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**ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং সেবা প্রদানে ‘ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং কর্ণার’ পূবালী ব্যাংকের প্রায় সকল শাখা এবং উপশাখায়**

Clockwise from left, Officials of Bangladesh Palli Bidyut Association staged a sit-in at Central Shaheed Minar and announced a countrywide work abstention from today, demanding the removal of the chairman of Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board, among various other demands. Supporters of BNP leader Ishraque Hossain continue protest at Nagar Bhaban, threatening to intensify movement if Ishraque was not sworn-in within the next 24 hours. Dhaka University students form a human chain on the campus demanding justice for Shammo.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS, STAR

## ‘We’re committed to religious freedom’ Reiterates Yunus at meeting with USCIRF chair

PHOTO: PID

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus has reiterated the interim government’s commitment to upholding religious freedom and protecting the rights of all citizens in Bangladesh. He made the remark yesterday while meeting Stephen Schneck, chair of the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) at the state guest house Jamuna. The meeting covered a range of topics, including the current state of religious freedom in Bangladesh, the July 2024 uprising, the reform agenda, proposed constitutional amendments, and the ongoing Rohingya crisis, according to the CA press wing.

SEE PAGE 9 COL 5

## SHAMMO MURDER DU probe committee submits report Findings yet to be made public; students, JCD members continue protests

**DU CORRESPONDENT**  
The investigation committee formed to probe the death of Dhaka University student Shahriar Alam Shammo has submitted its final report to the university’s vice-chancellor.

Professor Md Siddiqur Rahman Khan, dean of the Faculty of Arts and convener of the committee, formally handed over the report to Vice Chancellor Professor Niaz Ahmad Khan at the VC’s office yesterday morning. Meanwhile, students from the Institute of Education and Research (IER) yesterday staged a sit-in protest in front of the DU proctor’s office, demanding updates on the report of the investigation committee, which the DU administration formed. The protest began around 11:45am and continued for two hours. When asked, Prof Siddiqur Rahman Khan told The Daily Star that the report had been submitted to the vice-

SEE PAGE 9 COL 5

## Services stay halted as protest enters 12th day

Ishraque’s supporters issue 24-hour ultimatum for his mayoral oath

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After halting all services at Nagar Bhaban for the past 12 days, supporters of BNP leader Ishraque Hossain have threatened to launch a tougher movement within 24 hours if their demand is not met. Following a day-long demonstration yesterday, protesters warned they would escalate their movement if the oath-taking process does not begin within the timeframe. However, they did not clarify what the “intense protest” would involve. A source among the protesters said they might once again march towards Jamuna, the residence of the chief adviser, to press

their demand. Former secretary Mashiur Rahman, chief coordinator of the protest, made the announcement during the sit-in at Nagar Bhaban yesterday afternoon. “We gave a 48-hour ultimatum, of which 24 hours have passed without any response. If Ishraque Hossain is not sworn in within the next 24 hours, we will begin a tougher movement. The people of Dhaka will bring him to office through protests,” he said. He said while the protest remains peaceful, essential services, particularly those under the cleanliness department, would remain unaffected. Workers would

SEE PAGE 9 COL 7

## Palli Bidyut Samity workers go on work abstention

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Officials under the banner of the Bangladesh Palli Bidyut Association have announced a countrywide work abstention starting today. They, however, said the emergency power supply would not be affected due to their programme. Yesterday, they staged a demonstration at the Central Shaheed Minar in the capital for the sixth day, **Yesterday, they demonstrated at the Shaheed Minar for the sixth day, demanding a unified service rule for the Rural Electrification Board and the 80 Palli Bidyut Samities.**

demanding a unified service rule for the Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board (REB) and the 80 Palli Bidyut Samities across the country. They also demanded the removal of the Chairman of the Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board (REB). Their other demands include the withdrawal of cases filed by the REB against dismissed employees and their reinstatement, regularisation of casual jobs such as Reader and-

SEE PAGE 9 COL 5

## Primary school teachers start indefinite strike Academic activities of over 1cr students being hampered

### DEMANDS

- Entry-level pay be placed under 11th grade
- Eliminate procedural barriers to higher-grade promotions
- Ensure cent percent promotion to head teacher posts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Assistant teachers at government primary schools across the country began an indefinite work abstention yesterday, demanding that their entry-level pay be placed under the 11th grade of the national pay scale. As a result, academic activities for over one crore students at 65,567 government primary schools are being hampered in many areas, especially where teachers’ associations are more active. According to the Directorate of Primary Education, nearly 3.84 lakh teachers are currently serving in these institutions. The strike was called by the Assistant Teachers’ Unity Council, a coalition of several teacher

SEE PAGE 9 COL 7

## Schoolgirl dies after being hit by bus in Kamalapur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A seven-year-old girl died after being hit by a BRTC bus at Dhaka’s Kamalapur intersection while returning from school with her grandmother yesterday morning. The deceased, Roshni Pal, was a first-grade student at Motijheel Government Model School, said Md Faruk, in charge of the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) police outpost. She lived with her family in the Manda area of Mugda. The accident occurred around 9:30am, Roshni’s grandmother Rekha Biswas said, adding, “She was holding my hand while we crossed the road. Suddenly, a BRTC bus came rushing and hit her.” “She fell on the road and was badly hurt. We rushed her to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, but doctors declared her dead around 10:30am,” she added.

## Trial of July killings begins as per commitment Says Asif Nazrul

BSS, Dhaka

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Adviser Asif Nazrul yesterday said they are committed to holding the trial of the mass killings during July and August of 2024.

“Holding a trial for the mass killings is one of our commitments. The trial has begun. Inshaallah, we will get the verdict of the trial during the tenure of the government of Dr Yunus Sir,” he wrote on his verified Facebook account. “There has been a demand in society to make the trial visible. We made it visible eight months ago by reconstituting the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT),” he said. After that, the investigation and prosecution offices have been reconstituted, and the probe teams have already completed investigations into some cases, he said. “The prosecution team framed a formal charge in a case, and the tribunal took it into cognisance and formally started the trial process,” he said. The hearing in the case against Sheikh Hasina, the main accused of crimes against humanity, will begin soon, he also said.

Despite a government ban on these battery-run auto-rickshaws, various garages across the capital continue to produce these vehicles every day. While authorities take many such vehicles off the street, others simply take their place. The photo was taken in the Rayerbazar area yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON