

# 'She kept traffickers in sync'

Police says after arresting seven including Nodi; Aadhaar cards, passport seized

MUNTAKIM SAAD

Once a victim of human trafficking, Nodi Akter became a trafficker herself and used to work as a coordinator between traffickers in India, Malaysia and UAE.

She was among seven members of a transnational racket arrested by police on Monday.

In 2017, she was trafficked to Malaysia. After returning to Bangladesh in 2019, she got involved in human trafficking.

Police yesterday revealed this information, along with detailed identities of the six other arrestees. They also revealed that a UP member in Jashore's Sharsha upazila helped trafficking victims cross the border by introducing them to Border Guard Bangladesh members as her relatives.

Nodi is known by several names to the victims she trafficked, Md Shahidullah, deputy commissioner (Tejgaon Division) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, told a press briefing at his office yesterday.

Her name is Jaya Aktar Jannat on her Indian Aadhaar Card, and many also know her as Eti in the country. The name in her passport is Noorjahan, while she is also known as Jolly in the border areas of Satkhira, and Preety in the border areas of Jashore.

In Dubai, she is known as Layla, according to police.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



The relentless downpour over the last two days caused waterlogging on Rasulpur-Jatrabari-Sanirakhra road in the capital, flooding homesteads and other structures. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## AL ANNIVERSARY Party plans subdued celebrations

UNB, Dhaka

The Awami League, the oldest and largest political party in Bangladesh, is celebrating its 72nd foundation day today in a restricted manner amid the pandemic.

The anniversary programmes will begin in Dhaka's Dhanmondi Road-32 in the morning with the hoisting of the national and party flags at Bangabandhu Bhaban and the AL central office.

The Awami League and its affiliated organisations will pay homage to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing wreaths at his portrait at the Bangabandhu Memorial Museum.

The ruling party will also hoist the national and party flags at its offices across the country.

A delegation from the Awami League Central Working Committee

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

## MINISTERS' SPAT Mannan, Momen appear to resolve feud

STAR REPORT

Planning Minister MA Mannan and Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen yesterday talked about resolving a spat between them over the route selection for a prospective railway in Sunamganj.

Momen on June 9 sent a demi official (DO) letter to Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujan, supporting the stand of five other MPs of the district, including a Jatiya Party MP, over the route, leaving Mannan irked.

After facing criticism for opposing the planning minister and widespread rumour of a rift between the two, the foreign minister on June 14 on his Facebook account claimed to have 50 years' friendship with Mannan and said there is no feud between them.

In a Facebook post on Sunday, the planning minister, however, expressed his surprise over the foreign minister's "hasty" move and said Momen should have discussed the matter with him before taking sides on this issue.

Yesterday, both the ministers talked about resolving the matter.

Talking to the media after a meeting of

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

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

### Abetting repression

JUNE 23, 1971  
SHAMSUDDOZZA SAJEN

**BANGLADESH GOVT HAILS AID PAKISTAN BODY'S DECISION**  
Bangladesh Home Minister AHM Kamaruzzaman welcomed today the decision of the Aid Pakistan Consortium to withhold further aid until there was a political settlement of the Bangladesh issue.

"In my opinion, the consortium could not have taken a better decision and the people of Bangladesh expect it to stop further aid until the occupation army is withdrawn from their territories," said Kamaruzzaman.

Any aid to Pakistan at this time would have been diverted to inhuman and barbarous activities, he added.

Regarding a political settlement, the home minister wanted to make it clear that the emotional ties or bonds of the people of Bangladesh with West Pakistan "have completely broken down after what has happened since March 25".

Kamaruzzaman, who returned from a weeklong tour of training camps of Bangladeshi freedom fighters, called for an unrelenting battle against the Pakistan army and their collaborators. They were enemies of the people who had to be fought till they were physically wiped out, he said.

**ARMS SHIPMENT CRITICISED**  
The New York Times in an editorial titled "Abetting repression" vehemently criticised the US government today for continuing supply of arms and ammunitions to Pakistan. In the latest incident, a Pakistani freighter sailed from New York on June 22, 1971 bearing

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



## Send Khaleda abroad for treatment

BNP standing committee demands

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP standing committee has demanded that the government immediately allow party Chairperson Khaleda Zia to go abroad for better treatment.

"AFM Siddique, head of the medical board formed for overseeing her treatment, informed us that Khaleda Zia recovered from Covid-19, but she is suffering from post-Covid complications. She is not out of danger yet," BNP Secretary General Mirza

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

## Elephant in room Thai family gets repeat gigantic visitor



AFP, Bangkok

Some families living in a jungle may be fearful of things bumping at night, but for one household in Thailand, the sight of an elephant rummaging through their kitchen was not a total shock.

"It came to cook again," wrote Kittichai Boodchan sarcastically in a caption to a Facebook video he shot over the weekend of an elephant nosing its way into his kitchen.

Likely driven by the midnight munchies, the massive animal pokes its head into Kittichai's kitchen in the early hours of Sunday, using its trunk to find food.

At one point, it picks up a plastic bag of liquid,

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

## Rich nations hoarding Covid shots

Says Momen on his return from US

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen yesterday expressed disappointment over rich countries' behaviour in terms of supplying Covid-19 vaccines, saying they are hoarding vaccines and stipulating conditions for supply to other countries.

"Our prime minister said Covid-19 vaccines should be a public good."

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3



### PRAYER TIMING JUNE 23

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-05 12-45 5-00 6-52 8-17  
JAMAAT 4-20 1-15 5-15 6-55 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## Stop support for SS Power I Ltd

129 eminent citizens, 74 bodies write to Chinese minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One hundred twenty-nine individuals and 74 organisations from 21 countries including Bangladesh wrote to Chinese Minister of Commerce Wang Wentao urging him to withdraw and end provision of financial and technical support to the SS Power I Ltd (Banshkhali Power Plant) in Chattogram immediately.

They also urged all companies involved to withdraw support for the project.

Sultana Kamal, president, Bangladesh Poribesh Andolan (BAPA); Shaheen Anam, executive director, Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF); Zafullah Chowdhury, health rights activist and trustee, Gonoshasthaya Kendra; Khushi Kabir, coordinator of Nijera

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



A physically challenged person, sitting in his wheelchair, holding a battery-run rickshaw from behind for faster movement, an act that poses a serious risk to his life. The photo was taken on Dhaka-Tangail highway in Ashulia recently.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

## COVID JABS FOR POOR NATIONS WHO setting up tech transfer hub in SA

AGENCIES

The WHO is setting up a hub in South Africa to give companies from poor and middle-income countries the know-how and licenses to produce Covid-19 vaccines, in what President Cyril Ramaphosa called an historic step to spread lifesaving technology.

The "tech transfer hub" could make it possible for African companies to begin manufacturing mRNA vaccines - the advanced technology now used in shots from Pfizer and Moderna - in as little as 9-12 months, the World Health Organization said.

It announced two companies had signed up so far, and said it was in talks with Pfizer and Moderna about participating.

"Through this initiative we will change the narrative of an Africa that is a centre of disease and poor development," said Ramaphosa, speaking by video link at the WHO press conference where the programme was launched.

The WHO has long been calling for rich countries to share vaccine technology. The initiative to help African countries produce vaccines is especially urgent at a time when cases and deaths on the continent have increased by almost 40% over the past week.

"Today I am delighted to announce that WHO is in discussions to establish a technology transfer hub in South Africa," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a news conference on Monday evening.

In a statement, the WHO described the hub as a training

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6