



# Trump returns to White House

Promises 'golden age'; Prof Yunus, Putin, Starmer, Trudeau, Zelensky congratulate him

AGENCIES

Donald Trump vowed a new US "golden age" as he took the oath for a historic second presidential term yesterday, but focused most of his dark inaugural speech on touting hardline policies to reverse what he called "American decline".

In an often divisive address, the 47th president took aim at illegal immigration and the culture wars as he capped the most remarkable comeback in US political history.

"The golden age of America begins right now. From this day forward our country will flourish and be respected again all over the world," Trump said in the US Capitol, where his inauguration was held indoors for the first time in decades due to freezing weather.

The Republican also referenced the assassin's bullet that grazed him at a rally during his victorious election campaign, saying: "I was saved by God to make America great again."

While promising renewal, Trump harshly denounced what he said had been a "betrayal" of Americans by a "radical and corrupt establishment" under outgoing President Joe Biden.

"America's decline is over," said Trump. Biden -- who had earlier hosted Trump and his wife Melania at the White House for tea -- watched stony-faced as his political nemesis read the last rites over his single term in office.

➤ Trump vows to declare national emergency at US-Mexico border

➤ He is expected to pull the US out of the Paris climate deal

➤ Says 'God saved me to make America great again'

Trump also set out his foreign policy stall, saying he wanted to be a "peacemaker and a unifier" -- but then saying the United States was "taking back" the Panama Canal and warning he would make liberal use of trade wars.

He also vowed to "plant the Stars and Stripes" on the planet Mars.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



PHOTO: AFP

Surrounded by family members, Donald Trump is sworn into office by Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts as Melania Trump holds the Bible in the US Capitol Rotunda yesterday in Washington, DC. Trump takes office for his second term as the 47th president of the United States.

## Jt Interrogation Cell evidence destroyed after August 5

Says commission probing enforced disappearances in report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Evidence of "Aynaghar" was destroyed even after August 5, 2024, to hide the complicity of the Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI), said the commission investigating enforced disappearances in its report to Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus.

The commission was formed on September 15, 2024, and it inspected the Joint Interrogation Cell (JIC) housed inside the DGFI headquarters on September 26, 2024.

At the time of the commission's visit, Maj Gen Muhammad Faizur Rahman was the director general of the DGFI. He was made the DG on August 11, 2024, replacing the AL-era DGFI chief Maj Gen Hamidul Haque. Faizur was replaced on October 17.

"The post-August 5 partial structural alterations of the JIC at the DGFI headquarters include walls that have been painted over where prisoners testified that they had carved out their details," said the report, a section of which was shared with the media by the Chief Adviser's Press Wing yesterday.

"The then director general of the DGFI assumed his role several days after August 5, 2024. And yet, at least some of this evidence manipulation was carried out as recently as the day before our visit ... because we found the paint wet at the time of our visit. The wet paint and incomplete structural modifications clearly indicated a hurried attempt to conceal crimes," said the report.

"While the then DG argued that he was not directly involved in crimes committed before his tenure, his immediate response to manipulate

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

## New uniforms unveiled for police, Rab, Ansar

Home adviser says the change symbolises need for a shift in law enforcers' mindset, behaviour

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Recognising the need for a change in the image of the law enforcement agencies, the government has finalised new uniforms for Bangladesh Police, Rapid Action Battalion, Ansar, and VDP.

Home Adviser Lt Gen (retd) Jahangir Alam Chowdhury disclosed the decision after it was approved at a meeting of the Law and Order Advisory Committee at the Secretariat yesterday.

Police, Ansar, and Rab representatives wearing 18 different uniform prototypes were present in the meeting. Finally, three colours were chosen -- "iron" for police, "olive green" for Rab, and "wheat gold" for Ansar.

Asked why the government is changing the uniforms, Jahangir said that the change in uniforms symbolises the need for a shift in the law enforcers' mindset and behaviour.

"Alongside the uniforms, they must change everything, their mindset, behaviour, and conduct.

"The most important focus should be on tackling corruption. If we can eliminate corruption in this country, many of our problems will be resolved," he added.

Besides widespread corruption by the police,

### ADVISORY PANEL DECISIONS

➤ Govt allows BGB to use non-lethal weapons, including tear gas, stun grenades at borders

➤ Bangladesh to request India to revisit border agreements

➤ 33,648 illegal foreign nationals have to complete paperwork by Jan 31

➤ Action against companies who do not secure proper permission to employ foreigners

their actions targeting opposition leaders and activists drew huge flak over the past decades.

The interim government started the process of picking new uniforms for the police and other law enforcement agencies immediately after taking charge in August last year as the law enforcers were hit by a lack of morale after the uprising.

They faced harsh criticisms and deadly

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

## 90-day interim govt proposed to oversee polls

Constitution Reform Commission outlines chief adviser selection process

MD ABBAS

The Constitution Reform Commission has proposed an interim government system to oversee elections and outlined a comprehensive framework for the selection of this government's chief.

The interim government, commonly known as a caretaker government, will take over after parliament is dissolved, and ensure a smooth transition to a newly elected government. It will remain in office until the next elected government takes oath, according to the commission's proposal.

The head of the election-time government will be referred to as chief adviser. The appointment of the chief adviser will have to be finalised either 15 days before the expiry of the current assembly or within 15 days of its dissolution, recommended the reform commission, which submitted its report to Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus on January 15.

The tenure of this government would be 90 days. However, if the national election is held before the time frame (90 days), the tenure would expire soon after the prime minister of the newly elected government is sworn in.

The commission made another suggestion of forming

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



Freed Palestinian prisoner Nidaa Zaghebi is greeted by her daughters in Jenin in the Israeli-occupied West Bank yesterday, after her release from an Israeli jail as part of a hostages-prisoners swap and a ceasefire deal in Gaza. Inset, the body of a deceased Palestinian is transported on a donkey-drawn cart near the rubble of collapsed buildings in Beit Lahia, in the northern Gaza Strip.

PHOTO: REUTERS, AFP

## IMPLEMENTING CHT PEACE ACCORD Govt forms committee to monitor the process

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has reconstituted a three-member Implementation and Monitoring Committee to oversee the implementation process of the CHT Peace Accord.

Foreign Affairs Advisor Md Touhid Hossain has been made the convener of the new committee, according to a notification issued by the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs (Coordination Wing-1) on January 12.

The other two members are Jyotirindra Bodhipriya Larma, president of the PCJSS, and Sudatta Chakma, senior secretary (equivalent rank) and chairman of the Taskforce for Tribal Refugee Affairs.

The CHT Peace Accord was signed on December 2, 1997, between the National Committee on Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs, formed by the government, and the

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



Current dynamics of the economy, reform and elections

P8



Trump's America First doctrine and its ripple effects on Bangladesh

P9

জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

QR Code স্ক্যান করুন, বিএসটিআই প্রদত্ত মান সনদের বিষয়ে নিশ্চিত হোন

- অবৈধভাবে বিএসটিআই'র লোগো ব্যবহার/নকল রাখকল্পে বিএসটিআই পণ্যের মান সনদের সাথে QR Code (Quick Response Code) প্রবর্তন করেছে;
- পণ্যের মোড়কে/লেবেলে বিএসটিআই প্রদত্ত QR Code ব্যবহার করুন;
- পণ্যের মোড়কে/লেবেলে বিএসটিআই প্রদত্ত QR Code যাচাই করে নিম্নরূপ বিষয়ে অবগত হোন:

- উৎপাদনকারী/আমদানিকারক/বাজারজাতকারীর নাম ও ঠিকানা;
- পণ্যের নাম ও ছবি (Pictorial view);
- লাইসেন্স নম্বর ও মেয়াদকাল।

➤ QR Code স্ক্যান করে উপরোক্ত বিষয়গুলো নিশ্চিত হয়ে মানসম্পন্ন পণ্য ক্রয় করুন।

এস এম ফেরদৌস আলম  
মহাপরিচালক (গ্রেড-১)  
বিএসটিআই, ঢাকা  
ফোন: +৮৮-০২-৫৫০৩০০৯২