

## INTERNATIONAL

INSULTING REMARKS  
India rushes to quell outrage

REUTERS, Mumbai

India's government yesterday sought to calm anger at home and abroad after two officials of the ruling BJP party made remarks about the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH), with 38 people arrested for rioting in a northern city and a protest planned later in Mumbai.

The arrests in the city of Kanpur were part of an effort to quell sporadic religious tension that arose after two officials from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist



Israeli soldiers argue with Palestinian demonstrators during a protest against Israeli settlements in Jordan Valley in the Israeli-occupied West Bank yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Bharatiya Janata Party made remarks that have generated widespread anger among Muslims in India and overseas.

Some of India's top officials were engaged in managing the diplomatic fallout as nations including Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Oman, the UAE, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran demanded an apology from the government for allowing the derogatory remarks, an Indian foreign ministry official said.

Over the weekend, Indian diplomats stationed in the Gulf were summoned by officials in those countries to protest against the comments by BJP officials.

The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), in a statement, said: "These insults come in the context of the increasing intensity in hatred and insults to Islam in India and the systematic harassment of Muslims."

India's foreign ministry said in a statement the offensive tweets and comments did not, in any way, reflect the views of the government.

RESPONSE TO NORTH KOREA TESTS  
S Korea, US launch 8 ballistic missiles

REUTERS, Seoul

South Korea and the United States said they fired eight surface-to-surface missiles off South Korea's east coast early yesterday, responding to a barrage of short-range ballistic missiles launched by North Korea on Sunday.

The action is a demonstration of "the capability and readiness to carry out precision strikes" against the source of North Korea's missile launches or the command and support centres, South Korea's Yonhap news agency cited the South Korean military as saying.

South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol, who took office last month, has vowed to take a tougher line against the North and agreed with US President Joe Biden at a May summit in Seoul to upgrade joint military drills and their combined deterrence posture.

North Korea has conducted a flurry of missile launches this year and Yoon said its missile and nuclear weapons programmes have reached a level at which they pose a threat to regional and world peace.

The South "will continue to build fundamental and practical security capabilities and deter the North's nuclear and missile threats," Yoon said at an event for South Korea's Memorial Day.

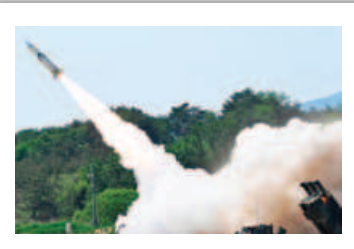
The militaries of South Korea and the United States fired eight surface-to-surface missiles over about 10 minutes starting at 4:45 am in response to the eight missiles fired by the North on Sunday, Yonhap reported.

An official from South Korea's Defence Ministry confirmed eight Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS) had been fired.

US Indo-Pacific Command said the exercise included one US Army missile and seven from South Korea.

"The ROK-US Alliance remains committed to peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula and throughout the Indo-Pacific," it said in a statement, using the initials of South Korea's official name.

North Korea's short-range ballistic missiles, fired toward the sea off its east coast on Sunday, were probably its largest single test and came a day after South Korea and the United States ended joint military drills.



## Climate action must not be delayed by global crises

AFP, Paris

Negotiators from almost 200 countries yesterday met in Germany for climate talks tasked with reigniting momentum on tackling global warming, as Russia's invasion of Ukraine overshadows the threat from rising emissions.

The conference will set the stage for a fresh round of major United Nations talks later this year in Egypt.

It will also be a chance to test the resolve of nations facing a catalogue of crises, including escalating climate impacts, geopolitical tensions, bloodshed in Ukraine and the threat of a devastating global food crisis.

Issuing a call for international unity to hold firm, outgoing UN climate change chief Patricia Espinosa told delegates it was "not acceptable to say that we are in challenging times".

"We must understand that climate change is moving exponentially. We can no longer afford to make just incremental progress," she said at the opening of the June 6 to 16 meeting.

"We must move these negotiations along more quickly. The world expects it."

Governments have already accepted that climate change is a grave threat to humanity, and have advocated immediate action to cut fossil fuel emissions and prepare for the accelerating impacts of warming.

## Taka sees steepest fall in 16 years

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increase to some extent, and this will eventually make the taka dearer, he said.

The interest rate on post-import financing, which now stands at 9 percent, will increase substantially, meaning traders will feel discouraged to import goods, said Ahsan, also a former official of the International Monetary Fund.

The local currency is likely to see a big depreciation if the interest rate cap is not lifted, he said.

Withdrawal of the cap will give the taka a respite from the ongoing pressure, Ahsan noted.

Monzur Hossain, research director of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, also made similar observations.

He said depreciation of the local currency might have an adverse impact on inflation as it would push up import costs.

If the interest rate cap is withdrawn, the credit flow will decrease and money circulation will ebb away due to higher costs of credits, Monzur observed.

Inflation shot up to 6.29 percent in April – the highest in 18 months – amid persistent high prices of food and non-food items, shows data of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

## LOCAL MARKET SCENARIO

The Daily Star yesterday talked to officials of seven banks to know about the supply and demand of the greenback in the local market.

They said banks are still reluctant to sell dollars through the interbank platform as the majority of them are still facing a shortage of the greenback.

Yesterday, the banks officially set the selling rate of bills for collection, the rate at which lenders sell greenback to importers, between Tk 92 and 92.50 per dollar.

But many of them sold greenback to importers for as much as Tk 95.50 per dollar, ignoring their official rates. Such a violation is punishable, according to the BB rules.

Md Abdus Salam Azad, managing director of Janata Bank, said his bank offered importers Tk 92 per dollar yesterday.

"Now, we are running low on dollars to settle import bills ... No private bank has agreed to sell greenback to us through the interbank platform."

"Moreover, I have been informed that some banks are selling greenback to importers for Tk 94-95 per dollar," he said.

Emranul Huq, managing director of Dhaka Bank, said it will take two to three months to bring

back stability to the forex market.

**GENESIS OF THE CRISIS**  
The country's import payments have shot up since the end of last year because of the rise in prices of commodities in the global market.

The pent-up demand after the height of the Covid pandemic initially played a pivotal role in pushing up commodity prices. The pandemic disrupted the global supply chain, deepening the crisis.

The latest Russia-Ukraine war worsened the situation further.

Against the backdrop, import payments of the country escalated in recent months, creating an immense pressure on the taka against the dollar.

Between July and April this fiscal year, imports went up by 41 percent to \$68.66 billion, while exports grew 35 percent to \$41.10 billion. This resulted in a record trade deficit – the gap between exports and imports – of \$27.56 billion, up 53 percent year-on-year.

Moreover, remittance inflow fell 15.95 percent year-on-year to \$19.19 billion in the first 11 months of this fiscal year.

All these led to the decline in the foreign exchange reserves to \$42.11 billion on June 1 against \$46.15 billion on December 31 last year.

## Johnson

FROM PAGE 1

Johnson for him to be removed.

The result means Nirjala was hospitalised with stomach ache on Saturday night, her uncle Monirul Islam told The Daily Star yesterday.

"When we reached the hospital around 10:00am the next day, we were informed that her surgery was completed. But they forced us to take her to Jashore Sadar Hospital as her condition was worsening," he said.

The girl was declared dead around 1:30pm on Sunday as soon as she was taken to Jashore Sadar Hospital, Monirul added.

Surgeon Soniya Sarmin, who performed the operation, blamed the hospital owner for not informing her that it was sealed off on May 29.

She claimed that she had successfully removed the infected appendix and

## A murder they washed

FROM PAGE 1

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Surgeon Soniya Sarmin, who performed the operation, blamed the hospital owner for not informing her that it was sealed off on May 29.

She claimed that she had successfully removed the infected appendix and

left the hospital 10 minutes later.

"It was the anesthesiologist whose responsibility was to bring the patient back to consciousness. I had nothing to do with it," the physician told this paper.

According to Soniya, the hospital authorities assigned one Haji Masud as the anesthesiologist of Nirjala.

Contacted, Masud said he is not an anesthesiologist, but he works as a helping hand in an operation theatre in a nearby upazila.

"I don't know Dr Soniya Sarmin and I have no idea about the surgery," he added.

On the other hand, district health officials said the surgeon, anesthesiologist and hospital owner could

not avoid responsibility.

"The surgeon is the chief of the team. So, she should have followed up on the condition of the patient after the operation in collaboration with the anesthesiologist," said Civil Surgeon Shahidullah.

Asked about her affiliations with any other healthcare organisations, Soniya declined to comment.

Meanwhile, a three-member committee has been formed to investigate the incident within three working days.

Bisharul Islam, officer-in-charge of Shalikhah Police Station, said the victim's father filed a case against six people, including three unidentified.

He said they arrested one accused, and the others would be held soon.

Khulna University  
Khulna-9208, Bangladesh

## Invitation for Tender

01	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education		
02	Agency	Khulna University, Khulna-9208		
03	Procuring Entity Name	Khulna University, Khulna-9208		
04	Procuring Entity District	Khulna		
05	Invitation for	Supply of Books for Kazi Nazrul Islam Central Library		
06	Invitation Ref. No. & Date	Tender No. KU/LI/37/1994/V-5(1) Date - 29.05.2022		
07	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method(OTM)		
08	Budget and Source of Funds	GOB, ADP		
09	Project Name	Further Development of Khulna University		
10	Tender Last Selling Date & Time	26/06/2022	Up to banking hour	
11	Tender Closing Date & Time	27/06/2022	2.30 pm	
12	Tender Opening Date & Time	27/06/2022	3.00 pm	
13	Selling Tender Document	Agrani Bank Ltd, Khulna University Branch, Khulna-9208		
14	Receiving & Opening Tender Document	Office of the Registrar, Khulna University, Khulna-9208		
15	Eligibility of Tender	This Invitation for Tender is open to all qualified tenderers as mentioned below: a) The Tenderers shall have a minimum of five (5) years of overall experience in the supply of Books. b) The Satisfactory completion of the supply of Books of minimum Tk.25.00 Lac (Twenty five Lac) under one (1) contract/ Tk.35.00 Lac (Thirty five Lac) under two(2) contracts in the last Five(5) years. c) The minimum amount of liquid asset or working capital or credit facility is Tk. 40.00 lac (Forty Lac). d) The Tenderers must have updated Trade License, Tax Clearance Certificate VAT Registration Certificate, etc. e) All books must be original printed copy. f) Pirated and photocopy of books are not acceptable. g) All others as mentioned in the Tender Document.		
16	Tender Package No.	Identification of Package(s)	Price of Tender Document(Tk.)	Tender security Amount(Tk.)
	PB-01	Supply of Books for Kazi Nazrul Islam Central Library	2000/- (Two Thousand)	50,000/- (Fifty Thousand)
17	Name, Designation & Address of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Sarwar Jahan Librarian (InCharge), Khulna University, Khulna- 9208		
18	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Phone: Mob. 01974-067563	Fax: +88-02-477734138	Email: kulib@ku.ac.bd
19	a. The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. b. Tender security to be given in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order/ Bank Guarantec in favour of "Registrar, Khulna University, Khulna" c. Due to unavoidable circumstances, if the Tender can't be received and opened in the scheduled date and time, the same will be received and opened on the next working day respectively at the same time at above mentioned office. d. Tender is invited as per PPA 2006 & PPR 2008(Amended till date).			

*Sarwar*  
06.06.2022  
(Md. Sarwar Jahan)  
Librarian (InCharge)  
Khulna University.

GD-1166

**পল্লী কর্ম-সহায়ক ফাউন্ডেশন (পিকেএসএফ)**  
প্রতি: ই-৪/বি, আশাউলী ও প্রশাসনিক এলাকা, শের-ই-বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭।  
ফোন: ৮৮০-২-৮১৮১৬৫৮-৬১, www.pksf-bd.org, www.facebook.com/PKSF.org

**পিকেএসএফ-এর নাম ও লোগো ট্রেডমার্ককরণ এবং তা ব্যবহারে সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

পল্লী কর্ম-সহায়ক ফাউন্ডেশন (পিকেএসএফ)-এর পরিচালনা পর্ষদের অনুমোদন মোতাবেক (১) সাদা ব্যাকগ্রাউন্ডের মাঝে গাঢ় সবুজ রংসহ সুষম ষড়ভুজ (ঘরের আদলে) মাপের মনোগ্রামসহ পল্লী কর্ম-সহায়ক ফাউন্ডেশন (পিকেএসএফ) বাংলায়; (২) মনোগ্রামসহ "Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)" ইংরেজিতে; (৩) "পিকেএসএফ" বাংলায়; (৪) "PKSF" ইংরেজিতে; এবং (৫) সাদা ব্যাকগ্রাউন্ডের মাঝে গাঢ় সবুজ রংসহ সুষম ষড়ভুজ (ঘরের আদলে) মাপের পিকেএসএফ-এর মনোগ্রাম-এর নিবন্ধন শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয়ের আওতাধীন পেটেন্ট, ডিজাইন ও ট্রেডমার্কস অধিদপ্তর হতে ইতোমধ্যে সম্পন্ন হয়েছে এবং উক্ত ট্রেডমার্কস অধিদপ্তর কর্তৃপক্ষ পিকেএসএফ-এর নামে বিগত ০৯/০৫/২০২২ তারিখে ৫টি সার্টিফিকেট ইস্যু করে।

ইস্যুকৃত সার্টিফিকেট অনুযায়ী, বর্তমানে পিকেএসএফ বর্ণিত ৫টি বিষয়ের একক মালিক।

সে ক্ষেত্রে, পিকেএসএফ-এর পক্ষ হতে এই মর্মে সতর্ক করা যাচ্ছে যে, এই বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের পর প্রত্যেক কোন ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠান পিকেএসএফ-এর নাম ও মনোগ্রাম/লোগো ব্যবহার করলে বা পিকেএসএফ-এর নাম ও লোগো ব্যবহার করে ভুল্যা বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশ করলে, তাদের বিরুদ্ধে যথাযথ আইনী ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে।

**পল্লী কর্ম-সহায়ক ফাউন্ডেশন (পিকেএসএফ) কর্তৃপক্ষ**