

THE BEST QUALITY EVERY TIME GUARANTEED BSRM

THE NATION'S LARGEST ROD MANUFACTURER

BSRM building a safer nation

Terminal 3, Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport

Proud Construction Partner

SHAH CEMENT

No communal, political motive behind attack on Kachharibari

Says cultural affairs ministry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Ministry of Cultural Affairs yesterday said that there is "no communal or political motive behind the attack" at the Rabindra Kachharibari in Shahjajpur, Sirajganj, and that the incident stemmed from a personal conflict.

In an official statement, the ministry detailed the sequence of events surrounding the altercation that took place at the site on June 8.

According to the ministry, the dispute began with a misunderstanding that led to an argument and later a physical fight between an on-duty employee of the Kachharibari and a visitor named Shahnewaz.

Allegations were brought against custodian Habibur Rahman of the Department of Archaeology for allegedly assaulting and detaining the visitor.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

Steering clear of the chaotic rush to board the train, a man places his child inside through an open window as they made their way back to the capital after celebrating Eid in their village home. The photo was taken yesterday at Rajshahi Railway Station.

Holidaymakers rush back to Dhaka after Eid

Heavy traffic at Dhaka entry points

STAR REPORT

As the Eid holidays draw to a close and offices are set to fully reopen tomorrow, people from around the country have started returning to Dhaka.

This year, all government and a number of private sector employees received an extended 10-day holiday. Meanwhile, many small and large factories in Gazipur and Savar are reopening from today.

As a result, the pressure of both passengers and vehicles at bus, train and launch terminals began to rise yesterday.

Large crowds of returnees were seen at major entry points to the capital, particularly in the Jatrabari, Kamalapur, Gabtoli, and Sayedabad areas. Passenger-packed buses from various districts continued to arrive one after another.

Heavy traffic on the Dhaka-Tangail highway resulted in a tailback lasting several hours near the Jamuna Bridge yesterday.

Many passengers said vehicles were moving slowly throughout the morning.

"We were stuck for over an hour before reaching the Jamuna Bridge," said Rashed Hasan, who had set off from Gaibandha.

The congestion gradually eased by noon. Elenga Highway Police In-Charge Md Sharif said the

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

Archaeologists uncover fast food ancient Romans munched on

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Commoners in the Roman Empire frequently snacked on inexpensive fried songbirds at roadside shops, archaeologists said after analysing an ancient trash pit in Spain.

Such fast-food joints, known as popinae and tabernae, frequently served fried small thrushes, once considered a luxury dish, according to a new study published in the International Journal of Osteoarchaeology.

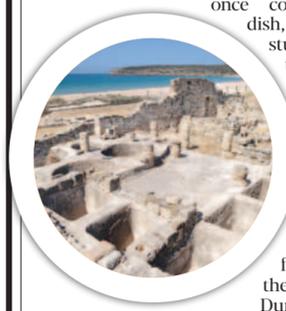
Researchers analysed animal bones found at a cesspit in the ancient Spanish city of Pollentia and dated to between the first century BC and the first century AD.

During this time, the ancient city expanded quickly to become an active port with a forum, temples, cemeteries, and several roadside shops called popina serving snacks and wine.

Archaeologists excavated a trash pit at a commercial area linked to a forum and a network of food shops via underground drainage.

The cesspit was found to include remains of mammals, fish, reptiles, and birds, of which thrushes were "most abundant", researchers said.

They found 165 thrush bones, challenging the previous belief that such songbirds were mainly eaten by wealthier Romans.



Chhatra Dal leader stabbed to death

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A local Chhatra Dal leader was stabbed to death in Sohanati village of Gauripur upazila in Mymensingh yesterday.

Humayun Kabir, 21, was the joint general secretary of Chhatra Dal's Sohanati union unit.

Quoting locals, Gauripur Police Station Officer-in-Charge Didarul Islam said Humayun had reportedly warned a suspected drug dealer against selling narcotics. "This may have provoked a planned attack on him."

Protesting the murder that took place around 5:45pm, a group of agitators set fire to several houses in the area.

Fire service personnel and police rushed to the scene and brought the situation under control.

Gauripur Upazila Chhatra Dal Member Secretary Md Moniruzzaman Manik said, "The murder happened over previous enmity."

He called for the immediate arrest of those responsible.

OC Didarul said police are trying to arrest the perpetrators.

UNGA demands immediate truce in Gaza

US, Israel oppose; Israeli strikes kill 52 Palestinians

AGENCIES

Israeli attacks have killed at least 52 people across Gaza since dawn yesterday, medical sources told Al Jazeera, as the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) passed a resolution urging an unconditional ceasefire in the besieged enclave.

The 193-member General Assembly adopted a resolution that also demands the release of hostages held in Gaza by Hamas, the return of Palestinian prisoners detained by Israel and the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza.

The text garnered 149 votes in favor, while 19 countries abstained and the US, Israel and 10 others voted against, reports Reuters.

In Gaza, most of the people died in Israeli drone attacks while waiting for food and basic supplies being distributed by the controversial United States and Israel-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF).

Gaza civil defence official Mohammed el-Mougher told AFP news agency that al-Awda Hospital received at least 10 bodies and about dozens of others who were wounded "after Israeli drones dropped multiple bombs on gatherings of civilians near an aid distribution point around the Netzarim checkpoint in central Gaza".

El-Mougher said that Gaza City's al-Shifa Hospital also received six bodies after Israeli

attacks on aid queues near Netzarim and in the as-Sudaniya area in northwestern Gaza.

Since the GHF began its operation in Gaza in late May, dozens of Palestinians have been killed while trying to reach the aid distribution points, according to Gaza's civil defence agency.

GHF has been a failure from a humanitarian standpoint of view, the United Nations said yesterday.

"GHF, I think it's fair to say, has been, from a principled humanitarian standpoint, a failure," Jens Laerke, spokesman for the UN humanitarian agency OCHA, told a press briefing in Geneva.

Separately, a medical source at al-Shifa Hospital told Al Jazeera that two Palestinians were killed as a result of Israeli shelling targeting the Bir an-Naaja area west of Jabalia refugee camp in northern Gaza.

Meanwhile, Hamas condemned what it described as an Israeli decision to cut off communication lines in Gaza, describing it as "a new aggressive step" in the country's "war of extermination".

"We call on the international community to assume its responsibility to stop the aggression and ensure the protection of civilians and humanitarian and civilian facilities."

The disruption of communications has resulted in the UNRWA losing contact with its colleagues in the agency in Gaza, the UN's main humanitarian provider in Gaza said.

- UNGA resolution also demands full withdrawal of Israeli forces
- Gaza Humanitarian Foundation failed in its mission: UN
- Hamas condemns Israeli decision to cut off communication lines in enclave

35 pushed in through three border districts

STAR REPORT

At least 35 people were pushed into Bangladesh from India through different border points in Dinajpur and Panchagarh in the early hours of yesterday.

In Dinajpur, 15 people, including three men, three women and nine children, were detained near the Achintapur border area in Birampur upazila around 6:30am.

After detaining them, the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB-29) members took them to the Achintapur Border Outpost (BOP), reports BSS.

India's Border Security Force (BSF) forcibly pushed them back into Bangladesh through border pillar 295/1 S on Thursday night, said Rafiqul Islam, commandant of Achintapur BOP, quoting the returnees.

"The process of handing over the arrestees to Birampur Police Station for further legal action is underway."

In Panchagarh, seven individuals, including two men, three women, and two children, were detained near the Amarkhana border in Sadar upazila early yesterday.

Members of the Amarkhana BOP detained the individuals near pillar no.743/1 S after they were pushed across the border, Lt Col Sheikh Mohammad Bodruddoza,

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

INDO-PAK TENSIONS Trump vows to bring rivals together

AFP, Washington

US President Donald Trump insisted Thursday he would bring India and Pakistan to the table together after recent fighting, saying he can "solve anything."

US diplomacy last month helped bring a ceasefire that ended four days of fighting between the nuclear-armed adversaries triggered by an attack on civilians in the Indian part of divided Kashmir.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio said in announcing the ceasefire that the two nations had agreed to "start talks on a broad set of issues at a neutral site."



The statement was welcomed by Pakistan, which has long sought an international role over Kashmir, but India — which has a warm relationship with the United States — was more circumspect.

Asked whether there remained plans for talks between India and Pakistan a month after the ceasefire, Trump said: "We're going to get those two getting together, you know?"



Once a vital waterway, the Shubhadhya Canal in South Keraniganj has long struggled against pollution and encroachment. Despite repeated restoration pledges, including one last month by Environment Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan, waste continues to choke its waters. The photo was taken yesterday near the Purba Aganagar Jora Bridge.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Teen driver sued for Ctg hit-and-run

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

An uncle of the boy who was run over and killed in Chattogram's Halishahar filed a case against the 19-year-old driver yesterday.

Tanim Hossain Rabbi, a student of Chattogram Government Commerce College, has been accused of reckless driving and killing a boy who was knocked off a bike in a hit-and-run.

Rabbi doesn't have a driver's licence and was driving his father's car on Wednesday afternoon when he hit the bike and tried to speed away, locals and police said.

Osman Gani Sakib, who worked as a caretaker of a residential building in the area, died on the spot.

"The victim's relative filed a case under Section 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018. Police sent the accused to the court and seized the vehicle," said Mohammad Moniruzzaman, officer-in-charge of Halishahar Police Station.

Sub-Inspector Abu Sayeed, who is investigating the case, said, "We

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5