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MOHIB ULLAH MURDER

All to foil Rohingya return

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

The plan to kill Rohingya leader Mohib Ullah was made at a meeting on September 27 night at Kutupalong refugee camp in Ukhiya, police officials said.

Four of the suspected assailants joined the meeting at Lombashia Morkoz Hill around 10:00pm and discussed that there was an order from their leaders to kill Muhib, they added.

They discussed that Muhib was becoming too influential as a leader and he must be killed to foil the repatriation process, Naimul Haque, superintendent of police and commander of 14th Armed Police Battalion (APBn), told a press briefing at his office in Ukhiya yesterday.

As per the plan, a member of the group, Murshid Amin, went to Muhib's home in Kutupalong on September 29 night and requested him to come outside to discuss the repatriation process.

Muhib then went to the nearby office of the Arakan Rohingya Society for Peace and Human Rights to talk to the man.

Murshid then informed two other

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This cable-stayed bridge on the Payra river in Balukhali is opening to traffic today, reducing travel time between Barishal and Patuakhali. Ferries have been used to carry vehicles across the river for years, causing long tailbacks and delays on either side of the river in rush hours. Story on page 5

PHOTO: SOHRAB HOSSAIN

PIRGANJ COMMUNAL VIOLENCE

BCL man sparked the blaze

Saikat, now sacked from the organisation, masterminded the attack, Rab officials say as they arrest him with his accomplice

STAR REPORT

A local Chhatra League leader, along with his accomplices, instigated the mob to burn down homes and shops of the Hindu community in Rangpur's Parganj upazila on October 17.

Rab disclosed the information yesterday following the arrest of Saikat Mandal who it said was the mastermind behind the communal attack.

Saikat, along with one of his accomplices named Rabiul Islam, was arrested in Tongi area of Gazipur on Friday, Rab spokesperson Commander Khandaker Al Mojin told reporters at Rab media centre in the capital's



Saikat Mandal



Rabiul Islam

Karwan Bazar.

Saikat was the vice-president of philosophy department Chhatra League at Rangpur's Carmichael College. On October 18, a day after the attack, Carmichael College Chhatra League sacked him for breaching the

organisation's discipline. Tanzirul Islam, organising secretary of the unit, was handed the same punishment.

In a statement yesterday, the unit's president Saiduzzaman said, "We made the decision after we learnt that the two were present on the spot during the attack. Police will now dig out their roles in the attack."

Chhatra League is a pro-Awami League student organisation.

Without mentioning any political identity of Saikat, 24, son of Rasedul Mandal, Rab said he uploaded false information on Facebook while Rabiul

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SLOGANS OF SOLIDARITY REVERBERATE
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Govt plans to raise number of classes in schools, colleges

Says Dipu Moni

UNB, Chandpur

Education Minister Dipu Moni yesterday said the government was planning to increase the number of classes in schools and colleges from January next.

The minister said this while talking to journalists after inaugurating a new complex of Palli Bidyut Samiti-2 at Raldia village in Chandpur.

She said it was not possible to take any immediate decision on increasing classes as some countries were seeing the third wave of Covid-19 infections.

"Classes have to be

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Tigers set for fresh start against Sri Lanka

Arch-rivals India and Pakistan clash in evening

MAZHAR UDDIN from Sharjah

From a shock defeat to Scotland in the first round to eventually qualifying for the Super 12, Bangladesh have seen both sides of the coin in their short time at the ICC T20 World Cup. Mahmudullah Riyad's troops will now begin their Super 12 journey with a game against Sri Lanka in Group 1 at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium today.

The game will begin at 4:00pm Bangladesh standard time.

In the evening, the flagship event will witness an epic Group 2 clash between arch-rivals India and Pakistan at the Dubai International Cricket stadium, the frenzy created by which can be observed on the streets of the UAE.

Although the India captain Virat Kohli and his Pakistani counterpart Babar Azad will be taking it as just another game, emotions related to this historic face-off

always give it a deeper significance. Pakistan have never been able to beat India in the T20 World Cup in five attempts, but considering the form guide, both teams are evenly matched.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh dressing room has taken on a dense environment following the six-run defeat to Scotland. Intense criticism followed that defeat, with even Bangladesh Cricket Board president Nazmul Hassan remarking about the poor showing from the Tigers.

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England cruised to a six-wicket win against defending champions West Indies in the day's second match.



Children studying inside a mosquito net at their house in Munshipara area in Sylhet in a recent evening. Residents of many neighbourhoods in the city complain that the mosquito-infested gutters will eventually lead to an outbreak of vector-borne diseases.

PHOTO: SHEKH NASIR

We have to be SELF-SUFFICIENT

Ramon Magsaysay winner Firdausi Qadri, in interview with The Daily Star, speaks on the need for Covid vaccine production locally

MOUDDUD AHMED SUJAN

Bangladesh needs to attain self-sufficiency in vaccine supply as soon as possible to combat Covid-19 and any future public health emergencies, Ramon Magsaysay Award winner scientist Dr Firdausi Qadri has said.

"Today we are talking about Covid-19. Nevertheless, we know many diseases will emerge [in future]. As we are graduating to a middle-income country, we will not get vaccines at a lower price. So we have to be self-sufficient," she said in an interview with



The Daily Star last week. The scientist noted that there has been a lot of progress in the past six months to build necessary infrastructure for vaccine production locally, but the government has a lot to do to promote existing vaccine production infrastructures as well as build new ones.

Dr Firdausi is an emeritus scientist and Head of the Mucosal Immunology and Vaccinology Unit at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease and Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b).

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1 killed in Faridpur pre-polls violence

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

A man was killed and 20 others were injured in a clash between supporters of the Awami League and its rebel candidates for the chairman post of Jadunandi Union Parishad in Faridpur's Saltha upazila yesterday.

The dead is Mariz Sikdar, 30, of the upazila's Khardia village, said police, adding that the law enforcers had to open fire to bring the situation under control.

According to locals, Jadunandi union unit AL President Abdul Rob Mollah submitted his nomination as a chairman candidate with the party ticket.

On the other hand, Saltha upazila unit AL member Rafique Mollah submitted his nomination for the same post as AL rebel candidate. Nurujjaman Thakur, member of the upazila unit AL, supported him.

However, around a month ago, Thakur left Rafique's group and joined Rob. Tension has been prevailing ever since, they added.

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