

**লোগো ডিজাইন  
প্রতিযোগিতায়  
অংশ নিয়ে জিতে নিন  
৩০ লক্ষ টাকা**



**পূবালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড**  
**PUBALI BANK LIMITED**

লোগো জমা দেওয়ার শেষ তারিখ  
**১৯ অক্টোবর ২০২৩ বৃহস্পতিবার**

বিস্তারিত জানতে ভিজিট করুন  
[www.pubalibangla.com](http://www.pubalibangla.com)



PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Ignoring a footbridge located just a few steps away, a man tries to jump over the iron barricades of a median on the Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. Such action may save a few moments but is risky, especially on busy roads. The photo was taken in the capital's Farmgate area recently.

## 'No talks held on visa policy'

Acting foreign secy on meeting with US official Rena Bitter

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The US has assured Bangladesh of completing visa processing of Bangladeshis in six months, said acting Foreign Secretary Khurshed Alam.

The assurance came during a meeting between US Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs Rena Bitter and Alam at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday.

"We had no discussion on the new visa policy [of the US]. She assured that the US embassy would complete the visa process for Bangladeshi students and other visa applicants in six months," Alam told reporters after the meeting yesterday afternoon.

Bitter arrived in Dhaka on Saturday on a two-

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

## DHAKA AIRPORT 3RD TERMINAL

# Possible game changer

Final preparations underway for partial opening on Oct 7

RASHIDUL HASAN

Final preparations are underway for the soft inauguration of the third terminal of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport -- a possible game changer in the country's aviation sector.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to inaugurate the terminal building on October 7, said Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh Chairman Air Vice Marshal M Mafidur Rahman.

The new terminal is expected to provide world class service to the air travellers. However, they will have to wait till the end of the next year when this terminal will become operational. This time will be required due to the necessary calibration and preparation of the equipment used in terminal operations, he said.

Airlines, however, will be able to use the new parking apron and taxiway of the third terminal after the partial opening. The two old terminals' aprons can accommodate 29 aircraft at present.



MAIN FEATURES	T-3 FACILITIES
Passenger Handling Capacity	16 million
Area of Terminal	2.30 lakh sq metres
Boarding Bridge	26
Conveyor Belts for Arrival	16
Car parking capacity	1,230 lots
Check-in-counters	115
Immigration Counters	128
Cabin Baggage x-ray machine	40
Baggage x-ray machine	27
Body Scanner	11

SOURCE: CAAB

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Mafidur Rahman said a total of 37 aircraft can be parked at a time, once the terminal, with an area of 5,42,000 square metres, is fully opened.

"Almost 90 percent of the work of the mega project is completed. Structure of the terminal is ready, and work is going on at present for interior decorations and to install necessary equipment and technology," he added.

Ahead of the third terminal's full operation, different foreign airlines are eyeing to start their operation from Dhaka Airport, which will play a great role to take the country's aviation sector forward, experts said.

According to sources at the Civil Aviation and Tourism Ministry, at least 15 new foreign carriers -- including Swiss Air, Air Canada, Air France -- have already expressed their interest to operate flights to and from Dhaka.

The new terminal will accommodate a baggage handling system, an arrival

## ATTACK ON BERNICAT'S CONVOY

# Charges pressed against BCL leader, 8 others

EMRUL HASAN BAPPI

Police have finally charged nine persons in a case filed over the attack on former US ambassador to Bangladesh Marcia Bernicat's convoy.

The nine included prime accused Ishtiaque Mahmud, a relative of the complainant Badiul Alam Majumder, secretary of Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik (Shujan); and Naimul Hasan Rasel, president of Mohammadpur Chhatra League unit.

Following re-investigation, Investigation Officer Rajon Kumar Saha, an assistant commissioner of Detective Branch of DMP, pressed charges on September 19, a police official told The Daily Star, preferring anonymity.

The eight accused -- Firoz Mahmud, Naimul Hasan Rasel, Mir Amzad Hossain Akash, Sazu Islam, Razibul Islam Razu, Shahidul Alam Khan Kajol, Siam and Oli Ahmed Jony -- are now on bail.

In the supplementary charge sheet, only Ishtiaque was shown as a fugitive accused.

On August 4, 2018, some 30 unidentified miscreants attacked the car of Bernicat, who was about to leave the

residence of Badiul Alam around 11:00pm after attending a courtesy dinner in her honour.

Six days later, Badiul Alam filed the case with Mohammadpur Police Station on August 10, 2018.

Subsequently, the IO in the probe report said, ten accused, along with some 15 to 20 unidentified people on August 4, 2018, gathered near the Iqbal Road residence of the Shujan secretary around 11:00pm and chased the car of Bernicat.

The accused then threw brick chips at her car, it said.

Later, the accused vandalised the house of the complainant and made death threats to his wife and son, it

added.

On December 28 last year, a Dhaka court ordered further investigation into the case, following a prosecution application.

In the application, the prosecutor said three prosecution witnesses gave their depositions before the court, mentioning the name of Ishtiaque, brother-in-law of Badiul Alam, as the culprit.

The IO, however, did not include Ishtiaque's name in the charge sheet,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

## A promising life cut short

Hit by train, HSC examinee dies

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

Momith Hasan Tonu woke up excited, because he knew he would be reunited with his family in Cumilla by nightfall. He had not gone home for nearly a month and a half as he was sitting for his HSC exams in a different city.

The 19-year-old was scheduled to take part in the final practical exam yesterday at Narsingdi Abdul Kadir Mollah City College.

Around 9:30am, he was walking near the rail track on his way to the exam centre.

At that moment, he was hit by a Chattogram-bound train, leaving him dead on the spot, police said.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 8



PHOTO: COLLECTED

A notebook, some papers and a pair of shoes of Tonu were recovered from the spot.

## Govt can stop puja violence if it wants

Says Oikya Parishad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

If the government wants, it can prevent attacks and vandalism during Durga Puja, Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Oikya Parishad's General Secretary Rana Dasgupta said yesterday.

"The year 2022 did not witness any attacks or vandalism following the violence during 2021 Durga Puja. It serves as evidence that if the government wants to prevent such incidents, they are capable of doing so," Dasgupta said at a press conference at Jatiya Press Club.

He said, "Our political parties must come together for the greater interest of the nation's democracy. They must unite to build resistance against incidents like vandalism of idols."

Dasgupta announced they would hold a mass rally on November 4 instead of October 6 based on the assurance from the government that it would form the national commission for minority affairs before its tenure expires.

The act for forming the commission would be passed in the next parliament session in October.

Dasgupta said, "We hope that all the political parties will come forward with a greater commitment to keeping the interests of the country and the nation intact."

**'ENSURE SAFETY OF HINDUS AHEAD OF DURGA PUJA, POLLS'**

Meanwhile, leaders of the Bangladesh Hindu Association UK have urged the government to ensure the safety of their fellow members and relatives in Bangladesh during the Durga Puja and the upcoming election. They handed over a petition to Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen in London on Saturday, a foreign ministry statement said yesterday. Momen said precautionary measures and steps will be taken during the puja and polls to protect the Hindus.



Arrays of illegally parked lorries and covered vans take up a significant portion of the busy Kamalapur-Bashabo road, making it difficult for vehicles to ply through. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## WAR CRIMES

# Fugitive death row convict held in Savar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested a fugitive convict who



was sentenced to death for committing crimes against humanity during the Liberation War from Dhaka's Savar on Saturday.

The arrestee is Khan Rokunuzzaman, 72, of Satkhira Sadar area in Satkhira, said Rab-2 Assistant Director (Media) ASP Shihab Karim yesterday.

On a tip-off, a team of Rab-2 conducted a drive in Savar and arrested him, he said.

On March 24, 2022, the International Crimes Tribunal sentenced Rokunuzzaman to death for committing different crimes including torture, rape, and arson in Satkhira district during the Liberation War in 1971.