

## BNP will support July victims if elected

Says Rizvi

UNB, Narsingdi

If BNP comes to power, the state will take full responsibility for the families of those who were killed or injured during the July uprising, said the party's Senior Joint General Secretary Ruhul Kabir Rizvi yesterday.

"Those who are now reaping the benefits of the July movement, holding key positions including advisory roles or even forming political parties, should be more attentive to the families of the martyrs," Rizvi said while speaking to reporters after visiting the family of Arman Molla, who was killed during the uprising in the Chouya area of Meherpara union in Narsingdi.

The BNP leader questioned why the interim government doesn't have the list of the

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A man on crutches crosses a makeshift bridge placed over the Kajla Canal. The crossing is dangerous for everyone, but especially so for someone using crutches, and an accident could occur at any moment. The photo was taken in the capital's Jatrabari area yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## RU renames 12 structures

A section of students slams the move

RU CORRESPONDENT

The Rajshahi University (RU) administration has renamed at least 12 structures and buildings on campus.

The decision was made during the university's 539th syndicate meeting held on May 22, confirmed acting registrar Iftikhar Alam Masud.

However, the move has drawn criticism, as a section of students has claimed that most of the changes were unnecessary and politically motivated.

As per the changes, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall has been renamed Bijoy 24 Hall, while Bangamata Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib Hall is now July-36 Hall.

The Syed Nazrul Administration Building has been renamed Administration Building-1, and Syed Mansur Ali Administration Building is now Administration Building-2.

In addition, the Tajuddin Ahmad Senate Building is now the Senate Building, Sheikh Kamal Stadium is Rajshahi University Stadium, Dr Kudrat-e-Khuda Academic Building has been renamed Jabir Ibn Hayyan Building, and Dr Wazed Miah Academic Building is now Jamal Nazrul Building.

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# Rain spurs fear of dengue surge

Experts warn of potential outbreak if immediate measures not taken

HELEMUL ALAM

With the monsoon rains arriving early this year, the number of dengue cases is increasing rapidly, raising concerns about a potential outbreak in the coming months.

Experts have warned that if immediate preventive measures are not taken, the number of dengue patients may surpass last year's total of 1,01,214 cases, which resulted in 575 deaths.

According to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), as of yesterday morning, the total number of dengue cases reported this year has reached 3,767, with 23 deaths. In April alone, there were 701 cases, and 1,195 cases were reported in the first 23 days of May -- indicating a clear upward trend.

Entomologist Prof Kabirul Bashar of Jahangirnagar University said the population of Aedes mosquitoes is increasing across the country and is likely to continue rising in the coming months.

"The dengue situation may become worse than last year if urgent action, particularly breeding source reduction activities, is not undertaken immediately," he said.

Bashar emphasised the critical role of the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives (LGRD) in issuing immediate directives

to combat the spread of Aedes mosquitoes.

"Breeding source management and larvae control must be top priorities. Authorities and residents alike must ensure there is no stagnant water in containers, construction sites, or other locations," he added.

Entomologist GM Saifur Rahman echoed these concerns, stating that the current rainfall pattern is conducive to Aedes breeding.

undocumented due to the lack of mandatory reporting. Surveillance and data collection must be prioritised so targeted control measures can be implemented," he said.

"Early detection of Aedes hotspots is vital. Immediate action after rainfall to eliminate breeding sites and larvae is key to preventing a major outbreak."

Common breeding sites for Aedes aegypti mosquitoes include plastic drums, mud pots,

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Act now to prevent outbreak
- Eliminate stagnant water
- Identify, destroy Aedes hotspots
- Issue urgent directives
- Make dengue a reportable disease



"Like last year, there is no active national control programme in place. Without immediate intervention, the disease will likely spread to new areas," he warned.

Rahman also highlighted the need for making dengue a reportable disease in Bangladesh, which would ensure proper data collection and a more effective response.

"A large number of cases remain

tubs, discarded tyres, under-construction buildings, bird water containers, stagnant water areas, cattle troughs, leaking pipes, and flooded floors in construction sites.

HM Nazmul Ahsan, associate professor at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College and Hospital, said they are currently seeing a low number of dengue patients, but

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## Ishraque vows to keep city clean during Eid

Says taking oath merely a formality

UNB, Dhaka

Ishraque Hossain has pledged to quickly remove waste during the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha festival and keep the city clean.

In a Facebook post yesterday morning, Ishraque referred to himself as the "people's mayor" and committed to supporting both Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) and Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) in managing waste during the Eid.

"Taking the oath is merely a formality. As the people's mayor, I bear responsibility to ensure adequate waste management preparations before the upcoming Eid," he wrote.

He also assured residents that he would assist the administration and conservancy workers in Dhaka North until a new mayor is elected there.

"We'll aim to restore a comfortable environment within 16 hours on Eid day," he added.

To speed up the cleanliness drive in the south, Ishraque announced



PHOTO: COLLECTED

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## RECRUITMENT AT JNU

# Committee formed to probe 15 years' corruption

JNU CORRESPONDENT

Jagannath University (JnU) has formed an investigation committee to probe allegations of irregularities and corruption in the recruitment and promotion of teachers, officers, and staff from 2009 to August 2024.

Alongside this, a public notice has been issued seeking information and evidence related to such misconduct during the period.

According to a notice signed by Mohammad Moshirul Islam, deputy registrar (Administration-I) and issued on Thursday, individuals with information on recruitment or promotion irregularities during the specified time-frame have been requested to submit written complaints by June 30.

The complaints must be submitted in sealed envelopes, and the identities of informer will be kept confidential, according to the notice.

Prof Md Rais Uddin, the convener of the committee and general secretary of the teachers' association, said, "Over the past 15 years, many individuals have allegedly secured appointments and promotions through irregular and corrupt practices. Although complaints were made in the past, previous administrations did not take effective action. The current administration has taken a bold step to investigate these matters. Action will be taken against those found guilty after proper investigation."



## Six killed in road crashes in 3 dists

STAR REPORT

At least six persons were killed and scores were injured in separate road accidents in Dhaka's Bangla Motor area, Tangail's Sakhipur and Kalihati upazilas, and Bhairab upazila of Kishoreganj yesterday, according to reports from our correspondents.

In Dhaka, Arshad Ahmed Sarkar, 18, a student of Dhanmondi Ideal School and College, died as a covered van hit his motorcycle at Bangla Motor intersection around 4:30am and fled the scene.

The accident left Arshad severely injured. Police rescued him and took him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where on duty doctors declared him dead, said Shahidul Hasan, a sub-inspector of Hatirjheel Police Station. "We are reviewing nearby CCTV footage to identify the van," the SI said.

The body has been handed over to his family without autopsy upon their request, police said.

In Tangail's Sakhipur upazila, a five-year-old boy died after being crushed under the wheels of a truck in front of Life Care Clinic on Sakhipur-Gorai road around 1:00pm.

The deceased was identified as Sowad Al Safwan, son of Md Masum of Garh Gobindapur area in the upazila.

Safwan and his mother got out of a battery-run auto-rickshaw on his way to his maternal grandfather's house. While his mother was paying the fare, Safwan stepped onto the road and was crushed by a truck. He died on the spot.

Confirming the incident, OC Abul Kalam of Sakhipur Police Station said police seized the truck, but its driver and assistant managed to flee.

In a separate incident in Kalihati upazila, two people were killed and at least 10 others injured as a bus lost control, hit an electric pole, and fell into a ditch along the Tangail-Jamalpur regional highway at Mulia area in the afternoon.

The deceased were identified as S Alam, 70, of Satiachara village in Mirzapur upazila, and Abdus Salam, 45, of Hamidpur Ghosaibari village in Ghatail upazila.

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## Hefazat calls for unity, patience

Demands Women's Affairs Reform Commission's report be scrapped

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hefazat-e-Islam yesterday urged all parties involved in the July uprising to set aside internal disputes, exercise patience, and unite to resist conspiracies against the state and help move the country forward.

"Many mothers have lost their children. Their tears have not dried. The blood of the martyrs is still fresh. It is not right for us to engage in a power struggle," he said.

"You cannot let your emotions and grievances fade the dreams of 18 crore people," said Hefazat Joint Secretary General Mamunul Haque during a protest programme. He mentioned BNP, Jamaat, student leaders, and stakeholders of the interim government.

Over a thousand Hefazat leaders and activists staged a protest in front of Baitul Mukarram Mosque after Juma

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Abul Hayat is presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award by Dilara Zaman at the Meril-Prothom Alo Awards yesterday. Also on stage were actor Afzal Hossain and Anjan Chowdhury, managing director of Square Toiletries Ltd.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## Meril Prothom-Alo Awards 2024 held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 26th edition of the Meril-Prothom Alo Awards was held at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in Agargaon yesterday. The annual event celebrates the past year's finest film, television, and OTT projects.

The programme kicked off at 6:00pm with a red-carpet reception that welcomed icons like Afzal Hossain, Dilara Zaman, Bidya Sinha Mim, Tasnia Farin, and Mehazabien Chowdhury, alongside numerous other actors, directors, and cultural personalities. The event was hosted by Afran Nisho and Tasnia Farin.

The opening performance featured a group dance by Mondera Chakroborty, Ridy Sheikh, and Tama Mirza, before officially starting with a welcome speech from Anisul Hoque, managing editor of Prothom Alo, followed by remarks from Malik Mohammed Sayeed, CEO of Square Toiletries Ltd, the event's long-standing partner.

The night's highlight was the Lifetime Achievement Award presented to veteran actor Abul Hayat. A moving documentary paid tribute to his career that has spanned across decades. Actress Dilara Zaman presented the award, while Anjan Chowdhury, managing director of Square Toiletries Ltd, honoured him with

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