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ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং সেবা প্রদানে 'ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং কর্ণার' পূবালী ব্যাংকের প্রায় সকল শাখা এবং উপশাখায়

COACHING CENTRE RAID Army seizes arms, ammo, arrests three

STAR REPORT

The Bangladesh Army detained three individuals and recovered arms, ammunition, explosive-making materials, and communication equipment during a special operation at a coaching centre called "Doctor English" in Rajshahi city early yesterday.

The operation was carried out in the Dorikhbona area around 1:30am, following a month-long intelligence surveillance, the Inter-Services Public Relations Directorate (ISPR) said in a press release yesterday.

During the raid, the army seized two foreign revolvers with ammunition, one air gun, six locally made weapons, a military-grade binocular and optical scope, a foreign-made dagger, advanced walkie talkie sets, GPS devices, a taser gun, local and foreign cartridges, a large number of unused SIM cards, explosive-making materials, several computer sets, cash, local and foreign liquor, and nitrogen cartridges "which could be used in explosions and will be neutralised by the bomb disposal unit," the ISPR statement said.

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A bus emits thick black smoke, choking the air and harming pedestrians and residents. Despite ongoing discussions on Dhaka's poor air quality and the need to regulate city buses, such unfit vehicles continue to ply the streets. The photo was taken in the capital's Tikatuli area yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Water gone, wounds remain As rivers retreat, signs of destruction surface in the north



OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Floodwaters along the Teesta and Dudhkumar river basins have receded, but families in Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, and Rangpur are still grappling with severe hardships.

Many who returned home after spending weeks in shelters found their croplands buried under sand, houses damaged, and livestock lacking sufficient fodder.

Strong currents left deep pits in homesteads and yards, while poultry, goats and cattle were washed away in several areas.

Agriculture officials said Aman paddy largely survived the

flood, but vegetable fields were devastated.

Abdullah Al Mamun, deputy director of the Department of Agricultural Extension in Kurigram, yesterday said Aman may even benefit from fresh silt deposits.

"Vegetables suffered some damage, but on a limited scale. Where sand accumulated, farmers can still find fertile silt beneath it if it is cleared," he said.

Water Development Board officials also warned of riverbank erosion in several areas.

"The flood situation has

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Two held over Banani shisha lounge killing

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Gazipur

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) has arrested two key suspects in the murder of Rahat Hossain Rabbi at a shisha lounge in Banani.

The accused, identified as Munna, 27, and Maksudur Rahman Hamza, 26, were arrested in Cumilla during a joint operation by Rab-1 and Rab-II.

According to a press release issued yesterday morning by Rab-1 Senior Assistant Superintendent of Police and media officer Salman Noor Alam, the suspects have been handed over to Banani Police Station.

Rahat's father, Robiul Awal, has filed a murder case in connection with the incident.

The incident occurred in the early hours of August 14 at the Three Sixty Shisha Lounge in Banani. Rahat

EC alone cannot ensure fair polls

Says Badiul Alam Majumdar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Election Reform Commission chief Badiul Alam Majumdar yesterday said the Election Commission alone cannot ensure a fair election without the cooperation and will of the government.

He made the remarks at a mock parliament event titled "The Election Commission's role is key to ensuring a fair upcoming national election," held at the FDC in the capital. The event was organised by Debate for Democracy.

Badiul Alam said, "There is no uncertainty about the upcoming election. It is essential that the election be held within the timeframe announced for February."

He added, "This time, a level playing field will be maintained in the election. If all stakeholders act responsibly, voters will stand in queues and cast their votes without hesitation. However, if political parties remain engaged in hooliganism, muscle power, and the game of money, a good election will not be possible. While the Election Commission's role is central in holding a fair election, all stakeholders -- including candidates, voters, civil society, and the media -- must act responsibly."

He further warned that if the election is held without reforms, it may become controversial. Subservient student politics is not acceptable, he said, adding that students should not act as musclemen for any political party. The outcome of student union elections in

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People united
to resist efforts
to derail polls
Says Salahuddin

UNB, Dhaka

BNP senior leader
Salahuddin Ahmed
yesterday said the people
of Bangladesh are
united and determined
to resist evil efforts to
derail the upcoming
national election and
the country's democratic
transition.

"Those who are now casting doubts about
the election through various statements against
democracy are neither on the side of democracy
nor on the side of the people of Bangladesh," he
said while speaking at a milad and doa mahfil.

Salahuddin, a BNP Standing Committee
member, said for one reason or another, some are
subtly making statements intended to delay,
disrupt, or even resist the election.

"But the people of Bangladesh are united. They
are determined to exercise their right to vote for
democracy. Whoever makes such statements or
raises false arguments to obstruct the democratic
journey, the people will stand firmly against
them," he warned.

The programme was arranged by Jatiyatabdhi

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Janmashtami
celebrated
nationwide



STAR REPORT

Hindus across the country celebrated Janmashtami, the auspicious birth anniversary of Lord Sri Krishna, yesterday.

Various programmes were organised in Dhaka and across Bangladesh. The events included Sri Bhagavad Gita Yajna (recitation), colourful Janmashtami processions, Krishna puja, religious discussions, kirtan, arati, distribution of prasad, cultural competitions, and cultural performances.

The main attraction, a grand procession, was brought out from Palashi intersection in the capital in the afternoon under the initiative of the Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad and the Mahanagar Sarbojanin Puja Committee.

After the inaugural ceremony, the procession, like every year, passed through Jagannath Hall, Shaheed Minar, Doel Chattar, High Court intersection, Bangabazar, and Golap Shah Mazar

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Battery-run rickshaws and vans operate illegally on the Buriganga bridge in the capital's Babu Bazar that connects the city and Keraniganj. Their movement on the bridge increases the risk of accidents, with many often driving erratically and going against traffic. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN