



Dhaka asks Delhi to send back Hasina

India confirms receipt of note verbale, says 'no comment at this time'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The foreign ministry has sent a diplomatic note to the Indian government, saying that Dhaka wants ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina sent back.

"We sent a note verbale [diplomatic message] to the Indian government, saying that the Bangladesh government wants her [Hasina] back here for the judicial process," Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain told reporters at the foreign ministry yesterday afternoon.



Earlier in the morning, Home Adviser Jahangir Alam said his ministry had written to the Bangladesh foreign ministry, asking it to facilitate the return of Hasina from India.

"We have sent a letter to the foreign ministry regarding her extradition. The process is currently underway," he told reporters at an event at the Border Guard Bangladesh headquarters in Dhaka's Pikhana.

On how she would be returned, Jahangir said it would be done under a prisoner-exchange agreement with India. The Indian media in the evening reported that the country's Ministry of External Affairs received a note verbale from Bangladesh in connection with the extradition request for Hasina.

The ministry, however, refrained from commenting on the matter yesterday.

"We confirm that we have received a note verbale from the Bangladesh High Commission today in connection with an extradition request. At this time, we have no comment to offer on this matter," India Today quoted Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal as saying at a press briefing.

Hasina stands accused in over a hundred cases and is facing a multitude of charges, including murder, genocide

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A man tries to warn an auto-rickshaw from crossing over the rail tracks, while a group of people behind him are pushing away mobile shops as a train approaches. Many such shops are set up right on the tracks near the Jurain Rail Gate, posing various risks to the people. The photo was taken recently. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

7 stabbed to death aboard cargo vessel

Lone survivor of attack in Chandpur can't speak

STAR REPORT

Seven crew members were killed in a brutal attack aboard a bulk carrier in the Meghna in Chandpur early yesterday.

Unidentified assailants stabbed the victims in their sleep with sharp weapons on MV Al-Bakhera, police said based on initial findings.



The vessel laden with fertiliser had run aground in Haimchar area.

Responding to a 999 call, a team of river police went to

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Non-lethal weapons to be suggested for cops

Says Police Reform Commission Chairman Safar Raj Hossain

SHARIFUL ISLAM

The Police Reform Commission is poised to submit its report with recommendations, including freeing law enforcement agencies from political influence, according to its Chairman Safar Raj Hossain.

It would also recommend the use of only non-lethal weapons by law enforcers following the standards set by European countries in crowd control to prevent loss of lives, he said in a recent interview with this newspaper.

He said that the commission



would recommend guidelines for law enforcers in light of the High Court Division and Appellate Division directives on the arrest of any suspect without a warrant and how to treat and interrogate a suspect on remand.

The commission, constituted on October 3, has a 90-day timeline to submit its report. Its chief confirmed that the draft is ready and on track for submission to Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus by December 31. If delays occur, he said they will be minimal.

He expressed satisfaction with

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People will have to take to streets for voting rights

Says Mirza Fakhru

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People will have to take to the streets, the way they did on August 5, to realise their voting rights, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir told a gathering in Thakurgaon yesterday.

"Do you genuinely want change? Or do you want the Awami League again? If you don't, then, we will have to take to the streets, like we did on August 5," he said during a rally at Shibganj Degree College ground.

"We have to demonstrate to realise our rights to vote, food, justice, and dignity.

"This is your country, and it is your responsibility to

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For the poor, inflation means a daily struggle

2024

THE YEAR THAT WAS

SUKANTA HALDER

As inflation greets Bangladeshis at breakfast time, even the humble paratha becomes a symbol of struggle. Once hearty and filling, it now arrives thinner and lighter — a daily reminder of the unending calculations between hunger and affordability.

Last year, a simple meal of three parathas and a plate of daal cost Tk 39. Today, this modest breakfast demands Tk 50, as spiralling prices threaten the most vulnerable — day labourers, marginal farmers and transport workers.

For Mofazzal Hossain, a 45-year-old rickshaw puller in Mirpur's Duaripara area, breakfast used to mean rice, vegetables and an occasional slice of fish. Now, it's a cup of tea and a single biscuit. His earnings have plummeted from Tk 500-Tk 600 a day to Tk 350-Tk 400. Feeding his family of six has become a painful arithmetic, where every meal is a trade-off. "I hardly remember the last time we ate meat," he says quietly, staring at his hands.

Mofazzal's plight mirrors that of many others across Dhaka and beyond. In Karwan Bazar, Sattar Mia, a 38-year-old day labourer, often begins his day with an empty stomach. Once earning Tk 600 daily, he now struggles to make Tk 400. The rising cost of basics has forced him to skip breakfast at times, pushing his first meal to late morning. "Sometimes I eat at eleven. Sometimes later," he says with a rueful smile. "It hurts, but what can be done?"

Their struggles are echoed in the latest statistics. Food inflation soared to 14.1 percent in July, nearly doubling from January's 7.76 percent, according to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics. But behind the numbers lies human suffering. The statistics cannot capture the quiet sacrifices happening in homes like Sattar's where sending money to the village is scarcely possible.

For Bangladesh's working poor, each day begins with a painful negotiation as essentials like sugar and cooking oil climb ever higher in price: What can be sacrificed? What can still be afforded? For them, inflation is not just an economic phenomenon — it's a test of survival. They sustain lives shaped by resilience and struggle.

In Barishal, grocery vendor

nutritional and health conditions, with long-term consequences for children's growth and education.

She further said the interim authorities have implemented several measures aimed at easing inflationary pressures. These include raising policy rates as part of monetary tightening, rationalising public expenditure by prioritising only critical development projects

ITEMS	YESTERDAY'S PRICE (KG/LITRE)	PRICE INCREASE IN A YEAR
	TK 50-55 Rice (coarse)	7.14%
	TK 163-165 Loose soybean oil	4.13%
	TK 50-75 Potato	4.17%
	TK 180-200 Broiler chicken	2.70%
	TK 45-50 Egg (4 pieces)	7.95%

SOURCE: TCB

Shambhu Nath Saha observes a shift in purchasing behaviour. Customers who once bought five litres of cooking oil now opt for one or two, and those purchasing two kilograms of sugar now settle for one. "Someone who used to spend Tk 2,000 on groceries is now spending Tk 1,000 or Tk 1,200," he says.

Economists warn of serious implications. Fahmida Khatun, executive director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue, points out that lower food intake will affect

and removing tariffs on certain essential imports.

Fahmida, however, believes that winning the inflation battle hinges on improving the supply chain and increasing product availability in the market, a process that demands both time and sustained effort.

Price volatility had plagued neighbouring countries like India, Sri Lanka and Pakistan, which have managed to bring food inflation down to about 5 percent, according

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