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# Malaysia asked to extradite 2 businessmen

The duo allegedly involved in human trafficking, money laundering, extortion

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh police has asked Malaysian authorities to arrest and extradite two businessmen as part of an ongoing investigation into allegations of money laundering, extortion and migrant trafficking against the duo.

The two businessmen are Aminul Islam, a Bangladesh-born Malaysian citizen, and Ruhul Amin Swapan, owner of a Bangladeshi recruiting agency named Catharsis International.

The Daily Star reviewed the letter sent by the National Central Bureau (NCB) of Interpol in Bangladesh to the Malaysia NCB on October 24.

It requested the Malaysian authorities to temporarily halt the operation of Foreign Workers Centralized Management System (FWCMS), a software provided to the Malaysian home ministry by Bestinet – an information technology organisation founded by Aminul.

The communication is part of an investigation in connection with a case filed on September 3 by Altaf Khan, a recruiting agent, who accused 103 individuals, including former expatriates' welfare minister Imran Ahmad and

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PHOTO: REUTERS

Displaced Palestinians make their way after fleeing the northern part of Gaza amid an Israeli military operation in Gaza City yesterday.

# Tigers begin Afghan ODIs today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As part of preparations for the upcoming 2025 Champions Trophy, Bangladesh will be taking on Afghanistan in the first of the three-match ODI series at the Sharjah Cricket Ground in the UAE today.

The match, scheduled to begin at 4:00 PM (Bangladesh time), will be broadcast live on T Sports and GTV.

The Tigers will play their first ODI since March when they won 2-1 in a three-match series against Sri Lanka at home. Meanwhile, Afghanistan come into the contest on the back of a maiden 2-1 series win over South Africa in the UAE in September.

Najmul Hossain Shanto's side hold a head-to-head advantage over

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# DEATH IN 'MOB BEATING' Locals, family contradict police version

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A day after police claimed former state minister Monnujan Sufian's nephew was killed by a mob in Khulna's Daulatpur, locals and a family member yesterday said there was no incident of mob violence in the area that day.

Sheikh Arifuzzaman Rupam, 34, was declared dead on arrival at Khulna Medical College Hospital, where the joint forces took him after a mob beat him up on Monday, said Inspector Shahidul Islam of Daulatpur Police Station.

He said the incident took place on Anjuman Masjid Road in Amtala area around 10:30am.

But four residents of the neighbourhood yesterday said the joint forces detained Rupam, and then took him to his home and tortured him. When he fell sick, they took him to the hospital, but it was too late.

They saw several vehicles belonging to the joint forces arrive in their neighbourhood early in the morning and remain there for a while.

They added there was no mob violence in the area that day.

According to law enforcement sources, an anti-narcotics drive was

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# NORTH OF GAZA STRIP Israel issues new evacuation orders

Kills 35 more Palestinians in fresh strikes in Beit Lahiya

REUTERS, Cairo

Israel's military issued new evacuation orders in the north of the Gaza Strip yesterday after carrying out strikes across the enclave which Palestinian media and medics said had killed at least 35 people.

An air strike damaged two houses in the town of Beit Lahiya in northern Gaza, where the army has carried out new operations since October 5, and killed at least 20 people late on Monday, the Palestinian official news agency Wafa and Hamas media said.

Four other people were killed in the central Gazan town of Al Zawayda around midnight on Monday, medics said.

Palestinian health officials said six people had also been killed in two separate Israeli airstrikes in Gaza City and Deir Al-Balah in the central area of the narrow enclave.

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said without giving details, that its forces had "eliminated terrorists" in the central Gaza Strip and Jabalia area. Israeli troops had also located weapons and explosives over the past day in the southern Rafah area, where "terrorist infrastructure sites"

had been eliminated, it said.

Later yesterday, Israeli planes dropped leaflets over Beit Lahiya ordering residents who have not yet left their homes and shelters housing displaced families to quit the town completely.

At least 43,391 Palestinians have been killed in more than a year of offensive in Gaza, the authorities in Gaza said yesterday, and much of the territory has been reduced to ruins.

Announcing a rare transfer of patients out of Gaza, a World Health Organization official said more than 100 people would be evacuated from Gaza today, including children suffering from trauma injuries and chronic diseases.

They will travel via the Kerem Shalom crossing with Israel before flying to the United Arab Emirates, said Rik Peepkorn, WHO representative for the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

Some will then go on to Romania, he said, adding that 12,000 people were awaiting transfer.

In the Israeli-occupied West Bank, the Palestinian health ministry said at least four people were killed yesterday during an Israeli military raid and airstrikes.

- Over 100 patients to be evacuated: WHO official
- 4 Palestinians killed in Israeli raid in West Bank
- Death toll in Gaza rises to 43,391

# Shomi Kaiser arrested in Uttara

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) arrested actress Shomi Kaiser in the capital's Uttara area early today.

She was arrested around 12:30am during a drive, said Rawnak Jahan, deputy commissioner of the Uttara Division Police, told The Daily Star. The drive was conducted on a tip-off and the arrest was made at a house on Road-6 of sector-4, Rawnak added.

On October 9, former prime minister Sheikh Hasina, Shomi Kaiser, folk singer and former lawmaker Momtaz Begum, former minister and actress Tarana Halim, and 13 others were sued for attempting to kill BNP activist -- Syed Hasan Mahmud -- in June 2022.

Mahmud filed the case against Hasina and others with the court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate

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# Govt revokes accreditation of 29 more journalists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has revoked the permanent and temporary press accreditation cards of 29 more journalists, including reporters, newspaper editors, and television chief executive officers.

An order dated November 3 was issued in this regard, signed by Md Nizamul Kabir, chief information officer of the Press Information Department under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

According to the notification, the move was made as per sections 6.9, 6.10, 9.5, and 9.6 of the Press Accreditation Principle-2022. On October 29, 20 journalists had lost their accreditation in a similar fashion.

Among those whose accreditations were scrapped in the second phase are TV Today Editor-in-Chief Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul; Kaler Kantho Editor Emdadul Haque Milon; News24 Head of News Rahul Raha; ATN News's Head of News Nurul Amin Probbas; Daily Destiny's Sohel Haider Chowdhury; Somoy TV's Ahmed Zobayer; News24's Joydev Chandra Das; BSS's Md Omar Faruque; Kaler Kantho's Haider Ali; Soma Islam of Channel I; Daily Purbakon's Kuddus Afrad; Baishakhi TV's Saiful Islam; Freelancer Nadim Kadir; BSS's Madhusudhan Mondal; Independent TV's Ashish Ghosh Saikat, Dainik Bangla's Zafarullah Sharafat; Dainik Anandabazar's Kishore Kumar Sarker; Daily Bangladesh Bulletin's Rafiqul Islam Ratan; MyTV's Nasir Uddin; Ekushey TV's Akhil Kumar Podder; Gazi TV's Anjan Roy; RTV's CEO Ashique Rahman; and Daily Bhorer Kagaj's news editor Ikhtiar Uddin.

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) has voiced alarm over the revocation of press accreditation of these journalists "perceived to be in support of the Awami League". In a post on social media platform 'X' yesterday, the CPJ said the interim authorities must not target journalists for their work, thereby risking media censorship.

# There should be reconciliation among parties

German envoy says it'll ensure peaceful transition to democracy

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

German Ambassador to Bangladesh Achim Tröster has advocated for reconciliation between and within the political parties for a peaceful transition to democracy.

"This is an idea that has worked well in the recent past in countries like South Africa or Rwanda, but equally in Europe. I don't see any reason why this should not be the case in Bangladesh and contribute to a much better communal life," he said at an event marking the German Unity Day at the Franco-German Embassy in the capital Monday evening.

The comment comes as the interim government has undertaken various reforms following the fall of Awami League regime on August 5 amid a mass uprising. Political rivalries, lack of democratic practices, and accountability created a wide array of problems over the years.

The envoy said large parts of the society in Bangladesh were willing to assume enormous personal sacrifices, up to the ultimate, for freedom, participatory democracy, and more

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Women farmhands of Latifpur in Chattogram's Sitakunda are busy with vegetable cultivation as winter approaches. The run-up to the season is always a busy time for farmers and their helping hands as a number of popular veggies – cauliflower, cabbage, spinaches and more – grow around this time of the year. By doing this work, these women earn around Tk 600-700 per day. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

# 'Why was Hasina given refuge in India?'

Jharkhand CM hits back at BJP for accusing JMM of fostering infiltration

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India's Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Sunday fired back at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for accusing his party, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), of fostering Bangladeshi infiltration in the state.

Soren questioned the central government's decision to provide refuge to ousted Bangladeshi prime minister Sheikh Hasina, pressing for clarity on the BJP's stance on relations with Bangladesh.

He also criticised the supply of electricity from Jharkhand's Godda power plant to Bangladesh "while locals bear the environmental cost".

Speaking at a rally in Ranka, Garhwa, the CM challenged the BJP's infiltration claims, saying, "I would like to know whether the BJP has some sort of internal understanding with Bangladesh," while demanding an explanation for Hasina's stay in India.



Hemant Soren

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