



DHAKA THURSDAY AUGUST 7, 2025

PLUS 4-PAGE SUPPLEMENT ON GREEN FACTORY AWARD 2025

REGD. NO. DA 781

VOL. XXXV No. 194

SRABAN 23, 1432 BS

www.thedailystar.net

SAFAR 12, 1447 HJRI

20 PAGES : Tk 15.00

Anatomy of BGB SHOOTINGS in Rampura

A joint investigation by The Daily Star and Tech Global Institute reveals how a Dhaka neighbourhood became a hotspot of state-sanctioned killings on July 19, 2024

MASHFIQ MIZAN and

NAIMUR RAHMAN

It was 6:4pm on Friday, July 19, 2024. Two Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) personnel were advancing into Banasree G Block in Dhaka.

One, a taller man in a red helmet, carried a shield and a stick. The other, shorter and wearing a tactical vest with "BGB" stamped in bold white letters, carried a 7.62mm Type 56 rifle, the Chinese version of the

his rifle down Road 1 of G Block.

That bullet most likely took the life of 14-year-old Ashiqul Islam, as narrated by two eyewitnesses, and is indicative through photographs and videos from the day.

A single round, most likely from a Type 56 rifle, like the one the officer and other BGB members were carrying, entered below his left ear and tore through the other side of his head.

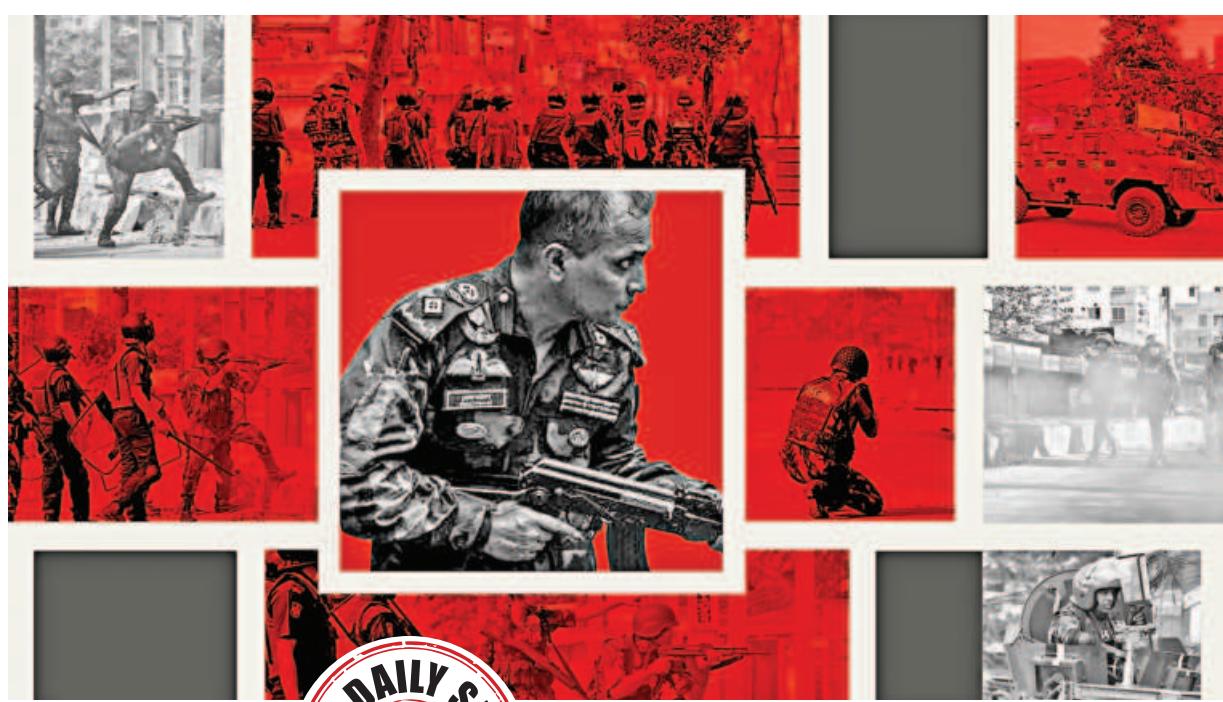
ground identified him as Lt Col Redwanul Islam.

Shah Alam, a young businessman from Banasree, was with Ashiqul when he was shot.

"The incident happened between Asr and Maghrib prayers," Alam said.

This timeline matches with the metadata of the video, which records a short-statured BGB officer opening fire in their direction at 6:41pm.

"I met Ashiqul sometime after



AK variant, according to independently verified footage, and supporting assessment by weapons experts.

Nine seconds into the footage, the shorter officer opens fire. He fires once to his left, then pivots, takes a few steps forward, and takes another shot to his right.

Another picture captured moments later reveals a man lying motionless in front of a shop on the G Block avenue, exactly where the officer had fired the second shot.

In a second footage, the officer repositions himself, first taking a firing stance on G Block avenue to shoot towards Road 1 of F Block. He then moves again, aiming and firing



INVESTIGATION

While forensic in-depth analyses confirmed a match by comparing footage from Banasree and Rampura,

indicating that the same suspected shooter was present in both locations. The Daily Star independently verified his name and identity. Sources in intelligence agencies, the International Crimes Tribunal, and journalists who were present on the

I joined the protest in Banasree following Juma prayers on July 19," Shah Alam recalled. "Though just a kid, he was the most courageous among us. Braving live bullets, he often used to run around, have a peep, and provide information on police and BGB movement to us."

SEE PAGE 8



Top BNP leaders arrive at the party's Nayapaltan headquarters on a truck to take part in a victory rally. The BNP and its affiliate bodies held similar rallies across the country yesterday to commemorate the historic achievement of the July uprising last year.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

CA office writes to EC for polls in February

EC working to declare polls schedule in December

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Chief Adviser's Office yesterday sent a letter asking the Election Commission to complete all necessary preparations for the parliamentary polls before Ramadan in February 2026.

With this letter, the government has formally requested the Election Commission to arrange the election, the CA's press wing said in a press release.

Unlike before, there is no political pressure. In fact, now there will be pressure to work professionally and neutrally.

CEC AMM NASIR UDDIN

In the letter to EC's senior secretary, Chief Adviser's Principal Secretary M Siraz Uddin Miah requested the EC to take necessary measures to organise a free, fair, peaceful, and festive national election of expected standard within the mentioned time frame.

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus, in his address to the nation on July Mass Uprising Day on Tuesday, said he would write to Chief Election Commission AMM Nasir Uddin, requesting that the EC hold the general election before Ramadan in February 2026.

Referring to the speech, the letter mentioned that the chief adviser had instructed to immediately begin all preparations and

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

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