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VIRAL VIDEO OF AUGUST 5

Policemen seen piling up bodies on van

Authorities checking authenticity; vow actions

AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH

A grisly video of several partially covered bloodstained bodies on a van with some policemen standing by has gone viral on social media, raising questions about possible disrespectful handling of bodies of quota movement victims.

Bodies covered with bedsheets with hands stretched out can be seen in the nearly two-minute video, captured in Savar, making rounds in social media since Friday.

Of the policemen standing beside the van, two were wearing police vests and seen throwing another body onto the piles.

Police authorities said they have seen the video and are verifying its authenticity.

Authorities have also identified at least one policeman seen in the footage.

Visiting the areas seen in the video and talking to locals, The Daily Star can confirm that the scene of the video was close to Ashulia Police Station in Savar.

Locals said the video was taken on the Plot Road in

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

Drop charges, free journos

RSF urges govt, says media professionals bearing the brunt of need for vengeance

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Reporters sans frontières (RSF), or Reporters without Borders, has demanded that the Bangladeshi government drop all charges against journalists and release them immediately.

"The purge of journalists who are considered to be affiliated with the former government has reached a new level," Antoine Bernard, RSF's director of advocacy and assistance, said in a statement yesterday.

"Media professionals are bearing the brunt of the need for vengeance that permeates this terrible legal cabal, which is hurting the image of the political transition underway in Bangladesh," said the director of the Paris-based nonprofit working for media freedom worldwide.

The statement said the interim administration headed by Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus must do everything in its power to end this "vicious process".

On August 29, no fewer than 25 journalists were charged with crimes against humanity for the death of a protester in July.

The complaint marks a new stage in the series of lawsuits targeting media professionals that have emerged over the past 10 days, Bernard said.

They are targeted in the case examined by the International Crimes Tribunal, a special court set up in 1973 to judge abuses committed during Bangladesh's war of independence.

Farzana Rupa and Shakil Ahmed, the journalist couple recently dismissed from Ekattor TV, a TV channel deemed

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



After waiting for hours in the queue in front of a TCB outlet, exhausted Kaburan Begum, 72, sits on the ground at Ershad Ali Primary School in Khulna town yesterday morning. Many with limited income are thronging such outlets to buy daily essentials at lower prices every day.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Fuel prices drop for Sept
Diesel Tk 105.5, octane Tk 125

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has reduced fuel prices for the month of September following the price trends in the international market.

From now on (12:00am today), diesel and kerosene prices will be Tk 105.50 a litre, while petrol will be Tk 121 per litre, and octane at Tk 125.

The Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources issued a gazette notification in this regard.

The prices of diesel and kerosene have decreased by Tk 1.25 compared to previous prices, while octane and petrol dropped by Tk 6 per litre.

The government started fixing fuel prices under a mechanism in line with global market rates in March this year. On February 29, the Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) issued a notification on Automatic Fuel Oil Pricing Guidelines. According to the

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6

As floodwater recedes, diseases spread

Hospitals in Feni, Noakhali struggling to cope with flow of patients; flood death toll now 59

STAR REPORT

Hospitals in Feni and Noakhali are struggling to tackle a wave of patients with floodwater receding and water-borne diseases spreading in the affected areas while the death toll from the disaster has increased to 59.

In Feni's Sonagazi Upazila Health Complex, patients were lying on the floor, balcony and staircases on Friday afternoon. The number of patients at the 50-bed government facility increased to 96 by evening.

Chhaglalai Upazila Health Complex, which has the same number of beds, had 126 patients on Saturday morning.

Nusrat Jahan, an 11-year-old girl from Matiganj village, had been receiving treatment at the Sonagazi Upazila Health Complex since Wednesday night.

"We took shelter in a neighbour's house as the water entered my home," her mother Laila Akhtar said.

"As there was no clean water there, the girl drank the water stored in the tank. Since then, she has been vomiting and suffering from diarrhoea," said Laila.

Noakhali General Hospital's Diarrhea Ward, which can accommodate only 16 people, was treating 280 patients yesterday evening.

"The hospital was full of patients when we came here. A ward boy managed a place with a mattress on the floor for her."

Among the patients admitted to the health complex, 80 percent from the flood-hit areas caught water-borne diseases, said Medical Officer Dr Arnab Mallick.

In Noakhali, diarrhoea is spreading rapidly among the flood-hit people.

Noakhali General Hospital's Diarrhea Ward, which can accommodate only 16 people, was treating 280 patients yesterday evening.

"We were compelled to drink floodwater as our house and tubewell were submerged for around three weeks. Now my child is suffering from diarrhoea," said Sajeda Akhter Noor of Babunagar village in the district's Begumganj Upazila. Her four-month-old baby had been receiving treatment at the hospital since Thursday, she told The Daily Star yesterday.

Many patients alleged mismanagement at the hospital.

"I was admitted to the hospital on Friday

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6

Bowlers put Tigers on top

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh bowlers, led by off spinner Mehedi Hasan Miraz, had a field day on Day 2 of the second Test against Pakistan at the Rawalpindi Stadium yesterday as their efforts bundled out the hosts for 274.

Miraz picked up his 10th five-wicket haul in the format, making the best use of the moderate assistance the spinners had on a batting-friendly Rawalpindi surface on the second day after the first was washed out due to incessant rain.

Bangladesh openers Shadman Islam and Taskin Ahmed had two overs to negotiate late in the day which they were able to do unscathed as they managed 10 runs on the board. It wasn't smooth sailing, however, as Shadman was presented a reprieve (on nought) by Saud Shakeel, who dropped the left-handed opener on the very first delivery of the innings off the bowling of left-arm pacer Mir Hamza.

The bowlers delivered after Bangladesh put

অভিনন্দন
মোঃ নজরুল ইসলাম সুফিয়ান
চেয়ারম্যান, এক্সিম ব্যাংক পিএলসি.

এক্সিম ব্যাংকের চেয়ারম্যান হলেন বিশিষ্ট ব্যবসায়ী ও শিল্পপ্রতিষ্ঠানের মোঃ নজরুল ইসলাম সুফিয়ান। ৩০ আগস্ট, ২০২৪ ব্যাংকের পুনর্গঠিত পরিচালনা পর্ষদের সদস্য হিসেবে সততা ও নিষ্ঠার সাথে দায়িত্ব পালন করেছেন। তিনি চট্টগ্রাম বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় থেকে সমাজিক্যাণ্ড শাস্ত্র ও সাংকোচিত ইর্জন করেছেন। তেরি পোশাক থাকে তাঁর দীর্ঘ ৮৮ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা রয়েছে। বর্তমানে তিনি টিভালি আগারেলস লিমিটেড এবং গ্যালাক্সি স্টিচ লিমিটেডের চেয়ারম্যান এবং ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক। ২০০০ সাল থেকে তিনি একজন সিআইপির সম্মান পেয়ে আসছেন। এছাড়া রিয়েল সেটে এবং এভিয়েশন সেটের তাঁর ব্যাংক দক্ষতা রয়েছে।



Bangladesh pacer Taskin Ahmed (R) runs for joy after dismissing Pakistan opener Abdullah Shafique in the first over of the second day of second Test at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6



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