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## Three more advisers take oath of office

CA changes portfolios of some

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Renowned filmmaker Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, Akij Bashir Group Managing Director Sk Bashir Uddin, and special assistant to chief adviser Mahfuj Alam were sworn in as advisers to the interim government last night.

The chief adviser also reassigned some advisers and appointed three special assistants who would be of the rank of state ministers.

President Mohammed Shahabuddin administered the oath at Darbar Hall of the Bangabhaban in presence of the chief adviser, senior officials, and dignitaries.

With the inclusion of the three, the interim government now has 24 advisers.

Farooki, a familiar face for his critically acclaimed films and plays over the decades, was given the charge of the cultural affairs ministry.

Bashir, a leading businessman, is the adviser of commerce and jute and textile ministries.

Mahfuj Alam was yet to be assigned any ministry.

A student of 2015-16 academic session of Dhaka University's Law Department, Mahfuj is a coordinator of the liaison committee of the student movement against discrimination. He was a pivotal figure in chalking up different programmes during the quota reforms protest that turned into a mass uprising in July.

### PORTFOLIOS REDISTRIBUTED

According to a gazette notification issued by the cabinet

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Work on the Dhaka Elevated Expressway resumes near FDC in the capital after a dispute over shares between the private partners of the public-private project halted work for over nine months. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

### BUSINESS

#### Custodian to manage Beximco assets

The Bangladesh Bank made three major decisions yesterday, including appointing a custodian, officially termed a receiver, at the troubled Beximco Group to prevent its fall and protect the interests of investors, employees, and lenders.

Additionally, the central bank decided in principle to hire a consulting firm to recover money laundered abroad, particularly from destinations such as the UK, US, Singapore, and UAE.

It also provided clearance for a forensic audit into Nagad, a much discussed mobile financial service provider that is yet to obtain any license.

STORY ON B1

## State reform the main goal, not just polls

Say student coordinators about sacrifices made during mass uprising, demand trial of AL leaders like that of Nuremberg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People did not lay down their lives during the July-August mass uprising just for an election, and the state needs structural reforms first, said leaders of the student movement against discrimination yesterday.

The Awami League must be banned, and leaders of the party and its associate bodies must face trial because they have no right to be in politics, the student leaders said at a rally at Zero Point in the capital.

Hasnat Abdullah, convener of the student movement, said until justice is served for the genocide, they have no right to be in politics.

"The martyrs had not made sacrifices merely for elections. Many of those who were injured do not even have NID cards. They won't be eligible to vote in the coming election. Yet, they've joined this mass uprising with the goal of reforming the state," he said.

The AL on Saturday night announced that it would hold a rally marking Noor Hossain day at Zero Point. Soon afterwards, student leaders wrote on Facebook that the AL will not be allowed at the place.

"If you think that we, the people who participated in the mass uprising, will immediately return home by holding an election and handing the responsibility of reforms over to you, you are mistaken."

The AL government thoroughly damaged the electoral system, and the reforms to the election process, judiciary, and constitutional bodies should be made before a national election, he said.

Many seasoned politicians have often been dismissive and critical of the young generation since August 5, indicating a generational divide.

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## AL activists barred from joining event at Zero Point

At least 10 beaten up in Gulistan area

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League leaders and activists could not hold an event at Zero Point in the capital's Gulistan yesterday amid strong resistance by students, and activists of different political parties, including the BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami.

The students and political activists beat up at least 10 people, including two women, in the Gulistan area on suspicion that they were members of AL and its front organisations.

Five of them — Raju Ahmed Miran, Ridoy, Rasel Haider, Rakib, and Mohammad Ali — were treated at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The crowds swooped on Miran and Ridoy as the duo

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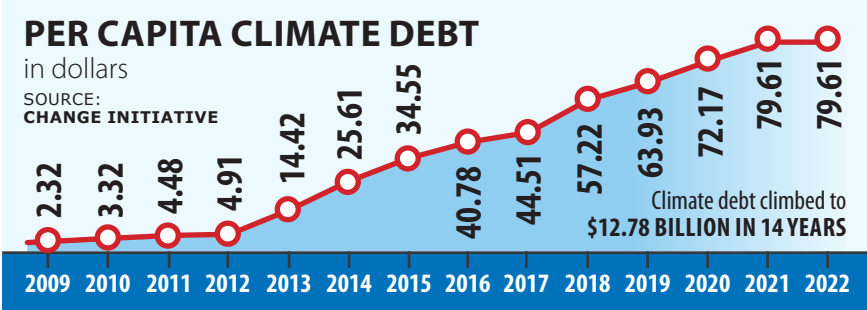
## Bangladesh's climate debt keeps climbing

The country to demand more funds at COP-29

PINA KI ROY

As global leaders gather in Baku, Azerbaijan to discuss finance at the 29th climate conference, the most vulnerable countries like Bangladesh are demanding

just 14 years from 2009 to 2022 when Bangladesh started taking climate-related projects. During the period, Bangladesh has taken \$12.78 billion in climate debt against multiple climate projects, according to Change Initiative.



new and additional climate finance that does not exacerbate climate debt.

The per capita climate debt for every Bangladeshi citizen has reached \$80, which is about Tk 9,500.

And this debt was generated within

During the period, Bangladesh has received grants worth only \$268 million from the Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund and the LDC Fund.

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## Climate finance in focus as summit begins

AGENCIES

The 29th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) kicks off in the Azerbaijani capital Baku today, aiming to address escalating climate challenges.

Leaders from around the world are set to gather in Baku for the event, running until November 22.

"With global temperatures hitting record highs, and extreme weather events affecting people around the globe, COP29 will bring together leaders from governments,

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## Govt strips 118 more journos of accreditation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has revoked the permanent and temporary press accreditation cards of 118 more journalists, including editors, reporters, and TV station chief executives.

With this, the interim government has so far cancelled the press accreditation of 167 journalists.

The latest order on the cancellation of press accreditation was issued on November 7 and 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 order was issued as per several sections of the Press Accreditation Policy-2022.

Press accreditation cards are a prerequisite for entry into the Secretariat.

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President Mohammed Shahabuddin administers the oath of office to the interim government's newly appointed advisers, Mahfuj Alam, special assistant to the chief adviser, Sk Bashir Uddin, managing director of Akij Bashir Group, and renowned filmmaker Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, at the Darbar Hall of Bangabhaban yesterday.

PHOTO: P10

## 6-yr-old killed, body hidden in pond mud

Locals torch suspects' home; the child's ex-tutor, 3 others held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The body of six-year-old Muntaha Akhter Jarin, who went missing on November 3, was recovered from a pond near her home in Bhararifoud village of Sylhet's Kanaighat upazila early yesterday.



Alok Kanti Sharma, assistant superintendent of police of Kanaighat circle in Sylhet, said her body was hidden in the mud of a pond and her hands and feet were tied. Police have detained Muntaha's former private tutor and neighbour, mother of the private tutor, and two others in connection with the murder.

After the body was found, locals vandalised, looted, and torched the neighbour's home, said the police official.

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