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LOCAL BODIES Govt now can remove elected representatives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The interim government can now appoint administrators to the local administrations like city corporations, zilla and upazila parishads in special circumstances.

President Mohammed yesterday Shahabuddin approved the advisory council's recommendation to amend four related laws.

According to a gazette SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

TK 3.11CR RECOVERY Former senior secretary held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police last night arrested Shah Kamal, former senior secretary to the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief.

"DBarrested him in Mohakhali," said a DMP text message.

On Friday, DMP conducted a raid and recovered cash worth around Tk 3.11 crore, including local and foreign currencies, from an apartment, belonging to Kamal, in Mohammadpur. Kamal served as secretary from 2015 to 2019 and senior secretary from 2019 to 2020.

Gun looted in Dhaka found in Noakhali

STAR REPORT

A youth was arrested early vesterday from Noakhali with a firearm looted from a police station in Dhaka during the August 5 violence.

Arrestee Monir Ahmad, 22, is from Senbagh, Noakhali. In primary interrogation

Monir claimed his neighbour

Fake freedom fighters to be brought to book

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Fake freedom fighters will be brought to book, said Liberation War Affairs Adviser Faroog-e-Azam vesterday.

"Those who became freedom fighters with fake certificates will be brought under the law. They have enjoyed state allowance for so long. They would be punished for defrauding the state," said Farooqe-Azam, a freedom fighter.

He said this while addressing a meeting in Chattogram the district's Circuit House.

Following the meeting, he visited the Kotwali Police Station, which was vandalised and torched on August 5.



At least 169 first graders and their parents formed a human chain in front of the office of the chief adviser on Minto Road yesterday afternoon. A High Court verdict cancelled their admission to Vigarunnisa Noon School and College recently. So they are now demanding that they be allowed to attend school. After around 30 minutes, the press secretary came out of the office, spoke to the parents and assured that he will raise the issue with the education ministry.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

DENGUE IN 2024

August deadliest month so far

At least 18 dead; experts urge immediate action

HELEMUL ALAM

first 17 days of August, the highest monthly Dr Nazmul pointed out that a large number of death toll in 2024 so far. Meanwhile, 2,897 people have been admitted

to hospitals during the same time, according to the Directorate General of Health Services. Last year, Bangladesh recorded its highest-

ever dengue toll since the first outbreak in 2000, with 1,709 deaths and 3,21,179 cases.

Experts warn that the number of cases could rise further in September if immediate action is not taken.

Prof Kabirul Bashar, an entomologist at Jahangirnagar University, said inadequate response from local government bodies, and absence of any anti-mosquito drives during the recent political upheaval has contributed to the deteriorating dengue situation.

"Anti-mosquito drives across the country are not being conducted properly. Even in Dhaka, the efforts are insufficient," he said.

He urged for comprehensive measures to control the spread of the dengue virus nationwide. Dr HM Nazmul Ahsan, associate professor at

Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital, said the number of patients with dengue shock syndromes has increased recently.

He urged everyone to remain wary of dengue warning signs, as early intervention can reduce fatalities.

The World Health Organization introduced the term "expanded dengue syndrome" in 2012 to describe patients exhibiting atypical

symptoms in vital organ systems, such as At least 18 dengue patients have died in the gastrointestinal, and hematological systems. patients last year were admitted with dengue shock, a critical stage of the disease.

"Many people do not realise they have symptoms and delay seeking medical

DENGUETHIS YEAR		
MONTH	DEATH	HOSPITALISED
August	18	2,897
July	12	2,669
June	8	798
May	12	644
April	2	504
March	5	311
February	3	339
January	14	1,055

attention, increasing their risk of developing shock syndrome," he said.

Shock syndrome in dengue patients can be categorised into two types: compensated shock and decompensated shock.

In compensated shock, blood pressure may appear low or normal, with a narrow pulse pressure of 20 or less.

Decompensated shock, however, is more severe, with disorientation, cold clammy skin, SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

UK shouldn't offer asylum to Hasina

Says British MP Rupa Huq

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh origin British MP Rupa Huq has said it would

unwise the UK to give refuge to Sheikh Hasina.

"As a British Bangladeshi MP, my inbox is a lightning rod for Bangladeshi issues worldwide. At the moment, pleading mails ask me to 'ban the butcher' and similar requests as it is rumoured London is her next destination," wrote in an opinion column published by the Standard newspaper of UK on Friday.

"I personally think given the deep unpopularity of her bloodthirsty regime and political sensitivities around immigration, it'd be unwise for the UK to give refuge to such a high-profile asylum seeker who is subject of an International Criminal Court application," Huq opined.

wrote that the Huq student unrest, recent hundreds of where unarmed minors were SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Two former AL MPs held, four more sued

Cases filed against hundreds of party men

STAR REPORT

Two former Awami League lawmakers were arrested yesterday, while cases were filed against at least four other ex-parliamentarians in separate incidents across Chattogram, Dhaka, Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, Cox's Bazar and Rangpur.

In Chattogram, Md Abdul Latif, the former Awami League lawmaker from Chattogram-11, was placed on a three-day remand by a court in connection with a case involving the shooting and injuring of a protester during the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement.

Chattogram's Metropolitan Magistrate Jewel Deb granted the remand after police presented Latif with a 10-day remand prayer.

Latif was arrested in the Baizid Bostami area early yesterday, said Fazlul Quader Patwari, officerin-charge of Double Mooring Police Station.

The arrest followed a case filed by Md Ershad, accusing Latif and others of opening fire on protesters on August 4.

The former MP was allegedly hiding at a relative's house in Madarbari before being picked up by the army on August 10.

ARRESTED EX-MPS

Md Abdul Latif (Ctg-11) Charge: Firing on protesters on August 4

Ramesh Chandra Sen (Thakurgaon-1) **Charge:** Attack on students on July 16

SUED EX-MPS

Muhammad Saiful Islam (Dhaka-19) **Talukder Tauhid Jang Murad** (Dhaka-19) **Charge:** Death of student

Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury (Dinajpur-1) **Charge:** Attack on students

Shaimun Sarwar Komol (Cox's Bazar-3)

Charge: Attack on student demonstration

Meanwhile, in Thakurgaon, former Water Resources Minister and Thakurgaon-1 lawmaker Ramesh Chandra Sen, was detained at his ancestral home in Ruhea Ramnath village by a police team from Dhaka. Officer-in-Charge Gulfamul Islam Mandal

reported that law enforcers from Police Headquarters claimed they were taking the political leader for his safety. Sen's wife Anjali Rani Sen said police assured

her they would bring him back within half an hour, despite her pleas not to take him due to his illness. A photograph of the former lawmaker, tied with

a ribbon or rope, soon went viral on social media. The family insisted that, to their knowledge, no case had been filed against him.

He was later produced before a Thakurgaon court in a case filed over attack on protesters on July 16 by BCL activists.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

METRO SERVICE RESUMPTION Work abstention behind the delay

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Uncertainty looms over metro rail service resumption as a group of its employees vowed to continue their work abstention until all six of their demands are met.

Authorities will meet newly appointed adviser of the road transport and bridges ministry today to end the stalemate, said MAN Siddique, managing director of Dhaka Mass Transit Company Ltd.

Once the employees rejoin, operations can be resumed within five days, he said.

Operations of metro rail have remained suspended since July 18 after two stations were vandalised during the quota reform protests, which later turned into an uprising that toppled the

Hasina-led government on August 5. On July 19, attackers vandalised two

metro stations -- Mirpur-10 and Kazipara. The government directed DMTCL on August 11 to complete necessary technical checks in seven days to resume services, without the two vandalised stations.

On the same day, the advisory council of the interim government decided to resume metro rail services on August 16.

But, DMTCL, in a press statement on August 15, said it would not be possible to resume metro rail operation as they could not start necessary technical checks due to an unavoidable situation.

Sources said the authorities failed to start the trial runs as around 700 of the DMTCL employees of grade 10 to 20 have been on work abstention since August 6 to press home their six-point demand, including pay hike.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

