



Suspected robbers attack police camp on the Meghna

Over 100 shots fired at law enforcers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

Suspected robbers launched an assault on a newly established police camp in Munshiganj's Gajaria upazila yesterday, sparking a gunfight between them and law enforcers yesterday.

The attack was carried out around 5:00pm in Jamalpur village under Guagachhia union, just three days after the police outpost was established to rein in robberies and sand lifting in the area.

Gajaria Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Anwar Alam Azad said 50-60 robbers, armed with firearms and crude bombs, came to the police camp on 5-6 trawlers.

"They fired more than 100 shots and exploded multiple crude bombs. In retaliation, police fired 24 bullets. Later, the robbers took off towards Chandpur on the trawlers," the OC said, adding that no police personnel

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Mourners carry the body of one of five journalists killed in an Israeli strike on Nasser hospital in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip, during their funeral on August 25, 2025.

PHOTO: AFP

Unite to uphold the constitution's basic principles

Says Dr Kamal Hossain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gono Forum Emeritus President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday urged everyone to stay united in upholding the constitution's basic principles.

"We may have differing opinions on various matters, but we should remain united in our commitment to upholding the fundamental principles of the constitution," said Kamal, one of the framers of the constitution.

He made the remarks while speaking as the chief guest at a seminar on judicial independence and reforms, organised by the Gonotantrik Ainjibi Samity at the Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association.

"Whenever someone deviates from it, we can collectively intervene to stop it and take corrective action," he said, adding, "I believe that by doing so, we will uphold constitutional governance and ensure that everyone can enjoy their rightful freedom."

Kamal noted that lawyers remain divided over many provisions of the constitution, which hinder its full and effective implementation.

"This is the root cause of the cultural and systemic crisis in our governance. By disregarding the fundamental principles, we are attempting to govern the country, something that is simply not possible."

He urged everyone to identify which provisions of the constitution are not being upheld.

"Those responsible for implementing them must be held accountable, and if they fail to do so, they should be removed from their positions," said Kamal, who was the

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5 journos killed as Israel hits Gaza hospital

REUTERS

Israel struck Nasser hospital in the south of the Gaza Strip yesterday, killing at least 20 people, including five journalists who worked for Reuters, the Associated Press, Al Jazeera and others.

Cameraman Hussam al-Masri, a Reuters contractor, was killed near a live broadcasting position operated by Reuters on an upper floor just below the roof of the hospital in Khan Yunis in an initial strike, according to Palestinian health officials.

Officials at the hospital and witnesses said Israel then struck the site a second time, killing other journalists, as well as rescue workers and medics, who had rushed to the scene to help.

The journalists killed included Mariam Abu Dagga, who freelanced for the Associated Press and other outlets, Mohammed Salama, who worked for Qatar-based broadcaster Al Jazeera, Moaz Abu Taha, a freelance journalist who worked with several news organisations, including occasionally contributing to Reuters, and Ahmed Abu Aziz.

Photographer Hatem Khaled, also a Reuters contractor, was wounded.

Israel's military, the Israel Defense Forces, acknowledged striking the area of Nasser hospital and said the chief of the general

staff had ordered an inquiry.

The IDF "regrets any harm to uninvolved individuals and does not target journalists as such. The IDF acts to mitigate harm to uninvolved individuals as much as possible while maintaining the safety of IDF troops," it said.

- » At least 20 people killed after Nasser hospital struck
- » Al Jazeera, Reuters, AP mourn loss of contributors
- » Israel acknowledges striking area, orders inquiry
- » Over 240 journalists killed by Israeli fire in Gaza

A Reuters spokesperson said in a statement: "We are devastated to learn that cameraman Hussam al-Masri, a contractor for Reuters, was killed this morning in Israeli strikes on Nasser hospital in Khan Yunis in Gaza. Moaz Abu Taha, a freelance journalist whose work had been occasionally published by Reuters, was also killed, and photographer Hatem Khaled, a

Reuters contractor, was wounded."

"We are urgently seeking more information and have asked authorities in Gaza and Israel to help us get urgent medical assistance for Hatem," the spokesperson added.

The AP said it was "shocked and saddened" to learn of the deaths of Abu Dagga and other journalists, adding that Abu Dagga had often based herself at the hospital for coverage, which recently included stories on starving and malnourished children.

The Palestinian Journalists Syndicate condemned Israel for the strikes, saying it represented "an open war against free media, with the aim of terrorising journalists and preventing them from fulfilling their professional duty of exposing its crimes to the world".

More than 240 Palestinian journalists have been killed by Israeli fire in Gaza since the war started on October 7, 2023, according to the Palestinian Journalists Syndicate.

Two weeks ago, Israel killed prominent Al Jazeera correspondent Anas Al-Sharif and four other journalists in a strike. In that attack, Israel acknowledged targetting Sharif and said that he worked for the Hamas militant group, which the broadcaster denied.

Witnesses said Monday's second strike took place after rescue workers, journalists and others had rushed to

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DUCSU POLLS Campaigning starts under strict code of conduct

DU CORRESPONDENT

Candidates of the Dhaka University Central Students' Union (Ducusu) and hall union elections are set to begin campaigning today under a strict code of conduct to ensure discipline.

Campaigning will continue till September 7 midnight, while voting is scheduled for September 9 from 8:00am to 3:00pm. Counting and results will follow the same day.

Meanwhile, 21 candidates pulled out of the race yesterday, the last day for nomination withdrawal, Chief Returning Officer Prof Mohammad Zashim Uddin said. "Candidates can now begin campaigning in accordance with the set rules. If any irregularity or discrimination occurs, written complaints can be filed and action will be taken."

He said no major violations have occurred yet, adding that his team is working to ensure that none do.

Returning Officer Professor Golam Rabbani said students will be allowed to cast their votes at polling centers by showing their hall cards, university ID cards, library cards, or paid fee slips.

This year, 565 nomination forms were collected for 28 central posts, while 1,226 were submitted for 18 hall unions.

On Sunday, the university held a meeting, chaired by Vice-Chancellor Prof Niaz Ahmed Khan, with law

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PUBLIC SERVICE ORDINANCE 2025 Revised twice, yet errors persist

BAHARAM KHAN

Even after two rounds of revisions, "Public Service (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2025" still contains errors and inconsistencies, with experts warning that the ordinance will remain ineffective unless these flaws are addressed.

In the wake of disruptions in civil administration after the July uprising, the interim government moved to amend the "Government Service Act, 2018" that outlines key issues such as discipline, accountability, and efficiency in public administration.

The public administration ministry issued a gazette on the amendment on May 22. The changes triggered protests among government employees at the Secretariat, prompting the ministry to revise the ordinance. A second amendment was gazetted on July 23.

Yet, errors persist in the revised version, raising questions about the competence of the officials responsible for its drafting, say experts.

Take Section 37(Ka.9) for instance. This section empowers either the "appointing authority" or "the individual framing the charges" to impose penalties on an official found guilty of breaching service rules.

However, allowing "the individual framing the charges" to impose penalties violates Article 135(1) of the constitution, which clearly states that no person holding a civil post shall be dismissed or penalised by anyone other than the appointing authority.

Besides, there is ambiguity regarding the scope for a public servant to seek a review of disciplinary punishment.

Subsections 10 and 11 of the ordinance's Section 37(Ka) lays out punishment for government employees found guilty of misconduct. But there is no mention of Section

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President appoints 25 new HC judges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

President Mohammed Shahabuddin yesterday appointed 25 new judges to the High Court Division of the Supreme Court, raising the number of HC judges to 113.

The appointments, made under Article 98 of the constitution in consultation with Chief Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed, were confirmed in a law ministry notification. The new judges will serve a 2 year term from the date they take their oaths.

The list of appointees includes senior judges of the lower judiciary, deputy attorneys general, and practising advocates of the Supreme Court.

Among them are Chattogram District and Sessions Judge Md Nurul Islam; Dhaka Metropolitan Sessions Judge Md Jakir Hossain; Supreme Court Registrar General Aziz Ahmed Bhuiyan; and Bangladesh Judicial Service Commission Secretary Murad A Mowla Sohul.

Several prominent lawyers were also elevated, including advocates Md Anowarul Islam Shaheen, Raziuddin Ahmed, Fayal Hasan Arif, Fatema Anwar, Abdur Rahman, Syed Hasan Zobair, Md Ashif Hassan, Md Ziaul Haque, and Urme Rahman.

From the Attorney General's office, Deputy Attorneys General Dihider Masum Kabir, Md Monjur Alam, Md Lutfor Rahman, Rezaul Karim, Mahmud Hasan, AFM Saiful Karim, and SM Iftekhar Uddin Mahamud have been named.

Habiganj District and Sessions Judge Jesmin Ara Begum is the only female judge from the subordinate judiciary to be appointed as an HC justice.

Law and Justice Division Secretary Sheikh Abu Taher,

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Two women, one of whom is carrying a baby, are forced to leap over the central divider of the Dhaka-Chattogram highway after an intercity bus dropped them off on the express lane, where stopping is strictly prohibited. The photo was taken yesterday in front of the Institute of Child and Mother Health in Dhaka's Matuail.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Man beaten to death over theft allegation in Mymensingh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A man was beaten to death for his alleged involvement in a theft incident in Mymensingh's Trishal upazila early yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Rana Mia, 35.

Quoting witnesses, Monsur Ahammad, officer-in-charge of Trishal Police Station, said Rana allegedly attempted to commit theft at Baitul Rahman Jame Mosque in Raymoni Dakshinpara area after he broke the lock of the mosque around 3:30am.

Locals caught Rana and started beating him indiscriminately, killing him on the spot, said the OC.

Police later recovered the body and sent it to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

The victim's younger brother, Rubel Mia, filed a murder case against unidentified persons with Trishal Police Station yesterday.

The OC said Rana was accused in several theft cases.