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WHO sends
Saima Wazed
on leave
Reports Health
Policy Watch



STAR REPORT

Saima Wazed Putul, the World Health Organization's (WHO) regional director for the South East Asia Regional Office (SEARO), has been sent on indefinite leave from Friday, according to Health Policy Watch.

The action was taken four months after Bangladesh's Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) filed two cases against Saima Wazed,

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A Palestinian woman pushes a man and a child in a wheelchair as people gather to collect bags of flour at a UN World Food Programme (WFP) warehouse on Al-Jalaa Street in Gaza City, in the central Gaza Strip, yesterday. Story on page 5.

PHOTO: AFP

No party can
buy the force of
uprising: Nahid

STAR REPORT

National Citizen Party (NCP) Convener Nahid Islam yesterday accused a particular party of being solely focused on power and power sharing.

"We wanted reforms, justice, and a new constitution. But a party has stood against these popular demands. They want to preserve the old settlement. They want to preserve the old politics. They want to preserve extortion and terrorism."

"But we've said that even after the mass uprising and the sacrifice of so many lives, if they think of doing the old politics, it won't be easy. The force of the mass uprising is still on the ground."

Making an oblique reference to the BNP, Nahid made these remarks while addressing a rally in Satkhira yesterday.

"The party thought it could buy the force of the uprising with two or three seats in parliament and promises of power-sharing. But no political party in Bangladesh has the means to buy the force of the uprising."

The NCP leader further mentioned being told that the particular party was open for conversation.

"We, the leaders of the uprising, opened the door for you. On August 5, we said, let us go beyond all divisions

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AIR INDIA JET CRASH
Fuel to engines cut
off before crash
Says preliminary probe report

AFP, New Delhi

Fuel control switches to the engines of an Air India flight that crashed shortly after takeoff, killing 260 people, were moved from the "run" to the "cutoff" position moments before impact, a preliminary investigation report said yesterday.

The report, issued by India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB), did not offer any conclusions or apportion blame for the June 12 disaster, but indicated that one pilot asked the other why he cut off fuel, and the second pilot responded that he had not.

The Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner was headed from Ahmedabad in western India to London when it crashed, killing all but one of the 242 people on board as well as 19 people on the ground.

In its 15-page report, the investigation bureau said that once the aircraft achieved its top recorded speed, "the Engine 1 and Engine 2 fuel cutoff switches transitioned from RUN to CUTOFF position one after another with a time gap of 01 sec".

"In the cockpit voice recording, one of the pilots is heard asking the other why he cut off. The other pilot responded that he

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US slaps 30% tariff
on EU, Mexico

AFP, Washington

President Donald Trump yesterday said major US trading partners Mexico and the European Union would face a 30 percent tariff starting next month, ramping up pressure for deals in his trade wars.

Both sets of duties would take effect August 1, Trump said in separate letters posted to his Truth Social platform, citing Mexico's role in illicit drugs flowing into the United States and a trade imbalance with the EU, respectively.

Since returning to the presidency in January, Trump has unleashed sweeping tariffs on allies and competitors alike, roiling financial markets and raising fears of a global economic downturn.

The fresh duties for Mexico announced by Trump would be higher than the 25 percent levy he imposed Mexican goods earlier this year, although products entering the United States under the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) are exempted.

Canada earlier received a similar letter setting out 35 percent tariffs on its goods. A US official earlier told AFP that the USMCA exemption was similarly expected to remain for Canada.

The EU tariff is also markedly steeper than the 20 percent levy Trump unveiled in April.

The EU, alongside dozens of other economies, had been set to see its US tariff level increase from a baseline of 10 percent on Wednesday, but Trump pushed back the deadline to August 1 just days before the elevated rates were due to take effect.



Since the start of the week, Trump has sent out letters to more than 20 countries with updated tariffs for each.

Brussels said Friday that it was ready to strike a deal with Washington to prevent the return of 20 percent levies, and the latest letter suggests talks will carry on. The EU has prepared retaliatory duties on US goods worth around 21 billion euros after Trump also slapped separate tariffs on steel and aluminium imports earlier this year, and they are suspended until July 14.



Swiatek crushes
Anisimova in
Wimbledon final

AGENCIES

Iga Swiatek thrashed American Amanda Anisimova 6-0 6-0 yesterday to become the first Polish player to win a Wimbledon singles title, ending a ludicrously lop-sided final in 57 minutes.

The 24-year-old eighth seed was merciless as she took brutal advantage of Grand Slam final debutant Anisimova's leg-sapping nerves in front of a stunned Centre Court.

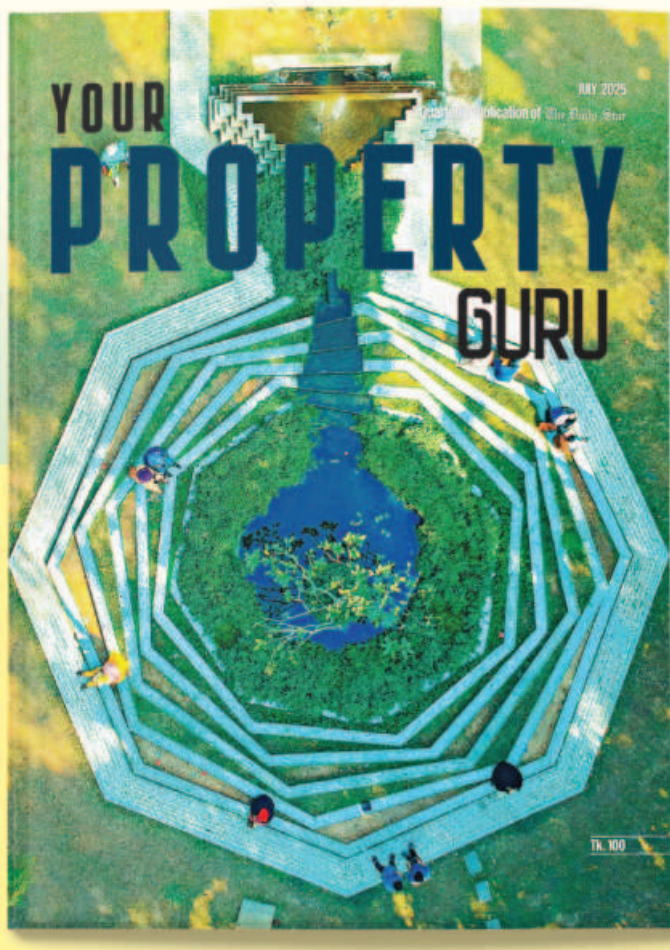
It turned into a nightmare afternoon for 13th seed Anisimova who became the first player to lose a Wimbledon final 6-0 6-0 since 1911 and the first to do so at any Grand Slam since Steffi Graf beat Natasha Zvereva at the 1988 French Open.

Swiatek, who had never gone beyond the Wimbledon quarter-finals before this year despite winning four French Open crowns, could never have imagined that claiming her sixth Grand Slam

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BSF shoots 2
Bangladeshis
dead

STAR REPORT

At least two Bangladeshis were shot dead allegedly by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) along the borders in Sunamganj and Thakurgaon early yesterday.

The victims are Shafiqul Islam, 45, of Bhangarpara area under Dowarabazar upazila of Sunamganj, and Md Rasel, 20, of Natun Bazar area of Thakurgaon's Haripur upazila.

Lt Col AKM Zakaria Kadir, commanding officer of BGB 28 Battalion in Sunamganj, and Abdullah Al Moin Hasan, commanding officer of BGB 42 Battalion in Dinajpur, confirmed the deaths.

Regarding the incident in Sunamganj, Lt Col Zakaria citing locals said, "A group of 10 to 12 Bangladeshis crossed 500 yards into Indian territory through the Bhangarpara border to bring cattle at night. On their way back, they

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