



BNP unveils fresh programmes till Oct 18

At least 10 hurt in attack on its road march from Cumilla to Chattogram

STAR REPORT

BNP yesterday announced a series of fresh programmes, including a rally in Dhaka, to press home its demand for an election under a non-partisan interim administration.

It made the announcement during its road march at Chattogram city's Kazir Dewri Naval Chattar area. The march started from Cumilla.

The programmes will include a rally and procession in the capital and other districts on October 9. There will then be a students' convention on October 12, a mass hunger strike on the 14th, a youth convention on the 16th, and a mass rally on October 18th – all in Dhaka.

New programmes will be announced at the Dhaka rally.

At least 10 people were injured and 25 vehicles vandalised as Awami League workers allegedly attacked the BNP road march on the Cox's Bazar-Chattogram Highway in Chandanaish upazila and in Noakhali's Companiganj upazila, said opposition leaders.

Opening the march at Cumilla town's Kala Kachua, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said, "She [Hasina] put in a lot of effort to cancel the visa policy and get rid of sanctions but they [the US] didn't pay any heed to her."

The country's people nor the international community

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BNP leaders and activists pour into Kalakachua area of Cumilla's Burichang upazila yesterday before the start of a road march to Chattogram. The party organised the programme as part of its one-point movement demanding resignation of the government and general elections under a non-party neutral administration.

PHOTO: STAR

Quader finds nothing wrong in his comment

Says 'reaching understanding' means US-Bangla ties improving

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader yesterday said he was not wrong when he said "an understanding has been reached behind the scenes".

Quader, also the road transport and bridges minister, made the comment while exchanging views with journalists at the secretariat.

Speaking at a rally in Savar on Tuesday, the AL leader said, "America needs Delhi. Delhi is there, so are we. No enmity with anyone, only friendship. Sheikh Hasina has struck a balance with regard to relations with everyone. No more worries. Election will be held in time."

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Norwegian author Jon Fosse wins Nobel in literature

REUTERS, Stockholm

Norwegian author and dramatist Jon Fosse won the 2023 Nobel Prize in Literature "for his innovative plays and prose which give voice to the unsayable," the award-giving body said yesterday.

Born in 1959 in Haugesund on Norway's west coast, Fosse is best known for his dramas, though his writing spans poetry, essays, children's books and translations.

His work "touches on the deepest feelings that you have, anxieties, insecurities, questions of life and death," Swedish Academy member Anders Olsson said.

"It has a sort of universal impact of everything that he writes. And it doesn't matter if it is drama, poetry or prose, it the same kind of appeal of basic humanism," Olsson said.

Fosse, seen as a long-time contender for the prize and among this year's favourites in the betting odds, said he was "overwhelmed and somewhat frightened" by the award.

"I see this as an award to the literature that first and foremost aims to be literature, without other considerations,"

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Jon Fosse

UKRAINIAN VILLAGE 51 killed as Russian missile hits cafe, shop

Zelensky denounces 'Russian terror', seeks more air defences

REUTERS, Kyiv

A Russian missile slammed into a cafe and grocery store in a village in northeastern Ukraine yesterday, killing at least 51 people as they held a memorial service, Ukrainian officials said.

The cafe and shop were struck and reduced to rubble early in the afternoon in Hroza village in the Kupiansk district of the Kharkiv region, regional governor Oleh Synchubov said, adding that many civilians had been there at the time.

Officials posted footage of dazed-looking rescue workers clambering through smouldering rubble. Some photos showed bodies lying alongside slabs of concrete and twisted metal, and others showed rescue workers carrying away bodies.

Interior Minister Ihor Klymenko said

residents of the village of about 330 people had been holding a memorial service in the cafe that was hit, and local officials said they had been sitting down to a meal.

The attack was the deadliest in the Kharkiv region since Russia's invasion more than 19 months ago, a spokesperson for the Kharkiv regional military administration told Ukrainian public broadcaster Suspilne.

President Volodymyr Zelensky, who was attending a summit with European leaders in Spain, said that "the Russian terror should be

stopped".

"Now we are talking with European leaders, in particular, about strengthening our air defence, about strengthening our soldiers, about giving our country protection from terror," he said in a post on the Telegram messaging app.



2 ASIs closed over ex-ACC official's death in custody

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two assistant sub-inspectors of Chandgaon Police Station were withdrawn from their duties yesterday in connection with the death of former ACC official Sayed Mohammad Shahidullah, who died in police custody on Tuesday night.

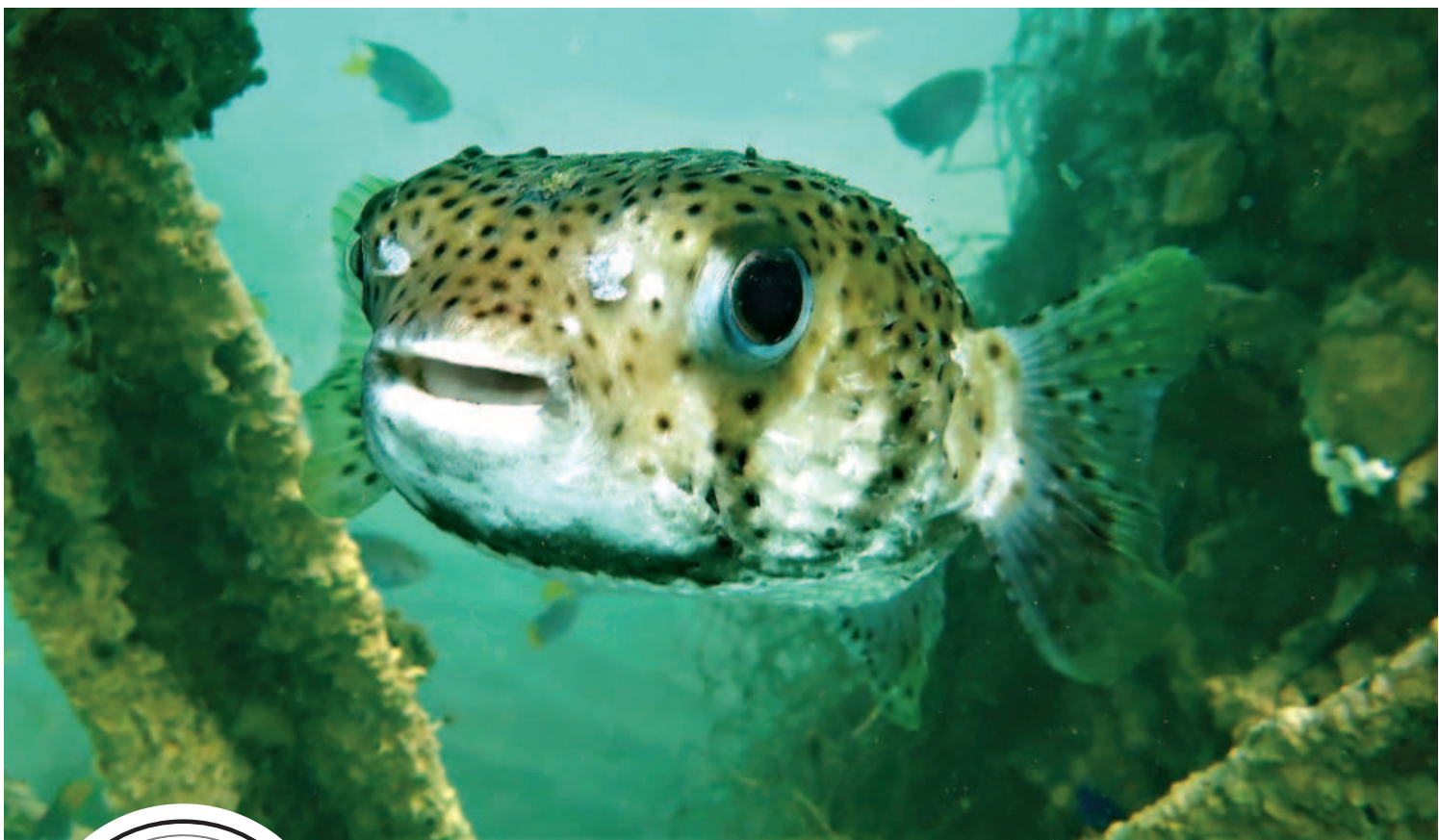
Chattogram Metropolitan Police closed the two police officials – Md Yousuf Ali and Md ATM Sohul Rana – and attached them to CMP Dampara Police Lines, said CMP Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC-PR) Spina Rani.

MA Masud, additional commissioner (admin and finance), signed the order.

ASIs Md Yousuf and Md ATM Rana arrested Shahidullah and brought him to Chandgaon Police Station on Tuesday night.

Shahidullah, a former ACC deputy director, died in police custody the same night after cops allegedly

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PORCUPINE WITH FINS ... A spot-fin porcupinefish, known as Shojaru maach in Bangla, spotted in the Bay of Bengal in Saint Martin's Island. It's found in tropical and subtropical waters around the world. It's usually mistaken as the nearly-identical spotted puffer fish as both species swallow water to inflate themselves in the face of danger. However, porcupine fish have scales that are modified into spines, which they use, along with toxins secreted from its body, to ward off predators. As a matter of fact, the toxins make them poisonous for humans as well. Though spot-fin porcupinefish populations are not considered threatened, they are regular victims of fishing for the pet trade, while their bodies, after killed, are also used to as souvenirs in many parts of the world.

PHOTO: SHARIF SARWAR

NID DATA LEAK EC points finger at several public, private organisations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission suspects that personal information of smart NID card holders was leaked from several organisations that have access to the NID server.

AKM Humayun Kabir, director general of the EC's NID wing, yesterday said information might have been leaked from several public and private organisations.

Officials are not sure how many people's data have been leaked.

Speaking to reporters at his office, Humayun said the NID server services to some suspected organisations have been temporarily suspended and a two-member committee has been formed to find out how and from where information was leaked.

His comments came amid reports of sensitive personal information of smart NID card holders being available in a Telegram channel since Tuesday.

The NID server has information of about 12 crore voters, of whom around 5.5 crore have smart NID cards.

A Telegram bot provides people's names, gender, parents' names, phone numbers, addresses, photos and other

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World's tallest wooden tower to be built in Australia

CNN ONLINE

Western Australia may soon be home to the world's tallest wooden building, after authorities in Perth green-lit plans for a 191.2-metre-tall (627-foot) "hybrid" tower constructed using mass timber.



Perth's Metro Inner-South Joint Development Assessment Panel (JDAP) approved Grange Development's proposal for the skyscraper, currently dubbed the C6 building, which would stand nearly twice as high as the current record holder.

The developers say 42 percent of the proposed tower will be constructed from timber, with the columns and core made of reinforced concrete.

If completed, the high-rise will surpass the world's tallest timber-concrete hybrid building, the Ascent tower in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, which stands at 25 stories or 86 metres (284 feet), according to the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat.

The proposed structure, located on Charles Street in South Perth, will also be taller than the forthcoming hybrid timber Atlassian Headquarters in Sydney, which is poised to claim the record from Ascent but is yet to be completed.

Flash floods hit 3 northern dists

Heavy rains, onrush of water from upstream inundate low-lying areas

STAR REPORT

Vast tracts of low-lying areas in three northern districts have been inundated due to an onrush of water from upstream and torrential rainfall.

As such, the flood-affected people in Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, and Rangpur face significant losses due to the submersion of their homes as well as croplands.

What makes matters worse is that there is a chance of heavy rainfall in the northern region and adjoining upstream parts of Bangladesh in the next 24-48 hours.

"As a result, the Dharla, the Dudhkumar, the Upper Karatoa, the Upper Atrai, the Punarvaba, the Kulikh, the Tangon, the Isamoti Jamuna, and the Jamuneswari rivers may rise rapidly at times during this period," according to a weather bulletin from the Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC)

"There is a chance of heavy rainfall in the northwestern region and adjoining upstream parts of Bangladesh in the next 24-48 hours. As a result, the Mohananda, the Little Jamuna, the Karatoa, the Atrai and the Gur rivers may rise rapidly at times during this period," said last morning's FFWC bulletin released at 9:00am.

In Lalmonirhat and Kurigram, low-lying areas of 21 unions have gone underwater, said locals and officials of the Water Development Board (WDB).

Teesta water started rising Wednesday noon after the Chungthang Dam in India's northeastern Sikkim collapsed. Teesta water crossed danger levels at different points of Kurigram and Lalmonirhat between Wednesday night and yesterday morning.

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