



## Outrage after mob attack on ex-CEC Huda

Home boss, BNP, rights groups, eminent citizens slam the assault

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three rights organisations and 23 eminent citizens yesterday condemned the mob assault and humiliation of former chief election commissioner KM Nurul Huda at his Uttara home on Sunday and demanded bringing those responsible to justice.

Home Adviser Lt Gen (ret'd) Jahangir Alam Chowdhury and BNP Standing Committee member Salahuddin Ahmed in separate programmes said if any member of the law enforcement agencies and party activists were found involved, action will be taken after investigation.

Huda was arrested hours after the BNP filed a case against him and 23 others,

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RELATED STORY ON PAGE 2



Officials examining a metre gauge rail coach, one of 15 carriages newly imported from South Korea, at a workshop of Bangladesh Railway in Chattogram yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

## ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES Hasina found to be 'fully complicit'

Commission says in 2nd interim report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances has said it found proof that deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina was complicit in extrajudicial crimes.

These findings, directly implicating Hasina in enforced disappearances, were outlined in the commission's second interim report, submitted to Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus on June 6.

The CA office circulated a chapter of the report among journalists yesterday.

Lt Gen Md Akbar Hussain, former head of the Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI), informed the commission that he directly discussed with Hasina the case of Humam Quader Chowdhury, who was detained in the Joint Interrogation Cell (JIC).

Akbar served as DGFI director general between August 8, 2013, and February 1, 2017. BNP leader Humam was forcibly disappeared from August 2016 to March 2017.

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## ASSAULT ON EX-CEC HUDA Swechchhasebak Dal leader held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A leader of Swechchhasebak Dal was detained in the capital's Uttara area for his alleged involvement in assaulting former chief election commissioner KM Nurul Huda in front of his house.

Hanif Mia, member secretary of Uttara West unit of Swechchhasebak Dal, was handed over to police after an army team apprehended him, Md Hafizur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Uttara West Police Station, said without providing more details.

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## BANGLADESH'S ENERGY SECURITY Iran-Israel war stalls LPG shipments

MD NAZRUL ISLAM, Ctg

Bangladesh's energy sector may come under significant threat if the Iran-Israel war escalates and Iran follows through on its threat to block the Strait of Hormuz, a vital maritime trade route through which one-fifth of the world's oil supply is shipped every day.

The Strait of Hormuz lies between Oman and the UAE on one side and Iran

on the other. It links the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea beyond.

Bangladesh imports essential fuels, such as crude oil, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), and liquefied natural gas (LNG), primarily from Middle Eastern countries, including Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, Iraq, and Bahrain.

"Our LPG-laden vessels are waiting at loading ports in Iraq, UAE, Qatar

and Oman," said Mohammad Amirul Haque, president of the LPG Operators Association of Bangladesh.

But due to the Iran-Israel war, none of them could pass through the Strait of Hormuz.

"This could trigger an LPG shortage in the country. Despite being a neutral party, we may end up suffering from the consequences of the war," he said.

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## Govt turns to AI for faster delivery of projects

Plans Tk 316cr reform programme

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Bangladesh plans to launch a Tk 316 crore reform programme aimed at significantly speeding up project planning, approval, and implementation through the use of artificial intelligence for the first time.

Backed by the World Bank, the initiative to digitise and streamline the management of government spending is likely to be cleared at today's meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC).

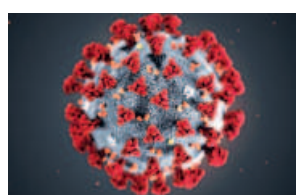
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PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Dismissed members of the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR), now Border Guard Bangladesh, stage a sit-in blocking the city's Shahbagh intersection around 1:00pm yesterday after being stopped by police from marching towards the chief adviser's residence Jamuna. The demonstrators demand reinstatement to their jobs.

## Three die of Covid in 24 hours



STAR REPORT

At least three people died from Covid-19 in the 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday, taking the total number of deaths from the viral disease to 19 since January.

Two of the victims are from Chattogram division, while the other from Dhaka division, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

The victims were aged between 61 and 70, 71-80, and 91-100.

In the same period, 19 new infections were reported after a total of 406 people were tested.

## Trilateral talks and geopolitical questions

Experts warn of implications after high officials of Bangladesh, China, Pakistan meet

PORIMOL PALMA

The recent meeting aimed at boosting trilateral cooperation among China, Pakistan, and Bangladesh might have deeper geopolitical implications, foreign policy experts here said, urging Dhaka to move cautiously considering the regional and global geopolitical dynamics.

They also questioned the rationale for the trilateral meeting given that Bangladesh is under an interim administration and already maintains bilateral relations with China and Pakistan.

The meeting was held on the sidelines of the 9th China-South Asia Exposition and the 6th China-South Asia Cooperation meeting in Kunming, Yunnan province of China, on June 19.

Bangladesh's acting foreign secretary Ruhul Alam Siddique, Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Sun

Weidong, and Pakistani Additional Secretary (Asia Pacific) Imran Ahmed Siddiqui attended the meeting in person.

Pakistan Foreign Secretary Amna Baloch joined via video link.

Following the trilateral meeting, each of the three nations issued separate statements.

While Bangladesh called it an "informal meeting", Pakistan termed it as "the inaugural meeting of the trilateral mechanism".

In their statements, China and Pakistan said the three sides agreed to explore and implement cooperation projects in such areas as trade, maritime affairs, climate change, agriculture, human resources, education, and culture.

Three countries agreed to establish a joint working group to implement the understandings reached during the meeting, their statements added.

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## JOINT FORCES RAID Man found dead after a 'gunfight'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The bullet-hit body of a man was found after a reported gunfight between security personnel and suspected criminals during a joint forces drive led by the army in Sunamganj's Jagannathpur upazila.

The deceased has been identified as Abu Sayeed, 35, a mason from Tarapasha village in nearby Dirai upazila.

He reportedly came to Gadalia village of Jagannathpur, where the "gunfight" took place on Sunday night, to work at the construction site of a new house, police said.

The body was sent to Sunamganj District Hospital for autopsy after it was recovered around 3:00am yesterday, said Mahfuz Imtiaz Bhuiyan,

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## GOVT EMPLOYEES Minimum special allowance raised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has increased the minimum special allowances for government staff, employees of state-owned enterprises and financial institutions, members of all security forces, Bangladesh Judicial Service Commission staff, and Monthly Pay Order (MPO)-listed teachers.

The Finance Division yesterday issued six separate notifications in this regard, saying that the new minimum special allowance will be Tk 1,500, up from the previous Tk 1,000.

Pensions for retired

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পরিকল্পিত বনায়ন করি  
সবুজ বাংলাদেশ গড়ি

জাতীয় বৃক্ষরোপণ অভিযান ও বৃক্ষমেলা ২০২৫

শুভ উদ্বোধন

২৫ জুন ২০২৫, বুধবার

উদ্বোধন করবেন

ড. মুহাম্মদ ইউনূস

মাননীয় প্রধান উপদেষ্টা, গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

স্থান : বাংলাদেশ চীন মৈত্রী সম্মেলন কেন্দ্র, ঢাকা

বন অধিদপ্তর  
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