Curfew

FROM PAGE 3

The curfew will be relaxed from 7:00am to 8:00pm from Wednesday to Saturday. Besides, the education minister will decide when the educational institutions will open. Considering the technical issues, the state minister for ICT will decide when the internet will be fully restored," he said.

The nearly three-and-a-half-hour-long meeting, attended by the seven ministers and state ministers, started around 3:20pm.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Railway (BR) will resume operations of passenger trains on a limited scale from tomorrow, around two weeks after the service was suspended.

Some local, mail and commuter trains will be operated on the short-distance routes during the break of the ongoing curfew, Railways Minister Zillul Hakim said yesterday.

However, no decision regarding the intercity train service was taken, he told reporters after a meeting with the officials of his ministry and railway at Rail Bhaban.

PRAYER TIMING
JULY 31

	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	4-20	12-45	5-00	6-50	8-15
JAMAAT	4-55	1-15	5-15	6-55	8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Business picks up for boat makers

SUZIT DAS, *Faridpur*

The century-old Bhanga Boat Market in Faridpur's Bhanga municipality is going through a busy time amid rise in demand for boats in monsoon.

Every year since the British era, the famed market opens twice a week on Mondays and Fridays between June and September, in Chiladharchar area on the bank of Kumar river near Dhaka-Barishal Highway.

Hundreds of boat makers, sellers and buyers from Faridpur, Madaripur, Gopalganj and other neighbouring districts gather at the market to buy and sell boats for communication in riverine areas of the country's southern region, said Hafizul Mia, a leaseholder of the market.

Visiting the boat market recently, this correspondent saw at least 200 boats of different sizes were on sale.

Many people came to the market as visitors alongside buyers and sellers who were engaged in bargaining.

"I have made 30 boats with help of an assistant in last one month. Today, I brought three boats to this market, and sold two of those at Tk 5,000 each," said Goutam Mandol, 50, a boat-maker from Brahmapara village under Bhanga upazila.

Babul Mandol, 42, another boat-maker from the same area, said their boats are made from Raintree and Chambal wood at a cost of around Tk 4,000-4,200 each.

Jagadish Mandol, 69, of Azimnagar area, said, "I have been selling boats in this boat market for last 45 years. Even though the demand for boats is no longer like it was before, I continued to remain engaged in my ancestral profession."

Ratan Sheikh, 37, of Dangarpara village under Bhanga upazila, came to the market to zzbuy a boat. "I am a jute cultivator. I needed a boat to transport my jute from the cropland, and bought one for Tk 6,000," he said.

Amir Khan, 50, a boat trader in the market, said he purchases boats from Barishal and sells those in the market for Tk 5,500-7,500 each. He makes a profit of Tk 300-500 from each boat.

"The boat market becomes busy during monsoon, but not as much as it used to be in its heyday. Once I could sell 15-20 boats on a single day, but now it is tough to sell even half the number," he added.

BANNING JAMAAT-SHIBIR

Govt trying to distract people

Says Fakhrul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is bringing the issue of banning Jamaat-Shibir to distract people from the current situation, said BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday.

"Why did the government not ban Jamaat before? Why are they taking the decision now after so many years," he asked.

He said this in response to journalists' questions at a press conference yesterday afternoon at the BNP Chairperson's office in Gulshan.

"The government creates such issues to divert attention of people," he added.

Fakhrul said, "BNP believes in multi-party democracy. It is the responsibility of the people to decide whose politics they will accept and whose they won't. For this, a free, fair, and acceptable election is needed."

Referring to the ban on the Communist Party during Pakistan era, Fakhrul said, "Authoritarian regimes are the ones that resort to such decisions; they feel compelled to make such moves."

In response to a journalist's question about BNP's stance as an ally regarding the ban on Jamaat, Fakhrul stated, "This issue is not our concern; it is the government's decision."

Nirmul Committee and Gonojagoron Mancha welcome the decision

STAFF CORRESPONDEENT

The Ekattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee and Gonojagoron Mancha have welcomed the government's move to ban Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir.

The Nirmul Committee, following a joint meeting with advisory councils and central committee members, led by Shyamoli Nasrin Chowdhury, yesterday said they welcomed the move, although the government has delayed in making the decision.

They urged for these groups to be recognised as war criminal organisations through trials by the International Crimes Tribunal.

In a press release, they also called for a commission, including a Supreme Court judge, to investigate Jamaat and its affiliate parties for killing, torturing, and creating anarchy.

The committee emphasised the need to probe the financial, social, and cultural institutions controlled by war criminals and Jamaat-Shibir.

Gonojagoron Mancha similarly welcomed the government's decision.

"We have learned from media sources that the 14-party alliance unanimously decided to ban the politics of Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir on July 29," said Imran H Sarkar, the platform's spokesperson.

"Banning Jamaat-Shibir's politics was one of the demands of Gonojagoron Mancha, which started on February 5, 2013," Sarkar added.

Abba will come

FROM PAGE 3

"I cannot bear the pain when Sayma says, 'abba ashbe, aam niye' (father will return with mangoes)," said Rahima Akter, Saiful's widow.

A father of three children, Saiful worked as a sharecropper to support his five-member family.

Hailing from the remote Chak Dhakirkanda village in Mymensingh's Phulpur upazila, he was unaware of the unrest gripping the country at the time.

On the day, Saiful along with his elder brother Shahidul Islam went to Amuakanda Bazar to sell their paddy.

After selling their crops, they sensed a commotion near the Amuakanda Bridge area. Before he could even figure out what was happening, Saiful was shot on the right side of his forehead.

Saiful was taken to Phulpur Upazila Health Complex, but doctors referred him to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital. On the way to the hospital, Saiful died, said Shahidul Islam.

Saiful was buried at their family graveyard.

"My children have lost their father. Who will take the responsibility of my three children?" asked Rahima, weeping.

"My brother has no connection with politics or the protest. Yet, he died by the bullets of police," said Hafizul.

We miss him

FROM PAGE 3

"On July 18, a clash ensued in the evening between police and ruling Awami League activists on one side and protesters demanding quota reform on the other, near Ahsan's office in Cox's Bazar town," said his uncle Masud Siddique.

"At around 7:00pm, after hearing gunshots, Ahsan came out of his room in the office to an open space on the second floor of the building, when a bullet hit him in the neck. He was taken to Cox's Bazar General Hospital from where someone informed me over the phone," he added.

"I immediately went to the hospital, where doctors advised us to take him to Chattogram Medical College Hospital since his condition was critical. We hired an ambulance and were on the way to the hospital when he passed away around 1:00am," Masud said.

"It was a terrible blow to the family. Ahsan was not involved in any political or criminal activity. He was working hard, alongside continuing his studies, to support his family. His parents have become shell-shocked since they came to know of Ahsan's untimely demise," he added.

Contacted, Md Ziaur Rahman, deputy manager of BRB Cables in Cox's Bazar where Ahsan worked, said Ahsan was an office assistant of their organisation.

David Hasanat

FROM PAGE 3

him with proper treatment as per the jail code after his lawyer submitted an application in this regard.

On July 25, another Dhaka court placed David on a five-day remand in the case.

In the forwarding report, the IO said David gave important information about the incident, which is being verified. The IO appealed to the court to confine him to jail until the investigation is completed.

David started his garment business in 1996 and over the last three decades, he diversified his business empire to power generation, tea estate, educational institution, agriculture, engineering and banking sector.

Viyellatex Group's garment section is known for its green garment initiative with the reuse of steam heat, reuse of water, harvesting the rainwater and planting trees for compensation to the carbon emission.

The group's export is more than $400 million apart from its local business conglomerate. According to the Viyellatex website, his company employs over 300 management staff and over 15,000 workers.

A relative of David, requesting anonymity, said they do not know exactly why he has been arrested as they think he was not involved with any such activities.

Invitation to submit proposals for two Request for Proposals (RFPs) issued by UNICEF Bangladesh

RFP No. LRPS-2024-9191852: To provide technical support to SBC capacity building strategy implementation-Phase-1.

UNICEF Bangladesh is inviting interested companies with a strong track record and professional credibility of providing the above-required services under one contract. To receive the detailed scope of work and procedure to submit the bid response, please email to **supplybangladesh@unicef.org**

The pre-bid meeting schedule and bid submissions deadlines are mentioned in the respective bid document.

Please note UNICEF does not charge any fee at any stage of the solicitation process.

www.unicef.org/bangladesh

unicef | for every child

Waste being dumped near KU's main

FROM PAGE 5

Like Munna, 11 others also collect wastes from around 2,500 families in the locality.

Ashiquazzaman Ashiq, former chairman of the local Jalma union parishad, said, "We do not have any dumping ground or STS (Secondary Transfer Station) in the area. So, local collectors dump those here. Shopkeepers of Gallamari kitchen market also do the same."

"We charge Tk 100 from each house for the salary of waste collectors and other maintenance. However, the city corporation should collect the wastes from the spot regularly," he added.

Sadhon Chandran Swarnokar, assistant professor of KU's environmental science department, stressed that such unchecked waste dumping adversely impacts the environment in numerous ways, including polluting soil and air, and potentially contaminating any nearby water sources.

"KCC must develop a well-managed waste management policy," he added.

Anwarul Kadir, a civil society member and educationist, echoed him.

Md Anisur Rahman, chief conservancy officer of KCC, said, "The dumping spot is located outside the city corporation area. However, we still collect wastes from there regularly. The local union parishad should construct a STS to solve the issue."

Will take

FROM PAGE 3

The prime minister made these remarks while German Ambassador to Bangladesh Achim Tröster visited her at Gono Bhaban.

PM's Press Secretary M Nayeemul Islam Khan briefed reporters.

The government has formed a judicial probe committee, headed by a High Court justice.

The envoy said Germany will stay beside Bangladesh.

Why isn't father

FROM PAGE 3

keeps asking her grandmother since July 19.

This question has left Priyo's mother, Shamsi Ara Zaman, grappling with an answer she could not bring herself to give.

"What should I tell this little child?" she asked.

Priyo and his wife had got divorced early, and Sadira lived with her father until he moved to Dhaka for work.

Since then, she has been staying with Priyo's mother in Rangpur.

When Priyo's body was brought home, Sadira asked visitors not to disturb him, saying, "Baba ghumacche, tomra disturb koro na (My father is sleeping, do not disturb him)."

The house was filled with mourners, a crowd that puzzled Sadira.

She asked her grandmother why so many people had gathered at their home.

UNFULFILLED DREAM

According to his mother, Priyo had a passion for cinematography and aspired to be a movie director. After passing the HSC examination, he moved to Dhaka to pursue his dream, enrolling at Pathshala South Asian Media Institute instead of university.

Priyo worked as a journalist for the online news portal thereport.live and was about to join another portal.

He actively participated in 2013 protests against war criminals, 2018 quota reform and road safety movements, said his mother.

During the recent clashes, Priyo's mother asked him not to participate due to the danger, but he insisted, saying, "This is a just movement, and I have the responsibility to join it."

Priyo's uncle, Alamgir Kabir, said Priyo had immense courage, reminiscent of his grandfather, a hero of the Language Movement.

McGill UNIVERSITY

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
University Grants Commission of Bangladesh
UGC Bhaban, Plot # E-18/A, Agargaon Administrative Area
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
www.ugc.gov.bd

UGC-McGill Ph.D Fellowship Program

University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh and McGill University, Canada joint Ph.D Fellowship Program (UGC-McGill Ph.D Fellowship Program) has been announced. Applications were invited on 23 May 2024 from the interested public universities' faculties of Bangladesh. **Application process must be completed before 14th August, 2024 (Canada standard time and date).** Details of the necessary information are available at this website www.ugc.gov.bd (Notice Board or Scholarship/Fellowship Box). Applicants must collect all the information from the website by their own responsibilities. No personal communication will be made with the applicants.

N.B: UGC, Bangladesh & McGill university, Canada preserve the rights to take any decision regarding UGC-McGill joint PhD Fellowship and that will be considered as the final decision.

Dr. Ferdous Zaman
Secretary, UGC

GD- 94

Address: 9/D, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka
Phone: 02-9561674, 02-9514046
PABX: 9566160-69
E-mail:dgmeed@agranibank.org

বিদ্যুতের অপচয় রোধ করুন
দেশের স্বার্থে সজাগ থাকুন

অগ্রণী ব্যাংক পিএলসি.
Agrani Bank PLC.
Committed to serve the nation

এস্টাব্লিসমেন্ট এন্ড ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ডিভিশন
Establishment and Engineierng Division

Amendment Notice

No.: E&ED/ ENGG./ MECHA-2/161/2024 Date: 28/07/2024

This is to inform all concern that the notice for invitation of tender for supply and installation of Air Cooler published in newspaper and website has been amended as follows:

Sl. No.	Ref No. & Date	Name of Work	Field Name	Previous Closing & Opening Date-Time	New Closing & Opening Date-Time
01	IFT No.: E&ED/ENGG./MECHA-2/130/2024, Date: 09/07/2024 Ammendment Notice No.: E&ED/ENGG./MECHA-2/157/2024, Date: 24/07/2024	Supply & Installation of Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) Type Air Cooler for Agrani Bank PLC., Laldighi East Corporate Branch, Chattogram.	Last Selling Date	28/07/2024 From 10:00am to 6:00pm	04/08/2024 During Office Time
			Closing Date	29/07/2024 At 3:00 pm	05/08/2024 At 3:00 pm
			Opening Date	29/07/2024 At 3:15 pm	05/08/2024 At 3:15 pm
02	IFT No.: E&ED/ENGG./MECHA-2/148/2024, Date: 15/07/2024 Ammendment Notice No.: E&ED/ENGG./MECHA-2/157/2024, Date: 24/07/2024	Supply & Installation of 12 (Twelve) Air Coolers for Agrani Bank PLC., Bangabandhu Avenue Corporate Branch, Dhaka and Shaikh Mujib Road Branch, Chattogram.	Last Selling Date	04/08/2024 During Office Time	11/08/2024 During Office Time
			Closing Date	05/08/2024 At 3:00 pm	12/08/2024 At 3:00 pm
			Opening Date	05/08/2024 At 3:15 pm	12/08/2024 At 3:15 pm

All other terms and conditions of above mentioned IFT will remain unchanged and this amendment notice will be also a part of the tender document.

(Md. Abdur Rahman)
Deputy General Manager
28/07/24

GD- 93