



"There are no fundamental conflicts of interest or geopolitical contradictions between China and the EU."

Chinese President Xi Jinping tells EU officials

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Sheikh Hasina

I have given instructions, now I have given direct instructions; now they [state forces] will use lethal weapons. Wherever they [state forces] find them [protesters], they will shoot directly.

Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh

Yes, yes.

ADVISORY COUNCIL DECISIONS

New pay panel formed for govt staff

Family must be notified within 12hrs of arrest; no party symbols in local polls

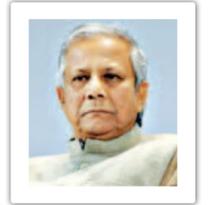
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The interim government yesterday formed a new pay commission for public officials and employees under the National Pay Scale, marking a key move towards adjusting salaries in line with inflation.

At a meeting chaired by Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus at his Tejgaon office, the council of advisers also gave in-principle approval to a set of significant legal and electoral reforms, including an amendment to the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) and changes to local government election laws.

The "Code of Criminal Procedure (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2025" makes it mandatory for law enforcers to notify an arrested individual's family, lawyer, or close associates within 12 hours of arrest.

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List killings by the AL, its affiliates, state forces: Yunus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus has asked the relevant authorities to prepare a list of victims killed in attacks by Awami League and its affiliated groups and state forces acting on the then government orders in the 15 years leading up to the July 24 mass uprising.

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'Shoot directly': Hasina's order and deadly aftermath

Star findings indicate state forces increased deployment of lethal weapons after the ousted PM authorised their use

SIRAJUL ISLAM RUBEL and MARTIN SWAPAN PANDEY

On the morning of July 27, 2024, Sheikh Hasina stood silently at the podium at the National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopedic Rehabilitation (NITOR), also known as Pongu hospital, in Dhaka.

For nearly 14 seconds of the eight-minute emotional speech, the deposed prime minister said nothing. Bitter pain etched onto her face, as if weighed down by the enormity of the bloodshed since July 16, the day police killed Abu Sayed in Rangpur using lethal weapons. Five more lives were lost that day in violence in Dhaka and Chattogram.

By the time Hasina

"I don't want any mothers to lose their children like this. I've lost my parents, I know the pain.... So many lives have been lost, so many families have been destroyed. Who is responsible for all this?... I just watch all this and..."

Sheikh Hasina

July 27, 2024. NITOR, Dhaka.



my parents, I know the pain So many lives have been lost, so many families have been destroyed. Who is responsible for all this?... I just watch all this and ..." she said, and left the stage in tears without completing the sentence.

This moving public speech stands in stark contrast to what was unfolding behind the scenes. An investigation by The Daily Star now indicates that a state-sponsored massacre machine had already been set in motion.

Just nine days earlier, on the late evening of July 18, 2024, a phone rings inside the ousted prime minister's residence, Gonobhaban, and Sheikh Hasina answers. On the other end was Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh, the then Dhaka South City mayor. What followed was a revelation of a deadly plan.

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Former chief justice Khairul arrested, sent to jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka

court

yesterday

sent former

chief justice

ABM Khairul

Haque to

jail in connection

with a case

filed over the

murder of

Jubo Dal activist

Abdul Kaiyum

Ahad in the

capital's Jatrabari

area on July 18 last year.

Dhaka Additional

Chief Metropolitan

Magistrate Md

Sanullah passed

the order after

police produced

him before the

court, asking he

be sent to jail,

said a sub-inspector

working at the

court.

Amid tight security,

81-year-old Justice

Khairul was

taken to a packed

courtroom at 8:15pm.

One minute later,

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MILESTONE TRAGEDY
5 bodies identified thru DNA testing
Says CID; 2 slain teachers to get state honour

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five bodies that were charred beyond recognition in the BAF fighter jet crash at Milestone School and College have been identified through DNA testing, the Criminal Investigation Department said yesterday.

The victims were identified as Okia Ferdous Nidhi, Lamia Akter Sonia, Afsana Akter Priya, Raisa Moni, and Mariam Umme Afia.

Nidhi, Raisa, and Mariam were third-grade students, while Lamia and Priya were guardians, the school's head teacher Khadija Azhar told The Daily Star.

Raisa Moni, who suffered 80 percent burns, was initially identified by her father at Combined Military Hospital (CMH) a day after the incident. The DNA tests yesterday confirmed her identity.

Raisa's family was able to complete formalities and bury her after her body was handed over around 11:00pm yesterday. She was taken back to her ancestral home in Bajra village in Faridpur's Alfadanga upazila.

She is to be laid to rest at the family graveyard this morning after a Namaz-e-Janaza at the Shamsul Ulum Mosque and Madrasa ground.

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Tamima Umme, held by her brother, waited in front of Milestone School and College to find her daughter Mariam Umme Afia even yesterday -- three days since a fighter jet crashed into the school. She cried, "Give me anything -- her body part, bits of her skin, her belongings, just give me anything that belonged to my daughter." They left the area with nothing but Afia's schoolbag.

PHOTO: STAR

Thailand, Cambodia clash with jets, rockets, ground forces

At least 12 killed, 35 hurt

REUTERS, Phnom Dong Rak

Thailand and Cambodia fought their bloodiest military clashes in more than a decade yesterday, with at least 12 people killed as the two sides battled with tanks, artillery, and ground forces over a disputed border zone.

The fighting marks a dramatic escalation in a long-running spat between the two neighbours -- both popular destinations for millions of foreign tourists -- over an area known as the Emerald Triangle,



where the borders of both countries and Laos meet.

The decades-old squabble flared into bloody clashes more than 15

years ago and again in May, when a Cambodian soldier was killed in a firefight.

In yesterday's clashes, Cambodia fired rockets and artillery shells into Thailand and the Thai military scrambled F-16 jets to carry out air strikes.

The Thai public health ministry said one soldier and at least 11 civilians were killed, most of them in a rocket strike near a petrol station in Sisaket province.

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WE MOURN

Mrs. Rakhi Das Gupta (1949-2025)



We express our deepest compassion on the passing of Mrs. Rakhi Das Gupta, Director and Sponsor of Dhaka Bank PLC., on 24th July, 2025.

Mrs. Gupta was a highly respected member of the Bank's Board of Directors, first appointed in 1995 and again in 2009, before her most recent appointment in 2020. She also served as Chairman of Uniroyal Securities Limited, a brokerage house founded by her late husband Mr. Asoke Das Gupta.

Born into a distinguished Hindu family in Cumilla, Mrs. Gupta led a life devoted to education, enterprise, and social responsibility. With a distinguished 46-year career in teaching and 18 years of experience in the capital market, she leaves behind a legacy of wisdom, integrity, and service.

Dhaka Bank Family extends heartfelt condolences to her bereaved family and prays for strength, peace, and solace in this moment of profound loss.

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