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BUS ROBBERY 3 arrested, duty officer suspended

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Police have arrested three suspects in Savar in connection with a robbery and the alleged sexual assault of women on board a moving bus in Rajshahi.

The force also suspended Atikuzzaman, the duty officer of Mirzapur Police Station in Tangail, for negligence of duty, the district's Superintendent of Police Mizanur Rahman said at a press briefing yesterday.

The arrestees are Shahidul Islam alias Muhit, 29, of Manikganj's Doulatpur, Mohammad Sabuj, 30, of Shariatpur's Zajira, and Md Sharifuzzaman alias Sharif, 28, of Savar.

Members of the Detective Branch of police in Tangail and Mirzapur Police Station personnel made the arrests during a joint drive in Savar's Genda on Friday evening. They also recovered Tk 29,370, three robbed mobile phones and a knife.

SP Mizanur said the suspects were

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Locals assess the damage caused by Friday night's fire at a sawmill at Khilgaon Taltola in the capital. Several cars and shops were completely gutted in the fire.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Unity crucial to save Bangladesh from plotters

Says Tarique

UNB, Jashore

BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman yesterday said unity among the democratic forces is crucial to protect Bangladesh and its people from conspirators.

"If we want to protect the people of the country and, above all, to safeguard Bangladesh, we must all remain united at any cost," he said while virtually addressing the council of the Jashore district unit BNP at Central Eidgah Maidan.

The BNP leader warned that autocratic forces were attempting to resurface and that conspirators were not sitting idle. "They are continuing their plans under various pretexts, but we cannot allow them to succeed."

"There may be differences of opinion among us. We'll sit together and discuss. If one discussion is not enough, we will sit again. Through discussions, we'll find solutions to our problems," he said.

He highlighted the BNP's commitment to rebuilding the country, stating that the party had presented a 31-point outline for the reform of the state structure, which includes plans for education, employment, healthcare, and agriculture.

Tarique said the main goal of his party is to restore the



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REVISED BUDGET FOR FY25

Government going for generous ADP

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

0.81 percent, the planning ministry official added.

Subsequently, the size of the revised budget for fiscal 2024-25's ADP is likely to be Tk 226,125 crore, down 19 percent from the original budget.

The draft of the revised ADP is set to be presented in today's extended Planning Commission meeting to be presided by Planning Adviser Wahiduddin Mahmud.

In the first seven months of the fiscal year, only 21.52 percent of the ADP budget could be used.

"Usually, the ministries seek additional funds to what they are allotted. But this time, they demanded less than Tk 200,000 crore."

A PLANNING MINISTRY OFFICIAL

Once the Planning Commission finalises the revised ADP, it will be placed at this month's National Economic Council meeting to be chaired by Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus.

The proposed revised ADP will see about 46.5 percent of the total allocation going to three sectors: transport and communication, power and energy, and education.

Subsequently, the number of the projects under ADP has been increased to 1,434 from 1,326 in the original ADP.

Of the 57 ministries and divisions, the allocation for 48 increased by 26 percent in the revised ADP.

The other eight ministries and divisions' allocation increased by

"Usually, the ministries seek additional funds to what they are allotted. But this time, they demanded less than Tk 200,000 crore."

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Great Wall of China may be centuries older than thought

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

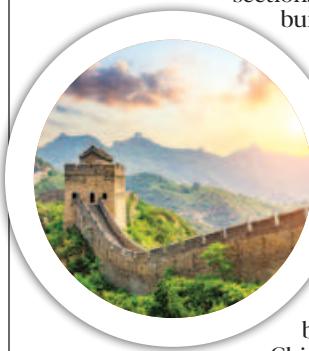
Archaeological excavations in eastern China's Shandong province suggest that some of the oldest sections of the Great Wall were built 300 years earlier than previously thought.

Recent digs in the Changqing area show that the engineering marvel wasn't a single construction project, but a series of fortifications built during multiple dynasties.

The Great Wall was built to secure ancient China's northern borders against nomadic groups from the Eurasian Steppe. Historical records suggest the construction of the Unesco World Heritage monument spanned centuries. However, extant documentation of the wall lacks details that could reveal its true origins.

It was believed that the largest portions of the first walls were constructed around the 7th century BC and joined together under the Qin dynasty around the 3rd century BC.

However, new excavations undertaken last year and covering over 1,000 square meters found sections of the wall dating back to the late Western Zhou Dynasty, which ruled from 1046BC to 771BC, and to the early Spring and Autumn Period of 770-476BC.



Josh Inglis and Glenn Maxwell embrace after guiding Australia to a five-wicket win against England in their ICC Champions Trophy fixture at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore yesterday. Inglis scored an unbeaten 120 as Australia chased down England's 351, powered by Ben Duckett's 165, with 15 balls to spare.

PHOTO: REUTERS



Records tumble as Aus beat Eng by five wickets

**India-Pakistan
blockbuster clash in
Dubai today at 3:00 pm.**

REUTERS, Lahore

Australia pulled off a monster chase against England in the Champions Trophy on Saturday after Josh Inglis's incendiary hundred helped them to prevail in a high-scoring Group B thriller by five wickets.

Opener Ben Duckett smashed 165 to propel England to 351-8, a record total in the tournament's history until Australia overwhelmed it, after they were put into bat.

Inglis, born in Leeds to English parents, hammered 120 not out off 86 balls while Alex Carey (69) and Matthew Short (63) chipped in with half-centuries as Australia reached the target with 15 balls to spare.

The way Australia completed the highest chase in a men's event in an ICC tournament was in stark contrast to their wobbly start.

Jofra Archer took a return catch to dismiss the dangerous Travis Head



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