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## Most people don't deem corruption as corruption

### Says ACC chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Most people do not consider corruption as corruption, which is the biggest problem, said Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman Mohammad Mainuddin Abdullah yesterday.

"We are trying to stamp out corruption. You [journalists] are also working against it [corruption]. But the biggest problem is that most people don't consider corruption to be corruption," he said.



Mainuddin Abdullah

The ACC chairman made the comment while speaking as the chief guest at the unveiling ceremony of magazine "Supoth" by Reporters Against Corruption (RAC) at the ACC headquarters.

He said those involved in graft should be identified, and the media has a greater responsibility in this regard.

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Students of Dhaka University's Faculty of Fine Arts are busy painting masks and models for Mangal Shobhajatra yesterday as preparations for the Bangla New Year celebrations getting momentum. The nation will celebrate Pehela Baishakh on April 14.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## 7-year-old murdered after rape in port city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police yesterday arrested a 37-year-old man for raping and murdering a seven-year-old girl in the CRB area of Chattogram city.

Police recovered the blood-stained body of Nasin Sukhi from a dustbin in BRTC Falmandi area on Monday night, said Atanu Chakraborty, assistant commissioner (Kotawali zone) of Chattogram Metropolitan Police.

From security camera footage of the area, police identified the suspect named Mir Hossen, a resident of the Bakalia area, and arrested him in less than 10 hours of finding the body, he added.

The suspect, who has a shop of scrap metal, admitted to officers that he had raped the girl and then strangled her to death.

"The victim, Sukhi, was a homeless child. She and her mother used to beg people for money in the Andarkilla area. She went missing on Sunday night," Atanu told this correspondent.

"There were multiple injury marks on her body, and the nature of the injuries indicate that she was raped."

"The suspect said he picked up the

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## PREETI'S DEATH 117 citizens call for fair probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One hundred seventeen citizens yesterday demanded a fair and expeditious investigation into the death of Preeti Urang, a 15-year-old house help of The Daily Star Executive Editor Syed Ashfaqul Haque.

In a statement, they condemned the "inactiveness" of police and "biased" coverage of some media outlets of the incident. They also demanded The Daily Star take administrative action against Ashfaqul for "appointing a child as domestic help".

Preeti, from Moulvibazar's Kamolganj upazila, died after she fell through an opening at Ashfaqul's eighth-floor flat in the capital's Mohammadpur on February 6.

Police took Ashfaqul and his wife Tania Khondoker into custody within hours of the incident. The next day, victim's father, a tea garden worker, filed a case with Mohammadpur Police Station against the couple under Section 304(a) of

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## Israeli airstrike kills seven aid workers

### World powers condemn; Netanyahu admits strike 'unintentionally' killed workers

AGENCIES

An Israel airstrike killed seven aid workers who were unloading food brought by sea to the Gaza Strip.

The World Central Kitchen (WCK) said its staff were pausing operations after the "targeted Israeli strike" on Monday killed Australian, British, Palestinian, Polish and US-Canadian staff.

AFP footage showed the impact hole of a strike in the roof of one charred vehicle, perforating the group's logo.

The Israeli military said it was "conducting a thorough review at the highest levels to understand the circumstances of this tragic incident", adding it had been "working closely with WCK".

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu admitted that its armed forces "unintentionally" killed seven aid workers in an airstrike in Gaza.

The United States and Britain led international criticism of the deadly strike in the Gaza Strip. The White House was "heartbroken", US National Security Council spokesperson Adrienne Watson wrote on X, stressing that relief workers "must be protected as they deliver aid that is desperately needed".

UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said he was "shocked and saddened" after learning that a Briton was among those killed. Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese also condemned the "completely

unacceptable" attack.

The aid workers' deaths came as fierce battles have left the largest hospital, Al-Shifa, in ruins with hundreds reported killed.

The United States said Monday that it had expressed concerns to Israel about its planned offensive in Gaza's crowded southern city of Rafah, and that Israel had pledged to "take these concerns into account".

Israel negotiators will return from talks in Cairo yesterday after a new proposal for a Gaza truce and hostage release was drafted, Netanyahu's office said.

Israel's military campaign has killed at least 32,845 people, mostly women and children, according to the health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza yesterday. The toll includes at least 71 deaths in 24 hours, it said.

During the Israeli offensive, Gaza has been under a tight blockade, with the United Nations accusing Israel of preventing humanitarian aid deliveries and warning of catastrophic hunger.

Newborn mortality is rising sharply in the Gaza Strip, with Organization said yesterday, citing medics on the ground.

Foreign governments have ramped up deliveries by air and sea, although UN agencies have said repeatedly

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- 71 more Palestinians killed in Israeli strikes in 24 hours
- Israel agrees to consider US concerns about Rafah offensive
- WHO reports sharp rise in newborn deaths in Gaza
- Death toll in enclave rises to 32,916

## Take punitive action against Nokla UNO

### Info commission asks public admin ministry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Information Commission yesterday recommended punitive departmental action against Nokla upazila nirbahi officer for failing to provide information sought by a journalist under the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

The commission made the recommendation to the Ministry of Public Administration after holding a hearing at its office yesterday.

Shafiuzzaman Rana, 45, Nokla correspondent for Bangla daily Desh Rupantor, was jailed for six months by a mobile court, led by Shihabul Arif, assistant commissioner (land), for "misconduct" while seeking information from the UNO office on March 5.

He was, however, released from jail eight days later, after the incident sparked outrage among various journalist organisations.

The Information Commission in a press

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## 'Artificial sun' sets record at 100 million degrees

CNN ONLINE

Scientists in South Korea have announced a new world record for the length of time they sustained temperatures of 100 million degrees Celsius — seven times hotter than the sun's core — during a nuclear fusion experiment, in what they say is an important step forward for this futuristic energy technology.



Nuclear fusion seeks to replicate the reaction that makes the sun and other stars shine, by fusing together two atoms to unleash huge amounts of energy.

Often referred to as the holy grail of climate solutions, clean energy, fusion has the potential to provide limitless energy without planet-warming carbon pollution. But mastering the process on Earth is extremely challenging.

The most common way of achieving fusion energy involves a donut-shaped reactor called a tokamak in which hydrogen variants are heated to extraordinarily high temperatures to create a plasma.

High temperature and high density plasmas, in which reactions can occur for long durations, are vital for the future of nuclear fusion reactors, said Si Woo Yoon, director of the KSTAR Research Centre at the Korean Institute of Fusion Energy (KFE), which achieved the new record.

Sustaining these high temperatures "has not been easy to demonstrate due to the unstable nature of the high temperature plasma," he told CNN, which is why this recent record is so significant.

## ARUNACHAL PRADESH India rejects China's renaming of 30 places

REUTERS, New Delhi

India rejected China's renaming of about 30 places in its northeastern Himalayan state of Arunachal Pradesh yesterday, calling the move "senseless" and reaffirming that the border province is an "integral" part of India.

Beijing says Arunachal Pradesh, which it calls Zangnan, is a part of South Tibet — a claim New Delhi has repeatedly dismissed. China similarly ratcheted up tensions a year ago by giving Chinese names to 11 locations in the state.

Troops of the nuclear-armed neighbours engaged in minor scuffles along their disputed frontier in the state in December 2022, and tensions eased after extensive military and diplomatic talks.

Yet the state is frequently the cause of friction between the Asian giants whose ties have nosedived since a bloody border clash between their troops in the western Himalayas in 2020.

China, in a statement on Saturday, said it had standardised the names of about 30 places in what it calls South Tibet, "in accordance with the relevant regulations on place name management of the State Council".

"Assigning invented names will not alter the reality that Arunachal Pradesh is, has been, and will always be an integral and inalienable part of India," foreign ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said yesterday.

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United Nations staff members inspect the wreckage of a car used by US-based aid group World Central Kitchen, that was hit by an Israeli strike the previous day in Deir al-Balah in the central Gaza Strip yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Fardin's death: Family unhappy over CID's progress

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Prime Bank

**PRAYER TIMING**  
APRIL 3

	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	4:32	12:45	4:45	6:19	7:45
JAMAAT	4:42	1:15	5:00	6:29	8:15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

**SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING**

	RAMADAN	APRIL	SEHRI	IFTAR
23		3		6:19
24		4	4:26	6:19
25		5	4:24	6:20