



# Jolt sends out wake-up call

Experts say after 6.1-magnitude quake felt in Dhaka, other parts of country

HELEMUL ALAM

After the earthquake of 6.1 magnitude, which had the epicentre in Myanmar, was felt in Dhaka, Chattogram and some other parts of the country early yesterday, urban planners said the jolt should be taken as a wake up call.

They urged the government to take the steps needed to enforce Bangladesh National Building Code (BNBC) as properly designed buildings can save lives during quakes.

According to the United States Geological Survey, the epicentre of the quake was near Hakha, Chin State, Myanmar. The tremors left a four-storey building on Khaza Road, Chattogram, tilted.

Professor Mehedi Ahmed Ansary of Buet said a major earthquake in the past had its epicentre within 50 km of Hakha. No quake of over 6 magnitude jolted the area in the last 50 years and there is a risk of another major quake there.

To reduce the loss of lives in case of a massive quake, the new buildings must be earthquake resilient and the old ones should be made resilient, he told The Daily Star.

He added that a survey should be done to identify the buildings in Dhaka that are particularly vulnerable to quakes.

According to the government's draft Detailed Area Plan of Dhaka, there are 21 lakh buildings in the city and about six lakh of those are above six stories.

Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha has checked 3,252 school buildings in the city and found 90 percent of them to be not resilient to earthquake, he said.

The government should check every building in the city

SEE PAGE 5 COL 6



A herd of elephants crossing forestland in Sherpur. The gentle giants move from Kurigram bordering areas to Sunamganj in Sylhet through hilly areas of Jamalpur, Sherpur, Mymensingh and Netrakona in Bangladesh.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## M'SINGH-SHERPUR Shrinking forest leads to human-elephant crisis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Facing food crisis, many wild elephants are nowadays entering into localities, especially during the farming season, in Mymensingh and Sherpur.

According to locals, this has significantly increased the crisis that occurs for interactions between elephants and humans.

A total of 31 elephants have reportedly been killed, mostly from electrocution, in the districts since 1995, wildlife activists said.

AKM Ruhul Amin, Mymensingh's divisional forest officer, said around 40 percent of the forest land has been grabbed and converted into human settlements in the region.

Muhammad Abdullah Al Amin, range officer of Wildlife Management and Nature Conservation in Sherpur, said the elephants move from Kurigram bordering areas to Sunamganj in Sylhet through hilly areas

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

# Firefighter dies hrs after dousing fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A firefighter died hours after extinguishing a fire in Chattogram city's Sagarkia Industrial Area yesterday.

Md Milon, 38, of Agrabad Fire Station, died of a cardiac arrest, said doctors at Chattogram Medical College Hospital (CMCH).

The fire broke out in Homeland Chemical Industry around 10:00am and it was doused around 11:30am, said Bahar Uddin, senior station officer of Kalurghat Fire Station.

As soon as the fire was extinguished, Milon started feeling pain in his chest and he was admitted to the CMCH's cardiology department.

The firefighter from Noakhali's Begumganj died at the hospital around 2:00pm, said the officer.

No casualties were reported in the incident.

Farooq Hossain Sikdar, assistant director at Chattogram Fire Service and Civil Defence, said the origin of the fire could not be ascertained immediately.



## ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

### Free Mujib immediately, says Indira

NOVEMBER 27, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

#### INDIRA'S MESSAGE TO YAHYA

Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi told Pakistan President Yahya Khan that he should come forward to a political settlement in East Pakistan and to prepare a ground for the release of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman immediately. She told him that the situation in East Pakistan was creating an intolerable burden on India.

The message was sent in reply to the Eid greetings President Yahya had sent orally through the Indian Ambassador to Pakistan.

President Yahya Khan, according to an Indian official spokesperson, had proposed a meeting with Indira Gandhi. The Indian prime minister said she was prepared to meet the Pakistan president but Bangladesh could not be an issue for discussion between them.

**BELGIUM GIVES NOTICE FOR UN COUNCIL MEETING** Belgium, a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council, gave notice of a resolution for a meeting of the UN Security Council to take cognisance of the recent military activities in the Indian subcontinent which have "caused human and material loss" and which "constitute a threat to international peace and security."

This was the first open result of a coordinated move by the US and the UK in support of Pakistan's attempt to internationalise the Indo-Pak tension caused by the West Pakistani terror in Bangladesh.

#### ON THE WAR FRONT

Eighty Pakistani troops were killed as Indian Army and Mukti

SEE PAGE 5 COL 6



## 2 Rohingya men killed in Cox's Bazar 'gunfight'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Two Rohingya men were killed in what Rab said was a gunfight with law enforcers in Teknaf, Cox's Bazar, early yesterday.

Kefayet Ullah and Korban Ali Shafiq, who lived in a refugee camp in Nhilla area, were suspected of robbery and drug trafficking, said Rab-15 Senior Assistant Director Abu Salam Chowdhury.

The "gunfight" happened around 4:00am at a hilly part of Damdamiya area near the refugee camp, he said.

Being informed that some Rohingya robbers and drug traffickers would be in the area, a Rab team went there, he said. But the gang started shooting at the officers, forcing the latter to retaliate.

After the firing, Rab officials found the men,

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

## First 'robotaxis' enter service in Beijing



AFP, Beijing

It looks like a normal car but the white taxi by the kerb has nobody driving it, and communicates with customers digitally to obtain directions and take payment.

Beijing this week approved its first autonomous taxis for commercial use, bringing dozens of the so-called "robotaxis" to the streets of the Chinese capital.

The vehicles can only carry two passengers at a time and are confined to the city's southern Yizhuang area.

An employee of the taxi firm also sits in the front of the car in case any sudden intervention is needed, but the vehicle drives itself.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

## Two killed in violence over UP elections

STAR REPORT

Two people, including a Jubo League leader, were killed and at least 10 others injured in violence in Bhola and Tangail yesterday over union parishad polls.

In Bhola, Khorshed Alam Titu was killed after criminals opened fire at a trawler carrying the local UP chairman, members and some other locals.

Khorshed was the organising secretary of Dhania union Jubo League under Bhola Sadar upazila.

Newly elected Madanpur UP Chairman Nasiruddin

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



### PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 27

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5:10	12:45	3:45	5:19	7:00
JAMAAT 5:45	1:15	4:00	5:22	7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

## Star HEALTHLINE

### Mouth ulcers: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

STAR HEALTH DESK

A mouth ulcer is a small lesion which can develop on lips, tongue, gums, cheeks or on the roof of the mouth.

This is incredibly common, with almost everyone getting it at least once in life.

**CAUSES** It is either caused by trauma to the mouth, or by a viral infection. However, this is non-contagious.

As ulcers often occur as a result of infection from plaque bacteria on the teeth, poor oral hygiene can also play a contributory role.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



Hyginex

BEACON Pharmaceuticals Limited

## FB, others must do more

Says NZ PM on stamping out violent extremism, radicalisation online

REUTERS

Tech giants like Meta's Facebook and world leaders needed to do "much more" to stamp out violent extremism and radicalisation online, New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said yesterday.

Ardern and French President Emmanuel Macron launched a global initiative to end online hate in 2019 after a white supremacist killed 51 people at two mosques in the New Zealand city of Christchurch while live-streaming his rampage on Facebook.

This Christchurch Call initiative has been supported by more than 50 countries, international organisations and tech firms, including Facebook, Google, Twitter and Microsoft.

Ardern said yesterday the initiative had been successful in its first aim of establishing a crisis protocol, including a 24/7 network between platforms to quickly remove content, in response to events like those in Christchurch.

"We have had real world stress-testing of those systems and they have worked very effectively," Ardern said in an interview.

"I am confident that we are operating more effectively than we have before," she added. "The next challenge though, is to go further again."

Asked what tech companies should be doing, Ardern replied: "much more."



SEE PAGE 5 COL 6

SCIMAGO INSTITUTIONS RANKINGS 2021

IUB has been ranked

1<sup>st</sup>

among all the private universities in Bangladesh

**Undergraduate Admission Programs**

- **BBA in** • Accounting • Finance • General Management • Marketing • Human Resource Management (HRM) • Management Information System (MIS) • International Business (IB)
- **B.Sc. in** • Economics
- **B.Sc. in** • Computer Engineering • Computer Science • Microbiology • Biochemistry and Biotechnology
- **Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm)**
- **LLB (Hons)**
- **BSS in** • Media & Communication • Anthropology • Sociology • Global Studies and Governance (GSG)
- **BA in** • English Language Teaching (ELT) • English Literature

**50% WAIVER on admission fees**

**Join the winning team! Undergraduate Admission SPRING 2022**

- ☑ Tuition fee waiver up to **100%** based on different criteria
- ☑ IUB will provide **Insurance** on **tuition fees**
- ☑ Need based **Hostel facility** for meritorious **female students** from outside Dhaka
- ☑ Interest free **Instalment** payments available

**Application Deadline** Thursday, December 30, 2021, 11:30 pm

**Classes Commence on** Sunday, January 23, 2022

**Apply Online** [www.iub.edu.bd/admission](http://www.iub.edu.bd/admission)

**Contact**  
✉ [admission@iub.edu.bd](mailto:admission@iub.edu.bd)  
☎ 01780 185006, 01978758313  
09612 939393, 8431645-52 (EXT. 1354-57)

Undergrad admission QR code

**Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB)**

Creating global professionals...locally