

REMITTANCE TO LOSE STEAM
World Bank projects lower remittance growth for Bangladesh in 2021
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Your Right to Know

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"What is your role as a political party in developing and advancing democracy in the country?"
AL GENERAL SECRETARY OBAIDUL QUADER
QUESTIONS BNP'S ROLE



"Take cryptocurrency or Bitcoin, for example. It is important that all democratic nations work together on this and ensure it does not end up in the wrong hands."
INDIAN PM NARENDRA MODI



"Once limited to a few [Afghan] provinces and the capital, ISKP now seems to be present in nearly all provinces, and increasingly active."
UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE DEBORAH LYONS TELLS UNSC



CHATTOGRAM PORT

Phantom export raises alarm

Breach of NBR server detected for a third time

MOHAMMAD SUMAN, Cig

Cybercriminals breached the "secure" NBR server to falsely show export of goods worth around Tk 12.78 crore.

The fraudsters used the credentials of two customs officers to access the server and created the records of 24 shipments out of Chattogram Port that never happened in reality.

This is the second time in weeks that the Customs House, Chattogram (CHC) found that scammers accessed the system using the ID and password of its officers.

In the latest incident, the manipulation was done using the accounts of Mahbubar Rahman Sarker and Sha Alam Sarker, both revenue officers of the CHC.

Contacted, Mahbubar said, "Sometimes I logged in [the system] and let someone [who is not a CHC employee] update the information. It's possible that that person did something like this. I am aware that this is a very sensitive matter. But sometimes the workload at the depot is too much, and I have to do this [let the unauthorised individual use the system]."

Amid such scandalous discoveries, CHC Commissioner Fakhru Alam on Monday issued an office order asking officers not to access the system in presence of any unauthorised individuals let alone allowing outsiders to use the system. Officials say this was not the first time the CHC issued such a notice.

Alam, the other CHC officer, said, "I use my account very carefully. I am not aware of the breach."

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A trader selling colourful wool on a makeshift stall in the capital's Gulistan yesterday. With the onset of winter, many are buying wool to knit their own jumpers. However, according to the sellers, more and more people now opt for readymade knitwear rather than making their own.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

'They can hurl abuse, I'll go by law'

Anisul tells House on not allowing Khaleda to go abroad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday told parliament that there was no scope under the law to allow BNP chief Khaleda Zia to go abroad for medical treatment.

"They [BNP] can use abusive words against me as much as they wish. But it will not matter. I will go by the law," he said.

The minister made the remarks in response to BNP MP Gulam Mohammad Siraj's (Bogura-6) demand for allowing the BNP chairperson to go abroad for medical treatment.

He said Khaleda was getting treatment properly. "It is up to them whether they are satisfied or not"

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Khaleda fighting for life: BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia is fighting for life at Evercare Hospital in the capital, said the party Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir.

He made the statement while attending a press conference at the party chairperson's Gulshan office yesterday.

"Khaleda Zia is fighting for her life. She is the most popular leader in Bangladesh. It is inhumane that she is not allowed to go abroad for treatment," he said.

Physicians here are providing her with the best possible treatment available, but with no results. The medical board formed to treat Khaleda also suggested that she be taken abroad for better treatment, he said.

"We are demanding [the government] take initiatives to send her abroad for better treatment and save her life," he added.

About the latest physical condition of Khaleda, the BNP secretary general said, "Blood has been given and endoscopy conducted on her today."

Quoting doctors, he said the physicians gave Khaleda all the treatments that were available here. "Now she needs to be taken abroad."

According to doctors, Khaleda's health complications



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JUSTICE FOR RAPE VICTIMS

Their wait never seems to end

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

She was only five years old when she went missing.

On the night of October 18, 2016, she was picked up from her house in Jamirhat village of Dinajpur's Parbatipur upazila.

After searching all night, her family and neighbours found her the next day in an unconscious state, with stabs and cigarette burns on her body, in a turmeric field.

On October 20, the child's father file a case under the Nari O Shishu Nirjatan Daman Ain (Women and Children Repression Prevention Act), 2000, with Parbatipur Police Station for abduction and rape.

"The lengthy trial proceedings put financial and emotional distress on the victims and their family members, and the delays act as deterrence for others from pursuing justice and provide impunity to perpetrators to get away with their crimes."

According to the case statement, principal accused Saiful Islam and his accomplices left her at the turmeric field after raping her overnight.

Five years on, the child, now 10, still suffers not only from urinary tract infection, but also the extreme psychological trauma that will likely stay with her for life. The case, however, still remains unsolved, prolonging the family's wait for justice.

As the trial proceedings of the case could not be concluded in over four years, the High Court interjected in the matter last year.

The trial proceedings of any case, filed under the Women and Children's

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ROHINGYA ISSUE

Fix root cause, ensure their return

UNGA tells Myanmar in first-ever resolution by consensus

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The UN has adopted a resolution on the Rohingyas by consensus for the first time, demonstrating its strong solidarity with the victims of human rights violations and resolving to address the root causes and ensure their repatriation to Myanmar.

The member states also commended Bangladesh for its generosity in hosting the Rohingyas, for providing humanitarian assistance and for including them in the national Covid-19 vaccination drive.

The resolution adopted yesterday also recognised the government's investments in building the facilities in Bhasan char for relocation of a portion of the Rohingyas from the congested camps in Cox's Bazar, while welcoming the MoU signed by Bangladesh with UNHCR.

"It is a good news for us because we have been trying for adoption of the UN resolution on Rohingyas by consensus," Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen told reporters after a

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Tigers' first T20I against Pakistan today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh's quest to regain their self-belief and confidence after a dismal outing in the ICC T20 World Cup begins today when Mahmudullah Riyad leads out a relatively young team to take on high-flying Pakistan in the first T20I of a three-match series at Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur. The game is scheduled to begin at 2:00pm.

Semifinalists in the recently-concluded T20 World Cup, Pakistan have been in terrific form under skipper Babar Azam and will be looking to continue that against a demoralised unit.

The exclusion of the experienced Mushfiqur Rahim for the series raised many questions and with the likes of Liton Das and Soumya Sarkar also being dropped, it is going to be a tough challenge for a relatively inexperienced home side.

Saif Hasan is expected to make his T20I debut and is likely to open the innings alongside Naim Sheikh

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College students stop buses in front of Dhaka College on Mirpur Road yesterday demanding they be allowed to pay half the fare. They also stuck stickers on the vehicles' windscreens that state their demand.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

LDC GRADUATION

Being ready for global stage is key

Says Rehman Sobhan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh would genuinely graduate from the least-developed country bracket only after attaining a certain level of global competitiveness, said noted economist Rehman Sobhan yesterday.

True graduation means competing in global platforms, said Rehman Sobhan, chairman of the Centre for Policy Dialogue, at a session styled 'Upcoming MC12: Bangladesh's Expectations and Possible Stance' organised by the think-tank and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Bangladesh Office.

He went on to cite Pakistan and Sri Lanka as examples of countries that are struggling as developing countries after losing trade benefits upon graduation.

Over the last 50 years, Bangladesh could not negotiate a single free trade agreement (FTA) with any country.

"Bangladesh should have a date by which the country would be able to celebrate genuine graduation. The whole concept of trade negotiation has changed over the years and demanding a one-year or three-year extension of duty privilege is absurd in terms of the international trading system."

During FTA negotiations, countries look at labour rights, human rights and competitive electoral systems. "How prepared is Bangladesh in those areas?"

He recommended that trade negotiation and strategies should be approached not just in consideration of the graduation but also in consideration of the changing world order.

"The world that we are dealing with is not as usual," he said.

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