

**চুক্তি এ রিপোর্ট প্রিয়ের প্রয়োজন নে...**

যেকোনো শাখা থেকে রোমটিয়াল গ্রহণ করলেই  
পাবেন সরকার নির্ধারিত ২.৫% প্রশংসন

**সাথে আরও আরও নিশ্চিত আত্মস্থীয় প্রস্তুত্যা**

\* শর্ত প্রযোজ্য



**পুবালী ব্যাংক পিএলসি.**  
PUBALI BANK PLC.

Best Financial Institution  
DHL-The Daily Star Business Awards.

**AAA Rated Bank**  
ISO/IEC  
27001:2022

**ঘরে বসেই  
ব্যাংক  
অ্যাকাউন্ট  
ঢুলুন**

পাই ব্যাংক (PI Banking) -  
একটি পুবালী ব্যাংক অ্যাপস

Π

## JULY UPRISE Former US diplomats offer support to ICT

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former US Ambassador to Bangladesh William B Milam and former US diplomat John Danilovich have expressed their willingness to assist the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) in ensuring justice, combating misinformation, and shaping international opinion.

ICT Chief Prosecutor Mohammad Tajul Islam shared this information while briefing journalists yesterday after meeting with the two former US diplomats, who now represent the US-based think tank Right to Freedom (R2F).

Tajul said Milam and Danilovich visited his office to inquire about the judicial progress regarding the atrocities committed during the July uprising.

They also asked whether

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



Buyers push and shove for subsidised essential commodities as soon as the TCB truck carrying supplies enough for 200 people arrives in the capital's Shyamoli area around noon yesterday. Every day, people from low-income groups, who are unable to keep up with the soaring market prices of essentials, wait for hours for TCB trucks at various locations around the capital.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

## Two held over attack on Iranian nationals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two persons were arrested yesterday over the attack and robbing of two Iranian nationals during a "mob attack" in Bashundhara Residential Area on Tuesday.

The arrestees are Abdullah, 20, and Sabbir Mia, 19, said Bhatara Police Station Sub inspector Habibur Rahman.

Earlier, Sub-inspector Chhoton Chandra Das filed a case with the police station in this regard.

According to police, the two Iranian nationals were injured and allegedly robbed of cash and mobile phones during the attack.

They had arrived in Bangladesh two days prior and planned to stay for a month. The incident took place near Bashundhara's main gate around 1:45pm that day when they got into an argument with local currency exchange brokers over the exchange rate, which they had arranged over the phone.

They were taken to Kurmitola General Hospital for treatment and later escorted back to their hotel.

## Freeze 39 bank accounts of ex-minister Saifuzzaman Court orders ACC

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday ordered the Anti-Corruption Commission to freeze 39 bank accounts of former land minister Saifuzzaman Chowdhury Javed in connection with corruption allegations against him.

The former minister had deposited around Tk 5.27 crore in these accounts.

Judge Md Zahir Hossain passed the order following an application from ACC.

The commission said during the inquiry, it was discovered that the former minister was attempting to transfer his movable assets. To prevent this, the ACC sought a freeze on his bank accounts.

## 12 YEARS OF TAIQI MURDER AL's ouster revives hope, but justice still elusive

SAURAV HOSSAIN SIAM

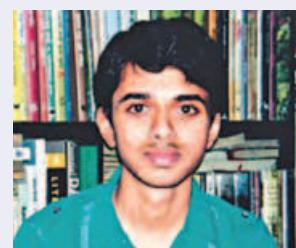
Exactly 12 years have passed since the killing of Tanvir Muhammad Taqi in Narayanganj, yet justice remains elusive, as the investigating body, Rab, has yet to submit the charge sheet to the court.

After waiting over a decade for justice, Taqi's grieving parents found a glimmer of hope following the arrest of six individuals after the Awami League government was ousted in August last year.

But now, seven months later, that hope is beginning to fade, as little progress has been made since the formation of the interim government.

However, the victim's family, relatives, and well-wishers refuse to give up, continuing their movement on the streets to demand justice.

As part of their efforts, Narayanganj Sangskritik Jote has



**When Sheikh Hasina declared her support for the Osman family, all progress in the case came to a halt. We demand a fair and just charge sheet be submitted to the court. We are still waiting for justice.**

Rafiur Rabbi, Taqi's father

chalked out a two-day programme on Thursday and Saturday marking the 12th anniversary of the killing.

"Six people have been arrested recently following the formation of the interim government. One of them has given a confessional statement. The case is progressing, and we hope it will be completed soon," said Taqi's father, Rafiur Rabbi.

"Within a year of the killing, Rab had uncovered details of the murder. But when Sheikh Hasina declared her support for the Osman family, all progress in the case came to a halt," he said. "We demand a fair and just charge sheet be submitted to the court. We are still waiting for justice," Rabbi said.

The court has extended the investigation deadline 81 times so far, as Rab repeatedly sought more time to complete the probe.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

## Don't let river grabbers contest polls HRPB urges EC to amend RPO

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rights organisation Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB) yesterday submitted a memorandum to the Election Commission requesting it to amend the Representation of the People Order (RPO), incorporating a provision to disqualify the river polluters and encroachers from elections.

A delegation of HRPB led by its president Advocate Manzill Murshid placed the memorandum to the EC at its office.

Earlier, the High Court in 2016 ordered a provision in this regard.

The Supreme Court also suggested that the grabbers and polluters should be disqualified from contesting the elections.

Despite the suggestions, no law has been formulated in this regard, said HRPB.

## Reform labour law maintaining global standard CA asks ministry



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Adviser Professor Yunus yesterday asked the officials concerned to reform the labour law to meet international standards for improving the living conditions of millions of labourers employed in different sectors.

The chief adviser issued the directive during a meeting with the officials of the Labour and Employment Ministry ahead of the 353rd session of the International Labour Organisation to be held in Geneva between March 10 and 20.

Labour and Employment Ministry adviser M Sakhawat Hossain will lead the Bangladesh delegation in the ILO session.

"We have to do everything positive and get things done. We are not here to make an excuse," said Yunus. He also asked the officials to ensure insurance coverage and healthcare benefits for workers.

Labour and Employment Ministry Adviser M Sakhawat Hossain, secretary AHM Shafiquzzaman, Law and Justice Division Secretary Sheikh Abu Taher, and ILO Country Representative Tuomo Poutiainen were present at the meeting.



## 50 illegal depots knocked down

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka North City Corporation yesterday dismantled more than 50 illegal warehouses for bricks, sand, and stone, along with other unauthorised structures in Gabtoli Beribadh area.

DNCC Administrator Mohammad Azad during the drive said the DNCC owns approximately 150 acres of land along both sides of the Gabtoli Beribadh road, much of which has been unlawfully occupied for years. The eviction drive will continue in phases, he added.



In Dhaka, vendors have taken over not only the footpaths but also the footbridges, leaving little space for pedestrians. Despite the daily inconvenience this causes, the problem persists without intervention. This photo was taken from the Farmgate footbridge yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

## A DAY IN COURT

## A smiling Shajahan and a worried Salim

EMRUL HASAN BAPPI

As former shipping minister Shajahan Khan was escorted into the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka yesterday, he maintained a smile.

Shajahan, a presidium member of the Awami League, entered the dock under tight police security, accompanied by other party leaders, including former law minister Anisul Huq, former DNCC mayor Atiqul Islam, former state minister for Liberation War affairs AB Tajul Islam, former lawmaker Mohammad Salaiman Salim, and former Supreme Court judge AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik.

Minutes later, journalist couple Shakil Ahmed and Farzana Rupa were brought into the same dock, followed by former state minister for industries Kamal Ahmed Majumder.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Md Monirul Islam formally showed the AL leaders and journalists arrested in connection with various cases filed with different police stations regarding the July uprising.

### SHAJAHAN AND HIS REMARKS

As the accused were led back to the lockup, a journalist asked Shajahan how he was faring.

"Doing alright with your prayers. Pray for me," he replied.

When asked what prayers they should offer, he said, "Pray that I am released soon so I can work towards restoring peace and order and participate in the upcoming election."

A journalist remarked, "Everyone is saying you have ruined the country."

Shajahan countered, "It will soon be proven whether we ruined the country or someone else did."

When another journalist inquired about his frequent smiles,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5