



## Solve Rohingya crisis or it may fuel extremism

PM tells UN, also calls for an immediate end to Russia-Ukraine war



UNB, New York

Calling upon the United Nations to play an effective role in solving the Rohingya crisis, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has warned that the problem may affect the security and stability of the entire region, and beyond if it persists.

She made the call while delivering her speech in the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly on Friday.

Like the previous years, she addressed the UNGA in Bangla. The theme of this year's general debate is "A watershed moment: transformative solutions to interlocking challenges".

Hasina said Bangladesh last month marked five years of the 2017 Rohingya mass exodus.

"Not a single Rohingya was repatriated to their ancestral home in Myanmar, despite our bilateral engagements with Myanmar, discussions with partners in trilateral format and engagements with the UN and other partners to assist Myanmar to create necessary conditions for safe and dignified repatriation," she said.

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Water of the Hyderabad canal under the Nimtoli bridge in Tongi has turned pitch black and emits a toxic smell due to dumping of industrial waste by nearby factories. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: SHEIKH ENAMUL HAQ

## Factories killing water bodies in Tongi

PINAKI ROY

Fazlu Mia still remembers bathing in the Hyderabad canal with other villagers in Tongi, Gazipur, because the water used to be clear only two decades ago.

But now the appalling stench of the canal, which looks more like a swollen drain, makes it hard to go anywhere near it, let alone bathe in the pitch black water.

"Effluent released from countless factories in the area has ruined it," said Fazlu, 70, a resident of Shilmon village.

Garment factories, apparel dyeing and washing facilities have mushroomed in the

area over the years. "And all of a sudden, all of our open water sources turned filthy."

The municipality authorities built a drainage system through Shilmon village for the factories to discharge untreated waste into the Hyderabad canal.

Under Nimtoli bridge over the canal on Tongi-Pubail Road, a pipe can be seen discharging waste from a factory about two kilometres away.

Even the factories of Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) area discharge water in the canal which leads the

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## Probe Evaly couple for laundering money

Says the court-appointed board in its report

MAHMUDUL HASAN

The court-appointed board for Evaly called for an investigation of money laundering as vast sums of cash remain traceless in the controversial e-commerce platform's accounts.

"No clear reason could be found for the large amount of cash withdrawn by the company on daily basis from the bank, which begs the question as to where the huge amount of cash raised went," said the five-member board in their report to the court.

**"It is apparent that the sponsors' intention for running the business was improper and malafide," the board said.**

The report draws on the special audit conducted by leading chartered accountancy firm Hoda Hoda Vasi Chowdhury & Co.

On September 21, the five-member board turned in the 4,000-page audit report to the court as well as their resignations and their own report on the company. The Daily Star has a copy of the audit report and the board's report.

"Huge amount of money was handled in cash and huge amount of money is traceless that leads to the obvious question as to money laundering, which is a matter for the state functionaries to scan," the report said.

For instance, Evaly staff withdrew a total of Tk 79.1 crore, with some taking out cash repeatedly, the audit found. But only four names could be identified from the

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