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Mushfiqur scales Asian summit

ASHEFAQ UL-ALAM

It is difficult to say whether Bangladesh stalwart Mushfiqur Rahim likes climbing mountains in real life, but when it comes to scaling the hypothetical mountains that exist in cricket, the veteran wicketkeeper-batter has conquered many.

Mushfiqur yesterday reached another such mountaintop in the first of two Tests against hosts Pakistan, becoming the first Bangladesh player to score a Test century in Bangladesh, Pakistan, India, and Sri Lanka – hence conquering the Asian summit.

Now, there is one more Asian country that hosts Test cricket – the UAE – but it does not have Test status and serves as a neutral venue.

On the other hand, there is Afghanistan, the newest member of the Asian Test club, but due to security concerns, Test cricket is yet to be played on Afghan soil.

In his maiden Test innings in Pakistan, Mushfiqur made 191 off 341 balls in Rawalpindi, a knock that oozed class, exemplified his patience, and put his watertight defence on display.

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Bangladesh's Mushfiqur Rahim let out screams of joy as he reached his 11th Test ton on Day 4 of their first Test against Pakistan in Rawalpindi yesterday. Mushfiqur, however, fell just nine runs short of what would have been his fourth Test double hundred but the batter's 341-ball 191 helped Bangladesh to a commanding position.

PHOTO: AFP

41,551 accused in two cases filed in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Within a span of 24 hours, two cases have been filed accusing around 41,551 people on charges of attempting to murder, and attacking a police station and looting firearms in Chattogram.

The case with the attempted murder charge has been filed against 351 people including the former education minister Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury, and 1,200 unnamed people early yesterday.

Just a day earlier, on Friday, another case was lodged, accusing 40,000 unnamed people on charges of attacking on duty police personnel, vandalising property, looting firearms and ammunition, and setting fire to the police station.

Both cases were filed with the Kotwali Police Station in CMP, SM Obaidul Haque, Officer-in-Charge of the police station, confirmed the development to The Daily Star.

Police, however, declined to elaborate when asked why the cases were registered with so many unnamed people as accused. No one was arrested in these cases till filing

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Humpback whales use tools!

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Humpback whales have joined an exclusive list of animals that not only use but also manufacture their own tools, a new study conducted off the coast of Alaska has found.

Researchers have known that humpbacks create "bubble nets" to hunt. Now, they have found that the giant marine mammals don't just use these unique nets but also manipulate them in a variety of ways to maximise their food intake.

"Many animals use tools to help them find food but very few actually create or modify the tools themselves," said Lars Bejder, an author of the study, published on Tuesday in the journal Royal Society Open Science.

In the study conducted in southeast Alaska, scientists followed and observed solitary humpback whales that blow and craft complex bubbles to catch krill.

The whales have previously been documented to blow bubbles in patterns that form nets with internal rings.

Researchers have now found that mammals actively control details of the bubble nets like the number of rings, the size and depth of the net, and the spacing between bubbles.

The careful approach, "wholly unique" to humpbacks, lets the behemoths capture up to seven times more prey in a single feeding dive without using extra energy.

"This impressive behaviour places humpback whales among the rare group of animals that both make and use their own tools for hunting," Dr Bejder said.



Justice Manik undergoes surgery after attack

Earlier Sylhet court sent him to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik, a retired judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, was hospitalised last night shortly after he was sent to the Sylhet Central Jail.

According to hospital sources, Manik underwent surgery at Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital and was placed under post-operative observation.

Earlier in the day, while being taken before a judge, Manik sustained critical injuries after coming under attack by unruly people on the court premises in Sylhet, said Md Sagor Mia, deputy inspector general (DIG) prisons of Sylhet.

"He was bleeding internally, and one of his testicles was ruptured from the beating. As his condition was critical, we rushed him to the hospital after he was handed over to the prison authority.

"Police usually arrange treatment for critically

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SEVEN YEARS OF ROHINGYA CRISIS Worry over fresh influx grows

PORIMOL PALMA

A fresh wave of violence forcing displacement of Rohingya people in Rakhine is a cause for concern for Bangladesh as the country failed to repatriate the Rohingyas who came here in 2017 and before.

The decline in international aid and the birth of 30,000 babies a year at the Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar is also putting to test Bangladesh's ability to manage the camps where criminal activities are common.

"The reports of fresh displacement of Rohingyas and their attempts to enter Bangladesh are worrisome. Several hundred Rohingya people entered Bangladesh over the last weeks," said a foreign ministry official.

"Our border guards are careful. They are preventing attempts by Rohingyas to enter Bangladesh," the official added, requesting anonymity.

Bangladesh maintains that sustainable repatriation of the Rohingya people is the only solution. At least 1,000 Rohingyas were set to return to Myanmar in November last year. The initiative failed as new conflicts erupted in Rakhine state, the official added.

Two earlier attempts at repatriation also failed.

After Myanmar launched a violent military crackdown in Rakhine on August 25, 2017, about 750,000 Rohingya people entered Bangladesh.

The Gambia later filed a genocide case against Myanmar with the International Court of Justice, and the International Criminal Court is investigating the human rights violation. The UN adopted several resolutions.

But the Rohingya people did not agree to return, saying the condition in Rakhine was not safe, even though the rebel group Arakan Army and Myanmar military signed a ceasefire in October last year.

After November, AA engaged in renewed clashes with the junta and took control of the vast majority of Rakhine State. Over 320,000 people were displaced in Rakhine and Chin states.

Human Rights Watch said in recent months, the Myanmar military and the ethnic Arakan Army have committed mass killings and arson attacks against Rohingya communities.

On August 5, nearly 200 people were reportedly killed by drone strikes and shelling on civilians fleeing fighting in Maungdaw town, according to Rohingya witnesses. About 630,000 Rohingyas remain in Myanmar.

"Rohingya in Rakhine State are enduring

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Metro service resumes today after over a month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The metro rail is set to resume its service today, over a month of suspension following attacks during the recent mass student protests.

However, the Mirpur-10 and Kazipara stations will remain closed as those were badly damaged in the attacks, metro rail officials said.

The Dhaka Mass Transit Company Limited (DMTCL) announced on their verified Facebook page that, as before, the train service will not operate on Fridays.

The metro rail will follow its previous schedule.

Metro had brought much-needed relief to the city dwellers, reducing commute time by offering a convenient alternative to the congested roads.

Commuters enjoyed the ease of purchasing tickets and navigating the city without the hassle of traffic jams.

But people started to suffer on the streets again after the metro rail services were suspended on July 18 as the Mirpur-10 and Kazipara stations were vandalised during the quota protests.

The familiar struggle of catching overcrowded buses returned, with

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Drop Shakib from national cricket team Demands legal notice served on BCB

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A legal notice has been served on the Bangladesh Cricket Board, asking it to remove cricketer Shakib Al Hasan from the national cricket team as he is accused in a murder case.



Supreme Court lawyer Sajib Mahmood Alam sent the notice to the BCB on behalf of another SC lawyer Md Rafiqur Rahman yesterday.

The notice also asked the BCB to bring Shakib back to the country from abroad for the purpose of a proper investigation into the murder case.

The lawyer, in the legal notice, said that since a criminal case has been lodged against Shakib, he cannot be on the national cricket team as

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Students yesterday sorting the relief materials that have poured into TSC of Dhaka University for the flood victims. Story on page 3.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Gaza talks set to resume in Cairo as fighting rages

AFP, Cairo

Negotiators geared up for a crucial weekend of Gaza ceasefire talks yesterday, as Hamas said it was sending delegates to Cairo but would not participate in the discussions, and fighting raged in the Palestinian territory.

The United States, Egypt and Qatar have spent months trying to broker an end to the war in Gaza between Hamas Palestinian militants and Israel.

The war, sparked by Hamas's unprecedented October 7 attack on Israel, has devastated Gaza, displaced nearly all of its population at least once and triggered a humanitarian crisis.

The White House said progress had been made at the latest round this week, although the possible permanent presence of Israeli troops along the Gaza-Egypt border has emerged as a major sticking point.

Previous bouts of optimism during months of on-off ceasefire and hostage release negotiations have always proven unfounded.

A senior Hamas official said a delegation from the Islamist group was heading to Cairo, but that they would not engage in the talks. Instead, they would meet with senior Egyptian officials for updates on the negotiations.

The delegation would "be briefed... but this does not mean it will take part in the negotiations", the official told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The official said Hamas would insist Israel withdraw all its forces from all of Gaza, including "from the border area with Egypt", known as the Philadelphi Corridor.