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DHAKA WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2025

REGD. NO. DA 781

VOL. XXXV No. 290

KARTIK 27, 1432 BS

www.thedailystar.net

JAMADIUL AWWAL 20, 1447 HJRI

16 PAGES : Tk 15.00

Uncertainty lingers on as parties dig in

Amid a deepening impasse, major political parties yesterday hardened their stances on the timing of a referendum on the reforms, the implementation order for the July charter, and the fate of dissenting notes. With the seven-day deadline for the parties to reach a consensus having expired on Monday, the government said it would announce its decision on the issues on Thursday. As the clock ticks down, the nation watches -- unsure whether a resolution or rupture lies ahead.

Won't accept anything past signed charter

Decides BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP has urged the interim government to act cautiously amid the political deadlock, saying the parties that signed the July charter are under no obligation to accept any decision beyond what the charter stipulates.

It also warned that the interim government "will bear full

No polls unless charter granted legal status

Jamaat, allies warn

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami, Islami Andolon, and six other like-minded parties yesterday warned that no election can be held in February without legal recognition of the July charter.

They also reiterated their demand for a referendum before the upcoming national polls.

The interim government will bear full responsibility for any decision made outside the July charter.

BNP Standing Committee

There is no election in 2026 for those who would not accept the July uprising.

Jamaat Ameer Shafiqur

responsibility" for any decision made outside the charter, and the signatory parties will not be held accountable for it.

"We urge the government to take cautious and responsible steps in this regard," BNP Standing Committee member Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain said at a press briefing at the party chairperson's Gulshan office yesterday.

The briefing was held to convey the outcomes of the party's Standing Committee meeting, chaired by acting chairman Tarique Rahman on Monday night. The meeting discussed the legal framework for implementing the charter.

At the meeting, party leaders said that if the government took any decision in favour of Jamaat-e-Islami under pressure, the BNP would not accept it. The Daily Star has learnt from people involved in the proceedings.

On November 3, amid the ongoing dispute over the referendum and the July charter's implementation order, the interim

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2 shooters held over gang hit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives claimed to have detained the gunmen who on Monday, in full view of the public, shot dead top-listed criminal Tariq Saif Maman, 55, in front of the Dhaka National Medical Institute Hospital.

Based on intelligence, a team from the Detective Branch (DB) of police conducted raids yesterday and apprehended five suspects, including the shooter duo believed to be directly involved with the killing, according to DB sources.

A senior DB official present during the raid said the shooter duo have been primarily identified as Faruk and Robin.

After the killing, the two gunmen first fled to Sylhet, then to Moulivibazar in an attempt to cross the border -- but both efforts failed. Detectives later tracked them down and detained them in the region.

The two pistols used to

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5



Thousands of activists began gathering in the capital's Purana Paltan area around 1:00pm yesterday for a joint rally of eight like-minded parties, including Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Andolan Bangladesh, demanding legal recognition of the July charter, a referendum on reforms before the next election, and the introduction of a proportional representation system in parliament.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

A police official stops a battery-run rickshaw for a security check near the High Court premises in Dhaka yesterday. Security has been beefed up across the city following multiple incidents of cocktail explosions and arson attacks recently.

Surveillance at entries to Dhaka ramped up

Bus driver burnt alive in Mymensingh; airports on high alert

RESTRICTIONS

Vehicles can't be left unattended on streets

Unauthorised sale of fuel along roadsides temporarily banned

Security tightened at metro, rail stations, courts, other key points

Border surveillance intensified to prevent infiltration

Law enforcers to be deployed at entries to Dhaka



TOUSIF KAIUM AND MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

The government has rolled out extensive security measures to thwart any act of sabotage ahead of the Awami League's "Dhaka Lockdown" programme tomorrow, an event announced despite a ban on the party's activities.

Officials from the home ministry and law enforcement agencies said security forces have been placed on high alert and will show zero-tolerance against any attempt to create unrest

in or destabilise the capital.

Surveillance across Dhaka and its entry points was ramped up early yesterday. No gatherings or demonstrations will be allowed at the city's entrances tomorrow.

During visits last night, police patrols were visible at major entry points including Gabtoli, Jatrabari, Abdullaahpur, and Tongi, where additional checkpoints have been set up to screen incoming vehicles.

Authorities have also tightened border

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4 SENSATIONAL MURDERS Ctg police yet to make headway

FM MIZANUR RAHMAN

A recent spate of shootings and murders has shaken the port city, yet there has been little visible action from the Chattogram Metropolitan Police.

In the majority of these cases, police have yet to apprehend any of the main gunmen or recover the murder weapons, confirm police sources.

As of yet, there has been no real headway in at least four major public shootings.

Several police officials, requesting anonymity, admitted that in two of these incidents, the victims were listed criminals themselves -- leading to a lack of interest from law enforcement.

AKBAR MURDER CASE

On May 25, Md Akbar, alias "Dhakaiya Akbar", a known criminal from the port city's Bayezid area, was shot in broad daylight at Patenga in front of bystanders. He died a day later at Chattogram Medical College Hospital. Police said he had 10 cases against him, including murder, arms, and extortion charges.

Akbar reportedly had a long standing feud with another notorious Bayezid-based criminal, Sazzad Hossain, alias "Chhoto Sazzad". Before his death, Akbar had posted several videos on Facebook from his account while criticising Sazzad Ali alias "Boro Sazzad" -- a fugitive accused in the sensational "Eight-Murder Case" -- and his



There's no sense of security here. We're living in fear after losing him.

Alamgir, brother of Sarwar who was killed last week

close accomplice, Chhoto Sazzad.

Police suspect the killing was a result of internal gang rivalry.

Akbar's family filed a case with Patenga Police Station against 11 individuals. Following the incident, Rab apprehended two relatives of Boro Sazzad -- his nephew Alvin and his brother Osman Ali -- and handed them over to the police. However, progress on the investigation appears to have since slowed.

Investigating Officer Amitab Das, sub-inspector of Patenga Police Station, said, "Four accused have been arrested so far; two are currently out on bail. The weapon used has not been recovered."

Akbar was shot twice at close range with a pistol, the IO said, adding that the police believe the murder stemmed from a turf war.

When asked why the gunmen had not been identified, he replied, "There's no CCTV footage of the shooting. We've recorded eyewitness statements and are continuing efforts to catch the remaining accused."

SARWAR MURDER CASE

It has been almost a week, and yet the police are in the dark about the murder of high-profile gangster Sarwar Hossain, alias Babla, on November 5. He was shot dead in the city's Chalitali area while accompanying BNP-nominated candidate Ershad Ullah during election campaigning for the Chattogram-8 constituency.

Investigators have yet to find any clue about who carried out the attack or how they escaped.

Sarwar's father, Abdul Kader, filed a case with Bayezid Bostami Police Station naming 22 people as accused. Police have arrested four of them so far, but the key suspects -- including Mohammad Raihan and Mobarak Hossain -- remain at large, and the weapon used has not been recovered.

The victim's brother, Alamgir, told The Daily Star "I saw my brother being shot right in front of my eyes. The attackers fired multiple rounds and fled openly without any resistance from law enforcement."

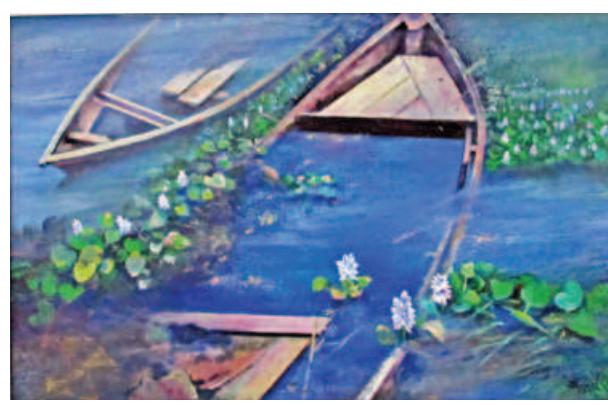
"There's no sense of security here. We're living in fear after losing him," said a visibly shaken Alamgir.

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KSRM

সেকুড় থেকে শিথরে



Celebrating Jamal Ahmed's life and art at Galleri Kaya

RBR

Artist Jamal Uddin Ahmed's stylish confidence, tilting towards a definite hippie swagger, is what makes the art world of Dhaka love him. He dons a devil-may-care attitude, yet has the most amiable personality, making him a pleasant person to interact with.

His towering persona is accentuated by his trademark open shirt buttons, upturned collars, thick gold chains, and a nonchalant poise. The 70-year-old recently celebrated his birthday at Galleri Kaya, a contemporary art gallery in Uttara.

Dressed in an all-white ensemble, and his glasses on top of his forehead, the artist deliberately displayed a Tamil superstar vibe, looking mysteriously stylish.

The Ekushey Padak recipient of 2019, Ahmed is a professor at the Department of Drawing & Painting of the University of Dhaka, under the Faculty of Fine Arts.

His popularity surpasses that of any superstar, and because of his emotional intelligence, conscientiousness, and a friendly, easily approachable demeanour, the artist is sought-after personality in Dhaka's art community. Ahmed is highly valued in his social and professional settings as well.

Galleri Kaya, with its strong commitment to professionalism and keeping the gallery purely on an intellectual and creative plateau, is holding an exclusive exhibition, "Celebrating Jamal Ahmed." Exhibits from his most recent works.

His works reflect his non-conformist attitude, and a powerful philosophical



stance that is almost psychedelic. His bold strokes bring out the subtlety in the pose of his subject, be it a girl bathing or a pigeon in flight. He can capture the true essence of a fleeting expression to perfection, which draws us to his art.

His style does not stem from any artsy perspective of his surroundings; rather, it shows his skill in capturing the exact emotion of how any normal person would view a girl braiding her hair, or the old lady contemplating life sitting on a chair on the porch.

"His strength lies in realism. He has mastered the art of capturing light and shadow. It is quite apparent that the artist possesses a profound comprehension of landscapes. Several of his figurative works express a significant feeling of joy. His drawings and sketches are vibrant and exhibit the appropriate level of restraint. He understands precisely when to cease,

which is a fundamental element of his artistic expression," says Goutam Chakraborty, director, Galleri Kaya.

Jamal's themes are almost kaleidoscopic; from the picturesque beauty of Bengal, its peaceful landscapes and riverine communities, to urban life, bauls, mendicants, and the working class. But it is his aesthetic portrayal of the alluring forms of young women, gypsy women, oarsmen, boatmen, and fishermen that are a smash hit with contemporary collectors of Dhaka. However, his most sought after artworks feature his pigeons, horses, and raging bull.

For art enthusiasts, collectors, and regular people, Jamal's paintings bring about a profound sense of exhilaration.

The most striking canvas exhibited at Galleri Kaya is the 2025 acrylic work on canvas called Beauty in the river, 72x72 inches in size. Then there is Winter in the same medium on a canvas of 42x66 inches.

There is a total of 22 artworks of watercolour on paper, charcoal on paper, and mixed media on paper. These are works done between '24 and '25 and will be on exhibition at Galleri Kaya till November 21.

Galleri Kaya started its journey on 28 May, 2004, and has a successful portfolio of exhibitions, art trips, art camps, and art workshops both at home and abroad, gradually building a bond of trust with artists, art connoisseurs, and the media.

Celebrating Jamal Ahmed is a must-visit exhibition, because it fills you with cheerfulness and takes your mind off the chaos.

Won't accept anything past signed charter

FROM PAGE 1
government urged political parties to resolve their differences and reach a unified decision within a week.

After the deadline passed, the BNP held a press conference to formally state its position.

Reading from a written statement, Mosharrif said some government advisers had recently made remarks about announcing certain decisions outside the framework of the July charter.

"Such statements are misleading and amount to ignoring the consensus-based decisions adopted earlier," he said.

Standing Committee member Salahuddin Ahmed said the charter was signed through a historic event and includes some notes of dissent from different

political parties on certain points.

He added that the country is now being run under the constitution and that the interim government has taken oath under it, so everything is proceeding according to law.

"According to the constitution, it is the president who has the power to issue any ordinance. But if any order is to be issued, there is currently no constitutional provision in Bangladesh that would give such an order legal validity," he said.

Asked whether there was any scope for talks on the referendum issue, he said if the government invited discussions, there could be an opportunity for dialogue.

Earlier, at a meeting in Thakurgaon, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said the government would be entirely responsible if anything beyond the consensus on reforms was over shared.

imposed by force.

Meanwhile, on the same day, Jamaat and seven like-minded parties held a rally pressing their five-point demand, which includes giving a legal basis to the July charter and holding the next election under the proportional representation system.

A Standing Committee member, seeking anonymity, said: "Over the July charter, Jamaat has taken to the streets, which is not the right way. If the BNP wanted to, it could do the same, but we won't. We want a peaceful transition through discussions."

The party will hold talks with several parties and alliances, including Ganatantra Mancha, the 12-Party Alliance, the Jatiyatabadi Samonoma Jote, and other like-minded parties over seat-sharing.

Over the last few days, Dhaka and some other parts of the country have witnessed a spate of flash processions, crude bomb and arson attacks.

In two days until the filing of this report at 1:00am today, at least 19 crude bombs went off, and 11 vehicles were set ablaze, leaving city residents on edge.

The last bomb blasts took place in front of the International Crimes Tribunal's (ICT) investigation agency office in Dhanmondi at 8:04pm, and in front of the Government Post Office (GPO) near Gulistan's Zero Point around 9:25pm.

The ICT is set to announce the date of a verdict in a case against ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina on charges of crimes against humanity committed during the July uprising.

In both incidents of crude bomb blasts last night, two assailants on a motorcycle hurled the bombs and fled the scene, police said. No casualties or arrests were reported.

Two buses were also torched in Dhaka and Gazipur last night.

The fire broke out on a bus near Turag City on the Mirpur Beribadh road, an area under Shah Ali Police Station, around 10:00pm. Another

be the roadmap for a new Bangladesh. Those opposing the referendum want to revive fascism. We earned this country with blood, and we'll save it with blood."

Jamaat Secretary General Golam Porwar also said the election would be "invalid" if the charter and referendum were not implemented.

Khelafat Majlis Amer Maulana Abdul Basit Azad said, "Our demand must be met. In future, we will not tolerate any rule that goes against the Holy Quran."

Jatiya Ganatantra Party Spokesperson Rashed Pradhan said, "We won't let the uprising be questioned through a question-base referendum on the day of the symbol-based election."

Bangladesh Khelafat Andolok Secretary General Habibullah Mazi, Bangladesh Nizame Islam Party Amer Sarwar Kamal Azizi, and Bangladesh Development Party President Anwarul Islam Chan also addressed the rally.

Joint Secretary Ahmad Abdul Kaiyum, and Assistant Publicity Secretary KM Sharifullah.

The Jamaat ameer said, "We speak politely, but on our demands, we are as firm as the Himalayas. People will not bow to fascism. The movement will continue until the people's demands are fulfilled. The government should understand this and hold the referendum before the election."

Also calling for the referendum to be held before the polls, Islami Andolok Bangladesh Ameer Syed Muhammad Rezaul Karim said, "If legal recognition [of the charter] is not given, the election will be illegal."

Addressing the government, he added, "If you don't act, we'll launch a movement strong enough to compel you to hold the referendum before the polls."

Hamidur Rahman Azad said, "The fascist regime amended the constitution to remove the provision for

the roadmap for a new Bangladesh. Those opposing the referendum want to revive fascism. We earned this country with blood, and we'll save it with blood."

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Surveillance at entries to Dhaka ramped up

FROM PAGE 1
surveillance to prevent the movement of arms and suspects.

Border Guard Bangladesh has been ordered to increase patrols along crossing points, particularly in the west and southeast.

Law enforcers have been instructed to take immediate action against anyone attempting to block roads or incite violence, officials said.

Several English-medium schools have switched to online classes over safety concerns, sources said.

The Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh has issued directives to restrict public movement around airports, and intensify searches, and patrols.

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The fire broke out on a bus near Turag City on the Mirpur Beribadh road, an area under Shah Ali Police Station, around 10:00pm. Another

bus was set on fire in the Chakrabarti area of Gazipur's Kashimpur around 9:50pm.

Police said they did not have information on who started the fires. No casualties or arrests were reported in either incident.

Meanwhile, tragedy struck early yesterday when a bus driver was burnt to death and two passengers injured after unidentified assailants torched a parked bus in Mymensingh's Phulbaria upazila around 3:15am.

The victim, Julhas Mia, 35, a driver for Alam Asia Paribahan, was asleep inside the bus when three men arrived and set it ablaze, CCTV footage showed. The fire spread rapidly, burning him alive.

Passengers Sharmin Sultana Rumki, 40, and her

units of the police and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) are closely monitoring online activity to identify those responsible.

Intelligence officials said the pattern of violence suggests a coordinated effort to destabilise Dhaka and challenge state authority ahead of the coming election season.

A senior officer involved in counter sabotage operations told The Daily Star that several groups have been identified as working under the direction of exiled political figures.

"Their main target is to create a sense of fear among city residents before the so-called lockdown," the officer said, requesting anonymity.

To finalise security plans for November 13, the Advisory Council Committee on Law

"Security has been intensified around metro rail stations, courts, railway terminals, and tribunals. Additional forces have been deployed in potential trouble spots," he said, adding that law enforcement had been instructed to act immediately on any threat intelligence.

"The government will not allow anyone to create panic or disrupt normal life in the name of politics."

At a separate briefing, DMP Commissioner Sheikh Md Sajit Ali said a banned political party and its affiliates were plotting subversive acts.

"In the past 24 hours, police filed 17 cases and detained 50 suspects; most of them brought into the capital from neighbouring districts with promises of payment," he said.

"These individuals were hired to join processions, detonate crude bombs, or torch vehicles before disappearing. We are identifying their handlers."

He urged Dhaka residents not to shelter strangers and advised hotel and mess owners to verify guests' identities before renting rooms.

Police have also launched drives, checking guest records at hotels and messes to ensure no one with ill intent takes shelter in the capital.

Transport workers have also been told to remain alert if any bus carries unusually few passengers -- a tactic often used by arsonists to avoid detection.

Dhaka is under tight security coverage. Every major route, terminal, and installation is being monitored," said a deputy commissioner of DMP.

"We are confident that any attempt to destabilise the city will be foiled."

2 shooters held

FROM PAGE 1

commit the murder have also been recovered, added the official, while speaking to this newspaper last night on condition of anonymity.

Monday's shooting took place just outside the hospital gate around 11:00am.

Two masked gunmen emerged from the crowd, raised their pistols, and opened fire on Mamun in front of hundreds of witnesses.

Mamun had gone to court that morning for a hearing in a 29-year-old murder case and was returning home to Aftabnagar when the attack occurred.

The gunmen opened fire from a short distance, killing him on the spot, before calmly walking away.

Witnesses described their movements as "brazen", saying they ensured the victim's death before leaving the scene.

While two men carried out the killing -- an operation lasting less than three minutes -- at least two backup teams were positioned nearby in case the plan faltered, a senior DMP official, who is involved with the investigation, told this newspaper.

"They were wearing masks and hats to conceal their identities, but we managed to identify them with the help of surveillance tools," said the senior official, requesting anonymity.

Meanwhile, a case is yet to be filed in connection with the killing, as police say the victim's family had gone to Lakshmpur for funeral rites.

Another official involved with the investigation said they suspect Sanjidul Hassan

was carried out by Emon's associates.

After the killing, Mamun's wife, Dipa, also said, "No one other than Emon could have done this. A few days ago, Emon had hired people to attack Mamun."

This was not the first murder attempt on Mamun.

Govt to clarify

FROM PAGE 1

working independently. Within the next three to four days, it will become clear what steps we have taken regarding the implementation of the charter," Nazrul told reporters.

He said the matter is being discussed at various levels of the Advisory Council. "We are coordinating with all parties' expectations to ensure that actions taken serve the country's and people's interests."

Meanwhile, Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shahiquel Alam yesterday said the Awami League is trying to disrupt the upcoming

Emon, a prominent figure in the

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**Yunus calls
for quality,
inclusivity
in BNCC**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus has called for improving the quality and inclusivity of the Bangladesh National Cadet Corps (BNCC) as part of a long-term vision to engage youth in leadership, discipline, and national development.

"We all support BNCC, but we need to ensure quality and have good, credible instructors. We must pay attention to this and adopt a futuristic approach," he said after a presentation by BNCC

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**'Will maintain
our funding
for Rohingyas'
Says Médecins Sans
Frontières**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With humanitarian funding declining for Rohingya communities in Cox's Bazar, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) yesterday said it would maintain its current level of funding in Bangladesh.

"We intend to maintain our level of funding," said Orla Murphy, MSF's country representative, at a Café de Pres event held at a hotel in Dhaka.

The Bangladesh chapter of the international medical humanitarian organisation organised the event to share updates on its activities in the country.

A humanitarian crisis is unfolding in the Rohingya camps due to funding shortages and continued arrivals from Myanmar's conflict-hit Rakhine state,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5



Long tailbacks formed near the Matsya Bhawan in the capital yesterday afternoon. A joint rally by eight like-minded parties, including Jamaat-e-Islami, at Purana Paltan brought traffic in Dhaka to a standstill. The situation became normal in the evening.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

EC bans posters, drones in campaigns

Issues code of conduct for national elections with guidelines for social media

AHMED DEEPTO

The Election Commission has introduced a comprehensive code of conduct that bans the use of posters and sets clear guidelines for the use of social media during election campaigns.

The commission issued the code late Monday night ahead of the 13th national election, expected in the first half of February.

It outlines detailed dos and don'ts for candidates and political parties.

The new rules introduce stricter measures, including the possibility of disqualifying candidates for serious breaches of conduct.

The new code also bars members of the Advisory Council from participating in election campaign.

It further requires individuals serving or nominated as chairpersons or members of the governing bodies of educational

AT A GLANCE



- No political activities or campaigns in schools
- No decorative lighting; only digital billboards may use illumination
- Advisory Council members barred from taking part in campaigns
- No use of AI for deceptive or manipulative content
- No spreading of hate speech, misinfo, or fake materials online

institutions to resign from those positions once their candidacy is finalised. It also prohibits campaigning at educational institutions.

Additional penalties have also been specified, and all parties and candidates must sign a written

pledge to comply with the code, according to the EC.

The draft makes it mandatory for political parties and candidates to formally commit to following the code.

Election Commissioner
SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

Armed forces' magistracy extended till February 28
UNB, Dhaka

The government has once again extended the magistracy power of commissioned officers in the army, navy, and air force until February 28 next year, effective from today, according to a notification from the Ministry of Public Administration.

According to the notification, commissioned officers holding the rank of captain and above in the Bangladesh Armed Forces have been granted special executive magistrate powers across the country.

The government initially granted the magistracy power to commissioned army officers on September 17 last year for 60 days to improve law and order. It was subsequently extended on January 12, March 13, May 13, and July 13 this year.

Traffic slows in some spots amid eight-party rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Traffic in Dhaka came to a standstill in some key places yesterday afternoon after a joint rally by eight like-minded parties, including Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Andolan Bangladesh, commenced at Purana Paltan.

Activists began gathering at the venue from 1:00pm, blocking key intersections in the vicinity and causing a complete shutdown of traffic between the Kadam Foara and Dainik Bangla intersections.

Police set up barricades at both ends, while Jamaat activists were seen helping direct traffic alongside traffic police. The road closure led to gridlocks on adjacent routes, while metro rail stations in the area witnessed unusually large crowds.

Traffic Sergeant Minjis Alam Jibon, on duty at Kadam Foara, said police had placed barricades before 1:00pm.

"This stretch from Kadam Foara to Dainik Bangla is one of Dhaka's busiest roads. It already has heavy traffic, and today's closure has worsened congestion, stretching up to Matsya Bhawan and even Shahbagh," he said.

Many commuters faced long delays.

Sifat Habib, a passenger travelling from Farmgate to Kadam Foara, said, "I didn't expect so much traffic. It took more than an hour to reach here from Shahbagh -- it usually takes 15 to 20 minutes."

He said he was heading to Baitul Mukarram Market but would now have to walk the rest of the way due to the closure. Vehicles heading towards Dainik Bangla from Kadam Foara were diverted through Abdul Gani Road and Gulistan, resulting in heavy congestion on those alternative routes as well. The situation became normal in the evening after the rally ended, said traffic officials.

**'Jamaat will
cease to exist
after next polls'
Says Fakhrul**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday said Jamaat-e-Islami would "cease to exist" after next year's national election, urging people to remain cautious of their "hypocrisy".

"Jamaat says PR [proportional representation system] must be introduced or elections won't happen. Why are you so afraid of votes? Because you know you won't exist after the election," he said at a views exchange meeting organised by BNP in Thakurgaon Sadar.

Mentioning that he does not understand PR, Fakhrul said people won't accept it. "We have always voted for candidates by their symbols - sheaf of paddy, boat, or scale. Now, they say we must vote for parties, and that the parties will decide who becomes an MP."

Fakhrul also dismissed NCP, saying, "They claim to be a party, but I don't see them anywhere. They won't get votes. Yet, they echo Jamaat, demanding PR and certificates before elections."

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**Not facing
pressure from
any quarter**

**Says ICT prosecution
over Hasina verdict**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ICT prosecution yesterday said it was not facing pressure from any quarter despite escalating violence ahead of the impending verdict in the crimes against humanity case against ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

ICT prosecutor Gazi Monawar Hossain Tamim told reporters that the tribunal was functioning as usual and that proceedings were taking place on schedule.

On November 13, the tribunal will fix the date for delivering the verdict in the case. Tamim said the Awami League and other political organisations were expected to announce programmes centring the verdict.

"We think the police and other law enforcement agencies are working for state security," he added.

The tribunal area has

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

NOMINATION FORM NCP likely to extend deadline

Tasnim Jara collects form
for Dhaka-9

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Citizen Party has seen a sharp rise in the collection of nomination forms ahead of the upcoming national election, although most of its top leaders have yet to join the race.

The party is likely to extend the deadline for collecting nomination forms, which was initially set to end tomorrow (November 13).

According to the party's Election Monitoring Committee, nearly 300 nomination forms have been collected over the past five days through both online and offline channels.

As of 6:00 pm yesterday, no prominent central committee leader had collected a nomination form, except for Senior Joint Member Secretary Tasnim Jara.

Meanwhile, NCP's Chief Organiser (South), Hasnat Abdullah, said there is no possibility of forming alliances with parties that oppose reform initiatives.

"Our convener, Nahid Islam, has already made it clear that we may form alliances with political forces that stand for reforms, stand for Bangladesh, oppose Indian hegemony, and uphold communal harmony," Hasnat said.

Yesterday, Tasnim Jara collected nomination form for Dhaka-9, which includes the Sabujbagh, Khilgaon, Mugda, and Manda areas. "It's my home. I was born and brought up in Khilgaon, spending most of my life among its people," she told The Daily Star.



Children beam with joy as they gather water lilies from a nearby wetland, the blooms draped playfully around their necks like garlands. With winter approaching, lilies paint the wetlands in shades of green and pink, offering both beauty and a seasonal delicacy for local families. The photo was taken recently in Rajshahi's Kharkhali City Bypass area.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

Denmark pledges \$3.7m to support rights, media

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Denmark has announced its support of DKK 25 million (\$3.7 million) for advancing human rights, independent media, and access to rehabilitation for survivors of violence and torture in Bangladesh.

The fund will be provided to a consortium consisting of three Danish organisations -- DIGNITY, IMS, and the Danish Institute for Human Rights -- that will partner with Bangladeshi organisations to promote the causes, said the Danish embassy in a statement on Sunday.

Christian Brix Møller, Danish ambassador to Bangladesh, said Denmark strongly believes that the upcoming programme will contribute to revitalising the pursuit of justice and democratic reform for the people of Bangladesh.

"A strong civil society is crucial in advancing human rights and securing accountability and rehabilitation for survivors of torture and violence," said Rasmus Gruel Christensen, CEO of DIGNITY.

Executive Director at the International Media Support (IMS) Jesper Højberg said working closely with local organisations, civil society, and government, they aim to strengthen the foundations of Bangladesh's media sector.



A pedestrian and several vehicles pass through thick smoke on the Dhaka-Aricha highway at Baliaarpur in Savar, where locals have set fire to piles of garbage allegedly dumped by the authorities. While the open dumping narrows the road and poses health risks, the burning adds to air pollution and reduces visibility, increasing the risk of accidents. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Not facing pressure from any quarter

FROM PAGE 3
already been placed under tight security.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Sheikh Md Sajat Ali yesterday

visited the premises and reviewed the deployment.

Meanwhile, three prosecution witnesses testified before ICT-1 in the case against five former

police officials, including former DMP commissioner Habibur Rahman, over the killing of two people and shooting of two others in Rampura during the July

uprising.

Witness Linkon Mazhi, a staff nurse at Famous Specialised Hospital in Meradia, told the tribunal that on July 19 last year, around 80 to 100 gunshot victims came to the hospital for treatment.

"We provided primary care and referred those in critical condition to Dhaka Medical College Hospital," he said, adding that he helped rescue a bullet-hit man, later identified as Amir Hossain, from a nearby rooftop.

The tribunal set November 17 for the next hearing.

Yunus

FROM PAGE 3
Director General Brig Gen Abu Sayed Al Masud at the State Guest House Jamuna yesterday, said a press release from the chief adviser's press wing.

"BNCC is about self-respect and discipline. There should be a certification system to help cadets in employment and networking opportunities for their future," Yunus said. "BNCC should not focus only on boys; equal participation of girls must be ensured," the chief adviser said.

National Security Adviser Dr Khalilur Rahman, Finance Adviser Dr Salehuddin Ahmed, Foreign Affairs Adviser Md Touhid Hossain, and Special Assistant to the Chief Adviser Dr Anisuzzaman also attended the meeting.

Brig Gen Masud said BNCC has enlisted 561 educational institutions and aims to expand its branches to all institutions across the country.

Will maintain

FROM PAGE 3
according to a The Daily Star report on June 5.

This year's funding requirement is \$934 million for 1.5 million people -- including 1.2 million Rohingya and 3,00,000 host community members -- but only 19 percent of that has been secured, said the report.

Orla Murphy said, "We are very lucky with our funding model. Ninety-eight percent of our global funding comes from private donations, so we are not reliant on donor funding. As others reduce their activities, we have to consider the additional support we can provide."

Rezwanur Rahman Masum, deputy medical coordinator of MSF, said MSF operates five hospitals in Cox's Bazar, including one with 131 beds and another with 52 beds. On average, 2,270 people from camps and host communities received treatment from MSF every day this year.

PRAYER TIMING
NOVEMBER 12
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-00 12-45 3-45 5-22 7-00
JAMAAT 5-35 1-15 4-00 5-25 7-30
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Tuhin president, Sadat GS of private univ PR association

CITY DESK

Abu Mia Akand (Tuhin) has been elected as president and Abu Sadat general secretary of Private University Public Relations Officers Association for 2026-2027, said a press release.



Vice presidents are Muhammad Imtiaz, and Anwar Habib Kajol; joint general secretaries are Al Amin Shikder Shihab, and SM Mohiuddin.

Jahid Hasan has been elected as organising secretary, Nurujaman Farabi assistant organising secretary, Mamun-ul-Matin finance secretary, Sadiq Hasan Palash assistant finance secretary, Nahid Hasan office and training secretary, Tarek Omar assistant office and training secretary, Abu Hashem Rony publicity and publication secretary, Mosharraf Hossain assistant publicity and publication secretary, Manjur Hossain sports secretary, Fatius Fahmid Souray assistant sports secretary, Raisul Haque Chowdhury cultural secretary, Shamsul Haque assistant cultural secretary, and Hasina Angel international and research secretary.

Executive members include Wahiduzzaman, Sheikh Mahbub, Badiuzzaman Shohel, and Md Faijullah. The advisory council includes AKM Shamsul Arefin, Moniruzzaman Tipu, Lutfur Rahman, Monirul Islam Rintu, Belal Ahmed, and Hasan Saimum Obab.

 **সিলেট সিটি কর্পোরেশন**
নগর ভবন, সিলেট।
www.scc.gov.bd

স্মারক নং-৪৬.০৯.০০০০, ০১৮.৯৯.০২৫.১৯.২১৭৭ তারিখ: ১১/১১/২০২৫ খ্রি:
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি ০৮/২০২৫-১৬

এতদৰা সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজের অভিযন্তাসম্মত সিলেটার প্রবালকান্তীমের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ২০২৫-২৬ অর্থবছরের কর্পোরেশনের গ্রাহণেশ্বর শাখায় e-GP এর OTM & LTM পদ্ধতিতে দরপত্র আবেদন করা হচ্ছে। যার ফলের আইত্ব নিম্নে দেখা হচ্ছে। কাজের নাম, দরপত্র থেকার অভিযন্তার অন্যান্য শর্তবন্ধ সম্বলিত বিবরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি এসিসিসির ওয়েবসাইট www.scc.gov.bd এ দেখা যাবে।

e-GP Tender ID No.	
1160018, 1173114, 1173323,	1173448, 1173930, 1174220,
1174253, 1174470, 1174558,	1174631, 1174659, 1174768,
1175108, 1173141, 1174451,	1174788, 1175052, 1175225.

প্রধান প্রকাশনী
সিলেট সিটি কর্পোরেশন

GD-2392

TENDER NOTICE

Delta Life Insurance Company Ltd is inviting proposals from reputed Security Service Companies licensed under the Private Security Services Act, 2006 (Bangladesh) for the provision of security personnel and related services.

Eligibility Criteria and Requirements

1. The company must have a minimum of **five (05)** years of continuous and satisfactory experience in providing professional security services.
2. The company must comply with all provisions of the **Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006 (Amended)**.
3. Priority will be given to companies that have international recognition and ongoing experience in providing professional security services to foreign embassies, high commissions, or well-known banks.

Tender Documents: Interested companies may collect the tender documents from the Estate Department, 9th Floor of Delta Life Tower, Plot No. 37, Road No. 90, Gulshan-02, Dhaka, during office hours from November 16, 2025 to November 25, 2025 on payment of a non-refundable fee of Tk. 1000/- (cash).

Tender Submission: Sealed tenders must be submitted to the undersigned by **November 27, 2025** during office hours. Tenders received after the deadline will not be considered.

Delta Life Insurance Company Limited reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

For further information, please contact:



Delta Life Insurance Company limited

Email: ahm.shameem@deltalife.org, Cell: +880 1725-643337

GOVT. OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
EDUCATION ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT (EED)
LALMONIRHAT

Invitation for e-GP Tender (OTM)

TENDER NOTICE NO: e-GP-17/XEN/EED/LAL/7016 Academic Building/2025-2026

Date: 11/11/2025

Memo No : 37.07.5200.000.32.001.25-52

This is an online Tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. The Tender who have registered in the National e-GP portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is eligible to participate in this Tender. The fees of downloading the e-Tender documents of following Packages from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's branches up to the following date and time.

Sl. No	Package No.	Name of Works	Tender ID	Last Date & Time of Selling Documents	Last Date & Time of Opening Documents
01	7016/TME D/2024-25/2025/01	Construction of Single storied Academic Building with 4 - storied foundation in/c Sanitary, water supply & Electrification Works at Hazrat Fatemataz Zahra (Ra) Mohila Dakhil Madrasah, Sadar, Lalmonirhat. [Category: IF-RR-138.63]	1161892	26-Nov-2025 Time 17:00	27-Nov-2025 Time 11:00
02	7016/SHE D/2024-25/2025/01	Construction of Single storied Academic Building with 4 - storied foundation in/c Sanitary, water supply & Electrification Works at Durgapur High School, Aditmari, Lalmonirhat. [Category: IF-RR-138.63]	1161893	26-Nov-2025 Time 17:00	27-Nov-2025 Time 11:00
03	7016/SHE D/2024-25/2025/02	Construction of Single storied Academic Building with 4 - storied foundation in/c Sanitary, water supply & Electrification Works at Chaparhati High School, Kaligonj, Lalmonirhat. [Category: IF-RR-138.63]	1161894	26-Nov-2025 Time 17:00	27-Nov-2025 Time 11:00
04	7016/SHE D/2024-25/2025/03	Construction of Single storied Academic Building with 4 - storied foundation in/c Sanitary, water supply & Electrification Works at Islami Adarshaw Biddaniketan High School, Patgram, Lalmonirhat. [Category: IF-RR-138.63]	1161895	26-Nov-2025 Time 17:00	27-Nov-2025 Time 11:00
05	7016/SHE D/2024-25/2025/04	Construction of Single storied Academic Building with 4 - storied foundation in/c Sanitary, water supply & Electrification Works at Parulia Tofshili High School and College, Hatibandha, Lalmonirhat. [Category: IF-RR-138.63]	1161896	26-Nov-2025 Time 17:00	27-Nov-2025 Time 11:00

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Md. Golam Mostafa) 11/11/2025
(Md. Golam Mostafa) Executive Engineer

INVITATION FOR TENDER

Pubali Bank PLC, the largest Private Commercial Bank in Bangladesh is hereby inviting sealed Tenders from the eligible Tenderers, who can participate in any of the following tenders, but in separate envelope by fulfilling all the conditions as defined in the tender documents. Interested bidders are requested to participate as per below time schedule:

Tender-ID	Tender name	Last Date & Time for Tender		Tender Opening Date & Time
		Selling	Submission	
E&GSD/OTM /146/2025	Civil, Electrical and Networking works at our new Bank Building (Ground Floor to 4th Floor), Zakkigunj, Sylhet.	06:00 PM 20/11/2025	11:00 AM 23/11/2025	11:30 AM 23/11/2025
E&GSD/OTM /147/2025	Rate Fixation up to June 30, 2026 for Supply, Installation & Commissioning of AI-BASED CCTV SYSTEM at Our Different Offices, Branches, Sub-Branches, Electronic Banking Booths & ATM-Booths All Over Bangladesh.	06:00 PM 20/11/2025	11:00 AM 23/11/2025	11:30 AM 23/11/2025
E&GSD/OTM /148/2025	Rate fixation up to June 30, 2026 for Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Note Sorting Machine at our different Branches of our Bank.	06:00 PM 25/11/2025	11:00 AM 26/11/2025	11:30 AM 26/11/2025

Please visit our web site, <https://www.pubalibangla.com/tender.aspx> for details.

Md. Kamruzzaman
General Manager & Division Head

Establishment & General Services Division
Head office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka.



পুরালী বাংক পিএলসি.
PUBALI BANK PLC.

GD-2397



Iman Sharif, 18, a survivor from a boat carrying members of Myanmar's persecuted Rohingya community, which sank in waters near the Thailand-Malaysia border, eats rice after being rescued six days after the incident, in Langkawi, Malaysia, yesterday. The death toll from the sinking of the boat climbed to 27.

PHOTO: REUTERS



BBC grapples with response to Trump legal threat

Reuters, London

The BBC's outgoing boss yesterday defended its journalists as the broadcaster grappled with how to respond to US President Donald Trump's threat of a lawsuit over a misleading speech edit.

Trump's lawyers on Monday gave the BBC until Friday to "appropriately compensate" the president for "harm caused" by a documentary containing the edit, or face a \$1 billion lawsuit for damages.

It has also claimed the jobs of two senior executives.

Director general Tim Davie, who resigned on Sunday, admitted the broadcaster had made "some mistakes that have cost us" but said "we've got to fight for our journalism".

Partition of Gaza a looming risk

Say sources as Trump's plan to end the war beyond ceasefire faltering

REUTERS, Manama

A de facto partition of Gaza between an area controlled by Israel and another ruled by Hamas is increasingly likely, multiple sources said, with efforts to advance US President Donald Trump's plan to end the war beyond a ceasefire faltering.

Six European officials with direct knowledge of the efforts to implement the next phase of the plan told Reuters it was effectively stalled and that reconstruction now appeared likely to be limited to the Israeli-controlled area.

That could lead to years of separation, they warned.

Under the first stage of the plan, which took effect on October 10, the Israeli military currently controls 53 percent of the Mediterranean territory, including much of its farmland, along with Rafah in the south, parts of Gaza City and other urban areas.

Nearly all Gaza's 2 million people are crammed into tent camps and the rubble of shattered cities across the rest of Gaza, which is under Hamas control.

Reuters drone footage shot in November shows cataclysmic destruction in the northeast of Gaza City after Israel's final assault before the ceasefire, following months of prior

bombardments. The area is now split between Israeli and Hamas control.

The next stage of the plan foresees Israel withdrawing further from the so-called yellow line agreed under Trump's plan, alongside the establishment of a transitional authority to govern Gaza, the deployment of a multinational security force meant to take over from the Israeli military, the disarmament of

Yellow line could be new de facto border indefinitely

Reconstruction likely limited to the Israeli side

Hamas disarmament, Israel's PA opposition key sticking points

Hamas and the start of reconstruction. But the plan provides no timelines or mechanisms for implementation.

Meanwhile, Hamas refuses to disarm, Israel rejects any involvement by the Western-backed Palestinian Authority, and uncertainty persists over the multinational force.

Office of the Executive Engineer

Chattogram PWD Division-4
Agrabad CGO Building No-1
Agrabad, Chattogram.

Phone- 02-333326161, Fax-031-720329

Memo No-25.36.1500.220.07.264.22.2174

Date- 11/11/2025

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-Gp System Portal <http://www.eprocure.gov.bd> for the procurement of work as follows:

Tender ID No	Description of Works	Last Selling Date and time	Closing Date and time	Opening Date and time
1171130	Construction of 20 storied Tax Building (3 Basement + 20 Storey) (Foundation, Basement, Super structure, Internal water supply and internal Sewerage, internal Electricity) under the project "Construction of Chattogram Tax Building" at Agrabad, Chattogram. (Package W-1).	10-December-2025, 16:00	11- December-2025, 12:00	11- December-2025, 12:00

These are online Tender, Where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-Gp portal and No offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-Gp System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-Gp System Portal have to be deposited online through any scheduled bank.

Further information and guideline are available in the National e-Gp System Portal and from e-Gp help; desk ([Helpdesk, eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)).

11/11/2025
(Md. Mehedi Hassan)
Executive Engineer
Chattogram PWD Division-4
Agrabad, Chattogram.
Phone : 02-333326161
E-mail:ee_ctg@pwd.gov.bd

GD-2402

New Delhi blast a 'conspiracy': Modi Death toll rises to 13; anti-terror probe on

AGENCIES

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday called a deadly car explosion in the heart of the capital that killed at least 13 people a "conspiracy", vowing those responsible will face justice.

Police are investigating the blast incident under a law used to fight "terrorism", an officer said. The ministry of home affairs handed over the blast case to the National Investigation Agency (NIA). The death toll had risen to 13, reports The Hindu online.

Investigators yesterday took three more doctors from Faridabad's Al-Falah University into custody. The university has made headlines after three doctors linked to it came under the spotlight for their alleged involvement in terrorist activities, reports NDTV online.

These three doctors are Muzammil Shakeel, Umar Mohammed and Shaheed Shahid. Muzammil and Umar are from Kashmir and Shaheed is from Lucknow.

BIHAR ASSEMBLY POLLS Exit polls show bigger mandate for NDA

THE HINDU ONLINE

As voting for India's Bihar Assembly polls concluded yesterday, exit polls have predicted a big victory for the NDA with the Mahagatbandhan coming in a distant second.

They also predicted a disappointing show by Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraaj in its debut outing, forecasting a range of 0-8 seats for it in the 243 member Assembly.

In the first phase of polling held for 121 constituencies in 18 districts on November 6, the State had recorded its highest voting percentage ever in history with 64.06 percent turnout.



বাংলাদেশ ইনসিটিউট অব ইন্টারন্যাশনাল এন্ড স্ট্যাটিজিক স্টাডিজ (বিআইআইএসএস)	
১/৪৬, পুরাতন এলিফ্যান্ট রোড, ঢাকা-১০০০।	
উন্নত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি	
<p>১ মুসলিমাল্লুবিশ্বাস ২ সংগ্রামক সাতার মাঝ ৩ সংগ্রামক সাতার ঠিকানা ৪ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির নথির এবং তারিখ ৫ দরপত্রে বিজ্ঞপ্তি ৬ বাজেট/অর্থের উৎস ৭ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ ৮ দরপত্রের বাজের বিবরণ</p> <p>৯ দরমাতার খেয়ালতা ১০ দরপত্র সিডিউল বিজ্ঞপ্তির তারিখ ১১ দরপত্র জমা দেয়ার লেব তারিখ ১২ দরপত্র খেলার তারিখ ১৩ দরপত্রের বিজ্ঞপ্তি ১৪ দরপত্র সিডিউল ফরমের মূল্য ১৫ দরপত্র আবেগানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী ও ঠিকানা ১৬ কার্য সম্পাদনের সময় ও বিল পরিশোধের ধরন ১৭ দরপত্রের জামানত ১৮ বিশেষ নির্দেশাবলী</p> <p>১৯ মন্তব্য দরপত্র হতে ২০২৫ তারিখ পর্যন্ত (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়)। ২০ নথির হতে ২০২৫ তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘণ্টার পর্যন্ত। ২১ নথির হতে ২০২৫ তারিখ বেলা ১২.১০ ঘণ্টার পর্যন্ত। ২২ ক্ষেত্রে দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ২৩ হালনাগাদ নবাবশানকৃত ট্রেড সার্কিলে ২, হালনাগাদ আবাবকের পরিবেশের প্রায়ত্যন্ত ৩, হালনাগাদ ভ্যাকিং সেকেন্ডেন এলিফ্যান্ট রোড, ঢাকা-১০০০। ২৪ দরপত্রের অভিযন্তার সাথে দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ২৫ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ২৬ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ২৭ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ২৮ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ২৯ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৩০ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৩১ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৩২ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৩৩ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৩৪ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৩৫ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৩৬ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৩৭ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৩৮ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৩৯ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৪০ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৪১ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৪২ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৪৩ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৪৪ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৪৫ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৪৬ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৪৭ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৪৮ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৪৯ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৫০ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৫১ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৫২ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৫৩ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৫৪ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৫৫ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৫৬ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৫৭ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৫৮ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৫৯ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৬০ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৬১ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৬২ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৬৩ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৬৪ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৬৫ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৬৬ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৬৭ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৬৮ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৬৯ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৭০ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৭১ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৭২ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৭৩ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৭৪ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৭৫ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৭৬ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৭৭ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৭৮ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৭৯ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৮০ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৮১ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৮২ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৮৩ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৮৪ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৮৫ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৮৬ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৮৭ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৮৮ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৮৯ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৯০ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৯১ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৯২ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৯৩ দরপত্রের প্রত্যাবর্তন করতে হবে। ৯৪ দরপত্রের প্রত্য</p>	

Violence must be stopped immediately

Govt must maintain firmness in law enforcement

The rise of a new wave of political violence has raised fresh concerns among citizens. The latest incident saw the horrific death of Julhas Mia, a bus driver in Mymensingh, who was burnt alive in his vehicle early Tuesday. This despicable act appears to represent a shift from politically motivated property damage—too often the chosen method of anarchists—to fatal assaults on innocent civilians. The capital city has also been rocked by crude bomb blasts and arson attacks simultaneously. These coordinated acts of intimidation signal a deeply worrying trend ahead of the planned February election, which must be decisively and collectively addressed.

Tension is naturally building as the International Crimes Tribunal prepares to announce the date of its verdict in a case against former prime minister Sheikh Hasina on November 13. In anticipation, authorities have ordered an immediate security ramp-up. Police headquarters have directed all stations in Dhaka to increase patrols and surveillance, while key infrastructure and religious establishments across the country are under heightened protection. According to a statement from the Chief Adviser's Press Wing, a full-scale manhunt has been launched by the Dhaka Metropolitan Police and the Rapid Action Battalion to arrest those behind the attacks. Nevertheless, incidents of violence have persisted across several areas.

Despite a ban on its political activities, the Awami League's call for a "Dhaka Lockdown" is inflaming the situation. While political expression is a democratic right, it must never come at the cost of lives or public order. The party must resist resorting to violence and agitation, and allow the justice system to take its course.

For his part, Home Adviser Jahangir Alam Chowdhury on Tuesday reaffirmed that all security and intelligence agencies are now operating in synchronised coordination. Security patrols have been intensified at key locations, including the metro rail, railway stations, and most notably, the tribunal premises. This enhanced presence is intended to restore public confidence. Crucially, the adviser has directed law enforcement to act immediately on any credible intelligence about emerging threats. He also called for stricter judicial processes, urging the authorities not to grant easy bail to those accused of "terrorism." While this hardline stance on bail may be effective in containing short-term threats, it raises concerns about the potential politicisation of the judiciary.

That said, the evolving security imperatives go beyond addressing immediate threats; it is part of a broader effort to safeguard a peaceful democratic transition through the upcoming election. The interim government is relying on a combination of visible force, tight intelligence coordination, and zero-tolerance stance on political unrest to navigate this volatile period. Bangladesh remains a nation in constant flux, and the recent surge in violence serves as a warning of the consequences if instability is allowed to escalate. In this critical moment, it is essential for all political stakeholders to exercise restraint, while the government must remain resolute in upholding law and order.

Fungal 'superbug' in NICUs alarming

Hospitals must take necessary measures to contain the threat

We are alarmed by the spread of the highly drug-resistant fungus *Candida auris* (C auris) in the neonatal intensive care units (NICUs) of hospitals, as revealed by a new icddr,b study. Between August 2021 and September 2022, researchers from the institution examined newborns admitted to the NICUs of two hospitals in Dhaka—one public and one private. Of the 374 infants studied, 32 were found to be colonised with C auris, and one developed a bloodstream infection. Given that C auris infections in low- and middle-income countries have an estimated mortality rate of around 70 percent, this is a public health emergency that requires urgent action.

Declared an urgent antimicrobial-resistant threat by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), C auris can survive for weeks on hospital surfaces, spread rapidly among patients, and often resist multiple antifungal drugs. It is particularly dangerous for people with weakened immune systems, including preterm and critically ill infants, making NICU babies an extremely high-risk group. According to the icddr,b study, among the colonised patients, 44 percent were colonised at enrolment, while 56 percent became colonised after admission. Seven of the 32 colonised patients died. Alarmingly, 82 percent of the colonised patients were resistant to fluconazole, the first-line treatment for invasive fungal infections. Another crucial finding that warrants attention is that 81 percent of the colonised cases were delivered by Caesarean section and had longer hospital stays.

The heavy presence of C auris in hospitals serves as a stark warning about the broader threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in the country. A recent WHO report has also revealed a worsening AMR situation, with some critical antibiotics showing resistance rates ranging from 79 to 97 percent. Health experts have previously warned that around 70 percent of deaths in our ICUs are linked to AMR infections. Bangladesh has made significant progress in combating communicable diseases over the past decades, but the rise of multidrug-resistant pathogens risks undermining those achievements. As the head of the AMR Research Unit at the Infectious Diseases Division of icddr,b has noted, this study is a necessary first step towards preventive action.

It is now up to the health authorities to act swiftly on its findings. To limit the spread of C auris within NICUs and other hospital settings, regular disinfection with chlorine-based cleaning agents, strict hand hygiene among healthcare workers, and immediate isolation of infected or colonised patients should be made mandatory. Equally important are continuous monitoring and data-sharing between hospitals and public health authorities to detect outbreaks early and prevent further transmission. Moreover, the misuse of antibiotics across the country must be urgently addressed through proper regulations and strict enforcement.

EDITORIAL

Can COP30 deliver on climate promises?



MACRO MIRROR

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Views expressed in this article are the author's own.

FAHMIDA KHATUN

Global attention has currently turned to Belém, one of the gateways to the Brazilian Amazon, where the climate community has gathered for the 30th Conference of the Parties (COP 30) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Marking a decade since the adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015, this conference carries heightened global expectations for real implementation, accountability, and delivery of promises, rather than simply negotiating new ambitions. Being held against the background of a tense geopolitical scenario and devastating climate events in vulnerable countries, the issues that dominate the 12-day-long COP30 agenda carry far-reaching implications for the people and the planet.

First, countries will negotiate on adaptation-related outcomes at COP30, including a set of indicators to assess progress towards the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), which was anchored in the Paris Agreement. The GGA was designed to guide the transition from the countries' National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) to concrete actions by enhancing the adaptive capacity and strengthening resilience to climate change. The progress on the GGA is to be tracked through 100 indicators.

However, the indicator framework and operational details of GGA remain unfinished as reliable data and knowledge gaps prevail in vulnerable countries, which require time to build up their statistical capacity. COP30 is expected to finalise the GGA progress tracking architecture.

The second issue is new national climate plans, such as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, which every country is required to submit every five years. Each new plan should show updated and stronger action than before, reflecting what the countries can do. NDCs for 2025 need to explain the countries' plan to tackle climate change up to 2035. Between November 2024 and November 10, 2025, 109 countries have submitted a 2035 NDC target, which will draw attention in Belém. To note, the Emissions Gap Report 2025 of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), published just before COP30, warns that the world is still not doing enough to minimise climate change risk. Based on the current pledges from countries, global temperatures could rise by 2.3 to 2.5 degrees Celsius by the end of this century. This means the Earth's temperature will go past

the safe limit of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels within the next ten years, worsening heatwaves, floods, and storms, according to scientists. The most important goal now is to bring the temperature back down as soon as possible. Failure at COP30 to ramp up ambition or agree on credible implementation will make it increasingly implausible to keep the temperature within the safe limit.

The third issue is the scaling up of climate finance for developing and low-income countries. Mobilising and delivering adequate funding for mitigation, adaptation, and loss and

damages adapt to climate change.

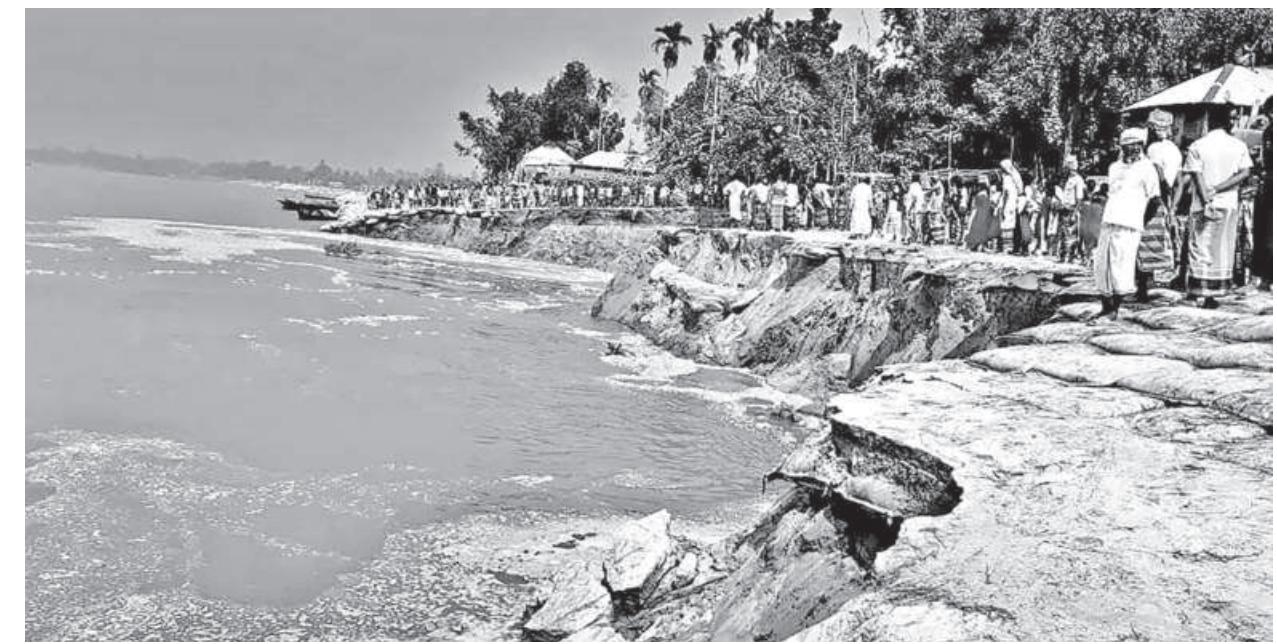
Fourth, it is expected that forests, biodiversity and tropical conservation, central to climate survival, will be at the focus at Belém. Hosting COP30 gives a symbolic boost to forest and nature conservation, since the Amazon rainforest holds about 60 percent of the world's largest tropical forest. Mechanisms like the Tropical Forest Forever Facility (TFFF), a proposed blended finance fund to incentivise countries to protect tropical forests, are expected to be a flagship outcome, providing predictable long-term funds to conserve and restore tropical forests.

Fifth, countries are expected to decide a new plan called the Belém Action Mechanism for a Global Just Transition (BAM) at COP30. Such a plan should aim for a shift to a green economy in a fair way where people come first, so that climate action creates new jobs, provides training for workers, and helps communities adapt their economies as industries change. The just transition pathway is critically important for climate-vulnerable countries like

various commitments. Bangladesh is on the frontline of sea-level rise, cyclones, river-erosion and climate-driven displacement. Therefore, obtaining clarity on adaptation finance and the GGA indicators is crucial. Implementation of global commitments on funding, technology transfer, capacity building and institutional strengthening is imperative for Bangladesh.

Moreover, the forest and nature agenda has implications for Bangladesh. Although Bangladesh does not have a vast forest cover like the host Brazil, the global forest agenda—which includes carbon credits, nature-based solutions and preserving critical ecosystems—affects the global carbon markets, international cooperation and South-South partnerships in which Bangladesh might engage.

Moreover, COP30 is being framed not only as a negotiation among states but as a session demanding all-of-society engagement, which includes governments, the private sector, indigenous peoples, civil society, and



COP30 for highly climate-vulnerable countries like Bangladesh is a strategic opportunity to expedite the implementation of various commitments.

FILE PHOTO: MIRZA SHAKIL

damage, especially for vulnerable countries, is a critical task. The new collective quantified goal (NCQG), adopted at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, urged scaling up finance for developing countries to at least \$1.3 trillion by 2035, with a mobilisation target of at least \$300 billion annually. The task at Belém is to turn that collective ambition into concrete financial support. According to UNEP's Adaptation Gap Report 2025, the annual global requirement for adaptation to climate change-induced events such as sea level rise, extreme heat waves and storms will be about \$310 billion. However, in 2023, developing countries received about \$26 billion—two billion less than the amount they received in 2022 and 12 to 14 times less than what they currently need—in international funding to help

Bangladesh. The transition towards green growth, including renewables, sustainable agriculture, coastal defences and blue-economy solutions in these countries, depends on access to finance, appropriate technology and just transition frameworks. The COP30 outcome should be based on country contexts, to ensure climate plans and investments protect the planet, while supporting workers and building stronger, more inclusive societies. Agriculture and food systems is also one of the COP30 action agendas, since agriculture and land use are a major source of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG).

For developing and low-income countries, including highly climate-vulnerable ones like Bangladesh, COP30 is a strategic opportunity to expedite the implementation of

youth. This broader mobilisation is essential to scaling action and ensuring that agreements are not just signed but implemented with transparency.

If COP30 ends with weak commitments or compromised implementation pathways, the risks are profound, especially for climate-vulnerable countries like Bangladesh and for the broader global climate regime. It is not just about new promises; it is about cementing credible paths for the fulfilment of promises and ensuring vulnerable countries get a fair share of the burden and the benefits. A meaningful outcome from COP30 can unlock resources, technologies and partnerships essential for climate-resilient development in vulnerable countries. Conversely, the failure to make any progress will be a climate calamity.

Caring for caregivers: The missing link in disability support



TAHASIN TASNIM MOHCE

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The most profound acts of love often unfold in homes where a family member lives with a disability. In these homes, a woman—usually the mother, wife, or sister—becomes the entire infrastructure of care; a 24-hour lifeline that holds the household together. Yet, such relentless labour has huge implications on the physical, mental and economic well-being of the caregiver.

We often speak, and rightly so, about empowering persons with disabilities and ensuring their access to healthcare, education, and livelihood. Yet, in focusing so intently on the person with disability, we often ignore those who sustain their daily life. We are failing the caregiver and by doing so, we are also failing the person she serves.

During an interview for a BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD) study, a

grandmother in her sixties explained that the physical strain of caregiving for her granddaughter with disability can be overwhelming. She is expected to shift from a position of gentle authority to that of a hands-on therapist, implementing complex and often painful exercise routines that are essential for mobility. Furthermore, the task of taking her to a hospital, which is quite a distance from their home, leaves her drained. She also cannot attend to household chores on those days.

Yet the physical toll is only part of the story. The psychological costs run even deeper. Caregiving demands constant vigilance. For a child or adult with an intellectual or physical disability, the caregiver becomes a sleepless sentinel, forever alert to danger. She cannot afford to let her guard down. This endless watchfulness ensures safety and dignity for her loved one, but it strips

away her own rest, privacy, and peace of mind. Over time, this unending anxiety corrodes her spirit.

BIGD's fieldwork with households that combine disability support with livelihood activities revealed a painful truth. Many caregivers, especially older women, reach a point of profound fatigue and scepticism. Findings from an ongoing BIGD study suggest that separate counselling sessions, focused solely on the mental health of caregivers, can help with their emotional wounds. When caregivers were given space to express exhaustion, manage stress, and rebuild motivation, the entire family's progress in caring for the person with disability improved. Without this emotional repair, every intervention risks collapse.

The burden of caregiving is also deeply economic. In ultra-poor households, the caregiver often manages both care and income. She runs a small business, tends livestock, or manages a poultry farm while maintaining a demanding rehabilitation schedule. She is expected to be an entrepreneur, nurse, therapist, and homemaker all at once.

Her life sits at the cruel intersection of poverty, disability, and gender inequality. This impossible balancing act comes at a cost. If she focuses on the family business, caregiving suffers.

If she focuses on caregiving, the family income declines. The constant tension between economic survival and emotional duty keeps her trapped in a cycle of anxiety and exhaustion.

As a society, we must stop viewing caregivers merely as instruments of care and begin recognising them as individuals with their own rights to health, rest, and dignity. This crisis cannot be solved by sympathy alone. It requires systemic reform. We need to create community-based support networks that provide scheduled respite. Even two hours of rest a week for an elderly mother, taking care of a child with disability, would help. Every disability or poverty programme should include psychosocial care for caregivers as a mandatory component. Government safety nets must be streamlined to ensure that caregivers receive adequate economic support.

The silent suffering of caregivers is one of the clearest indicators of our collective neglect. Their strength is extraordinary, but it is not infinite. If we truly want to secure dignity and opportunity for persons with disabilities, we must begin by protecting the health of those who hold their world together. It is time to lift this invisible burden before the strain becomes too heavy to bear, and the caregivers are lost to exhaustion.

Why we need self-reliant local governments



GM Saiful Islam
is a development professional specialising in local governance, urban planning, and results-based management.

GM SAIFUL ISLAM

Every year, hundreds of municipalities across Bangladesh wait for approval from Dhaka before they can repair roads, install streetlights, or expand markets. These local government bodies remain caught in a cycle of dependency on central budget and oversight. Without a proper resource mobilisation strategy to generate and manage their own revenue, they are often unable to plan or deliver according to local priorities.

At present, holding tax and trade licence fees constitute the major sources of own revenue for most municipalities. While there are a few other local sources of revenue depending on individual municipalities, their overall income still depends heavily on central government grants and development allocations. Most of these, however, often remain underutilised because of poor assessment and collection, limited staff capacity, and weak systems for digital record-keeping. In many places, there is no reliable data on the number of houses or businesses in operation, which makes revenue collection uncertain and prone to leakage.

Enhancing local revenue generation is not merely about money; it is about proper governance and accountability. When citizens see their taxes and fees being used for visible improvements—better roads, clean drainage, functioning streetlights, etc—they are more likely to continue to pay. This trust creates a virtuous cycle: locally sourced revenue finances better services, which in

turn increase compliance and participation. Strengthened local revenue also reduces the political vulnerability of municipalities that often depend on central allocations influenced by political alignment rather than need.

Equally, when local businesses see fair taxation and transparent use of funds, they are more inclined to formalise operations and invest locally. Strengthening municipal finances can improve fiscal autonomy and build transparency by linking taxes to service delivery. It can also ensure that local taxation data is immutably documented through digital systems, preventing manipulation and preserving the integrity of public records.

Simple but systematically employed tools can make a difference in this regard. For instance, municipalities can conduct periodic household surveys to identify unregistered holdings and assess the actual tax base within their jurisdictions. Similarly, economic surveys of local businesses can determine appropriate trade licence fees and reduce the scope for discretionary decision-making. For example, mapping and verifying properties through community engagement and basic digital tools can immediately expand the number of taxpayers. Once the data is updated, municipalities can introduce mobile payment systems such as bKash or Nagad, making it easier for citizens to pay dues without having to physically visit the office. This is not a costly transformation; it

requires planning, transparency, and training rather than heavy technology investments.

The "local economic development" model provides a framework for aligning revenue generation with local growth. It encourages local governments, businesses, and communities to work together to stimulate the economy and create jobs suited to local realities. Instead of waiting for centrally funded projects, municipalities can design

mobilise their own resources, they gain the autonomy to plan development according to local needs, not central directives. With accurate data and efficient collection systems, local governments can increase their revenue. By reinvesting these funds into local services such as solid waste management, street repair, and public lighting, municipalities can reduce wasteful spending, encourage innovation, and strengthen accountability to

research partners, can introduce cloud-based revenue management platforms that are easy to use. Capacity building initiatives for tax assessors and municipal officers, combined with citizen awareness campaigns, can also transform the culture of local revenue management.

Currently, Bangladesh's political culture continues to treat Members of Parliament (MPs) as the main patrons of local development, even though mayors and upazila/union chairmen are the ones directly accountable to citizens. As a result, national elections receive far more attention and resources than local ones. Strengthening the fiscal independence of local government bodies can change this dynamic by giving real power where accountability lies.

Empowered municipalities can play a vital role in addressing issues such as rural-to-urban migration by creating employment opportunities closer to home. While disaster-prone or poorer areas will continue to inspire internal migration, people in general are less likely to migrate when they can earn a living in their own towns. This vision of self-reliant local government also aligns with our broader agenda of decentralisation and inclusive growth. This is not about replacing central support but about using and supporting it strategically to build sustainable return systems. Local governments should be encouraged to innovate, experiment with digital tools, and link taxation with tangible public benefits.

When a mayor can finance a community centre or market renovation through locally collected revenue, it is not just administrative efficiency; it is democracy in action. Strengthening municipal revenue generation is therefore not only a financial necessity but also a political reform. It restores balance between the centre and the local, between authority and accountability, and ultimately between promise and performance in Bangladesh's development journey.



VISUAL: ANWAR SOHEL

initiatives around their own comparative advantages. Partnerships with chambers of commerce, traders' associations, and industry bodies can also help update local business registries and improve compliance. Engaging sectoral associations—such as those in footwear, furniture, light engineering, agro-processing, and aquaculture—can ensure that revenue reforms align with actual business dynamics and do not discourage enterprise.

It is, therefore, not an isolated economic agenda; it is a pathway towards decentralisation. When towns and cities

citizens.

Despite the potential, however, entrenched barriers continue to thwart progress. Many municipalities lack trained staff for assessment and collection. Corruption and informal payments remain common in trade licence renewals. There is also limited understanding of how to design fair, transparent, and citizen-friendly systems. These challenges underline the need for collaboration. To address them, the ICT Division and Local Government Division, supported by private technology firms and

Gaza ceasefire: The politics behind a fragile truce



Brigadier General (retd) Mustafa Kamal Rusho
works at the Osmani Centre for Peace and Security Studies.

MUSTAFA KAMAL RUSHO

When Donald Trump unveiled his latest peace proposal, arriving in Sharm el-Sheikh to mark the ceasefire between the Hamas and Israel, he declared it to be "the first real peace in the Middle East in 3,000 years," even hinting that a Nobel Peace Prize might be in the offing. Yet, the ground reality emerging just days into the truce suggests that this moment of hope may already be slipping into the realm of illusion.

The ceasefire formally took effect on October 10 this year, following two years since the deadly October 7 attack in 2023. Israel committed to a phased withdrawal, while Hamas agreed to release hostages in exchange for thousands of Palestinian prisoners.

Yet, within days, the truce came under strain. Israel resumed air strikes and halted humanitarian aid convoys, citing alleged violations by Hamas. According to Al Jazeera, Israeli attacks in Gaza since the ceasefire, killing at least 236 Palestinians and wounding another 600, suggest that Israel is pursuing a policy of "Lebanonising" Gaza—officially ending the war but maintaining the right to conduct attacks whenever it chooses,

indefinitely. This uneasy calm now unfolds against the backdrop of a new proposal from Washington.

Donald Trump announced that a US-coordinated international stabilisation force would be deployed in Gaza "very soon," amidst a fragile truce and a worsening humanitarian crisis caused by continued Israeli bombardment. His declaration coincides with UN Security Council plans to establish a stabilisation force of 20,000 troops in Gaza, with participation from several Arab countries—Egypt, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Turkiye—authorising them to "use all necessary measures" to implement the mandate. This force, according to the draft plan, would be tasked with protecting civilians, securing border areas, and training Palestinian police. As reported by Al Jazeera, UN Secretary-General António Guterres emphasised that any stabilisation force must have "full international legitimacy."

However, significant challenges remain for this mission to be effective. Hamas has yet to declare whether it will disarm—a central

clause of Trump's 20-point plan—and Israel appears to have its own narrative. Tel Aviv remains adamant about excluding Turkiye from the force and insists on retaining full control of Gaza's security apparatus.

During a joint press conference with Trump in September 2025, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told reporters, "Israel will retain security responsibility, including a security perimeter, for the foreseeable future" in Gaza. Washington has clarified that it will not deploy US troops, while Guterres reiterated that any deployment must possess international legitimacy and be genuinely aimed at supporting Palestinians in Gaza.

The notion of a "stabilisation force," while promising on paper, risks becoming another layer of geopolitical management—neither true peacekeeping nor state-building, but rather a mechanism for perpetuating external control under the veneer of international cooperation.

Politics disguised as peace

Behind the signing photo-op lies a stark truth: this deal appears tailored more for political expediency than for genuine reconciliation. Netanyahu, historically sceptical of Palestinian statehood, accepted the agreement under heavy US pressure and growing domestic disquiet. The structure of the deal reflects his priorities: retain control, delay statehood, placate hostages' families, and stall elections.

Meanwhile, Palestinians once again find themselves offered promises of "future sovereignty" without any immediate path to real political power. The terms favour

Israel's strategic interests—continued settler expansion in the West Bank, maintenance of military dominance, and the relegation of Gaza to a subordinate status.

At the heart of the conflict—the two-state solution—remains entirely sidestepped. Netanyahu has publicly opposed Palestinian statehood, while Israeli settlers continue expanding their presence in the West Bank under army protection. These realities speak louder than any diplomatic rhetoric.

In Gaza, the practical outcome is a territory still dependent, fractured, and dominated by external forces rather than governed by its own people. As Israel presses ahead with its military-first doctrine, it is losing legitimacy abroad and among younger US demographics. Polls show weakening US support for Israel, especially among Generation Z, progressives, and even some evangelical voters. According to scholar Shibley Telhami, "For Israel, the war for American public opinion is existential." The battlefield may yield tactical victories, but the global narrative is steadily slipping away.

Gaza today lies in ruins—a humanitarian catastrophe of staggering proportions. Over 92 percent of buildings are damaged, and more than 60 million tonnes of debris await clearance. A joint assessment by the World Bank, United Nations, and the European Union estimates reconstruction needs at \$53.2 billion over the next decade.

Yet under the terms of the ceasefire, Israel has restricted aid flows and refused to reopen the key Rafah crossing until hostages' remains are handed over—a stalling tactic with severe humanitarian consequences. Meanwhile, Gulf states such as the UAE and Saudi Arabia

remain willing to fund reconstruction but with political strings attached. International efforts to rebuild Gaza without genuine Palestinian governance risk becoming yet another mechanism of external control.

Despite the destruction and betrayal, the human spirit in Gaza endures. Displaced families return to charred homes; children go back to shattered schools; and amidst the rubble, life continues. They have lost almost everything—yet their will to begin again remains. This resilience is not merely admirable—it is a statement of defiance: a refusal to accept defeat or submit to permanent subjugation.

Today, the ceasefire is both a lifeline and a trap. Israel holds the arrangement hostage to its political agenda; Palestinians cling to the fading promise of self-determination. Recent reports indicate that Israeli forces now control more than half of Gaza under the so-called "yellow line," shrinking the territory into enclaves and cutting off exits to the outside world.

Seen in this light, the truce resembles less a genuine pathway to peace and more a strategic pause—a breathing space for Israel to reconfigure control and for Palestinians to await a salvation that may never come.

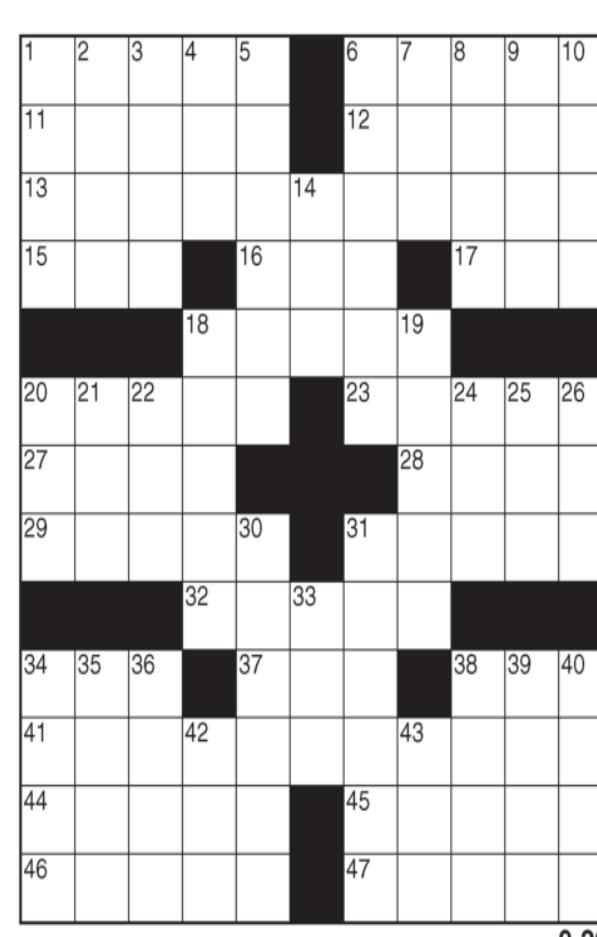
Now the question arises: will the international community insist on accountability, inclusive governance, and a genuine political horizon? Or will the theatrics of peace continue to mask the permanence of occupation?

The question is no longer whether peace is possible, but whether we still believe it is worth pursuing.

ACROSS
1 Crosses the stream
6 Canadian native
11 Not obtuse
12 Nebraska city
13 American grassland
15 Twisty fish
16 Total
17 Cry from Homer
18 Dice, essentially
20 Fable fellow
23 Weigh-in need
27 Secluded valley
28 Yoked animals
29 Last Greek letter
31 Avarice
32 Inert gas
33 Golfer's need

37 Talker's gift
38 Relaxing resort
41 Skims over water
44 Spring sign
45 Singer Piaf
46 Like unintended gardens
47 "Uncle Tom's Cabin" girl
DOWN
1 Salary
2 Land unit
3 "Hamilton" event
4 Schedule abbr.
5 Establishes
6 Watson helps him
7 Thurman of film
8 Foray
9 "Dear me!"

10 Poet Ogden
14 Place for a pint
18 Dance in a line
19 Derision
20 In the past
21 Avenue tree
22 Notice
24 Lumberjack's tool
25 Director Spike
26 Halt
30 Merchant ship
31 Wineglass
33 Opening
34 Turn to slush
35 Jane of fiction
36 Falco of "The Sopranos"
38 Salon sound
39 Cats and dogs
40 Pallid
42 Spectrum color
43 Uproar



SATURDAY'S ANSWERS



I would never disrespect a woman: Irfan Sajjad

SHARMIN JOYA

A new series titled *Eta Amaderi Golpo*, featuring Irfan Sajjad, has recently begun airing. Directed by Mohammad Mostafa Kamal Raz, the project also stars Khairul Basar, Sunerah Binte Kamal, and Keya Pavel.

"I've mentioned before that I'm focusing more on films and being selective about television work. However, the way this series has been designed is very rich—it carries the production values of OTT content. I can confidently say no television series in Bangladesh has been made with such arrangements."

The series premiered on November 5 on Cinemawala's YouTube channel, with Channel 1 as its television partner.

Irfan also revealed that he will soon begin work on an OTT project directed by Sumon Dhar for iScreen. "After quite some time, I've taken up a web project," he said.

At this stage of his career, Irfan wants to focus on exclusive and festive projects. "I'm being very selective now, as I'm preparing myself for the silver screen and avoiding average work," he added.

In a short span, two of Irfan's films—*Vhoyal* (November 2024) and *Ali* (July 2025)—were released, both directed by Biplob Hayder. Reflecting on the audience's response, Irfan noted, "Both films were made by new production houses. I believe the response could have been stronger with broader marketing and promotions. Large-scale campaigns help projects reach their

audience—something these films lacked, no matter how good the project is."

Currently in talks with several production houses, Irfan hopes to collaborate with established directors and major banners in the near future.

Last week, an incident on social media left actor Irfan Sajjad deeply disturbed. Speaking to The Daily Star, he shared his side of the story.

"My colleagues, friends, and followers know that I often post about cricket—and most of my posts are sarcastic," Irfan said. "After Rubaba Dowla ma'am was appointed as a director of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), I made a sarcastic post saying that now, at least if the boys don't perform well, there's no hope. It was meant humorously and positively, not in a negative or sexist way. What I meant was that for us, the boys, Rubaba ma'am is a diva—someone beautiful, brilliant, and admirable. Unfortunately, some radical feminists took it offensively. When I saw the situation escalating and hatred spreading, I chose not to argue and preferred peace over drama."

Despite his clarification, Irfan said a section of people continued to spread negativity online, leaving him traumatised.

"I will be extremely careful about what I post on social media from now on," he stated. "My wife is a news presenter, and I believe that

if I, as a man, can contribute to creating a safer environment in the media, she too will be safer—it's all connected. I would never intentionally disrespect any woman in my life."



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSVED

'Noya Manush' heads to Dhaka and Karachi film festivals



The debut feature by filmmaker Sohel Rana Bayati, *Noya Manush* has been invited to the Dhaka International Film Festival and the World Cultural Festival in Karachi.

Based on AMM Hasanuzzaman's novel *Bedonar Baluchore*, the film was adapted for the screen by Masum Reza. The cast includes Moushumi Hamid, Ashish Khandaker, and a large ensemble.

At DIFF, running from January 10 to 18, 2026, the film will compete in the Bangladesh Panorama section. In Karachi, it will screen on November 27 as part of a 38-day global arts showcase featuring participants from over 100 countries.

The film was shot on Kanudir Char during Super Cyclone Sitang and features music by Emon Chowdhury, Mushfiq Litu, and Shovon Roy.

WHAT'S THE HAPS?

'Buddhijibir Bashay Shoytan'

Anuswar's new production dives into a feverish night where a tormented intellectual confronts a devil amid a world collapsing under war. A stark, unsettling meditation on morality, madness, and the fragility of human conscience, the play mirrors the chaos engulfing our present era.



Date: Friday-Saturday | November 14-15, 2025
Time: 5pm and 7:30pm onwards
Venue: Anuswar Studio, Segunbagicha



Michael Jackson makes history as 'Thriller' re-enters top 10

Michael Jackson has set a new Billboard milestone as *Thriller* returned to the Hot 100 at No 10 after the 2025 Halloween season. The jump from No 32 makes him the first artiste to score top 10 hits in six different decades.

The 1982 single generated 14 million streams and reached 9.3 million in radio audience, underscoring Jackson's lasting cultural reach sixteen

years after his death. The surge follows renewed attention driven by the trailer for Antoine Fuqua's 2026 biopic *Michael*. Jackson now surpasses Andy Williams, who charted across five decades. Taylor Swift continues her current dominance, holding No 1 with *The Fate of Ophelia* and leading the Billboard 200 with *The Life of a Showgirl*.

NEWS

Suicide bomber

FROM PAGE 12
people have been martyred and around 27 are wounded."

An AFP journalist saw paramilitary troops cordoning off the area where the minister said the assailant detonated the explosives near a police vehicle.

"We are trying to identify who he (the attacker) is and where he came from," Naqvi said. Pakistani Taliban militant group claimed responsibility, saying in a statement they had targeted judicial officials.

"Our fighter attacked the judicial commission in Islamabad. Judges, lawyers and officials who carried out rulings under Pakistan's un-Islamic laws were targeted," the group said in a statement, threatening to carry out more attacks "until Islamic Sharia law is implemented" in the Muslim-majority country.

Earlier, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif pinned the blame on "terrorist proxies backed by India", Pakistan's longtime foe, without providing evidence.

Sharif accused the Pakistani Taliban militant group and separatists from the country's Balochistan region, both of whom have carried out attacks mostly targeting the security forces.

In Islamabad, lawyer Mohammed Shahzad Butt said there was a "massive blast".

"Everyone started running inside out of panic. I have seen at least five dead bodies lying at the front gate," he told AFP.

Rustum Malik, another lawyer, told AFP he "heard a loud bang at the gate" as he was entering the complex.

"It was complete chaos, lawyers and people were running inside the complex. I saw two dead bodies lying on the gate and several cars were on fire," said Malik.

Islamabad has largely been spared major militant violence in recent years, with the last suicide attack occurring in December 2022.

The bombing came as Pakistani security forces battled militants who had holed up in a school in northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Wana district.

"There was an attack in Wana as well last night," Naqvi said. "Three people died in that attack. The attacker involved in that attack is an Afghan. Afghanistan is directly involved in that attack."

Bangladesh 13th

CASUALTIES AND DAMAGES CAUSED BY EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS 1995-2024

HAZARDS	FATALITIES	AFFECTED PEOPLE (million people)	ECONOMIC LOSS (billion USD)
Droughts	25,283	1825.08	286.95
Flood	205,452	2720.01	1314.01
Heatwave	278,395	33.93	32.86
Storm	274,753	988.26	2637.27
Wildfire	2,791	15.26	177.57
Other	45,611	112.30	64.96

SOURCE: GERMANWATCH CRI 2026

FROM PAGE 12
that COP30 must find effective ways to close the global ambition gap," said David Eckstein, one of the authors of the report.

Global emissions must be cut immediately to avoid further human and economic losses.

"At the same time, adaptation must accelerate, with concrete loss and damage solutions and adequate climate finance," he added.

In 2024, drought, flood, heatwave, storms and wildfires were the main weather events.

Bangladesh, the Philippines and

India recorded the most people affected by extreme weather in 2024. Bangladesh experienced a severe heatwave with temperatures that reached 43.8 degrees Celsius and that affected more than 33 million people.

"Heat waves and storms pose the greatest threat to human life when it comes to extreme weather events," said Laura Schäfer, another author of the report.

Storms also caused by far the greatest monetary damage, while floods were responsible for the highest number of people affected, she added.

No sensible person

FROM PAGE 12
LeT founder Hafiz Saeed is "actively planning attacks on India through Bangladesh".

On Monday, at least eight people were killed in a car explosion near the Red Fort in the Indian capital, Delhi.

While the cause of the blast has not yet been officially confirmed, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the "conspirators" will be brought to justice.

Meanwhile, a deadly suicide bombing took place outside Pakistan's capital, Islamabad, near court buildings, claiming 12 lives. Terror outfit Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif called it "India's state-sponsored terrorism".

Szalay's 'Flesh'

FROM PAGE 12
London for so many years I also had a similar feeling about London," Szalay told BBC Radio.

"I really wanted to write a book that stretched between Hungary and London and involved a character who was not quite at home in either place."

The novel was the Canadian-born author's sixth work of fiction. He was shortlisted in 2016 for his book 'All That Man Is' which told the story of nine men at various life stages.

"We had never read anything quite like it. It is, in many ways, a dark book but it is a joy to read," Roddy Doyle, chair of judges this year, said in the statement shared by the organisers.

"I don't think I've read a novel that uses the white space on the page so well. It's as if the author... is inviting the reader to fill the space, to observe – almost to create – the character with him."

ASK probe finds

FROM PAGE 12
treatment for the victim, and guarantee the safety of his family.

The report said that taking a detainee to police quarters while in custody and summoning his wife at night are both violations of legal procedure.

According to the report, Afsana told ASK investigators that Md Fazlul Karim, sub-inspector (SI) and the investigating officer of Netrakona Sadar Police Station, called her from her husband's phone on October 20 and asked her to bring food to the station. When she refused, her husband called again and said, "Why aren't you coming? The police are asking you to come."

Moments later, she heard her husband screaming over the phone, shouting, "My wife can't come here with a child. Kill me instead!"

Terrified, Afsana went to the police station around 9:00pm with her mother and two-year-old child. She said the investigating officer told her to go to the police quarters and warned, "Don't panic or cry when you see your husband."

Afsana said that when she entered the police quarters, she saw her husband blindfolded, hands and legs tied, hanging from an iron rod. When she asked why, the police replied, "He's on remand; should we let him sleep instead of questioning?"

She alleged that the police officer demanded money, saying, "You've done politics and made money for years; now face the consequences."

Apel is a former vice-president of the Netrakona district unit of banned student organisation Bangladesh Chhatra League.

He was beaten continuously for around two hours, his wife told ASK.

During a jail visit, ASK representatives spoke with Apel, who said that while he was on remand, SI Fazlul, constable Ashraf, and another officer wearing glasses hung him in the police quarters and beat him.

When contacted, the police station's Officer-in-Charge Kazi Shah Newaz declined to comment.

Additional Superintendent of Police (Administration) Rezwan Ahmed said, "The allegation is under investigation. SI Fazlul Karim has been withdrawn from the police station and attached to the district police lines."

Use SMG burst-fire

FROM PAGE 12
firing shotgun, two teargas guns, and for the team in charge, a 9mm pistol.

The commissioner also ordered that permanent checkpoints be increased from seven to 13.

Asked about the wireless order, the CMP commissioner told The Daily Star, "These [SMGs] are not for unarmed civilians. We will not use SMGs on anyone who does not have a weapon."

"This directive is meant for armed terrorists – those carrying weapons. In my area [Bayezid's Chalitatali], they came in and committed murder. I don't

want them to have the audacity to do this again. These armed terrorists enter Chattogram city to carry out such acts. This measure is being taken so that they won't even dream of attempting it," he said.

Answering another question, the CMP commissioner said, "I assure you this is not aimed at Awami League men who stage quick marches or flash processions in the city. We will arrest them and hand them over to the court as per the law. I didn't tell officers to use SMGs on unarmed AI people. Don't misinterpret this."

Ctg police yet to make headway

FROM PAGE 12
A day after Sarwar's murder, armed men shot and injured a CNG auto rickshaw driver in the same area, heightening panic among residents.

Several CMP officials said that no precautionary or preventive measures were taken after these shootings. Two former police officials, who recently left CMP for another unit, said that in similar past incidents, large-scale block raids were immediately conducted, but no such response was seen this time. Such inaction risks further emboldening the attackers to operate with impunity.

BAKALIA DOUBLE MURDER

On March 29, two men were shot dead in a brazen attack on a private car in the city's Bakalia area. Police said that the now slain Sarwar was also inside the car during the attack but had then somehow managed to survive.

The victims, Bokhtiar Hossain, 30, and Md Abdullah, 32, were both identified as known followers of Sarwar.

According to the murder case filed by the victims' families, the double murder was rooted in a feud between Sarwar and Chhoto Sazzad.

Feroza Begum, mother of one of the victims, filed a case with Bakalia Police Station, naming Chhoto Sazzad, his wife Tamanna Sharmin (as an instigator), and seven others as accused.

Two weeks before the double murder, Chhoto Sazzad was arrested in Dhaka. In response, his wife Tamanna posted a video on social media threatening reprisal against those she believed responsible for his arrest. She was later arrested in June in the Bakalia double murder case.

Investigating Officer Mozammel Haque, inspector (investigation) of Bakalia Police Station, said, "We've arrested 10 suspects, including four named in the FIR, and recovered a

foreign-made pistol. Three suspects were directly involved in the killings. Multiple raids have been conducted to catch the rest and recover the remaining weapons."

MURDER OF JCD ACTIVIST

On October 27, Jatiyatobadi Chhatri Dal (JCD) activist Md Sazzad, 22, was shot dead in the city's Bakalia Bogor Beel area amid clashes over tearing down political banners.



গাজীপুর উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ

গাজীপুর।

<https://gda.gov.bd>

স্মারক নং: ২৫.১.৩৩০০.০০২.০০.০০১৪.২৫-৮৯২

তারিখ:

১৬ কার্তিক ১৪৩১

১১ নভেম্বর ২০২৫

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

গাজীপুর উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষের নিম্নে বর্ণিত রাজ্যস্থান ভূক্ত অস্থায়ী শূন্য পদসমূহ প্রতিযোগিতামূলক পরীক্ষার মাধ্যমে নিয়োগের নিমিত্ত আগ্রহী-প্রার্থীদের নিকট থেকে নিচের বিজ্ঞপ্তি যোগাযোগ ও অভিজ্ঞতা (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে) এবং শর্ত ও নিয়মাবলি অনুসারে অনলাইনে (<http://gda.teletalk.com.bd> ওয়েবসাইটে) দ্রব্যাত্মক আঙ্কন করা হচ্ছে।

পদ এবং শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতার বিবরণঃ

ক্রমিক নং	পদের নাম	বেতন ক্রেল (২০১৫-র জা.বে. ক্লে) ও বেতন শ্রেণি	শূন্য পদের সংখ্যা	আবেদনের জন্য শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে)
১.	সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (সিভিল) Assistant Engineer (Civil)	টা. ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০। বেতন শ্রেণি-৯	৩	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি/ সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে সিভিল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং বিষয়ে মাত্রক ডিপ্লি।
২.	সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (বৈদ্যুতিক) Assistant Engineer (Electrical)	টা. ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০। বেতন শ্রেণি-৯	১	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি/ সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে ইলেক্ট্রিক্যাল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং বিষয়ে মাত্রক ডিপ্লি।
৩.	সহকারী পরিচালক Assistant Director	টা. ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০। বেতন শ্রেণি-৯	২	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে প্রথম শ্রেণি/ সমতুল্য সিজিপিএ-তে মাত্রকোর ডিপ্লি অথবা ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি/ সমতুল্য সিজিপিএ-তে মাত্রকোর ডিপ্লি অথবা ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি/ সমতুল্য সিজিপিএ-তে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদি মাত্রক (সম্মান) ডিপ্লি।
৪.	সহকারী স্থপতি Assistant Architect	টা. ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০। বেতন শ্রেণি-৯	১	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি/ সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে স্থপত্য বিষয়ে মাত্রক ডিপ্লি।
৫.	সহকারী প্রোগ্রামার Assistant Programmer	টা. ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০। বেতন শ্রেণি-৯	১	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে কম্পিউটার সায়েন্স/ কম্পিউটার ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং/ ইলেক্ট্রোনিক্স ইন্ফরমেশন এন্ড কম্পিউটারিক্যাল সিস্টেমে স্থানীয় বিষয়ে মাত্রক ডিপ্লি।
৬.	সহকারী নগর পরিকল্পনাবিদ Assistant Town Planner	টা. ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০। বেতন শ্রেণি-৯	৩	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে নগর ও অঞ্চল পরিকল্পনা বিষয়ে প্রথম শ্রেণি/ সমতুল্য সিজিপিএ-তে মাত্রকোর ডিপ্লি অথবা ইতোমুখ্য বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি/ সমতুল্য সিজিপিএ-তে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদী মাত্রক (সম্মান) ডিপ্লি।
৭.	সহকারী অধরাইজড অফিসার Assistant Authorized Officer	টা. ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০। বেতন শ্রেণি-৯	৪	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে সিভিল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং/ নগর ও অঞ্চল পরিকল্পনা/ স্থপত্য বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি/ সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে মাত্রক ডিপ্লি।
৮.	জিআইএস এনালিস্ট GIS Analyst	টা. ২২০০০-৫৩০৬০। বেতন শ্রেণি-৯	১	কোন স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে প্রথম শ্রেণি/ সমতুল্য সিজিপিএ-তে মাত্রকোর ডিপ্লি অথবা ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি/ সমতুল্য সিজিপিএ-তে মাত্রকোর ডিপ্লি অথবা উচ্চ বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি/ সমতুল্য সিজিপিএ-তে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদী মাত্রক (সম্মান) ডিপ্লি।
৯.	উপ-সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (সিভিল) Sub-Assistant Engineer (Civil)	টা. ১৬০০০-৩৮৬৪০। শ্রেণি-১০	৮	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব প্রতিষ্ঠান হইতে সিভিল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বা সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদি ডিপ্লোমা ডিপ্লি।
১০.	উপ-সহকারী প্রকৌশলী (বৈদ্যুতিক) Sub-Assistant Engineer (Electrical)	টা. ১৬০০০-৩৮৬৪০। শ্রেণি-১০	২	কোন স্থীরুত্ব প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে ইলেক্ট্রিক্যাল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বা সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদি ডিপ্লোমা ডিপ্লি।
১১.	উপ-সহকারী স্থপতি Sub-Assistant Architect	টা. ১৬০০০-৩৮৬৪০। শ্রেণি-১০	১	কোন স্থীরুত্ব প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে স্থাপত্য বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বা সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদি ডিপ্লোমা ডিপ্লি।
১২.	উপ-সহকারী পরিচালক Deputy Assistant Director	টা. ১৬০০০-৩৮৬৪০। শ্রেণি-১০	১	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বা সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে মাত্রকোর ডিপ্লি অথবা ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি/ সমতুল্য সিজিপিএ-তে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদী মাত্রক (সম্মান) ডিপ্লি।
১৩.	এক্টেট পরিদর্শক Estate Inspector	টা. ১৬০০০-৩৮৬৪০। শ্রেণি-১০	২	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বা সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে সংশ্লিষ্ট বিশ্বসহ মাত্রকোর ডিপ্লি অথবা ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি/ সমতুল্য সিজিপিএ-তে সংশ্লিষ্ট বিষয়ে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদী মাত্রক (সম্মান) ডি�প্লি।
১৪.	কানুণো Kanungo	টা. ১৬০০০-৩৮৬৪০। শ্রেণি-১০	১	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে সার্টেইনিং বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বা সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে ৪ (চার) চারবছর মেয়াদি ডিপ্লোমা ডিপ্লি।
১৫.	ইমারত পরিদর্শক Building Inspector	টা. ১৬০০০-৩৮৬৪০। শ্রেণি-১০	১২	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে পুরোশৈল বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বা সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদি ডিপ্লোমা ডিপ্লি।
১৬.	সহকারী জিআইএস এনালিস্ট Assistant GIS Analyst	টা. ১৬০০০-৩৮৬৪০। শ্রেণি-১০	২	কোন স্থীরুত্ব প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে সিভিল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং/ স্থাপত্য/ নগর পরিকল্পনা বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বা সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদী ডিপ্লোমা ডিপ্লি।
১৭.	সহকারী হিসাবরক্ষণ কর্মকর্তা Assistant Accounts Officer	টা. ১২৫০০-৩০২৩০। শ্রেণি-১১	১	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে সংশ্লিষ্ট বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বা সময়সূচী অন্তর্ভুক্ত শ্রেণি বিষয়ে ০৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদী সংশ্লিষ্ট বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বা সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদী মাত্রক (সম্মান) ডিপ্লি।
১৮.	অটোকার অপারেটর Autocad Operator	টা. ১১৩০০-২৭৩০০। শ্রেণি-১২	৮	কোন স্থীরুত্ব কারিগরী প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে আর্কিটেক্চ বিষয়ে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদী ডিপ্লোমা ডিপ্লি।
১৯.	ড্রাফ্টসম্যান Draftsman	টা. ১১৩০০-২৭৩০০। শ্রেণি-১২	২	কোন স্থীরুত্ব কারিগরী প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে স্থাপত্য/ সিভিল-এ বিষয়ে ৪ (চার) বছর মেয়াদী ডিপ্লোমা।
২০.	হিসাবরক্ষক Accountant	টা. ১১০০০-২৪৯৫০। শ্রেণি-১৩	১	স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বা সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে বাণিজ্য বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বিষয়ে মাত্রক ডিপ্লি।
২১.	কম্পিউটার অপারেটর Computer Operator	টা. ১১০০০-২৬৯৫০। শ্রেণি-১৩	১	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে বিজ্ঞান বিভাগে মাত্রক (সম্মান) বা সমমানের ডিপ্লি।
২২.	স্টোর কাপার Store keeper	টা. ১০২০০-২৪৬৮০। শ্রেণি-১৪	১	কোন স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে বাণিজ্য বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি বা সময়সূচী অন্তর্ভুক্ত শ্রেণি।
২৩.	নিরিক্ষক Auditor	টা. ১০২০০-২৪৬৮০। শ্রেণি-১৪	১	কোনো স্থীরুত্ব প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে স্থাপত্য/ বাণিজ্য বিষয়ে ইতোমুখ্য শ্রেণি/ সময়সূচী অন্তর্ভুক্ত শ্রেণি।
২৪.	স্টেম্পটাইপিং কাম কম্পিউটার অপারেটর Stenotypist cum Computer Operator	টা. ১০২০০-২৪৬৮০। শ্রেণি-১৪	৩	(ক) কোন স্থীরুত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে মাত্রক বা সমমানের ডিপ্লি; (খ) কম্পিউটার প্রশিক্ষিতপ্রাপ্ত, এবং (গ) স্টেম্পটাইপ প্রতি মিনিটে

Butterfingers let visitors off the hook

ABDULLAH AL MEHDI from Sylhet

Bangladesh spinner Hasan Murad provided the brightest moment yesterday with a gem of a delivery, drawing Ireland batter Curtis Campher forward before finding the edge as captain Najmul Hossain Shanto took the catch at slip. While it was an auspicious moment for the debutant, Shanto's reaction was telling as he proceeded to throw the ball into the ground in anger.

Shanto's frustration was understandable, given that he had earlier dropped one at slip to hand Lorcan Tucker a reprieve in the 49th over -- a missed opportunity that would have given Murad his first-ever wicket earlier in the innings on the opening day of the first Test in Sylhet.

Despite the spinners roaring back in the third session with four wickets, Bangladesh's day was defined by a string of missed chances, as the hosts allowed the visitors to wrest back the initiative.

The morning started brightly when Hasan Mahmud's in-dipper trapped Irish skipper Andy Balbirnie leg-before with just the fourth delivery of the day. Even as the stands were mostly empty, both Hasan and Nahid Rana were urged by the fans to go for the kill.



PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

The movement of the new ball subsided soon after, but Rana, in particular, was able to generate some extra bounce from the surface. He soon induced Paul Stirling into poking one to second slip, only for Shadman Islam to spill it. The next over, Taijul Islam failed to hang on to another

regulation catch, as Irish debutant Cade Carmichael was given a reprieve. Rana's frustration deepened when Stirling was dropped again, this time by Mehidy Hasan Miraz at gully.

Within the first half-hour of the Test, the Tigers had already dropped three.

The Stirling-Carmichael duo made the most of the reprieves. Stirling hit a swashbuckling fifty off 61 deliveries, and Ireland seized the momentum completely in that first session, reaching 94 for one in 26 overs.

The pair put on 96 for the third wicket before Rana finally had his man, Shadman holding on to Stirling's catch after a 76-ball 60. Carmichael went on to score his maiden fifty, but Miraz's two wickets in the second session saw Ireland reach 184 for four at lunch. Tucker added 41 after being dropped on 11, adding to the Tigers' woes, while Mashfiqur Rahim later graced a tough chance to allow Jordan Neill to survive.

Hasan Mahmud reflected on the day, saying catches are part of the game, though "it doesn't feel good when a catch is missed."

Eventually, the spinners staged a partial recovery. Miraz bagged three, Murad two, and Taijul Islam struck with the final delivery as Ireland closed on 270 for eight.

The Sylhet International Cricket Stadium has hosted four Tests, and in three, the side surpassing 200 in the first innings have won. After a butterfingers day, Bangladesh will have their work cut out to drive home the advantage.

Rakib aims to end the year on a high

SPORTS REPORTER

Forward Rakib Hossain remains optimistic about delivering a victory for the nation when Bangladesh face India in their final match of the year. The striker believes the team's recent home performances give them confidence ahead of the clash.

The Bangladeshi international shared his thoughts yesterday at the Bashundhara Kings Arena training ground, as the team continued preparations for two upcoming international fixtures -- against Nepal on November 13 and India five days later at the National Stadium.

Bangladesh have already been eliminated from the race for the AFC Asian Cup, following two home defeats and two away draws. However, Rakib dismissed the notion that the team performs better on foreign soil.

"If you look back, we've played really well at home," said Rakib. "In our last home match against Hong Kong, we had a strong first half. We also scored four goals in two matches -- one against Singapore and three against Hong Kong."

Determined to finish the year on a positive note, he added, "We still have two matches left -- one at home and one away -- and we'll try to give the country's people a good result by winning against India in our last home match of the year."

The Bashundhara Kings forward also praised the growing excitement surrounding the national team since the inclusion of Hamza Choudhury and Shamit Shome, crediting their presence for lifting both the squad's spirit and public enthusiasm.

"You can see how football's popularity has grown -- tickets for home matches are selling out in just a few minutes," Rakib said. "The craze has definitely increased since Hamza and Shamit joined. We've improved a lot as a team, but sometimes the results just don't go our way -- that's our bad luck."



'Cherish the love I receive'

SPORTS REPORTER

Leicester City midfielder Hamza Choudhury said representing Bangladesh remains a deeply personal chapter in his career, as he was unveiled as the new brand ambassador of private telecom operator Robi at their corporate office in Dhaka yesterday.

Currently in Bangladesh for the upcoming international fixtures against Nepal and India, Hamza attended the signing ceremony in the morning, where he spoke about his motivation for choosing Bangladesh and the emotions tied to that decision.

"It [debut for Bangladesh] still feels surreal, to be honest," Hamza said. "I just want to

be proud of being part of this country and to represent it in any way possible, especially for my parents. My father was born and raised here, so seeing that smile on their faces means everything to me. Every child wants to make their parents proud, and I feel blessed that I have the chance to make an entire nation proud."

Since his arrival, the midfielder has drawn large crowds wherever he has gone, from public appearances to training sessions. The reception, he said, has strengthened his bond with the country.

"The love I receive here is something I truly cherish. I try to share that love and support with everyone. It even makes my

family want to come back. Every time I leave Bangladesh, my kids say they want to return. So, Inshallah, they'll be back again in March."

He added that his commitment goes beyond footballing ambition: "I don't really think about money separately. What matters most to me is my love for the country and how I can help improve its situation. Contributing to that progress in whatever way I can is one of the main reasons I chose to play for Bangladesh. I have many childhood memories connected to this country, and I truly enjoy being here -- especially to inspire the younger generation to play football," Hamza added.

Starc wants spicy Perth pitch; Botham concerned

AGENCIES

Australia paceman Mitchell Starc has urged curators to prepare bowler-friendly surfaces, cautioning against "flattening surfaces to maximise five-day revenue", while former England captain Ian Botham has voiced concern about the team's lean Ashes preparations.

Botham noted that the full England squad did not arrive in Perth until Sunday, playing only one internal match before the series opener on November 21, while most of Australia's players are gaining match fitness in domestic Sheffield Shield games.

"It's not the way I would prepare," Botham told reporters in Melbourne. Highlighting the traditional need for touring teams to acclimatize, he stressed the mental challenge: "You've got to remember there's 24 million people down here, not 11. And you have to take that on board."

Despite his concerns over preparation, Botham expects a better series for Ben Stokes's team than the 4-0 loss in 2021-22, provided they can avoid injuries, calling it "one of those big ifs."

Botham suggested England could "consider unleashing a four-prong pace attack," favouring an aggressive approach: "You want to be aggressive, come through and players, if they're not playing very well, don't like it in the ribs."



However, England assistant coach Marcus Trescothick countered the idea that Australian conditions would curb the 'Bazball' style, arguing that the pace and bounce will be welcomed.

"Playing on bouncy pitches, where the

ball comes onto the bat nicely, is something we always talk about trying to get back at home. It suits our style of play, which we're happy with,"

Trescothick also backed star batter Joe Root to finally score a Test century in Australia, noting that under the current regime, "His game has gone to the next level and hence the reason where he is in the rankings."

On the Australian side, paceman Mitchell Starc has weighed in on the pitch debate, urging curators to prepare bowler-friendly surfaces. Starc warned that docile wickets, like the one he recently played on in the Sheffield Shield, would play "right into the England batters' hands".

Starc, who is building his rhythm after a layoff, believes his bowling is coming good, saying, "I think I've sorted it out and now it's just getting the engine going again."



RONALDO confirms 2026 WC will be his last

AGENCIES

Cristiano Ronaldo confirmed that the 2026 World Cup will mark the end of his legendary international journey. At 40, with over 950 career goals and 143 for Portugal, the five-time Ballon d'Or winner said the tournament in USA, Canada, and Mexico would be his "last dance." Now starring for Al Nassr in Saudi Arabia, Ronaldo admitted he plans to retire from football "in one or two years." Portugal, still fighting for qualification, hopes to give their captain one final shot at glory -- something that eluded him since the 2006 semifinal loss to France. Reflecting on his career, the world's first football billionaire said farewell won't be easy: "It will be very, very difficult. Probably, yes -- I will cry."



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Suicide bomber kills 12 outside Islamabad court

27 hurt; Pakistani Taliban claims responsibility



AFP, Islamabad

A suicide bombing outside district court buildings in the Pakistani capital Islamabad killed at least 12 people and wounded 27 yesterday, the interior minister said.

The first such attack to hit the city in years sent people fleeing in panic in an area which also houses several government offices. "A suicide attack was carried out," Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi told journalists. "So far 12

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Bangladesh 13th in Long-Term Climate Risk Index

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has been ranked 13th in the Long-Term Climate Risk Index (CRI), reflecting its continued vulnerability to climate related hazards such as floods, heatwaves, cyclones and storms.

The CRI was prepared by the global disaster watchdog Germanwatch by analysing data on casualties and property damage caused by extreme weather events in 20 countries, including Bangladesh, over the last 30 years.

The index documents over 9,700 extreme weather events from 1995 to 2024, which resulted in more than 830,000 deaths and caused over \$4.5 trillion in direct damages, adjusted for inflation.

Germanwatch praised Bangladesh for bringing down the number of deaths by effective risk management in CRI 2026, which was released at COP30 in Belém.

Owing to effective risk prevention and adaptation, cyclone-related mortality in Bangladesh has fallen more than 100-fold in the last 40 years, from half a million deaths in 1970 to 4,234 in 2007, the report said.

Bangladesh's neighbours, India and Myanmar, are both ranked within the top 10 in the index.

Dominica, Myanmar and Honduras are listed as the three most affected countries over the 30-year period.

The other countries in the top 10 are: Libya (4th), Haiti (5th), Grenada (6th), the Philippines (7th), Nicaragua (8th), The Bahamas (10th) and China (11th).

None of the eleven is among the world's wealthy industrialised nations.

However, industrialised nations such as France (12th), Italy (16th) and the US (18th) are among the top 30.

The CRI findings underscore that countries in the Global South are especially vulnerable to the climate crisis and need greater support from wealthier nations. Still, even industrialised countries are increasingly affected.

"The results of the CRI 2026 clearly demonstrate

SEE PAGE 8 COL 2

ASK probe finds evidence of police torture in Netrakona

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

The Ain o Salish Kendra has found preliminary evidence of human rights violations in an incident of alleged torture in police custody in Netrakona.

In a report published yesterday, ASK said it conducted an investigation on November 5 and 6 and found evidence that an accused, Apel Mahmud, 35, was tied up and tortured while in police remand.

It also claimed that the victim's wife, Afsana Mimi, was summoned at night to the police station at Borogara under Sadar upazila, where she was subjected to intimidation and harassment.

On the evening of October 14, police arrested Apel, and the following day sought a seven-day remand; the court granted one day remand.

ASK urged authorities to take disciplinary action against those responsible, file a case under the Torture and Custodial Death (Prevention) Act, ensure medical

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With soil and forest fuel easily available from the Haor areas, the number of brick kilns is rapidly increasing on the outskirts of Sylhet city, severely affecting local biodiversity, farmland, and the environment. The photo was taken from the Salutikor Bazar area on Monday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

COP30 focuses on countries' need for climate resilience

REUTERS, Belém

With typhoons tearing across Southeast Asia this week while areas of Jamaica and Brazil are still clearing debris from damaging storms, delegates at Brazil's COP30 summit began grappling with how best to help the vulnerable withstand worsening weather and other climate extremes.

The topic of "adaptation" has grown more important as countries fail to rein in climate-warming emissions enough to prevent extreme warming linked to increasingly frequent weather disasters across the planet. A UN report last month said developing countries alone would need up to \$310 billion every year by 2035 to prepare.

Where that money will come from is unclear. Ten of the world's development banks, under pressure to free more cash for climate action, said on Monday they would continue to support the need.

"Lives, well-being and jobs cannot be sustained where homes, schools, farms and businesses are under threat from flooding, drought, or other climate extremes," the banks said in a statement.

Last year, they channelled more than \$26 billion to low- and middle-income economies for adaptation.

Separately, the director of a multi-partner UN fund told Reuters it would soon announce a new impact bond aimed at raising \$200 million by the end of 2026.

"The whole bond idea started exactly one year ago at the previous COP in Baku," said Markus Repnik, who leads the Systematic Observations Financing Facility backed by the World Meteorological Organization, UN Development Programme and UN Environment Fund.

"We were getting the sense that things are going to change significantly from an international perspective."

The fund, which also works to plug gaps in weather data for developing countries, hopes for country donations this week during COP30.

On Monday, Germany and Spain pledged \$100 million to a different effort, the multilateral Climate Investment Funds (CIF), which is financing projects to boost climate resilience in developing countries.

The organisation's chief praised Brazil for featuring the issue as a COP30 focus, after years of seeing the issue slide down UN climate summit agendas.

"We're really thrilled that, for the first time, adaptation is Day 1 and Day 2 of the COP," CIF Chief Executive Tariye Gbadegesin told Reuters.

COP30
BRASIL
AMAZÔNIA
BELÉM 2025



'No sensible person can believe this'

Touhid rejects Indian media claims of LeT-Bangladesh link

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain yesterday said there is no reason to believe the Indian media's claim that Pakistan-based terrorists are plotting to attack India "using Bangladesh as a launchpad".

"The [Indian] media will try to put the blame on us for any incidents. There is no reason to believe it. No sensible person can believe this," he told reporters at the foreign ministry.

Various Indian media outlets, including the Times of India, referring to a video, reported that Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commander Saifullah Saif has claimed that

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Use SMG burst-fire to deal with armed criminals
CMP chief tells cops

FM MIZANUR RAHAMAN

After repeated shootings in the port city, Chattogram Metropolitan Police (CMP) Commissioner Habib Aziz has directed police officers to keep SMGs in "burst-fire mode" and use them to neutralise any armed terrorists encountered.

In a verbal order issued to all CMP personnel yesterday, the commissioner instructed patrol units and operation units.

At least five officers from CMP's four zones confirmed to The Daily Star that the wireless order came in several phases between 12:30pm and 1:00pm today, saying that the CMP commissioner has ordered that there should be no shotguns and no Chinese rifles. Now, SMGs will be kept in burst-fire mode, they cited the directive.

'Use firearms in self-defence'

Patrol teams were instructed to carry, in addition to SMGs, a pellet

SEE PAGE 8 COL 5

Typhoon reveals ancient shipwreck in Vietnam

AFP, Hoi An

Severe coastal erosion caused by Typhoon Kalmaegi exposed a centuries-old shipwreck in Vietnam, providing a narrow window to salvage what experts say could be a historically significant find.

Initially discovered in 2023 off the coast of Hoi An, the at least 17.4 metre (57-foot) vessel -- whose heavy wood ribbed hull survived hundreds of years of rough seas almost perfectly intact -- was resubmerged before authorities could reclaim it.



Experts have not yet dated the wreck, but preliminary findings suggest it was built between the 14th and 16th centuries -- when Unesco listed Hoi An was at the centre of a thriving regional trade in silk, ceramics and spices.

"We are currently preparing to apply for an emergency excavation (permit)," Pham Phu Ngoc, director of the Hoi An Center for the Preservation of World Cultural Heritage, told AFP on Monday after the wreck resurfaced following the passage of Typhoon Kalmaegi last week.

"The discovery of this ancient ship is clear evidence of Hoi An's significant historical role in regional trade," he said, adding more of the ship had been exposed this time "which could provide us with more information".

BOOKER PRIZE Szalay's 'Flesh' wins 2025 fiction award

REUTERS, London

David Szalay won the 2025 Booker Prize for his novel 'Flesh' on Monday, becoming the first Hungarian-British author to win one of top awards in the English-speaking world.

Written in spare prose -- characterised by brevity and a lack of unnecessary detail -- the book follows a man caught in a series of events beyond his control over decades. It charts his rise from a housing estate in Hungary to the mansions of London's super-rich.

"A meditation on class, power, intimacy, migration and masculinity, Flesh is a compelling portrait of one man, and the formative experiences that can reverberate across a lifetime," organisers of the award ceremony in London said in a statement.

In addition to the 50,000-pound (\$67,000) prize for the winner, as well as a 2,500-pound award to each of the shortlisted authors and translators, the writers also gain a boost in popularity and benefit from increased book sales.

"Even though my father is Hungarian, I never felt entirely at home in Hungary. I suppose, I'm always a bit of an outsider there and living away from the UK and

SEE PAGE 8 COL 3



Palestinians take shelter in their tents, during a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, in Al-Mawasi, Khan Younis, southern Gaza Strip, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

