



## MRT LINE-6 Agargaon-Motijheel part to open Oct 20

PM will address a rally after inauguration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will open the Agargaon-Motijheel section of the metro rail on October 20, bringing 20.10km of the entire MRT Line-6 into operation.

The remaining 1.16km Motijheel-Kamalapur section is yet to be open.

She will also inaugurate the construction work of MRT Line-5 (northern route) on September 16 and open 140 new bridges under the Roads and Highways Department on October 22.

The same day, Hasina will also launch the compensation programme for road accident victims and a vehicle inspection centre.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader made the announcements at a press briefing at his ministry yesterday.

Earlier, he announced that the Dhaka Elevated Expressway will partially open on September 2, while the Bangabandhu Tunnel in Chattogram will be open to the public on October 28.

Apart from these, four new rail lines, the

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SEPT 02

Partial opening of Dhaka Elevated Expressway

SEPT 16

Construction of MRT Line-5 (northern route) to begin

OCT 07

Opening of third terminal of Hazrat Shahjalal Airport

OCT 20

Agargaon-Motijheel section of Metro rail to open

OCT 22

Inauguration of 140 bridges and 12 overpasses

OCT 22

Opening of Vehicle Inspection Centre

OCT 28

Opening of Bangabandhu Tunnel



This biker went against the traffic while crossing the Mohakhali level crossing when the gate was closed and was almost run over by the train. He managed to stop between the gate and the train at speed. Such recklessness often leads to lives being lost. The photo was taken from the Mohakhali flyover yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

## Jubo Mahila League leader arrested

She 'pushed 15-yr-old girl off roof of building' in Savar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

A Jubo Mahila League leader accused of shoving a 15-year-old girl off the roof of a five-storey building was arrested in Savar on Saturday.

Police yesterday appealed to a court to place Mehnaz Tabassum Mishu, who has now been suspended by the ruling Awami League associate body, on a seven-day remand.

The victim, who stayed at Dhaka North Jubo Mahila League Joint General Secretary Mehnaz's house as a dependent, survived with serious injuries to her spine as she fell on the corrugated-iron roof of an adjacent one-storey building.

According to a case filed by the eighth-grader's mother, six or seven unidentified men tried to rape the girl in the presence of Mehnaz, 35, and her husband Atikur Rahman Atik in the couple's flat on the night of July 24.

As the girl resisted, Mehnaz, Atik and the other accused tore her clothes, took



Mehnaz Tabassum

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## 200 hurt in AL, BNP clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Supporters of the Awami League and the BNP clashed in Habiganj town yesterday and both parties claimed that the violence left 100 people hurt in each side.

Police fired rubber bullets and used teargas canisters to end the clash that continued for around two and a half hours from 5:00pm.

Witnesses said the district AL yesterday organised a road march protesting the "terror and anarchy of the BNP" after several hundred BNP activists on Saturday locked in a clash with police that left 150, including 30 policemen, injured.

Yesterday, the AL men started their road march from the town's Shayestanagar area around 5:00pm.

When the march reached Water Development Board area, some people attacked a temporary office of the BNP, said witnesses.

They also attempted to attack the home of Habiganj BNP Joint Convener GK Gaus in the area.

The BNP activists tried to resist the attack and the clash ensued. Both groups chased one another and threw brick chunks, the witnesses added.

Police went to the spot, lobbed teargas canisters and used rubber bullets to bring the situation under control.

Contacted, district unit AL Joint General Secretary Lutfur Rahman alleged that BNP men first attacked their procession without any provocation, injuring 100 AL activists.

However, Gaus said the clash broke out after AL activists vandalised their office and his home, leaving at least 100 BNP activists hurt.

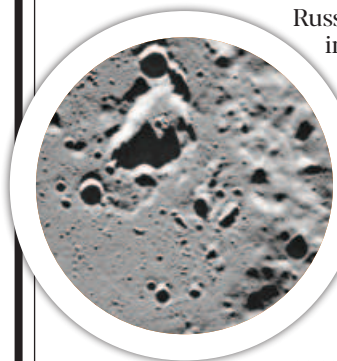
Badiuzzaman, officer-in-charge (investigation) of Habiganj Model Police Station, said additional police personnel were deployed in the area to avert further untoward incidents.

On Saturday afternoon, at least 150 people, including 30 police personnel, were wounded in Shayestanagar during the

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## Russia's Luna-25 spacecraft crashes into moon in failure

MOSCOW, Reuters



Russia's first moon mission in 47 years failed when its Luna 25 space craft spun out of control and crashed into the moon after a problem preparing for pre-landing orbit, underscoring the post-Soviet decline of a once mighty space programme.

Russia's state space corporation, Roskosmos, said it had lost contact with the craft at 11:57 GMT on Saturday after a problem as the craft was shunted into pre-landing orbit. A soft landing had been planned for Monday.

"The apparatus moved into an unpredictable orbit and ceased to exist as a result of a collision with the surface of the Moon," Roskosmos said in a statement.

It said a special inter-departmental commission had been formed to investigate the reasons behind the loss of the Luna 25 craft, whose mission had raised hopes in Moscow that Russia was returning to the big power moon race.

The failure underscored the decline of Russia's space power since the glory days of Cold War competition when Moscow was the first to launch a satellite to orbit the Earth - Sputnik 1, in 1957 - and Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man to travel into space in 1961.

### DENGUE CASES

## 'End to outbreak can't be predicted'

Says DGHS official; 10 more die in a day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With 2,134 dengue patients hospitalised yesterday, the health directorate said when the outbreak will end cannot yet be firmly predicted.

In the last 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday, 10 more patients died, including six in different hospitals in the capital, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

With the latest count, the total number of hospitalised patients rose to 99,995, while the total number of fatalities reached 476.

According to the DGHS, the highest number of dengue patients requiring hospitalisation were from within Dhaka city, in the 29th to 30th weeks of this year.

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Farmers of Kanchan Nagar in Chattogram's Chandanaish upazila carrying freshly harvested guavas to the wholesale markets lining the Dhaka-Chattogram highway, where they will make Tk 1,200-2,000 per two sacks. From there, the fruits are distributed across the country. However, growers say the yield this year was considerably less as guava trees have been adversely affected by brick kilns mushrooming near the orchards (not in picture). The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

## Bomb blast kills 11 labourers in Pakistan

AFP, Islamabad

Eleven labourers were killed in a bomb blast in northwestern Pakistan near the border with Afghanistan, a local government official said yesterday.

The device exploded after being attached to the vehicle they were travelling in on Saturday evening, Rehman Gul Khattak, senior government official for North Waziristan, said in a statement.

"The labourers were working at an under construction post for the Pakistan army," Khattak said.

Amir Muhammad Khan, a senior police official in the area, confirmed the bomb blast and the number of casualties to AFP.

"Heartbreaking to know about the terrorist attack in North Waziristan which claimed the lives of 11 innocent laborers. Strongly condemn this senseless act of violence and stand in solidarity with the families affected," caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar posted on X, formerly known as Twitter.

Pakistan has seen a sharp rise in militant attacks since the Afghan Taliban surged back to power in neighbouring Afghanistan in 2021.

The militant assaults have been focused in regions abutting Afghanistan, and Islamabad alleges some are being planned on Afghan soil -- a charge Kabul denies.

Pakistan's home-grown Taliban group, Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), has waged a growing campaign against security officials, including police officers.

In January, a suicide bomber linked to Pakistan's Taliban blew himself up in a mosque inside a police compound in the northwestern city of Peshawar, killing more than 80 officers.