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## PM annoyed with Gazipur mayor

Top AL leaders recommend action against him for his remarks on Bangabandhu, number of martyrs

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

Annoyed at the Gazipur City Corporation mayor's controversial comments on Bangabandhu and Liberation War martyrs, top Awami League leaders have recommended taking action against Mohammad Zahangir Alam.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, also the AL president, expressed annoyance over Zahangir's controversial remarks, said party insiders.

The issue came up at the meeting of the AL Nomination Board for Local Body Elections, held at the Gono Bhavan on Friday night.

At the meeting, Zahangir's reply to a show cause notice was read out before Hasina. The ruling party had issued the notice to the mayor, also the Gazipur city AL general secretary, asking him to explain within 15 days why action should not be taken against him.

In his reply, the GCC mayor apologised and said he was sorry. But most of the participants of the meeting were not happy with his response, said sources.

The premier at the meeting wanted to know the opinions of her party colleagues about Zahangir's reply.

Almost all top AL leaders opined that the mayor violated party discipline and organisational action should be taken against him, said meeting sources.



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Fishermen sorting their nets as they make preparations for returning to fishing tomorrow after the expiry of a 22-day ban. The government imposed the restriction to ensure safe spawning of hilsa. The photo was taken in Barishal city's Rasulpur area yesterday.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

## BD highly successful in 'Vaccine diplomacy'

Says foreign minister

STAR REPORT

Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen yesterday said there is no shortage of vaccines in Bangladesh, adding that the vaccination drive in the country will go on as planned.

"There is no shortage of vaccines in Bangladesh. We are also ready to go into vaccine production," he said while speaking as the chief guest at an award ceremony at the Sylhet District Press Club auditorium.

He also said Bangladesh has been highly successful in "Vaccine Diplomacy" under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and guidance of the Covid-19 management committee.

"Till now, we are providing free jabs to our citizens. This is a very rare feat compared to other parts of the globe."

The minister's comment came when the uncertainty over vaccine supply is almost gone and the country sees downward trend in Covid infection.

However, the positivity rate increased slightly as it stood at 1.85 percent yesterday, up from previous day's 1.36 percent.

The country on the day reported 278 cases while Covid claimed overnight nine lives.

The total number of confirmed cases reached 15,67,414, according to a press release from the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS). The total number of Covid deaths in the country rose to 27,814 and the death rate was 1.77 percent.

A total of 15,042 samples were tested across the country in the 24 hours. At least 294 Covid-19 patients have recovered during the period.

[With inputs from UNB and BSS]

## COP26 CLIMATE DEAL Harder than 2015 Paris talks

Says summit president

AFP, London

Success at the upcoming COP26 climate summit is "definitely harder" than the 2015 Paris talks which resulted in a landmark accord, the British minister presiding over the gathering warned yesterday.

The October 31-November 12 gathering in Glasgow is the biggest climate conference since the Paris summit and is seen as crucial in setting worldwide emission targets to slow global warming.

Alok Sharma, the British minister in charge of the talks, told the Guardian newspaper that getting nearly 200 countries to commit to the emission targets to limit global temperature rises to less than 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels was a daunting task.

"What we're trying to do here in Glasgow is actually really tough," he said.

"It was brilliant what they did in Paris" but "a lot of the detailed rules were left for the future," he added.

"It's like, we've got to the end of the exam paper and the most difficult questions are left and you're running out of time"

"This is definitely harder than Paris on lots of levels."

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

## India, Pakistan trade blame

OCTOBER 24, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

### JOAN BAEZ SINGS FOR BANGLADESH

Legendary singer, songwriter and activist Joan Baez sang at Crisler Arena in Michigan and appealed to the audience to help the Bangladesh refugees and support the Bangladesh cause. Joan sang for two hours. She presented some original works such as Bangladesh: "When the sun sinks in the West/ Die a million people of Bangladesh." Joan punctuated her singing with acerbic remarks thrust at the Nixon administration and establishment politics in general. Twenty thousand people participated in the event.

### FIREFIGHT NEAR KASHMIR

An Indian official today accused Pakistan of carrying out mortar attacks in Indian towns near East Pakistan's eastern border that killed five people.



On the other hand, the Pakistan government claimed that its forces in East Pakistan repulsed two battalion-sized attacks today by Banaglee guerrillas supported by Indian troops and artillery. The two attacks were said to have taken place in Cumilla area.

The New York Times, referring to Indian official sources, reported today that about 35 Pakistani and eight Indian soldiers were killed in a series of border clashes in the Uri sector. The sources said the firing was begun by the Pakistanis immediately after their heavy military build-up close to the 500-mile border with Kashmir and was continued intermittently for eight days, added the newspaper.

In a United Nations Day message to his countrymen today, Pakistan President, General Agha Mohammad

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## Vikings explored the Americas long before Columbus



CNN ONLINE

An ancient solar storm and some wooden remains from old Nordic village prove that Christopher Columbus was not the first non-Indigenous person in North America, scientists say.

New findings show that Vikings landed on the continent 1,000 years ago, and hundreds of years before Columbus.

Researchers, who published their findings in

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Firefighters conduct a drive to recover the bodies of two workers who died inside a septic tank in Tangail's Delduar upazila yesterday. It is suspected that they inhaled toxic gases inside the tank.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## 9 killed in deadly clashes in Pakistan

Banned Islamist party's demo on

AFP, Lahore

A radical Islamist party yesterday said seven of its supporters have died in clashes with authorities in Pakistan's eastern city of Lahore after two police officers were killed in the unrest.

The number of Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) protesters swelled by thousands yesterday evening as supporters of the hardline party began marching towards the capital Islamabad without facing any further resistance from police.

Scores of the group's supporters had gathered after Friday prayers to demand the

release of their detained leader, blocking roads and firing projectiles in deadly clashes with police.

The TLP has previously been behind major anti-France protests that earlier this year led to the embassy issuing a warning for all French citizens to leave the country.

"Death toll of Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan supporters rose to seven after two more people succumbed to their injuries caused by police firing," the party tweeted yesterday.

It had earlier said two of the seven supporters died on Friday.

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### THE BUSINESS NOTICE

The Daily Star has brought out a special page today on Bangladeshi companies' investment abroad.

PLEASE CHECK B4.



### PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 24

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-50 12-45 4-00 5-36 7-15  
JAMAAT 5-25 1-15 4-15 5-39 7-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## Two workers die in septic tank

Firefighters suspect they inhaled toxic gases

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Two construction workers died from suspected inhalation of toxic gases in an under-construction septic tank in Tangail's Delduar upazila yesterday.

The dead are: Mohammad Masud, 35, of Norunda village in Delduar, and his uncle Mohammad Elahi, 38, of Khagiana village in Tangail Sadar upazila.

The duo got into the septic tank at a house in Deojan village around 9:30am and did not come out, Hanifuzzaman Liton, chairman of Pathrail Union Parishad, told The Daily Star.

On information, a team of Fire Service and Civil Defence went to the spot and recovered the bodies, he added.

Rezaul Karim, assistant director of Fire Service and Civil

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অনলাইন ব্যাংকিংসহ আধুনিক ব্যাংক সেবার প্রতিশ্রুতি নিয়ে রাজশাহী জেলায় উত্তরা ব্যাংক লিমিটেড-এর সাহেব বাজার শাখা এবং আঞ্চলিক কার্যালয়, রাজশাহী বর্তমান অবস্থান হতে স্থানান্তরিত হয়ে নিজস্ব ভবনে নতুন ঠিকানা উত্তরা ব্যাংক লিমিটেড উত্তরা ব্যাংক ভবন, রাজশাহী হোল্ডিং # ১০৯, সাহেব বাজার সড়ক ওয়ার্ড # ১২, রাজশাহী সিটি কর্পোরেশন থানা # বোয়ালিয়া, জেলা # রাজশাহী।

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