



**WITH BSRM FASTBUILD  
YOUR HOME WILL BE BUILT ON TIME  
WITH THE BEST QUALITY RODS**



**COMPLETE  
GUIDANCE APP FOR  
HOME BUILDING**



Available on the  
Google Play | App Store

## Will Tigers cash in on lucky break?

ASHTAQ-UL-ALAM

"If I get in the zone, I'll go for it."

The stump microphone caught Mahmudullah Riyad saying this to his partner Shakib Al Hasan in Bangla right before taking stance against off-spinner Dhananjaya De Silva to face the final ball of the 16th over in Bangladesh's chase against Sri Lanka in their ICC Men's T20 World Cup match in Dallas yesterday.

The required rate was below five runs per over at the time and the team was already five wickets down, meaning there was no real need to go for an extravagant shot, but Mahmudullah had already made up his mind.

Mahmudullah, however, could not "go for it" at the time but he finally got one "in the zone" in the first ball of the 19th over, when medium pacer Dasun Shanaka dished out a full toss which he dispatched to the stands,

SEE PAGE 6 COL 3



Mahmudullah Riyad clenches his fist after guiding Bangladesh to a thrilling two-wicket victory against Sri Lanka in their Twenty20 World Cup Group D match at the Grand Prairie Cricket Stadium in Texas yesterday.

PHOTO: BCB

## LEGALISING BLACK MONEY It encourages corruption

SANEM says

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The opportunity to legalise undisclosed money with no questions asked will discourage compliant taxpayers and encourage corruption, said the South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM).

The non-profit research organisation made the observation in its analysis of the proposed national budget for 2024-25 fiscal year at a media briefing at the capital's BRAC Centre Inn yesterday.

"The budgetary provision for legalising black money will encourage corruption. We appeal to the lawmakers to oppose the provision proposed in the finance bill," said Selim Raihan, executive director of SANEM.

According to the proposal, taxpayers, including companies and firms, will get the opportunity to legalise their undisclosed income in the next fiscal year without having to face any questions from the authorities concerned about the sources.

No authority will raise questions if a person pays a 15 percent tax on cash, bank deposits, financial securities, or any other forms of wealth. Amnesty will be granted to those who would invest their undisclosed income in properties such as land, buildings and flats. They will have to pay tax at specific rates, depending on the size and location of the properties, according to the Finance Bill 2024.

Raihan, also a professor of economics at Dhaka University, said that there is no reflection of a proper assessment of the economy in the proposed budget.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 3

## POST-POLLS INDIA Rahul nominated as leader of opposition 'BJP allies to get 6 posts in new cabinet'

AGENCIES

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's chief rival Rahul Gandhi was nominated to lead India's opposition in parliament yesterday after an election result that rescued his party from the political wilderness.

Modi will be sworn into office for a third term this weekend following a poll that deprived his ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of a majority, forcing it to rely on coalition allies to govern.

Gandhi defied analysts' expectations and exit polls to help his Congress party nearly double its parliamentary numbers, its best result since Modi was swept to power a decade ago.

A meeting of the Congress leadership yesterday voted unanimously to recommend Rahul Gandhi's election as India's official opposition leader, a post that had been left vacant since 2014.

"All participants unanimously passed the resolution that Rahul Gandhi should take the position of leader of opposition in the parliament," Congress general secretary KC Venugopal told a news conference afterwards.

The nomination was set to be put before a meeting of lawmakers belonging to a Congress-led opposition alliance later in the day.

Rahul is the scion of the dynasty that dominated Indian politics for decades and is the son, grandson and great grandson of former prime ministers, beginning with independence leader Jawaharlal Nehru.

If elected, as expected, he will be recognised as India's official opposition leader when the new parliament sits, which local media reports suggest will happen as soon as

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

## Cop shoots another cop dead in Baridhara

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A police constable was shot dead by his colleague near the Palestinian embassy in the capital's Baridhara around 11:45pm last night.

Police detained constable Kawsar Ahmed in connection with shooting constable Monirul dead.

They also cordoned off the area.

Both the policemen were on duty in front of the embassy.

"We are investigating the incident," Harun Or Rashid, additional commissioner (Detective Branch) of the DMP, told reporters at the spot around 1:00am today.

A passerby and a driver working for an embassy also sustained gunshot wounds and were taken to a nearby hospital for treatment, said, Mazharul Islam, officer-in-charge of Gulshan Police Station.

Hasan Ahmed, a journalist, told The Daily Star, "On our way home from work, we saw a policeman lying on the road near the Palestinian

SEE PAGE 6 COL 7

## Israel kills 210 Gazans to rescue 4 hostages

Abbas calls for emergency UNSC session on 'bloody massacre'

REUTERS, Jerusalem, Cairo

Israeli forces rescued four hostages held by Hamas since October in a raid in Gaza yesterday while over 200 Palestinians were killed in airstrikes in the same area, according to Hamas officials, in one of the bloodiest Israeli assaults of the war.

It was not immediately clear if the hostage rescue and the Israeli air assault were part of the same operation but both took place in central Gaza's al-Nuseirat, a densely built-up and often embattled area in the eight-month-old war between Israel and Hamas, the Palestinian territory's ruling Islamist group.

An Israeli military spokesperson said the hostage rescue operation unfolded under fire in the heart of a residential neighbourhood, where he said Hamas had been hiding captives among Gaza civilians under guard by armed militants.

Israeli forces returned fire, including with airstrikes, added the spokesperson, Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari. An Israeli special forces commander was killed during the operation, a police statement said.

Israel named the rescued hostages as Noa Argamani, 26, Almog Meir Jan, 22, Andrey Kozlov, 27, and Shlomi Ziv, 41. They were taken to hospital for medical checks and were in good health, the military said.

» Witnesses say airstrikes targeted marketplace, mosque

» Palestinian death toll in Gaza rises to 36,801

» Israel says rescued hostages all in good health

They were all kidnapped from the Nova music festival during the raid by Hamas-led Palestinian groups on Israeli towns and villages near Gaza on Oct 7.

Since then, Israel's bombardment and invasion of Gaza has killed at least 36,801 Palestinians, according to an updated tally by the territory's health ministry yesterday.

The rescue of the hostages was cheered by all across Israel.

A different picture unfolded back in Gaza, where Palestinian health ministry officials and local medics said that an Israeli military assault in Nuseirat had killed scores of people including women and children.

The ministry did not say how many of the fatalities were Hamas members.

The Hamas-run government media office in Gaza said later the death toll had risen to at least 210 Palestinians with many more wounded, after medics and health officials gave earlier tolls of up to 100 dead. There was no immediate confirmation of the highest figure from Gaza's health ministry.

After the bloodshed, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas called for an emergency UN Security Council session on "the bloody massacre that was carried out by the Israeli forces" at the al-Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza.

Social media footage that Reuters could not immediately verify showed bodies spilling entrails onto bloodstained streets.

## Swiatek wins 3rd straight French Open title



AFP, Paris

Poland's Iga Swiatek extended her French Open reign on Saturday as she thrashed Jasmine Paolini 6-2, 6-1 in the final to win her third successive Roland Garros title.

World number one Swiatek dominated Italian 12th seed Paolini, a first-time Grand Slam finalist, needing just 68 minutes to capture a fourth crown in five years in Paris.

Swiatek has now won all five Grand Slam finals she has contested. Her other victory came at the 2022 US Open.

She is the fourth woman

SEE PAGE 6 COL 3

## Benazir's resort now under Gopalganj administration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gopalganj administration has taken control of Benazir Ahmed and his family's Savanna Eco Resort and Natural Park.

The development comes after Dhaka court on Thursday ordered appointment of administrators to look after the confiscated properties of the former inspector general of police and his family members.

The court asked the Anti-Corruption Commission to take charge of Benazir's four flats.

In Gopalganj, Deputy Commissioner Kazi Mahbubul Alam said the fisheries office was looking after fish enclosures, agriculture office the farm lands and the administration the resort.

Once a copy of the court order reaches Gopalganj administration, officials will form a committee to manage the properties and deposit the proceeds to a bank account, he added.

Meanwhile, the ACC filed a case accusing a Savanna employee of stealing fish from the confiscated park. The accused, Shafiqul Islam, is the fisheries officer of Savanna.

Booking manager of the resort Muhammed Sabbir said the resort had been closed since June 3 at the authorities' direction.

ACC sources said the court had not appointed administrators to look after the Gulshan flats on "humanitarian grounds" as Benazir and his family members live there.



A child, injured in an Israeli strike, is being assisted at Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in the central Gaza Strip yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

## 123 illegal Bangladeshis detained in Malaysia

THE STAR/ANN

A total of 214 illegal immigrants, including 123 Bangladeshis, have been arrested by Malaysia's Johor Immigration Department during raids on workers' settlements near Kampung Belokok and Jalan Lingkar Dalam in Johor Baru.

Immigration Deputy Director General (Operations) Jafri Embok Taha said 140 officers and department personnel conducted the first raid at 12:45am (Malaysia time) yesterday.

He added that the department has also arrested two local men for harbouring illegal immigrants.

"The raid in Kampung Belokok was based on a public tip-off regarding illegal immigrants in the area. This was followed by two weeks of surveillance

SEE PAGE 6 COL 7