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Accountability at the core

It's behind all success stories of economic development, says Prof Wahiduddin at a public lecture

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Behind all success stories of sustained economic development, there is a common factor -- ensuring accountability at all tiers of governance.

This applies across the nature of ruling regimes, whether democratic, authoritarian or a mix of the two.

"And even if democratic institutions are weak, the existence of enough space for civic activism and free media may ensure considerable accountability of a legitimacy-seeking regime," said Prof Wahiduddin Mahmud at a public lecture yesterday.

"This will at least ensure some accountability of a government," he said in his lecture that was organised by Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) in the capital's Lakeshore Hotel.

He said under the erstwhile authoritarian regimes in East Asia, bureaucracies were "technically insulated" from patronage politics and whose policies were subject to performance-based scrutiny in order to ensure accountability.

In China, he said, the governance reforms introduced in the wake of economic liberalisation have put in place a hierarchical system of strict accountability within the communist party's bureaucracy regarding achieving



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Ignoring signal, a car goes beyond a bar at FDC level crossing in the capital's Karwan Bazar yesterday while a train is passing through the area. Such risky driving and violation of traffic rules may cause fatal accidents.

PHOTO:
ANISUR RAHMAN

Khaleda home after 26 days in hospital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia returned home yesterday after a 26-day stay in the capital's Evercare hospital.

Hundreds of party leaders and activists followed her on her way from the hospital to the residence, where she reached at around 5:45pm.

The 76-year-old former premier was released, as no complication was found in the biopsy of a lump that was removed from her body.

Syeda Sharmila Rahman, her deceased son Arafat Rahman's wife, accompanied her, while senior party leaders, including Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, welcomed the BNP chief back into her house Firoza.

Khaleda's physicians

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2 men killed in 'gunfight' with Rab

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Two men were killed in a "gunfight" between Rab members and a group of unidentified people in Moulvibazar's Sreemangal upazila yesterday.

The dead are Tofael Mia, 35, and Shahid Mia, 40, both accused in a case filed over the murder of a local business association leader, said police.

Basu Dutta Chakma, commander of Rab-9 (Sreemangal battalion), said, "A group of people started shooting on a Rab vehicle in the morning inside the Mirtinga tea garden area."

In self-defense, Rab members retaliated, leaving two of the group members injured with bullets, he added.

After the "gunfight", the bullet-riddled bodies were recovered from the spot, he said, adding that they later handed the bodies over to Sreemangal police.

Eardous Hasan, officer-in-charge of Kamalganj Police Station, said some criminals hacked Nazmul Hasan, a business association leader, under broad daylight in the district's Kamalganj upazila on October 31 last year.

Nazmul died at Sylhet Women's Medical College Hospital around 7:00pm while undergoing treatment the same day.

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ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

East Bengal can't remain united with Pakistan: Indira

NOVEMBER 8, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

CHINA WILL INTERVENE, SAYS YAHYA

Pakistan President Yahya Khan was today quoted as saying that China would intervene in the event of an Indian attack on Pakistan. Radio Pakistan said Yahya Khan made the observation in an interview with the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS). The statement differed from the one made by him in a recent interview with Newsweek in which he said China would help Pakistan in every way 'short of intervention'.

Yahya's reference to the possibility of Chinese intervention in a conflict in the sub-continent was timed to coincide with the conclusion of a high-level Pakistani mission to Peking led by ZA Bhutto.

Meanwhile, Bhutto said on his return from Peking today that diversionary action by China on India's northern frontier in the event of a war on the subcontinent was a "superficial matter." He said, "We are not interested in diversions. We are interested in the heart of the matter. We want peace. We cherish peace. We will never be the first to aggress or to fire the first shot. Those who will aggress against the sacred soil of Pakistan, they will be doomed on Pakistan soil."

INDIA WILL NOT BROOK SITUATION FOR LONG: INDIRA
Indira Gandhi said in Paris today that India could not tolerate the

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COMMUNAL VIOLENCE

An 'aide' to Cumilla city mayor held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cumilla

Police arrested Moinuddin Ahmed Babu, an aide to Cumilla City Corporation Mayor Monirul Haque Sakku, over the communal attacks in the city on October 13.

"He was on the run. A police team arrested him from Rangamati's Sajek area last night," said Anwarul Azim, officer-in-charge of Kotwali Police Station in Cumilla.

Police brought him to Cumilla and showed him arrested in two cases that were filed following the violence. One was filed by Tarun Kanti Modok, general secretary of Nanua Dighirpar puja mandap, while the other by police for attacking Thakurpara Gachhala temple.

Police produced him before a court with a seven-day remand prayer in the afternoon, the OC told our

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New dinosaur species 'Cold Bone' found in Greenland



MAIL ONLINE

A newly-discovered species of dinosaur that reached 13 feet long, five foot tall and weighed up to a tonne was an ancestor of diplodocus, scientists have revealed.

Researchers report the unearthing of two almost complete skull fossils of the plant-eating dinosaur in Jameson Land, east Greenland.

The new dinosaur species honours the local Inuit language -- its scientific name Issi saaneq means "Cold Bone".

Previously mistaken for an already-existing species, Cold Bone lived during the late Triassic period approximately 214 million years ago when East Greenland was connected to Europe.

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DEATH-ROW CONVICTS No execution until full text of verdict:SC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday observed that death-row convicts cannot be executed until the full texts of the verdicts affirming their death penalties are released.

With this observation, the SC's Appellate Division ordered the inspector general of prisons and the jail authorities to suspend the execution of death penalty of Shukur Ali -- convicted accused in a child abduction, rape and murder case in Kushtia -- as

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PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 8

Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5:00	12:45	3:45	5:25	7:00
JAMAAT 5:35	1:15	4:00	5:30	7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Govt has no control over market

Dr Kamal says on price hikes, public sufferings

UNB, Dhaka

Gonoforum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday alleged that no step is being taken to alleviate public sufferings and control the price hike of daily essentials since an "unelected" government has been in power.

In a statement, he also alleged that the government has no control over the market. "Rather it has an entente with an evil syndicate."

Protesting the government's decision to hike the fuel price, Dr Kamal said transport fares and transposition costs will rise due to the fresh hike in diesel and kerosene prices.

"It'll have an impact on the market and people will suffer as the prices of the daily essentials keep soaring."

He demanded the withdrawal of the increased prices of diesel and kerosene.

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Garbage and polythene bags being dumped indiscriminately at Boro Bazar, the biggest wholesale market in Khulna city, polluting the Bhairab river and the environment. This photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO:
HABIBUR RAHMAN

CLIMATE SUMMIT 2021 Chasm opens between words and action

AFP, Glasgow

COP26's first week saw keynote pledges to end deforestation, phase out coal, and mobilise trillions for green investment. But observers say there is a gulf between host Britain's proclamations and the emissions cuts that must be achieved.

Mohamed Adow, director of the Nairobi-based climate think tank Power Shift Africa, told AFP that there had been "two realities" at the global climate conference in Glasgow.

"One is the world of press releases by the UK Government announcing a host of initiatives such as 'an end to coal', which suggest all is well and we've as good as cracked the climate crisis," he said.

"The other reality is outside this PR bubble. The climate deals in cold hard facts."

The conference aims to implement the Paris Agreement -- including the goal of limiting temperature rises to between 1.5 and 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

British organisers are pushing to solidify 1.5C as the summit's unequivocal temperature target.

They have also pushed for their much-repeated priorities -- "coal, cars, cash and trees" -- shorthand for actions to phase out polluting fuels and internal combustion vehicles, provide money to help the world decarbonise, and protect forests.

There was movement toward that end at COP26 this week.

A COP26 spokesman said there had been "real

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