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HAMPIONSHIP 202

Maldives

Booters bow

# Wanton neglect, irreversible loss

AN AKIJ CERAMICS BRAND

Tanneries keep polluting the Dhaleshwari as govt officials, factory owners stay locked in blame game over inadequate, faulty CETP in Savar

#### PINAKI ROY and RASHIDUL HASAN

After around two decades and countless deadlines, a tannery estate with a fully functioning CETP that would ensure the environment is not ravaged by toxic waste is still a far cry from what was planned.

waste keeps Untreated industrial polluting the Dhaleshwari river as the CETP at the country's lone tannery estate in Savar cannot function at full throttle yet. Also, it has myriad inadequacies.

For many long years, environmentalists called for the government to relocate the tanneries from Hazaribagh, a densely populated area in the city, and set up an estate with a modern effluent treatment plant on the city outskirts.

The much-awaited Savar Tannery Industrial Estate project was initiated in 2003 and the rest is a long sequence of events.

After years of foot-dragging, tanneries

Currently, the CETP can treat 25,000 cubic metres of liquid waste while 132 tanneries for use. produce up to 40,000 cubic metres.

The CETP finally went into operation in June this year -- nine years after the project was taken up and five years after the start of

physical work.

But things did not improve much. Currently, the CETP can treat 25,000 cubic metres of liquid waste, while 132 factories at the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) tannery estate produce up to 40,000 cubic

metres. So, on a busy day, the authorities have to release an additional 15,000 cubic metres of liquid waste directly into the river through an alternative channel, according to a recent report of the Department of Environment (DoE).

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

were shifted to Savar in 2016 and got up and running the next year. Since then, they have been releasing waste water into the river with the CETP yet to be ready



into the Dhaleshwari as the treatment plant is yet to go full tilt and can not process all the waste generated by the tanneries. The photo was taken recently.

National Stadium in Male yesterday. Striker Sumon Reza had given Bangladesh a ninth-minute lead, thanks to an accurate header on

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HUQ

# Dev spree to go on despite odds

PM asks all to act cautiously keeping in mind disasters, risks

#### Bss, Dhaka

Making a vow to continue the country's development spree, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon all to act cautiously keeping in mind the dangers of disasters.

"We always think the country is ours. So, the development spree will

surely be continued whatever risks may arise. We will surely step forward towards the development facing everything. We have been working to pursue this goal," she said. The PM was addressing a function marking

50 years of the Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) and the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction. She joined the event from the Gono Bhaban through videoconferencing.



#### **BUSINESS Bangladesh** keeps outpacing India

**Bangladesh will remain** ahead of India in per capita gross domestic product for the next five years to 2026, powered by buoyancy in remittance, exports and agricultural activities, according to the International Monetary Fund. The country will have

an 8 per cent higher per capita GDP at \$3,253 in 2026 than India's \$3,018. **STORY ON B1** 

# **INOPERATIVE EDS MACHINE** CAAB's laxity cost exporters

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA and RASHIDUL HASAN

The competition for export orders intensified amid the pandemic and the airport authorities are not making the exporters' lives any easier.

As is practice, goods sent by air through the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA) must be passed through the Explosive Detective System (EDS).

But the two EDS, installed in 2017, at the HSIA are barely functioning for the past year or so thanks to the airport authorities' laxity in their maintenance.

At the same time, the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) has failed to make the other two EDS operational

They are opting to pay either higher freight charges to the airliners to avoid facing cancellation and big discounts from their international buyers.

In absence of machines, the exporters have to depend on the dog squad for completing the mandatory scanning and certification.

The dog squad can only scan 110 tonnes of cargoes in a day whereas every day more than 1,200 tonnes of cargoes are coming to the HSIA for shipping.

If the two EDS scanning machines and the dog squad work normally, the exporters can ship about 800 tonnes of cargo through the HSIA in a day.

# POLICE-MOB CLASH 3 killed in Chandpur

Unrest in Cumilla sparks the incident; many injured; govt orders probe

#### STAR REPORT

Three people were killed and many others injured yesterday as mob and police clashed in Chandpur's Hajiganj upazila while violence erupted in several districts following reports of "demeaning the Holy Quran" in Cumilla.

Authorities imposed Section 144 in Hajiganj following the violence and deployed two platoons of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) to restore

The tannery estate in Savar releases toxic liquid

out after 1-1 draw with Nepal STAFF CORRESPONDENT Bangladesh's hopes of reaching the final of the SAFF Championship after 16 long years were dashed in controversial fashion as a dubious penalty decision late in the game

saw the men in red and green relinquish a one-goal lead against Nepal in their last group match at the

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

eight months after their installation. As a result, the exporters are facing severe

delays in making their shipments at a time when timely delivery is of the essence.

Recently, the number of exportable goods through the HSIA increased tremendously as the importers want quick delivery of goods to fill their empty shelves SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

law and order, reports our Chandpur correspondent.

There were also clashes in Cumilla, Chattogram, Kurigram and Moulvibazar, SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

Hasina said Bangladesh is becoming an ideal country to counter disasters in the world due to the government's tireless efforts.

She called upon all the people concerned to work to uphold Bangladesh's global dignity as a disaster-resilient country.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 6

# POISONED in their habitat

Dozens of rhesus monkeys killed by farmer who encroached upon Moheshkhali forest



#### The bodies of two monkeys, poisoned by a farmer in Cox's Bazar, lying on the ground, left while another one is tied to a tree, *right*.

#### MOSTAFA YOUSUF

Dozens of monkeys died in Moheshkhali forest on Tuesday after eating poisoned bananas placed as a trap by a local farmer who encroached upon the forest to cultivate his crop.

The incident took place in Baritilla Ghona area in Cox's Bazar's Moheskhali upazila around 5:00pm, Dinur Alam, a local environmental activist and president of Green Environment Movement, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Forest department officials visited the spot and found proof that the monkeys, belonging to the rhesus macaque species, had been poisoned and identified the farmer. They did not

disclose the farmer's name as the process to file a case was underway.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

They said the farmer was one of many who encroached upon the forest to cultivate their crop, and who viewed wildlife as a nuisance.

One of the monkeys was also seen hanging from a tree.

Dinur Alam said they counted around 50 monkeys killed. Many had been buried by the farmer by the time forest officials reached the spot, he added.

He accused forest officials of negligence in conserving the wildlife in the forest as most of the time they do not take any action against such acts to avoid animosity.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 6

#### Ex-minister's **APS** arrested STAR REPORT

Detectives arrested AHM Fuad, assistant personal secretary of former Awami League minister Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, in a murder case from the capital's Bashundhara area early yesterday.

"A team of Detective Branch of police arrested AHM Fuad from the Bashundhara area in Dhaka around 2:20am," Jamal Pasha, additional superintendent of police in Faridpur, told reporters.

Fuad faces eight cases, including those of money laundering and assault, he said, adding that there are also arrest warrants against him in three cases.

"AHM Fuad has been forming various armed terrorist groups, including the 'Helmet Group' and 'Hammer Group', in Faridpur town for about 10 years. He has gained a lot of illicit wealth engaging in terrorist activities," the additional SP said.

Fuad, also a former convener of Faridpur district Jubo League, was shown arrested in a murder case filed with Kotwali Police Station in Faridpur on July 12, 2016, said police.

He was placed on twoday remand in the murder case yesterday after being produced before a court with a 10-day remand appeal, said Abdul Gaffar, sub-inspector of Kotwali Police Station.

Meanwhile, Judge KM Emrul Kayesh of the Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka yesterday directed SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



## MAKING RODS OF GLOBAL STANDARDS **MAKES US BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE**

The Rosatom State Nuclear Energy Corporation from Russia has chosen the Country's No. 1 Steel Expert BSRM to build the infrastructure of the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant. This is because BSRM maintains Russian standards (GOST R52544 A500C) for producing rods which are being used to build the project.

This World Standards Day, BSRM is proud to comply with global standards in building these megastructures which are the country's pride.

BANGLADESH UPDATE 518 New c

City

NEWS

27,730

Deaths



Total cases

#### SHERPUR GANG-RAPE

New cases in 24hrs

# Prime accused, five others on the run

#### **Our Correspondent**, *Mymensingh*

Law enforcers could not arrest Omar Ali, prime accused in the motherdaughter gang rape case in Sherpur's Nalitabari, and five of his cohorts even four days after the incident.

The victims' family is now worried about justice.

Bashir Ahmed, officer-in-charge of Nalitabari Police Station, said since the incident, the six have been on the run. Police are using technology and conducting drives and he hopes the perpetrators would be arrested soon.

A 40-year-old mother and her 13-year-old daughter, both intellectually impaired, were raped by a gang early Sunday.

The woman filed a case with Nalitabari Police Station the same day, accusing eight people. Police have so far arrested two, including Abdus Sattar, 45, a cattle trader, and Sadek Mia, 30, a dredger operator.

The six other accused Omar Ali, Osman Jahangir Alam, Tara Ali, Mia, Mofiz Uddin and Ahmed Ali, said Bashir Ahmed, office-in-charge of Nalitabari Police Station. According to locals, the perpetrators and the

**15,64,019** Total cases

victims are from the same village -- Palashikuri.

The victim woman's elder sister said she visited the police station to urge them to arrest the six remaining accused as soon as possible.

She said, "My sister is suffering a lot. Her husband is mentally challenged and her 22-year-old son runs their sixmember family by driving a CNG-run auto-rickshaw.

Omar Ali was a garments worker in Dhaka and lost his job during the pandemic. He came back to the village and started working as a farm labourer on his own and hired land, said Fazlul Haque, senior vice chairman of Poragaon union Awami League.



15,25,673

Recoveries

GLOBAL

The queues before the trucks of the state-run Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) are getting longer by the day as the prices of essentials are going up in kitchen markets. The photo was taken in the capital's Khamarbari area yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Wanton neglect, irreversible loss India resumes vaccine exports FROM PAGE 1

Say officials as domestic stocks build up, most of its population inoculated

#### **REUTERS**, New Delhi

India has resumed a small amount of exports of Covid-19 vaccines and will increase exports significantly in the next few months as domestic stocks build up and most of its own large population is inoculated, officials said yesterday.

One million shots of Covaxin produced by Indian company Bharat Biotech were shipped to Iran last week, the Indian embassy in Tehran said.

Vaccines have also been sent to Nepal, a government source said, adding that the effort is focused on neighbouring nations.

So far about 4 million shots have been exported, the source said, a small amount in proportion to the expansive vaccine diplomacy Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government launched this year before a second wave of infections forced a halt.

But now that three-quarters of the adult population have had one shot and a third have had both shots, India is poised to play an important role in meeting foreign nations' vaccine requirements, said VK Paul, who heads the government's task force on Covid-19

"As India's needs are met, going forward there will be a generous stockpile of vaccines," Paul told reporters.

The Serum Institute is producing 220 million shots of the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine per month, up from 150 million in August, and Bharat Biotech is supplying 30 million shots of its homegrown vaccine which is set to rise to 50 million next month, he said.

With a few other locally developed vaccines moving closer to production or clearing regulatory approvals, India is expected to be producing 300-320 million shots a month by early next year more than the average 210 million doses it administers to its people each month, the officials said.

"A huge, huge availability of vaccines can be visualised for next year, we expect vaccines made in India to play significant role in dealing with the pandemic across the world," Paul said.

India is the world's biggest maker of vaccines. Paul said it would in the next two or three days pass the 1 billion mark for vaccine doses administered since the start of its mass campaign to vaccinate all adult Indians

the work got delayed.

Also, chromium-mixed water, which was supposed to be treated separately,

is going to the river untreated. Another problem with this CETP is it cannot treat salt as well though the tanneries use a huge quantity of salt to process rawhides.

BSCIC officials say that due to noncooperation of tanners, the CETP is not working properly.

"They [tannery owners] actually don't want the CETP to run smoothly," said BSCIC Chairman Mostaque Hassan.

Shahin Ahmed, president of Bangladesh Tannery Association, however, dismissed the BSCIC chairman's allegations as baseless.

"BSCIC is to blame for the malfunctioning of the CETP," he said. And meantime, the Dhaleshwari

and the communities living around it bear the brunt of it all. During a visit last week, it was seen

the CETP was releasing untreated black liquid waste through its main channel.

Asked, an official who would not speak on the record but introduced himself as an engineer, said they were releasing untreated waste as they were cleaning the CETP.

But locals say they see it happening every day.

Mongol Mia from Jhauchar village who was trying to catch fish from a small boat said how could fish survive here as they release waste water into the river every evening. Sometimes

In its second revision in August 2013, the project's tenure was extended to June 2016 and the cost hiked to Tk 1,078 crore.

Later, the Executive Committee on National Economic Council (Ecnec) approved the extension of the project in its fourth revision, where the expenditure was cut by Tk 63.15 crore to Tk 1,015.56 crore in 2016.

The tenure was extended for the third time in January 2017 to June 2019, keeping the cost unchanged.

The deadline passed many times as the tanners were not ready to move to Savar vet.

In 2016, the government gave them a 72-hour ultimatum, but only a few complied and most of them stayed put

In January 2017, Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan, senior secretary to the industries ministry, said the government would prevent tanners from transporting rawhides to

They fixed March 31 as the deadline for shifting. And finally, the tanneries

course of recommendation," Saber, a ruling Awami League MP, said.

estate.

## BTRC shuts 178 unauthorised news portals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) has shut down 178 unregistered news portals.

The process of shutting them down began on Tuesday.

Mustafa Jabbar, post and telecommunications minister, told The Daily Star, "We received a list of unregistered news portals from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting last night [Tuesday night]. "We've been instructed by the High

Court to shut down unregistered portals.

Only those on the list given to them by the information ministry were shut down, he added.

#### 3 killed FROM PAGE 1

where Hindu idols and temples were vandalised as the country observes Durga Puja. At least 50 people were injured in the clashes in Cumilla.

The administration in Chattogram deployed eight BGB platoons in six upazilas of the district last night, after several temples of the Hindu community were reportedly attacked in Banshkhali and Karnaphuli upazilas.

Talking to The Daily Star around 1:40am today, Nazimuddin, sub-inspector of Hajiganj Police Station, said three people were killed in the clash in the upazila.

"There are injury marks on the bodies but I cannot say what caused those," he said, adding that at least 15 police personnel were injured. Of them, eight were admitted to hospital.

Dr Mohammad Shakhawat Ullah, civil surgeon of Chandpur, also confirmed that three people were killed in the clash.

Local media outlets reported that at least 60 people, including journalists, police and common people, were injured in the clash.

Superintendent of Police in Chandpur Milon Mahmud said a procession was brought out from Hajiganj Biswaroad intersection area after Esha prayers last night.

Encircling the main road near Hajiganj Bazar twice when the procession was crossing the eastern side of Hajiganj Bazar, a sudden attack was launched on the Lakshmi Narayan Akhra (Trinayani) Puja Mandap.

Police fired teargas shells and shots n the air to bring the situation under control. The police action led to the clash.

According to sources at Hajiganj Upazila Health Complex, the deceased were Alamin, 18, of Barakul union of the upazila, Yeasin Hossain Hridoy, 15, of Randhunimura area and Bablu of Chapainawabganj.

committee will come up with its next Earlier yesterday in Cumilla, at least 50 people were injured as a group of religious extremists clashed with law enforcers in Nanua Dighirpar area over reports of "demeaning the Holy Quran' at a Puja Mandap. The government asked local administration to investigate the incident that created a tense situation in the district, and urged all to maintain religious harmony. BGB members have already been deployed there. The religious extremists started rushing to the Mandap area around 9:00am after a video went viral on social media. Members of law enforcement agencies arrived within a very short time at the Mandap where Hindu devotees were celebrating Durga Puja, said police. "We informed our higher authorities immediately about the matter and beefed up security there," said Anwarul Azim, officer-in-charge of Cumilla's Kotwali Model Police Station. To quell the situation, the deputy commissioner and superintendent of police in the district held a meeting with the local Hindu community and others around 10:00am. By then, several groups under banners of different Muslim religious organisations gathered in Nanua Dighirpar. As the meeting was ongoing, the mob attacked the mandap around 10:30am, said locals and police. Contacted, Cumilla DC Kamrul Hasan said all necessary measures would be taken to investigate the matter and punish the culprits. In Chattogram, BGB was deployed rom 9:00pm, Omar Faruk, staff officer of the Chattogram deputy commissioner's office, told The Daily Star. Police and administration sources confirmed three incidents of attack in Banshkhali's Chambal area, Kali Mandir municipality and Karnaphuli upazila. "There were some incidents at Banskhali and Karnaphuli upazilas but the situation is now under control," said Chattogram DC Md Mominur Rahman. Omar Faruk said, "In Banshkhali, Hathazari, two platoons of BGB have been deployed while one platoon BGB has been deployed for each of Fatickchari, Sitakunda, Patiya, and Chandanaish upazila each." 'Apart from that, two executive magistrates were also sent to six upazilas to take necessary actions," said Omar Faruk. DC Mominur Rahman said, "several more platoons of BGB will be deployed in the district and Metro area by morning. Chattogram Metropolitan Police commissioner Saleh Moĥammed Tanvir told " police are on alert in the temple so that no one can fish in troubled water destroying the harmony." In Kurigram's Ulipur upazila, several temples were vandalised and one was even set on fire.

Hazaribagh after January 31, 2017.

moved to Savar from Hazaribagh. Asked about the unprecedented delay in project implementation,

Jitendra Nath Paul, former project director of the Savar tannery estate, said it was mainly because of legal complexities. The construction work of the

tannery estate was completed in last June. On June 27 this year, the BLAME GAME

The report, which was sent to the parliamentary standing committee on the environment ministry, mentioned the BSCIC authorities have been polluting the Dhaleshwari with liquid

The BSCIC is releasing waste water

into the river through three pipe lines.

Besides, it could not take any measures

to manage solid waste generated in

"Many times, the DOE tested

sample from the CETP-treated water,

and found the parameters higher than

standards allowed by Bangladesh

Environment Conservation Rule

authorities have violated the directives

of the High Court about not polluting

standing committee, on the basis of

this report, recommended that the

environment ministry shut down the

of the JS body, said they will hold a

meeting to get an update about BSCIC

measures on closure of the tannery

Saber Hossain Chowdhury, chief

"If they fail to do it, the standing

rivers with industrial waste.

The report mentions, "The

In August, the parliamentary

wing of the DoE prepared a report

where they recommended shutting

down the tannery estate until the

CETP is not fully functional.

waste since 2016.

the tanneries.

tannery estate.

1997.

One individual also included, Intercept reveals

6 Bangladeshi militant

groups on FB blacklist

#### STAR REPORT

FROM PAGE 1

case.

League

Kamrul

Convener

Facebook has developed a secret blacklist of over 4,000 individuals and organisations across the world that it considers "dangerous" as a part of its Dangerous Individuals and Organizations (DIO) policy, according to internal Facebook documents.

This was revealed by The Intercept, an American news organisation.

including militant The list, organisations, hate groups and politicians, also names six militant organisations and one individual in Bangladesh.

These are: Al Mursalat Media; Islamic State Bangladesh; Harakat ul-Jihad I Islami - Bangladesh; Ansarullah Bangla Team; Jamaat Ul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB); Saham al-Hind Media, and Tariqul Islam, who is also affiliated with Jamaat Ul Mujahideen Bangladesh.

The Intercept published a full

the authorities concerned to publish

advertisements in two national

Bangla dailies asking Khandaker

Mohtesam Hossain Babar, brother

of former AL minister Khandaker

Mosharraf Hossain, and five others

to appear before it by October 31 in

a Tk2,000 crore money laundering

The five others are: AHM Fuad,

snapshot of the complete list containing the names of the organisations and individuals. All the blacklisted entities are currently banned on the social media platform.

Users who discuss these groups or individuals on Facebook may be penalised by the social media platform according to a three-tiered system.

Those who commit "serious offline harm", such as terrorists and militant organisations, are placed in Tier 1. Tier 2 includes "Violent Non-State Actors" such as armed Syrian rebels, according to Facebook. Tier 3 consists of people and organisations that Facebook says violate its hate speech and dangerous organisation policies, but who "haven't necessarily engaged in violence to date or advocated for violence".

All the Bangladeshi names fall under Tier 1, meaning discussing them on Facebook may result in heavy penalties

they release it in broad daylight.

"Even last year I could catch some fish, but this year there are almost no fish. Many people used to fish during the monsoon, but that doesn't happen anymore," he added.

#### CETP SAGA

According to a 2003 memorandum understanding between the government and tannery owners and footwear exporters, the government was supposed to set up a CETP by 2005 at a cost of Tk 175 crore.

But nothing happened in the next few vears.

Then in 2006, the caretaker government re-examined the cost of the proposed CETP putting it at Tk 350 crore and asking the industry owners to share the burden. But the tannery owners balked at the suggestion.

In 2009, the High Court directed the government to ensure the tanneries were relocated from the city's Hazaribagh area by February 2010 or the industries would face closure. The HC also ordered the DoE to have the industries set up ETPs by June 2010.

After coming to power in 2009, the Awami League government moved to relocate the tanneries to Savar. The industries ministry kept seeking time extensions from the HC as negotiations with the tanners dragged

Although the work for the CETP project was supposed to start in 2003, it actually began in 2012, almost a decade later.

A Bangladesh-China joint venture was awarded the construction of the CETP through a bidding process in 2012. But due to bureaucratic tangles and non-cooperation of the tanners,

Fighting has resumed in northern

Ethiopia's Afar region after a month-

long lull, humanitarian and rebel

sources told AFP yesterday, as the

government appeared to be pressing a

clash Tuesday in the town of Awra,

in Afar's Fenti zone, including use of

heavy weapons by the Tigray People's

Liberation Front (TPLF) that killed

There were reports of an armed

new offensive.

government terminated the contract with the Bangladesh-China joint venture and handed over the responsibilities of the CETP to Tannery Industries Estate Wastage Treatment Plant Company Ltd, a newly formed company managed by tanners and BSCIC officials.

But the Department of Environment said the CETP has never been fully functional, and tannery industries have been polluting the Dhaleshwari since the beginning.

Although the CETP has been running for some time now, the online monitoring system has not been installed as per the agreement and testing facilities at its laboratory are inadequate.

Only four of eight kinds of testing facilities were installed in the laboratory, and a mini workshop was not constructed at the CETP site.

Iitendra Nath Paul, former project director of the Savar tannery industrial estate, said there are some components of the project that were not implemented.

So, the government may now take up a Balancing, Modernisation, Rehabilitation and Expansion (BMRE) project to make the CETP fully operational.

Regarding the Bangladesh-China joint venture company, he said the government has deducted Tk 26 crore (32 lakh USD) from the total payable amount of Tk 492 crore to the construction company as penalty, as per the agreement.

DOE OBSERVATIONS

Recently, after visiting the tanneries and testing the water quality of the Dhaleshwari, a group of experts from the Monitoring and Enforcement said.

BSCIC Chairman Mostaque Hassan said tanners are using two to three times more water in their tanneries.

Also, the tannery owners throw all types of effluent including solid waste inside the CETP, which is totally unacceptable.

'By throwing all types of effluent including chromium into the pipe line of the CETP, they are polluting the environment to an alarming extent."

The BSCIC chief also alleged the tanners were not supposed to drain out the chromium-mixed water to the main channel of the CETP. But they are doing it.

He said tannery owners are out to make sure the CETP fails in a planned manner.

Mostaque said around Tk 36 crore is needed to run the CETP, but the tannery owners are not willing to pay the money.

however, opposed the He, recommendation that the tannery estate be shut down until the CETP functions properly. Rather, he said, he wanted the tannery owners to cooperate properly and make the CETP functional.

Shahin Ahmed, president of Bangladesh Tannery Association, rejected all the allegations made by the BSCIC chairman.

Talking to The Daily Star, he said tannery owners do not have any power to bring change in any establishment of the CETP.

"BSCIC will have to shoulder the responsibilities for the nonfunctioning CETP. Because it's their project and they are yet to hand over the responsibility to us," he also

League General Secretary Fahad bin Wazed Fahim, former Faridpur town Jubo joint convener Hasan David, district Jubo League Joint Mohammad Ali Minar, and Faridpur AHM Fuad

Ex-minister's APS arrested

town Jubo League Joint Convener Tariqul Islam Nasim.

The judge passed the order after receiving reports that arrest warrants against the six were forwarded for execution from the officer-in-charge of Faridpur Sadar Police Station, court sources said.

After accepting the charges, the same judge on September 30 issued arrest warrants against the six since they were shown "fugitive accused" in the charge sheet.

Four other accused -- Faridpur

president of Faridpur Press Club; former Faridpur town Jubo League president Khandakar Nazmul Islam Levi and its former general secretary Ashiqur Rahman Farhan -- are behind bars. On March 3, Uttam Kumar Biswas, assistant superintendent

town AL's former general secretary

Sajjad Hossain Barkat and his brother

Imtiaz Hasan Rubel, also former

investigation officer of the money laundering submitted the case, charge sheet to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court in Dhaka.

SM Miraj Al Mahmud, a CID inspector, lodged the case with Kafrul Police

Station against the two brothers -Sajjad and Imtiaz -- under the Money Laundering Act on June 26 last year.

According to the case statement, they amassed huge amounts of wealth after winning contracts from various government departments in the district through manipulation since 2010. They were allegedly involved in drug smuggling and land grabbing. The two became owners of around 23 buses, several trucks, and private cars.

army mounts 'offensive' AFP, Addis Ababa

#### sources said.

The reports could not be independently verified and officials in Afar could not be reached for comment.

TPLF spokesman Getachew Reda denied claims the rebels had used weapons against civilians heavy but confirmed there had been fresh hostilities in Afar.

"Enemy forces are crumbling and in disarray in parts of Afar," he said,

describing fighting along the border between Afar and Amhara regions.

[fictitious] accusation to tarnish our forces' reputation."

For nearly a week humanitarian and rebel sources have been reporting signs of a government offensive that could potentially mark a new phase of the 11-month-old war in northern Ethiopia.

Fresh fighting in Ethiopia's Afar as

multiple civilians, the humanitarian

"We do not target civilians and the alleged artillery attack is yet another

Faridpur district Swechchhasebak of police of the CID and also the



#### CITY

#### WHY RETENTION AREAS VITAL

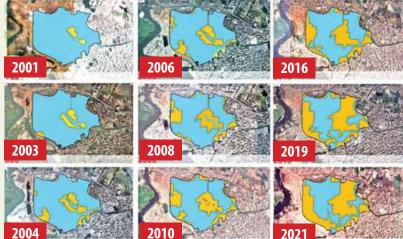
- Manage storm water runoff
- Improve water quality in adjacent bodies
- Prevent flooding, downstream erosion
- Bank stability, aesthetic benefits

#### **KALYANPUR RETENTION AREA**

- Total retention space 178.82acre
- Much of the land encroached
- Project to protect retention areas
- Turn the place into recreational spot like Hatirjheel
- Plan to be shown to PM on Nov 4

#### **ECO-PARK AT A GLANCE**

- Total Zone 10
- All connected by waterways
- No entrance fee for visitors
- To be able to enter thru 12-14 points



Over 20 years, much of the retention area (blue) has been encroached (yellow).



The eco-park will feature attractions such as a lotus pond and ferris wheel.

There are many encroachers there, so the land and canals have to be recovered based on CS maps, and the water navigation will have to be improved.

ARCHITECT IQBAL HABIB Adviser of the project

We will recover the land gradually to implement the project. We have already held a meeting with the security exchange commission in this regard.

MD ATIQUL ISLAM DNCC mayor

1. Cultivated Area 2. Viaduct 3. Co-management Training Centre 4. Parking 5. Boat Landing **6.** Footbridge 7. Boat Club 8. Dhaka Wheel 9. Food Court 10. Parking **11.** STP 12. Lotus Pond 13. Pump House **14.** Floating restaurant 15. Jamboree Ground **16.** Activity Dome 17. Biodiversity Island 18. Swimming Pool 19. Fire Camp

park at Kalyanpur Project to free canals; set up recreation spot like Hatirjheel HELEMUL ALAM Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) has taken up an elaborate plan to construct an eco-park using the retention areas at the capital's Kalyanpur, a large part of

DNCC to build eco-

2nd Edition

which are currently encroached. The project will not only protect the retention areas but also turn the whole place into a recreational spot like Hatirjheel, city corporation officials and ë experts say.

According to DNCC statistics, the total area of the retention space is 178.82 acres.

Of the total, 98.35 acres belong to Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC), while Bangladesh Water Development Board (WDB) possesses 6.36 acres, and 11.40 acres are government khash land. Dhaka Wasa's own land, 9.71 acres, and acquired land, 53.004 acres, is now under DNCC.

But DNCC currently possesses only three acres out of what it is supposed to have -- 74.114 acres -- as much of the land is now occupied by encroachers, said Shawkat Mahmud, superintendent engineer of DNCC drainage system.

belonging to BADC and WDB are also occupied, he added.

#### **BUDGET & FUNDING** Budget Tk 2,000cr Projected deadline 2023 Ø DNCC to fund the project

To issue "green bonds" to attract investors

Five Kalyanpur canals connected to this retention pond drain water into it. But, in the last two decades, private establishments and residences have choked the pond and canals.

Against this backdrop, DNCC took up the project, with a budget of around Tk 2,000 crore.

#### THE PROJECT

Of the project's 10 zones, five have been reserved for nature-based establishments, such as a base camp for youths; a biodiversity island with bee colonies, a butterfly garden and bird aviary; and an aquatic park.

All the zones are connected by waterways, and visitors will be able to enjoy the experience on boats.

There will be over 50 types of facilities in the zones, including walkways, bicycle lanes, children's playground, waste disposal and management system, and SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

# Mega projects interfering with DSCC works

Says Taposh, blames lack of co-ordination

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lack of coordination among different service providing agencies is increasing sufferings of city dwellers, said Dhaka South City Corporation Mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh yesterday.

The DSCC mayor made the

comment while visiting Kamalapur-TT Para area to observe the ongoing development works to mitigate waterlogging problems in the area.

"The extension work of metro rail from Motijheel to Kamalapur is conflicting with the work of DSCC. But metro rail authorities had earlier said it will not be the case. However during a recent field visit, it was found that the work is creating conflict," Taposh said.



"It is very unfortunate that the metro rail authorities have sought permission to set up the MRT line at Kamalapur where our development work is ongoing,"

working in an unplanned way without any coordination with the city corporation, he said.

"Similarly, we have taken huge initiatives for the drainage development work in Shyampur industrial area but the works of Padma Bridge project have blocked all the outlets of passing rain water in the area, which is causing waterlogging," said the mayor.

This is why the entire Shyampur industrial area is now affected by waterlogging, Taposh added.



Durga Puja is being celebrated all across the country with due fervour and festivities. Yesterday, Hindu devotees performed the traditional "Kumari Puja" on the occasion of the "Mahashtami". One such devotee was seen seeking blessings from the Goddess Durga at the makeshift puja mandap at the capital's Khamarbari.

PHOTO: RASHED SUMON

Some parts of the land



said Taposh.

Different organisations are

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

### **DoE** fines 3 steel mills Tk 16.2 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Department of Environment (DoE) vesterday fined three Chattogram-based steel mills Tk16 lakh for producing rods with their Air Treatment Plants (ATP) shut down.

The companies fined were Benz Industry Limited, CSS Corporation, and Islam Steel, all from the port city's Nasirabad area under Bayazid Bostami Police Station.

DoE Chattogram Office Director Mohammad Nurullah Nuri confirmed the matter, saying the mills

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

Dengue claims two more lives

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least two more dengue patients died and 211 were hospitalised in the last 24 hours till 8am yesterday, of which 162 are outside Dhaka, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS). With the new cases, a total of 2,532 patients

were diagnosed during the running month out of a total 20,729 infected. Of the total infected, 2,813 are from outside Dhaka. At least 7,841 were diagnosed in September, 7,698 in August, 2,286 in

July, 272 in June while

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



Death toll 82 **13** died in Oct so far **23** in Sept, **34** in Aug, **12** in July **211** more hospitalised yesterday



'No political events in name of seminars' Jatiya Press Club issues statement On that day, BNP Secretary where she said the virtual meeting STAFF CORRESPONDENT General Mirza Fakhrul Islam

Jatiya Press club authorities Alamgir participated in a yesterday decided not to allow programme where BNP acting any political programmes in chairperson Tarique Rahman virtually joined as the chief guest. name of discussions or seminars. A press release signed by press On October 11, Awami League club joint secretary Mainul Alam joint secretary and Information mentioned that the decision Minister Hasan Mahmud came in a meeting of the commented that the standard and management committee chaired dignity of the press club is being by club president Farida Yasmin. hampered due to meetings of The press release also said BNP. He said "press club should the meeting discussed that not be a place of rallies like Naya some "chaotic and untoward

incidents" took place on October

10 on the club premises.

Paltan [the central office of BNP]". On the same day, the press club president issued a statement

with Tarique Rahman is contrary to the laws of Bangladesh.

Awami League secretary general and Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader also said BNP has made the press club a political podium. BNP's political gathering inside the press club is totally illegal and unacceptable, he added.

of banning the political programmes came from the management committee. SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Meanwhile on October 12,

A day later, the decision

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



In the last couple of days, the capital has experienced a bout of tremendous heat, with the mercury reaching as high as 34°C yesterday. Amidst this swelter, business has picked up for street-side juice sellers, as customers thronged their outlets in search of relief throughout the day. This photo was taken recently from Sadarghat area.

# Terminal turmoil on Savar road

People suffer for indiscriminate loading-unloading of goods on busy thoroughfare; authorities keep passing the buck

#### AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH, Savar

Savar's Namabazar Road is a busy place. Every day, people from at least 20 areas of Dhamrai upazila and Savar municipality use the road, which connects to different points of Dhaka-Aricha highway and Savar-Singair regional highway.

The number of commuters on the road would round up well over lakhs, and all of them have to face extreme difficulty throughout the day due to the indiscriminate loading and unloading of goods from thousands of vehicles.

The area is a wholesale hub thanks to a nearby market that houses numerous businesses -- including pulse, corn, oil and saw mills, and wholesale grocery stores. As the area lacks a truck terminal, trucks, container trucks, and pickups basically use the road as a terminal.

medical Mohon Mia, а representative by profession, said he



This particular spot at Namabazar road is thronged by large vehicles loading and unloading goods right on the street throughout the day. This photo was taken recently. PHOTO: STAR

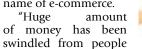
has been commuting on the road every road waiting for the traffic to clear," he day for the last two years. "I have to told this correspondent recently. spent around two hours a day on the

## AL men behind e-commerce scams

Alleges Fakhrul

Unв, Dhaka

BNP yesterday alleged that the "ruling party men" are involved in swindling money from online shoppers in the name of e-commerce.



SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

in the name of e-commerce. Who're the looters in e-commerce? Who're pampering the looters and who're giving them protection? The ruling party men are

involved in it," said BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir. The BNP leader made the allegation while speaking at a discussion arranged by

Afsar Ahmed Siddigui Smrity Foundation at Dhaka Reporters' Unity, marking the

#### Missing Saleh Ahmed's son gets job at city corporation STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Son of Saleh Ahmed, who went missing after falling into a drain in Chattogram in August, has got a job at the city corporation.

Chattogram City Corporation Mayor Rezaul Karim Chowdhury handed over the appointment letter to Sadequllah Mohim on Tuesday, said mayor's personal secretary Abul Hasem.

Sadequllah (21) has been appointed as the workshop helper at Chattogram City Corporation, he said.

Sadeequllah, an HSC candidate, said, "My father was the only earning member of our family. I want to study more and at the same time want to support my family."

On August 25, Saleh Ahmed fell into an open drain at Shulak Bahar near Muradpur Police Box in Chattogram city.

Since then the vegetable trader has been missing.



On a warm Ashwin noon, anglers set out on Sylhet Sadar's Chengerkhal river. Holding umbrellas, they fish all day and take the day's catch to the Mogolgaon or Badaghat bazars, selling their array of fish -- including eels, catfish, seer fish and more -- for up to Tk 2,000. This photo was taken recently. PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

# Mega projects interfering

FROM PAGE 3

The mayor also said he becomes frightened when he thinks about what will happen during the rainy season. "We have requested the authorities concerned time and again so that they at least construct a culvert for water to pass until they [DSCC] finish the works.

But they are not paying any heed," he said. "Our extensive work to solve the city's drainage system and waterlogging problem is ongoing. We have started a Tk 103 crore

work to solve the problems, and this year we have kept Tk 74 crore budget in this regard in DSCC's own fund," said Taposh.

# DNCC to build eco-park

CITY \_

rehabilitation facility (housing area) for those evicted from the area. The housing area will have 900 sq ft flats for 200 families in Zone 7.

The project will be shown to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on November 4 for approval.

The youth camp will be in zone-1. A food court, boat club, parking, deck, angling space and ferris wheel will be constructed in zone-2. The biodiversity island will be in zone-4. A floating restaurant and food hut will be built in zone-5; and a lotus pond, footbridge and sitting area in zone-6.

In addition, there will be farmland, and BADC's cold storage and seed warehouse in zone-8. Zone-9 will contain a training centre, multipurpose hall, and exhibition space; and a solaraquatic treatment plant and park will be built in zone-10.

At the learning centre, youths will be trained on different environmental aspects, and they will receive firsthand experience of working with nature.

Iqbal Habib, adviser of the project, said the government had acquired 173 acres of land earlier, but now, most of it is occupied by land grabbers.

In the dry season, the canals retain water from the pond, and during monsoon, they bring water into it, he said.

There are many encroachers there, so the land and canals have to be recovered based on CS maps, and water navigation will have to improve, by the next two years, he added.

he added.

With the DNCC mayor's vision, authorities are planning to properly develop the retention area, so people can see it as a recreational spot. The project is being designed to not just be sustainable financially but in terms

of maintenance as well. Habib said "Solar Aquatic Technology" will be used to treat lake water and make it drinkable, and the entire park will run using electricity

generated from solar power. A ferris wheel, called "Dhaka Eye", would be installed at the entrance point, he added.

No entrance fee will be taken from visitors, but they will be required to pay fares for availing the facilities, labib said

People will be able to enter the area through 12 to 14 points, he said.

The project will not be funded by the government but rather by DNCC, which is expected to issue municipal bonds or "green bonds" in a bid to attract investments for the projects.

Contacted, DNCC mayor Md Atiqul Islam said they will recover the land gradually to implement the project, as it will not possible to recover the whole area at once.

"We have already held meeting with the security exchange commission to implement the project with green bonds and will not take any money from the government," he said

They want to complete the project

### DoE fines 3 steel

#### FROM PAGE 3

were fined after a hearing over environmental pollution held yesterday.

He also said the chemist of Chattogram DoE conducted the drive at the three mills on October 12 and found evidence of making iron rods by shutting down the ATPs.

"Each of the three mills were fined ۲k 5.4 lakh, totaling Tk 16.2 lakh, Nuri informed.

Meanwhile, two more industrial establishments, Haji Washing and Popular Washing, were fined Tk 1.72 lakh for operating factories while shutting down their effluent treatment plant (ETP).

# Dengue claims

43 were infected in May and rest are from January to April.

According to the DGHS, 82 people have died of dengue infection in the country this year. Twelve people died in July, 34 in August, 23 in September and 13 in October so far.

Among the deaths, 76 people have died in Dhaka division, two in Chattogram and Khulna and one each in Rajshahi and Mymensingh divisions.

Though most of the patients who were hospitalised have so far been released, 928 are still undergoing treatment at hospitals in Dhaka, and 48 outside the capital, the DGHS data shows

#### विन्नात **គឺកើតតែទា ១ន្**សាក្តី**តាខិក**ឆ្ **Biman** BANGLADESH AIRLINES FROM PAGE 3 HEAD OFFICE, BALAKA, KURMITOLA-1229, BANGLADESH, PHONE-8901600-14, 8901680-94, FAX: 88-02-8901558, www.biman-airlines.com "No one cares about keeping the Project & Works Department road free. That the area has no Invitation for Tender (Works) traffic police only adds to our e-Tender Notice woes," he said. This is all the more frustrating Ref: 30.34.0000.023.04.001.21 Date: 13/10/202 e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following wo given that the load-unload spot is ks, details are give right next to Savar Model Police Invitation Reference Name of work Tender las Fender closing ID No. Station, he said. & opening selling date & time (date & time) General secretary of Savar Bazar e-Tender Notice # Yearly servicing and maintenance works of 573 Nos. different types of air-conditioners, refrigerators, de-01. 619463 27-Oct-2021 28-Oct-2021 Byabshayi Kallyan Samity Anwar 15:00 01/2021-2022 15:00 humidifiers, cold rooms, etc. installed at different offices of Biman in Dhaka by deputing required Mondol, also a trader in Namabazar area, said, "The stagnancy of the road number of full time manpower including necessary spares, tools, etc. for the period of 24 months. This is an online tender where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<u>http://www.eprocure.gov.bl</u>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to 27-Oct-2021 17:00. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk FROM PAGE 3 (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) Tarek Alamgi GD- 1837 Manager Civi

Invitation to submit proposals for the following two (2) Request for Proposals (RFPs) issued by UNICEF Bangladesh

1) RFP No. LRPS-2021-9170672: Integration of Ventilation & Centralized Control System with the existing Air Conditioning System of UNICEF Country Office.

The deadline to submit the proposal is Monday, 08 November 2021; Time: 11:00 Hrs.

2) RFP No. LRPS-2021-9170673: Renovation of different Upazila Health Complexes (1 DH & 7 UHC) in Cox's Bazar district under Health and Gender Support Project (HGSP) funded by World Bank phase-II (Lot 1-5).

The deadline to submit the proposal is Monday, 15 November 2021; Time: 11:00 Hrs.

UNICEF-Bangladesh is inviting interested companies with a strong track record and professional credibility of providing the above required services under one contract. To receive the detailed scope of work and procedure to submit the bid response, please email to "supplybangladesh@unicef.org"

For Pre-bid Meeting: Please see the schedule mentioned in the RFP.

Please note UNICEF does not charge any fee at any stage of the solicitation process.

## Terminal turmoil on Savar road

affects our businesses as well, but we are forced to load and unload this way as there's no terminal nearby."

"We authorities concerned, including the mayor and the local MP, in this regard, but we are yet to get a

Contacted, Savar municipality mayor Hazi Abdul Goni said they have not been able to build a terminal due to unavailability of a

"If they [the market authority] gave us a land today, we would start building the terminal right away,"

He said they've asked the market authorities to carry out loading and unloading activities at night, but it only fell upon deaf ears.

The mayor also said they've requested the regional police to deploy traffic personnel at the area, but this is yet to take place. traffic However,

(admin) of Dhaka District North Traffic Police Station Abdus Salam said they did not get any application from the municipality.

Besides, he said, they are faced with a shortage of personnel, which would make the deployment difficult anyway.

Despite repeated attempts, this correspondent could not reach local MP Dr Enamur Rahman, also state minister for Disaster Management inspector and Relief, for comments.

## AL men behind e-commerce

20th death anniversary of former BNP leader Afsar Ahmed Siddiqui.

Stating that he "saw the photograph of a CEO of an e-commerce company with the prime minister", Fakhrul said some people are cutting deep into the pockets of people and plundering money with the "patronage of the government and the ruling party".

He said the "ruling party men" also shattered the banking system and depleted the banks through widespread plundering.

"Every bank is now at stake. If you talk to bankers you'll have an idea about the real situation. I've a friend who happens to be an economist. He knows this system

belong to Awami League.

"For a loan of Tk 10 crore, one has to pay a bribe of Tk 5 crore while the rest Tk 5 crore is hardly needed to be returned."

Fakhrul said it is a pity that some people are plundering public money and making their fortunes in this country where many people live alongside roads and footpaths as they have no shelter.

"Today we see many people building new houses and buying cars though they had lived a very ordinary life 10 years back. This has been possible because of their involvement with the ruling party. This is the reality everywhere, even at the upazila level," he observed.

Criticising AL General Secretary Obaidul very well. He says those who keep money Quader for his comment that BNP's plan to in banks or are involved in the banking create another mass uprising like the 90s is system are the worst affected ones as every a daydream, Fakhrul said the ruling party has in fact got unnerved with the possibility of losing power. He called upon BNP leaders and activists to get united to oust the government and "restore democracy" in the country.



#### TENDER NOTICE FOR INTERIOR DECORATION

- Sealed tenders are invited from bona-fide vendors for interior decoration works of Bhuschi Bazar, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Narail, Paisarhat, Thakurgaon, Uttarkhan Sub-Branches of the Bank.
- 02. The participating companies must have at least 03 numbers of successful completion of interior decoration works within last 05 (five) years at scheduled Bank(s). Copy of previous work completion certificate(s) must be supplied along with the tender as proof in this regard.
- 03. A pay order of Tk. 15,000.00 each has to be submitted with the tenders in the name of BASIC Bank Limited, Head Office, Dhaka as earnest money. Earnest money can be forfeited for reasons mentioned in the ender schedule
- 04. The tender schedule may be obtained from Common Services Division (Sena Kalyan Bhaban, 5th floor, 195 Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000) of BASIC Bank Limited between 10:00 A.M. and 04:00 P.M. of all working days at a cost of Tk. 500/- only. No schedule will be sold after 04:00 P.M. of October 27, 2021.
- 05. Sealed tenders have to be dropped in the tender box kept at Common Services Division (Sena Kalyan Bhaban, 5th floor, 195 Motijheel

suitable piece of land.

terminal," he added.

have requested the the mayor said.

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bank is in a state of bankruptcy," the BNP leader claimed.

He also alleged that general people except the ruling party leaders are now denied loans by banks as all bank directors

No political

FROM PAGE 3

members."

The press release

meeting said the

the discipline and

orderliness at any cost for the interest of club

"The rules and

conditions prescribed for

mentioned that "the

management committee is

committed to maintaining

cial Area, Dhaka-1000) of BASIC Bank Limited within Octob 28, 2021 by 03:00 P.M., and the tenders will be opened at 03:30 P.M. on the same day in presence of bidders, if any.

06. Other terms and conditions can be found in the tender schedule

Assistant General Manager & In-Charge (CC) Common Services Division

#### **BANGLADESH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES** National Museum of Science & Technology Bhavan, Agargaon, Dhaka 12

Website: www.bas.org.bd

#### Election of Associate Fellows (AF) of BAS 2021

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) announces the Election of Associate Fellows (AF) 2021 as below:

Young scientists who are below 45 (forty five) years of age on 30 September 2021 having Ph.D/D.Sc./FCPS/FRCS/MRCP/MRCVS/MD/MS/MPhil or equivalent degree in science streams and are of exceptional talent and promise, and have contributed to science and technology in recognized field, are eligible for election as Associate Fellows (AF) of BAS.

Application/nomination for the above Associate Fellows, with CV mentioning academic and professional record must reach the Secretary of the Academy by 15 November 2021 at the latest Those who sent nomination for election of Associate Fellow 2020, can send their nomination for Associate Fellow 2021 with additional achievement obtained in addition to that mentioned in their applications for 2020

Nomination of young scientist for election as Associate Fellows (AF) can also be made by the Fellows of the Academy before the deadline.

ন্যাশনাল টি কোম্পানী লিমিটেড

Prof. Dr. Haseena Khan Secretary

# NTC

"বিজিআইসি টাওয়ার" (৮ম তলা) ৩৪, তোপখানা রোড, ঢাকা- ১০০০

#### আবশ্যক (নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি)

ন্যাশনাল টি কোম্পানী লিমিটেডের জন্য মহাব্যবস্থাপক পদে নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে আগ্রহী যোগ্য বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিকট থেকে দরখাস্ত আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। নিয়োগপ্রাপ্তদেরকে কোম্পানীর বেতনক্রম অনুসারে বেতন-ভাতাদি প্রদান করা হবে।

নিয়োগের শর্তাবলিঃ-

- শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতাঃ- প্রার্থীকে কোন অনুমোদিত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় থেকে ন্যূনতম স্নাতক ডিগ্রীধারী হতে হবে তবে কৃষি সংক্রান্ত বিষয়ে ডিগ্রীধারীদেরকে অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে।
- ২. অভিজ্ঞতাঃ- চা বাগানের মাঠ ও কারখানা পর্যায়ে কাজের ক্ষেত্রে কমপক্ষে ২০ (বিশ) বছর কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। তবে কোন খ্যাতনামা চা কোম্পানীতে তত্ত্বাবধায়ক/ মহাব্যবস্থাপক হিসেবে কর্মরত প্রার্থীদের অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে।
- ৩. বয়সঃ- ১৪ই অক্টোবর, ২০২১ তারিখে প্রার্থীর বয়স অনুর্ধ্ব ৫০ (পঞ্চাশ) বছর হতে হবে।
- 8. উপযুক্ত প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে বর্ণিত যোগ্যতা শিথিল করার এ খতিয়ার কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করে।
- ৫. প্রার্থীকে শারীরিকভাবে সক্ষম হতে হবে এবং প্রচুর ভ্রমণ ও প্রতিকুল পরিবেশে কাজ করার মানসিকতা থাকতে হবে

অন্যান্য শর্তাবলিঃ-

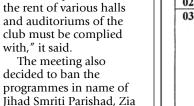
- ১. আবেদন-পত্রের সঙ্গে প্রার্থীর জীবন বৃত্তান্ত ও সদ্য তোলা ২ (দুই) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজ ছবি এবং বিভিন্ন পরীক্ষা পাসের সার্টিফিকেট/প্রশংসা-পত্র এবং অভিজ্ঞতার প্রত্যয়ন-পত্র, জাতীয় পরিচয়-পত্রের ফটোকপি একজন প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড অফিসার কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত করে মোবাইল/টেলিফোন নম্বর সহ আবেদন-পত্র সর্বশেষ ১৩ই নভেম্বর, ২০২১ তারিখের মধ্যে কোম্পানীর উপরোক্ত ঠিকানায় পৌঁছাতে হবে। অসম্পূর্ণ ও নির্ধারিত সময়ের পরে প্রাপ্ত আবেদন-পত্র সরাসরি বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।
- ২. যাচাই-বাছাই পূর্বক শুধু সংক্ষিপ্ত তালিকাভুক্ত প্রার্থীদেরকে নিয়োগ প্রক্রিয়ায় অংশ গ্রহণের সুযোগ দেয়া হবে।
- ৩. কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন প্রকার কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন সময় এ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি আংশিক / সম্পূর্ণ সংশোধন / সংযোজন / স্থগিত / বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন । **BAL**
- ৪. বর্ণিত যোগ্যতা সম্পন্ন বিভাগীয় প্রার্থীরাও আবেদন করতে পারবেন

(এইচ,এস,এম, জিয়াউল আহসান) ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক

Asked, he said, "There is no connection between the virtual meeting with

Tarique Rahman and the

current decision."



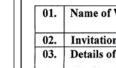
Jihad Smriti Parishad, Zia Parishad and any political party's rallies and events. The committee sought

cooperation from all concerned in this regard. Contacted, Press Club general secretary Elias Khan said there were some

chaotic incidents that took place on that day. "I was abroad at the

- time but learned that many people were present at the programme -- more than our auditorium capacity. We have many auditoriums where every day various events take place and the whole area becomes crowded.
- "Besides, our limited parking space gets full due to so many gatherings. Also, the ongoing metro rail project has already narrowed the road in front of the club. Due to all of these reasons, we have decided to discourage mass gatherings on the premises.'





#### **BIRDEM GENERAL HOSPITAL** (An Enterprise of Diabetic Association of Bangladesh)

122, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh. **2** 8 58616641-50, 9661551-60 Fax: 880-2-9667812

### **INVITATION FOR TENDER**

0.1	ATT 1						
01.	Name of Works	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Electro Medical Equipment for					
	THE DOOD I	BIRDEM General Hospital & BIRDEM General Hospital-02.					
02.	Invitation Ref. & Dated	BIRDEM/Purchase/2021/03 Dated:13 <sup>th</sup> October 2021					
03.	Details of Work	Procurement & Commissioning of the following equipment-					
	and an	Lot: A- Autoclave Steam Sterilizer Machine for CSSD Unit.					
	-	Lot: B- Holter (12 Channel) Machine for Cardiology Department.					
		Lot: C- Ducted Spilt Type AC (Including Spilt Type, Ceiling/Wall) for Septic Operation					
		Theater.					
		Lot: D- Infant Radiant Warmer/Open Care Unit for SCABU.					
		Lot: E- Contractor Enlistment for Civil & Electrical (New/Repair/Renovation) Work of PWD/LGED/MES (1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class), ABC category licensed.					
		Lot: F- Contractor Enlistment for Sign Board Making Work of Experienced					
		Organization.					
		Lot: G- Double Dome LED OT Light for Septic Operation Theater.					
		Lot: H- Hydraulic Operating Table (Universal) for Septic Operation Theater.					
		Lot: I- Patient Monitor for Septic Operation Theater.					
04.	<b>Procurement Method</b>	Open Tendering Method (OTM)					
05.	Source of fund	BIRDEM General Hospital					
06.	Date of selling of tender	Tender documents will be available from 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 to 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 on					
1	documents	all working days (09.00 am to 01.00 pm)					
07.	Price of tender document	Tk. 5000/ (five thousand) only.					
08.	Tender closing date	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 (From 08.00 AM to 12.00 PM)					
09. Tender opening date 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 12.30 Noon (In presence of the tenderers or their auth							
	agent, if anybody available)						
10.	Name & Address of the office	Procurement Section at Room: 230 (1st Floor) of OPD Building,					
	selling tender documents	BIRDEM General Hospital.					
11.	Name, designation & address	Prof. M K I Quaiyum Chowdhury					
	of official inviting tender	Director General					
		BIRDEM General Hospital					
12.	General terms & condition						
		be manufacturer or their authorized supplier/distributor or dealer of the items.					
		by lot wise. Bidder may participate in any & or all lots.					
	(c) Lot wise detail specifica	tion, terms & conditions, warranty & after sales service shall be enumerated in the tender schedule.					
-	(a) I ne tenderers shall h	ave valid trade license, TIN, VAT & Income Tax Certificate. tions are mentioned in the Tender documents.					
12	Pre bid meeting	A pre bid meeting will be held on 01 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 in the room no: 246 at 12.00 hrs.					
<u>13.</u> 14.	Tender security	3% of the quoted amounts have to be deposited in the form of Demand Draft or Pay-order from					
14.	renuer security	any local commercial bank in favour of BIRDEM General Hospital for each lot separately.					
15.	<b>BIRDEM</b> authority reser	ves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.					
16.	In case of holiday or any	unavoidable circumstances last date of dropping of the tender will be the next working					
	day.						
		Director General					
		BIRDEM General Hospital					
D- 136	}						

#### DHAKA THURSDAY OCTOBER 14, 2021, ASHWIN 29, 1428 BS



An operator lights up a kerosene-run lamp, which is part of a British-era signalling device installed at Mobarakganj railway station in Jhenidah's Kaliganj upazila.

# BRITISH ERA SIGNALLING LAMPS Lives at stake at 13 rly stations

#### **OUR CORRESPONDENT**, Jhenidah

It might come as a surprise, but 13 out of around 440 railway stations in the country are still using night-time switching signal lights run by kerosene oil and manual track switching mechanisms -- all installed during the British era.

A railroad switching mechanism -referred to as 'points' by railway employees in the country -- at a railway station or a junction guides an incoming train onto a free track to avoid collision with a stationary train.

Switching signal lights are illuminated at night to inform the driver of an incoming train as to whether the train can approach a station or pass through a junction.

Both cargo and passenger trains passing through these 13 stations -- located in the districts of Chuadanga, Jhenidah, Jessore and Khulna -- at night run the risk of serious accidents and fatalities, as the switching signals are often blown out by strong wind.

In 2020, four trains were detailed at railway stations in Jhenidah and Jashore. In one of the accidents that took place at Safdarpur station in Jhenidah that year, an estimated damage worth around Tk 3 crore was incurred when a freight train loaded with stones collided head-on with another oil laden freight train.

This year, on February 22, two compartments of the Sundarbans Express were derailed at Kotchandpur station in Ihenidah.

According to data from Signal and Telecommunications office at Pakshi Division of Bangladesh Railway (west zone), 22 trains pass back and forth every day through the 13 stations from Chuadanga's Darshana to Khulna city. There are nearly 160 kerosene signalling 'point man' before a train is given clearance to approach a station at night. But before that, the same operator has to select a designated track for the incoming train by manually flipping all the tumblers of point levers, each weighing 26 kilograms.

In case the lamps in the signals are blown out by wind, the driver stops the train abruptly to avert an accident. When such occurrences happen in the middle of nowhere and in the dead of night, passengers are often gripped by fear and panic.

Sanjoy Biswas, point operator at Kotchandpur station in Jhenidah, said passengers on the route suffer immensely as the kerosene lamps at the station go off frequently.

For the safety of all, the lamps need to be replaced with a modern and computerised signalling system, he added.

Assistant Cabin Master Anisur Rahman and Point Man Ashrafuzzaman Liton of Jashore railway station said it is quite difficult for even the strongest of the employees to unlock and set nearly a dozen of point levers at a station, especially during adverse weather conditions.

Asked, Station Master Shahjahan Sheikh of Mobarakganj station in Jhenidah's Kaliganj upazila said though the current signalling system is not flawless, it does not pose too much risk.

Talking to this correspondent over phone, MM Rajib Billah, a signal and telecommunications engineer at Pakshi Division office of Bangladesh Railway (west zone), said the signalling and track switching systems have been modernised along the rail tracks between Rajshahi city and Darshana when the tracks were converted to double tracks.

Approval has already been given to

#### COUNTRY \_

# DEFAMING A WOMAN DSA case filed against upazila chairman

#### OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A case has been filed under the Digital Security Act against two people, including an upazila parishad chairman, for defaming a woman on Facebook.

Shima Rani Sheel, an activist of the ruling Awami League, filed the case with the Cyber Tribunal in Rajshahi on September 26.

The case came into the limelight after a month as Rezaul Haque Babu, chairman of Bera Upazila Parishad in Pabna, was quizzed by police in this regard.

Besides Babu, who is also the president of Jatsakini union AL, one named Molla Arman was also made accused in the case.

According to the plaintiff, Arman, the key accused in the case, posted a defamatory comment about her character on his Facebook on September, 19.

The second accused shared the post to defame her in society, she added.

The Cyber Tribunal accepted the case and directed the Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) to investigate the incident.

Md Fazle Elahi, superintendent of PBI, Pabna, told The Daily Star that they were investigating the case.

"After getting court order we have started the investigation," he said.

Meanwhile, Babu said that the case was politically motivated and filed to harass him.

## Poisoned in their habitat

FROM PAGE 1

City

"They [forest officials] could not go to the spot until Wednesday morning, although the incident took place around 5:00pm on Tuesday. They sometimes hold awareness campaigns at the upazila auditorium despite our request to hold those near forest areas," he said.

Abhijit Kumar Barua, range officer of Moheskhali Range under Chattogram Coastal Division, told The Daily Star that they found proof of the brutality upon a visit to the area on Wednesday morning.

"We found a total of three monkeys 500 yards away from where the killing took place. Bananas laced with toxins were found around the field. A troop of monkeys came out from the nearby forest and died within hours of consuming the fruit," he said.

Abhijit said usually 30 to 50 monkeys roam together in a group.

He said they identified the accused and collected the necessary proof of the crime to file a case under the Wildlife Conservation Act-2012.

Mentioning the area as a habitat for wildlife, Abhijit said some influential locals encroach upon the forest, start farming there and view wildlife as a nuisance. When monkeys and other wildlife feast on the crop, they lay snares to kill them.

"We have seen various crop fields including those cultivating bottle gourd, eggplant and other crops there. Due to poor manpower, it becomes tough to evict those ... a few months ago, one of our colleagues died after being attacked by grabbers in Moheskhali," he said.

Elephants, monkeys, fishing cats and badgers have been falling victim to illegal grabbers of forestland in greater Chattogram for some time.

As per the Wildlife Conservation Act-2012, if a person commits any crime against wildlife, he or she will be jailed for one year or pay a fine of Tk 50,000, or both in case of the first crime. The penalties are doubled for repeat offences.

Wildlife Biologist Monirul H Khan, also professor of Zoology at Jahangirnagar University, said it was a truly sad incident.

"Forest department must stop farming inside the forest and take necessary steps to protect wildlife, which has been facing severe onslaught across their range," he said.

Mohammed Abdur Rahman, divisional forest officer of Chattogram coastal forest division, told The Daily Star that his range officer went to the spot with a veterinary surgeon.

"We will sue the accused, who has already been identified, after receiving autopsy report," he said.

Abdul Hai, officer-in-charge of Moheskhali Police Station, told The Daily Star they heard around 50 monkeys were killed, but no one came to lodge any complaint as of yesterday evening.

# Free eye camp for underprivileged people

#### STAR COUNTRY DESK

Distressed Children & Infants International (DCI) and Rights and Sight for Children (RSC), in partnership with Faraaz Hossain Foundation, organized a free eye screening camp for the underprivileged people in coastal area of Patuakhali's Bauphal upazila on Tuesday, marking the World Sight Day-2021.

A team of doctors from Isphani Islamia Eye Institute & Hospital, Barisal provided treatment, from 10:00am to 4:00pm, to the underprivileged patients at the eye camp, according to a press release.

The free eye screening camp was aiming to identify and treat every underprivileged people, mostly financially unable to seek treatment, in the coastal areas who were in need of eye surgery, medicine or eyeglasses.

As many as 757 underprivileged children and adults received free eye treatment at the camp.

Of them, 106 patients were diagnosed with cataracts and 286 patients with refractive errors. About 195 eye glasses were also provided free of cost during the day-long camp while the rest of the refractive error patients will receive their eye glasses on October 22 from RSC Learning Centre (Opposite of Kalaiya Hayatunnesha Girls High School).

Besides, cataract patients will undergo surgery at Isphani Islamia Eye Institute & Hospital, Barisal, while about 365 patients were given medicines from the camp.

Founder and Executive Director of DCI Dr Ehsan Hoque in a special message said, "The goal of this eye camp is to provide the light of vision and new hope to the unfortunate and underprivileged people in memory of Faraaz." Mr SM Faisal Ahmed, chairman of 10-Kalaiya Union Parishad (UP), attended the eye camp as chief guest.

# Dev spree to go on despite odds

ROM PAGE 1

Highlighting various initiatives taken by her government to reduce disaster risks, the premier said they were doing their part while the people would have to do theirs in this regard.

"People need to be careful and take some measures accordingly. While constructing houses, offices, and business establishments, you have to keep in mind that disasters such as fire, storm and flood can strike any time. So, everyone should follow the building code while constructing those to stay away from the risks."

Referring to BNP's arson attack (in 2014 to thwart the national election), the premier urged all to remain alert to manmade disasters.

She mentioned the measures taken by her government such as giving cash incentive to the people and businessmen as well as relief materials to the masses, providing treatment to the people, purchasing vaccines to minimise people's hardship and keeping the wheels of the economy moving amid the pandemic.

Hasina said her government has launched the mass Covid vaccination campaign with a target of bringing 80 percent citizens under vaccination coverage.

She called upon all to follow health protocols as anyone can become infected with Covid even after taking the vaccine.

The PM opened CPP's four units --Druto Saradan Unit (quick response unit), Pani Theke Uddar Kora Unit (rescue from water unit), Oti Joar Monitoring O Saradan Unit (high-tide monitoring and response unit) and Khelay Khelay Durjog Prostoti Unit (disaster preparedness with fun).

She hoped that these units will help CPP accelerate disaster management work.

State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Enamur Rahman and Secretary Md Mohsin spoke on the occasion from Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital.

Lawmakers, government officials and other dignitaries joined the programme from the Muktijoddha Math, Cox's Bazar.

Hasina earlier unveiled the cover of a book titled "Durjog Sahonshil Bangladesh Binirmane Sheikh Hasina".

On behalf of the PM, the state minister for disaster management and relief distributed "lifetime honorary medal" to three best organisers and six volunteers, including three women, for their outstanding contribution to the field of disaster risk management.

The lifetime awardees are: organisers Saidur Rahman, AKM Hasan Al Rashid, and AJM Golam Rabbani, and volunteers Shova Rani Das, Ratna Rani Dey, Hawa Begum, Fazlul Karim, Abdul Hasim Siraj Kazi, and Md Hanif.

E-mail: ceozp@zpmymensingh.org.bc

lights at these stations, with each station having around 10 to 12 signals and around 9 to 10 switch points on both sides.

All the kerosene lamps inside the signal casings are lit up by an operator called

জিডি-১৮৩৪

upgrade the single rail track between Darshana and Khulna city rail stations into double tracks and the signalling and track switching systems along the tracks will also be modernised during the work, he added.

> ফ্যাব্সঃ ০৫১-৬৪৪৬৪, ফোনঃ ০৫১-৬০০৭২ মুঠোফোনঃ ০১৩২০২২১৭০০

ই-মেইলঃ comistcbogura@police.gov.bd

সাপপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ কমাড্যান্টের (পুলিশ সুপার) এর কার্যালয় ইন-সার্ভিস ট্রেনিং সেন্টার, বগুড়া উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি (OTM) দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-০২/২০২১-২০২২ আরফ নং-৪১/আইটিসি, বঙ্ডা পাবদিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন, ২০০৬ ও পাবদিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা-২০০৮ এবং তৎপরবর্তীতে সংশোধিত ও প্রণীত আইন/বিধিমালা মোতাকে ২০২১-২০২২ অর্থ সালে ইন-সার্জি ট্রনিং সেন্টার, বঙ্ড়া এর নিম্নবর্ণিত (বিজ্ঞজির ২১নং ক্রমিকে উল্লেখিত) কাজের জন্য প্রকৃত ঠিকাপার/প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে নিজ্ব

প্যাডে বি	লখিত আবেদনসহ সীলমোহরকৃত খামে প্রতিযোগিতা							
۵.	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ/অধিদণ্ডর	8		ত্তা বিভাগ/পুলিশ অধিদণ্ডর।				
٤.	ত্রন্য/সংগ্রহকারী সংস্থা	8	ইন-সার্ভিস ট্রেনিং সেন্টার	ইন-সার্ভিস ট্রেনিং সেন্টার, বগুড়া।				
৩.	ক্রয়/সংগ্রহের স্বত্রাধিকারীর নাম	8	কমান্ড্যান্ট (পুলিশ সুপার), ইন-সার্ভিস ট্রেনিং সেন্টার, বঞ্চড়া।					
8.	দরপত্রের বিষয়	8	২০২১-২০২২ অর্থ সালের জন্য ভাড়ায় চালিত গাড়ি (০২টি হাইস মাইক্রোবাস ও ০১টি					
		·	নোয়া গাড়ি) সরবরাহ।					
¢.	দরপত্র আহবানের সূত্র ও তারিখ		স্মারক নং-৪১/আইটিসি, বগুড়া তারিখঃ ১২/১০/২০২১খ্রিঃ					
৬.	দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	8	উন্মক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (O'	ΓM)				
۹.	বাজেট ও অর্থনৈতিক খাত	8	রাজস্ব বাজেটের আওতায়	পুলিশ বাজেটের সংশ্লিষ্ট কোড	51			
Ъ.	দরপত্র প্রকাশের তারিখ	8	১৪-১০-২০২১খ্রিঃ তারিখ এর মধ্যে (যেকোন এক দিন)।					
ి.	দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	8	২৮-১০-২০২১খ্রিঃ তারিখ	বেলা ১৪.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।				
٥٥.	দরপত্র গ্রহণের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	8	৩১-১০-২০২১খ্রিঃ বেলা :	২.০০ ঘটিকা পৰ্যন্ত।				
>>.	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	8	০১-১১-২০২১খ্রিঃ বেলা	১২.৩০ ঘটিকায় দরপত্রদ	গতা বা মনোনীত প্রতিনিধিদের			
			উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেউ থা	কেন)।				
ડર.	দরপত্র মূল্যায়নের তারিখ ও সময়	8	০২-১১-২০২১খ্রিঃ সকাল	১১.০০ ঘটিকায়।				
১৩.	দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারীর অফিস ও ঠিকানা	8	ইন-সার্ভিস ট্রেনিং সেন্টার,	পুলিশ লাইন্স, বণ্ডড়া।				
۵8.	দরপত্র দলিল প্রান্তির স্থান	8	১। ইন-সার্ভিস ট্রেনিং সেন	টার, পুলিশ লাইন্স, বগুড়া।				
۵৫.	দরপত্র দাখিল ও খোলার স্থান		কমান্ড্যান্টের (পুলিশ সুপা	া) এর কার্যালয়, ইন-সার্ভিস ৫	ট্রনিং সেন্টার, বগুড়া।			
১৬.	দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতা	8	(ক) উপযুক্ত ঠিকাদার হিয	সবে প্রমাণের জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট কাগ	গজপত্র।			
					প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা-২০০৮ এবং			
					সকল শৰ্তাবলী প্ৰযোজ্য হবে।			
<b>۵</b> ۹.	দরপত্রের সাথে যে সকল কাগজপত্র জমা প্রদান	8			লনাগাদ ভ্যাট রেজিষ্টেশন সনদপত্র,			
	করতে হবে			ত্র ও ভোটার আইডি এবং নাগ				
					ন্দ্র প্যাডে (১ম শ্রেণির গেজেটেড			
					স্বাক্ষর, মালিকানা সনদপত্র, সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজের পূর্ব			
				নদপত্রসহ স্টেটমেন্ট এর মূলকপি,				
				াত ও দরপত্রের সাথে সংযুক্ত সকল শংক্রান্ত শর্তাবলি ও অন্যান্য তথ্যাদি				
<u>ک</u> ه.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম ও পদবি	8	দরপত্র সংগ্রহকালে নিমুস্বাক্ষরকারীর কার্যালয় হতে জানা যাবে। মোঃ বেলাল হোসেন, কমান্ড্যান্ট (পুলিশ সুপার), ইন-সার্ভিস ট্রেনিং সেন্টার, বণ্ডড়া।					
<u>کې</u>	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর সাথে যোগাযোগের	8	ফোনঃ ৫৫১-৬০০৭২ ফ্যান্সঃ ৫৫১-৬৪৪৬৪					
	মাধ্যম		11111 022-000 12 13	310 02 2-000 00				
<u> ک</u> و.	পণ্য/কাজের সংক্ষিপ্ত বিবরণঃ		005					
লট	কাজের বিবরণ		সিডিউলের মূল্য	দরপত্র জামানতের	সরবরাহের সমাঙির সময়			
নং		<u> </u>	(অফেরতযোগ্য)	পরিমাণ				
(ক)	ভাড়ায় চালিত মাইক্রোবাস (০২টি হাইস ও		2000/-	90000/-	নভেম্বর/২০২১ হতে			
	০১টি নোয়া গাড়ি) সরবরাহ বিদ্যাল লাকজ		-		৩০ জুন/২০২২ পর্যন্ত			
২১.	বিশেষ জ্ঞাতব্য ১) ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠানের স্বত্রাধিকারীর স্বাক্ষরযু	7. 0 <sup>171</sup>	চচ আবেচনগ্রিক বিকল্পির	১০না কমিক এব (ক) বে	ৰৰ্মিত মৰুল কাহাজহাতেৰ মহুৰুলি			
					<u>মানত পদলা দলগজগালের মূলকাপ</u>			
	প্রদর্শনপূর্বক বর্ণিত স্থান হতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময় দরপত্র সিভিউল সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। ২) ঠিকাদার ব্যতিত বা ঠিকাদার কর্তৃক প্রদন্ত ক্ষমতাপত্রসহ প্রেরিত প্রতিনিধি ছাড়া অন্য ব্যক্তিকে সিডিউল প্রদান করা হবে না।							
	২) াঠকাদার ব্যাতত বা াঠকাদার কতৃক প্রদন্ত ক্ষমতাপত্রসহ প্রোরত প্রাতাদায ছাড়া অন্য ব্যাক্তকে াসাভঙল প্রদান করা হবে না। ৩) সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের শেষ ও দাখিলের এবং খোলার নির্ধারিত তারিখে অনিবার্য কারণে অফিস বন্ধ থাকলে পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে একই সময়ে ও নিয়মে							
	ত)।সাওতল বিরুয়ের শেষ ও দার্ঘেলের এবং খেলার দিবারিত তারথে আদবাধ কারণে আবন্ধ ধর্ম থাকলে পরবতা কাধাদবনে একহ সময়ে ও দেরমে দরপত্র বিরুয়, দাখিল ও খোলা হবে। এ সংক্রান্ত কোন বিজ্ঞন্তি বা নোটিশ দেয়া হবে না।							
	পর্রণার বিরুদ্ধে, গাবিশ ও বেশি বিরুদেশ বিরোধে বেশি বির্জাগুর গোলেশ দেয়া হবে শা। ৪) অভিজ্ঞ সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে অগ্রাধিকার প্রদান করা হবে।							
	৫) পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স, ঢাকা হতে অর্থ বরান্দ প্রান্তি সাপেকে কার্যাদেশ দেয়া হবে।							
	৬) কর্তৃপক্ষ কোনো কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোনো বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ/বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।							
	৭) কোন কারণবশতঃ দরপত্র কার্যক্রমের তারিখ পরিবর্তন হলে তা পত্রিকায় প্রকাশ করা হবে।							
	৮) অকৃতকার্য দরদাতার দরপত্র জামানত যথাসম							
	1 2 3			(hla)_				
					0.2021			
				মোঃ বেলাল হো				
				বিপি-৭৫০৬১১৭ সমালাকী (প্ৰতিস				
				কমান্ড্যান্ট (পুলিশ ইন-সার্ভিস ট্রেনিং সেন্ট				
				રન-ગાહન હ્યાનર ભવ	ગય, મહણ			

Feud Over Property Schoolteacher arrested

#### **OUR CORRESPONDENT,** Pabna

Police on Tuesday night arrested a schoolteacher in connection with a case for assaulting his father in Chatmohar upazila of the district earlier in the day.

The matter draws attention among general people after photos of incident went viral in the social media.

The arrestee is Mohammad Mojnur Rahman, a teacher at RCN & BSN Government Model Pilot High School.

Meanwhile, police produced the arrestee before a Pabna court yesterday that sent him to jail, rejecting his bail prayer.

Officer in Charge (OC) of Chatmohar Police Station Anwar Hossain said Mojnur entered Mohela Post Office in Chatmohar on Tuesday noon and forced his father Ataur Rahman, a sub-postmaster, to register all his ancestral properties in his name.

When Ataur denied to do so, the arrestee beat his father at his office and later in a huge crowd when he tried to leave the place to avoid further humiliation, the OC said.

Police arrested the culprit after Ataur filed a case with Chatmohar Police Station against his son the same day.

### Booters bow out

#### FROM PAGE 1

a free-kick from captain Jamal Bhuiyan, but Oscar Bruzon's charges, who needed victory to advance to the title decider, were left shell-shocked when the referee pointed to the spot following a collision inside the Bangladesh box in the 86th minute of the game.

Bangladesh winger Saad Uddin seemed to have come in contact with a Nepalese forward, who made most of the incident, diving on to the pitch.

The Bangladesh team, who were down to 10 men on 79 minutes following goalkeeper Anisur Rahman's sending off, protested vehemently, but to no avail.

Anjan Bista converted the spot-kick past substitute goalkeeper Ashraful Islam Rana to equalise with two minutes of normal time remaining.

With a man down and morale shattered, there was no coming back for Bangladesh while the Nepalese players and officials were ecstatic on having made it to their first final of the regional competition.

Nepal will play the final on October 16 against either Maldives or India, with the qualifier slated to be decided following the group's final match late last night.

		Angla Control		হাসিনার মূলনীা ম শহরের উন্নতি
Memo	No. 46.42.61	00.002.07.001.20-966		3 October, 202
inome				0 000001, 201
	_	Invitation for Tender (Wor		
		-Tender Notice No. 05/2021-2022 (NC		
This e-T SI	ender is invited e-Tender	i in the National e-GP System Portal ( <u>www.eprocure.gov.bd</u> ) for the procurement of followi Package & name of work	ng works: Tender	Tender closing
No.	ID No.		publication (date & time)	opening (date time)
01.	619496	58/e-GP/Rev/2020-21 (1) HBB Road from Gostha Abul's house to Mojibur Rahman Akanda's house (2) HBB Road from Pashan Driver's house to Hasib Bhai's house in Ward 25 of Sadar Upazila (3) HBB Road from Barbila Paschimpara Chanu shop to Shahid's house in Bhabkhali union (4) Development of Road from the house of Mr. Jalal in Akua Maralbari to the house of Dr. Mannan (5) Development of Kushtia Markazul Haque Madras under Sadar Upazila under during the FY/2020-2021.	17-Oct-2021 12:00:00	02-Nov-202 15:00:00
02.	619497	Seife-GPRevu2020-21 (1) Development of Road house of Mr. Hafiz Chairman at Dapunia Union (2) Development of Road house of Mr. Hafiz Chairman at Dapunia Union (2) Development of 10 No. Ward Natun Bazar Jamee Mosque (2.00) & Development of Begunbari Hossainia Hafizia Madrasha (0.50) (3) Development of late Usman Mandal Road from MCC 27 No. Ward Chapra Mosque paved road to the house of Ab. Jabbar Ali (4) Complete of incomplete work Putialir Char Barbari Slorial graveyard at Ghagra Union (5) Development of Aqua Sardarbari Islamia Mosque under Sadar Upazia during the FY/2020-2021.	17-Oct-2021 12:00:00	02-Nov-202 15:00:00
03.	619498	60/e-GP/Rev/2020-21 (1) Development of Shabdul Munshi Noor Jamee Mosque in 12 No. Jahangirpur Union (2) Development of Rajabaria Kamaria Hafizia Madrasha in 10 No. Sherpur Union under Nandail Upazila during the FY/2020-2021.	17-Oct-2021 12:00:00	02-Nov-202 15:00:00
04.	619499	61/e-GP/Rev/2020-21 (1) Construction of Road for the Mosque of Narendrapur Md. Sohrab Maulana Saheb in Kharua Union (2) Development of Swagradi Purbpara Jamee Mosque in 1 No. Union Bir Betagair (3) Development of Moazzempur Dakkhin Nayapara Jamee Mosque in 5 No. Ward in 2nd Moazzempur Union (4) Development of Baitul Mamur Jamee Mosque in Kaliapara (West) 2 No. Ward in Moazzempur 2 No. Union (5) Completion of incomplete work of Nandaii Municipality 8 No. Ward Dakshin Para Sarbajanin Durga Mondir (6) Development of Dhanua Uttarpara Furkania and Hafizia Madrasha under Nandaii Upazila during the FY/202-0201.	17-Oct-2021 12:00:00	02-Nov-202 15:00:00
05.	619500	62/e-GP/Rev/2020-21 (1) Development of Social graveyard in front of Manzil's house in Chari Anapara village in 5 No. Ward Nandail municipality (2) Development of Bus Stand Jame Mosque at Charnta Bazar in Moazzempur 21 No. Union (3) Development of Achargaon High School Eidgah Math (4) Development of Kaliganj Alim Madrasha in Rajgati Union (5) Development of Bir Kamatkhali Furkania and Hafizia Madrasha under Nandaii Upazila during the FY/2020-2021.	17-Oct-2021 12:00:00	02-Nov-202 15:00:00
06.	619501	63/e-GP/Rev/2020-21 (1) Repair of Fulbaria Dack bungalow owned by the district council (2) Development of Road from Shuvria Jalil Khalifa's house to Habi Khalifa's house (3) Construction of Pond Guide Wall at Dasbari Furkania Madrasha (4) Development of Puraton Garuhata Jamee Mosque (5) Development of Deokhola Majhigara Purbapara Deenbandu Mondir (6) Development of Kushmail Pannapara Baitul Sharif Jamee Mosque under Fulbaria Upazila during the FY/2020-2021.	17-Oct-2021 12:00:00	02-Nov-202 15:00:00
07.	619502	64/e-GP/Rev/2020-21 (1) Development of Jamee Mosque adjacent to Faruk Member's house at Baddigram in Balian Union (2) Development of Dakkhin Kalibajail Hatem Doctor Bari Baliul Haque Jamee Mosque (3) Development of Chhankanda High School Road in Fulbaria Union (4) Development of Bhatipara Jamee Mosque in 01 No. Ward of Fulbaria Union (5) Development of Jamee Mosque adjacent to Jorbaria Ramzan Sarkar House, 7 No. Ward in Fulbaria Union under Fulbaria Upazila during the FV/2020-2021.	17-Oct-2021 12:00:00	02-Nov-202 15:00:00
08.	619503	65/e-GP/Rev/2020-21 (1) (a) Development of Jamee Mosque adjacent to the house of A. Rahim at 7 No. UP Kismat Narail Paschimpara (1 lakh) (b) Development of Koyrahati Jamee Mosque at 9 No. Dhara U.P. (1 lakh) (c) Development of Jamia Hussainiya Darul Uloom Majhiali Madrasha at 9 No. U.P. Dhara (2 lakh) (d) Ali Shah Bazar Niljan Jamee Mosque at 6 No. Bildora Union & Development of Bausa Talukdar Bari Jamee Mosque in 12 No. Swadeshi Union (1.50 lac) (2) Development of Bausa Talukdar Bari Jahka the Mosque in Swadeshi Union under Haluaghat Upazila during the FY/2020-2021.	17-Oct-2021 12:00:00	02-Nov-202 15:00:00
09.	619504	66/e-GP/Rev/2020-21 (1) Complete of Incomplete work of Langair Sheikh Bari Mosque in Langair Union (2) Complete of Incomplete work of Barihati Bazar river ghat in Tangab Union (3) Construction of Shahed Abdul Byapri Turan (4) Development of Paithal Shahed Nagar Uttarpara Baitul Nur Jamee Mosque under Gafargaon Upazila during the FY//2020-2021.	17-Oct-2021 12:00:00	02-Nov-202 15:00:00
10.	619505	67/e-GP/Revi2020-21 (1) Complete of Incomplete work of Langair Sheikh Bari Mosque in Langair Union (2) Complete of Incomplete work of Barihati Bazar river ghat in Tangab Union (3) Construction of Shahed Abdul Byapri Turan (4) Development of Paitial Shahed Nagar Uttarpara Baitul Nur Jamee Mosque under Gafargaon Upazila during the FY/2020-2021.	17-Oct-2021 12:00:00	02-Nov-202 15:00:00
ac 2. To 3. Th up	cepted. submit e-Tend e fees for purc to <b>01-Novemb</b>	tender advertisement where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal i ler, registration in the National e-GP Portal ( <u>www.eprocure.gov.bd</u> ) is required. hasing the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited onlini <i>ver</i> , <b>2021</b> at <b>4.00pm</b> . on and guidelines are available in the National e-GP Portal and from e-GP help desk ( <u>helpd</u>	e through any regis	tered bank branc
GD-183		Lira Chief Executiv Zila Parish	Tarafder e Officer (In-charge ad, Mymensingh zpmymensingh.org	:)

AFP, Paris

#### INTERNATIONAL



World's clean energy

transition 'too slow'

IEA says investment must be tripled

The global transition to clean energy is still far too slow to

meet climate pledges and risks fuelling even greater price

volatility, the International Energy Agency warned yesterday.

needs, and the uncertainties are setting the stage for a volatile

calculated that investment in clean energy projects and

infrastructure would need to be more than trebled over the

policy -- said that renewables such as wind and solar energy

continued to grow rapidly, and electric vehicles set new sales

records in 2020, even as economies were bent under the

to put global emissions into sustained decline towards net

zero" by 2050, which the agency believes will help limit the

However, "this clean energy progress is still far too slow

The first looked at the measures governments had already

put in place or specific policies they were actively developing.

And while almost all of the increased energy demand until

2050 could be met by low emissions sources, annual emissions

would still be roughly the same as today as developing

economies build up their nationwide infrastructure, the IEA

said. Under this scenario, temperatures in 2100 would be 2.6C higher than pre-industrial levels.

governments to achieve net-zero emissions in the future,

which would see a doubling of clean energy investment and

The second scenario looked at promises made by some

If these pledges were fully implemented in time, demand

Here, the global average temperature increase in 2100 would

for fossil fuels would peak by 2025, and global CO2 emissions

be around 2.1C, which would represent an improvement,

but would still be way above the 1.5C agreed under the Paris

"We are not investing enough to meet for future energy

In its annual World Energy Outlook report, the IEA

The IEA -- which advises developed countries on energy

by 2030 to curb climate change

period ahead," said IEA chief Fatih Birol.

next decade if those pledges are to be met.

increase in global temperatures to 1.5C.

The agency analysed two possible scenarios.

weight of Covid-19 lockdowns.

financing over the next decade.

accord, it concluded.

fall by 40 percent by 2050, the IEA said.

# SUBMISSION OF CLIMATE ACTION PLAN BY COUNTRIES Pledges fall short of target

'Terrifying' warming predicted as extended deadline passes ahead of COP26

The world is on track to see "terrifying" climate impacts as stepped-up emissionscutting plans filed by countries so far fail to limit fast-accelerating global warming, analysts said yesterday.

More than two-thirds of about 195 countries that signed the 2015 Paris climate accord submitted a new or updated climate action plan by an extended UN deadline on Tuesday, a tracker by the US-based World Resources Institute (WRI) shows.

That is an increase from the just over half of countries who filed plans by the end of July. Nations that updated their pledges in recent days include South Africa and Japan, with the latter promising to halve its emissions by 2030 from 2013 levels.

President Vladimir Putin yesterday said hat Russia -- one of the world's biggest producers of oil and gas -- is aiming for carbon neutrality by 2060.

#### China, India, Turkey and Saudi Arabia yet to strengthen their targets

Putin says Russia aiming for carbon neutrality by 2060

ADB boosts climate financing target by \$20b

But other major emitters including China, India, Turkey and Saudi Arabia which produce around a third of global emissions - have yet to strengthen their targets despite pressure growing on them to do so before the UN's COP26 climate summit.

Claire Fyson, a climate policy expert at Climate Analytics, said current emissionscutting pledges and net-zero commitments put the world on a trajectory to 2.4 degree elsius of warming by the end of the century. "This is terrifying considering the impacts

we are already experiencing at 1.1C," she old the Thomson Reuters Foundation.



finance to put them into practice are crucial at COP26, due to take place in Scotland from Oct. 31-Nov. 12.

The conference has been billed as the last chance to galvanise the collective effort needed to limit global warming to 1.5C above pre-industrial times, the more ambitious goal of the international Paris Agreement on climate change.

Meeting the 1.5C target will not prevent extreme weather worsening or sea levels rising, but it is seen as vital for avoiding runaway impacts on humans and the planet, including larger-scale hunger and migration.

Green groups have said deeper emission cuts from the world's 20 largest economies, or the G20, would be particular crucial to keep the 1.5C goal within reach and those countries must come up with more ambitious targets before the COP26 summit.

"China's emissions gap for 2030 - 25% of the total global gap to be on track for 1.5C - means that China in particular needs to take important steps forward," said David Waskow, the director of WRI's International Climate Initiative.

India, which has yet to set a target year to achieve net-zero emissions, has said it Analysts say securing more ambitious has been slashing emissions and adding emissions-cutting plans and providing the renewables to its energy mix, but any further

commitment will depend on finance from

The UN's climate science panel has said

45% from 2010 levels by 2030, and then hit net-zero by mid-century, to have a good chance of keeping warming to 1.5C. A 25% reduction is needed this decade

ceiling in the Paris Agreement.

change body, which assessed climate action plans from 113 countries that filed by a July deadline, said those commitments would only 12% by 2030.

Meanwhile, the Asian Development Bank has raised its financing target for climate change adaptation and mitigation by \$20 billion over the next decade, the Philippines-based lender said yesterday.

Under the 2019-2030 financing goal, which will include loans and grants, ADB will dedicate \$66 billion to climate mitigation, including energy efficiency and low-carbon transport. It will also commit \$34 billion to adaptation activities to boost the resilience of countries to the impacts of a warming planet.

agreement. The Kunming Declaration calls for

urgent and integrated action" to reflect biodiversity considerations in all sectors of the global economy but crucial issues like funding conservation in poorer countries and committing to biodiversityfriendly supply chains - have been left to discuss later.

**UN BIODIVERSITY SUMMIT** 

Countries

adopt Kunming

Declaration

Stop short of committing

to specific targets to curb

mass extinctions

pledged to put the protection of habitats

at the heart of their government decision-

More than 100 countries yesterday

making but they stopped short of

committing to specific targets to curb

Chinese Environment Minister

Biodiversity Conference in the city

Huang Runqiu told delegates to a UN

of Kunming that the declaration they

adopted was a document of political

will not a binding international

**REUTERS**, Kunming

mass extinctions.

With plant and animal species loss now at the fastest rate in 10 million years, politicians, scientists and experts have been trying to lay the groundwork for a new pact on saving biodiversity.

In a previous agreement signed in Aichi, Japan, in 2010, governments agreed on 20 targets to try to slow biodiversity loss and protect habitats by 2020, but none of those targets was met.

At the heart of efforts to save nature is a call by the United Nations for countries to protect and conserve 30% of their territory by 2030 - a target known as '30 by 30,' which the conference acknowledged though it was not clear to what extent host China backed it.

A one-size fits-all target would also be inappropriate for countries like Indonesia and Brazil, where a 30% goal would actually allow more deforestation, she added.

#### **MORE NEWS**

#### UN rights report warns of N Korea 'starvation risk'

North Korea's most vulnerable are "at risk of starvation" with the economy worsening due to a self-imposed coronavirus blockade, and UN sanctions imposed over the country's nuclear programmes should be eased, a UN human rights expert said yesterday. The impoverished nation has been behind a rigid blockade since early last year to protect itself from the pandemic, with the economy suffering and trade with key partner China dwindling to a trickle. Ordinary North Koreans are "struggling on a daily basis... to live a life of dignity", and the worsening humanitarian situation could "turn into a crisis", Tomas Ojea Quintana, UN special rapporteur on human rights, said in his latest report.

**Pandora Papers: Impeachment** 

# **INCURSIONS INTO TAIWAN'S AIR DEFENCE ZONE** China says drills 'just' moves to protect peace

Taiwan warns of strong countermeasures **REUTERS**, Taipei/Beijing

Taiwan's defence ministry warned China of strong countermeasures yesterday if its forces got too close to the island, as Beijing defended its incursions into Taiwan's air defence zone as "just" moves to protect peace and stability.

Military tensions with China, which claims Taiwan as its own territory, are at their worst in more than 40 years, Taiwan's defence minister said last week, adding China will be capable of mounting a "full scale" invasion by 2025.

He was speaking after China mounted four straight days of mass air force incursions into Taiwan's air defence identification zone that began Oct. 1, part of a pattern of what Taipei views as stepped up military harassment by Beijing.



rich countries.

planet-heating emissions need to fall by

to limit planetary heating to 2C, the higher

But a September report by the UN climate bring greenhouse gas emissions down by

#### bid launched against Chile leader

Chilean opposition lawmakers launched impeachment proceedings against President Sebastian Pinera yesterday over possible irregularities in the sale of a mining company, after new details emerged about the deal in the Pandora Papers leak. The move comes after Chile's public prosecutor said this month it would open an investigation into possible bribery-related corruption charges as well as tax violations related to the sale. Leaked documents appear to outline a deal involving the 2010 sale of the Dominga mine, a sprawling copper and iron project in Chile. At the time, Pinera, a billionaire businessman, was in his first year of his first term in office. The leak stirred controversy in Chile because it suggested the deal, which involved a firm linked to Pinera's family, was contingent on a favorable regulatory environment.

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS

No shots have been fired and China's aircraft have stayed well away from Taiwan's airspace, concentrating their activities in the southwestern corner of Taiwan's air defence zone.

In a report to parliament, Taiwan's defence ministry said their forces will adhere to the principle of "the closer they are to the island, the stronger the countermeasures", though it gave no details.

China blames Taiwan, and its most important international backer the United States, for the tensions, a point Ma Xiaoguang, spokesman for China's Taiwan Affairs Office, made again in Beijing, pointing the finger at Taiwan's ruling Democratic Progressive Party's (DPP).

"If the DPP authorities obstinately persist in going about things the wrong way, and do not know how to draw back from the edge, it will only push Taiwan into a more dangerous situation," he added.

China sees Taiwan as its territory and determined to reunify the territory with mainland. Taiwan says it is an independent country called the Republic of China, its formal name, and will defend its freedom and democracy.

Despite Ma's comments, both Chinese President Xi Jinping and Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen made relatively conciliatory speeches at the weekend, even as Xi vowed to bring Taiwan under its control and Tsai said they would not be forced to bow to China.

An anti-government protester covered in red paint flashes the three-finger salute during a protest against the Thai government demanding Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha's resignation and the abolition of 112 Lese-Majeste law, in front of the Bangkok Remand Prison in Bangkok, Thailand, yesterday

PHOTO: REUTERS

# 'To dehumanise, terrorise us'

A fortnight after forceful eviction, evicted in Assam find themselves cramped in shanties propped up with whatever is left of their homes

#### AL JAZEERA ONLINE

A fortnight after the Assam government's forceful eviction of Muslim villagers allegedly living on government land, the displaced people of Dhalpur - a cluster of villages on a Brahmaputra sandbar in the Sipajhar area – find themselves in cramped shanties propped up with whatever was left of their homes.

The villages are being cleared to make space for a farming project by the Assam government over 25,600 acres of land, which the evicted families say they have been living on for more than 40 years. The Gorukhuti Agriculture Project aims to set up "modern farming" and hand them over to the state's Indigenous youths.

The first round of evictions took place on September 20 in Dhalpur 1. "A notice was issued at midnight on September 18 and by September 20 morning, police and administration started clearing the houses," Sohabuddin Ahmed, a 28-year-old displaced resident, told Al Jazeera.

But things spun out of control during the second round, on September 23 in Dhalpur 3. The eviction notices had been served late the previous night and the villagers were protesting, asking for more time. Policemen in riot gear, armed with sticks and guns, clashed with Ever since the BJP came to power



Muslims of Bengali origin.

Two people, including a teenaged boy, were killed and many others injured, including policemen. A 72-second video of photographer Bijoy Baniya jumping on the body of one of the Muslims shot by the police went viral, triggering outrage across the nation. Houses were razed to the ground, some set on fire.

The evicted families have been pushed to a patch of land in floodprone Dhalpur 3 and left to fend for themselves without any medical aid, drinking water and other basic amenities.

"Had it not been for that video, no one would have seen the real face of Assam police and Assamese 'jatiyatabadis' (nationalists) like Bijoy Baniya," said Khalilur Rehman, 38, whose house was also demolished on September 20.

This was not the first time the Dhalpur villagers had been displaced. the protesting villagers - all of them in Assam in 2016, the families have

been evicted at least three times - in November 2016, January 2021 and June 2021 - before the September drive.

The brutality of the latest eviction drive has many in the area believing the intent was not limited to clearing government land alone.

In the aftermath of the violence during the Dhalpur eviction, rising popular sentiment in Assam holds that government land should be freed "illegal immigrants".

"In today's Assam, every Bengalispeaking person is labelled a foreigner without any proof. All these people have identity proofs and their names are in the NRC, " said Mehdi of the All Assam Minority Students Union.

The 2019 NRC (National Register of Citizens) left some 1.9 million people off list. However Assam's rightwing BJP-led government announced earlier this year the NRC would be "reverified", claiming the 1.9 million number the list found was "too less" The demand was backed by several civil society groups which claim around 8 million "foreigners" were 'illegally" included in the NRC.

One victim Sohabuddin Ahmed sees the eviction drive as a clear move to further ghettoise the Bengali-origin Muslims of Assam. "They have pushed us to one corner and closed all paths. This was not done to clear government land but to dehumanise, terrorise and harass us.



GD-1835

Memo No. Shar/NGSS/Ver.Ext/C-4/2021/03

#### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer



**Education Engineering Department** Shariatpur Website: eed.shariatpur.gov.bd

Date: 13/10/2021

#### e-Tender Notice No. 03/2021-2022 (Open Tendering Method)

This is to notify all concerned that e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the Procurement of following works. Details are given below:

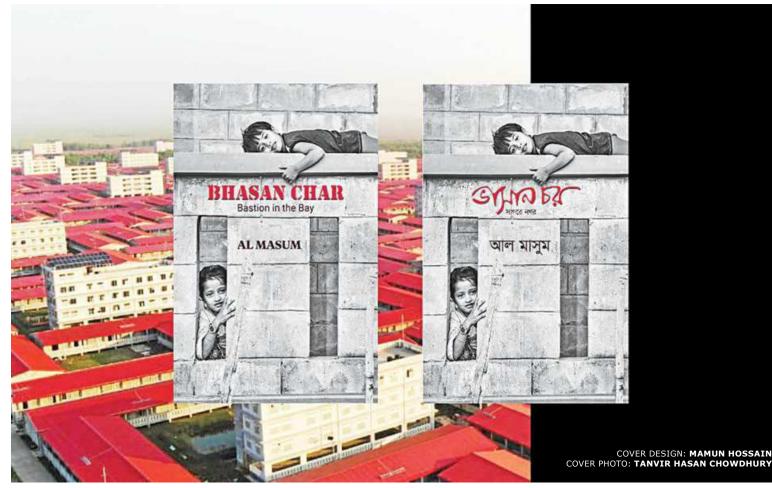
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110.				time)	
01	ID: 618591	Shar./NGSS/Ver	Vertical Extension of Existing Academic Building (1st	03-Nov-2021	04-Nov-2021
		Extension/C-4/ 2021/WD-30	floor, 2nd floor & 3rd floor) in/c. Sanitary Water supply & Electrification Works at Mahmudpur Modern High	17:00	13:00
			School, Sadar, Shariatpur.		
02	ID: 618593	Shar./NGSS/Ver	Vertical Extension of Existing Academic Building (1st	03-Nov-2021	04-Nov-2021
		Extension/C-4/	floor, 2nd floor & 3rd floor) in/c. Sanitary Water supply &	17:00	13:00
		2021/WD-31	Electrification Works at Charchanda High School,		
	15 0/050/		Bhedargonj, Shariatpur.		
03	ID: 618594	Shar./NGSS/Ver	Vertical Extension of Existing Academic Building (1st	03-Nov-2021	04-Nov-2021
		Extension/C-4/	floor, 2nd floor & 3rd floor) in/c. Sanitary Water supply &	17:00	13:00
		2021/WD-32	Electrification Works at Majid Zarina Foundation School		
			and College, Naria, Shariatpur.		
04	ID: 619401	Shar./NGSS/Ver	Vertical Extension of Existing Academic Building (1st	03-Nov-2021	04-Nov-2021
		Extension/C-4/	floor, 2nd floor & 3rd floor) in/c. Sanitary Water supply &	17:00	13:00
		2021/WD-33	Electrification Works at Charbhaga Bangabandhu Adarsh		
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The interested persons/firms may visit website (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) to get the details of the tender. This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To Submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information & guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk: (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

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# BOOKS





#### **BOOK REVIEW: NONFICTION**

# Is Bhashan Char really the answer to the Rohingya crisis?

SHAHAB ENAM KHAN

smuggling in Teknaf and Ukhiya Upazilas and intra-camp violence between refugee groups. Hence, providing temporary alternative shelters for the refugees often becomes a necessity for the host governments.

Amid these complex debates, Al Masum Molla, a young and versatile journalist, embarked on an ambitious project to document the life and livelihoods of the Rohingyas in newly built refugee facilities in Bhashan Char. His book, *Bhashan Char: Bastion in the Bay* (Agamee Prokashoni, 2021) is impressive and the first of its kind, available in both Bangla and English editions. Based on interviews and research conducted over several years' worth of visits to Bhashan Char and supplemented by an intelligent observation, the book offers balanced views between the realities and perceptions, argue that relocations from mainland camps should be fully informed and voluntary, and the authorities should allow any refugee who wants to return to Cox's Bazar to do so on humanitarian grounds. In addition, sea-level rise, sustainability of fresh water supply and environment, and the psycho-social effect of "isolation" as a cause of "unrest" and crime source are being debated.

I was particularly intrigued by Molla's geomorphological argument favouring Bhashan Char in the Meghna Estuary on the Bay of Bengal. He discusses that Bhashan Char can be a global model of protection from natural disasters, but the test lies in whether they will be as resilient as the coastal people. He aptly reminds us of the age of information and globalization, in which stifling information can lead to confusion and become a source of malicious rumours. The victim will be the Bhashan Char initiative itself. Molla nevertheless shows a sense of optimism that Bhashan Char can become an economic model if it can be linked with Bangladesh's blue economy and agricultural and entrepreneurial policies. Time will tell. I think the book has critically addressed the problems that the Rohingyas and the international community raised, and Molla attempts to offer solutions to the issues that plague Bhashan Char or the complexity of the refugee crisis in Bangladesh. To his credit, the book succeeds in humanizing the rather dire situation. In his own words, "It is a strange love-hate relationship that the Bay has with Bangladesh. Yet, Bhashan Char, amid all that, has risen from the sea like a beacon of hope.'

# Gilgamesh through the sands of time

In this new series of articles, we discuss books that changed the course of history.

#### JAHANARA TARIQ

Unlike the blind, brilliant bard who is thought to have conceived Iliad and *Odyssey*, or Ved Vyas who put the tale of Mahabharata on paper with the help of a potbellied deity, and unlike, also, Virgil's oscillating between a tortured artist and corporate parrot in The Aeneid, there are no fabled traces of the artist behind Gilgamesh. Yet the text itself stands tall as a myth and seems to almost shed the need for a solitary author. Michael Schmidt, author of Gilgamesh: The Life of a Poem (Princeton University Press, 2019), has said in an interview that, "Gilgamesh is made by a river, by fire, by generations of scribes, by shepherds, ruin-robbers, archaeologists, and scholars. In all the debris there are

east. The epic has resurfaced through time in various ways, sometimes quite literally and at others through known tropes and similar narrative plot lines. The fragmented tablets of this ancient poesy are still frozen in fluidity, perhaps still seeking its next puzzle piece.

In the final sections of the tale, Gilgamesh is desolate in the grief of his friend's death, and nowhere near to defeating mortality. After returning to Uruk, however, the sight of the colossal walls of his city incites him to stand in awe at this enduring work of mortal men. And suddenly the readers are back to where they started, too, admiring the prosaic excellence of the city walls. The implication is obvious—that mortals



literally no vestiges of an identifiable poet to be found."

The epic antedates even the depiction of the famous Trojan war; it is, in effect, the oldest epic found till date. Originating as a series of five Sumerian poems about the adventures of the mythological hero Gilgamesh, the "Epic of Gilgamesh" was sewn together into a 12-tablet Akkadian language epicdecades, or even centuries, later. Most of the poems were written down in the first centuries of the second millennium BC. The most complete edition comes from the 7th century library of Assurbanipal, antiquary and last king of the Assyrian Empire. The debris of the poem was first discovered in the mid-1800s by two Englishmen when archaeologists

can achieve immortality only through dazzling creations and art which will stand tall through the passage of time, unlike fragile, perishable physical bodies; that is the knowledge that Gilgamesh discovers in his conquest over death.

A few weeks ago, news headlines announced that a 3,500-year-old "Dream Tablet" recounting the epic of Gilgamesh was returned to Iraq after it was stolen three decades ago and illegally imported to the United States. One can't help but juxtapose this story of loot and of the tablet returning home to Gilgamesh's own journey against the ticking clock. The clay tablets, like the wounded hero himself, have come back full circle, weathering through terrible wars during the US invasions and attempted erasure by Islamic militants. They have survived the test of time, existing in fragmented echoes of engraved cuneiform, clay tablets; existing, despite the changing topography of the world and despite being dispersed in a wide strip from Turkey to Iraq; existing, despite being written, composed and recomposed, reformed and transformed over a period of more than a thousand years The tale of it spreading and resurfacing and moving from one time zone to another, from one space to another, is strangely synonymous to the ethos of the epic itself.

camp, the largest refugee camp in the world, set up in 1991 for a meagre refugee settlement. This camp, along with some others in Cox's Bazar, is built on steep hillsides and prone to flooding and landslides during monsoons. Even though international agencies and the government have improved the situation in recent years, in July 2021, as per UNHCR, more than six refugees were killed, 12,000 refugees were affected, and an estimated 2,500 shelters were damaged or destroyed due to landslides and flash floods.

Bhashan Char has lately become a topic

of critical debate in the refugee relocation

discourse. It is a reality that comes with a harsh

Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar and the

limits of a highly populated state in supporting

an incredibly high number of foreign nationals

living in its territory. After the textbook case

of ethnic cleansing and genocide committed

by the Burmese authorities in August 2017, as

documented in the UN proceedings and noted

by the International Court of Justice, more than

723,000 Rohingyas fled the province of Rakhine

Bangladesh now hosts Kutupalong refugee

in Myanmar and took refuge in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh was already hosting between

300,000 to 500,000 Rohingyas by then.

reminder of demographic changes within the

Another critical problem that remains for the government of Bangladesh and the international community is the population expansion in the camps. While the country is hosting 860,175 Rohingyas from 187,530 families, each with an average of 4.6 family members, most of whom live in a single room per family, one should note that camps present a staggeringly high population density of 40,000 people per square kilometre. This puts the entire community at risk, both in terms of public health and security; the latter due to the drug, human, and arms

facts and myths, and gaps and needs.

Molla identifies that the government, as a temporary solution to the expanding population problem, built a USD 350 million facility on Bhashan Char island, which has fresh water supply, uninterrupted power supply, agricultural facilities, cyclone shelters, health facilities, civic and teaching facilities, and a police station. In addition, Bangladesh's coastal disaster management capacities are well regarded, making the government confident that refugees will be safe and secure like any other Bangladeshi coastal community.

While the government's concerns and responses are clearly valid and transparent, the criticism primarily lies in whether Rohingyas are willing to go there, leaving their near and dear ones in Cox's Bazar. Many have raised concerns regarding Bhashan Char's emergency and logistical response preparations for refugees, humanitarian workers, Bangladeshi officials, and security personnel. Some would

Shahab Enam Khan is Professor of International Relations, Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka.

began uncovering the buried cities of the Middle-East. Since then, scholars and archaeologists have laboured to put the shards together into a unified whole. The main body of the Assyrian epic has not been altered in essentials since the mammoth publications of the text, accompanied with commentary by Campbell Thompson, around 1930.

Its story tells of how Gilgamesh, the king of Uruk (present day Iraq), battles with and later befriends a giant by the name of Enkidu. They then feud with the gods, causing Enkidu to lose his life, and Gilgamesh to embark upon a quest to conquer death.

With time, wars buried the Assurbanipal library completely. Historians assume that the Babylonian gods and their universes went underground only to reappear in later Mediterranean religions and that the heroes transformed and survived by travelling westwards as well as to the To find out more about the story of *Gilgamesh*, read an extended version of this article on *The Daily Star* website, or on Daily Star Books' Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn pages.

**Jahanara Tariq** *is a postgraduate student of English Literature.* 

# The afterlife of colonialism, unveiled

Reading into the most recent novel of Abdulrazak Gurnah, this year's Nobel laureate in literature, announced on October 7, 2021

#### ISRAR HASAN

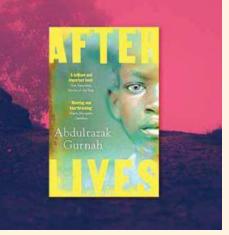
Abdulrazak Gurnah, this year's Nobel laureate in literature, seems to come as an admirable choice compared to the Nobel Prize's controversial recent history. The Nobel committee has, at times, stepped over viable candidates who in their words were "too predictable, too popular", or at others have selected candidates who were allegedly genocide deniers or apologists, such as the Norwegian master, Knut Hamsun, and the controversial 2019 laureate from Austria, Peter Handke. The prize has been credited for bringing literary lights out of relative obscurity and propelling them to superstardom, while at the same time overlooking some of history's literary heavyweights, such as Tolstoy and Proust. It has also selected only 16 women out of the 118 winners of the award since 1901, and is often critiqued for featuring white, Western authors too often.

Gurnah, a Zanzibar-born Tanzanian writer living in the United Kingdom, has been chosen for his "uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents." In many ways, Gurnah's own story paves the way for his novels, as the author escaped the Zanzibar Revolution in the 1960s when the ruling Arab classes were being hunted down by Black African revolutionaries.

*Afterlives* (Bloomsbury, 2020), his most recent novel, showcases a darker and humane side of the complex relationship between the realms of the oppressor, the oppressed, and the by-standers. It takes us to the region of Tanzania, East Africa comprising Uganda, and Kenya that is expanding under German colonial forces and wrestling with other colonial powers such Britain, in the early 20th century.

Gurnah presents a host of diverse characters, such as Khalifa, a merchant-clerk of Gujrati-African heritage; Khalifa's wife, Asha; Hamza and Ilyas, voluntary soldiers in the German Colonial Army (*Schutztruppe*); and Illyas's orphaned sister, Afiya.

Together, they paint a devastating canvas of terror, warfare, bloodshed, and



#### DESIGN: SARAH ANJUM BARI

exploitation, which occurs in the name of bringing civilisation to Africa. All of this is personified in the rather ambiguous conduct of one despondent German officer sent to the region to lead the military forces. He treats his African soldier, Hamza, with a conflicting mix of contempt and affection—deriding him for his "savage" backwardness while having hopes of him learning the ways of Europe. It is only after learning German and reading the philosophy of CF Von Schiller that Hamza earns the approval of his superior, but his relationship with the German Colonial Army remains a major site of contestation for which he struggles to reaffirm his sense of worth and identity.

It is Hamza's complexity of character which makes the novel a mediator between the colonial and post-colonial experience, evoking the themes of love, estrangement, uprooting, and reconciliation. And through Hamza's interaction with the Khalifas, and with Afiya, the woman of his dreams, we see the impact of war on African soldiers who were either coerced or compelled into fighting for the colonists.

Written in a third person narrative, Gurnah's prose is just as piercing as his observation is deep and jarring. He humanizes the colonists and the subjects rather than impose constrained binaries. As in his previous books, he brings to life the experiences of Muslims residing near the Indian Ocean amidst its multicultural setting—the sounds, the tastes, and the smells of their daily lives in East Africa come through in vivid amalgamation. And he creates a sense of intimacy using a smattering of Swahili and Arabic phrases to mesh the worlds of natives, migrants, and colonists into a world of fluid literary imagination.

In *By the Sea* (2011), Gurnah's previous novel, we see Zanzibari refugees fleeing to England; one of the characters refuses to speak in the language of the colonists as a sign of resistance. In each of Gurnah's novels, we find this sense of radical self-imagination and self-invention of the coloniser-oppressor and colonised-victim dynamic in nuanced portrayals, with exquisite attention to detail. Gurnah breathes into his writing a fiery incense in an effort to understand the "afterlives" of the colonial period, whose past can be felt by the needs of today's world. In many ways, we too are the afterlives of colonialism.

**Israr Hasan** is a research assistant at BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health. EDITORIAL



FOUNDER EDITOR LATE S. M. ALI DHAKA THURSDAY OCTOBER 14, 2021, ASHWIN 29, 1428 BS

# A cosmetic exercise at the cost of road victims

Board formed to settle compensation claims cannot function without the RTA rules

THE government has finally formed a trustee board to settle compensation claims over road accidents. While this is good news, one must wonder why it took so much time to form this board—three long years after the enactment of the Road Transport Act, 2018 (RTA), and around a year after the board's chairman and member secretary were appointed. Even worse, the formation of the board is now appearing to be a case of putting the horse before the cart: while the process of seeking compensation can now be started, the applications will not be processed until the RTA rules (which are yet to be formulated) determine the amounts and procedures to collect contributions for a government fund to pay for the compensation.

In this sense, the newly-formed board is purely cosmetic. Since the passing of the RTA, the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) has missed four submission deadlines for a draft of the rules, submitted an incomplete draft in 2019, and is now in the process of going back and forth with the law ministry with the "completed" rules. The latest update is that they are still working on the queries that have been sent to them, and it will take "some more time." We must ask: How much more time can be afforded to road accident victims who have been disabled for life, or have become insolvent while trying to pay for their hospital bills?

It is also frustrating to find that the board that has been formed does not include a single representative from organisations campaigning for road safety and victims' compensation, even though it includes representatives of transport owners and workers. Given that the delays in making the RTA functional have been a result of pressure from transport associations-and that the rules will determine how much these associations will contribute to the compensation fund-it was imperative to include board members who can keep such vested interests in check.

According to a police report in September, a total of 3,095 people were killed in 3,259 road crashes in the first seven months of this year alone. While deaths and injuries from road accidents continue to soar, justice for road accident victims faces one obstacle after another. This sluggish progress in providing compensation is an affront to their sufferings. The government must do everything in its power to ensure that there are no more delays in fully implementing the Road Transport Act as soon as possible.



extreme urban heat. According to the study, the dramatic rise of population in Dhaka between 1983 and 2016 is one of the key reasons behind the increasing heat the city has been experiencing. It's not just Dhaka; exposure to deadly urban heat now affects around a quarter of the

# The deadly urban heat that can cripple our city

N vet another sign of rapid deterioration in the quality of life in Dhaka, a recent study, published by the US-based scientific journal PNAS, has found the city to be the worstaffected around the world due to

world's population. Some other affected

million people in Dhaka have lost their productivity, the study has revealed. Apart from Dhaka, cities like Cumilla and Chattogram are also affected by severe urban heat

Around the same time, a report by the World Bank, titled "Climate Afflictions Report," has revealed yet another worrying fact. It has found that infectious diseases are increasing in Bangladesh due to hotter and longer summers, warmer winters, and extended monsoons. The report found erratic weather conditions to be the main factor behind the 2019 dengue outbreak in Dhaka.

It's mid-October now. During this time of the year, we usually expect the temperature to drop a little in the city areas. But there is hardly any sign in nature that the weather will cool down anytime soon. Rather, the city dwellers

depression, and anxiety disorders, which will become more common in the future.

The PNAS study has pointed out that global warming due to climate change has played only a 20 percent role in the temperature rise in Dhaka between 1983 and 2016, while rapid population growth and unplanned urbanisation has had an 80 percent role behind it.

Currently, the population growth rate is 2.7 percent in Dhaka, which is the highest in the world. The city's population was four million in 1983, which increased to 20 million by 2016. In addition, people are continuously coming to the capital for different purposes, so on any given day, around 60 million people live in the city, the study has revealed.

Moreover, with rapid and unplanned urbanisation, the greenery of the city has



Unplanned urbanisation and development have made Dhaka a concrete jungle that traps heat.

cities are Shanghai and Guangzhou in China, Yangon in Myanmar, Bangkok in Thailand, and Dubai in the United Arab Emirates-which also experienced rapid population growth.

Scientists have found that rising temperatures and growing numbers of people living in urban areas combined have led to this situation, and warned that extreme heat would have devastating consequences for the urban population.

What happens when urban areas face increasing heat? According to the lead researcher of the study, in addition to increasing morbidity and mortality, extreme heat reduces people's productivity or their ability to work, resulting in lower economic output. Due to extreme heat, a total of 57.5

are now experiencing sweltering heat, which is affecting their ability to function properly. The World Bank report has found that not only are the summers getting hotter and the winters warmer, the monsoon is getting longer too-it now spans from February to October.

Bangladesh's temperature has increased by 0.5 degrees Celsius over the last 44 years, and is predicted to rise by another 1.4 degrees by 2050. With a onedegree rise in temperature, 9.3 percent more people are likely to suffer from respiratory diseases, while for one percent increase in humidity, there may be a 12.5 percent increase in the number of such patients, as the report has found. Extreme weather conditions can also cause mental illnesses, such as mood swings,

decreased to a minimum level, while the rivers and wetlands surrounding it have been filled up for illegal purposes as well as to make room for the growing population. The result of that is: Dhaka has literally become a concrete jungle. According to the Bangladesh Institute of Planners (BIP), 75 percent of the city area is now covered with concrete structures. With its greenery gone and concrete structures and asphalt surfaces trapping and concentrating heat, the temperature of the city has increased significantly.

FILE PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Research has found that many areas in Dhaka, Chattogram, and Khulna are turning into "urban heat islands" due to unplanned urbanisation and development. It is feared that more of such heat islands will be created in the According to the lead researcher of the study, in addition to increasing morbidity and mortality, extreme heat reduces *people's productivity* or their ability to work, resulting in lower economic output.

future if the issue is not addressed by the city authorities urgently. By now, 70 percent areas of the capital city and 60 percent areas of the port city have turned into heat islands. If the trend continues, Dhaka and Chattogram will soon become extremely climate vulnerable (Prothom Alo, April 22, 2021).

With Dhaka being severely affected by extreme heat and adverse weather patterns, and its population being exposed to infectious diseases, the residents' ability to work will decrease inevitably. The exposure to extreme heat will particularly affect the urban poor who live in slums in cramped conditions, without basic healthcare and other facilities.

If people are not able to work and function properly, if their productivity decreases from being exposed to extreme heat, what purpose will our big infrastructure development projects serve? If all our wetlands are filled up and rivers are grabbed, and all the greenery in the city is stolen, will the metro rail, the giant concrete structures mushrooming everywhere in the city, the big shopping malls and housing projects erected illegally on filled-up land let this city breathe?

To stop this worrying trend of temperature rise in Dhaka and other major cities, urgent action needs to be taken. Enough damage has already been done to our cities due to our ignorance and inaction. We have no time to waste. While we must have a national plan to fight against the impacts of climate change—which is one of the reasons behind the rise in Dhaka's temperaturereducing the population growth, focusing on planned urbanisation, increasing the greenery and reclaiming the wetlands in the city must also be given due importance if we want to save Dhaka from becoming a crippled city.

Naznin Tithi is a member of the editorial team at The Daily Star.

# Another burglary in the garb of e-commerce

#### The menace must be stopped

THE Bengali mind is known for its innovativeness. The Dholai Khal initiative is well-known nearly all over the world. While Dholai Khal brought relief to many and had a positive impact on the economy, innovativeness in other sectors of business has had the most damaging consequences. The business that is hogging the news currently is e-commerce—not for its positive contribution to society and the economy, but for the manner in which a perfectly novel way of trading has been corrupted to exploit people through fraud and deceit.

Another name has been added to the long list of fraudster companies that have cheated unsuspecting customers out of thousands of crores of taka: 24tkt. com, an e-ticketing agency. Reportedly, this particular company has swindled Tk 50 crore out of smaller agencies and customers. What surprises us is that it is not one or two or even a dozen people that 24tkt.com have managed to swindle, but 2,000-yes, 2,000 people. And they have been at it since 2019. The question is: how come? How has it been possible if the custodians have, as they claim, been keeping their antennae honed and their eyes open?

24tkt.com made the best of both worlds. They bought thousands of tickets from larger agencies on credit and sold them to smaller agencies and individuals on cash. And it never paid their creditors. Thus, the ticket was not confirmed—something that the unwary travellers found to their chagrin once they went to check in. We would like to point out that while the amount is comparatively smaller than what the other e-commerce companies like Evaly have swindled out of people, here the sufferers are the expatriates; many of them are workers whose jobs are on the line if they don't report to their workplace in time.

We are happy to know that two of the owners of the company have been arrested. Interestingly, nearly 30 e-commerce agencies are currently under surveillance, according to the CID. Unfortunately, there must be loopholes in the system, since so many of them have escaped the net. Our opinion is that the fraudulent ones must be identified and caught before they can do more damage to people. What is the point of arresting a few operatives when the masterminds manage to flee the country? Nipping them ab initio is essential, since the long-drawn legal process allows very little of the swindled money to be returned to the rightful owners.



first identified by the scientific community three decades ago, through the first assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC),

and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was agreed upon back in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Since then, the issue has grown in importance, and the way that it is understood by different groups of people around the world has changed several times. Here, I will describe my take on the evolution of the understanding and perception of climate change, which has now become a global emergency.

The first era of climate change viewed the problem through the first assessment report of the IPCC, and led to the environmental perspective where the problem was defined as a result of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and, therefore, the solution was to reduce those emissions. The process of doing so was termed "mitigation" and denoted the first era of perceptions and pledges of action. It led to all countries agreeing to take actions to reduce emissions under the UNFCCC. However, despite that promise, the GHG emissions continued to rise, and are still doing so today.

This, then, was followed by the second era of climate change, through the third assessment report of the IPCC, which was published in 2001 and highlighted the failure of mitigation actions. The report cautioned about the failure leading to the adverse impacts of climate change, which would be unavoidable in the near future. Hence, there was a need to prepare for those adverse impacts by adaptation to climate change. I had the privilege of being a lead author of that report, which

# The third era of climate change is upon us

**HE** issue of climate change was

highlighted the importance of adaptation rise below 1.5 degrees Celsius was for the first time.

An important corollary of this message was that not every community in every country would be adversely affected immediately-the poorest communities in the poorest countries would be the first to experience the impact; hence, tackling climate change was no longer just an environmental issue, but a development issue as well. This era of climate change drew in development actors both globally

agreed upon for mitigation, and a global goal on adaptation was accepted to be developed. The latter goal will be a major subject of discussion in the upcoming COP26, hosted by the United Kingdom in November this year, in Glasgow, Scotland.

After the publication of the sixth assessment report of the IPCC in August this year, we have now entered the third era of climate change, which is about the



#### A climate activist calls for immediate action during the Global March for Climate Justice in Milan, Italy, on October 2, 2021.

through the United Nations agencies and multilateral development banks, and nationally with the government authorities of planning and development.

The era of adaptation has been pursued since then, in parallel with the era of mitigation, which still continues.

Both mitigation and adaptation were enshrined in the Paris Agreement on climate change at the 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) in 2015, where the goal of keeping the global temperature

loss and damage attributable to GHG emissions since the Industrial Revolution, which has already raised global mean temperature over one degree Celsius, which is already causing severe adverse impacts around the world.

PHOTO: REUTERS

While the first era was under an environmental paradigm and the second era under a development paradigm, the third era is under a climate justice paradigm as the problems are caused by the rich and the victims are the poor-

which is completely unjust and indeed immoral.

We still need to continue-and do much more of-mitigation and adaptation, but we also have to address the inevitable loss and damage from human-induced climate change going forward. Thus, COP26 will be the first climate summit of this new era, and all countries will need to rise to this new challenge.

I will conclude by making a few suggestions on how to do so.

Firstly, the objective of the UNFCCC, the actions to reduce emissions, and adapting to climate change is no longer about the future, but about the present as we are already seeing the costs of loss and damage occurring in almost every country. These costs will rise exponentially, at least in the near term, so the new metric for measuring success is how much the loss and damage of climate change is minimised, as it can no longer be avoided or prevented. This will be a major paradigm shift, for which COP26 will have to lay the foundations to deal with it in every COP onwards.

The second point to recognise is that, as of 2021, the loss and damage of climate change is no longer a developingcountry-centric issue, but a global issue as rich countries are beginning to feel the hurt as well.

The third and final point is that a significant paradigm shift is necessary to treat the climate change emergency as an issue of injustice where poor people are suffering due to the pollution caused by rich people-this is immoral and unacceptable. It is, therefore, time for every conscious citizen on Planet Earth to think in terms of solidarity for all the victims of loss and damage, and extend a helping hand towards their fellow human beings. Hence, in this new era, everyone, everywhere, needs to take actions to reach that goal every day; we cannot wait for the leaders alone to act.

Dr Saleemul Huq is director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) at the Independent University, Bangladesh

# We must stand firm against threats to academic freedom

#### CR ABRAR, JYOTIRMOY BARUA and **REZAUR RAHMAN LENIN**

HAT is academic freedom? Why is academic freedom a necessary condition for educational institutions? What role should the education administrators play in ensuring academic freedom? What have been the experiences of academic institutions in Bangladesh, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic? These are some of the questions that were confronted by students and teachers of several academic institutions at a webinar recently organised by the human rights organisation Nagorik

Given how crucial academic freedom is, we will present a brief summary of their observations below, with the expectation that it will lead to a greater awareness of this issue. Unesco defines academic freedom as "the right, without constriction by prescribed doctrine, to freedom of teaching and discussion, freedom in carrying out research and disseminating and publishing the results thereof, freedom to express freely their opinion about the institution or system in which they work, freedom from institutional censorship, and freedom to participate in professional or representative academic bodies.

However, in Bangladesh, there have been mounting incidents of faculty members of universities being sent on forced leave or leave without pay, being suspended and not being fairly assessed for research grants and scholarships, and being subjected to various forms of harassment and intimidation for expressing their opinions through articles and social media posts. Though, in most cases, the faculty members claimed they were just exercising their right to free speech, the authorities of the universities-instead of standing up for their academic freedomexerted pressure on them to retract the opinions expressed. In a few instances, explanations or even expressions of regret did little to assuage those who claimed to have been "aggrieved." In several instances, the wrongfully treated faculty members secured relief by moving the High Court.

Over the years, instead of transforming into a space that promotes free thinking and pluralism through debate and discussion, university campuses appear to have become a hotbed of conservatism promoting and patronising particular narratives. This

perpetuates a condition in which academics feel hesitant to express freely and share and facilitate views on history, politics, society and culture, for fear of retribution from religious bigots on the one hand and intolerant

partisan zealots on the other hand. Sharing of scientific research findings—including one on the likely scenario of the spread of Covid-19also came under severe institutional assault, which forced the researchers to make amends.

Likewise, allegations are rife about partisan appointments of teachers, compromising the quality of teaching staff. There is a widely held perception that it is partisan loyalty, and not academic and administrative experiences, that closure of academic institutions which, according to Unesco, was one of the longest in the world. While the decision to resume in-person classes was welcomed, concerns were expressed about the adequacy in making arrangements for the vaccination of students and staff members. The inability to lead a regular life with friends and peers might have contributed to the suicide of as many as 151 students of education institutions of various tiers

During the pandemic, as students were unable to attend schools, the contingency arrangement to hold online classes particularly affected those who did not

irregular payment of salaries; on the other hand, many teachers were suspended. The extent of the hardship faced by teachers was amply reflected when a former teacher was forced to take up the position of a road cleaner to maintain bare subsistence in Bogura (Prothom Alo, August 10, 2021).

A primary school teacher stated at the webinar that local teachers enjoyed no breaks during the Covid-19 period, and had to attend schools regularly. He bemoaned that they had to perform a number of tasks, including making door-to-door visits, without any protective gear. Even pregnant and sick teachers were not relieved of the responsibility This resulted in many teachers contracting the coronavirus. He stated that there was little scope for promotion of school teachers, and thus their salaries remained the same for as long as 10-15 years—until they moved to the next grade. "How can we survive on the same salary, when the prices of all essential commodities rise every year?" he asked. Lack of monitoring and accountability, and the absence of media reporting on the state of affairs in local schools and colleges, provide the administrators of those institutions nearcomplete impunity, the teacher said.

Overall, teachers faced a number of challenges and restrictions, including suspension. On May 7, the Ministry of Public Administration issued the revised "Social Media Usage Guidelines in Government Offices, 2019." Following that, staff members and students of Khulna University of Engineering and Technology (Kuet) were instructed to follow the guidelines, despite the fact that Kuet is an autonomous institution. Likewise, on May 2, the staff of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) were advised not to give any statement to the media without prior permission.

During the tenure of the immediate past vice-chancellor of a public university, 140 teachers and other staff members were recruited against 39 UGC-authorised posts. The absurdity of the process of selection was evident when 1,649 applicants for the position of laboratory assistants were interviewed over a period of two days. The high-handedness of the university administration was evident in a case where it selectively harassed a group of teachers after they expressed solidarity with students protesting against an increase of fees by 423 percent over a period of three years, and demanding rescinding of the rule that requires them to secure advance clearance

from the intriguingly titled DSA (Department of Student Affairs) before publishing any creative work (essays, poems, short stories, and the like) and pursuing any cultural interests such as playing flute, sitar or singing songs and reciting poems.

The Nagorik panellists deplored that, despite changes in the university administration, the "guest rooms" and the concomitant abuse of fresh students have continued to take place in Dhaka University for decades. This manifested that the administrators had essentially abdicated their moral, ethical, and administrative responsibilities in ensuring the well-being of students

Arguing that conditions in academic institutions cannot be decoupled from the national reality, a faculty member of another public university stated how the university authority caters to the whims of the local political establishment. He claimed that teachers and students with dissenting views feel the "invisible presence" of actors monitoring their actions and words. Elaborating the point further, the representative of the University Teachers' Network stated that academic freedom and broader fundamental rights were inseparable, and spaces for both had shrunk over the years. While some university authorities take actions on dissenting students and teachers directly, others encourage groups affiliated with the administration to perform the task. Referring to Amartya Sen's advice to Dhaka University students that they should probe and think critically, the professor asked how that could be possible in campuses that are patently intolerant of diverse views, and in a country that uses the repressive Digital Security Act.

The webinar participants agreed that academic institutions played a crucial role in shaping the nation. Creating an enabling environment through fair recruitment and necessary administrative arrangements, and ensuring that teachers and students are able to freely express their views and challenge dominant ideas and narratives, are essential for academic freedom. Therefore, the onus rests on the administrators of academic establishments, and those at the helm of the state, to ensure that such conditions prevail in all educational institutions across Bangladesh.

CR Abrar is an academic, Barrister Jyotirmoy Barua is a Supreme Court advocate, and Rezaur Rahman Lenin is an academic activist.

# Buying of a football club, geopolitics and sportswashing

HE takeover of Newcastle United, an ailing English club,

crown prince of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, who has been accused of ordering the death of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, which the kingdom's leader denies. A number of rights groups and Western intelligence agencies have directly implicated him in ordering the assassination of the dissident journalist. Prior to the takeover of the club, Khashoggi's fiancée Hatice Cengiz had also urged the Premier League not to allow the move to go through, citing the involvement of the crown prince in Khashoggi's murder. There's further controversy surrounding the deal, as news reports suggest that the EPL's approval came after Saudi Arabia settled an alleged piracy dispute with Qatar-based broadcaster beIN Sports, which owns rights to show Premier League matches in the Middle East. It was reported earlier in the year that beIN Sports had asked the Premier League clubs to block the deal because of piracy concerns. This piracy dispute remained as an impediment to the Saudi takeover bid for quite some time. Quoting sources, BBC Sport reported that an agreement between the Premier League and the consortium was found prior to the news emerging on October 7 this year. Concerns about ignoring issues related to human rights were raised around the same time. The UK-based human rights organisation Amnesty International wrote to the Premier League to express its disquiet over the purchase of the Magpies, asking its chief executive, Richard Masters, to scrutinise Saudi Arabia's

criticism from human auestions.

The change of ownership, though largely welcomed by the fans of Newcastle, has prompted widespread rights groups, and raised some critical geopolitical

controversy drags on. The role of a sovereign state in another country's football league is bound to be under intense scrutiny. The 19 other top-flight clubs have called for an emergency meeting this week. Media reports suggest that these clubs got united in opposition to the takeover of Newcastle and demanded to know whether any rules had been waived, and why they received so little notice. Despite these clubs' concern that the Premier League's brand could be damaged, it is too late to derail the takeover. Instead, with the arrival of a new set of billionaire owners, their immediate worry would be the prospect of pushing transfer fees and wages to new heights. Supporters of the deal, however, argue that singling out football and the buying of Newcastle United by the Saudis is unfair as countries around the world continue all other trade and business activities with the kingdom. A BBC report says that the PIF has invested in some big names, such as Disney, Uber, Facebook, Starbucks, and pharmaceutical company Pfizer. Mark Middling, a senior lecturer of accounting at Northumbria University, who specialises in financial transparency in football, told The Guardian, "The UK still sells arms to Saudi Arabia and has business arrangements within the country. If you're going to trade with Saudi Arabia, to turn around and say they can't own one of our football clubs would be a bit hypocritical.'

Minister Boris Johnson had a telephone conversation with the Saudi crown prince on the upcoming G20 and COP26 on October 11. A press release issued by 10 Downing Street noted, "They also discussed the opportunities for further boosting trade and investment between the UK and Saudi Arabia, ahead of next week's Global Investment Summit in London. The prime minister welcomed the recent launch of a consultation on a UK-Gulf Cooperation Council Free Trade Agreement. Rights groups like Amnesty have been arguing for quite some time that some countries are opting to invest in sports to divert attention from their poor human rights records. They know that owning a football club allows you to build a relationship with key stakeholders. The term "sportswashing" has been increasingly used in relation to the changing of ownerships of Manchester City and Paris Saint Germain by the UAE and Qatar, respectively, or Chelsea by Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich. A leading newspaper in Ireland, The Irish Times, cited a story about a match played three weeks ago between Manchester United and the Swiss club Young Boys of Bern, where the travelling fans unveiled a banner in the second half that read, "Beautiful Game." But immediately, the home fans unveiled a choreographed response, "Ugly Business." Is football really becoming an ugly business?



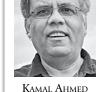
#### Students and teachers should not have to be afraid of expressing their opinions.

counts for the selection of top administrators of universities nowadays. Merit and academic excellence are no longer the principal criteria for securing nominations for deanship or membership of syndicates, senates, or selection committees for faculty recruitment. Even recruitment and promotion of the faculty members often depend on political lineage and institutional affiliation. All these contribute to the lowering of the standard of academic excellence.

At the Nagorik webinar, the panellists expressed concerns about the long 61-week own or have access to computers and smartphones. In addition, poor internet facilities and connectivity-especially in rural, haor, and hilly areas-put the students in a disadvantageous situation. Their inability to make up for classes (missed due to poor internet connection and other reasons) and to consult teachers and peers in person further

PHOTO: STAR

compounded their problems. The situation was particularly dire for the teachers of schools and colleges. On the one hand, teachers of many private institutions endured hardships due to non-payment or



investment fund, has once again stoked a passionate debate on sportswashing. As a Kamal Ahmed result of the approval

of the buyout, the struggling club has suddenly become the richest club in the world's richest football league, the English Premier League (EPL), where Newcastle currently ranks 19th out of 20 teams in the league's point table. The change of ownership, though largely welcomed by the fans of Newcastle, has prompted widespread criticism from human rights groups, and raised some critical geopolitical questions.

by a consortium led

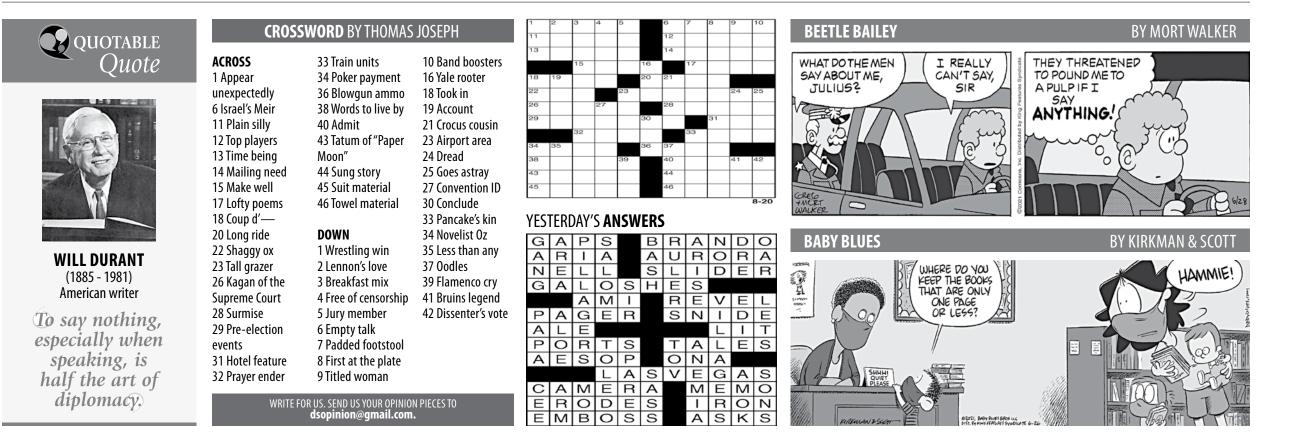
by a Saudi-backed

These supporters, who have been demanding the ouster of Mike Ashley, who bought the club in 2007 but has done little to lift it out of mediocrity, have celebrated the takeover and are now daring to dream of trophies after more than a decade. But the deal has enraged human rights defenders due to the appalling records of human rights abuses in Saudi Arabia. The majority owner of the consortium, the Public Investment Fund (PIF), is providing 80 percent of the fund in the GBP 300 million deal. The PIF chairman is Mohammed bin Salman, the

human rights records as part of the Premier League's owners' and directors' test. According to Amnesty, the phrase "human rights" doesn't even appear in the owners' and directors' test of the Premier League, despite English football supposedly adhering to FIFA standards. It said, "As with Formula One, elite boxing, golf or tennis, an association with top-tier football is a very attractive means of rebranding a country or person with a tarnished reputation. The Premier League needs to better understand the dynamic of sportswashing and tighten its ownership rules.

Finally, on October 7, the Premier League concluded that "the Saudi PIF was separate from the state," and therefore it had allowed the takeover to pass its owners' and directors' test. It said that it had received sound legal advice about adhering to rules. But the

Kamal Ahmed is an independent journalist. His Twitter handle is @ahmedka1



Amid this controversy, British Prime

FROM PAGE 12

refugees.

In

ON THE WAR FRONT

Pakistani soldiers.

between

added.

Mymensingh.

sajen1986@gmail.com

Trial run

Senate body votes

A new fund drive for \$558 million to

assist more than 90 lakh Bangladesh

refugees in India was launched by the

UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan. The

high commissioner told newsmen

that thousands of refugees were still

streaming into Indian camps daily

and that the recent monsoon season

-- one of the worst in history -- had

further worsened the condition of the

sector, Mukti Bahini ambushed

the Pakistani army at Bhagjoti and

Sukria and killed 20 enemy soldiers

and wounded 10. On the same day,

Mukti Bahini shelled Pakistani army

position at Ramkrishnapur and

killed five enemy soldiers. Another

group of guerrillas fired on an enemy

patrol near Sadipur and killed three

In the Mymensingh-Sylhet sector,

Mukti Bahini ambushed Pakistani troops between Durgapur and

Nazirpur and killed two enemy

soldiers. On the same day, Mukti Bahini disrupted telecommunications

Kishoreganj

Shamsuddoza Sajen is a journalist

and researcher. He can be contacted at

and

the Kushtia-Jashore-Khulna

# 'Little' efforts, big dream FROM PAGE 12 socio-cultural programmes like Pitha-

"We want underprivileged children to chase their dream of prospering in life. We want to stand by the children with our little efforts," said Minarul Islam, founder of Doshomik Pathshala.

The school is currently running in Tangail town's Kagmari slum, Zila Sadar slum and Nagarjalpai slum areas and educating 20, 12, and 10 students respectively.

Islam and nine others take turns in shouldering the burden of teaching as well as channelling their pocket money in the running of the classes.

"I feel mental peace when I see the smiling faces of the underprivileged children -- -t is very pleasant for me to spend time with them," said Amena Akter Tilittoma, one of the teachers.

Along with providing education, the school provides books, notebooks, pens, slates, pencils, bags and other academic materials to the children for free.

The youths also give the children chocolates, biscuits, bread and other foods for free.

Payesh festival, music festival and sports events. The school conducted a health awareness campaign to make children aware of washing hands with

soap and wearing masks. One student who benefitted from the initiative is four-year-old Ismat Ara from Kagmari slum.

"I like to go to school because they [teachers] give me chocolates, biscuits, notebook and pens. I am really happy for being able to study in this school," she said.

In Kagmari slum, the group takes classes six days a week, and in the other two slums, just once a week.

Salma Akter, a resident of Nagarjalpai slum, could not be more grateful for the project.

Her husband lost his livelihood during the pandemic and could not buy a smartphone for their children's online classes.

"So their education stopped." But thanks to Doshomik Pathshala,

their education has resumed. ods for free. "We are grateful to the school It also organises different types of authorities," she said.

Anti-government protesters light up candles during a protest against the Thai government demanding Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha's resignation and the abolition of 112 Lese-Majeste law, in front of the Bangkok Remand Prison in Bangkok, Thailand yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

# Commerce ministry sends

FROM PAGE 12

operatives; and Yakub Ali Patwari, former chairman of Land Reform Board, have been shortlisted by the commerce ministry

The High Court may pass an order next week after reviewing the proposed names, said Sayed Mahsib Hossain, whose writ petition elicited the move.

Last month, Hossain on behalf of his client Md Farhad Hossen, an aggrieved Evaly customer, filed a writ seeking dissolution of the e-commerce platform and distributing the proceeds among creditors.

Hossen had purchased a washing machine from Evaly in May but never received the product.

Subsequently, the court placed a

freeze on the sale and transfer of Evaly's assets and also sought all relevant documents from the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms to decide whether a board can be formed to run the company.

After examining the documents, High Court bench of Justice Muhammad Khurshid Alam Sarkar on October 12 called for forming a fourmember interim board at the earliest for assessing the liabilities of Evaly, which is said to be upwards of Tk 1,000 crore.

The board will consist of a retired justice, a jurist, a secretary and a chartered accountant, and the court sought names of three former or incumbent secretaries and one additional secretary to serve as a member.

## Khaleda's treatment continues

NEWS

#### FROM PAGE 12

Khaleda's medical team members, however, did not say anything about the treatment.

Her family sources said the 6-year-old former premier has been suffering from various complications, including arthritis, diabetics and oldaged problems.

"Apart from these, she has been suffering from depression. She is all alone for a longer period. If the government considers allowing her to go abroad to meet her only surviving son, she would be better and would

also get better treatment," they added. Khaleda's physician AZM Zahid Hossain earlier said she was admitted to the hospital as per doctors' advice and the medical board formed earlier, led by Dr Shahabuddin Talukder, will continue her treatment.

to Evercare Hospital with Covid as she will have to stay home and infections. She had been undergoing treatment there until June 19 for post-Covid complications and some other

Amid the coronavirus outbreak, the government freed Khaleda from jail for six months through an executive order suspending her sentences on

On September 19 this year, the government extended for six more months the suspension of her jail

government extended her release by suspending her jail sentences in the Zia Orphanage Trust and Zia Charitable Trust graft cases based on

receive treatment there.

has been suffering from rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes, ophthalmological and dental complications.

Her family applied to the government twice in May and August this year seeking permission to take her abroad for better treatment, but the government turned it down saying that there is no scope for a convicted person to avail of such a scope.

Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said Khaleda's treatment is not possible in the country.

Speaking at a discussion at Dhaka Reporters Unity, he said although

The BNP chief's doctors said she FROM PAGE 12

The DGHS has around 60 lakh doses of Pfizer vaccines in stock with which around 30 lakh schoolchildren will be vaccinated, Health Minister Zahid Maleque said at a press conference on Sunday. Besides, another 70 lakh vaccine abs will reach the country soon, he

Meanwhile, BNP Secretary General

Khaleda deserves bail, she is in jail for

Taliban warn US, EU of refugee wave

#### FROM PAGE 12

FROM PAGE 12

Weaver.

2014, at the age of 18.

Afghan economy collapses, large numbers of migrants will set off for the continent, piling pressure on neighbouring states such as Pakistan and Iran and eventually on EU borders.

Washington and the EU have said they are ready to back humanitarian initiatives in Afghanistan, but are wary of providing direct support to the Taliban without guarantees it will respect human rights, in particular those of women.

The European Union has pledge one billion euros in aid, but European Commission President Ursula von der

conditions for any engagement with the Afghan authorities, including on the respect of human rights," she said on Tuesday.

The Taliban insist they pose no threat to civilian rights, and have urged government workers including some women to return to their professions, while swearing to defeat IS-K and return Afghanistan to stability.

But girls were not allowed back into high schools when the new term started just under a month ago, and many women have complained of being forced out of professional and

"We have been clear about our heartland they are still excluded. 'FEAR AND DESPAIR' And in the west, around Herat, harsh punishments for alleged criminals have resumed, recalling the brutal previous era of Taliban rule before they were overthrown in the 2001 USled intervention.

> On at least two occasions dead suspects were hung publicly from cranes in Herat, and on Tuesday an alleged thief was flogged in the street

in the Obe district near the city. Witnesses described how Taliban officials invited male residents to attend the whipping.

"I was in fear and despair. Everyone

only the Pfizer vaccine for 12-17 age group. Meanwhile, India has authorised its homegrown Covid-19 vaccine --Covaxin -- for this age group this week.

17 DIE, 518 GET COVID Seventeen more people died from Covid-19 in 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday, said a DGHS press release.

The government has an initial

While many countries are

vaccinating children to stop the spread

of novel coronavirus, the World

Health Organization has authorised

plan to run the child vaccination

programme in 21 districts.

With this, the total number of Covid deaths in the country now stands at 27,730 and the death rate is 1.77 percent.

At least 518 new infections were recorded during the period, taking the number of people infected to 15,64,019, added the release.

The positivity rate was 2.34 percent against 22,153 samples tested across the country in the 24 hours.

At least 505 Covid patients have recovered during the period.

would be trafficked to Jordan, Libya, Saudi Arabia and other countries, the Four victims -- two men and two Rab CO said, adding that many of

# CAAB's laxity cost exporters

and for the unusual freight charges as a result of the global shortage of containers.

"There is a lot of backlog at the airport," said Faruque Hassan, president of the Bangladesh Garment and Manufacturers Exporters Association.

In fact, none of the two EDS scanning machines was running for 10 or 12 days and only the dog squad was functional, Nurul Amin, director of the Bangladesh Freight Forwarders Association, told The Daily Star.

However, one EDS scanning machine has started functioning since Monday, he said, adding that the CAAB has assured them that the other two machines would be running from today.

Grocer turns

Mafidur Rahman acknowledged the delays. The warranty period of the two EDSs, which cost Tk 17 crore each,

expired last year, he said. The machines were supplied by local business group Navana, which has no major knowledge on the maintenance of EDSs.

"This caused the delays. We had to bring in technical experts from Malaysia or India to fix problems with the EDS machines."

And flying in experts became tricky amid the travel ban for the global coronavirus pandemic.

It was also not possible to bring in spare parts from abroad to fix the EDS machine, Rahman added.

underlying health problems.

March 25 last year.

two conditions.

It was for the fourth time the

As per the conditions, she will not three years and she did not receive any On April 27, Khaleda was admitted be allowed to go abroad for treatment treatment in that time.

raid, he said.

FROM PAGE 12

in the capital.

"Those recruiting agencies had no licence or approval from the ministry concerned. They used other authorised agencies to send people abroad," the Rab official said at the briefing later in the day.

The six other arrestees are: Jalal Uddin Limon, 38, Maruf Hasan, 37, Jahangir Alam, 38, Laltu Islam, 28, Alamin Hossain, 30, and Abdullah Al Mamun, 54. They work at those offices in different positions.

Mozammel claimed that Tutul emerged as a top human trafficker in the country over the past several years. Toiyob, a confidante of Tutul, was a tea seller but he would pose as a manager of a reputed airline company.

The group mainly targeted unemployed and insolvent men and women. It would take Tk 2-2.5 lakh from each of them, promising them good overseas jobs.

Taking the money, the group would organise fake trainings and take fake medical tests of the job seekers to earn their confidence. Later, the job seekers

women -- were also rescued during the them were forced into doing illegal and backbreaking jobs there.

Many job seekers paid the group money but could not fly, he said. At least 15 job seekers and their

family members were present at the Rab briefing yesterday.

Ashraful Islam One from Gaibandha told The Daily Star that Tutul and Toiyob sent his niece to Jordan on June 9 this year. Ashraf was able to contact her only once. Since then, she has been traceless.

Another victim, Shamim from Jamalpur, said he paid Tk 4 lakh to Tutul in instalments two years ago for a job in Saudi Arabia. He has not got the job and Tutul has lately not been answering his phone calls either.

Another victim said he paid Tk 3 lakh to Tutul, who later handed him a fake air ticket.

Rab said two cases -- one under the human trafficking act and the other for fraudulence -- will be filed against potential and do your best," she the arrestees.

It also said they were digging deep into the matter to know more about it.

Leyen stressed that it would be used to help Afghanistan's neighbours or given in "direct support" to the Afghan people, bypassing the Taliban government.

Due to her condition, Gelgi

Gelgi is keen to use her

"Every disadvantage can be

platform to inform people about

rare medical conditions like

turned into an advantage for

yourself so accept yourself for

who you are, be aware of your

Her height intrigues people

তারিখঃ ১২/১০/২০২১খ্রিঃ

said in the statement.

usually moves around in a

wheelchair, but she is able to use

a walker for short periods.

World's tallest living FROM PAGE 12 when they see her, but most

Records.

statement.

world," he added.

public roles like journalism.

people are kind and supportive,

Gelgi told Guinness World

Rumeysa back into the record

books. Her indomitable spirit

and pride at standing out from

the crowd is an inspiration," said

Craig Glenday, editor-in-chief of

Guinness World Records, in the

woman is not one that changes

hands very often, so I'm excited

to share this news with the

"The category of tallest living

"It's an honour to welcome

Some high school girls' classes the capital and the Taliban's southern anonymity.

was in fear and despair. I was feeling the pain when they were being have resumed in the northern cities flogged," a medical doctor aged of Kunduz and Mazar-i-Sharif, but in around 40 told AFP on condition of

The number of recoveries rose to 15,25,673 and the recovery rate was 97.54 percent.

Among the 17 deceased, eight were men and nine women.



প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞস্তি নং-০৭-২০২০, তারিখঃ ০৭/০১/২০২০ এর সূত্রে **'অফিসার (জেনারেল)'** পদে অনলাইনে আবেদনকারী প্রার্থীদের মধ্য হতে ইতোপূর্বে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের ওয়েবসাইট হতে প্রবেশপত্র ডাউনলোডকারী এবং বিভাগীয় ম্যানুয়াল আবেদনকারী প্রার্থীদের এমসিকিউ পরীক্ষা আগামী ৩০/১০/২০২১ তারিখ শনিবার বিকাল ০৩ঃ০০টা হতে ০৪ঃ০০টা পর্যন্ত নিম্নোক্ত কেন্দ্রসমূহে অনুষ্ঠিত হবেঃ

	ক্রমিক নং	পরীক্ষার কেন্দ্র	রোল নম্বর	প্রার্থী সংখ্যা	
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-		পাড়াডগার, মাতুয়াইল, ডেমরা, ঢাকা-১৩৬২	৩১৬৯১৯		
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essary action. nilitary Ir its border ijan, sparking m officials in has denied ns. n said Foreign nun Bayramov	<ul> <li>২। বর্ণিত পদের বিভাগীয় ম্যানুয়াল আবেদনকারী প্রার্থীদের প্রবেশপত্র এসপিসিবিএলের প্রশাসন বিভাগ হতে ২১/১০/২০২১ তারিখ থেকে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে।</li> <li>৩। পরীক্ষার হলে প্রবেশের পূর্বে প্রয়োজনীয় চেকিং কার্যক্রম সম্পন্ন করার জন্য পরীক্ষা শুরুর কমপক্ষে ৩০ মিনিট পূর্বে প্রার্থীদেরকে পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্রে উপস্থিত হতে হবে। প্রবেশপত্র ব্যতিরেকে কোন প্রার্থীকে পরীক্ষা শুন্দগ্রহণ করতে দেয়া হবে না।</li> <li>৪। পরীক্ষার হলে প্রবেশপত্রের একটি কপি ব্যতীত কোন ধরণের কাগজ, বই, মোবাইল ফোন, ক্যালকুলেটর, ম্মার্টওয়াচ ও অন্যান্য ইলেন্দ্রীনক ডিভাইস নিয়ে প্রবেশ করা যাবে না।</li> <li>৫। পরীক্ষার জন্য আগত প্রার্থীদেরকে স্বান্থ্য মন্ত্রণালয় বে না।</li> <li>৫। পরীক্ষার জন্য আগত প্রার্থীদেরকে স্বান্থ্য মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক নির্দেশিত কোভিড-১৯ সংক্রান্ত স্বান্থ্য বিধি মেনে চলতে হবে।</li> <li>৬। পরীক্ষার অংশগ্রহণের জন্য প্রার্থীদেরকে কোনরূপ টিএ/ডিএ দেয়া হবেনা।</li> <li>ব্যার্থকি সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা         <ul> <li>ব্যাক্র্বিক (প্রার্থানের ক্লের্য হলে কেন্দ্রের কেলান্দ্রেণ কিন্দ্র হলে ক্রের্যালন্দ্র দেকার শ্রের্ণ করা যাবে না।</li> </ul></li></ul>				
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#### গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার বিভাগীয় ভূ-সম্পত্তি কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয় বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, চট্টগ্রাম www.railway.gov.bd

নংঃ ডিইও/৩৯৫/সি/খানহাট/০৫/৬১৩

#### জরুরি দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, চট্টগ্রাম এস্টেট বিভাগের আওতাধীন নিম্ন তফসিলে বর্ণিত মৌসুমী ফলমূল বিক্রয়/রক্ষিত মালামালের উপর মাঙল আদায়ের নিমিত্ত ১৪ই সেপ্টেম্বর, ২০২০খ্রিঃ তারিখে জারিকৃত বিদ্যমান নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী ২৫/১১/২০২১খ্রিঃ হতে ২৪/১১/২০২২খ্রিঃ পর্যন্ত ০১ (এক) বৎসর মেয়াদে লাইসেন্স প্রদানের নিমিত্ত লাইসেন্স গ্রহলৈ আগ্রহী ব্যক্তিবর্গের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরযুক্ত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। লাইসেঙ্গ গ্রহণে আগ্রহী ব্যক্তিবর্গ প্রতিটি দরপত্র দলিল নগদ ১,০০০/- (এক হাজার) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য) মৃল্যে বিভাগীয় ভূ-সম্পত্তি কর্মকর্তা, বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, চট্টগ্রাম/ঢাকা, প্রধান ভূ-সম্পত্তি কর্মকর্তা (পূর্ব) বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, চট্টগ্রাম এবং জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, চট্টগ্রাম হতে ক্রয়/সংগ্রহ করে নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময়ে বিভাগীয় ভূ-সম্পত্তি কর্মকর্তা, বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, চট্টগ্রাম, প্রধান ভূ-সম্পত্তি কর্মকর্তা (পূর্ব) বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, চট্টগ্রাম এবং জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, চট্টগ্রাম অফিসসমূহে রক্ষিত বাস্কে দরপত্র দলিল দাখিল করতে পারবেন। দরপত্র দাখিলের দিন কোন দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রয় করা হবে না। নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময় অনুযায়ী আগ্রহী দরপত্রদাতাগণের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র দলিল খোলা হবে। সরকারি দরের নীচে কোন দর গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না। রেলওয়ে কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে সার্বিক দরপত্র কার্যক্রম বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

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ক্র	স্টেশন/	ঘাট/মহালের নাম ও অবস্থান	সরকারি	দরপত্র দলিল	দরপত্র দাখিলের	দরপত্র খোলা	দরপত্র মূল্যায়ন	
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		লাইনের খানহাট রেলওয়ে	হাজার	০২/১১/২০২১খ্রিঃ	ঘটিকা হতে	ঘটিকা	ঘটিকা	
		স্টেশন	পাঁচশত	(অফিস	১২.০০ ঘটিকা			
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## agree to ties 'thre dialogu

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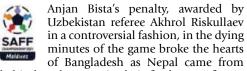
e-mail: sports@thedailystar.net DHAKA THURSDAY OCTOBER 14, 2021, ASHWIN 29, 1428 BS



Rakib Hossain's (L) tears and the crouched figure of Tapu Barman says it all. Bangladesh were so close to ending 16-year-wait for a berth in SAFF Championship final, but eventually had to bow out in tragic fashion following a 1-1 draw against Nepal in their last group match last night.

# Spot-kick shatters Bangladesh's dreams

ANISUR RAHMAN from Male



minutes of the game broke the hearts of Bangladesh as Nepal came from behind to draw 1-1 in their final group fixture of the SAFF Championship at the National

Football Stadium in Male yesterday. The outcome also saw Nepal reach the final of the regional championship for the first time in its 28-year history.

Bangladesh players gathered around the Uzbek referee for about five minutes after his controversial decision. A spectator, disappointed with the decision that denied Bangladesh an entry into the competition's final for the first time in 16 years, stormed into the ground and the referee and his assistants needed police to escort them out of the ground.

Bangladesh were reduced to 10 men when goalkeeper Anisur Rahman Zico was given marching orders in the 78th minute after he had handled the ball outside the box. Nepal, who were a goal down at that point, put pressure on Bangladesh for an equaliser.

A Nepalese forward, who tried to connect Maish Dangi's cross but went down following the slightest of touches from Sadd Uddin inside the box, prompted the referee to point



to the spot.

Coach Oscar Bruzon brought four chances to the squad that lost 0-2 to the Maldives. Dfender Bishwanath Ghosh and winger Rakib Hossain returned to the playing eleven after missing the previous match due to the suspensions.

Meanwhile, forward Suman Reza and defender Tutul Hossain Badsha came in place of Matin Miah and Rahmat Mia as the Spanish coach chose to play with two strikers.

The change of the players and the formation clicked for the charges of Bruzon as they took counter to widen the margin.

a lead inside the first ten minutes of the game. With deafening roars from more than 2500

thousand fans from the galleries, the men in red and green looked more energetic following a five-day gap as Jamal Bhuiyan, Biplu Ahmed, Saad Uddin and Rakib tried to establish the stranglehold in the central area.

Suman Reza nodded in a header off a Jamal Bhuiyan freekick in the 10th minute, sending the fans into a frenzy and also raising hopes of playing the regional football extravaganza final after 16 years.

Nepal started to press hard through both flanks for the equaliser but Rohit Chand drove wide inside the box in the 15th minute, much to the relief of goalkeeper Anisur Rahman.

From a counter, Suman Reza came close to doubling the lead but he struck straight to goalkeeper Kiran Kumar Limbu while a squarebass to unmarked Ibrahim could have given the forward a better option to shoot on the target in the 22nd minute.

Afterwards, Nepal mounted more pressure from the left flank with Tariq struggling in his new position but no damages were done in the first half.

After resumption, Nepal kept their dominance intact in the midfield to put tremendous pressure on the Bangladesh backline while Bangladesh concentrated on

# 'Dark forces were at work'

#### SPORTS REPORTER from Male



the controversial decision to send off goalkeeper Anisur Rahman Zico was the turning point of the game before another dubious decision to award Nepal penalty killed off Bangladesh's dream of playing the final of the SAFF Championship at the National Football Stadium in Male yesterday.

Bruzon believes

Nepal came from a goal behind to level the margin in the 88th minute broke Bangladesh supporters' hearts as the Himalayan nation went on to book the seat of the SAFF Championship final for the first time in the 28-year history of the regional football extravaganza.

"You are talking about one controversial decision of the penalty and I think the penalty was not the only turning point, rather the sending-off of Zico was the [major] turning point of the game.

happened on the pitch today, and the dressing room has been in complete chaos and we understand why," said a frustrated Bruzon

About the penalty in the dying moments, Bruzon said: "It was a very critical action of the game where the referee was 30 meters away [from the box] but he called for the kick [penalty].

'But it was a cheating move from the Nepalese player, who had a false dive in the area and of course the referee wasn't in doubt because they don't want Bangladesh to be in the final.'

The successful coach in Bangladesh domestic competition informed that their intention was to play attacking football till the last minute despite taking the lead, so that they can kill off the game by scoring the second goal.

"The message to the boys during the interval was to keep playing attacking football and create chances. I want to say



"But Zico didn't handle the ball intentionally; rather, the ball first hit his legs and then it came up to his hands. I think that was the first controversial decision and in the last moment of the game, the referee awarded a silly and controversial penalty to Nepal," said a disappointed Bruzon at the post-match conference.

"Bangladesh is not the best but are one of the best teams in the tournament. We deserved to be in the final," said the 44-yearold coach.

"Since we played against India, the dark forces were at work. We [Bashundhara Kings] could not progress to the AFC Cup and it happened today again.

"From my side, it's all right from the professional ground but it wasn't fair, what Nepal coach.

the performance of the boys was really excellent," said the Spaniard.

Wiping his tears, winger Rakib said: "We worked hard for the tournament and everyone was crying in the dressing room. We wouldn't regret it [result] if the call of the referee was fair but it was not and that's why we can't accept it."

Nepal coach Almutairi Abdullah congratulated Bangladesh for giving a tough fight and echoed the same sentiment of Bruzon that the marching order of Zico was the turning point of the game.

Abdullah, however, did not present a clear stance on the penalty decision.

"If I say yes or no, then I'll be a liar. I think it was a penalty but I am not sure," said the

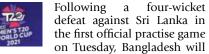
# 'Promised I would always be looking for more and more'





# 'Confident that Tigers will get into a good shape'

#### SPORTS REPORTER



defeat against Sri Lanka in the first official practise game on Tuesday, Bangladesh will

be looking to rectify their mistakes and get into the groove when they take on Ireland in the second and final warm-up game today ahead of the qualifier round of the ICC World T20.

The match will begin at 12:00pm (BST) at Tolerance Oval in Abu Dhabi -- the same where the first warm-up game was played.

Bangladesh posted 147 for seven against Sri Lanka. However, courtesy of Avishka Fernando's unbeaten fifty, the Lankans managed to chase down the total with an over to spare.

Tigers' head coach Russell Domingo will surely be expecting the batters to step up before the mega event as apart from Soumya Sarkar, who scored a 26-ball 34, none of the other Bangladesh batsmen were able to make an impact in their game against the Lankans.

According to chief selector Minhajul Abedin, it will take some time for the players to adjust as they are frequently moving from one city to another.

"The pitch here at home was a bit slow and as the players are continuously on the move from one city to another, it will take some time for them to adjust. It is not just about the openers. In shorter formats, every

single batsman in the side needs to step up and give their best on the given day," Minhajul told the media yesterday.

Bangladesh, however, at one point were in a good position in their previous game. Sri Lanka were struggling at 75 for six inside eleven overs before Avishka Fernando and Chamika Karunaratne added a match-winning unbeaten 72-run eighthwicket stand to take the game away from the Tigers

According to Minhajul there are a lot of things that can be addressed and rectified from the defeat against Sri Lanka.

"There will be ups and downs in practise games as you try and experiment many things through these matches in order to evaluate the batting, bowling and fielding department. Everyone is preparing themselves and it was a good opportunity for all the players to play a few back-toback games.

"We are very confident and the team is expected to get into a good shape ahead of the World Cup. We still have a game to play and we hope to start our World Cup mission on a positive note," he said.

Meanwhile, skipper Mahmudullah Riyad, who was rested in the unofficial warm-up game against Oman A and also in the following game against Sri Lanka due to slight back pain, is expected to be available from the first qualifier game against Scotland on October 17.

#### **REUTERS**, Faro

A 58th career hat-trick from Cristiano Ronaldo helped Portugal stroll to a 5-0 home win over Luxembourg in Group A of World Cup qualifying on Tuesday.

The treble, which meant Ronaldo became the first man to net 10 international hat-tricks, takes his tally to 115 international goals from 182 caps as he continues to pull away as the top men's international goalscorer of all-time.

Victory ensures Portugal remain a point behind leaders Serbia, who moved onto 17 points with a 3-1 home win over Azerbaijan, with a game in hand and superior goal difference.

Portugal had the game all but won within the first 18 minutes.

Ronaldo struck twice from the penalty spot before his Manchester United team mate Bruno Fernandes made it three as he fired in following



good work from Bernardo Silva.

The forward then missed two gilt-edged chances either side of the break as he sought a third, before being denied a spectacular hattrick goal when Anthony Moris kept out his acrobatic overhead kick.

Portugal did not have to wait long for their

fourth, however, as midfielder Joao Palhinha headed in from the resulting corner with just over 20 minutes to go.

Ronaldo was not to be denied as the hosts pushed on, netting three minutes from time with a header from close range.

Next month Fernando Santos's Portugal side travel to Ireland before then hosting Serbia in what could be a winner-takes-all fixture to qualify for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

"Another victory, another step towards our goal, another historic night in defence of our colours!" Ronaldo wrote on Instagram after the Luxembourg game. "Everything becomes easier when we play at home and in front of an audience that cares for us from the first to the last minute...

"I had promised that I would always be looking for more and more and more! It's in my DNA and in our DNA, we're never content, we never lower our arms and we always go.'

# Denmark book World Cup ticket

#### AFP, Paris



Denmark became the second team to qualify for the 2022 World Cup finals when they beat Austria by a single

goal on Tuesday as England were frustrated by Hungary at Wembley.

Joakim Maehle scored in the 53rd minute to send the Danes to Qatar as they build on their surprise run at Euro 2020 this summer when they reached the semi-finals.

"You can only dream about things like this," said Denmark midfielder Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg. "It's crazy. This is huge for me, it's huge for the team, for Danish football and for Denmark. With the age and quality we have, we will only keep growing."

The Danes join Germany, who qualified on Monday, in the finals. Host nation Qatar qualify automatically.

England sputtered as a combative Hungarian side held them to a 1-1 draw. The match was marred by ugly scenes at Wembley



we need to, simple as that," said Southgate.

England defender Tyrone Mings called for harsher punishments for racism in football after it emerged the trouble at Wembley had flared after police had moved in to arrest a Hungarian supporter for what police called a "racially aggravated

Mings said: "Every time we speak on racial abuse the punishments that follow never seem in line with what has happened.

"I sincerely hope that if that is the case, the punishments fall in line with what happened this time." England will be sure of reaching next year's finals if they take four points from their final qualifiers against Albania and San Marino in November.

Poland are second behind England in Group I after a stormy win in Albania.

Play was halted and the teams left the pitch as fans threw bottles after Karol Swiderski scored the winning goal in the 77th minute. The teams later returned to complete the game.

Sweden stayed two points ahead of Spain in Group B thanks to a 2-0 win against Greece.

Scotland got a desperatelyneeded 1-0 win over the Faroe Islands, meaning they need one more victory from their last two games to secure a playoff spot as they seek to reach a World Cup finals for the first time since 1998.

as Hungarian supporters clashed with stewards and police.

Gareth Southgate's side fell behind to Roland Sallai's disputed first-half penalty before John Stones stuck out a boot to score the equaliser in the 37th minute from Phil Foden's cross.

Harry Kane failed to score in a qualifier for the first time in 16 games and was substituted as Hungary's resolute defence kept a public order offence".

disjointed England side at bay. "We did not play at the level

# The Daily Star



City

# 'Little' efforts, big dream

Tangail youths run schools for slum children with pocket money



#### Mirza Shakil

Our intentions create our reality, said the celebrated American motivational speaker Wayne Dyer. And this saying could not be more apropos than in the case of the ten college students behind Doshomik Pathshala in Tangail. They dreamed of educating and empowering underprivileged children

and they made it happen by saving up on their lunch money. Two years ago, they formed the Doshomik Foundation, which in October last year established the Doshomik Pathshala, a free school for slum children under the open sky.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Temporary structures set up along the railway tracks poses a serious risk to both trains and passers-by. Even after repeated attempts, the authorities failed to evict such illegal structures that have sprouted beside the Dhaka-Narayanganj rail line. The photo was taken in the capital's Kamalapur-Jurain link.



#### Khaleda's treatment continues

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

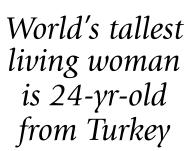
BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's follow-up treatment is going on at the city's Evercare Hospital where she was admitted on Tuesday.

The former premier's various tests, including CT scan and multiple MRIs, are underway, said her family sources.

They said till now her health condition is stable and nothing alarming was found except high blood sugar and infection in urine.

"We hope that the tests will be completed soon and she can return home within two to three days," the source added.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3





#### CNN ONLINE

A 24-year-old Turkish woman who stands 215.16 centimeters (7 feet, 0.7 inches) tall has been confirmed as the world's tallest living woman by Guinness World Records. Rumeysa Gelgi's phenomenal height is due to a condition called Weaver syndrome, which causes accelerated growth and other abnormalities, Guinness World Records said in a statement.

# Grocer turns top human trafficker

Rab busts gang which trafficked people to Middle Eastern countries

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Driven by his desire to become rich, Saiful Islam Tutul, a grocer in a small village of Meherpur's Gangni, moved to the capital around nine years ago.

Soon, that desire would turn into greed. He started working as an illegal broker of recruiting agencies, luring people into going abroad with fake promises of lucrative jobs. At one point, he became involved in human trafficking.

Years later, Tutul, who studied up to the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) level, established three overseas recruitment agencies -- all unauthorised -- in the capital's Badda. Using those agencies -- Tutul Overseas, Limon Overseas and Loyal Overseas -- he swindled a huge amount of money from job seekers promising them good jobs in the Middle East.

## Students Aged 12-17 Trial run of Covid vaccine shots today

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The health directorate will conduct a trial run of Covid-19 vaccination of school students at Colonel Malek Medical College Hospital in Manikganj today.

Prof Abul Bashar Mohammad Khurshid Alam, director general of the Directorate General of Health Services, made the announcement in a Facebook Live yesterday afternoon.

As more and more countries around the world are beginning to roll out Covid vaccines to children aged over 12, Bangladesh will also join the list through today's vaccination. "We will inoculate a group of students, aged 12-17, from two schools with Pfizer vaccine. We will observe them for 10-14 days to see whether there is any side effect," Prof Khurshid said.

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

PHOTO:

ANISUR RAHMAN

# Senate body votes for ban on all aid to Pakistan

OCTOBER 14, 1971

#### SENATE COMMITTEE DISAPPROVES FOREIGN AID TO PAKISTAN Trimming millions of dollars from President Richard Nixon's



foreign aid requests, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee agreed today to end all assistance to Pakistan. The committee voted to ban all forms of foreign aid to Pakistan until the president informed Congress that the situation in East Pakistan was reasonably stable and refugees were allowed to return.

#### TEN DAYS IN PIPE CITY

Lafayette Park in Washington DC got an opportunity to experience



Gelgi was re-measured this year after being named the world's tallest living female teenager in

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

Many of the job seekers were trafficked. Many ended up with low-paid jobs in a foreign land.

Recently, families of several such victims complained to Rab about the matter. Following the complaint, a team from Rab-4 raided the three offices early yesterday and arrested eight people, including Tutul, 38, and his accomplice Toiyob Ali, 45, for their involvement in human trafficking and swindling money, said Mozammel Haque, commanding officer of Rab-4.

The law enforcers seized 10 passports, four stamp seals, three mobile phone SIM cards, cheque books of four banks, two computers and Tk 10,070 in cash, the Rab officer told a press briefing at the Rab Media Centre SEE PAGE 10 COL 1 According to health officials, the DGHS has planned to vaccinate 100 schoolchildren as part of the trial run scheduled to start at noon.

The DG said, "We have selected the medical college hospital as the vaccination centre for technical reasons."

If the trial run is successful, the child vaccination campaign will be launched in a large scale in Dhaka, he said.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

a mock-up of the greatest misery of that time. A miniature refugee city sprung up in the park to offer citizens of Washington a closer view of the refugee camps in India. Organised by the Philadelphia Friends of East Bengal and supported by a number of Bangladesh groups in the region, a series of drainpipe shelters had been set up for a period of 10 days beginning from October 14. This dramatisation of the refugee situation attracted the attention of the public and the press in Washington.

Scores of volunteers from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston arrived in Washington to join the participants in the 10-day programme. The "refugee camp" was run by "camp director" Dick Taylor, who organised the "naval blockade" of the armscarrying Pakistani ship Padma.

SADRUDDIN LAUNCHES DRIVE TO RAISE FUND FOR REFUGEES SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

#### EVALY BOARD Commerce ministry sends 3 names Star Report

The commerce ministry yesterday forwarded the names of three former secretaries who can serve as a member of the interim board being formed by the High Court to assess the liabilities of the controversial e-commerce platform Evaly.

Maksudur Rahman Patwari, former land secretary; Md Rezaul Ahsan, former secretary to the ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



 PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 14

 Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

 AZAN 4-45
 12-45
 4-15
 5-45
 7-15

 JAMAAT 5-20
 1-15
 4-30
 5-50
 7-45

 SOURCE- ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



The teachers of schools for children with special needs have been staging a protest to press home 11-point demands, including adding them to the list of MPO enlisted schools, in the capital's Shahbagh area since Monday. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

# Taliban warn US, EU of refugee wave

Say weakening Afghan govt will affect the world

#### AFP, Kabul

Afghanistan's new Taliban government has warned US and European envoys that continued attempts to pressure them through sanctions will undermine security and could trigger a wave of economic refugees.

Acting foreign minister Amir Khan Muttaqi told Western diplomats at talks in Doha that "weakening the Afghan government is not in the interest of anyone because its negative effects will directly affect the world in (the) security sector and economic migration from the country", according to a statement published late Tuesday.

The Taliban overthrew Afghanistan's former US-backed government in August after a two-decade-long conflict, and have declared an Islamic emirate governed under the movement's hardline interpretation of religious law.

But efforts to stabilise the country, still facing attacks from the Taliban's rival, the extremist group the Islamic State-Khorasan, have been undermined by international sanctions: banks are running out of cash and civil servants are going unpaid.

According to the statement from his spokesman, Muttaqi told the Doha meeting: "We urge world countries to end existing sanctions and let banks operate normally so that charity groups, organisations and the government can pay salaries to their staff with their own reserves and international financial assistance."

European nations in particular are concerned that if the SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

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