



# The Daily Star

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Your Right to Know

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**"We want to clearly say that a change of the government is the demand of the people. The Awami League has no right to stay in the office."**  
BNP SECRETARY GENERAL MIRZA FAKHRUL ISLAM ALAMGIR

**"Australians want action on climate change... but they also want to protect their jobs and their livelihoods."**  
AUSSIE PM SCOTT MORRISON ON SETTING 2050 NET ZERO EMISSIONS TARGET

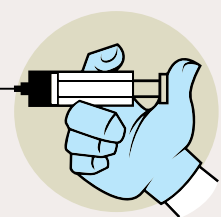
**"Every day that goes by in which we don't do something about it (climate change) is a day wasted. If we don't act now, it'll be too late."**  
BRITISH NATURALIST DAVID ATTENBOROUGH

## 10 LAKH jabs a day

Govt plans to ramp up the drive next month

**"We hope to vaccinate another six crore people with double doses by April."**

HEALTH MINISTER ZAHID MALEQUE



MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

The government plans to jab 10 lakh doses daily from next month to ramp up the Covid-19 vaccination campaign which has gathered some pace in recent months following smooth supply of vaccines.

Currently, around five lakh people are being administered vaccines every day on average.

If the plan is implemented, the government will be able to vaccinate 3 to 3.5 crore people every month. It will help the government achieve its goal: inoculation of 80 percent of the targeted population by the end of April next year.

"Our vaccine supply has been smooth so far and if it continues to be so, we will be able to jab 10 lakh doses every day. We hope to vaccinate another six crore people with double doses by April," Health Minister Zahid Maleque told The Daily Star yesterday.

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Police beat BNP activists with truncheons in the capital's Nayapaltan yesterday. The BNP men clashed with law enforcers after the party concluded a rally in front of its central office protesting the recent communal attacks. The clash left at least a dozen injured.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## Police, BNP men clash in capital

12 injured, 30 detained

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least a dozen people were injured in a clash between police and BNP activists in front of the party's Nayapaltan headquarters in the capital yesterday.

Law enforcers picked up at least 30 BNP men from the area, said Salahuddin Mia, officer-in-charge of Paltan Police Station.

Witnesses said the clash broke out around 11:30am when police barred BNP men from marching towards Kakrail after they joined a rally protesting the recent communal attacks in the country.

The BNP men hurled brick chips at police who retaliated with truncheons.

The opposition party was scheduled to bring out a protest procession from in front of its Nayapaltan office, which would end before the Jatiya Press Club. But the BNP postponed the procession as a large

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## NOAKHALI COMMUNAL VIOLENCE 'BNP's Bulu, others linked'; SP cites 164

Bulu claims he's being framed

STAR REPORT

A man accused in a case filed over the communal violence in Noakhali has named BNP Vice-chairman Barkatullah Bulu as an instigator.

Faisal Inam Kamal, joint convener of Noakhali Swetchhasebak Dal, named Bulu while giving his confessional statement at the Noakhali Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court on Monday night.

Contacted, Bulu yesterday said he was being framed to defame his 50-year political career.

"I strongly condemn the attacks on Hindu businesses, temples and homes. This is a heinous act and I demand a judicial inquiry," he said.

Kamal claimed that Bulu and 15 others were involved in planning and instigating the attack. Judicial Magistrate Saidan Nahi recorded the statement.

Superintendent of Police in Noakhali Md Shahidul Islam narrated the events at the court to journalists during a press conference held yesterday morning.

Kamal was arrested on Sunday night, said SP Islam. Kamal was then prosecuted under the Digital Security Act for uploading inciteful content on social media and spreading hate speech.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said yesterday that the names of all those involved in instigating communal violence in different parts of the country will be disclosed soon.

Those who have already been arrested, have named many people during

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## JS body slates irregularities in dev projects

Asks for report on repeated extensions, cost increase

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary watchdog yesterday came down heavily on the Road Transport and Highways Division (RTHD) over irregularities in different development projects, including slow implementation, repeated extensions of deadlines and consequent increase in project costs.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Estimate at a meeting questioned RTHD officials concerned about those irregularities.

The meeting was held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, with ruling Awami League MP Abdus Shahid in the chair.

In most cases, the officials did not respond properly to the allegations of irregularities raised by the parliamentary body, said meeting sources.

The committee later asked the ministry to submit a report to it on the overall issue within the next one month.

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## Tigers up against the might of England

**VICTORIES FOR SOUTH AFRICA AND PAKISTAN**  
South Africa beat West Indies by eight wickets while Pakistan defeated New Zealand by five wickets in the two T20 World Cup matches on Tuesday.

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MAZHAR UDDIN from Dubai

With the aim of regrouping following the five-wicket defeat against Sri Lanka in the first Super 12 encounter, Mahmudullah Riyad and Co will be looking to bounce back when they take on a strong England side in their T20 World Cup fixture at Sheikh Zayed Cricket Stadium in Abu Dhabi today.

This will be the very first time Bangladesh will face England in the shortest format of the game, with the match scheduled to begin at 4:00pm Bangladesh standard time.

The Bangladesh team spent a lot of time on catching and fielding drills at the ICC Cricket academy ground in Dubai yesterday ahead of their encounter against

a high-flying England side.

The Tigers, however, can take positives from their two wins against England in the fifty-over format, those coming at World Cups in 2011 and 2015.

But Eoin Morgan's side have been a totally changed unit since 2015 as they remodelled their cricket on aggression in the white ball format.

The top-ranked side in the shortest format started off the campaign by bundling out West Indies for 55 before chasing down the target with six wickets to spare.

The slowness of the surfaces in UAE can give some sort of hope to the Bangladesh camp, which rely heavily on their spin bowling.

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## Khaleda Zia shifted from ICU to cabin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson

Khaleda Zia has been shifted to a cabin from the intensive care unit of the capital's Evercare Hospital, and her health is improving, said her personal physician.

"Madam [Khaleda] was shifted to a cabin on Monday night and she is doing well. She was given liquid food," Prof AZM Zahid Hossain, personal physician of Khaleda, told The Daily Star yesterday.

"Her blood sugar level is still fluctuating. She is improving gradually and does not have any fever right now."

On Monday, the former prime minister underwent a surgery after a small lump

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## DIGITAL SECURITY ACT EU concerned over some provisions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The European Union has expressed concerns over some provisions of the Digital Security Act (DSA) as those may go beyond the stated purpose of fighting digital crime.

"Democracy and human rights are shared values between Bangladesh and the EU. The EU raised the issue of the Digital Security Act (DSA), expressing concerns that some of its provisions risk going beyond the stated purpose of fighting digital crime and also inquired about certain ongoing trials in this context," read a joint statement issued by the EU and Bangladesh.

Delegations from EU and Bangladesh met for their fourth Diplomatic Consultations in Brussels yesterday.

The EU delegation was led by the European External Action Service Managing Director for Asia and the Pacific Gunnar Wiegand and the

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Pakistan players celebrate their five-wicket victory over New Zealand in their T20 World Cup Group 2 fixture at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium in Sharjah on Tuesday.

PHOTO: AFP

## PAY CUT IN BIMAN Pilots demand pre-Covid time salaries

Want decision by Saturday

RASHIDUL HASAN

Aggrieved over pay cuts, pilots of Biman Bangladesh Airlines yesterday gave the authorities a four-day ultimatum to provide them with the salaries which they used to get before the Covid-19.

They threatened that they would not operate flights beyond the contracted working hours if their demand was not met within the deadline.

As per the contracts, a pilot is supposed to fly 70-75 hours a month.

At present, most of the 105 Biman pilots, however, have to operate aircraft on international routes beyond their contracted working hours, Capt Mahbubur Rahman, president of Bangladesh Airlines Pilots' Association (BAPA), told The Daily Star after the platform issued the ultimatum.

Biman, the national flag carrier, is now operating flights on 17 international routes every day, said its sources.

Its officials said the airlines' operation on the routes will be disrupted if the pilots do not get their pre-Covid time salaries and then stick to their decision.

One of the officials said a Doha-bound flight was scheduled to depart from the capital's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 6:30pm on Monday.

The flight, however, was delayed for more than three hours as one of the pilots refused to fly the aircraft.

Following alternative arrangements, the flight left the Dhaka airport around 9:30pm.

Talking to The Daily Star, Capt Mahbubur said after

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