



COUP IN SUDAN
Biden criticises junta as deaths climb after deadly clashes
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Top officials of six organisations -- Banglalink, BSRM Group, Dutch-Bangla Bank, Nestlé Bangladesh, Prime Bank and Standard Chartered Bangladesh -- that won A Better Tomorrow CSR Awards, and five individuals -- Amiya Prapan Chakraborty Arka, Esrat Karim Eve, Ahmed Imtiaz Jami, Tawhida Shiropa and Ratul Dev -- honoured as the Young Humanitarian of the Year pose for a photo with Planning Minister MA Mannan, during the award ceremony at Le Meridien Dhaka last evening. Keynote speakers Rajiv Prasad Shaha, chairman and managing director of Kumudini Welfare Trust of Bengal, Shehzad Munim, MD of BAT Bangladesh, and The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam are also seen in the photo. More photos on page 2.

PHOTO: STAR

A BETTER TOMORROW CSR AWARDS

Cheers for CSR champions

6 companies awarded by The Daily Star and CSR Window Bangladesh; 5 changemakers honoured as the Young Humanitarian of the Year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three banks, three companies and five individuals were crowned with the inaugural "A Better Tomorrow CSR Awards" by The Daily Star and the CSR Window Bangladesh in recognition of their extraordinary accomplishments and efforts to create better lives.

In recent years, Bangladesh has seen a huge growth in corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects by both local and multinational firms.

This led The Daily Star to team up with the CSR Window Bangladesh -- a platform that allows individuals, entrepreneurs, corporates, non-governmental or social organisations to bring ideas to life that benefit communities at large -- to recognise the impactful projects that can serve as benchmarks for the others.

Planning Minister MA Mannan handed over the awards to the winners at a gala ceremony held yesterday at Le Meridien Dhaka, the hospitality partner for the event.

Prime Bank Eye Hospital, set up by Prime Bank, won the award in the healthcare

category, while DBBL Scholarship Programme, run by Dutch-Bangla Bank, bagged the top award in the education segment.

The Environment Livelihood Programme for Conservation, an initiative of BSRM Group of Companies, took home the accolade in the environment category, while Nestlé Bangladesh won in community engagement.

The Best CSR in Financial Inclusion award went to Banglalink, while Standard Chartered Bangladesh won the award in the Covid-19 Response category.

Five young changemakers were also awarded as the Young Humanitarian of the Year.

They are Amiya Prapan Chakraborty Arka, founder of Dhruvotara Youth Development Foundation, a platform that allows youths to engage in social activities, volunteerism and policy-level dialogue;

and Ahmed Imtiaz Jami, founder of Obhizatrik Foundation, which works on poverty elimination, education, health and nutrition and human rights in sustainable poverty alleviation projects.

Esrat Karim Eve, founder of Amal Foundation, which operates centres that teach sellable skills to the victims of child marriages and domestic violence as well as divorcees and widows was also named as the Young Humanitarian of the Year.

Tawhida Shiropa, founder and chief executive officer of Moner Bondhu, a social enterprise that provides counselling services to those with mental health issues, and Ratul Dev, who founded GenLab to engage youth from all over the world in the development process in their locality, were also awarded.

No government can go a long way without the private sector, Mannan said.

"We want to build an inclusive society.

And we are working for improving the living standard of all," he added.

To sustain businesses, profit is needed but there should also be a focus on how to benefit people, said Rajiv Prasad Shaha, chairman and managing director of Kumudini Welfare Trust of Bengal, in his keynote speech.

"And those who work for the people, the society, the nation, and the world -- live forever," he said, while speaking about the journey of the trust and its legendary founder RP Shaha.

Time had come to gradually move to environmental, social and governance (ESG) standards from CSR, said Shehzad Munim, MD of BAT Bangladesh, in his keynote presentation.

In effect, CSR is the precursor to ESG. While CSR thinks about accountability, ESG methodology makes its efforts measurable.

"We have to embrace ESG and work on the criteria if we want to become a global sourcing destination and attract foreign direct investment."

Munim also touched upon the issue of

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COMPENSATIONS FOR RAPE VICTIMS

A scheme ever elusive

No response to an HC rule on this; justice not served in cases of three minor girls

ASHUTOSH SARKAR and ZYMA ISLAM

As she sits on her wheelchair, eleven-year-old Setu (real name withheld) can feel the discomfort of her extra-large baby diapers and a urinary catheter leading to a collection bag.

She was raped at the age of five, in 2016, allegedly by two men over 40 years of age in her village of Parbatipur in Dinajpur. The attackers also mutilated her genitals with a sharp knife causing lasting damage to her urinary tract.

For the last five years, the minor girl has been living a painful life, dribbling urine all day long and tolerating the burning of thighs chafed from the rags her mother stuffs into her pants. The constant state of incontinence left her friendless and unable to go to school.

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Bangladesh captain Mahmudullah Riyad (L) screams in frustration following their three-run defeat against the West Indies in their Super 12 fixture of the T20 World Super in Sharjah on Friday.

Tigers' hopes dashed

SPORTS REPORTER from Sharjah

It came down to the wire as Bangladesh needed four to win off the last ball of the game with skipper Mahmudullah Riyad on strike. But Andre Russell kept his composure and fired in a yorker which Mahmudullah couldn't connect, ending the Tigers' dream of reaching the semifinals of the ICC T20 World Cup, at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Bangladesh, needing 13 off the last over, ended with 139 for five to suffer a three-run defeat in reply to 143

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WHO wants \$23.4b to conquer Covid

Urges rich countries to show some leadership, pay up

AFP, Geneva

The World Health Organization said it needed \$23.4 billion over the next 12 months for its plan to conquer Covid-19, urging the G20 to show some leadership and pay up.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus bluntly told the Group of 20 global powers, meeting this weekend

in Rome, they could no longer leave poorer countries hanging out to dry in the pandemic.

Tedros said the money was needed to secure Covid-19 vaccines, tests and treatments -- and potentially prevent another five million deaths in the crisis.

The G20 "have the ability to make the political and financial commitments that

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4 bullet-hit in Pabna pre-polls clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

At least four people sustained bullet injuries in a clash that took place ahead of the union parishad elections in Pabna's Sujanager upazila.

Around 10:00pm on Thursday, supporters of Mollah Gong and Bishwas Gong locked into the clash that later turned into a gunfight, leaving at least 10 injured.

According to locals, Bishwas Gong supports Awami League nominated candidate Abdur Rouf whereas Mollah Gong supports Awami League rebel candidate Firoz Ahmed Khan.

Firoz, also a Krishak League leader, alleged that the supporters of Rouf attacked one of his poll campaign offices and vandalised it.

"They attacked my men and office out of anger as I am contesting for the chairman post," he said.

Contacted, Rouf denied the allegations and said it was a pre-planned clash to foil the peaceful elections environment in the area.

Mizanur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Sujanager Police Station, said the clash was an outcome of a long-standing family enmity between Mollah Gong and Bishwas Gong.

The two groups had fought before and this time they locked into a clash with firearms, he said.

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BANGABANDHU SHEIKH MUJIB INDUSTRIAL AWARD-2020

Universal Jeans Ltd. a company of Pacific Jeans Group has been awarded the prestigious and first "Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Industrial Award-2020" in Large Industry Category for its contribution towards the industrial development of Bangladesh. M. Nasir Uddin, Chairman of Pacific Jeans Group received the award. We express our heartfelt gratitude to Ministry of Industry for this recognition. The accolade is not only a defining moment for Pacific Jeans but also an inspiration for more achievements.



PACIFIC JEANS

إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون. إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون
"Indeed we belong to Allah, and indeed to Him we will Return"



Mir Mustafizur Rahman (Jan 7, 1935 – Oct 28, 2021)

Former Finance Secretary, M. Mustafizur Rahman, son of Anwara Begum and Mir Lutfur Rahman, passed away on Thursday, October 28, 2021 at his residence in Gulshan, Dhaka. He was 86 years old.

He was born in Fakirbari, Barisal in 1935. He completed his B. A. and M. A. in Economics from the University of Dhaka, and another M. A. in Development Economics from Williams College, Massachusetts, USA.

Having qualified in the Civil Service examination in 1959, Mr. Rahman served the Government in different capacities including Finance Secretary, President's Principal Secretary, Alternate Executive Director to World Bank, and as the first Executive Chairman of the Board of Investment. Earlier, he was Chairman, Water Development Board, Secretary, Civil Aviation & Tourism, Information & Broadcasting, and Education. In 1971, Mr. Rahman held the position of DC, Chittagong. He was the Chairman of the Revenue Reform Commission (2003) and Chairman of the 7th Pay Commission (2009).

Upon completion of almost fifty years of public service, Mr. Rahman involved himself in the development of private universities, life insurance, leasing, and a credit rating agency.

He left behind his wife, Salma Rahman, former senior Professor and Project Director in the Ministry of Education; three daughters and a son, Nahid, Runa, Saadia and Mahfuz; daughter-in-law and three sons-in-law; and four grandchildren, Nahiyan, Lamisa, Shanza and Marzuq. He is also survived by four sisters and three brothers and a host of relatives, friends and well wishers.