



P3
BRTA to sit with stakeholders



P5
All I could ask for was water



P10
More than just walls



B1
Local textile sales double in 5 years

FLEE HOMES

Russia warns Kyiv residents as tactics shift to bombarding cities; Zelensky tells EU to 'prove you are with' Ukraine

AGENCIES

Russia warned Kyiv residents to flee their homes yesterday and rained rockets down on Kharkiv, as Russian commanders who have failed to achieve a quick victory shifted their tactics to intensify the bombardment of Ukrainian cities.

With an armoured column miles long bearing down on the capital, Russia's defence ministry said it was planning to strike targets in Kyiv used by Ukraine's security service. Residents near such sites should evacuate their homes, it warned, while giving no information about where in the city of 3 million people those targets were located.

An apparent Russian airstrike hit Kyiv's main television tower yesterday, knocking out some state broadcasting but leaving the structure intact, Ukraine's interior ministry said.

Earlier, rocket strikes on Kharkiv killed at least 10 people and wounded 35. Ukrainian authorities also reported 70 soldiers killed in a rocket attack in Okhtyrka, a town between Kyiv and Kharkiv.



People board an evacuation train at Kyiv central train station in Ukraine on Monday. The Russian army said Ukrainian civilians could "freely" leave the country's capital Kyiv.

PHOTO: AFP



Nearly a week since Russian troops poured over the border, they have failed to capture a single major Ukrainian city after running into far fiercer resistance than they expected.

Russia still has more forces to throw into the fight even though President Vladimir Putin faces worldwide condemnation and international sanctions.

Oil company Shell became the latest big Western firm to announce it was pulling out of Russia.

Russia's TASS news agency reported new peace talks would be held today. Talks between Russian and Ukrainian officials held on Monday at the Belarus border failed to reach a breakthrough. Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said Kyiv was ready to talk but would not just follow Russian ultimatums.

Zelensky's government remained in control of Kyiv with soldiers and civilians ready to fight invaders street by street.

Pictures released by US satellite company Maxar showed Russian tanks, artillery and fuel trucks stretching

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Left in legal limbo

4yrs after initial allotment, DU and many other educational institutions yet to get land in Rajuk's Purbachal project

TARUN SARKAR

The process of handing over 52 acres of land allocated to Dhaka University in 2018 remains halted for four years due to legal complexities.

Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk) gave temporary allotment papers of the land to the university authorities to build a second campus in Purbachal.

Allegations later surfaced that Rajuk created some plots in violation of High Court directives, and allocated these plots to 84 organisations, including Dhaka University. Following the allegations, the HC issued a stay order on the handover process.

Dhaka University was

- Established in 1921, DU lost much of its land to various occupiers, govt acquisition
- No settlement of the land dispute in 85yrs
- DU says it needs land to set up a second campus

KEY POINTS



established in 1921 covering around 600 acres. But the land was not registered in the university's name at the time. Later in 1927, a government commission proposed to sanction 257 acres but the university authorities were handed over 252 acres.

In response to continued demand from the DU authorities, the then Pakistan government formed a committee, known as Justice Fazle Akbar Commission, to look into the matter in 1950.

In its report, the commission said the campus size was not

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SSC, HSC with more subjects this year

Exams likely to begin June 19, August 22 respectively

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

This year's SSC and HSC examinations are likely to begin on June 19 and August 22 respectively, on more subjects than last year's exams.

Due to the pandemic, the exams will start three and a half months later than usual, and will be held on a truncated syllabus and for fewer marks than usual. The duration of the exams will also be curtailed.

Last year, SSC and HSC candidates sat for tests on only three optional subjects with a shortened syllabus and fewer marks, due to the pandemic.

This year, candidates of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) exams will have to sit for Bangla, English, Mathematics and a fourth subject, besides the three optional subjects, Dhaka education board acting chairman Prof Tapan Kumar Sarkar said.

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There's no pressure from any circles

Says CEC Awal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

The Election Commission is under no pressure from political circles or any parties, said the new Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Quazi Habibur Awal yesterday.

Responding to a query whether the commission was facing any pressure, he said, "There is no question of pressure. There is no pressure. We work independently and will work independently. I will let everyone know once we chalk out our working strategy."

"I have high blood pressure and with that blood pressure, there is a little more pressure of responsibility."

The CEC was speaking to reporters after paying tributes to the war heroes by placing wreath at the National Memorial yesterday.

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Jhorna Begum peels labels off empty plastic bottles while her toddler son Razu plays on a pile of bottles at a shop in Dhaka's Kamrangirchar. The child is being brought up in such an environment as his mother, who makes about Tk 200 a day, has to work long hours every day. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

DCs are like governor of East India Co

Says HC judge

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A High Court judge has commented that district deputy commissioners are like the governor of the East India Company of the British era.

"The deputy commissioner [DC] is all in all in a district. Even many members of parliament are afraid of DCs. However, the MP in my own district [Cumilla] is not afraid of the DC," Justice Mamnoon Rahman, the presiding judge of an HC bench, said yesterday during the hearing of a writ petition on the lease of a bazaar in Cox's Bazar.

The other judge of the bench is Justice Khandaker Diliruzzaman.

The bench issued a rule asking the Cox's Bazar district administration officials concerned to explain as to why they should not be directed to give compensations to Nurul Islam for causing long delays in leasing out the bazaar in Ramu to him.

The DC of Cox's Bazar and the upazila nirbahi officer and assistant commissioner (land) of Ramu have been made respondents to the rule.

Lawyers Taimur Alam Khondaker and Mar-e-Um Khondaker appeared for the writ petitioner.