

DENGUE OUTBREAK
Unique exhibition in capital as reminder of DSCC's failure
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BBS has to provide data on time. Only then the government can take steps timely
STATE MINISTER FOR PLANNING SHAMSUL ALAM



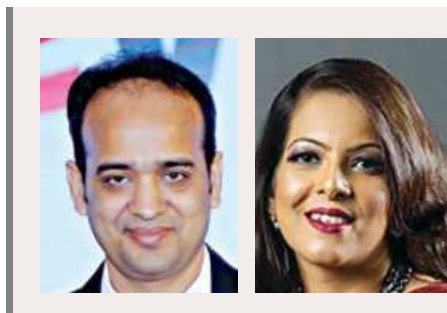
"To think - given that they have failed with all these resources to fix the problems of Afghanistan - that we can now...solve the problems they couldn't solve for decades is a fantasy."
UN CHIEF ANTONIO GUTERRES



"It's really a stab in the back. We had established a relationship of trust with Australia, this trust has been betrayed."
FRENCH FM JEAN-YVES LE DRIAN LAMBASTS AUSTRALIA-US NUKE SUB DEAL

Evaly couple in cuffs

Customers ask what happens now to the money they invested in the controversial e-commerce company



Various media reported that Evaly embezzled Tk 700-800 crore from numerous customers by resorting to various scams in the name of selling products, reads the case statement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab arrested Evaly CEO Mohammad Rassel and his wife Shamima Nasrin yesterday on charges of embezzlement as thousands of consumers worry if they would get back their money or the products they had paid for.

Officers raided Rassel's flat in the capital's Mohammadpur around 3:45pm and left an hour and a half later with him and Nasrin, who is also the chairman of the controversial e-commerce site.

As the news broke, around 40-50

customers and suppliers gathered in front of the building on Sir Syed Road, expressing fears that they may never get back the money they paid to the company.

"Evaly owes me Tk 23 lakh. Now they have arrested the managing director. How will I get back the money?" asked Mahmud Hasan who six months ago ordered a car from Evaly that was never delivered.

Several hundred young men demonstrated in front of Evaly office on Dhanmondi-14 last night. They said they would form a human chain at Shahbagh in

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Aggrieved Evaly customers protest in front of the house of the e-commerce platform's CEO and Managing Director Mohammad Rassel in the capital's Mohammadpur area, demanding their money back. They staged the demonstration when Rab was raiding the house yesterday afternoon. During the raid, Rab arrested Rassel and his wife Shamima Nasrin, chairman of Evaly.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

BANGABANDHU KILLING

Zia was involved, no doubt: PM

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday told parliament that she wanted to make Ziaur Rahman an accused in the Bangabandhu murder case because there was no doubt in her mind that Zia was involved in the killing.

She also said Zia, a former president and founder of the opposition BNP, did not become a sector commander but rather worked as an "Odhinayak" during the country's Liberation War of 1971.

Hasina made these remarks while delivering her valedictory speech in the 14th session of the 11th parliament.

The leader of the House also said she does not run the country based on what the media says.

"There is no doubt that he [Ziaur Rahman] was involved in the 1975 massacre [of Bangabandhu and most of his family members]. I wanted to put his name as an accused [in the Bangabandhu murder case], but the then home secretary Rezaul Hayat told me that dead persons could not be made accused. But the name [of Zia] should have been [included] as accused [in the case]," Hasina said.

Hasina, also president of the ruling Awami League, said Bangabandhu's killers Farooq and Rashid in interviews with the BBC said Zia had been

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DU STUDENTS' VACCINATION

43pc jabbed as DU prepares to reopen

SIRAJUL ISLAM RUBEL

Around forty-three percent of Dhaka University students got Covid shots until yesterday and the university authorities are thinking about reopening dormitories in the first week of next month.

Sources at the university's ICT cell say about 20,000 of the 47,000 DU students have so far got their jabs. Another 6,000 completed their online registration for the vaccination and were awaiting confirmation text messages.

It could not be known how many of them got both the shots.

A meeting of the DU Provost Standing Committee on Wednesday evening recommended reopening the dormitories on October 5 as the nationwide Covid infection rate had been declining.

Students, who will be able to provide their Covid-19 vaccine certificates or

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SOCIAL SAFETY NET

High allocations, but off target

Finds a recent study by World Bank

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh is failing to reap the maximum benefit from its high social safety net allocations, which is among the top four in the Asia-Pacific region, for poor targeting and unplanned deployment, found a recent World Bank study.

The government spends more than Bhutan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, China and others in terms of share of GDP but less than India, Nepal, Maldives and Vietnam, said the report titled 'Bangladesh Social Protection Public Expenditure Review'.

Between fiscals 2013-14 and 2017-18, Bangladesh spent about \$18.7 billion on social protection, with the average annual growth in expenditure being more than 25 percent during the years.

The amount is nearly one-tenth of the

➤ Only 11% people in urban areas are covered by social protection whereas 19% of urban population is poor.

➤ About 36% of rural people getting social protection whereas 26% of the rural people is poor.

total budget and about 2.6 percent of GDP in fiscal 2019-20.

"The core issue in Bangladesh, more than the overall resources devoted to social protection, seems to be around how well these resources are deployed," the Washington-based multilateral lender said in the report, which was unveiled yesterday.

Social safety net coverage should follow

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AFTER REOPENING

Surveillance planned for public univs

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

Public universities will contact intelligence agencies to know whether the latter have any information regarding possible "anarchy" and "spread of militant propaganda" on the campuses after the reopening of the institutions.

The authorities will bring the main entrances and sensitive places of the universities under CCTV surveillance to monitor the overall situation.

They will also maintain close contact with the local administrations to avert any untoward situation.

The decisions came at a virtual meeting between the University Grants

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11 JOURNO LEADERS

Editors' Council concerned over seeking bank account details

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Editors' Council (Sampadak Parishad) expressed concern that the Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit recently sought bank account details of 11 journalist leaders.

The 11 journalists, including the president and general secretary of the Jatiya Press Club, are leaders of four top associations of journalists in the country, the council said in a statement issued yesterday.

An individual can be investigated over allegations according to the law. But seeking the bank account details of 11 leaders -- belonging to the same profession -- is ill-motivated and unprecedented, it said.

The council thinks that such an incident is a threat to independent journalism.

On behalf of the council, the statement was issued by its President Mahfuz Anam and acting general secretary Dewan Hanif Mahmud.



Without placing proper barriers, a large hole is dug right in the middle of a street near the capital's Tejgaon. Dhaka North City Corporation has dug such holes in several streets in Tejgaon for the installation of drainage pipes. Sometimes rainwater accumulates in these holes making it hard for motorists to realise the risk. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Take to the street or get dropped

BNP top brass warns leaders about its 'upcoming movement'

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

The top leadership of BNP has warned the leaders of the party's front and associate organisations that they will lose their posts if they fail to hit the street during an upcoming anti-government movement to be announced soon.

Besides, it said those taking to the street would be awarded with important posts.

The message was communicated to the leaders during a meeting at the party chairperson's Gulshan office last night. It was the third of three meetings convened to decide BNP strategy ahead of the 2023 general election, meeting sources told The Daily Star last night.

A total of 95 leaders were invited to the meeting and Tarique Rahman, now in London, chaired it virtually.

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir told the meeting that the party's standing committee meeting tomorrow might decide whether the series of meetings would continue as the leadership was yet to meet the party's district-level leaders, the sources said.

The sources also said the party's top brass was very annoyed at what the other leaders said at the meeting.

"You all are talking about movement. You are talking about strengthening the organisations. Who will do these? You should do these," a source said, quoting a BNP leader as saying.

Another senior leader said they were once in the front and associate bodies, but they never said anything disrespecting their senior leaders.

"The party's acting chairman gave you two years time, but what did you do during the entire time?" another meeting source, quoted the senior leader as saying.

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