



TACKLING THE MENACE... A city-corporation worker sprays insecticide down the holes of the slab, into the drains -- a breeding spot for mosquitoes. This photo was taken in Sylhet City's Shagor Dighipar area yesterday.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

High prices dampen HC orders IO's suspension

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shared similar experiences. Several customers who preferred shopping at affordable prices in those shops have expressed their dissatisfaction with the unusually high prices this year.

Nurjahan Akhter, accompanied by her husband and eight-year-old daughter, visited Nurjahan Super Market to purchase clothes for her

daughter and in-laws. She stated that the prices are exorbitant compared to previous years, and that she has to increase her budget for Eid shopping.

Nurjahan also mentioned that she did not find any frocks below Tk 700.

This correspondent spoke to at least 10 other customers who made similar claims regarding the increased prices.

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investigation and recording of the statements of the case's witnesses. Meanwhile, the magistrate, who recorded a confessional statement from accused Sohoh alias Nurunabi, said IO Masudur was present before his court along with accused Sohoh from 11:00am to 3:00pm on the same day. Earlier in the day, the HC bench blasted Masudur for his hurried charge sheet presented before the HC bench.

The bench fixed June 5 for the hearing of further orders on the matter.

Accused Sohoh, and Champa filed the petition

with the HC on March 5, seeking its directive to summon the case documents before it.

They submitted the petition annexing a report published on national daily Prothom Alo on March 2 under the headline "Lash Uddhar Theke Ovijigpotro: 42 Ghotay Abisshasso Todonto (Charge sheet from the recovery of a dead body: Unbelievable investigation in 42 hours".

The HC bench on March 14 summoned SI Masudur directing him to appear before the bench with the case documents and explain his role.

During the hearing of

the petition yesterday, petitioners' counsel Mohammad Shishir Manir told the HC that Masudur conducted a "perfunctory" investigation and submitted a charge sheet at an unbelievable speed, which needs to be scrapped and a fresh investigation should be conducted for this murder case.

Deputy Attorney General Sujit Chatterjee Bappi and Apurba Kumar Bhattacharya represented the state during the hearing. DAG Sujit Chatterjee told The Daily Star that an appeal will be filed with the Supreme Court against the HC order.

100 sacks VGF rice

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the house to facilitate distribution among the people.

"The house is close to the fishers' colonies. Considering the convenience of all, I have

instructed to keep the rice there," he added.

Betagi UNO Md Suhrid Saleheen stated that necessary measures would be taken following an investigation into the incident.

683 buildings storing

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core responsibility of Rajuk is to make sure the buildings are following the codes and construction rules.

"So many building owners are using their basements for storing

flammable items just because there was no monitoring on Rajuk's part. They only take action after every major incident, whereas the monitoring should have been a part of their regular work," said Adil.

Investigators yet

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building. But in 2000, it was closed and a residential gas connection was provided. There is no gas connection from the ground floor to the third floor of the building," said Moshir.

Earlier on March 7, more than 100 people were injured in the explosion at the seven-storey building in Dhaka's Siddikbazar. The basement, first and second floors of the building collapsed in the explosion.

Two killed, one injured in road

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training centre. On the way to the training centre, the accident occurred as a trolley collided with their motorcycle coming from opposite side."

Meanwhile in Gopalganj,

a man was killed in a road crash on Bhatiyapara-Majkandi road at Khaberhat area around 12:30pm yesterday.

The deceased is Manowar Sikdar, 50, a resident of Khaberhat village under

Kashiani upazila. He was a vegetable trader.

Firaz Alam, officer in-charge of Kashiani Police Station, said, "The accident took place when Manowar was crossing the road and a truck ran over him."

His occupation computer

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Action Battalion (Rab) on September 14, 2021.

According to the first information report (FIR) of the case against him, the income tax return submitted on June 30, 2009 showed that Nurul's net wealth was Tk 8.50 lakh.

Just after 11 years, the tax return submitted on June 30, 2020 showed Nurul's net wealth to be

Tk 9.94 crore. The tax return submitted on June 30, 2021, showed his wife Razia's net wealth as Tk 3.51 crore, read the FIR.

The couple tried to show that the wealth was earned through three companies - MS AL Nahian Enterprise, Miftahul Enterprise, and Alka Enterprise. However, during its investigation, CID did not find any physical presence of these

three companies. According to the FIR, Nurul has four houses in the capital's Mohammadpur. He and his wife Razia own three-katha land in Mohammadpur's Ramchandrapur, a 7.47-decimal land in the same area, 53 decimals of land in Savar's Amin Bazar, 20.67 decimals in Teknaf-2, and 2.46 decimals in Teknaf-1.

Growing medicinal plants sees

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Aloe vera leaves are used in producing different types of cosmetics and medicines.

Many like to consume it with the hope to get relief from different diseases like costiveness, skin diseases and urinary problems, herbal doctors said.

Local agriculture

officials said aloe vera farming needs proper care, and farmers can earn a good profit from it as it can be harvested a couple of times a month.

Aloe vera leaves are thick and fleshy, and one can harvest 30 to 35 maunds of the leaves from 20,000 plants.

Each maund of aloe vera is sold at Tk 700 to 800, farmers said, adding that they can yield aloe vera after 18 months of plantation.

Moreover, six to seven additional saplings grow

from each plant. Farmer Monnas Ali from Mahuntinagar in Madhupur said earlier, he used to cultivate pineapple or banana on his three bighas land.

But, after getting advice from the local agriculture officials he started aloe vera cultivation on the same land a couple of years ago.

Tangail DAE Additional Deputy Director Mahmudul Hasan said although aloe vera has a huge demand, local growers do not get fair prices for lack of proper marketing facilities.

Two held after filing of case

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Police arrested two accused - Zafar, 37, and Shamim, 32 - from their residences on Sunday night and produced them before the court yesterday, which sent them to jail, Baulal police station Officer-in-Charge ATM Arichul Haque confirmed to The Daily Star.

On March 17, two factions of Baulal upazila Awami League clashed over separate programmes organised on the occasion of Bangabandhu Sheikh

Mujibur Rahman's birth anniversary and National Children's Day.

Abdul Motaleb Howladar was beaten and severely injured during the clash. At least 50 others were also hurt.

Contacted, lawmaker ASM Feroz said Motaleb and his followers created the scene to politically humiliate him in his constituency.

The case statement mentioned that on March 17, party leaders and

activists, led by Motaleb, were going towards the upazila AL office at Janata Bhaban with a rally from Baulal Government Model Secondary School. When they arrived in front of the Upazila Parishad around 11:30am, a mob, led by Feroz's two nephews, attacked them with iron rods and sharp weapons.

Motaleb was severely injured in the attack and is currently undergoing treatment at a hospital in the capital.

Ties inching to strategic

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During the meeting, the French envoy expressed France's keenness to enhance cooperation with Bangladesh, particularly in areas of aviation and aerospace.

France is also eager to work with Bangladesh in maritime security, she added.

Masdupuy also expressed her country's interest to construct Bangladesh's second satellite.

During the meeting, climate change was prominently discussed, where the French

During the meeting, the French envoy expressed France's keenness to enhance cooperation with Bangladesh, particularly in areas of aviation and aerospace.

ambassador said France has been working on this issue and it can share its experience with Bangladesh.

About the Rohingya crisis, Hasina said

the forcibly-displaced Myanmar nationals sheltered in Cox's Bazar will have to return to their homeland as they have become a burden for Bangladesh.

Referring to construction of an international standard airport in Cox's Bazar, the PM said her government is transforming the airport into an international hub for refuelling and linking Asia and Europe.

She also thanked the French president for inviting her to attend the Climate Summit to be held in Paris on June 22 and 23.

Irresponsible, anti-people

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Mina-Arafat-Muzdalifah, and other services that are done in exchange for money, then the cost of the hajj package will naturally decrease," he said.

Meanwhile, even after multiple deadline extensions, the required number of hajj pilgrims are yet to complete registration.

The deadline for registration ends tomorrow.

Sources at the hajj office in Dhaka said a total of 1,18,489 aspirant pilgrims have so far registered as of yesterday. According to an agreement between Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh, a total of 1.27 lakh Bangladeshis will be able to perform hajj this year.

Of the total, 9,949 registered

government hajj-management services and 1,08,540 under private hajj management services.

Due to the poor response, the government has so far extended the deadline for hajj registration seven times.

The ATAB secretary general said although the government is telling that 1.18 lakh aspirant pilgrims have registered, the actual number is lower, as five percent of those registered will not perform hajj, meaning they have registered on behalf of other aspirant pilgrims who are uncertain regarding whether they will perform the hajj or not.

HAAB and ATAB leaders said despite the huge interest of people in performing hajj, people have less interest in

registering due to the high cost of hajj packages this year.

A Bangladeshi will have to spend around Tk 7 lakh to perform hajj, which increased by around Tk 1.61 lakh compared to the previous year.

Both ATAB and HAAB leaders said this year's airfare was very high for which the costs of hajj packages have increased significantly.

"The airfare of Biman was Tk 1.40 lakh last year. However, this year, it is around Tk 1.98 lakh which is very high," said HAAB President M Shahadat Hossain Taslim.

HAAB on Sunday demanded that the government form a technical committee to fix the airfare of hajj from next year.

No hike in fertiliser price

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Besides, there is a demand for 7.5 lakh tonnes of TSP fertiliser and 9 lakh tonnes of MOP fertiliser, he added.

Replying to a question on the current fertiliser stock, the minister said there are four lakh tonnes of urea fertiliser in stock and 2 lakh tonnes of TSP, 2.5 lakh tonnes of DAP,

2 lakh tonnes of MoP production suspended due to shortage of gas," said Razzaque.

"If the gas supply remains undisturbed, a small amount of fertiliser will have to be imported from abroad as the capability of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) has been increased. But many factories keep their

production suspended due to shortage of gas," said Razzaque.


He also assured of holding a high-level meeting to produce urea fertiliser locally and the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources will be requested to provide sufficient gas to the fertiliser factories.

Country's poverty rate comes

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programme by placing a wreath at the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on BFDC

premises. Subsequently, he joined the rally with film artists and inaugurated the day's events by releasing pigeons and balloons. Film

actresses Rojina and Anjana, Film Director Kazi Hayat and BFDC Managing Director Nujhat Yeasmin joined the rally, among others.



TODAY MARKS THE 27TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF

Late Salahuddin Ahmad
(May 6, 1926-April 4, 1996)

Your memory has not dimmed, your presence felt evermore.....May Allah (SW) grant you Jannatul Ferdous and rest your soul in eternal peace.

We humbly request all our relatives, friends and acquaintances to remember late Salahuddin Ahmad in their prayers.

Wife, children and grandchildren

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(Ashim Kumar Roy)
GM & Division Head



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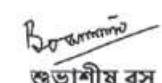
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