



A girl running to bring shrimp that will be dried in the sun on Gahira sea beach of Chattogram's Anwara upazila. Traders buy the shrimp from fishermen to make dry fish (shutki). They then sell this popular food item for Tk 120-300 a kg to retailers. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Boy rescued from container calls himself 'Fahim'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The boy discovered in a cargo container in Malaysia's Port Klang on January 17 identifies himself as Fahim and he may be of Bangladeshi or Rohingya origin.

A video clip of the boy, aged between 11 and 15, being rescued from the empty container went viral and The Daily Star obtained several clips in which the boy calls himself Fahim when Bangladeshi employees at the port asked him his name in Bangla.

A source in shipping told our staff correspondent in Chattogram that the port authorities of Malaysia in a message to local agents of the owners of the ship and the container said the boy had no ID on him.

It said Bangladeshi employees who talked to him suspect that the boy could either be Bangladeshi or Rohingya.

The boy claimed he fell asleep inside the unlocked container and was unaware when it was locked, the message added.

However, the ship's Bangladeshi agent, Continental Traders (BD) Ltd, and the agent for the container, Reliance Shipping Ltd, said they were yet to get the message.

Chattogram Port Authority officials also claimed to not have any official information from Malaysia about the boy.

Meanwhile, quoting a senior police official of South Klang Police District a Malaysian news portal yesterday reported that the boy was not a stowaway and that he had gotten into the container while playing and had been locked in unintentionally.

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Bullet-hit Rohingya man claims to be RSO member

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, CTG

The Rohingya man who got shot during last week's gunfight near the Bangladesh-Myanmar border yesterday claimed that he was a member of the Rohingya Solidarity Organisation, a militant group of Myanmar.

Muhibbullah, 23, is being treated at Chattogram Medical College Hospital with bullet wounds to his chest and right arm. He got shot during the gunfight on the no-man's-land near the Tambru border in Bandarban early Wednesday.

"I returned to Myanmar in 2018. We are not terrorists ... The [Myanmar] Army evicted us from our motherland."

He told The Daily Star that he ran across the border and came to Bangladesh after being hit by bullets.

Muhibbullah said he is from Maungdu in Myanmar. "The Myanmar Army burnt our house to ashes in 2017 and we fled to Bangladesh in that year," he said, adding, "I returned to Myanmar in 2018. We are not terrorists ... The [Myanmar] Army evicted us from our motherland."

Alauddin Talukder, in-charge of CMCH police camp, said Muhibbullah underwent a surgery at CMCH on Thursday.

Preferring anonymity, a CMCH surgeon said Muhibbullah's health was stable.

JS CONSTITUENCIES EC yet to begin demarcation

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

The Election Commission is yet to begin delimitation of parliamentary constituencies, a vital job ahead of the next national election, due to the unavailability of the final report on the latest census.

Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies is currently conducting the post-enumeration check of the census, said Matiar Rahman, director general of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS).

Demarcation of parliamentary seats, a complicated and technical job which sometimes creates controversy, takes a good amount of time, said EC officials.

In the process, some constituencies become larger and some other become smaller. This means some MP candidates in the next parliamentary election will have to woo new voters in their constituencies while some others would lose voters in their strongholds.

According to EC officials, the commission might need to bring significant changes in the delimitation of parliamentary seats this year as the demarcation will be done after the Population and Housing Census 2022.

The EC's work plan for the 12th parliamentary polls, announced in mid-September last year, set a target of preparing a new policy to demarcate constituencies by reviewing the previous policy by January, and complete delimitation by May.

The commission sent a letter to the BBS over one and a half months back seeking the final census report. But it received the preliminary census report from the BBS.

"We are waiting for the final census report for starting delimitation of

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WOMEN'S U-19 T20 WC Bangladesh begin Super Six against hosts SA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A high-flying Bangladesh will be taking on hosts South Africa in their Group 1 Super Six fixture of the inaugural ICC U-19 Women's World Cup at Senwes Park in Potchefstroom today.

The young Tigresses began the tournament with a major win over a formidable Australian side in the tournament opener. They then beat Sri Lanka and the USA to continue their impressive run of form and entered the Super Six stage with the maximum number of points carried from the group.

Points earned in matches involving the fourth-place finisher in each first-round group do

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12m-yr-old whale fossil skull found in Maryland

AFP, Washington



A whale skull fossil estimated to be some 12 million years old has been found on a beach in the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland, according to a local museum.

The discovery was made in October by a Pennsylvania man, Cody Goddard, who was searching for fossils and shark's teeth, the Calvert Marine Museum said in a statement.

"It felt like we had won the World Cup of Paleontology!" said Stephen Godfrey, curator of paleontology at the museum in the eastern US state.

"We don't yet know what species of Miocene baleen whale this is," he said. "That we will only know once it has been prepared."

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JUDGES' APPOINTMENT Indian SC stands by its choice despite govt objections

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India's Supreme Court Collegium has stood by its choice of three judges for appointment to high courts despite the Indian government's objections.

In a statement made public yesterday, the collegium, which recommends appointments of judges to the higher judiciary, has said all citizens have the right to free speech and expression, and the expression of views by a candidate does not disentitle them to hold a constitutional office as long as the person proposed for a judgeship is a person of competence, merit, and integrity.

The three judges in question are Somasekar Sundaresan, recommended for the Bombay High Court; R John Sathyan for the Madras High Court; and Saurabh Kirpal for the Delhi High Court.

Sundaresan's name was recommended by the collegium of the Bombay High Court on October 4, 2021, and on February 16, 2022, the Supreme Court Collegium endorsed his appointment.

The Supreme Court Collegium in the statement said on November 25, 2022, the government had sought reconsideration of the collegium's recommendation.

"Having considered the objection to the candidature of Somasekar Sundaresan, the collegium is of the view that the views on social media attributed to the candidate do not furnish any foundation to infer that he is biased. The issues on which opinions have been attributed to

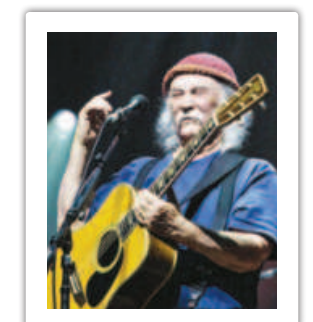
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A metal pipe set up over the walkway along the Buriganga, hindering movement of pedestrians. Traders use engines to illegally unload sand from vessels and pump it to the shore through this pipe. The authorities seem to have turned a blind eye. The photo was taken from Aliganj in Narayanganj's Pagla area recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Rock legend David Crosby dies at 81



AFP, New York

David Crosby, the trailblazing singer-songwriter whose time with The Byrds and later Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young expanded rock's range, has died, his publicist said Thursday. He was 81.

Citing a family member, his publicist confirmed the death to AFP but did not provide a cause. The singer's wife Jan Dance had earlier told entertainment outlet Variety that Crosby passed following a long illness.

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