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‘My men will press EVM button for you’ AL’s UP chairman runner tells voters

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Awami League chairman candidate for Banskhali’s Chambol Union Parishad said he would keep his men at polling booths to press EVM buttons if voters failed to do so.

If there were no electronic voting machines (EVMs), he would have gotten all the votes the night before election day, AL nominee Mujibul Haque Chowdhury was also heard saying in a video clip that has gone viral since Sunday.

Mujibul, also the incumbent chairman of the union, made the statement at an election rally on Saturday.

He said, “As the voting will be held through EVMs. So, what would I do? You have to give a little effort and cast vote putting

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People trying to salvage tomatoes after a truck, heading for Dhaka with the load, flipped on its side at Barai Bazar on Dinajpur-Gobindaganj highway yesterday.

PHOTO: KONGKON KARMAKER

Advise on how to buy Russian energy, wheat

Dhaka asks Delhi

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka has sought Delhi’s suggestions on how to purchase energy and wheat from Russia.

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen said this to reporters yesterday upon his return from Assam, India.

He had held talks with Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in Guwahati on the sidelines of an international river conference on May 28-29, attended by ministers, officials and experts from South and Southeast Asian countries.

“India is trying to resolve energy issues ... Russia has offered to sell energy and wheat to Bangladesh. But we cannot do it in fear of sanctions,” said Momen.

Referring to his meeting with Jaishankar, Momen said he wanted to know from the Indian minister how they managed to buy energy from Russia.

“They [India] did it technically. We want suggestions from them ... they are a big country, they can manage. We are a small country... we are more exposed to dictates ...

“They [the West] are giving us various conditionalities... those can be factors of instability. These are not acceptable,” he said.

Momen said he also discussed with Jaishankar India’s ban on wheat export. The Indian minister said the ban is not applicable to Bangladesh, and even the private sector can import wheat from India if it’s not meant for a third country.

The two sides discussed ways of boosting regional

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Dhaka Wasa water safe at source

It claims; WaterAid says 41pc nationwide not getting safe water

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Wasa and the icddr,b yesterday said they tested Wasa supply water at source and found it to be safe.

Tazul Islam, minister of the local government, rural development and cooperatives ministry, who was present at the press conference where this was announced, pointed out that contamination happens during the distribution of supply water.

The press conference was held at the Wasa Bhaban on the same day WaterAid and PPRC held a separate press briefing and said about 41 percent of the people across the country do not get safe water.

Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) and icddr,b (International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh) found that sludge and untreated sewage water running through

the drains contain and transmit coronavirus.

The virus disappears when treated, showed samples tested at treatment plants. The virus does not exist in rivers and ponds, the organisations revealed.

However, the two

“You have to make sure that contamination does not happen within the pipelines,” said Tazul Islam, minister of the local government, rural development and cooperatives ministry.

organisations did not test tap water or water from pipes within the Wasa distribution network.

Minister Tazul Islam said, “You have to make sure that contamination does not happen within the pipelines.”

“Managing director, please

quickly replace such pipelines. Treat it as a serious concern,” he said, addressing Wasa MD Taqsem A Khan.

He commended the findings by Wasa and icddr,b but added, “Please ensure that other viruses do not enter the water.”

The Wasa MD reiterated that Dhaka Wasa was one of the best such agencies in Southeast Asia.

Speakers at the WaterAid and Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC) press conference pointed out that 41 percent of the country’s population had no access to safe drinking water and that 61 percent did not have access to safe sanitation.

Speakers there said that Dhaka Wasa received the highest 61 percent of the annual development programme budget while Khulna Wasa remained at the bottom with only 3 percent. Chattogram Wasa got 23 percent of the budget, while Rajshahi

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EVM USE IN POLLS Interference by ‘goons’ at booths major challenge

Says election commissioner

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Election Commissioner Ahsan Habib Khan yesterday said one of the main challenges in using Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) in elections is interference by “goons” who forcibly press the EVM buttons for the voters.

Ahsan Habib, however, said such incidents would not happen in the Cumilla City Corporation elections scheduled for June 15 as CCTV cameras would be set up in and outside the polling centres.

“I see only one challenge in using EVMs in polls. And that challenge is the interference by robbers and goons, who forcibly press the EVM buttons and ask the voters to leave,” he told reporters at his Election Commission office in the capital.

During several local government polls where EVMs were used, voters alleged that agents of Awami League candidates on some occasions didn’t allow them to press EVM buttons, instead they pressed the buttons on the boat symbol after voters’ identities were confirmed.

Ahsan said this would not happen in Cumilla polls as there would be CCTV cameras at polling

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103-yr-old woman beats record for parachute jump

AFP, Stockholm

A 103-year-old Swedish woman on Sunday set the world record for the oldest person to complete a tandem parachute jump, saying she planned to celebrate “with a little cake”.

“It was wonderful to do this, I’ve been thinking about it for a long time,” Rut Larsson told Swedish news agency TT, adding: “It all went as planned.”

With family and friends waiting on the airfield below, Larsson completed her jump harnessed to parachutist

Joackim Johansson in Motala, 240 kilometres (150 miles) southwest of Stockholm.

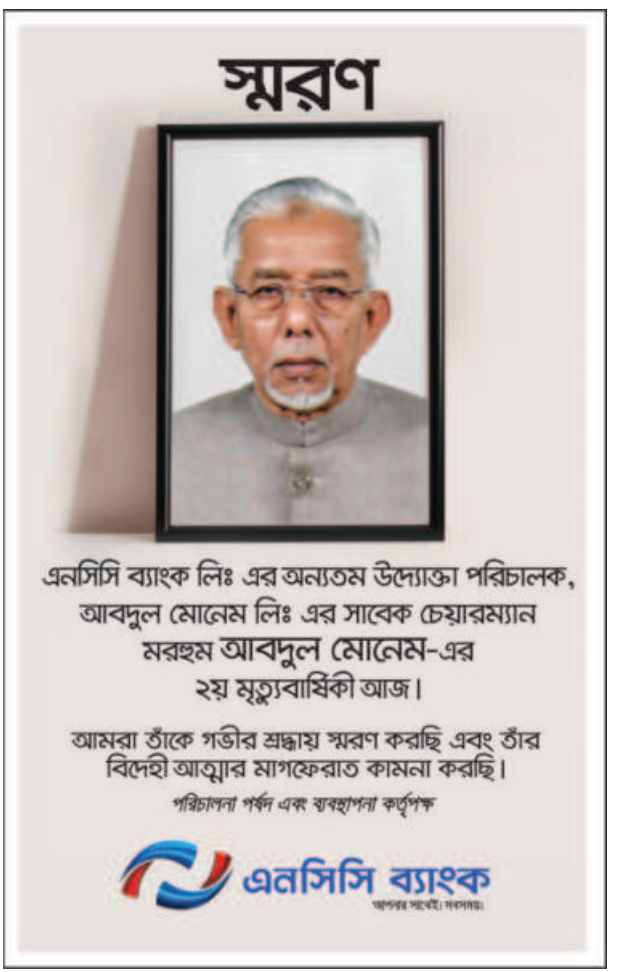
The pair sailed down to the ground smoothly, as helpers rushed to Larsson’s side with her walker to help her get up.

Asked what she saw and felt as she came down, Larsson replied: “Nowadays I don’t see so well, but it felt good.”

She said she liked “that you slowly glide down from above, I think it feels nice.”

An official from the Guinness Book of World Records was on hand to record the jump.





স্মরণ

এনসিসি ব্যাংক লিঃ এর অন্যতম উদ্যোক্তা পরিচালক,
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স্বাধীনতা সড়ক, ঢাকা-১০০

NEPAL PLANE CRASH Rescuers find nearly all victims



REUTERS, Kathmandu

Nepal authorities yesterday recovered or located the bodies of all but one of 22 people who were on board a plane that crashed into a Himalayan mountainside on Sunday, officials said, and the government has formed a panel to investigate the incident.

Two Germans, four Indians and 16 Nepalis were on the De Havilland Canada DHC-6-300 Twin Otter aircraft which crashed 15 minutes after taking off from the tourist town of Pokhara, 125 km (80 miles) west of Kathmandu, on Sunday morning.

“There is very little chance to find survivors,” said Deo Chandra Lal Karna, a spokesman for the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal.

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YEARS OF ACCELERATION AND WORTHWHILE

The Emerging Credit Rating Ltd. (ECRL) has rated Dhaka Bank Limited for the year of 2021 up to April 07, 2023. A brief info of the rating based on Financial Statements are presented here.

Surveillance Rating (ECRL)		INTERPRETATION
Year 2020	Year 2021	
Long Term AA	Long Term AA	Commercial Bank rated “AA” has a very strong capacity to meet its financial commitments, and is generally in a position to withstand adverse developments in the economy, and in business and other external conditions. The bank typically possess a good track record and have no readily apparent weaknesses.
Short Term ST-2	Short Term ST-2	Commercial Bank rated “ST-2” has a strong capacity to meet its financial commitments in a timely manner; however, it is somewhat susceptible to adverse developments in the economy, and in business and other external conditions.
Outlook Developing	Outlook Stable	“Stable” indicates that a rating is likely to remain unchanged.
Date of Rating		May 17, 2022
Valid Till		April 07, 2023

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