



Campaign posters flood the capital

DNCC orders their removal in 7 days

HELEMUL ALAM and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Posters and flyers of nomination aspirants from political parties have become a nuisance in the capital ahead of the national polls expected in February, violating existing laws.

Campaign materials now cling to almost every surface – utility poles, footbridges, building walls, and metro rail pillars – while slogans and party symbols grow increasingly visible.

On June 19, the Election Commission banned posters during the official campaign period to make the election more environment-friendly and disciplined. The campaign period is expected to begin in the first week of next month with the announcement of the election schedule.

Officials and residents say aspirants are exploiting the window before the schedule to display the campaign materials. Most

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Despite the Election Commission banning posters for poll campaigns just a week ago, posters put up by political leaders were still seen across the capital yesterday, including these in the Farmgate area.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Arson attacks, crude bomb blasts persist

Grameen Bank branch office torched in Magura

STAR REPORT

Arson and crude bomb attacks continued yesterday in some parts of the country, including an arson incident at a Grameen Bank office in Magura.

The attacks came a day after the International Crimes Tribunal-1 sentenced the deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina and her former home minister to death.

The Awami League, whose political activities are currently banned, announced lockdown and shutdown programmes recently.

At least 50 arson attacks – mostly targeting buses – and dozens of crude bomb explosions have been recorded nationwide over the past week.

In Magura, criminals set fire to the Grameen Bank office in Mohammapur upazila early yesterday.

Several branches of the bank, an institution linked to Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus, including its headquarters in Dhaka, were targeted recently.

The incident occurred around 3:30am at the branch located beside Aminur Rahman Degree College in the upazila.

Around 3:30am, miscreants poured petrol through the office window and set it on fire, said Sohana Sultana, the

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COP30 CLIMATE TALKS Brazil unveils first draft deal

Text leaves open a wide range of possibilities on flashpoint issues

AFP, Belém

COP30 hosts Brazil yesterday produced a first draft of an agreement between nations at the UN climate talks after negotiations on the sticking points stretched late into the night.

The draft includes a sweep of options on the most difficult issues, reflecting the gulf between the nearly 200 nations in Belém and the work still ahead to refine a final compromise.

The nine-page “Global Mutirao” document – a reference to an Indigenous concept of uniting toward a common goal – came after Brazil on Monday urged delegates to work day and night to produce an agreement by midweek.

The text leaves open a wide range of possibilities on the flashpoint issues in Belém – trade measures, finance for poorer nations, and the global inadequacy of carbon-cutting goals.

But the quick turnaround of a draft on these thorny points suggested the COP30 presidency was confident it could soon have an outcome, observers said.

“It represents a steady progression from the previous iteration and is likely one of the earliest releases of such a clean text in recent COP history,” said Li Shuo, a climate analyst at the Asia Society Policy Institute.

The draft reflects the stark division between a coalition wanting a “roadmap” on a fossil fuel phaseout, and a bloc led by oil-producing countries opposing any such effort.

It proposes an optional “workshop” to discuss “low carbon solutions,” or a high-level ministerial roundtable

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Mushfiqu’s 100th Test today



STAR REPORT

After several days of build-up, the moment has finally arrived as Bangladesh veteran Mushfiquur Rahman gears up to take the field for his 100th Test in the second match of the two-match series against Ireland at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium in Mirpur today.

The first day’s play will begin at 9:30 am (Bangladesh time).

Almost all the buzz surrounding the series has centred on Mushfiquur’s milestone, with the 38-year-old set to become the first Bangladeshi to reach the prestigious 100-

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Trump’s plan for Gaza backed by UNSC

Hamas rejects resolution, saying it imposes int’l guardianship mechanism

AGENCIES

The UN Security Council on Monday voted to adopt a US-drafted resolution endorsing President Donald Trump’s plan to end the war in Gaza and authorising an international stabilisation force for the Palestinian enclave.

Israel and the Palestinian group Hamas agreed last month to the first phase of Trump’s 20-point plan for Gaza – a ceasefire in their two-year war and a hostage-release deal – but the UN resolution is seen as vital to legitimising a transitional governance body and reassuring countries that are considering sending troops to Gaza.

The text of the resolution says member states can take part in the Trump-chaired Board of Peace envisioned as a transitional authority that would oversee reconstruction and economic recovery of Gaza. It also authorises the international stabilisation force, which would ensure a process of demilitarising Gaza, including by decommissioning weapons and destroying military infrastructure.

Hamas, in a statement, reiterated that it will not disarm and argued that its fight against Israel is legitimate resistance, potentially pitting the group against the international force authorised by the resolution, reports Reuters.

“The resolution imposes an international guardianship mechanism on the Gaza Strip, which our people and their factions reject,” Hamas said in its statement, issued after the adoption of the resolution.

Palestinian Foreign Minister Varsen

- UN vote is ‘first step towards peace’: Palestinian FM
- Israel says US plan for Gaza to deliver ‘peace and prosperity’
- Trump celebrates vote as “a moment of true Historic proportion”
- Russia, China abstain, complain UN lacks role in Gaza plan

Aghabekian Shahin said yesterday the UN Security Council’s adoption of the resolution was a necessary first step on a long road toward peace.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s office hailed the US-drafted plan, saying it would lead to “peace and prosperity”, reports AFP.

The European Union hailed the vote in favour of US President Donald Trump’s Gaza peace plan as “an important step”. United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres called the passing of the resolution an important step in the consolidation of the ceasefire, in a statement sent to reporters.

MUSIC, PE TEACHERS Citizens, cultural groups slam hire plan cancellation

Demand Aug 28 gazette reinstatement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 80 eminent citizens and 18 cultural organisations have strongly condemned the interim government’s decision to scrap the recruitment plan for music and physical education teachers in primary schools, terming the move “regressive”.

In a joint statement issued under the banner of Jatiya Shikkha O Sangskriti Rakkha Andolon (National Movement for Protection of Education and Culture), the signatories alleged that the decision was taken following demands from a group seeking the appointment of religion teachers instead of music teachers, despite religion teachers already being deployed in schools.

The platform stressed that primary education is the foundation of a child’s ethical, cultural, and human development, noting that music fosters patriotism and aesthetics, while physical education teaches discipline and teamwork.

It added, “In the digital age, when children are becoming physically and mentally constricted due to screen addiction, music and physical exercise can be the primary tools for developing their creativity and focus.”

Highlighting international

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Hasina sentence violates fair trial standards: HRW

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Human Rights Watch has alleged that the death penalty against ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina followed a process that “failed to meet international fair trial standards”.

“There is enduring anger and anguish in Bangladesh over Hasina’s repressive rule, but all criminal proceedings need to meet international fair trial standards,” said Meenakshi Ganguly, deputy Asia director at Human Rights Watch (HRW).

“Those responsible for horrific abuses under the Hasina administration should be held to account after impartial investigations and credible trials.”

The HRW came up with the statement after the International Crimes Tribunal-1 of Bangladesh on Monday sentenced Hasina and former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal to death for crimes against humanity during the violent suppression of student-led protests in 2024, Human Rights Watch said today.

The HRW statement said the

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Smoke rises from brick kilns in the Bypass Horiyan area of Rajshahi’s Paba. With the rainy season over, brick kilns across the country are back in operation, causing pollution and often contributing to topsoil loss.

PHOTO: AZHAR UDDIN

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Khalilur reaches Delhi for regional security conclave

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

National Security Adviser Khalilur Rahman reached New Delhi yesterday, a day earlier than scheduled, to attend a regional security meet at the invitation of his Indian counterpart Ajit Doval.

He will lead the Bangladeshi delegation at the two-day Colombo Security Conclave starting today.

His visit comes as Dhaka-Delhi relations remain strained, with Bangladesh calling upon India to extradite deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina and former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal after the International Crimes Tribunal handed them death sentences for crimes against humanity committed during last year’s uprising.

They have been living in India since the fall of the Awami League government on August 5 last year. India has not responded to Bangladesh’s earlier call for Hasina’s extradition.

“I do not want to interfere with the agenda that he [Khalil] has,” Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain said when