





**FASTBUILD**  
PROVIDES RODS OF  
ANY SHAPE AND  
SIZE AS PER DESIGN



**BSRM**  
building a safer nation





**THE MOST  
LOVED BRAND**



**BEST BRAND AWARD  
WINNER EVERY YEAR**

# Journo thrown off roof of 2-storey building in Ctg

Father says it’s for his report on hill-cutting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A journalist is fighting for his life in a hospital after criminals beat him up and threw him off the roof of a two-storey building in Chattogram allegedly over his report on hill-cutting.

Ayub Miyaji, 34, Chandanaish correspondent of national daily Janobani and local daily Shangu, is undergoing treatment at Chattogram Medical College Hospital.

Terming Ayub’s condition critical, his father Abdus Shukkur yesterday said he suffered injuries to his head and his three ribs were broken.

Shukkur filed a case on Tuesday night with Chandanaish Police Station accusing Md Alauddin, 35, and Md Faruk, 26, and seven to eight unidentified people.

A video of the incident, which took place on Tuesday, went viral on social media the next day.

In the case statement, Shukkur alleged that his son became the target of a vested group after he wrote a report on hill-cutting in Dohazari area and gave information about it to the local upazila nirbahi officer and assistant commissioner (land).

On Tuesday afternoon, the accused attacked Ayub with sticks and iron rods and threw him off the roof of the

SEE PAGE 6 COL 2



This picture taken early yesterday shows explosions in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip during Israeli air strikes on the Palestinian enclave.

PHOTO: AFP

## DW DOCU, ARTICLE US hopes govt will look into allegations against Rab

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The US hopes that the Bangladesh government will examine the allegations against Rab in an article and documentary by German news organisation Deutsche Welle.

Vedant Patel, principal deputy spokesperson at the US Department of State, was asked about the documentary at a press briefing on Thursday.

“I’m not going to preview any actions from up here. We will examine the allegations in this article and video very carefully, and we hope the Bangladesh government will do the same,” he said.

He added that the perpetrators of human rights violations should be held accountable.

DW ran an article on its website on April 3 titled ‘Death squad’: Inside Bangladesh’s Rapid Action Battalion, where DW also credited Netra News as taking part in the investigation.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4



## Rokia Afzal laid to rest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Iconic business personality Rokia Afzal Rahman was laid to rest at the capital’s Banani graveyard yesterday.

Before this, Her namaz-e-janaza was held at Gulshan Azad Masjid after Asr prayers. Her family members, business association leaders, and well wishers took part in it.

Rokia’s vision and entrepreneurial prowess left an indelible mark on the country’s business community. She was determined to help women entrepreneurs break barriers and succeed in a male-dominated business world.

She passed away at  
SEE PAGE 6 COL 5  
PHOTO ON PAGE 2

# Israel bombards Gaza, Lebanon

Targets Palestinian militant group after rocket attack; UK urges ‘all parties’ to de-escalate violence

REUTERS, Jerusalem/Gaza

Israel’s military hit sites in Lebanon and Gaza early yesterday, in retaliation for rocket attacks it blamed on the Islamist group Hamas, as tensions following police raids this week on the Al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem threatened to spiral out of control.

Loud blasts rocked different areas of Gaza, as Israel said its jets hit 10 targets including tunnels and weapons manufacturing and development sites of Hamas, which controls the blockaded southern coastal strip.

At around 4.00 am, the military said it had also struck three Hamas infrastructure targets in southern Lebanon, where residents around the area of the Rashidiyeh refugee camp near the southern city of Tyre reported three loud blasts. “We strongly condemn the blatant Zionist aggression against Lebanon in the vicinity of Tyre at dawn today,” Hamas said.

Two Lebanese security sources said the strike hit a small structure on farmland near the area from which the rockets had been launched earlier.

The strike appeared to have left a large crater in farmland in the south, according to Reuters witnesses. A member of Lebanon’s Civil Defense at the scene yesterday morning said there were no casualties.

The strikes came in response to rocket

attacks from Lebanon towards northern Israeli areas, which Israeli officials blamed on Hamas. The military said 34 rockets were launched from Lebanon, of which 25 were intercepted by air defence systems. It was the biggest such attack since 2006, when Israel fought a war with the heavily armed Hezbollah movement.

“Israel’s response, tonight and later, will exact a significant price from our enemies,” Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said following a security cabinet meeting.

**“Israel’s response, tonight and later, will exact a significant price from our enemies.”**

Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu

British Foreign Secretary James Cleverly yesterday appealed on “all parties” to de-escalate. “Now is the time for all parties across the region to de-escalate tensions,” he said, condemning rocket attacks on Israel from Gaza and southern Lebanon, and noting London recognises “Israel’s right to self-defence”.

The US State Department condemned the launch of rockets from Lebanon and earlier strikes from Gaza and said Israel had the right to defend itself.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

## SNATCHING OF MILITANTS Wife of escaped convict arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police has arrested the wife of one of the two death-row convicts who were snatched away by militants from the premises of a Dhaka court last year.

A CTC team in a raid nabbed the woman from the Signboard area of Narayanganj last night, Md Asaduzzaman, the unit chief, told The Daily Star.

Another person, who had sheltered her, was also held in the raid, he said, without giving any details.

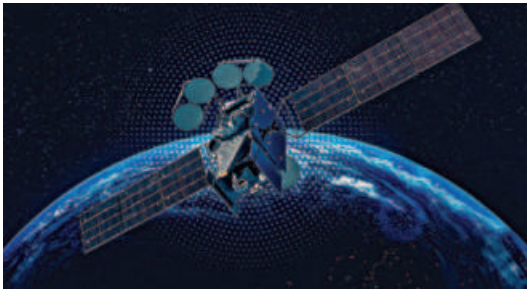
Fatema Khanam Shikha is the wife of Abu Siddiq Soheli, an Ansar al-Islam member, who was sentenced to death for killing publisher Faisal Arefin Dipan in 2015.

According to counterterrorism officials, Shikha is one of the key coordinators of the militant snatching incident. She was present at the court with her child on that day.

After escaping, the two militants took shelter at “Ansar House”, a hideout of militants. Shikha met her husband one or two times there, said the officials.

On November 20, two Ansar al-Islam members – Moinul Hasan Shamim alias Samir alias Imran, and Soheli – escaped from the premises of Dhaka Chief Judicial Magistrate’s Court with the help of fellow militants. Both were sentenced for killing Dipan.

## Nasa sends new pollution-tracker into orbit



AFP, Washington

A Falcon 9 rocket successfully blasted off from Florida into space yesterday, carrying a new Nasa device that can track air pollution over North America down to the neighbourhood level.

The launch, which took place at 12:30 am (0430 GMT), will bring into orbit the Tropospheric Emissions Monitoring of Pollution (TEMPO) instrument, which will allow scientists to monitor air pollutants and their emission sources more extensively than ever before.

The data will be used by the US Environmental Protection Agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other agencies responsible for tackling atmospheric pollution.

“TEMPO will be measuring pollution and air quality across greater North America on an hourly basis during the daytime, all the way from Puerto Rico up to the tar sands of Canada,” said Kevin Daugherty, Nasa’s TEMPO project manager.

A unique feature of TEMPO, which is about the  
SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

# Mushfiqur stars in win over Ireland

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

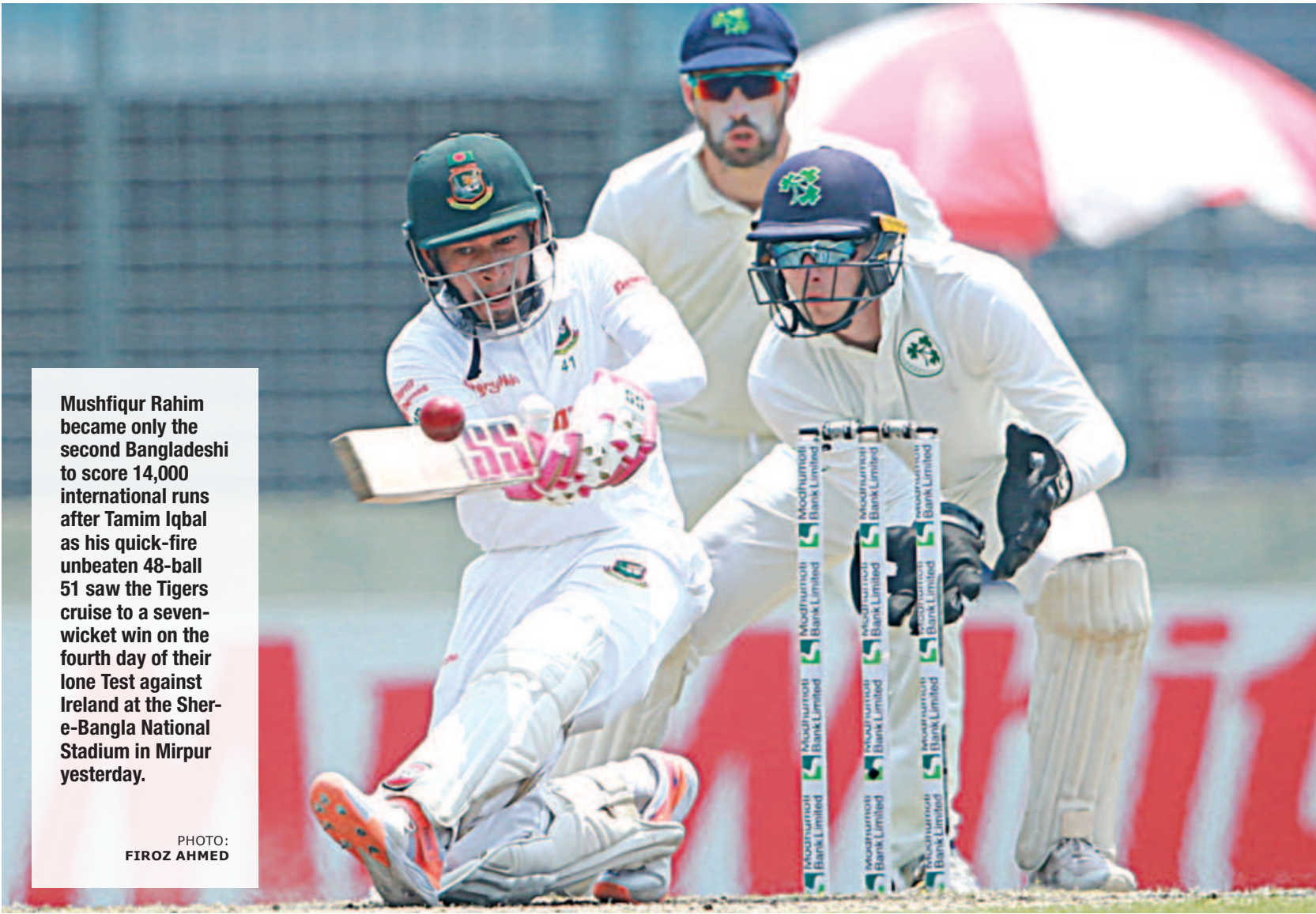
Mushfiqur Rahim found his mojo in the Ireland series, with his latest show coming in the last leg of the tour in the one-off Test at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium in Mirpur. The veteran starred with 177 runs, including a century in the first innings and a fifty in the second, to ensure the Tigers cruised to a seven-wicket win with a day in hand.

The visitors staged a remarkable comeback on the third day after losing four wickets for just 27 at the close of the second day. Not only did the visitors thwart a potential innings defeat that many predicted, but they also showed immense application to take a lead 138-run lead.

However, their hopes were soon deflated courtesy of Ebadot Hossain’s blistering spell in the morning session on day four as he picked up the two remaining wickets in quick time, making it a matter of time before the Tigers could end a 10-match losing streak in the longest format.

The last time Bangladesh won a Test was against New Zealand in Mount Maunganui in January 2022. The Tigers lost the next Test in Christchurch and have gone on to suffer four series defeats since against South Africa, Sri Lanka, the West Indies and India.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



**Mushfiqur Rahim became only the second Bangladeshi to score 14,000 international runs after Tamim Iqbal as his quick-fire unbeaten 48-ball 51 saw the Tigers cruise to a seven-wicket win on the fourth day of their lone Test against Ireland at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.**

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

## Writer, activist Prabir Ghosh dies at 78



OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Prabir Ghosh, who waged a lifelong battle against all forms of superstition, died at his apartment in Kolkata’s Dum Dum-Motijheel area yesterday.

He was 78.

Ghosh breathed his last at around 11:00am following protracted age-related health issues, Anandabazar Online and Kolkata 24x7 channel reported, quoting his family sources.

He was the founder of Bharatiya Bigyan O Yuktibadi Samiti (Science and Rationalists’ Association of India).

Born on March 1,  
SEE PAGE 6 COL 1