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Once a victim himself, Noyon now fights trafficking

Bangladeshi man wins US state dept award



DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Once a victim of human trafficking, Al-Amin Noyon is now a source of hope for thousands of survivors. Recognising his unique contribution in combating human trafficking, the US government has awarded him the Trafficking in Persons Hero Award. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken handed over the award to Noyon at the annual TIP report launching ceremony in Washington DC last night. "We thank the nine TIP Heroes who have made significant changes to the lives of people across the world," said Blinken.

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Rohit Sharma wreaked havoc with a 41-ball 92 as India posted 205 for five before the bowlers restricted Australia to 181 for seven to win their Super Eight fixture of the T20 World Cup by 24 runs at Daren Sammy National Cricket Stadium in Saint Lucia by yesterday, thereby booking a semifinals berth.

PHOTO: BCCI

Rampaging Rohit leads India into semis

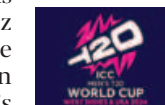
REUTERS

India marched into the T20 World Cup semifinals on Monday after skipper Rohit Sharma's blistering 92 set up their 24-run victory over Australia, who are now on the brink of elimination.

Rohit clobbered eight sixes in his 41-ball blitz to lay the foundation for India's imposing 205 5, their highest total in the tournament, in Gros Islet, St Lucia.

Travis Head led Australia's chase with a belligerent 76 but India managed to restrict them to 181-7 to remain unbeaten in the tournament.

The Super Eight clash between two former champion teams had assumed greater importance after Afghanistan stunned Australia on Saturday to



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ADC suspended for 'disciplinary rules violation'

He gave journo NID details of ex-DMP chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Additional Deputy Commissioner Jisanul Haque of the city special branch and protection unit of the Gazipur Metropolitan Police has been suspended for breaching disciplinary rules.

The Public Security Division of the home ministry suspended him after the Police Headquarters requested his suspension and departmental action. The PHQ accused Jisanul of providing a journalist with personal details of ex-DMP commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia, which were stored in the National Telecommunication Monitoring Centre (NTMC).

The ministry issued a circular, signed by Jahangir Alam, secretary to the Public Security Division, on Sunday stating that primarily the allegations against Jisanul have been found to be true.

On June 19, the PHQ wrote to the secretary saying Jisanul had asked an assistant sub-inspector of the Lawful Intersection Cell of the GMP for the National Identity Card (NID) details of Asaduzzaman against his mobile phone number.

The sub-inspector downloaded NID card details from the NTMC and provided

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Israeli tanks push into north, west of Rafah

28 more Palestinians, including senior Gaza health official, killed in bombing

REUTERS, Cairo

An Israeli air strike at a medical clinic in Gaza City killed the director of Gaza's Ambulance and Emergency Department, the enclave's health ministry said yesterday, while Israel's military said the strike had killed a senior Hamas armed commander.

In Rafah, near the border with Egypt, Israeli forces which took control of the eastern, southern, and central parts of the city pursued their raid with tanks into the western and northern areas, said residents, describing heavy fighting.

The health ministry in Gaza said the killing of Hani al-Jaafarawi brought the number of medical staff killed by Israeli fire since October 7 to 500. At least 300 others have so far been detained.

In a statement, the Israeli military said the strike targeted Mohammad Salah, who it said was responsible for developing Hamas weaponry.

"Salah was part of a project to develop strategic weaponry for the Hamas terrorist organisation, and he commanded a number

of Hamas terrorist squads that worked on developing weapons," it said. More than eight months into the fighting, international mediation backed by the United States has so far failed to bring a ceasefire agreement. Hamas says any agreement must bring an end to the offensive, while Israel says it will agree only temporary pauses in fighting until Hamas is eradicated.

In the north of the enclave, where Israel had said its forces completed operations months ago, residents said tanks had pushed back into Gaza City's Zeitoun suburb and were pounding several areas there.

The health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza said yesterday that at least 37,626 people have been killed during more than eight months of offensive. The toll includes at least 28 deaths over the past 24 hours, a ministry statement said.

Since early May, fighting has focused on Rafah, on Gaza's southern edge where around half of the enclave's 2.3 million people had been sheltering after fleeing other areas.

- Offensive won't end till Hamas no longer controls Gaza: Netanyahu
- 500 medical staff killed by Israeli fire since Oct 7
- Gaza death toll rises to 37,626

Foreigners sent home \$130.6m in 10 months of FY24

Says finance minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Foreigners living in Bangladesh remitted \$130.58 million to their respective countries in the first 10 months of the 2023-24 fiscal year, Finance Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali told parliament yesterday.

Among them, Indian citizens remitted \$50.60 million, he said responding to a query from independent MP AK Azad from Faridpur 3.

Mahmood said info about foreign nationals' annual income is not stored at Bangladesh Bank.

He said Chinese nationals living in Bangladesh remitted \$14.56 million, Sri Lankans \$12.71 million, Japanese \$6.89 million, South Koreans \$6.21 million, Thais \$5.30 million, UK nationals \$3.59 million, Pakistanis \$3.24 million, US citizens \$3.17 million, Malaysians \$2.40 million, and citizens of other countries sent home \$21.92 million during the same period.

56 state entities owe Tk 51,391cr to banks

Finance minister informs JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As many as 56 government-owned organisations owed about Tk 51,391 crore to different public and private banks as of March 31, Finance Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali told parliament yesterday.

Of the total 56 government organisations, the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation owes the highest amount: Tk 15,550 crore, he said in response to a query from ruling Awami League MP Morshed Alam from Noakhali-2.

Dhaka University of Engineering and Technology owes the least amount to banks: Tk 78 lakh.

The state-owned sugar mills owe Tk 7,813 crore, while the fertiliser, chemical and pharmaceutical industries owe Tk 7,250.71 crore.

The Trading Corporation of Bangladesh owes Tk 5,018.06 crore, Biman Bangladesh Airlines Tk 4,441.38 crore, the food ministry Tk 644.80 crore and the Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation Tk 603.41 crore.

Bangladesh Machine Tools Factory, a commercial automobile assembly plant of the Bangladesh Army, owe Tk 587.03 crore and Bangladesh Services, the parent company of Intercontinental Dhaka, Tk 580.10 crore.

Dhaka Electric Supply Company owe Tk 277.60 crore, Equity and Entrepreneurship Fund Tk 265.95 crore and Jahangirnagar University Tk 144.78 crore.

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BPSA statement a moral support for the corrupt

Says NOAB

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Police Service Association's (BPSA) statement on some recent news about amassing of unusual wealth by former and current police personnel has further tarnished the image of the police force and provided moral support to the corrupt officials, said the Newspaper Owners' Association of Bangladesh.

In a press release, signed by NOAB President AK Azad and Vice-President ASM Shahidullah Khan, the association yesterday said the media has been threatened in the name of requesting to be more careful in publishing any report about the police force, and it is against the practice of independent media and impartial journalism.

Several reports, run by different media outlets about the acquisition of unusual wealth by former and current police personnel, have sparked discussion across the country.

In response, the BPSA on Friday sent copies of a letter to different media outlets, expressing concern.

In the letter, the BPSA urged journalists to refrain from publishing

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Buses heading towards Mohakhali intersection block the ramp of Mohakhali Flyover, not in picture, in the capital's Chairmanbari area, leading to tailbacks on this busy road. The photo was taken around noon yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Form special commission to stop rampant corruption

Menon asks govt in JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon yesterday in parliament demanded the government form a special commission to stop the scourge of corruption in the country.

"There's no way to deny that the corruption of the former police chief and army chief is only the tip of the iceberg. If this spread of corruption is not stopped by taking special measures now, the country's progress will be crushed by the iceberg."

Menon, also a key leader in the ruling AL-led 14-party alliance, made the remarks at a general discussion on the proposed budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

The veteran politician also mentioned the statement made by the Bangladesh Police Service Association, saying, "Unfortunately, journalists are being rebuked for reporting on corruption."

He also called for the confiscation of corrupt people's assets and the formation

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