

## Interim govt must win BNP's absolute trust

Says Tarique

UNB, Jhenaidah

BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman said yesterday that the interim government, led by Prof Muhammad Yunus, must take on the challenge of winning the BNP's absolute trust.

"We all know that there was no alternative to an interim government to fill the vacuum suddenly created in a dictatorship-free Bangladesh. For valid reasons, we supported them at the time and still support them.

However, they must take on the challenge of ensuring that our trust in them remains unshaken."

Addressing a mass rally via video link, the BNP leader emphasised that the interim government must specify the responsibilities assigned to them and outline a roadmap for fulfilling those duties effectively.

"While it may not be possible for them to implement all changes, it would also be unreasonable for them to shoulder responsibilities they cannot carry."

The BNP leader said that every decision, statement, and reaction at the highest levels of government requires the careful and visible application of utmost caution to avoid misunderstanding.

He also said that running a government is a highly sensitive and complex task, warning that even a small deviation can raise a big question.

"Carelessness can weaken the essential trust and fracture the unity that is at the core of the nation's strength."

"Any one of these can lead to a terrible disaster. It's

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**"While it may not be possible for them to implement all changes, it would also be unreasonable for them to shoulder responsibilities they cannot carry."**



Vehicles having trouble on Atis Dipankar Road in Malibagh. The road, which was already in bad shape, has now become almost impassable due to further damage caused after heavy rains.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## 'Uprising death toll 1,581'

Says Anti-Discrimination Student Movement's sub-committee

BSS, Dhaka

A total of 1,581 people have lost their lives in the student-led mass uprising across the country, according to the primary data collected by the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement's sub-committee on health affairs.

"We have prepared the primary list of 1,581 fatalities based on the information that will be finalised, and the names will be included in the health ministry website as martyrs after final verification by the district committee led by deputy commissioners," Tariqul Islam, member secretary of the sub-committee on health, told a press conference yesterday on the Dhaka University campus.

The list has already been sent to the district level committee, asking them to complete the verification within three

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## Reconstitute NHRC with qualified people

Urge speakers at a dialogue on human rights

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It is imperative to reconstitute the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) as a "truly" independent body in nature with qualified people to protect human rights, said speakers at an event yesterday.

The commission had turned into a "rehabilitation centre for retired bureaucrats over the years", the speakers

said at a dialogue on human rights at the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) in the capital.

The Centre for Governance Studies (CGS) organised the event as part of its 'Dialogue for Democratic Reconstruction', a series of programmes, with CGS Chairperson Munira Khan in the chair.

Addressing the event, Supreme Court lawyer Barrister Shihab Uddin Khan

alleged that people were deceived when the commission was constituted.

"The Human Rights Commission was presented as an eyewash to the international community. This commission could have played a key role [in preventing] human rights violations, but it could not because it was not independent," he said.

He urged the government to ensure

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## GULSHAN DOUBLE MURDER 'Shop employee kills cigarette trader, assistant'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two decomposing bodies were recovered from a tin-roofed house in the capital's Gulshan-2 neighbourhood yesterday.

The victims, identified as Rafiq, 62, from Barishal, and Sabbir, 15, from Mymensingh, had their throats slit and their bodies bore multiple stab wounds, said police.

Rafiq, a caretaker of an empty plot

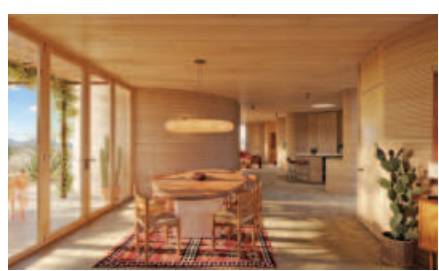
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Despite the obvious safety hazards, overloaded trucks on hilly roads is common in Dighinala of Khagrachhari. Such disregard for safety often leads to vehicles tipping to one side and tragedies. The photo was taken from the upazila's Larma Square bazar yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAHMAN

## World's first 3D-printed hotel takes shape in Texas



REUTERS, Texas

It looks like any other 3D printer - except it's the size of a crane and is, layer by layer, building a hotel in the Texan desert.

El Cosmico, an existing hotel and campground on the outskirts of the city of Marfa, is expanding. It is building 43 new hotel units and 18 residential homes over 60 acres (24 hectares) - all with a 3D printer.

It is the world's first 3D-printed hotel, says El Cosmico owner Liz Lambert and the partners behind the project - Austin, Texas-based 3D printing company ICON and architects Bjarke Ingels Group.

Lambert said the technology allows for unprecedented creativity.

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## Nepal landslides, floods kill 66

69 missing; death toll likely to rise

REUTERS, Kathmandu

At least 66 people have been killed in Nepal since early on Friday as persistent downpours triggered flooding and landslides, closing major roads and disrupting domestic air travel, officials said yesterday.

The death toll could rise, they added, with another 69 people reported missing, and 60 injured since Friday morning, home ministry official Dil Kumar Tamang told Reuters.

Most of the deaths took place in the Kathmandu valley, which is home to 4 million people and the country's capital, where the flooding brought traffic and normal activity to a standstill.

Rescue workers used helicopters and rubber boats to help people stranded on rooftops or elevated ground as some parts of Kathmandu reported up to 322.2 mm (12.68 inches) of rain over the last day.

Most rivers in the Himalayan nation have swollen, spilling over roads and bridges, authorities said, after nearly a week's delay in the retreat of South Asia's annual monsoon rains brought torrential downpours across the region.

Police were working to clear debris and reopen roads after landslides blocked highways in 28 places, said police spokesperson Dan Bahadur Karki. The earliest let-up in the rains might not come until Sunday, said Binu Maharjan, a weather forecasting official in Kathmandu, who said a low pressure system over parts of neighbouring India had caused this year's extended rains.

"Heavy rains are likely to continue until Sunday morning and weather is likely to clear after that," Maharjan told Reuters.

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