





A group of porters unloading watermelons from a boat in the capital's Sadarghat. Traders purchase every 100 watermelons for Tk 17,000 from the vessel. This thirstquenching fruit is always in demand during the peak of summer.

#### Justice Sinha 'has 3-storey building in New Jersey' ACC claims he laundered money

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN

to buy home

Seven months after tendering his resignation on November 10, 2017 from the post of chief justice, Surendra Kumar Sinha had bought a three-storied building in the US for

Investigators of the Anti-Corruption Commission found he bought the house in Paterson, New Jersey with illegal money

Of the \$280,000, \$256.468 was transferred from Indonesia and Canada to Sinha's younger brother Ananta Kumar Sinha's account with Valley National Bank's Paterson branch between March and April of 2018.

The bank found the transactions to be suspicious and froze the SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

# Voter list update begins on May 20

EC workers to go door-to-door

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

The Election Commission (EC) will start updating the voter list from May 20 and this would be the last registration of prospective voters before the 12th parliamentary election.

Enumerators of the EC will go doorto-door for three weeks from May 20 to collect information on prospective voters in 135 upazilas, Ashok Kumar Debnath, Daily Star.

Ónce all information has been collected in the 135 upazilas, the enumerators would move to the remaining districts.

This time representatives of EC would collect data of citizens who were born on or after January 1, 2005, and they would gradually be included in the electoral roll when they turn 18, he said.

Citizens who will be announced voters in March next year will be able to cast their votes in the next general election to be held late next year or early 2024, he added. Bangladesh currently has over 11.32

The commission will take special measures to prevent Rohingyas from registering as voters, Debnath said.

Talking to The Daily Star, EC officials yesterday said they would form special committees in 32 upazilas of Bandarban, Cox's Bazar, Khagrachhari and Rangamati districts to implement their plan.

Bangladesh already has a list of Rohingyas as they have been brought under biometric registration. The EC would cross-check the list with the updated voter list to identify Rohingyas, they added.

During the door-to-door campaign, enumerators will also collect data of dead voters to deduct them from the voter list.

Enumerators will give prospective voters the dates for visiting nearby registration centres to have their photographs and fingerprints taken for the voter list.

Usually, the EC gets information on eligible voters by going door-to-door. The EC last collected information in

2019 of people born between January 1, 2001, and January 1, 2004. A Bangladeshi citizen gets an NID card

after enrolling upon turning 18. The NID card is needed for multiple

essential public services such as obtaining utility connections, getting mobile SIM cards, passports and bank

#### Foreign powers behind 'conspiracy' to topple govt Pak PM tells rally ahead of no-confidence vote

AGENCIES

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan yesterday claimed that foreign powers were involved in the "conspiracy" to send his coalition government packing through a no-confidence motion tabled by the country's joint opposition.

Terming a letter as "evidence" of his claims, Imran said foreign elements are using local politicians and using money to "mend the country's foreign policy".

"I rarely write my speeches... but I wrote this speech today so that I don't get emotional and say anything which can affect our foreign policy," said the premier while claiming

that foreign elements were involved in changing regimes in Pakistan. The embattled prime minister said this while addressing his PTI party's "historic" public gathering in Islamabad amid

looming no-trust voting against him in

the National Assembly.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

## Inspire new gen with our history Says prime minister

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called for spreading the country's history among the new generation to inspire them to take the country ahead with the spirit of patriotism.

She made the call while inaugurating Mujib Corner at the Special Security Force (SSF) headquarters at the

Prime Minister's Office. Hasina said many of the new generations don't still know the true history of the independence movement as antiliberation forces tried to erase it for 21 years since Bangabandhu's assassination on August 15,

"But, truth can't be erased and today it has been proved again...

That day is back again," she said. She said Bangladesh has become a developing country due to the long-term efforts of the

The PM said that a lot of historical information has been highlighted in this corner (Mujib Corner) and therefore, those who will come to discharge their duties will be motivated by patriotism.

Prime Minister's Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Affairs Adviser Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, her Principal Secretary Ahmad Kaikaus, SSF Director General Major General Md Majibur Rahman, among others, was present.

### **FARMERS' SUICIDE** Accused 'on the run' Claim police; lawmaker says inaction of cops 'strange'

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

The deep tube-well operator, who is being held responsible by the family of Santal farmer Abhinath Mardi for instigating his suicide in Rajshahi's Godagari Wednesday, has gone into hiding, said police.

Locals said Sakhawat Hossain, operator of Barind Multipurpose Development Authority's (BMDA's) deep tube-well in Ishwaripur village, did not supply water to Abhinath's paddy field which was badly needed.

They added that they saw Sakhawat, also president of a ward unit Krishak League at Deopara union of the upazila, in the locality before Abhinath's wife filed a suicide provocation case against him with Godagari Police Station Friday night.

"We sent a police team to arrest the accused. But the accused somehow got the information that the victim's wife went to the police station to file a case and he fled," Rajshahi SP ABM Masud Hossain told The Daily Star Sunday afternoon.

He said, "It would have been unwise for police to arrest anyone before being accused in a case." On Friday when police were yet to act on the claim of the victim's family, Rajshahi-2 lawmaker

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6



Firefighters and locals trying to douse a fire that broke out in a launch at Sadarghat terminal in the capital yesterday morning. No casualties were reported. Launch staffers said the fire might have originated from the air-conditioning unit of a cabin.

