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## 'A section of civil service is biased'

### Allege Jamaat, NCP

STAR REPORT

Leaders of Jamaat-e-Islami and the National Citizen Party yesterday alleged that sections of the civil administration were working in favour of a particular political party ahead of the upcoming election.

Jamaat leaders raised the allegation at a meeting of the party's central executive council at its Moghbazar headquarters, while NCP Chief Coordinator Nasiruddin Patwary echoed similar concerns at a rally at Dhaka University.

At the meeting, chaired by Jamaat Ameer Shafiqur Rahman, the party observed that conditions for a free, fair, and neutral election have yet to be established in the country.

"Allegations are coming in from different areas that some government officials within the administration are working in favour of a particular party. In various parts of the country, political leaders and activists are still being killed in broad daylight," said a press release issued by Jamaat's

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Customers gather at a hardware and stove repair shop in Dhaka's Nawabpur yesterday to repair their old kerosene burners amid a LPG cylinder supply shortage. The fuel crisis is pushing residents to switch to kerosene or electric alternatives. PHOTO: RASHED SUMON

## ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES

# Rab complicit in 25% cases

Commission recommends disbanding it

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Withdraw armed forces from internal policing
- Repeal or overhaul the Anti-Terrorism Act, 2009
- Scrap Section 13 of the APBn Act, 2003
- Turn 'Aynagar' detention sites into museums
- Shift to community-based counterterrorism

### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances has recommended extensive institutional and legal reforms to end enforced disappearances and human rights abuses, including disbanding the Rapid Action Battalion, the worst offender.

Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury, chairperson of the commission, said yesterday that they also

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## Widow alleges rape, torture

### Case filed against 4, one arrested

A CORRESPONDENT, Jhenaidah

A woman has been allegedly raped and brutally tortured in Jhenaidah's Kaliganj upazila.

The victim, a widow, filed a case yesterday, accusing two men of raping her and two women of abetting the men in torturing her, said Kaliganj Police Station's Officer-in-Charge Md Jellal Hossain.

The accused are Shahinur Islam, 55; Hasan, 45; Rupali Khatun, 30; and Mosammat Mukta, 25. All are residents of Arpara village under the upazila headquarters.

Of them, Hasan has already been arrested, and efforts are underway to arrest the others, added the OC.

Contacted, Kaliganj Police Station's Inspector (Investigation) Mofazzel Haque told this correspondent that the accused forcibly entered the woman's house and raped her. Later, they took her outside, tied her to a tree, and subjected her to inhuman torture.

Locals rescued her and took her to Jhenaidah General Hospital.

OC Jellal Hossain said the incident occurred on December 31, but the victim informed police about it on January 3.

He also said there was a delay in filing the case, as the woman was hospitalised.

According to locals, the woman has been living there since she bought a house around two years ago.

Talking to this correspondent over

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## 'We need Greenland'

Says Trump, threatens US action in Colombia, Cuba

### AGENCIES

President Trump suggested on Sunday that the United States could take action against other countries after its attack on Venezuela. He threatened Colombia and its president, described Cuba as "ready to fall" and reasserted his desire to take control of Greenland.

Trump has been facing questions about his plans for Venezuela since a US raid in Caracas captured the country's president, Nicolás Maduro, and brought him to New York City to face federal drug trafficking and weapons charges. As Trump took questions about that on Sunday, he spoke of other countries in Latin America and beyond.

On Air Force One, Trump told reporters that Colombia was being "run by a sick man who likes making cocaine and selling it to the United States."

"He's not going to be doing it for very long," he said of Colombia's president, Gustavo Petro, who has frequently criticised Trump. "He has cocaine mills and cocaine factories."

Trump and Petro have been locked in an escalating dispute over the United States' series of boat strikes in the Caribbean and the eastern Pacific, which have ratcheted up pressure on Colombia, a nexus of the region's drug trade, reports The New York Times online.

Asked whether his administration would carry out an operation targeting Colombia, Trump replied, "It sounds good to me."

Trump also suggested that the United States could take action against a number of other countries, including Mexico and Iran, over a range of issues.

He said that drugs were "pouring" through Mexico and that "we're going to have to do something," adding that the cartels there were "very strong."



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As the February 12 election nears, affidavits submitted by candidates open a window into their assets, liabilities, and personal histories. The Daily Star is running stories based solely on these filings.



### Income of Amir Khosru doubles in seven years

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Standing Committee member Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury's annual income has more than doubled since 2018, rising to Tk 1.6 crore despite a Tk 78 lakh loss in the share market last fiscal year.

According to his election affidavit, Khosru currently holds Tk 5.27 crore in shares and bonds, while his wife, Tahera Alam, owns Tk 98 lakh in similar investments. In 2018, he owned shares worth Tk 1.97 crore -- less than half the present amount.

During the 2018 election, his annual income was Tk 73.7 lakh,

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### Azad's net wealth grows five-fold in 17 years

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The net wealth of AHM Hamidur Rahman Azad, assistant secretary general of Jamaat-e-Islami, has increased nearly 5.3 times over the last 17 years, reaching Tk 1.93 crore in 2025.

A comparison of his affidavits and tax returns from 2008 and 2025 shows his annual income has surged more than six times -- from Tk 2.98 lakh to Tk 19.27 lakh.

Azad, contesting from the Cox's Bazar-2 constituency, previously won the seat in 2008.

His affidavit indicates intensified investment in real estate in recent years.

While his non-

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### Sarjis Alam's documents show income mismatch

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Citizen Party candidate Sarjis Alam has declared conflicting income figures in documents submitted to the Election Commission.

In his affidavit, the 27-year-old postgraduate listed Tk 9 lakh as annual business income, while his tax return for 2025-26 shows Tk 28.05 lakh -- more than three times higher. Both figures appear separately in the affidavit.

Sarjis, contesting from Panchagarh-1, described himself as a businessman. His affidavit also shows inconsistencies between declared assets and the net wealth reported in his

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## Justice for Hadi within interim govt tenure

Says home adviser; charge sheet to be submitted tomorrow

### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Justice will be ensured for the killing of Sharif Osman Hadi, a prominent youth leader of last year's July uprising, within the tenure of the interim government, Home Adviser Lt Gen (ret'd) Jahangir Alam Chowdhury said yesterday.

A decision has been made to transfer the murder case to a speedy trial tribunal, he told reporters following a meeting of the Advisory

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### Correction

In our Sunday's issue, we inadvertently published the photo of Islami Andolan Bangladesh founder Syed Fazlul Karim instead of its Nayeb-e-Ameer Mufti Syed Foyjul Karim. We have already corrected it in the online edition. We regret the error.

## 'Tuna King' pays record \$3.2m for a bluefin



AFP, Tokyo

A Japanese sushi entrepreneur paid a record \$3.2 million for a giant bluefin tuna yesterday at an annual prestigious new year auction in Tokyo's main fish market, smashing the previous all-time high.

Dave Gershman at the Pew Charitable Trusts' international fisheries team used news of the auction to highlight that stocks of Pacific bluefin tuna were improving after being "near collapse".

Self-styled "Tuna King" Kiyoshi Kimura's sushi restaurant chain paid the top price for the 243-kilogramme (536-pound) fish that was caught off Japan's northern coast.



Even a bone-chilling cold wave, which is sweeping across much of the country and making it difficult to venture outdoors, cannot take away the precious smiles of schoolgoing children. The photo was taken yesterday on Kakan Rajabari Road in Rajshahi's Godagari upazila.

PHOTO: AZHAR UDDIN

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## Govt publishes white paper on telecom sector

### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday published a white paper on the telecommunications sector, outlining corruption, irregularities, administrative weaknesses, and structural problems over the past 15 years.

The white paper was prepared by a task force formed in April last year with the approval of the chief adviser to review and analyze allegations of corruption and misconduct within the posts and telecommunications ministry.

Following months of investigation and evaluation, the task force submitted the report in its final form, according to an official government statement.

The document noted that various activities of the Posts and Telecommunications Division during the last decade and a half were affected by systemic irregularities, misuse of authority, weak governance mechanisms, and institutional shortcomings.