

## Pass amendment to it urgently

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at the sales outlets.”  
“Tobacco companies are advertising and promoting tobacco products through the display of their products at the outlets. For this reason, the Ministry of Health has recently formulated a draft for further revision of the Tobacco Control Act,” Shariful said.  
He added that if this draft is approved, several weak aspects of the tobacco control law will be largely eliminated, including banning of smoking in public places and public transports, display of tobacco products at sales centres, retail sales, e-cigarettes, and CSR of tobacco companies.  
Mostafizur Rahman, lead policy advisor, and Humaira Sultana, communications manager (Bangladesh) of Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids Bangladesh, and leaders of Aviation and Tourism Journalists Forum of Bangladesh, were present at the event among others.

## Conspiracy on to restart coal

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between protestors and the then government which banned open-pit mining, and expelled Asia Energy from conducting operations in the country.  
As the national election nears, he urged political parties to commit to implementing the contract, popularly known as the six-point commitment, if they come to power.  
“The uprising in 2006 saved us from a project that would have devastated public life and wildlife. I request the ones in power to support this cause,” he said.  
The central demand of this movement was that no development work should proceed without the consent of the local populace, and no destruction should be planned in the name of progress,” he added.  
Jonaid Saki, chief coordinator of Ganasanghati Andalan, and notable speakers from various political parties and organisations also spoke at the rally, chaired by Saiful Islam Jewel, convener of the Phulbari unit of the committee.

## Repatriation the only solution

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inaugurated the seminar where Information Minister Hasan Mahmud was present as the chief guest.  
Mofidul Hoque, trustee of the Liberation War Museum, presented the keynote paper at the event, chaired by Prof Sheikh Hafizur Rahman, director of the Centre for Genocide Studies.  
Hasan Mahmud said, “Bangladesh is an overpopulated country. We have many issues including natural and man-made disasters to address. Moreover, we have a refugee problem.”  
“Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina allowed Rohingyas to come in and stay in Bangladesh while the military junta massacred them. It was a great response to a humanitarian call,” he added.  
Addressing the international community, he said they cannot deny their responsibility.  
“Moving a few refugees is not a solution. Repatriation is the only solution to this problem. If the entire international community, especially India and China join in hand, nothing can prevent Rohingyas from returning to their homeland,” the minister added.  
Among others, DU VC Prof Md Akhtaruzzaman, Johannes Van Der Klaauw, UNHCR Representative to Bangladesh; Asif Munier, migration and displacement specialist; and Prof Zia Rahman, dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Dhaka, were also present at the seminar.

### Hong Kong

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worker in Saudi Arabia earns Tk 17,300 per month on average, according to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics’ “Cost of Migration Survey-2020”.  
The first batch of FDH from Bangladesh to Hong Kong was recruited in May, 2013, according to the Bangladesh mission.  
Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training data shows, 2,005 female migrants went to Hong Kong for employment between 1993 and June 2023.

## AL govt rejected both

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continues, then we will resist it. Then you will realise what is resistance,” he also said.  
Over 5,000 leaders and activists of the BNP and its other wings joined the mass procession to press home their one-point demand – the resignation of the government and holding an election under a neutral caretaker government.  
Earlier in the day, post-deprived leaders and activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) of Chattogram south district wing locked the BNP Chattogram south office in Kotowali area.  
“The 42 member newly declared JCD committee includes married, expatriate and bank and other office employees who are not directly involved with JCD politics now,” claimed JCD leader Ziaul Haque.

## Taposh seeks Aedes

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part in a public awareness campaign to prevent the spread of dengue in the capital’s Basabo.  
The mayor said after reviewing the DGHS data, the DSCC has categorised several wards out 75 as red, where more than 10 dengue patients were found last week.  
“Now, we will conduct a daylong combing operation in those words to destroy the breeding grounds of Aedes mosquitoes. We will engage local people, schools, mosques, madrasas, house owners, owners of all establishments and all social organisations to conduct the special drive,” Taposh said.  
On August 23, the mayor at a programme announced that if any ward records 10 dengue cases in a week, then a special drives would be conducted there with the help of cleaning staffers and mosquito-control workers. The drives would be carried out every Saturday.  
Responding to a question about Marshall Agrovet, the company that allegedly forged documents in importing BTI pesticide for the Dhaka north city, Taposh said, “We do not import pesticides through any firm. After 2019, we started importing directly from the manufacturers as per the government policy.”

## Skeleton theft surge!

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in Ghoraghat upazila, villagers discovered that thieves had taken away four skeletons from the graveyard during the night.  
The Ghoraghat Police Station Officer-in-Charge, Md. Asaduzzaman Asad confirmed that police had visited the graveyard on Thursday.  
Unfortunately, thieves struck again at Tulsipur graveyard in Birganj on Friday. Locals reported that they found 10 human remains missing from Tulsipur graveyard in Birganj.  
Shahinur Islam Chowdhury of Mohanpur Union Parishad stated that 21 remains were stolen in two separate incidents from the same graveyards within a span of 2 weeks.  
This has understandably alarmed residents near these graveyards and the relatives of the deceased, as the dignity and security of their loved ones’ remains are compromised.  
Despite these concerns, law enforcement authorities have thus far been unable to provide a solution to this problem.  
Since July 2022 up to August of the current year, at least 120 human remains have been stolen from various graveyards in districts such as Panchagarh, Thakurgaon, Dinaipur, Nilphamari, and Gaibandha.  
In January 2020, at least 28 human remains were stolen from two graveyards in Dinaipur Sadar upazila, including 20 from Shibpur Graveyard and eight from Darbarpur Graveyard.  
The sale and trade of human remains, including skeletons, is generally highly regulated and illegal in many countries, including Bangladesh.  
According to local sources within law enforcement, there is a high demand for human remains, including skeletons, particularly in education and research fields, both locally and internationally.  
Theft incidents tend to rise when the demand for such skeletons increases.  
A single skeleton can reportedly fetch a price between Tk 35,000 to 50,000.  
Monjurul Islam, a villager, appealed to the local police to take strong measures to prevent such thefts.  
Contacted, Md Khodadad Sumon, Additional SP (Birganj Circle), confirmed that he had visited the graveyards, and the police are actively investigating the incidents.

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actionaid

Tender Notice

ActionAid Bangladesh invites sealed quotations from qualified vendor/supplier for the purchase of Muli Bamboo for its Agriculture and Homestead Gardening Project at FDMN Camps at Ukhiya and Teknaf. The details are as follows-

Sl.	Name of Item	Quantity
1	Muli Bamboo: Circumference: 3.5-4 inches in the bottom, Length of 17-18 ft, Matured and insect-free as per the selected sample. 10 pcs per bundle, Delivery location: 10 FDMN camps.	101,000 Pcs

The Separate Tender Schedule will be available for collect at ActionAid Cox's Bazar Office (House No-752, Ward- 11, Jhawtola, Masjid Road, Cox's Bazar- 4700) from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm during the office hour of 27-30 August (Working Day) 2023. Alternatively, the schedule can be obtained from the following website.

Website

https://actionaidbd.org/tender-notice

Quotation needs to be submitted in sealed envelope on or before 31st August 2023 by 11:00 AM (GMT+6) at above locations.

The authority of ActionAid Bangladesh reserves the right to accept or reject any or all quotations without assigning any reason whatsoever.

## PM Hasina returns today

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The flight is scheduled to land at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka at 8:40am (Bangladesh time) today.  
On August 22, Sheikh Hasina arrived in Johannesburg to attend the 15th Summit of BRICS nations – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.  
On August 23, during her visit, the prime minister delivered a speech as the chief guest at the “Bangladesh Trade and Business Summit”, organised by Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA).  
Later, she attended the “Bangladesh Envoys Conference” organised by Bangladeshi ambassadors stationed in African countries.  
In the afternoon, she held a bilateral meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping at the Hotel Hilton Sandton.  
In the evening, the prime minister joined a cultural programme and “State Banquet” hosted by the current chair of BRICS and the South African president.  
On August 24, she spoke, as a member of the New Development Bank of BRICS, at Friends of BRICS Leaders Dialogue (BRICS-Africa Outreach and the BRICS Plus Dialogues) comprising representatives from 70 countries.  
On the sidelines of the BRICS Summit, bilateral meetings between Sheikh Hasina and Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, President of Mozambique Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, President of Tanzania Dr Saima Sulluhu and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi were held at Sandton Convention Centre on Thursday.  
A meeting was also held between the Bangladesh premier and President of the New Development Bank Dilma Vana Rousseff at the same venue.  
During her visit, the PM also met Bangladeshi expatriates living in South Africa.

## Attack leaves Rabidas youth

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“Informed, my family members with the help of locals later rescued me and took me to Phulbari Upazila Health Complex. As my condition deteriorated, I was shifted to Kurigram Sadar Hospital.”  
“The goons threatened to kill me if we do not withdraw a case we filed against Bazlar,” he added.  
Sajmati Rabidas, mother of Subas, told The Daily Star that her son was attacked by Bazlar’s men two years ago too.  
“Some goons hired by Bazlar Rahman picked up Subas and beat him up over a land dispute at that time. A case was lodged with Phulbari Police Station against Bazlar and others in this connection. The case is now under trial with the court,” she said.  
“Bazlar along with other accused have been pressuring us to withdraw the case. As we did not withdraw it, Bazlar hired goons again and beat up my son,” Sajmati said.  
“We have no assets except 13 decimals of land for our homestead. Bazlar Rahman has long been trying to grab our land, which is why the dispute ensued in the first place. Now Bazlar and his men are threatening to evict us from our home,” said Subas’s younger sister Purnima Rabidas, a college student.  
“My brother is still very ill and undergoing treatment in the hospital. We are preparing to lodge another complaint at the police station over the attack on him,” she also said.  
“We are feeling very helpless,” Purnima added.  
Contacted, Bazlar Rahman refuted the allegations against him. He also claimed he is being harassed and falsely accused, adding that he was also neither involved in attacking Subas previously nor is he threatening Subas’s family of eviction.  
Pranakrishna Debnath, officer-in-charge of Phulbari Police Station, told the journalists that he heard about the incident.  
“However, no complaint has been received by police in this regard yet. Police will take legal action if a complaint is filed,” the OC said.

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