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## MP PAPUL'S JS MEMBERSHIP HC rejects writ against cancellation

*Observes sentence by court of any state for 2yrs or more for moral turpitude disqualifies MP*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday observed that if any court of sovereign state convicts and punishes a lawmaker of Bangladesh with imprisonment for two years or more for moral turpitude, he or she becomes disqualified to hold the office of Member of Parliament.

With this observation, the court summarily rejected a writ petition filed challenging the legality of decisions for announcing the Laxmipur-2 constituency, where Mohammad Shahid Islam also known as Kazi Papul was elected an independent lawmaker, vacant and the schedule for holding a by-election to this constituency on June 21.

A Kuwaiti court on January 28 sentenced Kazi Papul and four others to four years in jail in a bribery case.

Yesterday, the HC bench of Justice Mohammad Mozibur Rahman Miah and Justice Kamrul Hossain Mollah passed the rejection order also saying that the writ petitioners have no locus standite (quality) to move such a writ petition as they are not persons aggrieved due to the decisions, petitioners' lawyer Mustafizur Rahman Khan told The

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A group of people callously crossing the busy Airport Road putting their lives at risk. They could have taken the footbridge seen only a few metres away. The photo was taken in the capital's Banani area yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## Hefajat men involved in violence now in key posts

*BFIU seeks account details of 44 Hefajat men*

STAR REPORT

Hefajat-e Islam leaders Maulana Sajidur Rahman and Mufti Mubarak Ullah, who were allegedly involved in the Brahmanbaria mayhem on March 26-28, have secured posts on the newly formed central committee of the Islamist organisation.

The 38-member central committee was announced in Dhaka on Monday.

Sajidur, president of Brahmanbaria district Hefajat-e Islam and also a former joint secretary general of the organisation, has been reinstated in the same position of the central committee and Mubarak, general secretary of Brahmanbaria district Hefajat, has been made the first member of the central committee, reports our Brahmanbaria

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## KUSHTIA SUGAR MILLS 53 tonnes of sugar vanish, probe on

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

About 53 tonnes of sugar, worth around Tk 33 lakh, has been stolen from a warehouse of state-owned Kushtia Sugar Mills.

A probe committee, formed by the mill authorities, has filed a general diary with Kushtia Model Police Station over the matter.

The industries ministry has also launched an investigation and members of a committee formed by it visited the spot on Monday.

Sources said the mill was supposed to have 121 tonnes of sugar in its reserve, but the latest stock statement revealed that the sugar was missing.

The matter first came to light on June 3 when the mill authorities received a report on the stock situation, prepared by store keeper Faridul Islam. The report had several discrepancies.

Faridul on June 5 was suspended as he failed to give any explanation over the discrepancy, the sources said.

Sabirul Alam, in-charge of Kushtia Model Police Station, said the mill authorities filed a GD mentioning that

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**ROAD TO FREEDOM**  
THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

### Operation Hotel InterContinental

JUNE 9, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZZA SAJEN

**HIT & RUN**  
Commandos of the Crack Platoon today launched an attack at InterContinental Dhaka. The commandos, armed with grenades, bayonets, and submachine guns, stopped in a car in front of the hotel. Five grenades were thrown in the attack which took place between 7:45pm and 8:00pm.

The purpose of the mission was to stop the World Bank aid mission and Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, head of the UNHCR, from providing financial assistance to the Pakistani junta and, through them, draw the attention of the world to the strong resistance put up by Bangalee freedom fighters.

The team from the World Bank and the UNHCR had been informed and assured by the Pakistan propaganda machine that everything in the then East Pakistan, especially in Dhaka city, was absolutely normal. Moreover, they said that the eastern part of Pakistan was totally under the control of the Pakistani rulers and the army.

**MOVE TO CUT AID TO PAKISTAN**  
A bipartisan amendment to cut off US economic as well as military aid to Pakistan was introduced in the Senate today.

The measure was cosponsored by Senators Frank Church (Democrat, Idaho) and William Saxbe (Republican, Ohio). It would suspend military and economic aid to Pakistan until food and medical relief supervised by international agencies was provided on a regular basis throughout East Pakistan and

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## Think-tanks' new poor figure flawed

Says planning minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The surveys conducted by private think-tanks to deduce the number of new poor due to the pandemic do not stand scientifically, said Planning Minister MA Mannan yesterday.

According to the various organisations, the number of new poor ranges from one crore to five crore, he told journalists after the National Procurement Committee meeting at the ministry.

"As a result, it is difficult to say which of these is true. Finding out how many people have become poor in a scientific way takes time."

But the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics is conducting a survey to find out a ballpark figure.

"However, I will request the BBS to estimate the number by conducting a conceptual survey in

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## Australia's largest dinosaur a new species



AFP, Brisbane

A gigantic dinosaur discovered in Australia's outback has been identified as a new species and recognised as one of the largest to ever roam the Earth, according to palaeontologists.

The Australotitan cooperensis, part of the titanosaur family that lived about 100 million years ago, has finally been named and described 15 years after its bones were first uncovered.

It is estimated to have stood at 5-6.5 metres (16-21 feet) high and measured 25-30 metres (82-98 feet) in length -- which would make it Australia's biggest dinosaur.

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## Two arrested for slapping Macron

AFP, Tain-L'Hermitage

A bystander slapped French President Emmanuel Macron



across the face during a trip to southeast France on Tuesday on the second stop of a nationwide tour.

Images on social media and broadcast on the BFM news channel showed Macron approach a barrier

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PRAYER TIMING JUNE 9

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4:05 12:45 5:00 6:45 8:15  
JAMAAT 4:40 1:15 5:15 6:50 8:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## ENGR DELWAR MURDER His colleague killed him for obstructing bribery

Cops say in charge sheet

CHAITANYA CHANDRA HALDER and EMRUL HASAN BAPPI

Delwar Hossain, then executive engineer of Gazipur City Corporation, was killed last year over a disagreement with his colleague Mohammad Selim over the latter's illegal activities, a police probe has found.

Investigation Officer Sheikh Mofizul Islam, also an inspector of Turag Police Station, filed the charge sheet in the murder case of Delwar with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka on May 3.

The IO in the charge sheet described how Delwar, 45, was brutally killed in a planned way by Selim, assistant engineer of the city corporation, and his two accomplices -- Helal Howlader and Habibur Rahman Khan.

According to the probe report, Selim alias Anis

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People living on the foot and slope of a hill being warned of landslides and asked to move out in Chittagong's Motijhorna area. Heavy rains during the monsoon pose serious risks of landslides in the area.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

## WHO warns of 'two-track pandemic'

*Says cases decline but vaccine inequity persists, urges jab makers to give Covax 50pc of doses*

AGENCIES

World Health Organization Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said unequal distribution of vaccines has allowed the coronavirus to continue spreading, thus increasing odds of a variant emerging that could render these treatments ineffective.

"Increasingly, we see a two-track pandemic: many countries still face an extremely dangerous situation, while some of those with the highest vaccination rates are starting to talk about ending restrictions," he told a media briefing from WHO headquarters in Geneva on Monday evening.

More than 2.15 billion doses of Covid-19 vaccines have been injected in at least 215 territories around the world, according to an AFP count.

But just 0.3 percent have been administered in the 29 lowest-income countries, home to nine percent of the world's people.

"Inequitable vaccination is a threat to all nations, not just those with the fewest vaccines," said Tedros.

He called for Covid-19 vaccine manufacturers to give Covax first refusal on new doses, or commit half of their volumes to the global jab equity scheme.

Tedros said manufacturers should turn their attention to the Covax facility, which has struggled to get donation-funded doses to poorer countries.

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