

DHAKA



Yunus calls for unity to build a new Bangladesh

Modi, Shehzad Sharif greet CA on Eid

BSS, Dhaka

Extending greetings to the countrymen on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus, on March 31, urged all to nurture closeness and unity with each other to build a new Bangladesh.

"We will, of course, implement the dream of those who sacrificed their lives and were injured during the July uprising to build a new Bangladesh," he said.

"Despite various hurdles, we will overcome the challenges that will come

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Govt will not make decision to ban AL alone: Mahfuj

BSS, Dhaka

Information Adviser Mahfuj Alam yesterday said the government will not make any unilateral decision regarding the ban on the Awami League; rather, the decision will be taken following consultation with political parties, development partners, and other stakeholders.

"The government believes it cannot make the decision alone to ban the AL without consulting other political parties, as well as our local and foreign partners and stakeholders," he said.

Although the country's people have repeatedly demanded the banning of the AL, the adviser said, "We believe the government will make this decision after consultation and a thorough review of the matter involving all parties."

Mahfuj made these comments in response to a query from a journalist after visiting the Purba Narayanganj Islamia Junior Dakhil Madrasa in the Isapur Union of Ramganj upazila in the afternoon.

Earlier, he arrived at his

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People from different walks of life joined the DNCC-organised Eid procession, carrying placards with greetings and awareness messages. The vibrant march featured a marching band and replicas of elephants, unicorns, and characters integral to Arabian folklore. Meanwhile, families flocked with their kids to the revamped DNCC Wonderland Park in Shyamoli to enjoy their holidays. A girl finds joy in playing with her balloon at the National Zoo in Mirpur, which is still a favourite Eid destination for Dhaka residents. The photos were taken during the Eid holidays.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN, PRABIR DAS

Patients suffer at understaffed Dhaka hospitals amid Eid

'Mob beating' victim denied treatment at hospitals before death, family alleges

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Riyad Hossain, who sustained severe injuries in an alleged mob beating, was taken to Kurmitola General Hospital by law enforcers on Sunday morning.

However, the hospital did not admit him and referred him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) instead.

Around 11:30am, he was taken to DMCH's emergency department, but the country's largest hospital also did not admit him. Instead, they provided some medication, stating that his condition was stable.

Later, Pallabi police took him back to their station.



Asma waits in front of Nitor's emergency OT.

When Riyad's condition deteriorated, police took him to a nearby private hospital, but he was denied admission due to the unavailability of doctors.

With no alternative, police kept him at the station. As his condition worsened, they took



Emergency department at Nitor on Eid day.

PHOTO: STAR

him back to Kurmitola General Hospital, but the hospital once again refused to admit him.

Riyad succumbed to his injuries at the hospital's emergency department early Monday.

"My husband died because he was not given proper treatment at any hospital," Riyad's wife, Farzana Akter, told The Daily Star.

Like Riyad, many patients were deprived of necessary treatment or suffered due to long delays in receiving care, as most doctors and nurses in major public hospitals went on leave during the Eid vacation.

Like the previous years, major public hospitals were mostly run by non-Muslim doctors and nurses. However, the number of patients in the emergency departments at DMCH and Pongu Hospital saw a rise during the Eid vacation, causing suffering for those seeking services.

These correspondents visited DMCH, the National Institute of Traumatology and

Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (NITOR), also known as Pongu Hospital, the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD), and Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday.

Riyad, 34, a resident of Pallabi, picked up a passenger in his car from Mirpur 12 in the early hours of Sunday. While picking up the passenger, another private car hit Riyad's vehicle from behind, causing damage to his car, said Riyad's wife Farzana Akter, citing locals.

In an attempt to claim compensation, Riyad blocked the other car and got out to speak to the driver.

However, the passengers of the private car started shouting that Riyad was a "mugger." Hearing this, locals apprehended Riyad and began beating him before handing him over to law enforcement.

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Trump admin to stay in touch with interim govt

US deputy nat'l security adviser calls CA's high rep

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The new US administration has discussed a broad range of matters of mutual interest with Dhaka, while agreeing to stay in touch.

US Deputy National Security Advisor Alex N Wong yesterday held a teleconference with Dr Khalilur Rahman, the chief adviser's high representative on the Rohingya issue.

"The two officials discussed a broad range of matters of mutual interest and agreed to remain in contact," said a statement from Chief Adviser's Press Wing. This marks the highest-level engagement between the new US administration and the interim government so far.

Recently, the US government confirmed US \$73 million in new financial aid for Rohingyas. This comes at a time when the Trump administration has significantly reduced USAID funding worldwide.

41 lives lost on roads during Eid holidays

STAR REPORT

Road accidents claimed at least 41 lives and injured numerous others across the country during the Eid holidays since Monday.

However, the actual number of deaths could be higher, as many incidents are likely yet to be reported.

YESTERDAY

Yesterday morning, an unidentified person died on the spot as a truck hit his motorcycle in Khatapara area on Lalmonirhat-Burimari Highway in Lalmonirhat's Aditmari upazila, said police.

In Rangpur, two motorcyclists died while racing each other on Badarganj-Parbatipur road in Badarganj upazila at around 2:00pm yesterday.

One of the deceased has been identified as Ashiq, 14, of Dhantala village under the upazila.

In Dhaka's Motijheel, Ruhul Amin Sheikh, 55, a security guard, was killed in a road accident in the afternoon.

In Kurigram, a farmer Abdur Rahman, 55, died after being hit by an easybike in Dhamshreni area of Ulipur upazila.

TUESDAY

In Lalmonirhat, Faridul Islam, 24, of Nabinagar village in Patgram upazila, died on the spot as his motorcycle hit a roadside tree in the village.

In Kushtia, Rahat Islam Palash, 30, and his nephew Fahim Onik, 23, were killed and Tanvir Gani, 23, was injured as a private car hit their motorcycle at around 1:30am on Tuesday, said

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NCP gears up for EC registration

Aims to form district, upazila-level units to meet polls criteria

ASHIK ABDULLAH APU

The National Citizen Party (NCP) is now taking preparations to form district and upazila-level organisational units to meet the Election Commission's registration criteria ahead of the upcoming polls.

As the party aims to field candidates in all constituencies, its primary focus is now on fulfilling the EC registration requirements.

Party insiders say the NCP is prepared to comply with both existing regulations and any eased conditions if introduced.

NCP leaders have already begun groundwork at the grassroots to form the required number of committees after Eid. The party is also expected to finalise its charter, electoral symbol, goals, objectives, slogan, and core principles, along with setting up its central office.

The NCP, which emerged from the student-led July uprising, officially launched on February 28. Shortly after, the EC issued a public notice inviting applications from new parties for registration, with a submission deadline of April 20.

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Very few vehicles ply this road in the Farmgate area of the capital; the footpath is also surprisingly empty, in stark contrast to how the area normally appears throughout the year. As many were able to capitalise on a nine-day Eid vacation this year, Dhaka has been emptier than usual. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS