

It will help promote legal migration

Says European commissioner on return of irregular migrants

UNB, Dhaka

European Commissioner for Home Affairs Ylva Johansson has said sending the irregular migrants back to the country of origin swiftly from the European countries will help promote legal migration.

“It is important that those who arrive irregularly should be sent back swiftly to the country of origin - Bangladesh – to really show that this is not the way to come to the European countries,” she told the news agency while responding to a question.

EU Ambassador to Bangladesh Charles Whiteley accompanied the commissioner during the interview yesterday.

Johansson, also a former minister for employment and integration of Sweden, said it is important to say that irregular migration cannot be stopped fully without making better opportunities through legal ways.

“My main topic for discussion for the trip is to deepen cooperation between Bangladesh and the European Union when it comes to migration. We have different areas to work out,” she said.

Johansson said Europe has an aging society and they

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ROHINGYA GENOCIDE CASE

Dhaka seeks OIC’s help

UNB, Riyadh

Bangladesh Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Permanent Representative to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Mohammad Javed Patwari has sought the help of OIC member states to continue the Rohingya genocide case lodged by Gambia at the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

Javed sought the help at the ad-hoc meeting of OIC ministers on Myanmar’s accountability for violating the human rights of the Rohingyas, held in Jeddah on Thursday.

“Bangladesh has already provided USD 0.5 million to the volunteer fund to continue the Rohingya genocide case at ICJ and is about to provide USD 0.2 million more in the coming days. Besides, we’ve built new infrastructure at Bhasan Char for the Rohingyas at a cost of USD 350 million, which has been allocated from our own fund,” Javed said. He said Bangladesh needs the help of OIC countries as the assistance received till now is much less than the required amount.

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An ambulance, along with other vehicles, waits in a gridlock, that too on a Friday, due to the rallies organised by Jubo League to celebrate its golden jubilee at Suhrawardy Udyan yesterday. Commuters in the capital suffered a great amount as roads around Shahbagh were blocked off. This photo was taken in front of Matsya Bhaban.

PHOTO: STAR

JUBO LEAGUE RALLY

People bear the brunt amid dearth of buses

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Alauddin, a resident of Narayanganj, was supposed to go to his workplace at the capital’s Bata Signal on Elephant Road yesterday afternoon.

But the 55-year-old didn’t know what he was about to endure.

When the bus dropped him off at Purana Paltan area, he saw that vehicular movement from Paltan to Elephant Road was suspended in the afternoon, due to a massive rally.

And so, Alauddin had to walk a long distance, carrying two heavy bags, to reach his destination, as he did not find any other mode of transport.



Jubo League, the youth wing of the ruling party, organised the rally to celebrate its golden jubilee at Suhrawardy Udyan on the day.

Just like Alauddin, many commuters in the capital suffered amid the dearth of public transport, as roads around Shahbagh were blocked off.

“I had no choice but to walk from

Purana Paltan to Birdem hospital, as the bus couldn’t move any further. So, we were ultimately late for work,” said Lavli Akter, a nurse of Birdem, who was walking with her colleague Laki Akhter.

Many were seen waiting for around an hour at bus stands in Mirpur-10, Kazipara, Shewrapara, Agargaon, and adjacent areas. Female commuters and the elderly were the worst sufferers. Auto-rickshaw drivers and rickshaw-pullers were demanding exorbitant fares amid the crisis.

Rahman Mia, a 60-year-old who was waiting at Mirpur-10 bus stand, said he had been there for

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Stand by Bangladesh in its dev journey

Momen urges Japan

UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen has expressed optimism that Japan will play a crucial role while Bangladesh is graduating from the LDC status in 2026 on way to become a developed country by 2041.

“We look forward to working closely with Japan to add new dimension and further consolidate our ever-growing political and economic relations,” he said.

Speaking at an event as the chief guest on Thursday night, Momen said they sincerely hope that Japan as always will stand beside Bangladesh in its journey towards “Sonar Bangla” as dreamed by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Bangladesh is located at the pivot between

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DNCC to screen FIFA World Cup on giant screens

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka North City Corporation will screen the FIFA World Cup fixtures on giant screens in open spaces for football fans in the capital.

In an order, DNCC has asked its zonal executive officer to take measures to screen the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, to be held from November 2022, on giant screens at open spaces so that people can enjoy the matches.

Julker Nayan, executive officer of Zone-1, said they will convey the messages to the councillors for taking measures in this regard.

“Councillors will choose open spaces and set up screens for people,” he said.

The zonal offices will set up big screens in front of their respective offices. “Offices that have suitable places can also arrange screens,” he said.

Md Ziaur Rahman, executive officer of zone-2 said they will screen the matches through projectors.

“We’ll hold a meeting on Sunday where we’ll discuss our next course of action,” he said. The order signed by DNCC Chief of Social Welfare and Slum Development Mohammad Mamun-Ul-Hassan was issued on November 10.

A sundial that doesn’t see the sun



PHOTO: STAR

DIPAN NANDY

When naturalist, and poet Narendra Narayan Roy Chaudhury, landlord of the Estate of Baldha, established Baldha Garden at Wari in Old Dhaka back in 1909, a sundial was also installed on this property.

Besides being popular among tourists for being surrounded by greenery, the oldest botanical garden of the county also received a lot of traction for this ancient timepiece.

A sundial is a clock that determines time with the help of sunlight. History says this was the first natural means made by man to measure time. Such clocks originated in Egypt and Babylon approximately five and a half thousand years ago.

The watch is located in the Sibley (Goddess of Nature) section of Baldha Garden, which is divided into two parts by a road in the middle.

After entering the garden and walking down this road, one will come across “Shankanand” pond on their left. On the right is a semi-circular cement structure surrounded by wrought iron, which slopes towards the west and rises again. The time is marked there from

6:30am in the morning to 6:30pm in the evening. There is an iron rod in the middle.

As the sun rises in the east and sets in the west, the shadow of the dial indicates the time from morning to evening. The sun goes from east to west and the shadow of the rod goes from west to east. One can tell what time it is by tracing the shadow.

Because of the tall buildings in the garden’s eastern part, the morning light doesn’t reach the clock. However, if the weather is sunny, the time can be told on this watch from 11:00am.

WOHIDUL ISLAM
Baldha Garden Forester

However, due to the high-rise buildings on the eastern side, the path of light is mostly blocked during the morning. Hence, the age-old sundial of Baldha Garden doesn’t work in the morning.

As the day progresses, the watch remains functional for some time at noon on a sunny day. Again, before

afternoon, light in the garden dies quickly due to the trees and other structures on the western side. So even on a sunny day, the watch doesn’t function after 2:00pm.

Wohidul Islam, the park’s forester, said, “Because of the tall buildings in the garden’s eastern part, the morning light doesn’t reach the clock. However, if the weather is sunny, the time can be told on this watch from 11:00am.”

This correspondent noticed that the time stamps marked in the sundial’s centre has erased.

At that time, visitors of the park stopped in front of the clock. As the time of the sundial coincided with the time of their mobile phone, their eyes were filled with joy.

Ananyo Kumar Dey, a visitor, told this correspondent, “This is the first time I’ve seen a sundial. But I’m disappointed since it doesn’t work properly.”

Sumaiya Jaman, who came from Tikatuli, said, “It’s a historic piece, but authorities don’t take care of it.”

When asked about the missing time marks in the middle of the clock, Wohidul said, “We’ve also noticed this. The issue of repainting the clock is in process.”

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