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Security alert in the capital

DMP launches 3-day 'special operations' for National Mourning Day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police has directed all its units to conduct "special operations" in the capital to prevent conspiracies and subversive activities on the occasion of National Mourning Day.

The three-day operation started on Saturday following a letter signed by DMP commissioner Khandaker Golam Faruq.

In case of suspicion, the officials were instructed to carry out "block raids" at slums, messes, hotels, clinics, coaching centres, and similar places, the letter read.

It also asked to monitor the media outlets and social media platforms to prevent "propaganda".

Besides, instructions were given to accelerate activities through community meetings during the drive, and to include the Ansar personnels deployed to the police stations in the search operations.

Md Asaduzzaman, chief of Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit, told The Daily Star that there is, however, no threat centring the day.

HM Azimul Haque, deputy commissioner of Tejgaon Division of DMP, corroborated the same.

"There is no specific threat, but we are on alert. Nothing significant or suspicious has come to our notice yet," he said.

DMP sent the letter to all crime divisions, detective branches, and CTTC units with six instructions. The units have been asked to report the results of every 24-hour raid by 8:00am daily.

The letter said there is a need for early preparation and preventive measures to control law and order in Dhaka centring August 15.

The deputy commissioners and officers-in-charge have also been asked to take initiatives to make the drive effective.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina hands over an award to a winner of the National Hifzul Quran competition 2023 held at Bangabandhu International Conference Center yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Help govt eliminate terrorism, militancy
PM to Islamic scholars

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the country's alem-ulema to cooperate with her government to eradicate religious superstitions, terrorism and militancy so no one can misguide children through wrong interpretations of Islam.

The prime minister was addressing the awards ceremony of National Hifzul Quran competition 2023 held at Bangabandhu International Conference Center.

She urged the Islamic scholars of the country to protect the dignity of Islam.

She also urged parents and guardians to watch where their children go and

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5



A recurring saga of monsoon misery

MD ABBAS

School children navigating through ankle-deep water while clutching their parents' hands, office goers waiting for public transport in the morning standing over waterlogged roads and auto-rickshaw/rickshaw pullers cashing in on the opportunity to charge extra fares — these have become all too familiar sights in the streets of Dhaka during monsoon.

And yesterday was no different. The 56mm rain recorded by Dhaka Metrological office in 24 hours from Saturday till 6am yesterday was enough to inundate

many streets of the capital, effectively washing away the tall claims of monsoon preparedness by the Dhaka city corporations.

Many roads and alleys including Eskaton, Malibagh, Shantinagar, Sayedabad, Shanir Akhara, Old Dhaka, Bangshal, Nazimuddin Road, Dhanmondi, Mirpur 13, parts of Hatirjheel, Agargaon to Jahangir Gate, Khamarbari to Farmgate, Farmgate-Tejgaon Truck Stand, some parts of Mohammadpur, Merul Badda, DIT project area, Gulshan Lakepar area remained waterlogged.

This not only caused sufferings to the city dwellers but also made

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



Rain inundated multiple streets in the capital. While water receded in some of the many submerged lanes and alleys around the city rather quickly, dwellers of Mirpur, Shantinagar, Badda, and Old Dhaka had to spend long hours stuck in traffic as the areas remained waterlogged. The photos were taken yesterday from Farmgate and Dhaka University areas.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON, SK ENAMUL HAQ AND ANISUR RAHMAN

CSA too will muzzle FREE SPEECH

Say 12 rights organisations in joint statement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The proposed Cyber Security Act (CSA) continues to criminalise freedom of expression, thus still violating the fundamental rights of citizens, said a statement sent by a platform of 12 rights organisations yesterday.

The law was approved by the cabinet hurriedly without taking into consideration key criticisms about the Digital Security Act, which it is set to replace.

This draft was approved without including provisions that bring administrative powers and responsibilities under judicial scrutiny. Similarly, the draft does not maintain full compliance with international human rights laws. The law also does not differentiate between crimes committed within the cyberspace, cyber security frameworks, and digital rights.

The statement said the lack of stakeholder engagement in approving the final draft of the law, compromises the integrity of the government.

Sections 8, 9, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 28, 29 and 32 of the proposed act are inconsistent with the constitution, fundamental human rights, and the rule of law, the statement said.

The statement added that although the new law reduces punitive punishments for offences committed, concerns still remain about the ulterior objectives of the law in the first place.

More time to review the act

CSA should be amended

Release those detained under DSA

Dialogue with all stakeholders



"At the same time, section 42 of the proposed act, not much different from Section 43 of the DSA, leaves room for it to become restrictive," said the statement.

The platform demanded that all charges against individuals who have been subjected to "false and fabricated" cases due to exercising their fundamental right to freedom of expression, particularly under Section 57 of the Information and Communication Technology Act, 2006, and the DSA, 2018, should be promptly dismissed.

"Furthermore, those who are currently detained in jail should be released immediately," it said.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Drivers alone cannot be blamed Say speakers on road accidents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Drivers alone cannot be held responsible for road accidents; transport owners, road designers, police and designated government organisations also have to share the blame, speakers said at an event yesterday.

They came up with the remark at a roundtable discussion on "How much is the drivers' fault in road accidents", organised by Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Sramik Federation at Jatiya Press Club.

Speaking as the chief guest, former shipping minister Shajahan Khan, also president of the federation, said it is the society's tendency to blame only the drivers for road accidents.

Overloading, speeding, overtaking, overtime and overconfidence are the reasons behind road accidents.

NUR MOHAMMAD MAZUMDER
Chairman of BRTA

"A driver's punishment has to be in line with his role in the accident. They [drivers] should not be made scapegoats to save others," he said.

Shajahan Khan urged the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority to carefully issue licences, and check fitness of vehicles.

He also said it is the government's duty to

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Yunus seeks stay on HC verdict

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus yesterday filed a petition with the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, seeking stay on a High Court verdict that on August 8 rejected a petition filed challenging the labour court's indictment order against him and three others in a case over labour law violation.

Chamber judge of the Appellate Division may hold hearing on the stay petition this afternoon, Barrister Abdullah Al Mamun, the lawyer for Prof Yunus, told The Daily Star.

Sheikh Merina Sultana, chairman of the Third Labour Court of Dhaka, on June 6 framed charges against Prof Yunus and three officials of Grameen Telecom in this case.

Prof Yunus is the chairman of Grameen Telecom, while accused Ashraful Hasan is the managing director, and Nur Jahan Begum and Mohammad Shahjahan are directors.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

The City Bank Limited
Head Office: City Bank Center
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Price Sensitive Information

Reference has made to our previous intimated information to all concerns dated August 7, 2023 regarding participation in consortium through investing in initially approved paid up capital by the consortium members to obtain Digital Bank License from Bangladesh Bank. To make consortium base stronger and for justifying the proposed Digital Bank's name Digi10 Bank PLC, the consortium unanimously decided to include another bank. As such City Bank's Board has decided to make slight amendment in the proposal, which has been stated below:

Sl. No.	Adopted Previous Proposal	Adopted Amended Proposal
1.	Based on Management's proposal, the Board has approved The City Bank Ltd. participating in the consortium of 9 banks for obtaining the Digital Bank license from Bangladesh Bank in the name of "Digi10 Bank Plc." as detailed in the Memo No. /2023, dated. August, 2023 is hereby approved.	Based on Management's proposal, the Board has approved The City Bank Ltd. participating in the consortium of 10 banks for obtaining the Digital Bank license from Bangladesh Bank in the name of "Digi10 Bank Plc." as detailed in the Memo No. /2023, dated. August, 2023 is hereby approved.
2.	The City Bank Ltd. will invest initially 11.11% of the paid-up capital of the proposed Digital Bank (i.e., BDT 138,888,888) named "Digi10 Bank Plc." as will the other members.	The City Bank Ltd. will invest initially 10.0% of the paid-up capital of the proposed Digital Bank (i.e., BDT 125,000,000) named "Digi10 Bank Plc." as will each of the other members of the consortium.

Note: Other matters will remain unchanged.

Dated: August 10, 2023

By the order of Board,
Sd/-
Md. Kafi Khan
Company Secretary