



## Villagers beat two suspected robbers dead Suspects shoot, injure 5

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two suspected robbers were beaten to death by villagers during an attempted robbery in Satkania upazila of Chattogram last night.

The identities of the deceased could not be known immediately.

Five people were hit by bullets as the "robbers" opened fire while trying to flee, police said.

The incident took place between 9:00pm and 10:00pm in the Chankhola area under Eochia union, Satkania Police Station. Inspector (Investigation) Sudipto Reza told The Daily Star.

Several armed robbers arrived at a house in a CNG-run auto-rickshaw during prayers in the mosque. The villagers noticed them and started to chase them. At one point, the robbers fired at villagers while trying to escape.

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Damaged and brand new local currency notes on display on the pavement in Gulistan yesterday. People can exchange their torn and worn out notes with new ones by paying commissions depending on the type of damage. The traders then exchange the damaged notes from the central bank.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

## UN REPORT ON UPRISING It's crucial for due process Says Volker Türk at Human Rights Council

UNB, Dhaka

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk yesterday hoped that their recent independent fact-finding report will support truth-telling, accountability, reparations, healing and reform in Bangladesh.

"It will be crucial to ensure due process in criminal cases and investigate revenge violence, including against

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## \$29M USAID FUNDING Foreign ministry refutes Trump's claim

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

US President Donald Trump's allegation that USAID provided \$29 million to an organisation owned by two persons in Bangladesh is not true, said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday.

Such projects are executed under the Development Objective Assistance Agreement (DOAG) between Bangladesh and the US, ensuring no individual

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## 6,531 pry teachers get their jobs back

SC stays HC verdict, allows edn dept  
to appeal against HC rule

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday stayed the High Court verdict that scrapped a government decision to grant appointment letters to 6,531 candidates qualified for the post of assistant teachers at government primary schools.

The apex court also allowed the primary education department to move an appeal before this court challenging the HC judgement.

A three-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Justice Md Ashfaqul Islam delivered the order following a leave to appeal petition filed by the state against the HC verdict.

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Protesters burn the effigy of Home Affairs Adviser Jahangir Alam Chowdhury near the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday demanding that he be removed.

Tk 10,310cr in  
assets seized  
since Aug 5

P3



PRAYER TIMING MARCH 4					
Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha	
AZAN 5-03	12-45	4-30	6-03	7-30	
JAMAAT 5-13	1-15	4-45	6-18	8-00	
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION					
SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING					
RAMADAN	MARCH	SEHRI	IFTAR		
3	4		6:03		
4	5	5:01	6:04		
5	6	5:00	6:04		

## CRIME, MORAL POLICING 'Ensure safety or step down' Protesters burn effigy of home adviser

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Protesters burned an effigy of Home Affairs Adviser Jahangir Alam Chowdhury yesterday, demanding his removal from office over his failure to curb crime.

They accused him of incompetence as incidents of murder, rape, repression, mob violence, and moral policing continue to rise across the country.

The demonstration, organised by Bangladesh Against Rape and Abuse, took place at Lalmatia, Asadgarh, featuring women from various sectors.

It followed a recent mob attack on two women in Lalmatia, which sparked widespread public outrage.

Protesters argued that despite repeated outrages, the law-and-order situation is deteriorating, with little

## Mob gouges out eyes of a suspected thief

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

A mob has gouged out the eyes and severed a thumb of a suspected thief in Nazrulnagar union of Char Fesson in Bholia.

Police rescued the victim and admitted him to Char Fesson Upazila Health Complex after being informed by a guard in Char Arkalmi village on Sunday, said Ershadul Haque Bhuiyan, officer-in-charge of Dakshin Aicha Police Station.

The injured man, 40-year-old Shahjahan Mintiz, also known as Mintiz Farazi, is a resident of ward No. 4 of the union.

Bholia Superintendent of Police Md Shariful Haque said Mintiz has a criminal record. He was arrested in November last year but was out on bail.

"I've heard that he was caught for stealing," Shariful said.

A physician at Char Fesson Upazila Health Complex's emergency department described the victim's injuries as horrifying.

"The patient has both his eyes gouged out and his right thumb severed. Additionally, he sustained a major injury to his right leg. Given the severity of his condition, we provided initial treatment and advised the family to transfer him to Dhaka for advanced care," the doctor said.

OC Ershadul said police would take necessary legal action if a formal complaint were filed.

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## Crime rate has not gone up

Election by this year, Yunus  
tells BBC Bangla

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The crime rate in Bangladesh has not increased after the interim government took charge on August 8 last year, said Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus.

In an interview with BBC Bangla that was published yesterday, he questioned the basis of claims that the crime rate has soared.

"What is your reference point for saying crime has increased? You need to clarify that. Crime rates have not increased at all -- they remain the same as before."

Police reports, meantime, indicate a 50 percent rise in robbery cases over the past six months.

Yunus, however, acknowledged that the police force initially struggled to function due to fear but is gradually regaining its ability to enforce law and order.

When he took charge, Yunus said, he found the country in ruins, with institutions in disarray.

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## THE OSCARS Of big wins and bigger surprises

A&amp;E DESK

The 97th Academy Awards were filled with unforgettable moments that had audiences on the edge of their seats.

From unexpected victories to shocking snubs, the 2025 Oscars were anything but ordinary, featuring major surprises and noteworthy milestones that will be remembered for years to come.

"Emilia Pérez", despite leading the



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