



15,38,855



258,804,967 **Total cases** 

#### RELOCATING ROHINGYAS

# Govt to send 2,000 others to Bhasan Char

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has resumed the process for relocating Rohingyas from Cox's Bazar to Bhasan Char, said officials.

Around 2,000 more Rohingyas are likely to be relocated to the island in Noakhali's Hatiya in the first phase by tomorrow, they said, adding that the Rohingyas have already been taken to the Ukhiya College ground.

The government is planning to shift around 80,000 Rohingyas to the island by the end of next March, Md Mohsin, secretary of the disaster management and relief ministry, told The Daily Star

Mohammed Moazzam Hossain, additional refugee relief and repatriation commissioner, said Rohingyas will be taken to Chattogram by bus today and they will stay there overnight. "On Thursday [tomorrow], Rohingyas will reach Bhasan Char by ship.'

Around 18,000 Rohingyas have already been moved to the island. The first batch of 1,642 refugees was taken there on December 4 last year.

Bangladesh Navy has implemented Tk 3,100-crore project titled the Ashrayan-3 Project on Bhasan Char for the refugees.

City

In Cox's Bazar refugee camps, a family of six-eight people live together within a space of 400-square foot. At Bhasan Char, the buildings have electricity, solar panels, biogas plants,

The houses have been built four feet above the ground with concrete blocks. Each building will house 16 families of four in its 16 rooms, providing more than the UN stipulated 37 square feet space for each person, said project

### Headed for a health calamity

parasites is called antimicrobial

resistance (AMR). "The AMR is another type of pandemic. It should not be that there is no drug for curing illnesses," Flora said.

Data indicates that the use of antibiotics is driven by practitioners, said Nitish Chandra Debnath, One Health Bangladesh's national coordinator.

"We have to work on it -- we need a strong movement among professionals. AMR is a challenge for both the public health and the economy," he added. Antibiotics are classified into three

sets: the "access group" is prescribed for a wide range of primary level infections, the "watch group" for higher resistance bacteria and the "reserve group" when all alternatives fail.

Of the 21 antibiotics, seven were from the access group, nine from the watch group and two from the reserve group. Of them, 15 are progressively becoming ineffectual.

In 2021, Ceftazidime, a watch group drug, has become ineffective in killing different bacteria in 70 percent of the cases. In 2017, its ineffectiveness rate was 62 percent.

The ineffectiveness has increased from 52 percent to 58 percent for Cefixime, from 57 percent to 61 percent for Cefepime, from 52 percent to 65 percent for Ceftriaxone, from 57 percent to 67 percent for Ciprofloxacin, from 20 percent to 40 percent for Carbapenem. All are watch group drugs.

During the period, access group drugs Doxycycline and Tetracycline behaviour that contribute to the misuse

**ACCESS GROUP** 

second choice

offer the best

therapeutic

value, while

potential for

resistance

minimizing the

antibiotics

first or

ineffectiveness rates decreasing from 47 percent to 39 percent and from 58 to 54 percent respectively.

use of these drugs -- physicians mainly use drugs from the watch and reserve groups," Zakir Hossain Habib, lead investigator and head of microbiology at the IEDCR, told The Daily Star.

Among the access group, drugs that have lost effectiveness include Nitrofurantoin, Sulphamethoxazole-Trimethoprim, Ampicillin, Amoxicillin-

The ineffectiveness of Aztreonam, a reserve group drug, has increased to 61 percent from 59 percent; it has remained static at 37 percent in the case of reserve group drug Linezolid.

"We are losing our first-line antibiotics [access group] -- the second-and third-line antibiotics are costly and toxic," said Mohamed Ramzy Ismail, WHO technical expert on essential

There are only a few promising options for new antimicrobials in the

To fight AMR, Ismail called for the "One Health" approach, where

health is closely connected to the health of animals and the shared environment. Some countries are using antibiotics

medical care have become more useful, with their of these fragile medicines," he added.

would allow close cooperation between services for refugees on the island.

"This may be because of the lesser

Clavulanate and Gentamicin. Penicillin have slightly gained in effectiveness.

drugs and medicines in Bangladesh.

research pipeline, he said.

Bangladesh has made good progress.
One health recognises that human

more in food production than in

"We need to find ways to target all

and mobile networks.

Although the United Nations was not engaged in the process of Bhasan Char project, it signed an agreement with Bangladesh last month to provide humanitarian support.

The UN's engagement started nearly a year after Bangladesh started moving the Rohingyas to the island. After the signing of the agreement, the UN said it the government and the UN to provide

# Killers trained, target clear

All of them are associates of the councillor, said locals.

Meanwhile, the family members of Sohel, councillor of ward-17 and also the panel mayor of Cumilla City Corporation, termed it a political killing.

"Political rivals are behind the murder ... We want justice," Sohel's elder brother Syed Mohammad Alamgir told The Daily Star yesterday.

Councillor's wife Shahnaz Akhter said, "My husband was popular not only in the locality but also across the Cumilla city. They killed him in a planned way."

The councillor, also the president of ward-17 Awami League, was shot nine times and eight of the bullets went through his body. Haripada was the member of the ward-17 ÅL unit.

"The killers wanted to confirm his death on the spot. We hardly found any bullets in the dead bodies," said a source at Cumilla Medical College morgue after the autopsy.

Law enforcers could not arrest anyone even 24 hours after the grisly double-murder that took place around uupm on monday.

Police, however, recovered three locally made guns, 12 bullets usually used in rifle, a bag of crude bombs and two black garments from Sangraish, around 500 metres away from the

Anwarul Azim, officer-in-charge of Kotwali Model Police Station, said the criminals might have left those there.

Police collected footage of several CCTV cameras, three of them installed in front of the office, to identify the

No case was lodged till filing of this report around 10:00pm yesterday.

the intersection.

Sohel's Personal Assistant Majedul Haque Badal, who was shot in one of his legs, said, "The killers stormed the office shouting that they were members of a law enforcement agency. Six to seven people were sitting with the councillor at that time."

Haripada sustained bullet wounds first during the indiscriminate firing, he added.

Another injured, Badal, however, gave a different version claiming that he identified at least two of the masked attackers by their voices.

The two he named are: Shah Alam and Sohel alias "Jail Sohel" -- both are local criminals. Alam had a rivalry with the councillor over some local issues, claimed Badal.

However, this newspaper could not independently verify his claim.

Jahangir Hossain Babul, councillor of Ward-16, alleged that Alam, known as a drug trader, had a dispute with Councillor Sohel as he opposed Alam's illegal activities.

Pathuriapara area when some locals tried to catch one of his friends for disturbing a girl, he told The Daily

Sohel informed police of the matter, which irked Alam, said Babul, a friend of the slain councillor.

He also alleged that police personnel reached the spot around an hour after the incident.

Farooque Ahmed, superintendent of Cumilla police, said apart from other possible causes, police were

looking into the involvement of Alam and "Jail Sohel" in the murders.

A group of youths grabs a college student, in white shirt, who was among others staging

intersection yesterday. Cops present there did not intervene. Inset, agitating students block

a demonstration demanding half fare in buses at the capital's Science Laboratory

Asked about the delay in going to the spot, the SP said police went to the spot after hearing about the incident.

Yesterday, hundreds of people gathered outside the councillor's office and his house after the body of councillor Sohel was taken there from the hospital.

In tears, they demanded justice for the killings. "We want justice," Momena Akter

was shouting near the councillor's office. The councillor was our guardian.

He used to always help poor people like us," she said. Sohel was buried at the family

graveyard following a namaz-e-janaza at local mosque premises. Haripada was cremated in Tikkarchar area. Before the janaza, Syed Mohammad Nadim, only son of the Sohel,

said, "What I only want is capital punishment of those who killed my father.' The spot where Sohel was murdered

A week ago, Alam opened fire in is four-five km from Bibir Bazar land The name of the councillor,

who had a huge popularity in his locality, came up in the discussion after communal violence took place during the Durga Puja celebrations in the city.

Iqbal Hossain, who is accused of placing the Holy Quran in the city's . Nanua Dighir Par puja mandap in the early hours of October 13, used to reside in one of Sohel's houses at Pathuriapara as a tenant.

### Sharmin hits magical figure

PHOTO: COLLECTED/ PALASH KHAN

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Opener Sharmin Akhter smashed century as Bangladesh

thrashed United States of America by 269 runs in their second match of the ICC Women's World Cup 2022 Qualifier in Harare yesterday.

Sharmin's unbeaten 130 off 141 deliveries, together with healthy contributions from Murshida Khatun (47), Nigar Sultana (33) and Fargana Hoque (67) propelled the Tigresses to a massive total of 322 for five in 50 overs

after they were asked to bat first. USA, who don't have official one-day nternational status, struggled in their chase right from the beginning, losing wickets at regular intervals before being

bowled out for 53 in 30.3 overs. Salma Khatun, Fahima Khatun and Rumana Ahmed scalped a couple of wickets each for the Tigresses, who sit on top of Group B with four points

from two matches. Bangladesh had started their qualifying campaign with a three-wicket victory over Pakistan.

MATARBARI PROJECTS

### Govt to form 'development authority'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is set to form a "development authority" to coordinate all development programmes of Matarbari, along with the 1,200 MW coal-based powerplant, in Cox's Bazar's Maheshkahli.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina vesterday gave instructions in this regard at the Executive Committee of National Economic Council [ECNEC] meeting.

In it, the government approved 10 development projects at a cost of Tk 29,344.27 crore, including the first revision of the Matarbari power plant and two new projects - a digital connectivity establishment and an elevated road over haor areas.

"The Matarbari project is revised at Tk 51,854.9 crore... There will be more development works. Different institutions are set to be built there, including power plants. There is also a plan to build a tourism centre on Sonadia island," said Prof Dr Shamsul

Alam, state minister for planning. "The prime minister has decided that all those development works will be coordinated by a single authority named Matarbari Development Authority."

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AL man shot dead in Bandarban

Masked criminals shot dead an Awami League activist from the Marma community in Bandarban's Rowangchhari upazila yesterday evening.

The dead is U Thowai Nu Marma, 40. 'Criminals in masks shot him dead

wounds during the attack. However, her identity could not be confirmed immediately, she added.

of Rowangchhari upazila AL, said U Thowai Nu was a member of Taracha union AL.

recover the body, the SP said.

# Govt given ultimatum

and monitoring

**WATCH GROUP** 

antibiotics

first or second choice

limited number of

infective syndromes

only indicated for specific,

more prone to be a target

thus prioritized as targets

of stewardship programs

of antibiotic resistance and

WHO ANTIBIOTIC CATEGORISATION

On November 3, the government raised the prices of diesel and kerosene by Tk 15 per liter and the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) on November 7 increased the fares for intra-city and inter-district buses by 26.5 percent and 27 percent respectively following a strike by

transport owners. Over the last couple of weeks, students have been demanding half fare for bus rides. Students and transport workers got into heated

debates over the bus fare issue. On Sunday, a student of Begum Badrunnesa Government Girls College was threatened with rape by a bus driver's helper when she wanted to pay half fare, according to media

### PROTESTS CONTINUE

Yesterday, about 100 students of Dhanmondi Ideal College, Dhaka City College, and Birshreshtha Munshi Abdur Rouf Public College blocked Science Laboratory intersection in the capital around 12:30pm to stage demonstrations, said witnesses.

Protesters wrote slogans on buses using spray paints and markers.

The blockade caused congestion in Dhanmondi and New Market areas. Caught in traffic snarls, bus passengers were seen getting off.

Protesters alleged that some 50-

60 students of Dhaka College chased them around 1:15pm. At one stage, they picked up a demonstrator. The demonstrations continued for

about two hours. Adnan, a student of Dhanmondi

Ideal College, said they were giving a 48-hour ultimatum to the government to meet their demand. He threatened that they would resume their protests on Saturday if their demands were not met by Friday.

effectiveness

At Bakshibazar, an agitating student demanded the government implement half bus fare for students and issue a gazette in this regard immediately. Shahen Shah, additional deputy

commissioner (New Market Zone) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said the student who was picked up was freed in the evening. In Savar, Jahangirnagar University

students raised a five-point demand, including half bus fare for students, abolition of seating bus service and stopping harassment of students in public transport, at a human chain programme, reports our JU

correspondent. they submitted Later, Vice-Chancellor memorandum to Prof Farzana Islam.

been staging Students have demonstrations since November 18 demanding half fares for bus rides. On November 20, students of two

colleges vandalised 10-12 buses in the capital's Science Laboratory area during protests over half bus fare. Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) Chairman Nur Mohammad Mazumder said there

was no provision of half fare in public transport. "Since it is a private service, reduction of fares depends on bus owners," he said.

### **RESERVE GROUP**

"last resort"

highly selected patients (life-threatening infections due to multidrug resistant bacteria)

closely monitored and prioritised as targets of stewardship programs to ensure their continued

# Khaleda is not responding

"Madam is critically ill. She is fighting for her life. We still cannot say that she is out of danger," he said while exchanging views with journalists at Khaleda's Gulshan office last night.

Khaleda abroad to an advanced healthcare facility for better treatment has become "badly needed". "I applied to the government so that they don't give priority to their

According to Fakhrul, taking

political thoughts, but give priority to Khaleda Zia's health.' Fakhrul said the medical board, formed for Khaleda, is reviewing her physical condition every day and

readjusting the treatment. "Sometimes her condition improves, sometimes deteriorates," he

and her mental strength is still very Fakhrul said the medical board said that Khaleda's treatment is not possible here. "She should be sent to an advanced centre to treat the

Fakhrul said he met Khaleda twice

complicated diseases." The BNP leader said doctors even specifically named the countries that included USA, UK or Germany where Khaleda could take treatment.

"From the party and also from the

family, we are communicating with all and taking suggestions from doctors living abroad. A highly placed sources said that police officials were instructed to remain alert so that rumours centering the illness of BNP chairperson could

not be spread. Khaleda has long been suffering from arthritis, diabetes, as well as dental and eye problems. In April this year, she contracted coronavirus. She recovered while under

treatment at home, but as other

health complications cropped up, she was admitted to Evercare Hospital on

April 27. Khaleda was admitted to the hospital on November 13 night and moved to the CCU on the next day, nearly a week after she was discharged from the same healthcare facility.

8, 2018, in a corruption case. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, she was given a temporary release on certain conditions on March 25 last year. The term of her release has been extended four times so far. 'GOVT DOESN'T LACK HUMANITY'

Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday said the government does not lack humanity or compassion when it comes to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's treatment. "The government will take a

decision, with utmost importance,

regarding the demand for allowing her [Khaleda] to go abroad for treatment." The law minister said this after receiving a memorandum from the leaders of Bangladesh Jatiotabadi Ainjibi Forum, a pro-BNP lawyers' body, at his ministry office yesterday

The memorandum demanded that Khaleda be sent abroad, from on humanitarian grounds, for better treatment.

The Jatiotabadi Ainjibi Forum leaders said the government can take steps to send Khaleda abroad for treatment by issuing a fresh gazette notification without any condition under section 401(6) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1898, and there is no legal bar for the government to do so. Section 401(6) says,

Government may, by general rules or special orders, give directions as to the suspension of sentences and the

conditions on which petitions should be presented and dealt with."

In response, the law minister told them that the government will take the decision after examining and discussing the memorandum.

## Gazıpur mayor

Khaleda was sent to jail on February

FROM PAGE 1 Uzir Ali Sheikh, public prosecutor of Rajbari Judge Court, said the court took the case into cognisance and ordered the Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) to submit a report to it by February 13 next after

conducting an investigation. Sheikh Md Mehedi Hasan, lawyer of the plaintiff, said the Gazipur mayor recently at a programme made some controversial comments on Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the number of Liberation War martyrs. Video footage of the incident went viral on social media.

### case against Zahangir, he added. 4TH PHASE UP POLLS Election day now Dec 26

BSS, DHAKA

The Election Commission has deferred the polling in the fourth phase of union parishad elections due to the HSC examination. EC Secretary Humayun Kabir

Khandaker confirmed this yesterday.

According to the previously

announced schedule, the voting was scheduled for December 23, he said. The polling will now be held on December 26 due to the Higher Secondary Certificate

examination, Humayun added.

For this reason, Shoshi filed the OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

> in Talukdar para near his house in Taracha union around 7:00pm," said Bandarban Superintendent of Police Jerin Akther. A woman also sustained bullet

Chaw Hai Mong Marma, president

A police team went to the spot to



