




UNREGISTERED HANDSETS BTRC blocks 82k phones in two days

SHAHID BAPPY

The telecom regulator blocked 81,868 new handsets as of Saturday evening from connecting to mobile networks as the devices were not registered with the National Equipment Identity Register.

The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) started blocking new unregistered phones from Friday morning.

According to BTRC data, 1.45 lakh other handsets got connected to the networks for the first time between Friday morning and Saturday evening.

Owners of unregistered phones trying to connect to the networks get 12 hours to get the phones registered with the BTRC website.

The BTRC registered all the active mobile phones with the NEIR until September 30.

NEIR is the BTRC's database of International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI), a unique 15-digit number that all mobile phones have, of devices used in Bangladesh.

It was launched on a trial basis on July 1, and on October 1 was rolled out on a full-fledged basis.

According to the BTRC, anyone accessing a cellular networks with a new phone will get a text notifying whether the phone is registered.

Those receiving a text mentioning that the phone is unregistered are advised by the BTRC to go to neir.btrc.gov.bd and register the phone by filling out a form.

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TWENTY-TWO-DAY BAN ON CATCHING HILSA ... As the popular fish becomes scarcer in the southern rivers, frustrating thousands of fishermen in Barishal region, many hope that the sweeping ban, starting today, will help hilsa population to increase significantly. The photo of the two fishing boats in the Padma was taken recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Ad-free feeds available, yet they're not transmitting

Info minister accuses cable operators

STAR REPORT

Information Minister Hasan Mahmud yesterday slammed cable operators who stopped the operations of 17 ad-free foreign channels and said they would be charged for violating rules.

He said, "Seventeen TV channels, including the BBC, CNN, Al Jazeera and Animal Planet, have clean feeds in Bangladesh but the cable operators stopped their operations. It's considered a violation of the condition of their licenses."

Talking to reporters at the Secretariat, he also said, "Those who are violating the rules will be charged."

Besides, the minister said that many cable operators were involved in illegal "downlink" through piracy from foreign satellites, reported UNB.

About the Cable SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

3 journalists attacked in Barishal

Key suspect held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

The editor of local newspaper Dakhiner Samoy was stabbed and beaten at his office at Battala of Barishal city along with two other journalists on Saturday night.

Alam Raihan was admitted to Barishal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital around 9:00pm. His right hand was broken.

The other two attacked were: Hafizuddin, Barishal university correspondent of the daily, and Mashiur Rahman, its Syed Hatem Ali College correspondent.

Police speculated that the attack stemmed from a land dispute.

Sources said Alam and Mashiur employed workers to clean up stagnant water allegedly on the disputed land in front of the newspaper office. About 12 people, including Touhid and Uzzal, beat up the workers.

Alam and the other two tried to protect the workers, but they too were attacked with sticks and iron rods, said locals.

Alam said, "I informed the police about Touhid before. He threatened me several times. But so far no action has been taken

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ROAD TO FREEDOM
THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Russia against escalation of Bangladesh situation

OCTOBER 4, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

MORE DEFECTIONS TO
BANGLADESH

Humayun Rasheed Choudhury, minister-counselor and head of chancery in the Pakistan high commission in New Delhi, today switched his allegiance to Bangladesh. In a statement, he said "history will certainly indict Yahya Khan not only for the fiendish genocide of innocent people but also for having provoked the disintegration of Pakistan. It is he, and not Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who should be tried not only for crimes against Pakistan but also for crimes against humanity".

His announcement came within a few hours of the escape of his personal assistant, Fariduddin Ahmed, who along with his wife and four children had scaled the boundary wall of the high commission to freedom.

SOVIET POLICY REGARDING BANGLADESH

Giving a broad outline of the Soviet policy regarding the Bangladesh issue, the leader of the CPSU delegation to the 9th Congress of the Communist Party of India made it clear today the Soviet Union was opposed to any escalation of the situation in the eastern part of the Indian subcontinent.

Dinmukhamed Kunaev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU, said the Bangladesh situation called for a political settlement of the problem on the basis of the inalienable rights and legitimate

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Students 12 and above to get jabs in cities

Says Dipu Moni

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Dipu Moni yesterday said preparations are underway to vaccinate students above the age of 12 in the city corporation areas only, not across the country.

"Discussions are underway with the Directorate General of Health Services on when and how to start the vaccination process," Dipu Moni told reporters at the Chandpur Circuit House.

"There is scope to give [Covid-19] vaccines to students above 12. But it would not be possible to give the jabs to students of all places [around the country] as there are some technical issues," she said without elaborating.

"Maybe it will be possible to vaccinate students above 12 only in

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Two new killer dinosaurs unearthed in UK



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Two new killer dinosaurs – each as big as a school bus – have been unearthed on the Isle of Wight.

The terrifying beasts had bizarre "crocodile-like skulls" that enabled them to hunt on land – and in the water.

They had razor-sharp teeth and claws – and a whip-like tail. Bone crushing jaws would have snapped prey in half.

Both species reached 30 feet long, over 10 feet tall and weighed about five tons.

They are closely related to the giant Spinosaurus

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COLLEGE STUDENT'S DEATH Piyasha to be quizzed on PBI remand

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed model Faria Mahbub Piyasha on a two-day remand in a case filed over the rape and murder of a college student at a flat in the capital's Gulshan.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Nivana Khair Jesi passed the order after Inspector Moktar Md Ashrafur Islam of Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI), brought Piyasha to the court seeking a remand of seven days, court sources said.

Earlier in the day, she was shown on papers as arrested in the case after the office submitted an application in this regard.

In the remand application, Ashrafur, who is investigating the case, said police found her involvement with assisting other co-accused in killing the victim after rape.

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3 MISSING TEENS 4 arrested, one placed on remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A youth was placed on a two-day remand while three others were sent to jail in connection with the missing of three college girls from the capital's Pallabi area.

One of the arrestees is Rakibullah, 20.

The Daily Star withholds the names of three others as they may not be adults.

Sajib Khan, sub-inspector of Pallabi Police Station, produced them before a Dhaka court and sought a seven-day remand for each. Of them, the court placed Rakibullah on a two-day remand. The

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A man with challenges tries to cross the street avoiding the cables that have been left on the ground near Holy Cross Girls High School in the capital's Farmgate area yesterday. The authorities concerned cut the overhead cables but those were yet to be removed.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Star HEALTHLINE

DON'T GIVE UP CARBS

STAR HEALTH DESK

Of late, carbohydrates have been getting a bad rep. By eating more processed, less filling carbs, we're consuming more calories than needed -- calories we don't necessarily burn. That second serving of rice, those extra French fries with a large soft drink and all that.

Are all carbs bad though? When trying to lose weight, should we just give up carbs? To get to the answer, let's consider what the so-called low-carb diets do.

Low-carb diets

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HygineX
instant hand sanitizer

BEACON
Pharmaceuticals Limited

PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 4
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-45 12-45 4-15 5-53 7-30
JAMAT 5-20 1-15 4-30 5-56 8-00
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION