says Jatri Kalyan Samity report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 534 people were killed and 1,169 were injured in 504 road accidents last month, Bangladesh Jatri Kalyan Samity said in a report yesterday.

Additionally, 48 people died and 13 were injured in 56 incidents of railway accidents; 40 people died, 56 were injured, and 64 were missing in nine incidents in inland waterways, it said in a press release.

The information was disclosed in a report by Jatri Kalyan Samity's Road Accident Monitoring Cell, the press release added. The report was prepared based on news published in different newspapers.

According to the report, reckless driving, overtaking, unfit vehicles, carelessness of passengers and pedestrians, unskilled drivers, culture of impunity due to no enforcement of traffic rules are among the chief reasons behind the accidents.

Some of the recommendations mentioned in the report are: strict enforcement of Road Transport Law 2018 through establishing CCTV cameras digitally; a campaign on TV and newspapers to prevent road accidents; evicting floating markets and freeing up footpaths, roads; training drivers of public vehicles; and modernising the process of giving license to drivers and fitness certificates to vehicles.

Jatri Kalyan Samity, a platform working for passengers' welfare, is known for its periodic publication of reports on road accident statistics.

In 2019, the organisation reported that at least 7,855 people were killed and 13,330 others were injured in 5,516 road crashes across the country. This means that on average, 21 people lost their lives on the road each day.

This was a 8.07 per cent increase on 2018's tally, which stood at 7,221 deaths, 15,466 injuries in 5,514 accidents, said the samity.

In addition to the reasons cited above, the organisation also blames fault in road design, use of mobile phones or headphone while driving, and drunk driving for the reasons behind road accidents.

BANGLADESH BANK
COMMON SERVICES DEPARTMENT-2
HEAD OFFICE
DHAKA
Website: www.bangladeshbank.org.bd

Invitation for Tender Through Web(3rd call)

Tender No. CSD-2(MES):16/1/2020-20 Date: 01/03/2020

Tenders through electronic media (e-Tenders) are invited from contractors/firms/reputed manufacturer's local agents/distributors for Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 5(Five) TR capacity 70(seventy) Nos. Ceiling Suspended Split Type Air-conditioner for Bangladesh Bank, Bogura Office, Bogura. Necessary information are given below:

| | |
|--|--|
| 01 Procuring Entity | : Common Services Department-2, Bangladesh Bank, Head office, Dhaka. |
| 02 Source of Funds | : Bangladesh Bank's own fund. |
| 03 Invitation for Tender No. | : CSD-2(MES): 16/1/2020-20 |
| 04 Method of Procurement. | : Open Tendering Method (OTM)(National). |
| 05 Qualifications of Tenderer | : (i) Tenderers shall have at least 10(Ten) years of overall experience in the supply and installation of mechanical machineries. (ii) Tenderers shall have specific experience of Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Split type Air-conditioning Machine in any Govt./Semi-Govt./Autonomous organization worth not less than Tk.1,40,00,000/-(Taka One Crore Forty Lac) only in maximum 02(Two) contracts during the last 5(Five) years. (iii) Tenderer shall have Distributor/Agencyship certificate from the reputed Split type Air-conditioning equipment manufacturer and a copy of Distributor/Agencyship certificate shall enclose with the offer. (iv) Proposed brand Split Type Air Conditioning system installed in Bangladesh shall have the record of satisfactory running condition till now to furnish certificate in this respect from the Officers not below the rank of Executive Engineer or equivalent. (v) Minimum amount of Liquid assets/credit facilities shall be of Tk. 1.5(One crore fifty lac) crore only. In case of credit facilities, Bank ensures that the above mentioned credit limit will be given if the said work is awarded to the contractor. (vi) Tenderer shall submit the Manufacturer's Authorisation on the Letter- Head Pad in original at the time of opening of the Tender. (vii) Tenderer shall have to fulfil the Qualification criteria, terms and conditions of the Tender documents, failing which the Tender may be rejected and considered as non-responsive. |
| 06 Name & Address of the Office Receiving Tender Document | : Submit in web: www.bangladeshbank.org.bd www.bangladesh-bank.org (e-Tender) |
| 07 Name & Address of the Offices Receiving Tender Security & Other Documentary Evidence in original. | : General Manager (Engineering), Common Services Department-2 (6th floor of 2nd Annexe Building), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka. |
| 08 Last Date and Time for Submission of Tender Document through web. | : 18/03/2020 up to 2:30 P.M. |
| 09 Last Date and Time for Receiving Original Tender Security. | : 18/03/2020 within 2:30 P.M. |
| 10 Date, Time and Place for Tender Opening | : All Tenders will be opened at Common Services Department-2 (6th floor of 2nd Annexe Building), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka on 18/03/2020 at 3:00 P.M. (Intending Tenderers or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend the Tender Opening). |
| 11 Brief Description of works | : Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 5(Five) TR capacity 70(seventy) Nos. Ceiling Suspended Split Type Air-conditioner for Bangladesh Bank, Bogura Office, Bogura. |
| 12 Time for completion of the works | : 02(Two) months from the date of issue of Contract Award. |
| 13 Tender Security | : Tender Security amounting Tk. 4,50,000/-(Four Lac Fifty Thousand) will be required in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee in favour of General Manager(Electro-Mechanical), Common Services Department-2, Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka. |
| 14 Special Instruction | : (i) The Tenderer shall submit tender through Bangladesh Bank Web site (e-Tendering) & shall have valid e-mail address for participate in e-Tendering. (ii) Original PO/BD/BG as Tender Security shall reach at General Manager (Engineering), Common Services Department-2 within stipulated date and time of TDS. (iii) Scanned copy of Tender Security document shall be submitted with the tender through web. (iv) Tenderer shall submit documentary evidence etc. (attested or original whichever necessary) at the time of Tender opening or when required, failing which the Tender may be considered as non-responsive. (v) Tenderer shall duly fill in the Form PG-1 (Tender Submission Letter) and Form PG-4 (Tenderer Information sheet) as per format given in Tender Document. (vi) PG-1 form shall be completed and signed by the Authorized Signatory on the Letter-Head Pad, attached by scanning during submitting tender and original will send with sign to General Manager(Engineering), CSD-2 at scheduled time as per TDS. (vii) Furnishing of any false, misleading documents shall result in rejection of tender and may lead to action under Rules 127 of PPR 2008. (viii) All sorts of Security and Safety measures shall be carried out by the firm during execution of the work. (ix) Bangladesh Bank reserves all right to accept or reject any or all the tender without assigning any reason whatsoever. No claim will be entertained in this regard. |

DCP : 48/2020-831
Date : 02-03-2020

ব্যাবহিক ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

(Md. Tafazzal Hossain)
General Manager (Engineering)

GD-416

The Daily Star

FOUNDER EDITOR
LATE S. M. ALI

DHAKA TUESDAY MARCH 3, 2020, FALGUN 19, 1426 BS

A losing war on drugs

The authorities should acknowledge their tactics have failed

MOHAMMADPUR Geneva Camp's drug lord Ishtiaq Ahmed is reportedly back in the drug game at the highest level. After a hiatus of around two years—after the anti-narcotics crackdown began in 2018—the big-time narcotics dealer has reclaimed his throne in one of the worst drug infested areas of Dhaka city.

According to police intelligence, over 90,000 pills are sold daily in the Mohammadpur area. And out of the 150 cases that are filed with Mohammadpur Police Station per month, around 75 are narcotics cases related to the Geneva Camp area. Therefore, Ahmed's gang, which he managed to rebuild since some of his associates were arrested following the beginning of the anti-narcotics drive, continues to have a big influence on the city's drug scene.

The main reason for his success in rebuilding his empire has been the backing he receives from corrupt law enforcers—who are on his payroll—and a top underworld criminal who had got a life term but came out of jail recently, according to intelligence and camp sources. Reportedly, Ishtiaq's men give Tk 8-10 thousand to some officers at Mohammadpur Police Station every night and Tk 75 thousand to detectives every week to run his business without hindrance. Last month, Ahmed even felt safe enough to return to the country and is now running his business from India, having reorganised his gang.

With the massive wealth he amassed, Ishtiaq has over 100 bighas of land in Savar and Ashulia, and cases against him are pending with the Anti-Corruption Commission. However, the question remains on how Ishtiaq managed to become so powerful in the first place. It is clear, given his background as a raggicker, that Ishtiaq had to have the backing of powerful individuals in his bid to become a big-time drug dealer. And it is similar backing from unscrupulous law enforcers and others that has allowed him to return to the top of the drug running industry.

Given this reality, we cannot help but ask what the anti-narcotics drive has achieved. Except for claiming over 400 lives, has it really achieved anything?

The fact remains that killing small time yaba carriers in suspicious "gunfights" will not slow down the supply of drugs in any shape or form. The only way the drug menace can be overcome—from the supply side of it—is through the arrest and prosecution of big-time drug dealers and masterminds, such as Ishtiaq Ahmed. At the same time, crooked law enforcers and politicians such as the ones shielding him must also be brought to book.

Books in DU libraries gathering dust while students read guidebooks for jobs

Speaks volumes about the state of our higher education

WE are concerned at the fact that the libraries in the capital, including the central library of the University of Dhaka (DU), are increasingly being used by students for reading BCS guides rather than for academic purposes. A report published in this daily on March 1 revealed that DU students, mainly those willing to sit for recruitment tests for BCS and other government jobs, start gathering in front of the Central Library gate with their own reading materials, including guides and notebooks, at the break of dawn. Our correspondent visited a number of the city's prominent libraries and found that out of a total of 1,395 readers present in those libraries, 1,355 were reading BCS and other job-related books and guide books.

According to DU statistics, the number of books issued by the two university libraries has declined by 61 percent in the last 10 years. Data shows that the two libraries issued 9,15,425 books to DU teachers and students in 2008-09 academic session, which comes to an average of around 2,500 books a day. However, in 2017-18, the total number stood at 3,52,310, an average of only 965 books a day.

While the fact remains that students' reliance on physical books has declined in this digital age and the vast majority of students nowadays prefer reading e-books for academic purposes, there is clearly another side to this trend—students are losing interest in the value of knowledge. And this is because in our fast-changing job market, a large number of fresh graduates fail to get their desired jobs even after completing their bachelor's and master's degrees with good grades. So, it is only natural that they opt for government jobs, the entry exams of which are also extremely competitive. This explains why students are studying guide books instead of academic ones. However, it is also true that the resources in the university libraries are often outdated, which discourages the students to go there for academic purposes.

While the purpose of higher education should be to generate and share knowledge, such a job-centric attitude of university students is unfortunate. The issue is something our policymakers and the university authorities must pay immediate attention to.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

letters@thedailystar.net

Take necessary steps to avoid fires

As the spring season has set in, the weather will become quite dry and warm. The weather of the second month of spring, namely Chaitra, is invariably as hot as summer. In the previous years, we saw that fires erupted in this time of the year in households and factories due to overheating, causing irreparable damage to life and property. If necessary precautionary measures had been taken, most of these accidents could have been avoided. We hope that the authorities will address this issue and save human lives.

Zabed Wali, Chottogram

The Unhappiness Factor

NO STRINGS ATTACHED



AASHA MEHREEN AMIN

WHEN we read about a woman being "gang-raped", then raped again by her "rescuer" (*The Daily Star*, October 28, 2019), how long do we spend thinking about the unbelievable trauma this woman has gone through? How long do we wonder what happened to her, how she will go on with her life, how she will raise her two-year-old son in front of whom she was subjected to this torture? Do we bother to think whether the child has been scarred for life, whether her husband will be supportive or abandon her, or if her in-laws, her neighbours or even her own family will treat her the same way they did before? Chances are that we will not. News items like these are a daily affair and most readers will either avoid the report (too disturbing to the sensibilities) or quickly go on to the next "more important news", which may be the spiralling price of onions or how the Tigers fared in a Test match.

Apart from a few seconds of pity for the "unfortunate woman", the issue of violence against women is not the top priority for either the media or the media consumers. The biggest fallacy of patriarchy is that women's physical and mental wellbeing do not really matter. This bizarre block of irrational thinking has led to this collective apathy in our culture towards crimes against women and girls over the centuries.

Which is why, despite all the efforts of rights bodies, UN organisations and women themselves to demand the elimination of all forms of violence against women, there is no abatement. But all over the world, it has been established that this perpetual discrimination against women, the worst consequence of which is violence, retards a nation from going forward in every single way. It is therefore not hard to understand why in countries where there is unfettered violence against women, economic and social development will always take a backseat.

And the key reason is unhappiness. As clichéd as it may sound, when there is no peace or happiness in the home, there is no peace in society. A society where women and girls are being regularly subjected to all kinds of abuse cannot function normally, let alone develop or flourish. Most of all, it cannot be a happy society. A BBS-Unicef

survey interviewed women between the age of 15 and 49 and found that 25 percent of those surveyed justified being beaten by their husbands for any one of the following reasons: for going out without telling him, for talking back at him, for not being attentive enough to his children, for refusing to have sex or burning the rice. Can we say that women, who are conditioned to think it is normal to be subjected to violence as

may even be left physically disabled because of the attacks on her by her partner, is likely to fall into depression and even decide to take her life to escape the trauma.

We don't need sophisticated data to know that when a woman is depressed, which is most likely if her partner is abusive, the unhappiness will seep into every corner of the home, affecting the children and even the abusive

neighbourhoods and in each district of Bangladesh, and you have a gigantic meteorite of unhappiness weighing the whole country down. And this is minus the gross discriminations and unlimited deprivation of nutrition, health, education, recognition and so on that adds to the ill-being that the majority of our women and girls are burdened with.

In this grim backdrop, it would be foolish of our leaders to be in denial mode. Buzzwords like "high growth rates" and "middle income country status" have little meaning when the situation of women and girls is in such an appalling state. There may be more women in the workforce with significant numbers in the corporate sector, but they are still grossly discriminated against in terms of pay, promotion and position. But what is more devastating is that many of them face sexual and other forms of violence from their partners, relatives or strangers on the street. Child marriage, which is a form of violence against girls, is also very much part of our culture, especially for poor families.

The onus is therefore on our leaders—they have a huge role to play. Our lawmakers have the power to make sure that the legal system works for women and not against them. Conviction rates of rape cases have to be higher, with the state protecting the victim and her family during the trial process. A report in *The Daily Star* gives a harrowing account of how cruelly even child rape victims are treated at the one stop crisis centres of government hospitals—a testimony to the unbelievable lack of sensitivity or empathy for victims of sexual violence. Domestic violence is still considered an inconvenience of marriage that must be endured. We cannot scream "greater social awareness is needed" without creating specific campaigns that will target boys and men so that they realise that when they inflict violence on women and girls, they are in effect destroying the balance and harmony of their own communities, in fact, their own lives. They are in essence, taking our society, and our nation backwards from the path of progress. We do not have an "unhappiness index" to measure the ill-being of citizens. But we definitely have a countless number of women and girls robbed of their right to be happy to know what such an index would look like. Our leaders have the power to change the tragic endings of these stories, a change that is guaranteed to have tremendous positive outcomes on every aspect of development.

Aasha Mehreen Amin is Deputy Editor, Op-Ed and Editorial section, *The Daily Star*.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

part of married life, can be happy?

In a household where the woman is being verbally and physically abused, children will be deeply affected and may suffer from mental illness well into their adult lives. Research has found that children growing up witnessing such violence may become abusive partners or parents, or become victims themselves, as they will accept such abusive behaviour. Violence creates imbalances inside the family. A woman who is in constant fear of being abused and who

partner, and then creeping into the entire community. Just imagine, in a neighbourhood, if one out of every three women and girls experience physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner (worldwide according to UN Women), how functional/happy/productive can that neighbourhood be? It is a staggering fact that such violence is still frighteningly high, despite all the laws being enacted and widespread campaigns by international and local organisations. Now multiply this unhappiness with all

PROJECT SYNDICATE

Will the Coronavirus Trigger a Global Recession?

JEFFREY FRANKEL

AT the start of this year, things seemed to be looking up for the global economy. True, growth had slowed a bit in 2019: from 2.9 percent to 2.3 percent in the United States, and from 3.6 percent to 2.9 percent globally. Still, there had been no recession, and as recently as January, the International Monetary Fund projected a global growth rebound in 2020. The new coronavirus, COVID-19, has changed all of that.

Early predictions about COVID-19's economic impact were reassuring. Similar epidemics—such as the 2003 outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), another China-born coronavirus—did little damage globally. At the country level, GDP growth took a hit, but quickly bounced back, as consumers released pent-up demand and firms rushed to fill back orders and re-stock inventories.

It is becoming increasingly clear, however, that this new coronavirus is

Commodity exporters—including Australia, and most of Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East—are likely to be affected the most, as China tends to be their largest customer. But all of China's major trading partners are vulnerable.

likely to do much more damage than SARS. Not only has COVID-19 already caused more deaths than its predecessor; its economic consequences are likely to be compounded by unfavourable conditions—beginning with China's increased economic vulnerability. China's economy has grown



PHOTO: PHILIP FONG/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

significantly more slowly in the last decade than it did previously. Of course, after decades of double-digit growth, that was to be expected, and China has managed to avoid a hard landing. But Chinese banks hold large amounts of non-performing loans—a source of major risks.

As the COVID-19 outbreak disrupts economic activity—owing partly to the unprecedented quarantining of huge subsets of the population—there is reason to expect a sharp slowdown this year, with growth falling significantly below last year's official rate of 6.1 percent. During the recent meeting of G20 finance ministers, the IMF downgraded its growth forecast for China to 5.6 percent for 2020—its lowest level since 1990.

This could hamper global growth considerably, because the world economy is more dependent on China than ever. In 2003, China constituted only 4 percent of global GDP; today, that figure stands at 17 percent (at current exchange rates). Moreover, because China is a global supply-chain hub, disruptions there undermine output elsewhere. Commodity exporters—including Australia, and most of Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East—are likely to be affected the most, as China tends to be their largest customer. But all of China's major trading partners are vulnerable.

For example, Japan's economy already contracted at an annualised rate of 6.3 percent in the fourth quarter of 2019, owing to last October's consumption tax hike. Add to that the loss of trade with China, and a recession—defined as two consecutive quarters of shrinking GDP—now seems likely.

European manufacturing could also suffer considerably. Europe is more dependent on trade than, say, the United States, and is linked even more extensively to China through a web of supply chains. While Germany narrowly escaped recession last year, it might not be so lucky this year, especially if it fails to undertake some fiscal expansion. As for the United Kingdom, Brexit may finally have the long-feared economic consequences.

All of this could happen even if COVID-19 does not become a full-blown pandemic. In fact, while the virus is proliferating in some countries, such as South Korea, a high infection rate is not a prerequisite for economic hardship. The spectre of contagious disease tends to have a disproportionate impact on economic activity, because healthy people avoid traveling, shopping, and even going to work.

Some still cling to growth optimism, rooted in recent trade agreements negotiated by US President Donald

Trump's administration: the "phase one" deal with China and the revised free-trade agreement with Canada and Mexico. But while those agreements are far better than they would have been had Trump stuck to the headline positions he once defended, they do not represent an improvement over the situation that prevailed before he took office; if anything, their net impact is likely to be negative.

Consider the "phase one" deal with China: not only does it leave in place high tariffs; it also remains fragile, owing to a lack of credibility on both sides. In any case, its impact is likely to be limited. China may not be able to deliver on its promise to purchase an extra USD 200 billion worth of goods from the US, and even if it does, that is unlikely to translate into higher US exports. Instead, those exports will simply be diverted from other customers.

While global recessions are exceedingly difficult to forecast, the odds of one—particularly one characterised by less than 2.5 percent growth, a threshold set by the IMF—now seem to have risen dramatically. Unlike advanced-economy growth, global growth rarely falls below zero, because developing countries have higher average trend growth.

So far, US investors seem unconcerned about these risks, but they may be taking too much comfort from the US Federal Reserve's three interest rate cuts last year. Should the US economy falter, there is nowhere near enough room for the Fed to cut interest rates by 500 basis points, as it has in past recessions.

Even if a recession does not materialise in the near term, Trump's approach to trade may herald the end of the era when steadily rising international trade (as a share of GDP) buttressed global peace and prosperity. Instead, the US and China may continue on the path toward economic decoupling, within the context of a broader process of de-globalisation. COVID-19 did not place the world's two largest economies on this path, but it could well hasten their journey along it.

Jeffrey Frankel, Professor of Capital Formation and Growth at Harvard University, previously served as a member of President Bill Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers. He is a research associate at the US National Bureau of Economic Research, where he is a member of the Business Cycle Dating Committee, the official US arbiter of recession and recovery.

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(Exclusive to *The Daily Star*)

Iran and the USA don't have to be enemies

A friendly relationship can better serve interests of the USA



SAYEED AHMED

THE contradiction couldn't be more striking.

In the immediate aftermath of 9/11, when the USA was planning its Afghanistan invasion against the Taliban government, it chose Pakistan's military establishment as its ally and made Pakistan the base of the whole operation. The fact that the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), the premier intelligence agency of Pakistan, was the Taliban's chief patron right from its birth, was conveniently ignored.

Similarly, during its invasion of Iraq in March 2003, Saudi Arabia became America's closest ally and its operational base, a country that had been pouring in hundreds of millions of dollars in Afghanistan and other countries to promote terrorism, puritanical Islam and a global Jihad against the West, not to mention that Osama bin Laden and most of the 9/11 hijackers were Saudi nationals.

In both countries, Iran—being opposed to the Taliban's Sunni version of Islam and Iraq's Saddam regime—offered useful intelligence and other assistance to the USA, a gesture that was never reciprocated. On the contrary, in January 2002, US President George W Bush made his "Axis of Evil" State of the Union Address blaming Iran, among others, of sponsoring terrorism and seeking weapons of mass destruction. Iran—strategically located, technologically the most advanced nation in the region after Israel and with a large petroleum reserve—became America's enemy number one.

History shows that while Iran considered the USA as an ally right from the start, successive American governments increasingly adopted hostile attitudes towards it, and aligned with the historical colonial interests of Britain and other Western countries, contradicting the popular sentiment in Iran. This became obvious in 1953 when the CIA orchestrated a coup d'état and deposed the popular government of Mohammad Mosaddegh (Iranian Prime Minister from

1951 to 1953) as he was trying to nationalise Iran's oil industry. Instead, they installed Mohammad Reza Shah, a loyal American client who ruled Iran with an iron fist for the next 26 years. Iranians no doubt were deeply offended and realised that the USA was only continuing the role Britain and France had been playing all along in the Middle East.

From 1979 to 1981, a number of events changed the course of USA-Iran relations forever. First, in January 1979, an Islamic

Revolution took place under the leadership of the late Ayatollah Khomeini, forcing Mohammad Reza Shah to flee. This was followed by the proclamation of the Islamic Republic of Iran in April of that year. Then, the US Embassy in Tehran was taken over by protesters in November with 52 hostages inside, to be released only after a long 444 days in January 1981, but not before the disastrous failure of a US rescue mission, Operation Eagle Claw, involving the death of eight American servicemen in the deserts near Tabas in the South Khorasan Province

and US President Barack Obama spoke over phone—the first such top-level conversation in more than 30 years. Then in 2015, after a flurry of diplomatic activity, Iran signed a long-term deal on its nuclear programme with a group of world powers known as the P5+1—the US, UK, France, China, Russia and Germany—and agreed to limit its nuclear activities in return for the lifting of economic sanctions.

However, in May 2018, President Trump abandoned the deal and re-imposed even tighter sanctions on Iran, leading to increased

tensions in the region, culminating in the assassination of Qasem Soleimani, the architect of Iran's overseas proxy wars and a widely popular figure in Iran.

Iran's security concerns are rooted in its history. In 1747, Ahmed Shah Durrani united the Pashtun tribes and founded an independent Afghanistan, breaking away from its Persian masters. Then in the 19th century, the Russian Czar scooped up Dagestan, Azerbaijan and parts of Armenia from Persian control. During the Second World War, Iran was lucky to have escaped breaking up, unlike its Arab neighbours, by the world powers. Iran's current security concerns are by no means unfounded, as David Dunn discusses in "Real men want to go to Tehran": Bush, Pre-emption and the Iranian Nuclear Challenge" (International Affairs, January 2007). Dunn provides ample evidence of Iran being the real target behind America's Iraq mission in 2003.

After the Islamic Revolution in 1979 and the subsequent sanctions by the USA, EU and UN, Iran was practically isolated. The Iran of that time might have had the ideology of exporting the Islamic revolution, but it soon evaporated when it was attacked by Iraq. The eight-year-long brutal war brought Iran's security concerns to ground realities as it realised that protecting territorial integrity and economic and security interests are much more important than an Islamic revolution, despite what its anti-USA rhetoric might suggest.

However, years later, Bush Jr's "Axis of Evil" speech infuriated the Iranian leadership.

Tehran started following a strategy of creating hostile environments for foreign forces that are opposed to it by building political alliances with various state and non-state actors and actively supporting them with funds, arms, training and intelligence. In Iraq, it sent Quds personnel and supported the militia groups that carried out sustained attacks on US troops and their allies, on an average of three per day every day for five years, until US withdrawal in 2011. In Lebanon, Iran formed a key alliance with Hezbollah against Israel and other associated militias. In Syria, it

salvaged the regime of Bashar Al Assad so that the supply line to Hezbollah, the Shia group in Lebanon, would not be cut off. In Yemen, Iran supported the Houthis rebels against the government that was backed by Saudi Arabia, USA, France and other Arab countries. In each case, Tehran has made clever use of sectarian tensions and its presence on the ground through Hezbollah and IRGC (Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, an elite Iranian security outfit) men. In response to Bush's rhetoric, Iran has created an "Axis of Resistance", an elaborate network of defense across the region, stretching from the Western borders of Afghanistan to the Mediterranean, against its historical rivals Saudi Arabia and Turkey, making it difficult for any country to sustain supporting them.

The success of this strategy is clearly evident in Iraq. As the US created a power vacuum by eliminating Saddam Hossain, Iran was quick to fill it up through its network of allies. It was again Iran that called in the Russian Air Force in Syria to its own benefit and saved Assad's regime from imminent collapse. Iran's once top strategist Qasem Soleimani successfully blended state machinery with insurgent organisations, and this trend will continue in the foreseeable future. With the assassination of Soleimani, Iran is likely to become even more nationalistic and determined, making any war in the region impossible to end.

America's choice of allies is guided by its long-term interests and goals, especially those of the defense and oil industries. As it appears, in the case of the Middle East, the preference is continuation of the conflicts rather than diffusion. Arguably, a non-hostile American relationship with Iran might actually serve this purpose better. Mega contracts for modernising Iran's oil and defense industries will be the much-coveted prize for winning a war against Tehran. But as this is less likely to happen in the foreseeable future, a friendly Iran may be a better option for Washington.

Sayed Ahmed is a consulting engineer with experience in infrastructure project management in South Asia.



US President Donald Trump and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani



PHOTO: AFP

Trade based money laundering

A threat to the growth and sustainable development of Bangladesh

MAZHARUL ISLAM

MONEY laundering and terrorist financing have become matters of grave concern around the world and with the developments in technology and inadequate legal frameworks, criminals are able to change their strategy on and off to divert the attention of law enforcement agencies to launder money and finance terrorism. However, over the years, trade based money laundering has also drawn the attention of global bodies. The intergovernmental organisation Financial Action Task Force identifies trade based money laundering and terrorist financing as one of the major methods by which criminal organisations and terrorist financiers disguise the proceeds of crime and move value by using trade transactions, in an attempt to legitimise their illegal origins. According to a Global Financial Integrity report, Bangladesh is one of the top countries facing trade based money laundering, which is a significant threat to growth and sustainable development. According to the survey, conducted by the Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management, this has become a major concern for the banking industry of Bangladesh because of rapid expansion of foreign trade.

It is difficult to estimate exactly how much illicit money flows through the world's financial system every year, but the amounts involved are undoubtedly huge. According to a report from Transparency International Bangladesh, some USD 3.1 billion or BDT 26,400 crore is being illegally remitted

from Bangladesh every year. This syphoning of money is depriving the government exchequer of about BDT 12,000 crore as revenue each year, according to the report.

Trade based money laundering and terrorist financing is a process of moving money made from criminal activities for the purpose of disguising its origins and integrating it back into the formal economy. For instance, let's assume that Mr X, an importer of fruits, usually operates with Bank Y with small scale letters of credit (LCs). All of a sudden, he opens accounts with four other banks and opens 20 LCs with the banks worth USD 5 million. The banks then process the import payments based on shipping documents. However, it is found later that no single shipment was made against the LCs and the amounts remitted were not refunded. This is clear proof of money laundering.

Bangladesh is fully committed to remain at the forefront of global efforts to fight trade based money laundering and terrorist financing. In line with international standards and initiatives, Bangladesh has passed the Money Laundering Prevention Act (MLPA), 2012 and Money Laundering Prevention Rule, 2019, as well as the Anti-terrorism Act, 2009 and Anti-terrorism Rules, 2013. According to section 2(v)(ii) of the MLPA, "smuggling money or property earned through legal and illegal means to a foreign country" counts as money laundering and leads to stringent punishments for the offence. Bangladesh is also a signatory member of the Vienna Convention, 1988 against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, and the Palermo Convention, 2000 against

As the banking sector of the country is more vulnerable, bankers should remain familiar with the different methods that may be used for this laundering.

transnational organised crime. As a member country of the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering, Bangladesh is committed to the effective implementation and enforcement of the internationally accepted 40 recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force on money laundering and terrorist financing. Bangladesh also has membership of the Egmont Group, which helps garner global support in fighting money laundering, terrorist financing and other financial crimes.

In 2019, the Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU) issued the "Guidelines for Prevention of Trade Based Money Laundering", which helps banks to prevent money laundering being done in the name of export and import. According to the guidelines, all banks will have to prepare their own policies to prevent money laundering and submit those to the BFIU within March

2020 and they will have to implement the guidelines within June of this year.

In the recently published Financial Secrecy Index 2020, Bangladesh has ranked 54th out of 133 nations. The score is an indication of how intensely Bangladesh's legal and financial systems allow criminals to hide and launder money. However, a higher rank on the index does not necessarily mean there is the absence of a legal framework and regulatory guidelines in Bangladesh. It is the lack of implementation of such laws and guidelines that leads to a failure in ensuring justice that allows wealthy individuals and criminals to hide and launder money.

If we look at why such practices are going on, the absence of regulatory monitoring and supervision of financial activities of individuals and enterprises is an obvious reason, since this helps criminals to hide their actual financial reports. The lack of good governance and compliance within enterprises is another major reason to hide information and launder money. Absence of coordination is also one of the major challenges in combating trade based money laundering. Wrong declarations of the pricing of imported and exported products are a cause of concern as well, since there is a minimum price limit for products but no maximum limit. As a result, this allows fraudsters to easily launder money. Moreover, many products are not traded in public markets and their market prices are not publicly available.

While the cases of willful money laundering are more likely, it is also important to remember that a single error in

performing foreign exchange activities can cost thousands of dollars. In Bangladesh, there is limited skilled manpower who are able to understand and handle these foreign exchange dealings very well.

As Bangladesh is one of the fastest growing economies in the world and is looking forward to transforming into a developed economy by 2041, policymakers and regulators should take the necessary steps to combat trade based money laundering and terrorist financing. Implementation of laws relating to this needs to be ensured and every criminal needs to be brought under the jurisdiction of the law. As trade processes involve multiple parties and this offence differs in extent and mechanism from country to country, combating this crime requires unified measures from all concerned agencies. To ensure coordination and concerted efforts among regulatory authorities, a coordinated risk management unit could be formed. A systemic audit from regulators can play a big role in prevention as well. Financial industries should also be required to adopt proper mitigation measures, including written policies and procedures, to assess and mitigate such money laundering risks. As the banking sector of the country is more vulnerable, bankers should remain familiar with the different methods that may be used for this laundering. We need to ensure that every trade transaction undergoes a trade based money laundering alerts analysis and sanction screening in order to effectively combat it.

Mazharul Islam is a corporate legal practitioner. He can be reached at mazharul528@gmail.com.

QUOTABLE Quote



LANGSTON HUGHES

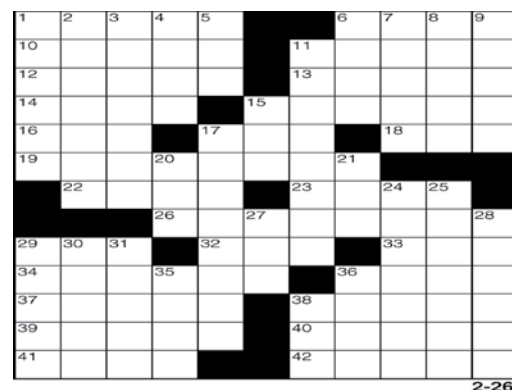
(1902-1967)

Poet, novelist and playwright

Humor is laughing at what you haven't got when you ought to have it.

CROSSWORD BY THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Want badly
 - 6 Leg, e.g.
 - 10 Daughter of Leda
 - 11 Prison-based
 - 12 Map collection
 - 13 Kitchen cooker
 - 14 Seasonal song
 - 15 Movies
 - 16 Gentle pull
 - 17 Total
 - 18 Mob pariah
 - 19 Tossed out
 - 22 Boxcar rider
 - 23 Lab container
 - 26 Short of cash
 - 29 Hailed vehicle
 - 32 Rap's - Nas X
 - 33 Fish eggs
- DOWN**
- 1 Monk music
 - 2 Fix up a photo
 - 3 Brisk tempo
 - 4 Schnitzel base
 - 5 Print measures
 - 6 Free of fat
 - 7 Central
 - 8 Molten rock
 - 9 Flock sound
 - 11 Really, really old
 - 15 Recipe amount
 - 17 Impeccable
 - 20 Crunch targets
 - 21 Brief drop
 - 24 Jam fruit
 - 25 Like the pride
 - 27 Relieve
 - 28 Ready for the body shop
 - 29 Paparazzi target
 - 30 Kitchen come-on
 - 31 Starting point
 - 35 Match parts
 - 36 Destiny
 - 38 Scot's cap



YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

P A S T E G L A R E
 E T H A N A U D E N
 R O U N D I N G O F F
 I N N L O G P R O
 L E S S E N S T I L
 U S S W E E D
 D A L E S F E E D S
 E W E S D O E
 V E T H A M P E R S
 I S T A L E M I A
 S O U N D I N G O F F
 E M C E E T I T L E
 S E E D S S N E E R

BEETLE BAILEY

by Mort Walker



BABY BLUES

by Kirkman & Scott



WRITE FOR US. SEND US YOUR OPINION PIECES TO dsopinion@gmail.com.

No prisoner release, no talks

Say Taliban as Afghan govt rejects key US commitment to insurgents

REUTERS, Kabul

Taliban militants will not take part in intra-Afghan talks until about 5,000 of its prisoners are released, a spokesman said yesterday, presenting a major possible barrier to ending the war.

Under an accord between the United States and the Islamist Taliban signed on Saturday, the two sides are committed to working towards the release of combat and political prisoners as a confidence-building measure.

The agreement calls for up to 5,000 jailed Taliban prisoners to be released in exchange for up to 1,000 Afghan government captives by March 10.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, not involved in the talks, has since rejected that demand. Ghani said the issue of prisoner releases should be discussed as part of a comprehensive peace deal.

"We are fully ready for the intra-Afghan talks, but we are waiting for the release of our 5,000 prisoners," Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid told Reuters by phone.

"If our 5,000 prisoners - 100 or 200 more or less does not matter - do not get released there will be no intra-Afghan talks."

Zabihullah said the majority of prisoners on the list of 5,000 had been captured by American forces and were held in Afghan government prisons and that they had prioritised sick and older prisoners.

US-led forces ousted the hardline militants from power in 2001.



Police detains activists of the youth wing of India's main opposition Congress party during a protest demanding the resignation of Home Minister Amit Shah following last week's clashes between people demonstrating for and against a new citizenship law, in New Delhi, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

NEWSIN brief

EU, UK launch post-Brexit talks

AFP, Brussels

British and EU trade negotiators embarked on high-stakes talks aimed at forging a new post-Brexit relationship yesterday. The negotiations began just over a month after Britain left the EU, and are meant to wrap up by the end of this year - an exceedingly tight timeframe that few see as feasible for anything but a bare-bones accord.

Myanmar seizes drugs worth \$27 million

AFP, Yangon

Myanmar soldiers swooped on several illicit drugs labs to seize nearly \$27 million of narcotics, chemicals and equipment, military newspaper The Myawady said yesterday, the biggest bust so far this year. Photos showed hundreds of barrels, bags and other containers recovered in the operation in what is believed to be the world's largest methamphetamine producing nation.

Nirbhaya killers won't be hanged today

NDTV ONLINE

The four men convicted in the rape and killing of a 23-year-old medical student in Delhi in 2012 will not be hanged tomorrow as scheduled, a judge in Delhi said on Monday, deferring their execution for the third time. The mercy petition of one of the convicts is pending with the president, so they have not exhausted all their legal options, the judge ruled. On December 16, 2012, the medical student, who came to be known as "Nirbhaya", was killed in a horrific way on a moving bus, triggering an unprecedented outpouring of public anger over crimes against women.

BJP trying to replicate 'Gujarat model of riots'

Accuses Mamata in Kolkata; opposition demands Amit Shah's resignation at parliament

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee yesterday alleged that the violence in north east Delhi was "state-sponsored genocide" and the BJP was trying to replicate the "Gujarat model of riots" across the country.

"I am deeply pained by the killing of innocent people in Delhi. I think it was genocide... the violence in Delhi was state-sponsored," Mamata said addressing a Trinamool Congress event at the Netaji Subhash Indoor Stadium in Kolkata.

Mamata claimed it was due to the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) that "so many people were killed" in the Delhi violence.

"The BJP is trying to replicate the Gujarat model of riots across India, including in West Bengal," the chief minister said, adding that the party should apologise.

Gujarat had witnessed protracted riots in 2002 that left at least 1,000 people dead following the

killing of 56 Hindu pilgrims when a train carrying them was returning from Ayodhya.

The issue of riots in north east Delhi which killed 42 people last week also set off an uproar in Indian parliament yesterday with opposition lawmakers demanding the resignation of Home Minister Amit Shah over the violence.

As parliament resumed its budget session yesterday after a three-week break, slogan-shouting opposition MPs demanded a discussion on the violence in the Lok Sabha.

Speaker Om Birla said the situation was "not appropriate" for such a discussion. "We will wait for the situation to improve and then allow a discussion," he said but finally had to adjourn the house as opposition members refused to relent.

In the Rajya Sabha, chairman M Venkaiah Naidu adjourned the House for the day amid repeated slogan shouting by opposition Congress, Left, Trinamool Congress, Samajwadi Party and Bahujan Samaj Party lawmakers.

DELHI VIOLENCE



This picture taken from the Greek side of the Greece-Turkey border near Kastanies, shows migrants waiting on the Turkish side, yesterday.

North Korea fires 'ballistic missiles'

AFP, Seoul

North Korea fired what appeared to be two short-range ballistic missiles yesterday, the South's military said, weeks after Pyongyang threatened to demonstrate a "new strategic weapon" and its deadline for Washington to offer sanctions relief expired.

The launch was the nuclear-armed North's first for more than three months and came as nuclear negotiations with the United States remain at a standstill.

The two devices were fired eastwards over the sea from the Wonsan area on the east coast and flew 240 kilometres (150 miles) at a maximum altitude of 35 kilometres, the South's Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

They were "believed to be short-range ballistic missiles," a JCS official said.

South Korea's security ministers expressed "strong concern" the North was "carrying out actions giving rise to military tensions", the presidential Blue House said.

Japan's defence ministry said there was no indication of anything coming down in its waters or exclusive economic zone, but added: "Recent repeated launches of ballistic and other missiles by North Korea are a serious issue."

The launch came as Pyongyang battles to prevent a coronavirus outbreak and days after the one-year anniversary of the collapsed Hanoi summit between leader Kim Jong Un and US President Donald Trump.

Negotiations have since been deadlocked over sanctions relief and what the North would be willing to give up in return, despite a high-profile June meeting in the Demilitarized Zone that divides the peninsula.

Israel votes for third time in 12 months

AFP, Jerusalem

Israel held its third election in less than a year yesterday seeking to break a grinding political deadlock, with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu chasing re-election while facing criminal indictment.

The campaign, which included tit-for-tat mudslinging between Netanyahu's right-wing Likud and main challengers Blue and White, was condemned by President Reuven Rivlin as "awful and grubby."

Voicing the feelings of many ballot-weary Israelis after nearly a year of political stalemate and a caretaker government, Rivlin said the Jewish state does not "deserve this never-ending instability."

The vote comes just two weeks before Netanyahu, the longest-serving premier in Israeli history, stands trial after being formally charged in January with bribery, fraud and breach of trust.

But final polls indicated that Netanyahu, the first Israeli prime minister ever indicted in office, had not lost support since inconclusive elections in April and September.

Voting in the central town of Rosh Haayin, Blue and White leader Benny Gantz voiced hope that Israelis would finally "change the tune" after 11 years of the current Netanyahu tenure.

But Likud and the centrist Blue and White are both expected to fall well short of the 61 seats needed for a majority in Israel's parliament, the Knesset, and will have to strike deals with smaller parties to forge a stable coalition.

Blast at football match kills 3, wounds 11 in Afghanistan

A bombing at a football match yesterday killed three people and injured 11 others in eastern Afghanistan, a police official told AFP, as the Taliban announced an end to a partial truce in the country. "A motorcycle rigged with a bomb exploded during a football match," said Sayed Ahmad Babazai, police chief of eastern Khost province, giving details of the toll. Abdul Fatah Wakman, president of the Khost Football Federation, told AFP the three people killed were brothers. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. But on Monday the Taliban announced they would resume attacks against Afghan forces, only a day after President Ashraf Ghani committed to continuing the partial truce at least until talks between Kabul and the Taliban kick off, supposedly on March 10.

At least 50 killed in northern Nigeria 'bandit' attacks

At least 50 people were killed in multiple attacks by armed 'bandits' on villages in an area of northern Nigeria rife with cattle theft and kidnappings, local officials said yesterday. Sources said around 100 armed assailants stormed into the villages of Kerawa, Zareyawa and Minda in Kaduna state at dawn on Sunday, gunning down worshippers as they left a mosque for morning prayers before killing residents, burning and looting homes. Several people were injured in the attacks and were taken to nearby hospitals. The attacks were in retaliation for villagers allegedly assisting recent army operations against the so-called bandits in their forest hideouts, local councillor Dayyabu Kerawa told AFP.

Manila mall hostage-taker surrenders; no one hurt



A sacked security guard who shot one person and took about 30 others hostage at a Manila shopping mall on Monday surrendered to authorities, ending a day-long standoff that terrified shoppers and drew a massive police response. The guard walked out of the V-Mall, where he was allowed to speak briefly to the press before heavily armed officers tackled and arrested him. He complained about being mistreated by his employers. Hostages were also led out of the building. The drama started when the suspect shot a security guard, who was rushed to hospital in stable condition, said Francis Zamora, mayor of the San Juan City, which includes the mall. Zamora told reporters the hostage-taker was upset after losing his job.

SOURCE: AFP



Crisis deepens as Iraq PM-designate quits

AFP, Baghdad

Protest-torn Iraq faced more political gridlock yesterday after prime minister-designate Mohammed Allawi withdrew overnight, accusing lawmakers of obstructing his attempt to form a government.

Iraq has for five months been rocked by the biggest wave of anti-government demonstrations since the 2003 US-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein.

The mostly youthful protesters demand the ouster of Iraq's entire political elite, which they accuse of being inept, corrupt and beholden to powerful neighbour Iran.

Allawi's departure plunges Iraq deeper into uncertainty and leaves President Barham Saleh 15 days to propose a new candidate -- likely intelligence chief Mustafa al-Kazimi, according to political sources.

Iraq has been in legal limbo since outgoing premier Adel Abdel Mahdi stepped down in December, as the constitution makes no provisions for such a resignation.

Iraq's bitterly divided parliament had on Sunday failed for a third time to convene a confidence vote on Allawi's proposed government. Allawi had been nominated as a consensus candidate among Iraq's divided political parties, and had emphasised that his cabinet would be made up of technocrats and independents.

Anti-government demonstrators had nonetheless rejected him as too closely connected to the political elite.

Top brands accused of using forced Uighur labour: report

Apple, BMW, Gap, Nike, Samsung, Sony are among the brands

AFP, Sydney

China is transferring tens of thousands of Uighur detainees out of internment camps and into factories that supply some of the world's leading brands, an Australian think tank said Monday.

Top global brands such as Apple, BMW and Sony have been accused of getting supplies from factories using the forced labour, an explosive allegation that could reverberate in boardrooms across the world.

The Australian Strategic Policy Institute said the Chinese government has transferred 80,000 or more Uighurs out of camps in Xinjiang and into factories across the country.

"Uighurs are working in factories that are in the supply chains of at least 83 well-known global brands in the technology, clothing and automotive sectors," the think tank said.



"Apple, BMW, Gap, Huawei, Nike, Samsung, Sony and Volkswagen".

"Companies using forced Uighur labour in their supply chains could find themselves in breach of laws which prohibit the importation of goods made with forced labour or mandate disclosure of forced labour

supply chain risks," the report said.

China's foreign ministry on Monday slammed the ASPI report as having "no factual basis", and accused the institute of attempting to "smear China's efforts to oppose terrorism and fight extremism in Xinjiang."

An estimated one million mostly Muslim ethnic minorities have been held in internment camps in Xinjiang.

After initially denying their existence, Beijing cast the facilities as "vocational education centres" where "students" learn Mandarin and job skills in an effort to steer them away from religious extremism, terrorism and separatism.

Rights groups and witnesses accuse China of forcibly trying to draw Uighurs away from their Islamic customs and integrate them into the majority Han culture.

Erdogan warns Europe it will have to share migrant 'burden'

Hopes talks with Putin will defuse Syria crisis

AFP, Istanbul

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan yesterday vowed to keep the doors open for migrants heading for Europe, as he mounted pressure on Western countries to give Turkey more assistance with the Syrian conflict.

Erdogan also said he hoped to reach a deal on a ceasefire in Syria when he meets his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin later in the week following clashes in the last rebel hold-out of Idlib.

He warned Europe that it will have to shoulder its part of the migrant "burden".

"After we opened the doors, there were multiple calls saying 'close the doors,'" he said.

"I told them 'it's done. It's finished. The doors are now open. Now, you will have to take your share of the burden.'"

Some 13,000 migrants, including Afghans, Syrians and Iraqis, massed at Turkey's border with Greece over the

weekend after Erdogan announced that Turkey would no longer prevent them from leaving towards the European Union.

The decision came after 34 Turkish soldiers were killed in a Syrian air strike last week.

Clashes erupted as Greek police blocked thousands at the border, firing teargas at the refugees who responded by lobbing rocks.

Turkey hosts some four million refugees -- the majority of them Syrians -- but agreed in 2016 to prevent them leaving for Europe in exchange for billions of euros in assistance.

EU foreign ministers are due to meet this week at the request of Greece to discuss the situation, amid fears of a repeat of the refugee influx that poisoned European politics in 2015.

Erdogan's office confirmed he will hold a summit with Putin in Moscow on Thursday to discuss the escalating violence.

The Kremlin said cooperation with Turkey was a top priority.



PHOTO: REUTERS

WHAT'S ON



Group Painting Exhibition
Title: Guru-Shishya Shishya-Guru
Presented by: The Oriental Painting Studio Bangladesh
Venue: Zainul Gallery - 1, DU
Date: March 2 - March 8
Time: 10 am - 8 pm



Solo Exhibition
Title: Parables of the Womb
Artist: Dilara Begum Jolly
Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi
Date: February 4 - March 28
Time: 2 pm - 8 pm (Except Sundays)



Concert
Title: Joy Bangla Concert 2020
Venue: Bangladesh Army Stadium
Date: March 7
Time: 12 pm to 10 pm
Tickets available at <https://ticket.youngbangla.org/>



Theatre Performance
Title: Krishna Sarothi
Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
Date: March 7
Time: 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm



Cartoon Exhibition
Title: Shojonghati Rekha
Venue: Kala Kendra
Date: February 21 - March 17
Time: 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Composer and music director Selim Ashraf passes away



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Renowned composer and music director Selim Ashraf passed away on breathed his last on March 2 at 3 am, at Better Life Hospital, Malibagh, in the capital. The composer of many popular songs, including the patriotic number *Je Matir Buk-e Ghumiye Achhe*, has left behind his wife, noted singer Alam Ara Minu, only daughter Adrita, friends, and relatives.

His wife Alam Ara Minu confirmed the news on social media.

The composer was suffering from respiratory, blood and kidney related problems for the last four years. In February, 2019, he was admitted to the United Hospital in the capital, as his condition deteriorated. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina stood by

him, and provided BDT ten lakh as financial assistance for his treatment.

Earlier in September 2018, the artiste returned home after 13 days of treatment at Shri Ram Medical Centre in Chennai. Sabina Yasmin, Syed Abdul Hadi and Andrew Kishore stood beside him and came forward with medical help, after his condition deteriorated, this year.

Selim Ashraf's songs, *Ei Jaduta Jodi Sotti Hoye Jeto*, *Oi Je Dekha Jaay Rey*, *E Amar Ohonkar*, *Ei Jibon To*, and *Je Batashe Phote Phul* among others, were well received by the audience.

He was buried at his birthplace Dohar, after his namaz-e-janaza yesterday, followed by Zuhr prayers at the premises of BTV.



PHOTO: STAR

Tauquir Ahmed returns to theatre with 'Ondhokar'

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

National Award winning director and actor Tauquir Ahmed is one of the founders of the renowned theatre group, Natyakendra. He will be directing the play *Ondhokar*, his fourth directorial venture in theatre, after a

decade. The artiste has also written the script for the play.

Members of Natyakendra will perform in *Ondhokar*. Rehearsals of the play, which portrays the lives of refugees around the world, are currently underway. The date of the play's premiere will be announced soon.

Gulshan Society hosts book fair at Gulshan Lake Park

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

With an objective to promote reading, Gulshan Society hosted their first book fair in Gulshan Lake Park, throughout the last weekend of February. The fair featured books, magazines and newspapers, in both Bengali and English. Barrister Shukla Sarwat Siraj, General Secretary of Gulshan Society and Shayaan Seraj, Civic Utilities Convener, jointly planned the event.

A live book reading session also took place at the event, attracting a large number of visitors. The reading of a braille book, authored by a visually impaired child, and the reading of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's *The Unfinished Memoirs* by Ramendu Majumdar and Abdus Selim, were two of the highlights of the session. Artistic sessions were also organised, throughout which children coloured life-size cut-outs of Bangla letters.

The event was attended by many noted personalities. Bengal Boi, UPL, Pathok Shomabesh, Charcha, CRI, Her Story, Cosmos, Bookworm, Boi Bichitra, Daily Star Books, Dhaka Tribune, The Business Standard, Milkshake Collective, Ignite, Prothom Alo, Pathao, Roll Express and Cha Chai had their own stalls at the fair.



PHOTO: STAR



PHOTO: COURTESY

'Let Me Out' staged at Jahangirnagar University Six-day drama festival begins

MD ASADUZZ ZAMAN, from JU

As the last scene of the play, *Let Me Out*, drew to a close at Selim Al Deen Muktamancha in Jahangirnagar University (JU) on March 1, the whole crowd was left emotional. The play narrates the tale of a determined mother who is in search of her lost son. It conveys an important message about a state's insecurity and horror, as the public fights for justice. When a state's policemen do not fulfill their duties properly, people face horrors of inhumanity. Sometimes, these incidents lead to extrajudicial killings and shattered dreams. The play also shows how the lack of accountability affects the public.

Tarua, a popular theatre troupe, staged *Let Me Out* at JU, on the opening day of the six-day drama festival, marking the 40th founding anniversary of Jahangirnagar Theatre. Based on true events, the play is written by Runa Kanchon and directed by Bakar Bokul.

It takes place in Los Angeles in 1928. The city's police department has gained notoriety for their gun squad, which is used to murder anyone who dares to stand against them. Even though *Let Me Out* takes place around a hundred years ago, the story is relevant to modern times. The lack of accountability of the

authorities, the extrajudicial murders and the oppression are some of the many important motifs in the play.

The six-day festival is organised under the theme, *Kaler Koraghat, Jege Uthuk Droher Lal*.

Prof A K A Shahnewaj from the Archeology Department, President, Jahangirnagar Theatre, inaugurated the festival at Selim Al Deen Muktamancha.

"A total of five plays will be staged every evening at the Muktamancha, while there will be single respective productions," said Nurul Islam Saimum, General Secretary, Jahangirnagar Theatre.

The five plays are: *Let Me Out* (Tarua), *The Bet* (Jahangirnagar Theatre), *Pulsiraat* (Prachyanat), *Raat Bhore Bristiti* (Upstage) and *Ersha* (Prangonemore).

Lyricist and freedom fighter Mohammad Rofiquzzaman and theatre activist Ahmed Kabi will be honoured at the festival.

On the last day (March 6), a reunion also will be held with former and incumbent members of Jahangirnagar Theatre.

Established in 1981, Jahangirnagar Theatre produced around 106 plays, and staged them at least 300 times across the country. The group also received a membership of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation in 1988.

'Egiye Jaowa Nari': A tribute to women who are marching ahead

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

To inspire women of all walks of life, artiste Shusmita Anis is launching the song *Egiye Jaowa Nari* to salute women who are overcoming their struggles and fighting for their basic rights every day. The launching ceremony of the song will be held today at Halda Valley Tea Lounge, Gulshan. Renowned singers Elita Karim, Kona and Priyanka Gope have lent their voices to this track. Mahmud Khurshid has penned the lyrics, while Fuad Naser Babu has composed the song.

The music video of *Egiye Jaowa Nari* is directed by Tvswala Media's Kolkata team. "Women are contributing in the society in many tangible and intangible ways. This inspirational song is dedicated to them, with the belief that men and women have equal rights and opportunities," says Shusmita.

Under the banner of New Music Paradigm Company, the track, alongside music video, will be released on International Women's Day (March 8). It will be available on all digital platforms, including Shusmita Anis's YouTube channel.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Boichitrer Oikotan A concert for diversity promoting tolerance and inclusivity



PHOTO: COURTESY

RASHEEK TABASSUM MONDIRA

Indigenous band Madal and Institute for Environment and Development (IED) jointly hosted a cultural event, *Boichitrer Oikotan*, (Concert for Diversity) at the Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka, recently. The event was supported by Partnership for a Tolerant and Inclusive Bangladesh (PTIB) project, UNDP.

Madal, along with eight other bands, performed at the event. Mro Sangskritik Dol, Khasia band Five Thorn Wings, Garo bands Sacrament and Kremlin, Santal band Sengel, Bengali band Bangla Five, Meghdol and indigenous band F Minor, enthralled the audience with their musical talents. The event featured different indigenous musical instruments and other performances.

Bangladesh has a rich history of culture, religion and ethnic diversity. Yet, intolerance and hate often threaten the peaceful coexistence of our diverse population. With that in mind, PTIB has launched the initiative, 'Diversity for Peace', to foster creative actions to connect people with different identities and to promote tolerance and inclusivity.

Members of different national and international development organisations, cultural activists, eminent media personalities, teachers, students and writers were present at the event.

Terracotta sculpture exhibition organised in Chattogram

ARUN BIKASH DEV, from Chattogram

An exclusive four-day terracotta sculpture exhibition, *Namoniyi O Kothin*, organised by Sculpture Centre Chattogram, concluded yesterday at Shilpakala Academy in the port city. 26 sculptors exhibited their works at the event. Art Critic Abul Mansur, a retired professor of Fine Arts Institute of Chittagong University (CU) inaugurated the exhibition.

Alak Roy, a retired professor of the Sculpture Department of CU's Fine Arts Institute, said that it is regretful that there are no commercial art galleries in the port city.

"Artists who are based in Chattogram cannot exhibit their artworks because we do not have proper spaces," he said. "Subsequently, it is challenging for young people who want to pursue their passion of sculpture-building as a profession." Alak, who is the president of Sculpture Centre Chattogram, said it is also risky for a sculptor to organise solo exhibitions.

A large crowd of visitors attended the exhibitions to enjoy the different conceptual sculptures.



PHOTO: COURTESY

South Korean sect leader apologises over coronavirus spread

AFP, Seoul

The elderly leader of a secretive South Korean sect linked to more than half the country's 4,000-plus coronavirus cases knelt before the cameras Monday to apologise for the spread of the disease.

Shincheonji head Lee Man-hee's plea for forgiveness came after Seoul city authorities filed a murder complaint against him for failing to cooperate in containing the epidemic.

South Korea's case numbers -- the largest total anywhere outside China -- are expected to rise further as authorities carry out checks on more than 266,000 people associated with the Shincheonji Church of Jesus, which is often condemned as a cult.

"I would like to offer my sincere apology to the people," said Lee, his voice breaking.

"Although it was not intentional, many people have been infected," the 88-year-old said, twice bowing his head to the floor before reporters in Gapyeong.

"I seek the forgiveness of the people."
"I am very thankful to the government for its efforts," he added. "I also seek the forgiveness of the government."

Lee is revered by his followers as the "Promised Pastor" who has taken on the mantle of Jesus Christ and will take 144,000 people with him to heaven on the Day of Judgement, which he will usher in within his own lifetime.

A 61-year-old female member developed a fever on February 10 but attended at least four services in Daegu -- the country's fourth-largest city with a population of 2.5 million and the centre of the outbreak -- before being diagnosed.

At worship Shincheonji members sit close together on the floor and pray extensively in what critics say creates an ideal environment to spread viral infections.

Lee -- whose organisation says he has tested negative for the virus -- insisted that the group was "actively cooperating with the government".

Country where

FROM PAGE 16

High housing costs, especially in Luxembourg City, mean more than 180,000 of its workforce commute from those neighboring countries every day.

"Luxembourg is a very attractive place for jobs," explains Geoffrey Caruso, a professor at the University of Luxembourg and the Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research specializing in land use and transportation.

But its "booming economy" and high concentration of jobs have led to congestion issues, he says.

In 2016, Luxembourg had 662 cars per 1,000 people, and driving is a "primary means of transportation" for commuters, according to a 2017 report by the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure.

That year, drivers in Luxembourg City spent an average of 33 hours in traffic jams. It fared worse than European cities Copenhagen and Helsinki, which have comparable population sizes to all of Luxembourg -- yet drivers in both only spent an average of 24 hours in traffic.

Luxembourg's public transport system covers the whole country and costs \$562 million (€508 million) per year to run. Each year, it generates around \$46 million in ticket sales, according to the ministry.

Nothing seems

FROM PAGE 16

the construction of the six-kilometre link road, exposing the whole area to risk of landslides, the director general told The Daily Star after their visit in January.

They could have easily spared the hills and taken alternative measures, he added.

"We have not done anything outside the plan. If anything was done outside it, the DoE should investigate and find out who did it," A CDC official told The Daily Star.

Zamir Uddin, deputy director of DoE Chattogram (region), who inspected the hill cutting, told The Daily Star that they visited the project area on March 1 and found that CDA cut the hills afresh just behind their base camp at Salimpur.

They had cut afresh at least 40,000 cubic feet of hill and filled up the low land, he added.

DoE Chattogram Director Moazzam told The Daily Star that he asked his team to produce the investigation report soon.

"We will take stern action as per law," he added.

CDA was also fined Tk 10 lakh in 2017 for not complying with the hill cutting management plan.

Rajib Das, project director and also executive engineer of CDA, did not comment on the matter when this correspondent contacted him over phone.

Nothing new

FROM PAGE 1

Hussain Rousil Azam Moni, deputy director of Rab's legal and media wing, told The Daily Star.

The AG office will submit the report through an affidavit to the HC bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Md Mostafizur Rahman today as per its earlier order, an AG office source said.

The source, however, could not disclose the content of the report.

Contacted, Deputy Attorney General Amit Talukder, who is working with the HC bench concerned, told The Daily Star that he did not know about the matter.

"If we get anything from Rab, we will submit it to the High Court," he said.

On November 14 last year, the same HC bench ordered the investigation officer of the murder case to submit a report on the latest status of the investigation and on the involvement of Tanvir Rahman with the incident by March 4 this year.

On that day, the bench observed that the successes of Rab will be devalued to some extent if the elite force cannot find the motive and perpetrators behind the murders.

"It is undoubtedly a matter of

regret and disappointment that the motive behind the murders has not been found, the offenders could not be identified or arrested through investigation, and they were not put on trial although a long period after the incident has passed," the HC observed.

The HC bench came up with the observation while delivering a verdict on a petition filed by accused Tanvir Rahman, who is now out on bail.

The HC also exempted Tanvir from personal appearance before the trial court in connection with the case until the investigation report is submitted to the court.

On November 11 last year, Investigation Officer Khondker Shafiqul Alam appeared before the HC bench to explain the progress of the investigation. He told the court that the investigation was going on.

Shafiqul Alam was the seventh investigator in the case since July 4, 2019.

When the court asked him to explain whether Sagar's missing laptop had been found, he replied in the negative. He submitted the four samples that Rab had sent to the USA for the DNA tests. Of the four, two didn't match with the accused.

The investigator said that the

American company informed Rab that the two DNA samples found there had not been identified yet.

At least eight people, including suspects Rafiqul Islam, Bakul Miah, Masum Mintu, Kamrul Hasan alias Arun, Abu Sayeed, and two security guards of the couple's house Palash Rudra Paul and Enamul Hoque, and the couple's "family friend" Tanvir had been arrested in connection with the murder.

Later, Tanvir and Palash got out of jail on bail. The others are in jail.

Tanvir, an official of an English medium school in Dhaka, earlier submitted the petition to the HC to scrap trial proceedings against him in the case.

Sagar, news editor at private TV channel Maasranga, and his wife Runi, a senior reporter at ATN Bangla, were killed in the early hours of February 11, 2012 in their rented flat in the capital's West Razabazar.

After Sher-e-Bangla Nagar police and the Detective Branch of police, Rab was tasked with the probe on April 18, 2012.

Rab and other agencies have taken more than 71 dates from the trial court concerned for completing the probe.

Build homes for the homeless

FROM PAGE 16

offices have sought an additional Tk 512 crore for organising celebration programmes. Of them, the liberation war affairs ministry has sought Tk 217 crore, local government department Tk 82 crore, cultural affairs ministry about Tk 31 crore, and youth and sports ministry around Tk 78 crore.

Speaking to journalists at the Secretariat after the meeting, Cabinet Secretary Anwarul Islam said, "She [prime minister] precisely asked all the ministries and divisions to declare a notable programme as the Mujib Borsho celebration programme."

For example, the cabinet secretary said as part of celebrating the event, the Finance Division has planned

to provide pensions to six lakh pensioners who would receive pensions sitting at their homes.

"If there is any exception, the issue of an additional budget can be considered. Otherwise, no need to think about big-budget programmes," he said quoting the premier as saying.

Anwarul also said necessary infrastructure, including stages for celebration programmes, would be built by the Public Works Department.

Asked whether the PM gave the directives in response to additional demands from the ministries, he said, "Many ministries might have thought that new programmes should be taken up. The new directives came for that reason."

Earlier, the government in the national budget for 2019-20 fiscal year had allocated Tk 100 crore for celebrating "Mujib Borsho".

Besides, the Cabinet Division was granted an additional Tk 50 crore for the same purpose, said finance ministry sources.

Following the additional demand of Tk 512 crore, the government formed a committee, led by the cabinet secretary, to assess the demands. The authorities asked the Finance Division not to release any fund without any vetting by the Cabinet Division.

A Cabinet Division official said the government would allocate a small amount against the additional demands.

'Aid must be without strings'

FROM PAGE 16

Soviet Union but such assistance must be without any strings attached. He thanks the wonderful people of Russia for the warm and splendid hospitality they extended to him and members of his delegation as well as the support they gave to the liberation struggle of Bangladesh.

Later, Bangabandhu visits Leningrad, the cradle of Russian revolution, where he is given a hearty and warm reception. Bangabandhu is accompanied by the Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin. Thousands of people of Leningrad line the 15-km route from the airport to the city in negative three degrees Celsius temperature to cheer the Bangladesh leader.

RS. 80CR FOR REHABILITATION OF WOMEN

The government has prepared a Rs.80 crore rehabilitation plan for displaced women and children of Bangladesh. The scheme which envisages the rehabilitation of over two lakh people is proposed to be executed by 1973 in two phases. Under this plan, a shelter home for displaced women and children will be set up in each thana and another centre will be set up in each district for dishonoured women. Each of these centres will accommodate about 500 people.

FOKKER FRIENDSHIP AIRCRAFT RECEIVED

Bangladesh Minister for Communications, Mansoor Ali, receives at the Dhaka Airport one of two Fokker friendship aircraft procured from India for domestic services.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENT OF BANGLADESH SIGNED

The first international general trade agreement of Bangladesh is signed today with Bulgaria. The agreement is followed by a barter deal worth Rs.27 million that will be valid for two years. The trade agreement was written in Bangla, English and Bulgarian.

Bangladesh will export, according to this agreement, finished jute goods, tea and leather. Bulgaria will export among other things electrical goods, dyes and chemicals and agricultural implements.

SOURCES: March 4, 1972 issues of Dainik Bangla, The Daily Ittefaq, Azad, Morning News, The Bangladesh Observer and Purbodesh.

2 BCL men killed

FROM PAGE 16

morning, alleging that the bridge was not built on the right place and substandard materials were being used.

In the afternoon, Hadiuzzaman went to the spot with some BCL activists. They picked up Tuhin from his house and beat him up mercilessly.

Tuhin's brother Milon and locals attacked the BCL men. Then a clash broke out between the BCL men and the villagers that left nine, including Hadiuzzaman, injured.

Hadiuzzaman was rushed to the local upazila health complex and later moved to Khulna Medical College Hospital. He died on the way to Dhaka yesterday morning.

Hadiuzzaman is a friend of Harunur Rashid whose construction firm is building the bridge, said Abu Sayeed Khan, vice-president of Khulna district BCL.

The other injured took treatment at the local upazila health complex. Additional police have been deployed in the village after the incident, OC Rabiul added.

Police detained Tuhin and his brother Milon.

Abdus Sattar Par, chairman of Baghali Union Parishad, said the bridge is near Tuhin's house. He heard that there was a quarrel between the manager of the construction firm and locals over building of the bridge.

According to the upazila administration, HH Enterprise, the construction firm, is building the bridge at a cost of Tk 24 lakh.

Firm owner Harun, also a former joint secretary of Khulna district BCL, said one Moniruzzaman from Koyra upazila was constructing the bridge with his contractor's licence.

He dismissed the allegation of irregularities in the work.

Talking to this correspondent, Moniruzzaman said he had no investment in the construction work. He claimed that he was just

overseeing the work. BCL MAN KILLED IN NOAKHALI

A BCL leader was killed and at least 10 activists injured in an attack reportedly carried out by Islami Chhatra Shibir, the pro-Jamaat-e-Islami student body, in Noakhali's Begumganj upazila yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Rakibul Hossain, 20, joint general secretary of BCL's Ulyapur union unit, our local correspondent reports quoting Arifur Rahman Mahmud, chairman of Ulyapur Union Parishad.

A group of Shibir activists equipped with firearms and sharp weapons launched an attack on the BCL men at Ulyapur Bazar around 9:00pm on Sunday, leaving 11 BCL men injured, Md Alamgir Hossain, superintendent of police in Noakhali, said.

The injured were admitted to the emergency room of the Noakhali General Hospital around 10:00pm on Sunday night with bullet wounds, said Syed Mohiuddin, resident medical officer of the hospital.

Because of the critical nature of Rakibul's injuries, he was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital in the capital, where he was declared dead around 2:30pm today.

A case was lodged with Begumganj Model Police Station and police have already arrested four Shibir activists in this connection, Harun-Ur-Rashid, officer-in-charge of the police station, said.

This is our version

FROM PAGE 16

unconstitutional and blatantly anti-Muslim."

"The sole purpose of the NPR-NRC-CAA is to destabilise and divide people not just in India but across the whole subcontinent. If they do indeed exist, these phantom millions of human beings who India's current Home Minister calls Bangladeshi "termites", cannot be kept in detention centres and cannot be deported."

Buttigieg quits

FROM PAGE 16

broad coalition, including support from black voters -- a key Democratic demographic.

Biden's resounding victory Saturday in the first southern state to vote has thrust him back into contention, after miserable showings in the first three states.

With 48 percent of the vote in South Carolina, Biden more than doubled the 20 percent won by Sanders -- positioning him as the leftist senator's main rival.

"Just days ago the press and the pundits declared my candidacy dead," Biden told a crowd in Norfolk, Virginia, one of the states voting on Super Tuesday.

"Now, thanks to the heart of the Democratic Party in South Carolina, I'm very much alive," he said.

"On Tuesday here in Virginia, you could be the launching pad on the path to beat Donald Trump."

Sanders continues to hold poll leads in several Super Tuesday states -- including California.

"I think we've got a great chance to win in California, in Texas, in Massachusetts and a number of states," Sanders said Sunday on CBS.

He later congratulated Buttigieg on "running a strong and historic campaign" and angled for his supporters.

"I urge them to join us in the fight for real change in this country," Sanders tweeted.

In an already turbulent Democratic race -- which has gradually winnowed down a diverse and record-large field -- Biden's victory Saturday injected further uncertainty.

"The biggest question is whether this will slingshot Joe Biden into victory in some Super Tuesday states," said Larry Sabato, director of the Center for Politics at the University of Virginia.

The win, powered by support from black voters, was Biden's first in the race, but came at a crucial time, helping dispel doubts about the 77-year-old's energy level and appeal.

South Carolina brought some clarity: billionaire businessman Tom Steyer, who spent \$23 million campaigning in the state, also dropped out of the race after taking just 11 percent of the vote.

Pressure is mounting on other trailing Democrats -- including Senator Elizabeth Warren and Senator Amy Klobuchar -- to follow Steyer's and Buttigieg's example and then swiftly throw their weight behind a frontrunner.

Warren, Klobuchar and billionaire Michael Bloomberg have all made it clear that they will stick around at least through Super Tuesday.

Buttigieg was feted by rivals including Bloomberg, another moderate, who has poured a staggering \$500 million from his personal fortune into campaign advertising.

New Neo JMB cell

FROM PAGE 16

requesting anonymity.

Moniruzzaman, additional deputy inspector general of Anti-Terrorism Unit, told The Daily Star: "Analysing data and evidence collected from the scene, we are sure that the attack was carried out by a militant outfit and it has similarities with how Neo-JMB operates."

"We did not get CCTV footage. To detect the attackers, we are now looking at their digital footprint and referring to information we got earlier from interrogating different arrestees."

Neo JMB is an ultra-radical offshoot of the banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh, CITEC officers said earlier.

In Friday's blast, Traffic Sergeant Arafat, Assistant Sub-inspector Attauddin, and pedestrians Jahid Bin Jahangir, Sumon and ten-year-old Nowshad were hurt.

A case was lodged with Panchlaish Police Station on Saturday night accusing unidentified persons.

Officers said the nature of the attack had many similarities with five earlier blasts in the capital and two in Khulna.

As were the cases after the aforesaid attacks, SITE Intelligence Group, which tracks online activity of jihadist organisations and white supremacists, said the Islamic State claimed responsibility for the

Chattogram blast.

Police on January 25 this year claimed that they have arrested two people involved with the attack on Khulna Awami League office. On September 23 last year, CITEC claimed it arrested two others suspected of being involved with the blast in Dhaka.

A high official of CITEC yesterday said his team had dismantled two Neo JMB cells that were behind last year's attacks in Dhaka and Khulna.

"The Ameer [leader], who used to control these cells still remain untraced," he told The Daily Star, seeking anonymity.

"We suspect there are at least two or three other cells under this Ameer, and one of those cells is responsible for the latest blast."

Each of the cell has four or five members. But the cells don't maintain contact with each other, he added.

The counterterrorism unit of Chattogram Metropolitan Police (CMP) investigating the case has not been able to detect any suspect.

Deputy Commissioner Hasan Md Showkat Ali of the unit told The Daily Star: "We have interrogated several persons near the scene but no one was able to give any information about the attackers."

"We are using modern technology to find a clue."



Janata Bank Limited

Transport Department, Head Office
110, Motijheel C/A (5th floor), Dhaka-1000.
Web site. www.jb.com.bd

INVITATION FOR E-TENDERS

Tenders through electronic media (e-tenders) are hereby invited from the local agents /distributors/ importers of the renowned motor vehicles manufacturer for the supply of latest model brand new 11(eleven) units microbus in CBU condition. Necessary information about the tender are as follows:

| | | | |
|----|--|---|--|
| 1 | Procuring entity | : | Janata Bank Limited |
| 2 | Source of fund | : | Janata Bank Limited's own fund |
| 3 | Tender reference no | : | JBL/TD/Vh-Pro/Micro-11/2020 dt.02-03-2020 |
| 4 | Name of Tender | : | Procurement of latest model brand new 11(eleven) units microbus in CBU condition. |
| 5 | Eligibility of Tenderers | : | Local agents /distributors/ importers of the renowned motor vehicles manufacturer. |
| 6 | Name & address of the web receiving tender documents | : | www.jb.com.bd |
| 7 | Delivery time | : | 45 days from the date of issuing work order. |
| 8 | Amount of Tender earnest money | : | Tk.10,00,000(ten) lac in the form of Pay Order (Refundable) |
| 9 | Performance security | : | 10% of the work order value in the form of pay order issued from any schudle bank/ bank guarantee in favour of Janata Bank Limited, Head Office, Dhaka. |
| 10 | Last date & time of hand delivery of earnest money | : | Within 06/04/2020 ,2.30pm |
| 11 | Date and time for submission of tenders | : | Within 06/04/2020, 2.30 p.m. |
| 12 | Date and time for opening of tenders | : | April 06, 2020 on 3.00 p.m. |
| 13 | Special terms & conditions | : | a) If any Tenderer produces false or fabricated documents alongwith the tender, the related tender will be treated as cancelled. b) The tenders should abide by all the terms & conditions of PPR-2008. c) The tenderers or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend at the time of opening tenders. d) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. |



02-03-2020
Md. Abdul Motalib
Assistant General Manager &
Incharge, Transport Department

PRD/HO-15/2020

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য ও পঃপঃ কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়
নড়িয়া, শরীয়তপুর
E-mail- naria@uhfpo.dghs.gov.bd

তারিখঃ ২৬/২/২০

এমএসআর দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি (OMT)

উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, নড়িয়া, শরীয়তপুর এর জন্য ২০১৯-২০২০ অর্থ বছরে এমএসআর সামগ্রী ক্রয়ের নিমিত্ত গণনাতে সংশ্লিষ্ট আইন-২০০৬, বিধিমালা- ২০০৮ ও ২০০৯ (সংশোধনী) এবং তৎপরবর্তী সংশোধনী বিধি-বিধান অনুযায়ী নিম্নোক্ত "ছক" মোতাবেক গ্রুপ ভিত্তিক পৃথক পৃথকভাবে সীলপালায়ুক্ত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

| | |
|---|---|
| ১. মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ | স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়/স্বাস্থ্য সেবা বিভাগ। |
| ২. সংস্থা/প্রতিষ্ঠান | স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর, মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২১২। |
| ৩. বাজেট/তহবিলের উৎস | জিওবি (রাজস্ব/উন্নয়ন/অতিরিক্ত বরাদ্দ/খোকা বরাদ্দ) স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর/স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়। |
| ৪. সংগ্রহকারী সংস্থা | উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, নড়িয়া, শরীয়তপুর। |
| ৫. দরপত্র ক্রয় সংগ্রহের পদ্ধতি | উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (ওটিএম)। |
| ৬. দরপত্রের প্যাকেজের নাম/দরপত্রের ধরণ | এমএসআর (গ্রুপ ভিত্তিক)। |
| ৭. দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রির স্থান | উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, নড়িয়া, শরীয়তপুর। |
| ৮. দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রির তারিখ ও সময় | দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের পর হতে ২১/০৩/২০২০ তারিখ বিকাল ২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত (সরকারি ছুটির দিন ব্যতিত)। |
| ৯. দরপত্র জমা/দাখিলের স্থান ও সময় | উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, নড়িয়া, শরীয়তপুর এর রক্ষিত দরপত্র বাজে। ২২/০৩/২০২০ইং বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা। |
| ১০. দরপত্র খোলার স্থান ও সময় | উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, নড়িয়া, শরীয়তপুর। ২২/০৩/২০২০ইং বেলা ১.০০ ঘটিকা। |
| ১১. বরাদ্দের পরিমাণ | ২০১৯-২০২০ অর্থ বছরে বরাদ্দ প্রাপ্তি সাপেক্ষে। |
| ১২. এমএসআর সামগ্রী ক্রয় সংক্রান্ত তথ্যাবলী | ঔষধপত্র এমআরপি দরে এবং অন্যান্য সামগ্রী দাপ্তরিক প্রাক্কলিত (এসআর) দর/বাজারদরে। |
| ১৫. দরপত্রাদাতার যোগ্যতা | ক) পিপিএ ২০০৬, পিপিআর-২০০৮ ও সংশোধনী পিপিএ-২০০৯ এর বিধি বিধান অনুযায়ী যোগ্য দরপত্রাদাতা। খ) দরপত্র হিসাবে সাধারণ যোগ্যতা, এমএসআর সরবরাহ কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা, আর্থিক সামর্থ্য ইত্যাদির বিস্তারিত বিবরণ দরপত্র দলিলের সাথে সংযুক্ত শর্তাবলীর অধিনে বর্ণিত আছে। |
| ১৩. এমএসআর গ্রুপসমূহের তথ্যাদি/বিবরণ | নিম্নবর্ণিত ছকে। |
| ১৪. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর নাম | ডাঃ মোঃ শফিকুল ইসলাম। |
| ১৫. পদবী | উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য ও পঃপঃ কর্মকর্তা, নড়িয়া, শরীয়তপুর। |
| ১৬. কর্মস্থল | উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, নড়িয়া, শরীয়তপুর। |
| ১৭. যোগাযোগের ঠিকানা | ফোন/মোবাইল নং-০১৭১৫১৩৮৫২। |

| | | | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| গ্রুপ | এমএসআর দরপত্রের গ্রুপসমূহের নাম/বিবরণ | দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য (অফেরতযোগ্য) | বায়না-সরকারি বিধিমোতাবেক (ফেরতযোগ্য) |
| ক | ঔষধপত্র (ইউসিএল বহির্ভূত) | ৭৫০/- | ৯০,০০০/- |
| খ | যন্ত্রপাতি | ৭৫০/- | ৬০,০০০/- |
| গ | পরীক্ষা-নিরীক্ষার রি-এজেন্ট | ৭৫০/- | ১৫,০০০/- |
| ঘ | গজ, ব্যাডেজ, তুলা | ৭৫০/- | ৩৫,০০০/- |
| ঙ | আসবাবপত্র | ৭৫০/- | ১৫,০০০/- |
| চ | লিনেন সামগ্রী | ৭৫০/- | ৬০,০০০/- |

১৮. বিশেষ নির্দেশিকাঃ কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন অথবা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা Non-Responsive করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। অনির্দিষ্ট কারণবশতঃ অত্র নোটিশে দরপত্র বাস্তব নীতিতে তথ্যাদি না হলে পরবর্তী স্বাভাবিক কার্যক্রমে দরপত্র বাস্তব খোলার গ্রহণযোগ্য তারিখ বলে বিবেচিত হবে। তবে সময় ও স্থান অপরিবর্তিত থাকবে।

ডাঃ মোঃ শফিকুল ইসলাম
কোড নং-১২৭৩১৪
উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য ও পঃপঃ কর্মকর্তা
নড়িয়া, শরীয়তপুর

জিডি-৪০৬

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Police
Police Headquarters, Dhaka.

International Tender Notice of Goods

Memo No. 44.01.0000.024.01.020.19/579 Date: 02 March 2020

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the Manufacturers/Principals/Local Agents for purchase of the following items for Bangladesh Police. Manufacturers/Principals/Local Agents must read and fill up the tender documents cautiously, so that the offered package complies with the tender documents. Conditional or alternative offer shall not be evaluated.

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Ministry / Division | Ministry of Home Affairs/ Public Security Division |
| 2. Agency | Police Headquarters, Dhaka. |
| 3. Head of Procuring Entity Name | Inspector General, Bangladesh Police. |
| 4. Procuring Entity District | Dhaka, Bangladesh |
| 5. Invitation for | Vehicles for Bangladesh Police |
| 6. Invitation Reference No | 44.01.0000.024.01.020.19/15 (FY-2019-2020) |
| 7. Date | 02 March 2020 |

KEY INFORMATION

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 8. Procurement Method | One Stage Two Envelope Tendering Method |
|-----------------------|---|

FUNDING INFORMATION

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 9. Budget Code | Govt. Budget |
|----------------|--------------|

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

| | |
|---|---|
| 10. Tender Publication date | 03 March 2020 |
| 11. Tender Selling last date | 13 April 2020. |
| 12. Tender closing date and time | 15 April 2020 at 12.00pm |
| 13. Tender opening date and time | 15 April 2020 at 12.30pm |
| 14. Name & Address of the officer (Procuring Entity) | Addl. DIG (Transport), 5 th Floor, Police Headquarters, Phoenix Road, Fulbaria, Dhaka-1000 |
| 15. Place, date & time of pre-tender meeting (optional) | 24 March 2020 at 03.00 pm NCCOM, 5 th Floor, Police Headquarters, Dhaka-1000 |

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 16. Eligibility of tender | (i) Up to date trade license (ii) VAT registration Certificate (iii) Up to date income tax clearance certificate (iv) Manufacturers/Bidder's/Local Agents shall have a dedicated workshop or service centers in Dhaka. In addition divisional workshop or service center will be given preference. (v) Manufacturers or Local Agents shall not be black listed by any other organization in Bangladesh and (vi) Other Conditions shall be described in standard document (STD). | | |
| 17. Brief Description of goods | Vehicles for Bangladesh Police | | |
| 18. Price of tender document (BDT) | Each Lot TK.5000.00 (Five Thousand) Only(non-refundable). | | |
| 19. Identification of Goods | | | |
| Lot No | Identification of lot | Tender Security Amount | Completion Time |
| Lot-1 | Ambulance | 4,500 USD or equivalent BDT Only | 180 days |
| Lot-2 | Truck (2.5 Ton) | 1,000 USD or equivalent BDT Only | |
| Lot-3 | Truck (3 Ton) 4x4 | 5,000 USD or equivalent BDT Only | |
| Lot-4 | Truck (5 Ton) 4x4 | 7,000 USD or equivalent BDT Only | |

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

| | |
|---|--|
| 20. Name of Official Inviting Tender | Md. Ruhul Amin BPM |
| 21. Designation of official Inviting Tender | Addl. DIG (Transport) |
| 22. Address of Official Inviting Tender | 5 th Floor, Police Headquarters, Dhaka-1000 |
| 23. Contact details of official inviting tender | Tel: 88 02 9564779, Fax: 88 02 9575663 E-mail: addldigtrans@police.gov.bd |

24. Important Conditions:

- The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders or annul the tender proceeding depending on Government decision.
- if it is not possible to receive/open the tender on the schedule date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received/opened on the next working day at the same time & same venue
- The Procuring Entity also reserves the right to omit, increase and/or decrease the quantity of any item (s) from the tender depending on final approval from the Ministry of Finance
- The bidder must abide by the decision of the HOPE.
- The entire procurement will be performed according to the Public Procurement Act-2006 and Public Procurement Regulation 2008.

02.3.2020
(Md. Ruhul Amin BPM)
BP 7299088433
Addl. DIG (Transport)
Bangladesh Police
Police Headquarters, Dhaka.
Phone: +88029564779, Fax: +88029575663
Email: addldigtrans@police.gov.bd

GD-411

Planning and Development Division
Khulna University, Khulna

Memo No: KU/PD-215/2020-29 Date: 01-03-2020

2nd Corrigendum

The Invitation for Tender (IFT) vide memo No: KU/PD-215/2020; Date: 06-02-2020 published in the Daily Janmohumi on 07-02-2020, Daily Janakantha on 09-02-2020 and The Daily Star on 09-02-2020 has been made corrigendum-2 as below:

Serial 9, 11 and 13 of original notice will be replaced as below:

Serial 9 : Last date of tender selling: 18.03.2020.
Serial 11 : Tender submission deadline: 19.03.2020 at 3:00pm.
Serial 13 : Tender opening place, date and time: Office of Treasurer, Khulna University, 19.03.2020 at 4:00pm.

Serial 14 (b), (c) & (d) of the original notice will be replaced as below:

Serial 14 (b) : The minimum specific experience of the tenderer in the supply of similar goods of at least 01 (one) contract successfully completed within the last 05 (five) years each with a value of at least mentioned table below.
Serial 14 (c) : The amount of liquid asset/working capital/credit lines is shown against lot number in the table below.
Serial 14 (d) : The experience certificate of supplying goods (scientific equipments) at any Govt., Semi-Govt. and/or autonomous body amounting not less than specific experience as shown in the table below within last 05 (five) years.

All other information will remain unchanged.

| Sl. No. | Package No. | Lot No. | Specific experience | Tender security | Liquid asset |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 14. (b) (c) (d) & 18. | Package - 01 | Lot- 01 | Tk. 113 lakh | Tk. 3.50 lakh | Tk. 135 lakh |
| | | Lot- 02 | Tk. 28 lakh | Tk. 0.95 lakh | Tk. 34 lakh |
| | | Lot- 03 | Tk. 28 lakh | Tk. 0.95 lakh | Tk. 34 lakh |
| | | Lot- 04 | Tk. 28 lakh | Tk. 0.95 lakh | Tk. 34 lakh |
| | | Lot- 05 | Tk. 28 lakh | Tk. 0.95 lakh | Tk. 34 lakh |
| | Package - 02 | Lot- 06 | Tk. 23 lakh | Tk. 0.75 lakh | Tk. 27 lakh |
| | | Lot- 07 | Tk. 26 lakh | Tk. 0.85 lakh | Tk. 32 lakh |
| | | Lot- 08 | Tk. 26 lakh | Tk. 0.85 lakh | Tk. 32 lakh |
| | | Lot- 09 | Tk. 38 lakh | Tk. 1.25 lakh | Tk. 45 lakh |
| | | Lot- 10 | Tk. 38 lakh | Tk. 1.25 lakh | Tk. 45 lakh |
| Package - 03 | | Lot- 11 | Tk. 15 lakh | Tk. 0.50 lakh | Tk. 18 lakh |
| | | Lot- 12 | Tk. 38 lakh | Tk. 1.25 lakh | Tk. 45 lakh |
| | | Lot- 13 | Tk. 38 lakh | Tk. 1.25 lakh | Tk. 45 lakh |
| Package - 04 | | Lot- 14 | Tk. 38 lakh | Tk. 1.25 lakh | Tk. 45 lakh |
| | Lot- 15 | Tk. 38 lakh | Tk. 1.25 lakh | Tk. 45 lakh | |
| | Lot- 16 | Tk. 15 lakh | Tk. 0.50 lakh | Tk. 18 lakh | |
| | Lot- 17 | Tk. 15 lakh | Tk. 0.50 lakh | Tk. 18 lakh | |
| | Lot- 18 | Tk. 15 lakh | Tk. 0.50 lakh | Tk. 18 lakh | |
| | Lot- 19 | Tk. 15 lakh | Tk. 0.50 lakh | Tk. 18 lakh | |

Professor Dr. Uttam Kumar Majumder
Director (P&D)
Khulna University, Khulna

GD-408

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ
কমান্ডার (পুলিশ সুপার) এর কার্যালয়
আরআরএফ, মিরের ময়দান, সিলেট
website: www.police.gov.bd

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-০৮/২০১৯-২০২০

তারিখঃ ০২/০৩/২০২০

স্মারক নং-২৩২/ই

আরআরএফ, সিলেট সংস্থার পুলিশ বাহিনীর রেশনভোগী সদস্যদের জন্য নির্ধারিত রেশন সামগ্রী সরবরাহের নিমিত্ত "পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন ২০০৬, পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা ২০০৮" এবং তৎপরবর্তী সকল সংশোধনী অনুযায়ী ২০১৯-২০২০ অর্থ বছরে ৪র্থ কোয়ার্টার (এপ্রিল/২০২০) হতে জুন/২০২০ পর্যন্ত জন্ম উন্নয়নের মতর ডাল, উৎকর্ষমানের ভোজ্য সয়াবিন তেল (বিটামিন 'এ' সমৃদ্ধ), রেশন সামগ্রী উঠানো নামানোর লেবার সরবরাহ, জ্বালানি কাঠ সরবরাহ এবং গম পেয়াই এর নিমিত্ত অজিউল টিকাদার/ব্যবসায়ী/সরবরাহকারীর নিকট হতে নিজস্ব প্যাড/নির্ধারিত সিডিউলে সিলমোহরকৃত খামে প্রতিযোগিতামূলক উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। দরপত্রের বিবরণ ও শর্তাবলী নিম্নরূপ। দরপত্রের অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী সিডিউলে বর্ণিত আছে।

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| ১ | মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ | স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়/পুলিশ বিভাগ। |
| ২ | সংস্থা | বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ। |
| ৩ | দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারী প্রধান | কমান্ডার (পুলিশ সুপার), আরআরএফ, সিলেট। |
| ৪ | কি কারণে দরপত্র আহ্বান | আরআরএফ, সিলেট লালাবাজার পুলিশ লাইন্সের ৬ তলা ব্যারাক ভবন মেরামত/সংস্কার। |
| ৫ | দরপত্র সূত্র নং | ২৩২/ই। |
| ৬ | তারিখ | ০২/০৩/২০২০ |

কাজের বিবরণ

| | | |
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| ৭ | দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি | উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র। |
|---|-----------------|------------------|

অর্থের উৎস

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------|
| ৮ | বাজেট ও অর্থনৈতিক খাত | রাজস্ব খাত। |
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তথ্যাদি

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| ৯ | দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ | ০২/০৩/২০২০ |
| ১০ | দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ | ২৩/০৩/২০২০ |
| ১১ | দরপত্র জমা প্রদানের সর্বশেষ তাৎ ও সময় | ২৪/০৩/২০২০, সময়ঃ দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা। |
| ১২ | দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময় | ২৪/০৩/২০২০, সময়ঃ দুপুর ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা। |

অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা

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| ১৩ | অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা | ০১। কমান্ডার (পুলিশ সুপার), আরআরএফ, সিলেট এর কার্যালয়। ০২। ডিআইজি, সিলেট রেঞ্জ এর কার্যালয়। ০৩। পুলিশ সুপার, সিলেট এর কার্যালয়। |
| ১৪ | দরপত্র খোলার স্থান | ০১। কমান্ডার (পুলিশ সুপার), আরআরএফ, সিলেট এর কার্যালয়। ০২। পুলিশ সুপার, সিলেট এর কার্যালয়। |
| ১৫ | দরপত্রের যোগ্যতা | কমান্ডার (পুলিশ সুপার), আরআরএফ, সিলেট এর কার্যালয়। জি টেন্ডার সভার স্থান, তারিখ, সময় |

দরপত্র সম্পর্কিত তথ্য

| | | | | | | |
|----|---|-------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ১৬ | মালামালের বিবরণ | আইটেম | পরিমাণ | দরপত্রের মূল্য (টাকা) (অফেরতযোগ্য) | নিরাপত্তা জামানত (টাকা) (ফেরতযোগ্য) | কাজ সম্পন্ন করার সময় (দিন) |
| ০১ | উন্নতমানের সয়াবিন তেল ডাল জন্ম (বিটামিন 'এ' সমৃদ্ধ) | | ৭ টন | ৫০০/- | ৫০,০০০/- | |
| ০২ | উন্নতমানের মতর ডাল জন্ম (২ কেজি ও ১.৫ কেজির স্বাস্থ্যসম্মত স্বচ্ছ পলিপ্যাকেজ প্রকিউরমেন্টের নাম, প্যাকিংয়ের ও মেয়াদ উত্তীর্ণের তারিখসহ মতর ডাল সরবরাহ করতে হবে) | | ৯ টন | ৫০০/- | ৫০,০০০/- | |
| ০৩ | জ্বালানি কাঠ জন্ম | | চার্বিদানুযায়ী | ৪০০/- | ৫,০০০/- | |
| ০৪ | গম পেয়াই (৫ কেজি ও ২ কেজির স্বাস্থ্যসম্মত স্বচ্ছ পলিপ্যাকেজ প্রকিউরমেন্টের নাম ও প্যাকিংয়ের মেয়াদ উত্তীর্ণের তারিখসহ আটা সরবরাহ করতে হবে) | | ৩০ টন | ৪০০/- | ১৫,০০০/- | |
| ০৫ | চাণ, গম ও চিনি উঠানো নামানোর লেবার সরবরাহ | | ৭০ টন | ৪০০/- | ২,০০০/- | |

দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারীর বিবরণ

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| ১৭ | দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম | মোঃ মাহমুদুর রহমান, পিপিএম। |
| ১৮ | দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী | কমান্ডার (পুলিশ সুপার)। |
| ১৯ | দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার ঠিকানা | আরআরএফ, সিলেট। |
| ২০ | দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম | টেলিফোনঃ ০৮২১-৭১১৭৫৫। |
| ২১ | বিশেষ শর্তাবলী | |

ক) টেন্ডারে অংশগ্রহণকারী টিকাদারগণ দরপত্র দাখিলের সময় মতর ডালের নমুনা ৫০০ গ্রাম এবং ভোজ্য তেলের নমুনা ব্রাউনের নাম উল্লেখসহ প্রতি ব্রাউনের জন্য ০২ লিটার একটি বোতল দাখিল করতে হবে। দাখিলকৃত ভোজ্য সয়াবিন তেলের নমুনা কিন্তু বোতলে ভর্তি করে চৈব চয়ন পদ্ধতিতে (Random Basis) "কোডিং" এর মাধ্যমে তেলের পরিমাণ করা সহ পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টারের নির্দেশনা মোতাবেক ল্যাবরেটরী টেস্টের মাধ্যমে Camical Composition Standard মাত্রা পরীক্ষা করার জন্য ল্যাবরেটরীতে পাঠানো হবে। ভোজ্য তেলের নমুনার সাথে টেস্টের ফি বাবদ খরচ (টাকা) দরপত্র দাখিলকারী কর্তৃক জমা দিতে হবে। অন্যান্য তেলের নমুনা গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

খ) পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার লজিস্টিকস শাখার স্মারক নং ৪৪-২০১৩/৩৩৪(১৩০) তারিখ-২৯/০১/২০১৮-এই মূলে প্রেরিত পত্রের আলোকে আটা ৫ কেজি ও ২ কেজি'র এবং মতর ডাল ২ কেজি ও ১.৫ কেজি'র উন্নতমানের স্বচ্ছ ৫৫ (পঞ্চাশ) মাইক্রোন পুরুত্ব পলি প্যাকে প্যাকেটজাতকরণ সরবরাহ করতে হবে।

গ) গম পেয়াইয়ের ক্ষেত্রে সিলেট সিটি কর্পোরেশন এলাকায় নিজস্ব/ভাড়া গম পেয়াইয়ের মিল থাকতে হবে। ভাড়ার ক্ষেত্রে ৩০০/- টাকার নন-জুর্ডিশিয়াল স্ট্যাম্পে চুক্তিপত্র থাকতে হবে।

ঘ) বিস্তারিত তথ্য ও শর্ত সফলিত দরপত্র দলিল অফেরতযোগ্য মূল্যে টিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের স্বত্বাধিকারী স্বাক্ষরযুক্ত প্যাডে আবেদনপূর্বক ১৩ নং কলামে বর্ণিত দস্তর হতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের নির্ধারিত তারিখের মধ্যে ক্রয় করা যাবে।

চ) সিডিউল ক্রয়ের জন্য টিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্যাডে স্বত্বাধিকারী নিজে আবেদন করবেন। যদি টিকাদার উপস্থিত হতে না পারে সেক্ষেত্রে মনোনীত ব্যক্তি স্বাক্ষর ও ছবি সত্যায়িত করে ক্ষমতা অর্পণ করে আবেদনের সাথে দাখিল করতে হবে।

ছ) কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

জ) নির্দিষ্ট সময়ের পর আর কোন দরপত্র বিক্রয়/গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

মোঃ মাহমুদুর রহমান, পিপিএম
বিপি-৬৯৯৫১০৪৫৫২
কমান্ডার (পুলিশ সুপার)
আরআরএফ, সিলেট
ফোনঃ ৭১১৭৫৫ ফ্যাক্সঃ ৭১০৭৭০

জিডি-৪১৩

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

To prevent import-export of counterfeited products

SHALEH AKRAM SOMRAT

IN the context of emerging economic order, the need to introduce a legal system to adopt Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) has been a timely demand. Despite having specific and separate laws for the protection of IPR, Intellectual Property (IP) right holders have suffered from inadequate legislative focus on the process of import-export of counterfeited or false described products.

To supplement the growing significance of IPR protection, on 19 November 2019, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) has enforced the Intellectual Property Enforcement (Import & Export) Rules 2019 with immediate effect. The Customs wing of the NBR is now authorised to confiscate and/or destroy any IPR infringed products, goods or shipments. If any product is manufactured, produced, reproduced, assembled, marketed

i.e. some infringed IP products have already been imported or have been presented for exporting, or with apprehension of such import or export.

Any such objection notice requires to be registered by the Customs authority to initiate the legal process and as a result, registration will not be given unless the IP right holder provides some necessary documents along with the notice. The Customs authority may ask the right holder to provide necessary documents within the next 15 working days of receipt of the notice, which can be extended to a further period of 7 working days. The IP right holder is required to provide - (a) his full name, address, email and telephone number; (b) if he is represented by any person, copy of the "Letter of Authority"; (c) proof of ownership or title i.e. Registration Certificate, Dealership Agreement, Deed of Assignment etc.; (d) date of commencement

authority will require the applicant to execute and furnish sufficient security bond against the customs authority's liability in causing any loss or damages to the importer/exporter/owner/recipient of the products by

Parties may be allowed to inspect the shipment, collect sample or any necessary information, but subject to the condition of maintaining confidentiality or business secrets. Parties may seek for any necessary information under the Right to Information Act, 2009.

confiscating or staying release of the product in case the notice is not disposed of in favour of the applicant or the alleged IP right holder.

The Customs Commissioner or duly authorised officer may stay the release of any objected product at its own will or on the basis of IP right holder's objection notice, if he is satisfied that IPR has been infringed by any importer/exporter. However, if the authority stays the release by its own will, it will ask the IP right holder to submit necessary documents within the next 10 working days (3 working days for perishable goods), which can further be extended for another 4 working days.

Parties may be allowed to inspect the shipment, collect sample or any necessary information, but subject to the condition of maintaining confidentiality or business secrets. Parties may seek for any necessary information under the Right to Information Act, 2009.

After inspecting all the documents, the Customs authority will determine whether IPR has been infringed. Any such objection notice may be disposed of ordering destruction of the products if it is proved that IPR has been violated. However, no such product will be destroyed if there is any case pending on this subject matter. On the other hand, if the Customs authority finds no IPR infringement, it will provide release certificate within the next 24 hours and in such a case, the applicant may be held to pay for any loss or damages, to the importer/exporter/owner of the goods, incurred due to the disposal of the objection notice.

One significant characteristic of this Intellectual Property Enforcement (Import & Export) Rules 2019 is that it operates territorially with a global effect. This newly introduced IPR protection mechanism has the potential of helping IP right holders in preserving, maintaining and accelerating their cross-border business outputs.

THE WRITER IS ADVOCATE, SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

SUSTAINING ALL LIFE ON EARTH



WILDLIFE includes all living organisms - plants and animals - that make up the world's biodiversity. These plants and animals are indispensable parts of the ecosystem and are crucial for the sustenance of life on earth. The UN General Assembly, thus, declared 3 March, the day on which Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) 1973 was signed, as the World Wildlife Day. Apart from CITES, other international instruments such as the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals 1979, the Biodiversity Convention 1992, the Ramsar Convention 1971 and the World Heritage Convention 1972 also aim at protecting the natural habitat of wild flora and fauna. The protection of biodiversity is also included in the Sustainable Development Goal as SDG 15.

This year's theme for World Wildlife Day is "Sustaining all life on Earth" which encompasses all wild animal and plant species as a component of biodiversity, as well as the livelihoods of people, specially those who live closest to nature. The theme incorporates UN Sustainable Development Goals 1, 12, 14 and 15, and their commitments towards alleviating poverty, ensuring sustainable use of resources, and on conserving life both on land and below water to halt biodiversity loss.

Bangladesh is party to all the aforementioned Conventions and is also obligated to protect the biodiversity and environment under Article 18A of the Constitution. Therefore, in line with its obligations, the Government has enacted the Wildlife (Conservation and Security) Act, 2012. The preamble of the Act recognises the constitutional duty to protect wildlife and natural resources. The Act creates prohibitions on hunting without license, unregistered trade and transfer of wildlife products etc. Under the Act, the Government is empowered to enlist species as vulnerable, endangered and critically endangered. A notable aspect of the Act is that it recognises the traditional and cultural norms of indigenous communities by including protection for any tree or forest which is special religious or cultural value to them. Import and export of endangered species are to be conducted only with a CITES license.

Another Act which is relevant in this regard is the 2017 Biodiversity Act. The Act acknowledges the State's obligation under the Constitution as well as the Convention on Biodiversity. The objects of the Act are protection and sustainable use of biodiversity, and equitable distribution of the benefits derived from biodiversity and traditional knowledge. The Act lays down the rules regarding access to biological resources and traditional knowledge and lawful transfer of the same.

While the 2012 Act contains appreciable provisions, the effectiveness ultimately depends on its implementation. Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries to the changing climate, and the protection of biodiversity and global environment is a matter of paramount importance for the country.

FROM LAW DESK.



or used in any other means by violating the existing IP laws of Bangladesh or abroad, and without the permission of the IP right holder or his/her authorised person, then such product will be treated as an IPR-infringed product. Therefore, an IP right holder can take the benefit of new IPR enforcement regime against counterfeited or false described or even genuine products.

To avail the benefit, the IP right holder must file and register a notice to the concerned Customs House or Customs Station or Customs Port on a prescribed form. The IP right holder may also file such objection notice with specific information

and expiry of IP rights; (e) skeleton of statements supporting the notice for staying release of the products; (f) for specific shipment-details of the shipment; (g) details of the IP right holders original goods along with HS code, sample and clear pictures; (h) name of the concerned Customs House or Customs Station or Customs Port; (i) money receipt of submission of Notice filing fee of Tk. 5000. Upon receipt of the documents, the Commissioner of Customs will notify, within the next 30 working days, the applicant, the decision as to whether the notice is registered or rejected. Once the notice is registered, it will be valid for one year and the Customs

LAW LETTER

Legal implications of 'Master Plan'

A master plan or a development plan or a town plan can be denoted as a general plan for the future layout of a city showing both the existing and proposed streets or roads, open spaces, public buildings etc. It is a comprehensive document, long-range in its view that is intended to guide development in the township for the next 10 to 20 years.

According to section 5(c) of the Building Construction Act 1952, "master plan" means the master plan prepared and approved under any law for the time being in force for the utilisation of any land anywhere in Bangladesh. And this provision of

the Building Construction Act 1952 is pursued in section 73 of the Town Improvement Act (TI Act) 1953. Section 74 (3) of the TI Act emphasises the implementation of master plan by stating that "all

future developments and construction, both public and private, shall be in conformity with the Master Plan or with the amendment thereof." Section 2(g) of the Playground, Open Space, Park and Natural Water Reservoir Conservation Act, 2000 refers to Master Plan as the master plan drawn up by RAJUK, CDA, KDA, RDA. A Master Plan shall include such maps and such descriptive matter as may be necessary to illustrate the proposals aforesaid with such degree of particularity as may be appropriate, between different parts of the area.

As per section 74(2) of the TI Act, the authority may amend or alter any specific provision of the Master Plan. But the empowering provision of 'amenability' and 'alteration' does not specify the extent of power of alteration by the authority and Government. Can the 'alteration clause' of

the Act be extended to the acts which conflict with the development principle enshrined in the preamble of the TI Act? This question was answered in the judgment of *Rajuk v Mohsinul Islam* (2001) 53 DLR which states,

"Preamble of the Town Improvement Act 1953 provides for development, improvement and expansion of the capital of Republic. Therefore, we are in agreement with the view of High Court Division that although under section 2(h) of the TI Act, RAJUK may alter layout plan, this power must be exercised with the purposes of improvement."

Furthermore, in *Metro Makers and Developers Limited v BELA* (2012), the higher judiciary of the country interpreted the construction work of the developers in a comprehensive connotation and harmonised the implementation of Master plan as "when the [...] Master Plan

came into effect it was incumbent upon the Metro Makers and Developers Limited to obtain permission under the provision of [...] Master Plan if the area is being used in derogation of the purpose earmarked in the Master Plan."

This judicial trend of holding development plan with "public good" spirit is essential for realising the goal of sustainable development with intellectual sagacity. Because, environment-development nexus is historically imprinted as controversial one. The tactful interpretation of development plan can unleash the intricacy of age-old public debate encompassing between environment and development.

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LAW WATCH

For effective management of medical waste

SAKHAWAT SAJJAT SEJAN

MEDICAL wastes have been the reason of thousands of deaths around the world. According to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 5.2 million people including 4 million children die due to medical waste related diseases. Almost 85 percent sharp injuries are caused because of subsequent use and disposal of medical wastes.

Bangladesh Medical Waste Management and Processing Rules 2008 deals with the waste disposal of different medicals and hospitals in our country. There are no other legislation pertaining to management and processing of medical wastes. But with remoter interpretation section 269 of the Penal Code 1860 may be found relatable. The section enumerates, any person who neglectfully or illegally does any act, which may cause the outbreak of contagious disease and harm public health shall be punished with 6 months' imprisonment or fine or both.

In our country, where problems remain unsolvable even with stricter laws, enacting rules is 'a white elephant' to our medical governance. Rule no. 8 of the Medical Waste Management and Processing Rules devises to establish dumping zones in seven divisional areas. However only Dhaka has the only specialised dumping ground for the disposal of medical wastes; that too is very insufficient to meet the demands of increasing number of hospitals in Dhaka. Rule no. 3 prescribes the establishment of 7 divisional authorities in 7 divisions of our country; under this Rule, this was supposed to be done within three months of the enactment of these Rules. Unfortunately, even after 11 years of enactment, neither the divisional authority has been formed nor has anyone looked after the management and disposal of medical wastes.

Rule no. 7 directs the keeping of wastes separate from other general waste during the collection, wrapping, storing and transportation. But almost all the hospitals dispose their wastes by mixing them with



general wastes without sterilising the same. As the protected areas for the disposal of medical wastes are not established, the wastes are disposed of in canals or open dumping zone ultimately harming the environment and food chain. Under Rule no. 5, three types of licenses would be given for - (1) wrapping and storing, (2) collection and transportation, and (3) refining and removal to a third party to deal with disposal mechanism. Unfortunately, these three tasks are to be dealt with by a single stakeholder as third party. Ultimately compact disposal mechanism becomes very tough to be realised. The wastes become blended during any of these procedures. Also, training was supposed to be given for a better disposal structure under Rule no. 6 to the third parties. As the divisional authorities were not formed, training for the disposal staffs seems a castle in the air.

Some NGOs namely Prism Bangladesh Foundation, Nobo Waste Management, Chattogram Seba Songtha and Prodiapon etc. are working as third party by making contracts with the hospitals. But this does not meet the demands of healthy waste disposal mechanism. Even the medical care professionals show reluctance towards maintaining comprehensive waste disposal mechanism. Authority alone cannot make any viable change without cooperation from hospitals and their professionals. If any outbreak of epidemics occurs due to such malpractice, health governance of our country will go under serious turmoil.

Ambiguities regarding the approval and determination of license to the third

party, or the determination of authority itself need to be revisited. Whether the Department of Environment looks after the waste management and implements the Rules or the City Corporation shall be held responsible for not maintaining the proper mechanisms to dispose the medical wastes, shall be determined as early as possible. All these voids shall be filled with concrete directions. Our country may strictly adopt 'Duty of Care' principle whereby the medical professionals will be assessing risks of disposing medical waste in a particular manner. Further, the medical waste (hazardous waste) shall be separated from the normal waste (non-hazardous waste) by the medical professionals. Then, it may set charges depending on the weight and probable harm may be caused by the wastes following the 'Polluter Pays' principle of international environmental law. The principle prescribes "he who produces hazardous substances, shall carry the responsibility of disposing to save environment from an imminent harm."

Moreover, a single organisation may not be licensed to dispose, transport, collect or remove the medical wastes. Three or four different institutions may be vested and licensed with different responsibilities. Additionally, all hospitals shall collect two certificates, (1) Location certificate, and (2) Environment Clearance Certificate after conclusive Environment Impact Assessment. The assessment must show whether the wastes will be disposed of following the mechanism devised by Medical Waste Management and Processing Rules 2008. Most significantly, the divisional authorities shall be formed and protected disposal zones shall be established within no time to tackle the unseen but foreseeable hazard. Lastly, the Department of Environment, City Corporation and Bangladesh Medical & Dental Council shall work hand in hand for a healthy medical waste disposal system.

THE WRITER IS LECTURER IN LAW, FENI UNIVERSITY.



The premises of Wildlife Rescue Centre at Janakichhara of Lawachhara National Park in Moulvibazar's Kamalganj upazila gives the look of a derelict spot as the set-up is running without any regular staff. Inset, a monkey currently undergoing treatment at the centre.

PHOTO: MINTUDESHWARA

Services elusive at Lawachhara Wildlife Rescue Centre

The set-up in Moulvibazar runs without regular staff; Country to observe World Wildlife Day today

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

The Wildlife Rescue Centre of Lawachhara National Park in Moulvibazar's Kamalganj upazila hardly serves any purpose as the arrangement meant for the treatment of injured and sick wild animals is running without skilled manpower and treatment facilities for years. Visiting the centre at Janakichhara of Lawachhara National Park recently, this correspondent saw signs of neglect all around. In absence of any regular staff, a scout and a guard working under the forest department give additional part-time service to look after the wildlife rescue centre, the lone one of its kind in Sylhet division. Now two fishing cats, five monkeys and three Burmese pythons are being

taken care of there. "The centre, opened on March 23 in 2015, is plagued with manpower crisis and lack of treatment facilities. A veterinary surgeon appointed here left after serving for one year and the post has remained vacant till now," Monayem Hossain, ranger of Sreemangal range office, told this correspondent. "The two forest department employees who look after this centre as extra duty face problems when injured animals are brought here. Often such animals are taken to a nearby veterinary hospital or to the Wild Animal Services Foundation in Sreemangal. Seriously injured creatures have to be sent to Gazipur Safari Park for treatment, which is quite a long way from here," said the range officer. "Only animals with minor injuries are

treated here with the voluntary service of upazila veterinary surgeon. At least five persons including a veterinary surgeon are needed for maintenance of the centre. On several occasions, we informed the higher authorities about the situation," he said. Javed Bhuiyan, joint convener of Lawachhara Bon O Jibaboichitra Rokkha Andolon, told this correspondent, "Sometimes animals from Lawachhara National Park go to the nearby locality in search of food. A section of unscrupulous villagers trap and beat the helpless creatures, causing injuries to them." "After rescue, these wild animals are often released to the forest without any treatment. Earlier some of the injured animals died in the forest. It is necessary to arrange adequate manpower and

treatment facilities at the rescue centre in Lawachhara," he said. Dr Md Rurul Amin, veterinary surgeon of Sreemangal upazila, he often serves at Lawachhara Wildlife Rescue Centre although it is not within his duty list. He urged immediate appointment of required manpower including a veterinary surgeon at the centre. Wildlife lover Saju Marchiang, also a resident of Lawachhara area, made the same demand. ANM Abdul Wadud, divisional forest officer of Wildlife Management and Nature Conservation Division in Sylhet, told this correspondent, he has written to the higher authorities for appointment of manpower at the wildlife rescue centre, the lone one in Sylhet division.

'Arrest attackers of journo'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Journalists held a protest rally and formed a human chain in front of Kalapara Press Club yesterday demanding immediate arrest of the culprits who attacked one of their fellows. Monirul Islam, president of Mahipur Press Club, and also the Kuakata correspondent of GTV, has recently come under attack by the men of Sohag Akon, former president of Mahipur Sramik League. Senior journalists Mejbahuddin Mannu, Nasir Uddin Biplob, Kazi Sayeed, SK Ranjon, Farid Uddin Bipu and Saiful Islam, among others, addressed the programme with Humayun Kabir, president of Kalapara Press Club, in the chair. On February 29, Monirul was attacked by a gang led by Sohag Akon in Lacky Cinema Hall area. At the time, the attackers also took away his cellphone and camera. The injured is now undergoing treatment at Barishal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital. On March 1, Monirul's brother Rafiqul Islam filed a case, accusing five people including Sohag. Police were raiding different areas to arrest the accused, said Md Mahabubur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Mahipur Police Station.

Ex-UP member killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

Criminals stabbed a former union parishad (UP) member to death yesterday allegedly over previous enmity in Sadar upazila. The deceased, Siddiqur Rahman Khaliph, 55, son of late Kashem Ali of Dakkhin Shankarpasha village, was a former member of Shankarpasha UP. Quoting an eyewitness, Shahidul Islam, one of the relatives of slain victim, said Siddiqur, also a layer's assistant, was going to Pirojpur court by a rickshaw around 8:00am. When he reached near Raribari area five youths, riding two motorbikes, waylaid the rickshaw and started stabbing him indiscriminately with sharp weapons. They also shot him in the foot, before fleeing the spot. Later, locals and relatives rescued Siddiqur and took him to Pirojpur Sadar Hospital, where the doctors declared him dead. Pirojpur Superintendent of Police Hayatul Islam Khan said slain Siddiqur had enmities with locals and relatives over property related and other issues. They were trying to arrest the killers and find the motive behind the murder, added the SP.

Man to die for murder

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A court here yesterday sentenced a man to death for killing his wife for dowry about eight years ago. The convict is Ashraful Islam of Gorasin village in Delduar upazila. Tangail Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal Judge Khaleda Yasmin also fined the convict Tk 1 lakh, Court Inspector Tanvir Ahmed said. Meanwhile, the court acquitted two other accused of the case -- Ashraful's mother Achhia Begum and cousin Yakub Ali -- as charges brought against them were not proved, he added. According to the case statement, after failing to realise Tk 5 lakh dowry from his in-laws, Ashraful strangled his wife Saleha Begum at their bedroom on August 18, 2012. He later with the help of others hanged Saleha's body from the ceiling fan in an attempt to make the incident as suicide. The following day, deceased's father Freedom Fighter Abdus Samad filed a case with Delduar Police Station accusing three people including Ashraful. After examining 13 witnesses, the court delivered the verdict yesterday noon.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, দিনাজপুর
(সাধারণ শাখা)
www.dinajpur.gov.bd
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

তারিখঃ উৎকৃষ্ট ইডুডুসমর্থন হুডু ফবভরহবক. ১৭ ফাল্গুন ১৪২৬
০১ মার্চ ২০২০

স্মারক নং-০৫.৫৫.২৭০০.০০৬.১৩.০০৮.২০-২৫৪

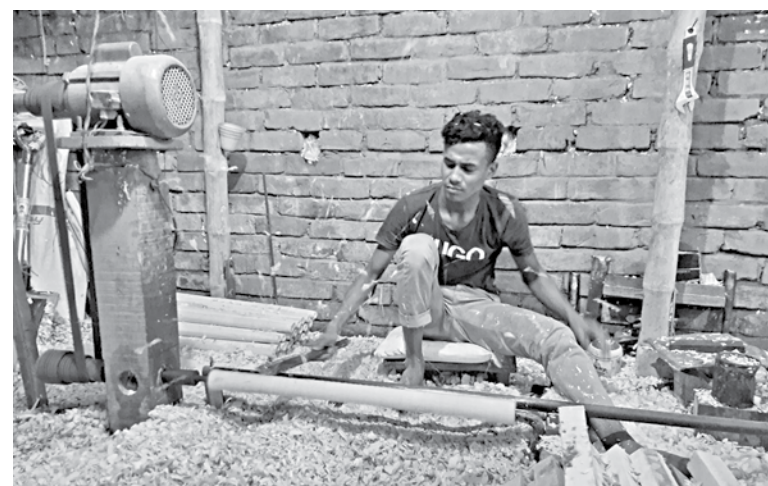
এতদ্বারা পিপিএ, ২০০৬ ও পিপিআর, ২০০৮ এবং পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট (সর্বশেষ সংশোধন) আইন/২০০৯ অনুসারে ১ম শ্রেণীর ত্রিকানারপণের নিকট হতে নিম্নবর্ণিত নির্মাণ কাজ সমূহ বাস্তবায়নের লক্ষ্যে সিগমোহরকৃত বামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

| ১। মঞ্জুরাণ/বিভাগ | বিমান ও পর্যটন মন্ত্রণালয়, ঢাকা। | | | | |
|--|--|------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------------|
| ২। বাস্তবায়নকারী সংস্থা | জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, দিনাজপুর। | | | | |
| ৩। দরপত্র নং | ০১/২০১৯-২০২০ | | | | |
| ৪। দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ | জেলা প্রশাসক, দিনাজপুর। | | | | |
| ৫। বিজ্ঞপ্তি বরাদ্দ সূত্র ও তারিখ | বাংলাদেশ ট্রান্সপোর্ট বোর্ড, ঢাকার স্মারক নং-৩০.৩০.০০০০.২১১.৩৮.০০.১৮-১৫৯৭, তারিখঃ ১৬/০৭/২০১৯খ্রিঃ। | | | | |
| ৬। সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি | সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (LTM)। | | | | |
| ৭। বাজেট/অর্থের উৎস | বাংলাদেশ ট্রান্সপোর্ট বোর্ড, ঢাকা। | | | | |
| ৮। দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ | ১৮/০৩/২০২০খ্রিঃ (অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত)। | | | | |
| ৯। দরপত্র গ্রহণের তারিখ ও সময় | ১৯/০৩/২০২০খ্রিঃ তারিখ দুপুর ০১.০০টা পর্যন্ত। | | | | |
| ১০। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময় | ১৯/০৩/২০২০খ্রিঃ তারিখ বিকাল ০৪.০০ ঘটিকা। | | | | |
| ১১। দরপত্র বিক্রয়কারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা | (ক) জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয় (সাধারণ শাখা), দিনাজপুর। (খ) উপজেলা নির্বাহী অফিসারের কার্যালয়, নবাবগঞ্জ, দিনাজপুর। | | | | |
| ১২। দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা | জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয় (সাধারণ শাখা), দিনাজপুর। | | | | |
| ১৩। দরপত্র খোলার দস্তর | জেলা প্রশাসকের সফেলন কক্ষ, কাম্বন-১, দিনাজপুর। | | | | |
| ১৪। দরপত্রাদাতা/দাতাদের যোগ্যতা | এলজিইডি বিভাগের হালনাগাদ ১ম শ্রেণীর ত্রিকানারী হালনাগাদ লাইসেন্স, মূল্য সংযোজন কর নিবন্ধীকরণ, আয়কর সনদপত্রের হালনাগাদ কপি, ট্রেড লাইসেন্স এর হালনাগাদ কপি, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সি সনদপত্র এবং সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ কাজের অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্র এবং দরপত্র ক্রয়ের বিশদসহ প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্যাদি সমন্বিত কাগজপত্রের সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি দরপত্রের সাথে সংযুক্ত করতে হবে। উল্লেখ্য সত্যায়নের ক্ষেত্রে সত্যায়নকারী অফিসারের নামসহ সীল অবশ্যই থাকতে হবে। | | | | |
| ১৪। কাজের বিস্তারিত বর্ণনা | সংযুক্ত স্পেসিফিকেশন/দরপত্র সিডিউল মোতাবেক। | | | | |
| ১৫। কাজের সফলতা বিবরণ নিম্নরূপঃ | | | | | |
| ক্রম নং | প্রকল্পের নাম | প্রাকল্পিত মূল্য | জামানতের পরিমাণ (টাকায়) | দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য (টাকায়) (অফরতযোগ্য) | কাজ সমাপ্তির সময় |
| ০১ | শেখ হাসিনা জাতীয় উদ্যানের আন্তরার বিল পর্যটন কেন্দ্রে পাবলিক টয়লেট নির্মাণ | ২৮,৬৬,৪৮১/- | | | |
| ০২ | শেখ হাসিনা জাতীয় উদ্যানের আন্তরার বিল পর্যটন কেন্দ্রে পাবলিক টয়লেট স্যানিটোরি কাজ | ৫,১৭,৬৮১/- | | | |
| ০৩ | শেখ হাসিনা জাতীয় উদ্যানের আন্তরার বিল পর্যটন কেন্দ্রে পাবলিক টয়লেট বৈদ্যুতিক কাজ | ১,৭৬,৭৫৫/- | ১,৫০,১০০/- | ২,০০০/- | ৯০ দিন |
| ০৪ | শেখ হাসিনা জাতীয় উদ্যানের আন্তরার বিল পর্যটন কেন্দ্রে ০৩ (তিন)টি গোল ঘর নির্মাণ | ১৩,২০,৫৪৩/- | | | |
| ০৫ | জাতীয় উদ্যানের আন্তরার বিল পর্যটন কেন্দ্রে ০৫ (পাঁচ)টি বসার সিট নির্মাণ | ১,২০,১৩৭/- | | | |

Becoming independent making cricket stumps

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Cricket is now one of the most popular outdoor games in the country and its equipment, especially the ones to be played with taped tennis balls, are high in demand. A resident of Basu Narosinhadia village in Sadar upazila is cashing in on the demand by setting up a cricket stump factory in the upazila. The 35-year-old man, Omar Faruk, now has six employees at the factory that he started eight years ago in Kanaipur Bazar area of Kanaipur union. Demand for the stumps reaches its peak during the winter when the workers often do not even find any time to talk to each other, trying to catch up with the orders pending for delivery. Speaking with this correspondent at the factory, Faruk said success did not come overnight. Before starting the factory, he spent two years in Dhaka at another factory where he



A worker carving wood to make a cricket stump at Omar Faruk's factory in Basu Narosinhadia village of Faridpur Sadar upazila.

worked full time and learned the skills to make cricket stumps. Now no one in surrounding areas has to go to the capital or to a larger town to buy quality stumps. "I feel really proud when I see kids playing cricket with stumps made in my factory." Locally available wood -- mahogany, shishu, akashi and chambal -- is used as primary raw material for making stumps and

he usually makes a profit between Tk 16,000 and 18,000 from selling 7,000 to 8,000 stumps each month, Faruk also said. Nazim Matobbar, a worker who has been working at the factory for three years, said they are paid Tk 2.25 for each stump and he can make 270 to 300 stumps a day. Buyers from different districts including Dhaka, Bogura, Rangpur and Sirajganj arrive at the factory every day to collect stumps at whole sale prices. Winter is the busiest time when they start work at 8:00 in the morning and close at 12:00 midnight. But during the wet season, the workers have no work to do as there is usually no order for stumps that time, he added. Fakir Belayat Hossain, chairman of Kanaipur Union Parishad, said, "Faruk's stumps are really high in quality. It's a good thing for the neighbourhood that six people are working at his factory."



These four double-decker buses of Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) are kept at Dinajpur depot for long. Service of the state-owned organisation has remained suspended for the last six months due to objections from transport owners and workers of local private bus companies.

PHOTO: KONGKONKARMAKER



Under the watchful eyes of Bangladesh head coach Russell Domingo (L), batting consultant Neil McKenzie was perhaps explaining the fine adjustments that star opener Tamim Iqbal (R) requires to convert his starts to big ones during practice in Sylhet yesterday, ahead of Tigers' second ODI against Zimbabwe today. PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Mushy stands firm despite BCB coaxing

SPORTS REPORTER from Sylhet



Mushfiqur Rahim stuck to his original decision of not touring Pakistan for the third and final phase of Bangladesh's tour in April despite the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) once again asking the cricketer to reconsider. Bangladesh will play a solitary ODI and the second Test against the home side during the third phase of the tour.

It was learned that BCB President Nazmul Hassan had met the cricketers ahead of the first ODI against Zimbabwe in Sylhet Sunday, and asked the team management to try and convince Mushfiqur.

Members of the team management talked to the experienced batsman after the match to impress upon him that his presence would strengthen the batting after the Tigers fared poorly in the first Test in February. Mushfiqur, however, stood firm on his decision.

There was also talk that the team management wanted to rest Mushfiqur for the third and final ODI against Zimbabwe to have a look at a few young players and solidify the lineup that would play the first ODI.

The 32-year-old will however play the second ODI against Zimbabwe today.

"He [Mushfiqur Rahim] is supposed to play tomorrow [Tuesday]," chief selector Minhajul Abedin told The Daily Star yesterday.

Hassan had initially let the cricketers decide whether or not they would visit Pakistan and Mushfiqur was the only player who opted out of the first two legs of the tour, citing security concerns.

However, Hassan last month said that all centrally-contracted cricketers, including Mushfiqur, should be part of the last leg of the Pakistan tour.

Can Tamim rediscover the joy?

MAZHAR UDDIN from Sylhet



The weather was gloomy and the overcast conditions were favouring the seamers. The likes of Mitchell Starc, Josh Hazlewood and Pat Cummins were charging in with a deadly combination of pace, swing and bounce, making life hell for the Bangladesh batsman during the ICC Champions Trophy game in 2017 at the Oval.

It was serious business at the flagship event where the likes of Soumya Sarkar, Imrul Kayes, Mushfiqur Rahim had all failed to negotiate the furious fast bowling.

But there was one Bangladesh batsman at the other end who looked totally different. Tamim Iqbal went down the track to Hazlewood, who was bowling at an average speed of over 140 kmph, and hammered a flat-batted slap off a length delivery which zipped past his partner's head for a boundary.

In the very next over the left-hander played a gorgeous straight drive off Starc, which was followed by a powerful square cut for a boundary. From checking the pull shots perfectly along the ground,

ensuring they do not fly to the fielder's hands at deep square leg, to watching the ball right till the end, Tamim was coolness personified.

Bangladesh were all out for 182 and only three batsmen managed to reach double figures. Tamim's share was a courageous 95 off 114 balls, which also featured six fours and three sixes.

That Tamim three years back -- the fearless opening batsman with a clear mindset -- is in stark contrast to the one that has been seen recently.

The 30-year-old experienced cricketer at one point had all the Bangladesh records under his belt and had taken himself to a new height as a world-class opening batsman in the four years following a dismal 2015 World Cup.

But in recent times, Tamim seems to be overthinking his batting approach, and the effect of that has been visible since the start of the ICC World Cup in England last summer.

While there are no issues with his technique or ability, there seems to be something that has been stuck in the left hander's mind, and in his past few innings in the limited-overs formats it has reflected

He (Tamim) knows his game plans. We are not schoolmasters here. We don't tell anybody what to learn or what to do. We give opinions, thoughts and technical advice, and then it is up to the player to implement it into his game.

NEIL MCKENZIE
BANGLADESH BATTING CONSULTANT

badly on his batting.

And so, questions have been raised about whether he has withdrawn too much into a shell and is not able to break the shackles of conservative batting. While the case may be that his role in the side is to anchor the innings and bat deep, but when he adopts the same approach against a rather weak and inexperienced Zimbabwe bowling attack, as he did while scoring 24 off 43 balls in the first ODI on Sunday, it indicates that the player is

putting extra pressure on himself. That in turn prevents him from playing his normal game, which is what would serve him and Bangladesh best.

"He knows his game plans. We are not schoolmasters here. We don't tell anybody what to learn or what to do. We give opinions, thoughts and technical advice, and then it is up to the player to implement it into his game," said Bangladesh's batting consultant Neil McKenzie to reporters at the Sylhet International Stadium yesterday. "We are not talking about a young guy. We are talking about a senior man. Believe me, he knows it before you guys or any of us do that he has made a mistake. Tamim puts a lot of pressure on himself. He values his wicket a lot. It is what has made him successful. Maybe it is about trying to loosen him up for one or two balls. If he can get one or two more boundaries, all you guys will get off his back."

Tamim is known as someone who pays great attention to statistics. Even if he scores a hundred today in the second ODI, it will be important that he actually enjoys his game and not get bogged down in the little things, or else things may remain the same in the coming days.



Black Caps sweep series

AGENCIES, Christchurch



The whitewash in New Zealand ended India's flawless World Test Championship campaign as New Zealand won the second Test by seven wickets inside three days on Monday.

Home skipper Kane Williamson celebrated "an outstanding

We were completely outplayed in this series, and obviously did not play the kind of cricket that we do play as a team. We were not positive enough, we were not brave enough.

VIRAT KOHLI
INDIA CAPTAIN



India captain Virat Kohli (L) talks to his New Zealand counterpart Kane Williamson after the hosts won the second Test yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

performance". But it left India sparred with a journalist, who was captain Virat Kohli frustrated and caught making a foul-mouthed

outburst to the crowd during day two, disappointed with his top-ranked side.

The irritation was clear from the current holder of the "spirit of cricket" award as he lost his world number one batting ranking following a string of low scores.

Kohli gave Williamson a very animated send-off in the first innings and he was caught on camera yelling an obscenity at a group of New Zealand supporters on Sunday. But he refused to answer questions about his behaviour after the Test.

SCORES IN BRIEF

INDIA: 1st innings 242 and 2nd innings 124 all out (Pujara 24; Southee 3-36, Boult 4-28)

NEW ZEALAND: 1st innings 235 and 2nd innings 132 for 3 (Latham 52, Blundell 55; Bumrah 2-39)

Result: New Zealand won by 7 wickets and clinched two-match series 2-0.

'Being 1-0 down is tough mentally'

SPORTS REPORTER



For Zimbabwe, it will be a tough ask to get a high-flying Bangladesh off their feet and take the series to a decider by winning the second ODI of the three-match series at the Sylhet International Stadium today.

Bangladesh lead the series 1-0 after registering a thumping 169-run victory -- their biggest in ODIs in terms of runs -- on Sunday. While the Tigers will be in high spirits, Zimbabwe might find a bit of relief in the fact that two of their pivotal figures -- Sean Williams and Craig Ervine -- are likely to bolster their ranks for today's encounter.

All-rounder Williams, the regular Zimbabwe captain, joined the squad on Sunday after missing the one-off Test and the first ODI to be with his family for the birth of his first child. Meanwhile, Ervine played the lone Test in Dhaka but missed the ODI series opener owing to injury.

"I think being 1-0 down is mentally tough for the guys. It was disappointing yesterday [Sunday] in all aspects. Moving forward, having a plan tomorrow [Tuesday] would be key. Hopefully I can bring a bit of energy and calm. Craig Ervine is getting there too, so he will be ready to play," said Williams during the pre-match press conference in Sylhet yesterday.

Williams also thought that winning a game is not about lifting a mental block, but about implementation and execution of plans.

"I don't think it's a mental block. I think it is a simple thing of applying ourselves and getting runs on the board. I think our batsmen get in and get out, after getting fifties or sixties. Bangladesh batsmen have got hundreds against us. I think getting hundreds is extremely important, especially from the senior players. Guys like Brendan [Taylor] and [Sikandar] Raza play a massive role in our team. Having them firing is going to be extremely important for us," concluded Williams.

'Need to improve power cricket'

Tigresses end campaign with 9-wkt defeat against SL

STAR SPORT DESK



Bangladesh captain Salma Khatun emphasised upon the importance of improving their power cricket and fitness levels after her side ended their ICC Women's T20 World Cup campaign with four straight losses.

Bangladesh lost their last group match against Sri Lanka by nine wickets following a dismal batting performance as Sri Lanka spinner Shashikala Siriwardena bowled out of international cricket with four wickets for 16, the best figures of this edition to date, during an easy victory over the Tigresses at the Junction Oval in

Melbourne yesterday.

Shashikala helped Sri Lanka restrict Bangladesh to 91 for eight in their last Group A match. Sri Lanka reached the target in 15.3 overs with nine wickets in hand.

"This experience will help us move forward. The most important things we need to improve on are our power cricket and level of fitness. Our fitness is the main thing that will help us improve our skills and performance," Salma said during the post-match conference.

"We need to keep playing the top-ranked teams regularly in order to improve. The more we play them, the more we'll improve. That's the key

for us. In one match we batted well, in another we bowled well but our fielding has been a constant concern," she added.

Meanwhile, the semifinal line-up has been completed after Australia overcame New Zealand with a four-run win to join India, South Africa and England in the last four.

SCORES IN BRIEF

BANGLADESH: 91-8 in 20 overs (Nigar Sultana Joty 39; Shashikala Siriwardena 4-16, Achini Kulasinga 2-19)

SRI LANKA: 92-1 in 15.3 overs (Hasini Perera 39 not out, Chamari Athapaththu 30; Nahida Akter 1-18) Result: Sri Lanka won by nine wickets.

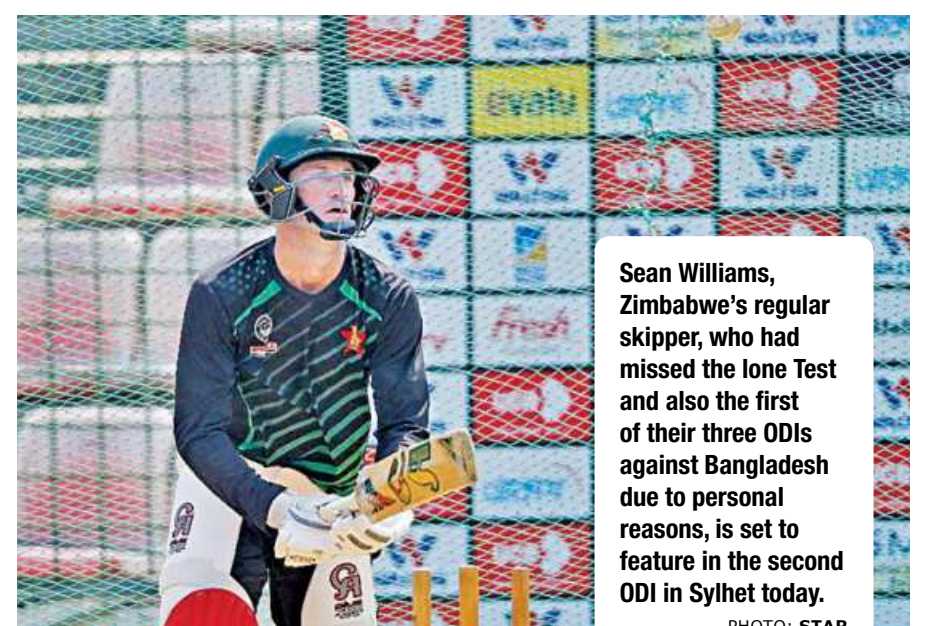
DPL transfers start today

SPORTS REPORTER

The three-day players' transfers for the Dhaka Premier League (DPL), slated to begin from March 15, will start today at the Sher-e-Bangla ational Stadium.

The upcoming season will be named the Bangabandhu Dhaka Premier League to mark the birth centenary of Father of The Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The last day of transfers will take place in Sylhet to facilitate the signings of national players playing a three-match ODI series against Zimbabwe.



Sean Williams, Zimbabwe's regular skipper, who had missed the lone Test and also the first of their three ODIs against Bangladesh due to personal reasons, is set to feature in the second ODI in Sylhet today.

PHOTO: STAR

What to WATCH

GTV & STAR SPORTS SELECT 2
Bangladesh v Zimbabwe
Second ODI (D/N)
Live from 1:00pm

STAR SPORTS 2
ICC Women's T20 World Cup
Pakistan v Thailand
Live from 10:00am
South Africa v West Indies
Live from 2:00pm

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh v Zimbabwe
Second ODI (D/N)
Time: 1:00pm

Venue: Sylhet Int'l Cricket Stadium
Bangladesh Premier League
Muktijoddha v Saif Sporting

Time: 3:15pm
Venue: Sheikh Fazlul Haque Moni Stadium, Gopalganj

SAMPAOLI TAKES OVER AT ATLETICO MINEIRO

Former Argentina and Chile coach Jorge Sampaoli was named as the new boss of Brazilian top-flight side Atletico Mineiro on Sunday. The 59-year-old, who led Santos to the runners-up spot in Brazil last season, penned a one-year deal. He replaces Rafael Dudamel after the Venezuelan was sacked following the club's shock loss to a fourth-division side in the Brazilian Cup. "It's confirmed, Sampaoli is our new coach," tweeted Atletico president Sergio Sette Camara. Sampaoli was coach of Chile from 2012-2016 and Argentina from 2017-2018.



Nasrin SA register second win

SPORTS REPORTER

Nasrin Sports Academy posted their second victory in Tricortex Women's Football League when they defeated Begum Anwara SC 2-0 at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

After a barren first half, Unnoti Khatun put Nasrin SA ahead in the 65th minute before Razia Khatun sealed the victory in 76th minute. Nasrin SA had earlier thrashed Spartan MK Galactico 12-0 in their first match.

In the day's second match, FC Uttar Bango overwhelmed Cumilla United 7-0, thanks to a four-goal haul from Sultana while Rekha scored twice and Malini scored one goal.

Wins for northern schools

SPORTS REPORTER

Keramatia High School of Rangpur recorded a 2-1 win over Muslim Mission School of Faridpur in First Security Islami Bank National School Hockey Championship at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

In the second match, Municipal School of Dinajpur defeated Navy School and College of Khulna 3-2. Chand Sharif scored twice while Faisal Islam scored once for Dinajpur while Ruhul Amin and Sihab Shahriar scored one goal apiece for Khulna.

Pique's 'worst Madrid' jibe, Ramos's reply

AGENCIES



Gerard Pique believes Barcelona lost to the 'worst Real Madrid he has faced at the Bernabeu' as the Blaugrana crashed to a 2-0 defeat in El Clasico on Sunday night.

With the score deadlocked without a goal at half-time, Pique revealed he was stunned at the low level of Real's performance in the first period and was disappointed to not take advantage.

"Real Madrid in the first half was the worst Madrid I've faced at the Bernabeu," Pique said in the mixed zone post-match.

"We missed a chance to hurt them. We have to play better than in second half, though, we lost balls and they grew in confidence."

When asked if he was bothered by losing to this standard of Real team, Pique replied: "Yes, they were giving off the worst possible impression and I don't say it as a criticism. We all have problems in our clubs. But I have the feeling that it's an important missed opportunity [for Barcelona]."

Real now move one point ahead of Barcelona in the league standings - but Pique is adamant the title race is far from over.

"We still have a margin of improvement and it is enough for us to win La Liga if we do things well until the end of the season - but we have to do them well," Pique said.

"Whenever you lose [at the Bernabeu], you get hurt. Because of the importance of the game, the points."

Sergio Ramos was, however, quick to hit back at Pique's criticism of Real Madrid, saying he would sign up to win every El Clasico playing as badly as the Barcelona defender suggested.

Madrid captain Ramos said he would happily win every Clasico playing how his side did. "Everyone's opinion is respectable. I sign up to win all Clasicos by making a first half as bad as he says," he told reporters, via AS.

"The approach was different. In the first half, we left the ball and in the second we decided to go. They were not so fresh and we started to generate chances."

With 12 La Liga games remaining, Madrid hold a one-point lead over their rivals, having lost just two league matches this season.

While pleased with the advantage, Ramos urged his side to remain focused late in the campaign.

"That's right. After the latest results we wanted to claim [first] and what better way than at home and ahead of a great team like Barca," the defender said.

"It was a unique opportunity to depend on ourselves. There are three important points but there is much left."

"We must have our feet on the ground."



Vinicius Junior brought out the Ronaldo Celebration after scoring the opening goal against Barcelona at the Bernabeu on Sunday. (Inset) Cristiano Ronaldo, who watched his old club's victory from a private box, apparently enjoyed the moment.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Real Madrid topple Barca

REUTERS, Madrid



Real Madrid showed their character by beating Barcelona 2-0 in Sunday's top-of-the-table 'Clasico', leapfrogging their rivals at the La Liga summit after a week in which their pride had taken a beating at home and in Europe.

Brazilian teenager Vinicius Jr scored the opener in the 71st minute with a strike that deflected off Gerard Pique, flummoxing goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen who had made some jaw-dropping saves, and substitute Mariano added the second in added time.

Real's victory means they lead the standings on 56 points after 26 games, with Barca slipping to second spot on 55, while Zinedine Zidane's side also crucially have the better head-to-head

record in the event both sides finish level on points.

Real swallowed chastening defeats by Levante in La Liga and Manchester City in their Champions League last 16, first-leg tie in the past week but in the second half they overwhelmed Barca, threatening on numerous occasions before breaking the deadlock.

"We deserve our victory for everything we did, in attack and defence," Zidane told reporters. "It has been a complicated week for us and we had the chance to turn things around and we did that."

"But this win also doesn't change anything. We have a long way to go and we have to continue. We've got three important points but we'll have more difficult games and we will be criticised again."

Barcelona had bossed the first

period and twice could have taken the lead but were powerless to stop Real after the interval and their impotence was summed up when Lionel Messi raced towards goal but was easily tracked down by Marcelo.

Marcelo's tackle got as loud a cheer as the goals from Madrid's fans who had not been able to toast a league win over Barca at the Santiago Bernabeu since 2014.

The long-awaited victory was confirmed by an unlikely source in forward Mariano, who had only just come off the bench to make his first league appearance of the season.

Barca midfielder Sergio Busquets believed his side deserved better. "We played very well in the first half then in an unfortunate move they score thanks to a deflection. We had a great chance to open up a big gap but it wasn't to be," he said.

Chattogram Abahani go top

Sheikh Jamal win big, Baridhara register a point

SPORTS REPORTER



Chattogram Abahani climbed to the top of the Bangladesh Premier League table with a 2-0 win against visitors Sheikh Russel KC at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chattogram yesterday.

With seven points from four matches, the port city side joined leaders Bashundhara Kings, Abahani and Saif SC, all of whom however played three matches each. Former champions Sheikh Russel stayed in 10th position with consecutive defeats following two draws in their four matches.

The charges of Maruful Haque, who came into the match on the back of a 2-2 away draw against Saif SC, dominated the visitors and went close to breaking the deadlock in the 15th minute but Brazilian forward Nixon Rocha Brizolara saw his tap-in cleared from the goalline by Alison Udoka. Nixon made amends though two minutes later with a powerful shot from the top of the box after Rakib Hossain snatched the ball from a Sheikh Russel player.

Chattogram Abahani squandered a chance to double the lead when Shakwahat Hossain Rony fired wide

of target in the 84th minute before substitute Mannaf Rabbi placed a cross from home in the stoppage time.

At the Bangabandhu National Stadium, a brace from Ballo Famoussa helped Sheikh Jamal return to winning ways with 4-1 win against Arambagh KS.

Sheikh Jamal, who lost 2-1 against Mohammedan in their previous match, took the lead in the 21st

| | | |
|--|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Ctg Abahani Nixon 17', Rabbi 90+1' | 2 - 0 | Sk Russel |
| Sk Jamal Famoussa 21', 44', Solomon 59', Jobe 75' | 4 - 1 | Arambagh E Kingsley 34' |
| Baridhara Arif 48' | 1 - 1 | Brothers N Kingsley 90+3' |

minute when Famoussa headed in a Zahid Hossain cross but the lead lasted only 14 minutes as Eleta Kingsley who tapped home a cross from Egyptian Mostafa Mahmoud.

Sheikh Jamal restored the lead one minute before the break, with Famoussa sending a Solomon King lob over goalkeeper Rakibul Hasan from the edge of six-yard box.

King made it 3-1 in the 59th minute with a close-range header that was initially parried by goalkeeper Rakibul but it flipped into the net

with a deflection from an Arambagh defender.

Gambian forward Omar Jobe sealed the victory by firing home in the 75th minute as Sheikh Jamal climbed to second position with six points from three matches.

In the second match at BNS, promoted Uttar Baridhara Club earned their first point in the league after a 1-1 draw against Brothers Union.

In the fast-paced game, both sides displayed spirited show. After an equally fought first-half, Uttar Baridhara took a deserved lead in the 48th minute when Simon Ezedika played a long ball for right-back Arif Hossain, who darted into the box by dancing past a defender and goalkeeper and placing the ball home.

Baridhara could have made the result safe in the 83rd minute but Arif drove wide of the open net. Brothers came close to levelling the margin in the 89th minute but Nkowcha Kingsley was denied by the woodwork.

Kingsley, however, scored the equaliser in the stoppage time by nodding home a corner from Otaleb to give Brothers their third draw in four matches.



Sheikh Jamal's Gambian forward Omar Jobe (C) celebrates his goal against Arambagh in their Bangladesh Premier League fixture at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. Sheikh Jamal won the match 4-1.

PHOTO: BFF

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Nothing seems to deter it

CDA continues razing hills even after DoE fined it Tk 10cr

MOSTAFA YOUSUF, Ctg

The Chattogram Development Authority has continued cutting hills in Sitakunda's Jongol Salimpur area despite being fined Tk 10 crore for unregulated hill cutting just over a month ago by the Department of Environment, which also barred the CDA from harming the environment further.

Evidence of fresh hill cutting by CDA, a government body under the housing and public works ministry, was found just behind the base camp station at Salimpur.

DoE Chattogram Director (region) Mohammad Moazzom Hossain told The Daily Star that the CDA was yet to pay the fine as they had appealed to the appeal board. The disposal of the appeal may take two months.

DoE had levied the fine on CDA on January 30 for violating their own hill cutting management plan for the construction of a link road that would connect the port city's Baizid area to the Dhaka-Chattogram highway at Salimpur.

According to the management plan, CDA needed to remove 2,50,000 cubic feet of mud from 18 hills along the link road project. But CDA had cut 10,00,000 cubic feet of mud. Also according to the plan, they were supposed to cut hills at a 26-degree angle, but the CDA cut hills at a 90-degree angle, a DoE team found in January.

Forest, Environment and Climate Change Minister Md Shahabuddin, along with Director General of DoE Rafique Ahmed, visited the project area in January and instructed the DoE to take stern action against hill cutting.

CDA had cut at least 18 hills at a 90-degree angle during

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Part of a hill being flattened in Jongol Salimpur area of Chattogram's Sitakunda. The Chattogram Development Authority has continued cutting the hill although the Department of Environment imposed a fine of Tk 10 crore on it in January. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: COLLECTED



This is our version of coronavirus

Says Arundhati Roy on Delhi violence

STAR REPORT

Author and activist Arundhati Roy has said the Modi government is acting as though the constitution does not exist and they are doing everything to completely dismantle democracy.

The author in a scathing opinion piece published in Scroll.in was quoted as saying, "A democracy that is not governed by a Constitution and one whose institutions have all been hollowed out can only ever become a majoritarian state... This is our version of the coronavirus. We are sick."

Arundhati's address at a rally in Delhi's Jantar Mantar on Sunday was covered by Anandabazar as well but has been largely absent from other mainstream Indian news media.

"It [Delhi violence] is a manifestation of the ongoing battle between fascists and anti-fascists -- in which Muslims are the first among the Fascists' 'enemies'. To call it a riot or a "danga", or "Left" versus "Right" or even "Right" versus "Wrong" as many are doing, is dangerous and obfuscatory," Roy added in the opinion piece on Scroll.in.

Roy has been an open critic of the Citizenship Amendment Act and has said "the CAA, which offers a fast-track route to citizenship for non-Muslim minorities, is blatantly

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3



PRAYER TIMING MARCH 3

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-15 12-45 4-30 6-05 7-30
JAMAAT 5-50 1-15 4-45 6-10 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

MUJIB BORSHO CELEBRATIONS

Build homes for the homeless

PM asks cabinet colleagues not to build indiscriminate murals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked her cabinet colleagues to build houses for homeless people instead of setting up Bangabandhu's mural indiscriminately to mark the "Mujib Borsho".

She expressed displeasure over the recent reception of Education Minister Dipu Moni in Bogura where students were seen holding cutouts of Bangabandhu's face, said sources.

The PM also asked the cabinet division not to allocate extra funds as demanded by different ministries if it was not necessary.

Hasina gave the directives at an informal meeting on the additional demand for funds from different ministries. The meeting was held at her office in the capital following a regular cabinet meeting.

The country will celebrate "Mujib Borsho" from March 17, 2020 to March 26, 2021, marking the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Thirteen ministries, divisions and

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

'Aid must be without strings'



Bangabandhu and the Soviet premier Alexei Kosygin after signing the joint declaration at Kremlin on March 3, 1972.

MARCH 3, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

MUJIB-PODGORNY TALKS

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman meets the Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny at Kremlin today. The two leaders discuss strengthening and developing friendship and cooperation between their two countries as well as certain international problems.

An economic assistance agreement involving a multi-million-ruble grant of essential commodities and equipment to Bangladesh by the Soviet Union is signed by the two governments.

Bangabandhu, in a television interview with Moscow Television, says that Bangladesh needs help from friendly countries like the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



'New Neo JMB cell behind remote bomb'

Say CTTC officials about blast in Ctg police box

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN and FM MIZANUR RAHAMAN

The Improvised Explosives Device that went off at a traffic police box in Chattogram's Sholoshahar on Friday was detonated by remote control.

A separate cell of the IS-inspired militant outfit Neo JMB carried out the attack. The IED was powerful enough to kill people, officers said.

"The IED made by the outfit was equipped with a remote control circuit and battery, and they used tiny metal balls as splinters," said a high official of Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

But the device didn't cause massive damage because of a flaw in its design, the official said,

SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

Country where public transport is free for everyone



CNN ONLINE

With a population of 602,000, Luxembourg is one of Europe's smallest countries -- yet it suffers from major traffic jams.

But that could be about to change. As of March 1, 2020 all public transport -- trains, trams and buses -- in the country is now free.

The government hopes the move will alleviate heavy congestion and bring environmental benefits, according to Dany Frank, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Mobility and Public Works.

Landlocked Luxembourg is one of the richest countries in Europe, with the highest per capita GDP in the European Union.

Taking up 2,586 square kilometers, Luxembourg is roughly the size of Rhode Island. From the capital of Luxembourg City, Belgium, France and Germany can all be reached by car in half an hour.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

2 BCL men killed in Khulna, Noakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A Chhatra League leader, who was injured in a clash in Koyra upazila on Sunday, died yesterday morning while another BCL leader injured in an attacked allegedly carried out by Shibir men died of his injuries yesterday afternoon.

Hadiuzzaman Russell, 28, general secretary of Koyra BCL, was wounded when BCL men and villagers of Bailaranaia clashed over construction of a bridge. Eight others were also hurt.

Quoting locals, Rabiul Islam, officer-in-charge of Koyra Police Station, told The Daily Star that the bridge was being constructed over the Batikata canal in Bailaranaia village.

Two locals Tuhin Hossain and his brother Milon Hossain, whose house is nearby, asked the construction workers to stop the work on Sunday

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Illegal battery-run rickshaws flood the Ashkona road near the airport in the capital, with no steps from the authorities to remove them. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

RACE FOR DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION

Buttigieg quits

AFF, Washington

Pete Buttigieg, the openly gay US presidential candidate, on Sunday ended his campaign to be the Democratic nominee -- giving a major boost to fellow centrist Joe Biden.

The 38-year-old Buttigieg's surprise decision was set to shake up the race this week when 14 states vote on "Super Tuesday."

It is expected to further boost the fortunes of Biden after the former vice president scored a resounding victory in South Carolina's primary on Saturday in the contest to see who faces President Donald Trump in November.

Biden has emerged as the chief moderate challenger to frontrunner Bernie Sanders, the firebrand leftist who has taken the race by storm and is looking to score big wins on Tuesday in states such as crown jewel California.

Buttigieg, a military veteran and former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, addressed supporters in his home town.

"The truth is that the path has narrowed to a close -- for our candidacy, if not for our cause," he said.

Buttigieg did not mention Sanders by name in his speech, but he has publicly stated he believes the 78-year-old senator's "inflexible" political approach would fail in a match-up against Trump.

"We need a broad-based agenda that can truly deliver for the American people, not one that gets lost in ideology," he said.

Buttigieg however stopped short of endorsing Biden or any other candidate.

Buttigieg emerged as a major player by narrowly winning the Iowa caucuses, earning widespread attention for his unflustered and professional approach in an often bitter Democratic nomination battle.

But his third place finish in Nevada and a worse showing in South Carolina confirmed he had struggled to build a

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