

**THE BEST QUALITY  
EVERY TIME GUARANTEED  
BSRM**

THE NATION'S  
LARGEST ROD  
MANUFACTURER

**BSRM**  
building a safer nation

**DHAKA METRO RAIL PROJECT**

Proud Construction Partner

**SHAH CEMENT**

**GOPALGANJ VIOLENCE**  
**'Army acted to save lives, not in support of any party'**  
**Says Army HQ**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Army troops intervened in the Gopalganj incident solely to protect lives that were under threat, and not in support of any political party, the Army Headquarters said yesterday.

"The incident in Gopalganj was unfortunate, and any loss of life is deeply saddening. But the army acted only after lives were at risk," Brig Gen Nazim ud Daula, director of Military Operations Directorate (MOD), said at a press briefing in Dhaka cantonment.

Regarding the use of force, he said, "A high-level investigation committee, headed by a retired judge, has already been formed to determine what happened, why it happened, and who was responsible."

SEE PAGE II COL 1

**PURBACHAL PLOTS**  
**Charges framed against Hasina, Joy, Putul**

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Charges were framed against 28 people, including deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina, her sister Sheikh Rehana, her son Sajeeb Wazed Joy, and daughter Saima Wazed Putul, yesterday in six cases filed over alleged irregularities in plot allocation under the Purbachal New Town project.

Other accused include Rehana's son Radwan Mujib Siddiq Bobby, her daughters, British MP Tulip Siddiq and Azmina Siddiq, and several current and former officials of the Ministry of Housing and Public Works and Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripankha (Rajuk).

After a brief hearing, Judge Abdullah Al Mamun of Dhaka Special Judge's Court 5 framed charges

SEE PAGE II COL 1



A father walking across the Shahbagh intersection with a child covered by a towel during yesterday's pouring rain. A group of demonstrators, in the background, under the banner of "July Warriors" blocked the intersection demanding the finalisation of the July Charter, causing traffic jams on key thoroughfares. Many, including patients, had to get off their vehicles and walk to their destinations.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

## Govt moves to revise essential drug list, price

Sparks debate as 18-member taskforce formed without industry voices

TUHN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY and JAGARAN CHAKMA

After nearly a decade-long pause, the health ministry has launched a significant initiative to revise the national list of essential medicines and fix their prices to improve their accessibility and affordability.

An 18 member taskforce has been constituted to draw up the list and develop a procedure for setting prices of other medicines. The objective is to balance affordability for the public with fair profit margins for drug manufacturers. In doing so, the taskforce will assess the effectiveness, safety, and necessity of medicines, guided by recommendations from the World Health Organization (WHO).

While the initiative is underpinned by strong public health goals, its formation

has triggered criticism from industry leaders. The exclusion of pharmaceutical manufacturers from the taskforce has raised concerns about the practicality and sustainability of the initiative.

Industry stakeholders argue that crafting a pricing framework without the involvement of those who produce and distribute the medicines could prove counterproductive and even detrimental to the supply chain.

The taskforce is led by Prof Md Shahinul Alam, vice chancellor of Bangladesh Medical University. According to a health ministry circular issued on July 24, the taskforce must submit its report by August 20. The circular also states that the committee may induct new members if deemed necessary.

SEE PAGE II COL 4

## 22 held over 'secret meeting' of AL men

Major in army custody for 'involvement'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested 22 people, including several leaders and activists of the Awami League and banned Chhatra League, following a "secret meeting" at the KB Convention Centre near the capital's Bashundhara Residential area on July 8.

A major is also in custody of the army for his alleged involvement in the meeting.

The information came to light at a press briefing held at the Army Headquarters yesterday.

Responding to a related query, Col Shafiqul Islam, colonel staff at the Military Operations Directorate, said, "We are aware of Major Sadikul Haque's alleged involvement. An

SEE PAGE II COL 1

BB lowers target of private credit growth

B1

## India must stop expulsion of Indian Muslims, Rohingyas

Says Fortify Rights

STAR REPORT

The Indian government must immediately end its unlawful campaign of expulsion against Indian Muslim citizens and Rohingyas, said Fortify Rights.

The move comes as the Indian authorities in recent months have been arbitrarily arresting, detaining, torturing and coercively removing members of Muslim minorities -- including those with valid documentation or citizenship -- as well as Rohingya refugees as part of its intensified "illegal immigrant" verification campaign.

"These actions not only violate international human rights law but deepen the dangerous marginalisation of Muslims and refugees in India," said John Quinley, director at Fortify Rights, in a statement yesterday.

Since the Indian home ministry issued a directive in May mandating all states and union territories to verify the credentials of individuals suspected to be "illegal immigrants", mass raids and forced expulsions of Indian

SEE PAGE II COL 4



Dengue deaths, and infections double in July

P3



WINGS WIDE OPEN



A peacock pansy spreads its glorious wings while resting on a flower in Chattogram's Banskhali tea garden. Known for its vivid eyespots and seasonal forms, this butterfly is common across South and Southeast Asia. Its population is stable and often spotted in grasslands, gardens, and tea estates. Active year-round, it feeds on nectar and lays eggs on various host plants. While caterpillars favour low-lying herbs, adults bask in the sun, using their colourful wing patterns to ward off predators. As both pollinator and prey, the peacock pansy plays an important role in maintaining ecological balance.

PHOTO: KAMOL DAS

## Gaza aid delivery is 'far from sufficient': UN

Israeli strikes kill 34 Palestinians, including 15 aid seekers

AGENCIES

The United Nations' humanitarian agency has said that the conditions for delivering aid into Gaza were "far from sufficient" to meet the immense needs of its "desperate, hungry people".

OCHA also said fuel deliveries were nowhere near what is needed to keep health, emergency, water and telecommunications services running in the besieged Palestinian territory.

This week, Israel launched daily pauses in its military operations in some parts of the Gaza Strip and opened secure routes to enable UN agencies and other aid groups to distribute food in the densely populated territory of more than two million, reports AFP.

"While the UN and its partners are taking advantage of any opportunity to support people in need during the unilateral tactical pauses, the conditions for the delivery of aid and supplies are far from

SEE PAGE II COL 3

REUTERS

Myanmar's military yesterday nominally transferred power to a civilian-led interim government ahead of a planned December election, with the junta chief remaining in charge of the war-torn country in his other role as acting president.

An announcement in state media said a decree that granted power

SEE PAGE II COL 6

**জনসচেতনতামূলক বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

আমরা অত্যন্ত আনন্দের সাথে জানাচ্ছি যে, ফ্লামের প্রেস্বে উৎপাদনকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান Servier এর গবেষণালঞ্চ ছ্যাটি প্রেস্বে - Daflon 500mg, Daflon 1000mg, Diamicron MR 30mg, Diamicron MR 60mg, Natrilix SR এবং Natrixam সম্পূর্ণ আন্তর্জাতিক মান বজায় রেখে এখন শুধুমাত্র Eskayef Pharmaceuticals Ltd. কর্তৃক উৎপাদিত হচ্ছে। সেজন্ট এখন থেকে উপরে উল্লিখিত সকল প্রেস্বের প্যাকেটে আপনারা Servier এর পাশাপাশি Advanced Chemical Industries Ltd. (ACI) এর পরিবারে Eskayef Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (SK+F) এর লোগো দেখতে পাবেন।

**ড্যাফলন ১০০০ মি.গ্রা.**

**ড্যাফলন ৫০০ মি.গ্রা.**

**ন্যাট্রিলিক্স এসআর**

**ড্যামাইক্রন এমআর**

**ড্যামাইক্রন এমআর ৬০ মি.গ্রা.**

**Eskayef Pharmaceuticals Ltd.**  
Operational Headquarters  
Plot 82, Road 14, Block B, Banani, Dhaka 1213, Bangladesh  
Website: www.skfbd.com

PABX: +880 2 55034821-30, +8809610998086  
FAX: +880255034831-32

রেজিস্টার্ড চিকিৎসক এবং ব্যবসায়িক ব্যক্তি একিবাবে বিজ্ঞয় দণ্ডনীয় অপরাধ।  
প্রেস্ব ক্রয়ের সময় মেয়াদ উত্তীর্ণ প্রেস্বের দ্বারা নির্দিষ্ট। মেয়াদ উত্তীর্ণ প্রেস্ব ক্রয়, বিক্রয় ও ব্যবহার থেকে বিবরিত থাকুন।