

Hungary turns down

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shots of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine as a token of gratitude for the 500 burn and restorative plastic surgeries performed pro bono by Hungarian doctors of the Action For Defenceless People Foundation, as well as the successful separation of Siamese twins, Rabeya and Rokaiya, in Bangladesh.

"We thanked them for the offer, but will not accept it," Hungary's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade wrote to pro-government Magyar Nemzet without explaining why Hungary wouldn't accept the offer.

Contacted, Shahriar Alam yesterday texted to The Daily Star: "I don't want to comment further on this matter".

No harm if same official

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On December 8 last year, the bench had delivered the short judgement rejecting a writ petition filed challenging the legality of an amended rule that allows the ACC to appoint an officer to conduct both the inquiry and investigation of a corruption case.

The writ petition was filed by former chairman of Ekushey Television (ETV) Abdus Salam, an accused in some corruption cases.

In the full text of the verdict, the HC observed that the question raised by the writ petition about unfairness of the trial as the same ACC official is informant and investigation officer of a case filed against him does not have any merit.

"It is to be noted that a case initiated on allegation of any scheduled offence of corruption chiefly rests upon documentary evidence on initial appraisal of which FIR [first information report] is lodged to set the law on motion and accordingly the task of investigation goes on and eventually report recommending prosecution is submitted.

"In such case, even if the informant and the investigation officer is the same person or official of the Commission, there can be no space of recommending concocted arraignment, going beyond the documentary evidence collected.

"Thus, it may be justifiably deduced that mere fact that the informant and the investigating officer is the same official of the Commission does not readily taint the fairness of trial started on the basis of such investigation report and also there lies no room to apprehend that trial of the case shall be prejudiced," read the verdict.

The HC judges in the full text of the

'America is back'

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"Investing in our diplomacy isn't something we do just because it's the right thing to do for the world," he said. "We do it in order to live in peace, security and prosperity. We do it because it's in our own naked self-interest."

"America is back. Diplomacy is back," Biden told a socially distanced auditorium of diplomats.

Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris traveled together to the State Department in a symbol of a renewed focus on diplomacy.

The venue choice for his first big diplomatic address was an important symbol of the value he places in career diplomats, who Trump largely saw as opponents.

"American alliances are our greatest asset. And leading with diplomacy means standing shoulder to shoulder with our allies and key partners once again," Biden said.

Biden in his early days has attempted to repair what he has called the damage to America's standing around the world, rolling back Trump policies. He is working to

revive the Iran deal, and renewed US membership in the Paris accord and the World Health Organization.

Biden said the United States would end all support including connected arms sales for ally Saudi Arabia's war in Yemen, which he said "has created a humanitarian and strategic catastrophe."

He appointed a US special envoy for Yemen, veteran diplomat Timothy Lenderking, who Biden said would support UN efforts to reach a ceasefire and revive peace talks between the government and Huthi rebels who control much of the country, including the capital Sanaa.

"This war has to end," Biden said. But he also renewed US support for defending Saudi Arabia's sovereignty and its territorial integrity and its people.

Saudi Arabia reacted to Biden's speech by reasserting its commitment to a political solution in Yemen, according to state media. Riyadh also welcomed Biden's commitment to cooperate with the kingdom to defend its sovereignty, the official Saudi Press Agency added.

The ACC filed the case with Ramna Model Police Station on March 13, 2017 against Salam on charges of amassing illegal wealth worth Tk 32.20 crore.

ACC Deputy Director Md Shamsul Alam conducted both the inquiry and investigation of the corruption case against Salam.

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Pierre Claquin passes away

STAR REPORT

A long-time friend of Bangladesh Dr Pierre Claquin, a French citizen, who worked for small pox and poliovirus eradication in Bangladesh, died in Paris on February 4, aged 74.

He had been suffering from diabetes and kidney disease, said a press release.

Dr Pierre Claquin, a medical epidemiologist, public health specialist, and teacher, worked in many countries of Africa, and South and Central Asia including Bangladesh. He spent much of his professional career in Bangladesh working for primary health care, maternal-child health and expanded programme on immunization projects.

He first came to Bangladesh in 1972 to work as a medical officer when the country remained badly damaged by the Liberation War and the health care delivery system was literally non-existent. He was based in the remote upazila of Shariakandi, Bogura.

Afterwards, between 1975 and 2018, he had worked for several public health projects in Bangladesh supporting the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

He was also an internationally renowned photographer who loved to portray the life of marginalised people and their livelihoods. He had several photo exhibitions in Bangladesh that included "Borrowed faces", "The Eastern Gallery of the Berlin Wall", "1972-2002: The changing faces of Shariakandi", "Surviving Dreams: the struggling circus of Bangladesh".

Pierre Claquin was fluent in Bangla. He left behind a host of relatives, friends, and colleagues in Bangladesh including renowned filmmaker Tanvir Mokammel, photographer Anwar Hossain and Nasir Ali Mamun.

Serajul Hoque Khan no more

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Serajul Hoque Khan, a former Bangladesh Bank official, passed away yesterday. He was 74.

Serajul father of Mahbubur Rahman Khan, staff correspondent of The Daily Star, He left behind his wife, five sons, grandsons, granddaughters, relatives and a host of well-wishers to mourn his death.

Serajul Hoque had been suffering from brain cancer for last couple of months. He breathed his last around 4:30am at his residence in the capital's Mir Hazaribagh.

His first namaz-e-janaza was held at Mir Hazaribagh after Juma prayers. He was buried in a graveyard at his Kewatkhali village in Sreenagar, Munshiganj following the second janaza after Asr prayers.

A doa mahfil and food distribution among orphans will be held at his village mosque after Juma prayers on February 12.

His family members requested all to pray for salvation of the departed soul.



Portrait of Pierre Claquin, a French citizen who worked for small pox and poliovirus eradication in Bangladesh.

Malaysia cops probing

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Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur regarding the latest incident.

According to the FMT report, the video was filmed by a taxi driver speaking in Tamil about policemen demanding bribes from a Bangladeshi passenger on his way to Bangladesh after months of unemployment.

The taxi driver claims police personnel stopped the vehicle at a roadblock and the passenger showed them his documents, which were in order, said the report.

The officer, however, said the passenger had to pay a fine of 1,000 Malaysian ringgits as he was crossing the Kuala Lumpur-Selangor border. The driver himself was let off. However, he claims the passenger was taken a distance away and extorted out of 100 Malaysian ringgits, the report mentioned.

In a Facebook post, Selangor police said they were investigating the matter and thanked whoever had brought it to light, according to the FMT report.

"We are taking this issue very seriously," they said. "We will not compromise on any form of

wrongdoing, fellow officer or not."

Shariful Hasan, head of Brac Migration Programme, said the Bangladeshi man had all the valid documents, including a Covid-19 negative certificate, to return to the country.

Even after showing the documents, police were asking for bribes. This was because the police knew the man was a Bangladeshi, and nothing happens when a Bangladeshi is exploited, Shariful alleged.

"During several visits, I've found Bangladeshis being harassed in the country. Bribery and extortion are regular phenomena. I've also heard that when a Bangladeshi's work permit expires, they are forced to give bribes when stopped by police. Police also have a negative attitude towards Bangladeshis," he added.

He also alleged that Bangladeshis were often isolated and interrogated at the Kuala Lumpur airport and mistreated at detention centres.

This correspondent yesterday called Labour Welfare Counsellor Zahirul Islam of Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur multiple times for comment but could not reach him.

Al Jazeera report

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commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, and General Secretary Mohammad Zaidul Alam, superintendent of police in Narayanganj, strongly condemned the report.

It said the Al Jazeera report quoted a person who claimed that the home minister, the inspector general of police (IGP) and the DMP commissioner appointed an OC through bribery. "We are not sure whether that person made such a statement at all or the statement was created through cut, copy and paste," said the association.

The association leaders said they initially found out through investigation that the person has been living abroad for a long time. Due to his long stay abroad, he has no clear idea about the current generation of policemen and the work system of the law enforcers. He also has no involvement with the current generation of police officers in Bangladesh. His remarks about the police in the interview appear to be based on imagination, they added.

The association leaders also said the person spoke about the transfer of an OC to DMP's Airport Police Station. The jurisdiction of the police station is not as wide as that of other police stations and it is the smallest among 50 police stations' under the DMP.

The number of people living in the Airport Police Station area is less than those under other police stations in the capital. Besides, Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport is located within

the jurisdiction of the Airport Police Station. The scope of work of the airport police is very limited in the airport and the adjoining protected areas where different other forces and agencies are engaged in maintaining security and law and order.

Terming the home minister as an honest, gentle and ideal political person, the rejoinder said according to the administrative procedure, he is not involved in the appointment of any OC in the police station.

Such a statement about a respected person who is acceptable to all is undesirable. The rejoinder also termed IGP Benazir Ahmed as a police officer with a 'clean image' and said he, as the chief of police, is not involved in any way in the transfer/posting of OC to the police station.

It further said the current police commissioner of DMP is well known as an efficient officer who took different initiatives to ensure that the service seekers who come to the police station get proper legal services and are not harassed in any way.

In that case, the issue of accepting bribes for transfer/posting of an OC is nothing but "nonsense", the rejoinder said.

This proves that the person, quoted in the Al Jazeera, has no idea about the internal affairs of Bangladesh Police. Such statements are imaginary and fabricated, it added.

The rejoinder also said at a time when the Bangladesh Police is being built to suit the needs of a developed Bangladesh in 2041, the spreading of such "malicious reports" by a vested quarter is highly undesirable.

Mohammad Badrul Ahsan's first death anniversary today

STAR REPORT

Today is the first death anniversary of Mohammad Badrul Ahsan, a weekly columnist for The Daily Star for many years, and the publisher and editor of now defunct weekly magazine, First News.

He also served for a long time with Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) and was stationed in Dhaka and Dubai. A passionate writer, he left his banking career and SCB in 2010 to publish the country's first and only news magazine, "First News".

Mohammad Badrul Ahsan, the inimitable weekly author of "Cross Talk" in The Daily Star, started writing his column in 2000.

He also wrote several books -- including "Grameen Bank and Muhammad Yunus", "In Search of a Nation", and "Tales from the Heart", published by Mowla Brothers. "A Good Man in the Woods and other essays", "Crosstalk Essays", and "The Parallax View", were published by The University Press Limited.

All are requested to pray for the salvation of his departed soul.

Allegations

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personnel is pursuant to specific requirements from the UN that are reflected in agreements with Bangladesh for each peacekeeping operation that they contribute to," the spokesperson for the UN secretary-general said.

"The UN has not identified in any of these agreements a requirement for the capability provided by the operation of electronic equipment in the nature described by Al Jazeera in its documentary, and such equipment has not been deployed with Bangladeshi contingents in UN peacekeeping operations," he added.

"We have required in one peacekeeping operation, in line with the relevant UN intelligence peacekeeping policy, the capability to intercept certain types of communications as a measure to enhance the security of UN personnel in situations where security conditions warrant its use. This capability is employed strictly in accordance with UN Peacekeeping-Intelligence Policy and under the operational authority of the Force Commander," Dujarric said.

Government of The people's Republic of Bangladesh
Directorate of Technical Education
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Invitation for Tenders

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education, Technical and Madrasah Education Division	
2	Agency	Directorate of Technical Education	
3	Procuring Entity Name	Director (Vocational)	
4	Invitation for	Supply Manpower Through outsourcing in 35 Technical School and College (TSC) at Different Upzilla.	
5	Invitation Ref No	57.03.0000.027.07.11.21-778	
6	Date	03.02.2021	
KEY INFORMATION			
7	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method	
FUNDING INFORMATION			
8	Budget and Source of Funds	GoB	
9	Tender Package No.	DTE/VOC/OUTSOURCING/2020 2021/01	
10	Tender Package Name	Supply of Manpower Through outsourcing in 35 Technical School and College at Different Upzilla.	
	Date		
11	Tender Publication Date	08.02.2021	
12	Last Selling of Tender Document Date (must be the date prior to the day of Tender Closing Date)	Date :01.03.2021 Time: 17:00	
	Date	Time	
13	Tender Closing Date and Time	02.03.2021	12:00 PM
14	Tender Opening Date and Time (within one hour of Tender Closing)	02.03.2021	12:30 PM
15	Pre Tender meeting Date and Time	22.02.2021	2.30 pm
16	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address	
	- Selling Tender Document (Principal)	Director (Vocational), Directorate of Technical Education Accounts Section, 3 rd Floor, Room No.: 311, F-4/B, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.	
	- Selling Tender Document (Others)	1. Secretary, Bangladesh Technical Education Board, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207 2. Principal, Technical Teachers Training College, Teigaon, Dhaka-1208	
	- Receiving Tender Document	Director (Vocational), Directorate of Technical Education Accounts Section, 3 rd Floor, Room No.: 311, F-4/B, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.	
	- Opening Tender Document	Director (Vocational), Directorate of Technical Education Accounts Section, 3 rd Floor, Room No.: 311, F-4/B, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.	
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
17	Eligibility of Tenderer	As per TDS	
18	Brief Description of Services	Supply Of Manpower (Electrician cum pump operator Category 1, Security Guard Category 5, Cleaner Category 5) Through outsourcing in 35 Technical School and College (TSC) at Different Upzilla.	
19	Price of Tender Document (Tk)	2000.00 (Taka Two Thousand Only)	
20	Pckge No	Identification of Package	Location
	01	DTE/VOC/OUTSOURCING/2020_2021/01	Director (Vocational), Directorate of Technical Education
			Tender Security Amount (Tk)
			850000/- (Taka Eight Lac Fifty Thousand only)
			Completion Time in Weeks / Months
			Within 10(Ten) Days after signing contract
21	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings		
22	PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS		

Dr. Mohd. Abdus Salam
Director (Vocational)
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Phone: 02-9111023
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World's first flying race car unveiled

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first race - with the goal of having 10 identical vehicles ready this year.

The craft is being developed and manufactured by a team drawn from leading names in aerospace, automotive and motorsport technology including: McLaren, Babcock Aviation, Boeing, Jaguar Land Rover, Rolls-Royce and Brabham.

ব্র্যান্ড নিউ ফ্ল্যাট বিক্রয়
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Oil-carrying

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yesterday while two other trains on the way to Sylhet from Dhaka and Chattogram had been waiting in Kulaura and Sreemangal for the lines to be fixed, he added.

This has been the fourth derailment of oil tankers in Sylhet division in the last five months.

The other incidents happened in Kulaura on September 15, in Sreemangal on November 7, and in Madhabpur on December 6.

A five-member probe-body, headed by Railway's Divisional Transport Officer Khairul Islam, was formed to investigate the cause of yesterday's derailment.

On June 24, 2019, four people got killed and several others injured when a passenger train fell off the tracks.

Sabuktagin, chief engineer (eastern) of Bangladesh Railway, said, "Sylhet division is hilly, which makes it difficult to control the speed. The train that derailed was going 48km per hour, which is well over the limit of 30km."

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