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Greater resilience needed to build a safer world PM says at UN climate conference in Dhaka



UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called for increasing adaptive capacity and strengthening resilience to build a safe and beautiful world for future generations.

"We aim to build a safe and beautiful world for future generations. Achieving this goal requires increasing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience, and undertaking coordinated risk reduction initiatives," she said.

The prime minister said this while inaugurating the four-day UN Climate Adaptation Conference National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Expo 2024 at Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC)

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SUMMER ROYALTY ... The country is adorned with the beautiful Krishnachura flowers, commonly known as Royal poinciana, just when summer hits. The warm season brings with it an array of flowers, such as Krishnachura, Jarul, Sonalu and Radhachura, in full bloom, offering some visual respite amid the heat and humidity. The photo was taken at Khulna's Khalishpur yesterday.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

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26th death anniversary of Shazneen today



STAR REPORT

Today is the 26th death anniversary of Shazneen Tasnim Rahman.

On this day in 1998, 15-year-old Shazneen was raped and brutally murdered in a premeditated manner at her home in Gulshan.

She was the daughter of late Latifur Rahman, former chairman of Transcom Group, and Shahnaz Rahman, current chairman of the group. Shazneen was the youngest among four siblings. Her elder sister Simeen Rahman is the chief executive officer of Transcom.

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Abu Saeed Khan passes away

MAHMUDUL HASAN

The country's leading telecom policy expert Abu Saeed Khan died at the Combined Military Hospital in the capital yesterday morning after a battle with cancer.

He was 62. He left behind a legacy of advocacy for telecom policy reforms and stance against corruption.

Saeed was diagnosed with lung cancer around a year ago. He was admitted to CMH on March 30 as his condition deteriorated, his son Taufiq Mahmood Don told The Daily Star yesterday.

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Israel carries out heavy shelling in Gaza

Netanyahu vows 'painful blows' on Hamas to free hostages; 54 more Palestinians killed

AGENCIES

Gaza was hit by heavy Israeli shelling yesterday, with strikes reported in several areas in the centre and south of the besieged territory, as Prime Minister Netanyahu vowed "painful blows" on Hamas to free hostages.

Israel's military intelligence chief General Aharon Haliva resigned yesterday for failing to prevent the Hamas attack on October 7.

"The intelligence division under my command did not live up to the task we were entrusted with," Haliva said in his resignation letter. "I carry that black day with me ever since."

Israel has meanwhile lashed out at reports that its top ally the United States was considering sanctioning the military's ultra-Orthodox Netzah Yehuda battalion over alleged human rights abuses in the West Bank from before the offensive.

"At a time when our soldiers are fighting the monsters of terror, the intention to impose a sanction on a unit in the IDF (army) is the height of absurdity and a moral low," Netanyahu posted on X.

- Israeli military intel chief quits
- Netanyahu defiant as US mulling sanctioning Israeli military unit
- Death toll in enclave rises to 34,151

Netanyahu said late Sunday that the Israeli military would increase military pressure to "deliver additional and painful blows" to Hamas in the coming days, without elaborating further.

The prime minister has repeatedly

said Israel will launch a ground assault on Gaza's southernmost city of Rafah, despite international concern about the majority of the territory's population who have taken refuge there.

Doctors at the Al-Aqsa Hospital in the Gaza city of Deir El Balah told AFP that six people were wounded in an Israeli airstrike in central Gaza, while three more were injured by a separate strike on the Al-Bureij refugee camp.

The health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza said yesterday that at least 34,151 people have been killed in the territory during more than six months of offensive. The tally includes at least 54 deaths in the past 24 hours, a ministry statement said.

Israel's allies including Washington have warned against sending troops into Rafah, fearing huge civilian casualties in the only major Gaza city yet to be invaded during the offensive.

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B'BARIA BORDER Bangladeshi shot dead by BSF

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

A Bangladeshi youth was shot dead by members of the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) along the Kasba border of Brahmanbaria last morning.

The deceased was identified as Hasan Miah, 26, of Kaiumpur village in Kasba upazila.

The incident took place in the Putia border area of Bayek Union around 9:30am, Kasba Police Station's Officer-in-Charge (OC) Raju Ahmed and sources at Bangladesh Border Guard confirmed media.

Commander of BGB Battalion-60 Lt Col Jaber Bin Jabbar, "We are investigating the matter. Details will be given later," the BGB official added.

According to local sources, Hasan is a sugar smuggler. BSF opened fire on him when he was

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2 Cuet students die as bus hits motorbike

Another critically injured; fellows torch a bus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two students of Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (Cuet) were killed and another was injured in a road accident yesterday.

The incident took place when their motorbike collided head-on with a bus on the Chattogram-Kaptai Road in the Saptapir shrine area of Rangunia upazila around 3:30pm, said police.

The deceased are Shanto Saha and Taufiq Hossain of the civil engineering department.

The injured student, Zakaria, a student of the same department, is undergoing treatment at a private hospital in port city.

Chandan Kumar, officer-in-charge of Rangunia Police Station, said the three were travelling from Kaptai to Cuet on a motorbike. When they reached the Saptapir Shrine area, their bike collided with a bus of Shah Amanat Paribahan heading to Rangunia from Chattogram.

Shanto died on the spot while Taufiq was on the way to a hospital, he added. Zakaria's condition is critical. Police seized the bus but the driver fled the scene.

Meanwhile, students blocked the road in front of Cuet for two hours after the incident. A bus of Shah Amanat Paribahan was also torched during this time, said OC Jahid Hasan of Raozan Police Station.

INDIA POLLS CAMPAIGN Congress seeks action against Modi for remarks on Muslims

REUTERS, New Delhi

India's main opposition Congress party yesterday petitioned the Election Commission to act against Prime Minister Narendra Modi for making what it said were "deeply objectionable" comments about Muslims that violated election laws.

Modi, who is seeking a rare third consecutive term, referred to Muslims as "infiltrators" during a campaign speech on Sunday, drawing widespread criticism from opposition groups.

In his speech, Modi said the Congress election manifesto promised to confiscate and redistribute the wealth of Indians, which it denies.

Modi said if the party adhered to remarks in 2006 of then Congress Prime Minister Manmohan Singh that minority Muslims should have the "first claim on resources" to share in the fruits of development, then wealth would be distributed to "infiltrators" and those who have "more children".

Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and its affiliates often refer to Muslim militants illegally crossing the border from Pakistan as infiltrators.

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People walk with salvaged items past destroyed buildings in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

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AMASSING WEALTH ACC opens enquiry into allegations against ex-IGP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission has launched an enquiry into the allegations of amassing illegal wealth against former Inspector General of Police Benazir Ahmed.

It formed a three-member committee to investigate the allegations, ACC Secretary Khorsheda Yasmin told reporters at a press briefing at its headquarters in the capital yesterday.

The three members are ACC Deputy Director Hafizul Islam, assistant directors Niamul Ahsan Gazi, and Zainal Abedin.

"On March 31, a report of amassing illegal wealth against Benazir Ahmed was published in a national daily. Later, reports on similar allegations were run by some other media," said Khorsheda.

In a meeting on April 18, the ACC approved probe into the allegations of illegal acquisition of wealth by Benazir, she said.



Benazir Ahmed