

জন ও নিরাপদে টেমিটিয়ান্স পাঠান
প্রিয়জনদের প্রয়োজনে...

যেকোনো শাখা থেকে রেমিটিয়ান্স গ্রহণ করলেই
পাবেন সরকার নির্ধারিত ২.৫% প্রমোদনা

সাথে আরও আছে নিশ্চিত আকর্ষণীয় পুরস্কার

* শর্ত প্রযোজ্য



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ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং সেবা প্রদানে 'ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং কর্ণার' পূবালী ব্যাংকের প্রায় সকল শাখা এবং উপশাখায়

‘Pay our
due wages,
bonuses
right away’
RMG workers
continue protest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

RMG workers and labour rights activists yesterday demanded immediate payment of three months’ overdue wages, Eid bonuses, and other pending dues for garment workers, urging swift action to resolve the crisis.

At a rally in front of the Shrom Bhaban in the capital, where garment workers have been protesting for four days, activists expressed concern over unpaid wages ahead of Eid.

The event, titled “We Want Freedom for Fish, Meat, Rice, and Wages,”

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GULSHAN MURDER
Prime suspect
among 2 held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested two people, including the prime suspect, in connection with the recent shooting and murder of a Jubo Dal man in front of the Police Plaza in Dhaka’s Gulshan.

The arrestees are -- Wasir Mahmud Sayed, also known as Boro Sayed, 59, and Mamun, also known as Belal, 42. They were detained from Patuakhali and Dhaka, said Rab-1 Commander Lt Col Zahidul Karim yesterday.

Sumon, a TV cable service provider from the Mohakhali area, was shot dead in public on March 20.

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INDEPENDENCE DAY

The foreign couple who fought for Bangladesh

Exhibition being held honouring contributions of Paul and Ellen Connett to the country’s struggle for liberation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In the summer of 1971, as the people of Bangladesh waged a desperate fight for freedom, two foreign voices -- one British, one American -- rose in defiance against the brutal atrocities unfolding thousands of miles from their own homelands.

Paul and Ellen Connett, a young couple, refused to stay silent. They did more than express outrage; they took action.

Paul, a British national, and Ellen, an American, became key figures in the international movement against the genocide in Bangladesh.

As the Pakistani military cracked down on the people of the then East Pakistan, the Connetts mobilised global attention, spearheading protests, raising funds, and even risking their own safety to bring aid to war-affected civilians.



Their story was revisited at an exhibition titled “Humanity Is One”, organised at Gulshan Society Lake Park in the capital, marking Bangladesh’s 54th Independence Day.

In one of the most striking moments of their activism, on August 1, 1971, the Connetts helped gather 25,000 people at Trafalgar Square in London for a massive demonstration against the genocide in



PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh.

Organised in collaboration with UK-based East Pakistani activists and rights groups, the protest became a defining moment in international solidarity -- one that stood alongside the legendary “Concert for Bangladesh” in New York.

But for the Connetts, protesting was not enough. They wanted to do more. They acquired a World War II-era ambulance, packed it with medical supplies, and embarked on a daring journey across multiple countries, determined to bring aid to the war-ravaged people of Bangladesh. When they finally reached the country, they used the ambulance to provide crucial medical support to civilians affected by the war.

Their actions came at a cost. Ellen Connett was arrested while attempting to enter Bangladesh. She was imprisoned, but her spirit remained unshaken. Just days before victory, she was released, a

testament to her relentless determination to stand with the people of Bangladesh.

While imprisoned, she discovered that she was pregnant. On returning to the UK, she gave birth to her son, naming him Peter William Mujib Connett.

The couple also received “Friends of Liberation War Honour” from the government.

At the exhibition yesterday, Mofidul Hoque, founder trustee of the Liberation War Museum, described how Action Bangladesh and Operation Omega -- platforms co-founded by the Connetts -- raised funds and procured ambulances for Bangladeshis during the war.

Abdul Majid Chowdhury, co-founder of Action Bangladesh, recalled the immense risks taken by foreigners who stood with Bangladesh.

“We, as a nation, fought for our freedom -- that was expected. But the way

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From climate displacement to debt traps

Over 70pc returnee migrants from the Sundarbans region faced harsh conditions abroad

MD ABBAS

Over 70 percent of returnee migrants from the Sundarbans region, who were earlier displaced by climate change, reported withheld salaries or partial payments for several months, according to a study by OKUP.

The study, titled “Migration Not a Choice, but a Compulsion,” found that 72 percent of returnees were forced to work excessive hours without leave.

It further stated that many were forced to continue working out of fear of arrest and detention.

Additionally, 69 percent said their movement was restricted due to a lack of work permits or passport confiscation.

Over 90 percent paid migration fees several times higher than government-fixed rates for particular countries, the study found.

Around 80 percent said they were apprehended by police and deported directly from jail.

The study highlighted that their unexpected return, often without sufficient earnings, worsened their families’ debt burdens.

Omar Faruque from Gabura union of Satkhira spent Tk 4 lakh -- mostly borrowed -- to migrate to Oman.

Within nine months, he returned after enduring salary deductions, food shortages, and forced labour without pay.

“They didn’t pay me for the first three months. We were three people, but food was provided for only one,” he said, adding that he suffered several health issues due to malnutrition.

Additionally, he was denied a work permit, and his passport was confiscated.

“They forced me to work at least 12 hours a day

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They didn’t pay me for the first three months. We were three people, but food was provided for only one.

Omar Faruque
A returnee migrant



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

People gather at the Chhayanaut building yesterday to pay their respects to one of its founding members and current president, the eminent cultural figure and musicologist Sanjida Khatun yesterday. The Ekushey Padak-winning Rabindra Sangeet exponent passed away on Tuesday.

Nation pays glowing tributes to Sanjida Khatun

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The nation yesterday paid glowing tributes to Dr Sanjida Khatun, the president of Chhayanaut and a pioneer of cultural movement in Bangladesh.

The Ekushey Padak-winning Rabindra Sangeet exponent passed away on Tuesday. She was 91.

Her mortal remains were brought to Chhayanaut around 12:30pm. Music devotees started gathering at the Chhayanaut building since morning to bid her a final farewell.

As her body arrived, everyone present sang the

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Syndicate extorts Tk 832cr from Eid travellers

Says Jatri Kalyan Samity

UNB, Dhaka

A transport syndicate has extorted Tk 832.30 crore from over 1.5 crore Eid travellers as “tips”, forcing them to pay exorbitant extra fares, according to a report by the Bangladesh Jatri Kalyan Samity.

The report, presented by Secretary-General Md Mozammel Haque Chowdhury at a press conference at the Dhaka Reporters’ Unity yesterday, highlighted widespread fare

irregularities across road, rail, water and air transport.

Between March 20 and March 31, approximately 22.74 crore passenger trips will take place in Dhaka, driven by Eid shopping and travel to home districts. Of these, 1.5 crore people will leave Dhaka for their hometowns.

Despite government efforts to regulate fares, 98 percent of public transport operators are charging excessive amounts, the report states.

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In Loving Memory of Syed Galib Ahmed



With a heavy heart we announce the departure of our beloved father, husband and son. Syed Galib Ahmed, son of Syed Mohammad Quaisar. He was our light. A source of strength that would illuminate our home. His smile had left an impression on every person who had the privilege to know him. He was our devoted pillar of strength and resilience, who carried the responsibility of all his loved ones on his shoulders. He will be deeply mourned and remembered with love. Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi rajiun.

Mr Syed Galib Ahmed took his departure from this world on 25th March 2025 at 9.15 pm at Shahabuddin Medical Hospital and was soon transferred to United Hospital. He was met by an untimely death from a cardiac arrest in the arms of his son Syed Tanzil Ahmed.

He was the visionary Chairman of GS Sweaters and a pioneering founder of Gatco. His unwavering commitment and gentle guidance left an indelible mark on all those who had the pleasure of working with him. A diligent leader with an aura of kindness.

His legacy of kindness and love endures through his two children Syed Tanzil Ahmed and Nabreesha Ahmed and his resilient partner Farzana Ahmed and his dear kind-hearted mother Nazma Begum. He is remembered as the person who would make home truly feel like home.

We respectfully ask his family, friends and loved ones to pray for his departed soul.

- His loving son,
Syed Tanzil Ahmed.