Israeli action in Gaza textbook ethnic cleansing

Bangladesh tells ICJ

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The dismantling of Israeli occupation of Palestine would address the root cause of Israel's violent subjugation of the Palestinian people, said Bangladesh before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on Tuesday.

"Bangladesh firmly believes that an advisory opinion on the questions posed by the UN General Assembly would undoubtedly represent a critical and logical step towards ending the illegal occupation," said Bangladesh Ambassador to the Netherlands M Riaz Hamidullah in a statement before the ICJ concerning the request by the UN General Assembly for an Advisory Opinion on the question of the "legal consequences arising from the policies and practices of Israel in the occupied Palestinian

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina poses for a photo with the Ekushey Padak recipients at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital yesterday.

CONFLICT IN MYANMAR

Lull across border, calm in Teknaf

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

People of Shahporir Dwip in Teknaf yesterday passed a day without any sound of explosion from the other side of the border where Myanmar government troops and rebel Arakan Army have been locked in fierce fighting since earlier this month.

"We heard no sound of explosions from Myanmar today and life is becoming normal day by day," said Abdus Salam, member of ward no. 9 of Sabrang union in Teknaf.

However, the area's fishermen are suffering as they are not allowed to go to the Naf river to catch fish due to the conflict along the Myanmar border, Salam said.

Around 50 small boats in the area used to fish in the

SEE PAGE 7 COL 4

Ashfaqul, wife denied bail **Human chains** demand justice for Preeti

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday denied bail to Executive Editor of The Daily Star Syed Ashfaqul Haque and his wife Tania Khondoker in a case over the death of Preeti Urang, a teenage domestic worker who fell from their flat in the capital's Mohammadpur on February 6.

Metropolitan Dhaka Magistrate Farah Diba Chanda passed the order after hearing the bail petition filed by the defence

SEE PAGE 7 COL 4

Extortion, clique jacking up prices of eggs, chicken

Says Bangladesh Poultry Association

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh **Poultry** Association has blamed extortion on roads and syndicates for the recent price hike of eggs and chicken.

At a press conference in Dhaka Reporters Unity yesterday, they demanded an end to police harassment and extortion during transportation to keep the prices of eggs and chicken stable during Ramadan.

In a statement, Sumon Howlader, president of the association, said Bangladesh Road Transport Authority permits



corporate groups to operate vehicles for transporting eggs, chicken, poultry feed, and chicks.

But the marginal farmers are not allowed. For this, they have to pay monthly the traffic department, highway police, police checkpoints, and some

dishonest police officers during transportation of their produce, he alleged. Besides, they also have to pay

the local extortionists. Their vehicles cannot run during the daytime, causing obstruction in transportation. This increases the transportation cost of eggs and chicken, which ultimately hikes the prices in the market, he explained.

At a recent meeting with secretaries of all ministries and divisions, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina directed the authorities to take stern action SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

Promote the ones selflessly serving society Says PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the people to promote the dedicated souls who are selflessly serving the society in different parts of the country.

"I would like to request you to try to find such dedicated persons in every place, who are out of the limelight and don't have any publicity or campaign," she said appreciating the sacrifice of Ekushey Padak-2024 yoghurt seller Ziaul Haque

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Civic activist Shamim gets bail, sued under CSA

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Civic activist and owner of a graphic design studio, Shamim Ashraf, arrested allegedly for designing posters against the city corporation and its mayor, was granted bail yesterday.

Mymensingh Senior Judicial Magistrate Tajul Islam Sohagh passed the order after hearing his bail petition, said District Court Inspector Md Shafiqul Islam.

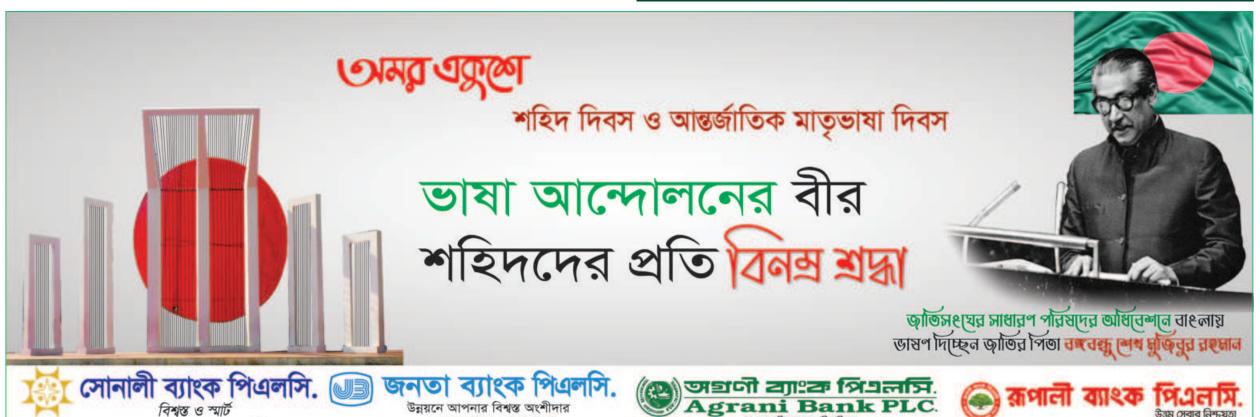
However, Kanchan Kumar Nandi, administrative officer of Mymensingh City SEE PAGE 7 COL 4



Members of BGB, Coast Guard and police on guard along the Naf river to prevent any kind of infiltration from Myanmar as the Junta troops and the Arakan Army fight on the other side of the border. The photo was taken at Shahporir Dwip jetty in Teknaf of Cox's Bazar around 12:30pm yesterday. PHOTO: MOKAMMEL SHUVO

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