

## 12-yr-old's body found hanging in Ctg home

### Police await post-mortem report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police recovered the hanging body of a 12 year old girl from a house in Chattogram's Lalkhan Bazar early Sunday.

The victim, Srabanti Ghosh, daughter of KEPZ security guard Tapan Ghosh and garment worker Rosy Ghosh, was a fourth-grade student at Lalkhan Bazar Government Primary School.

Contacted yesterday, Khulshi Police Station Officer in Charge Jahedul Islam said, "Police found

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Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus chairing a meeting on the "Fuel and Power Sector Master Plan 2026-2050" with several advisers and top government officials at the State Guest House Jamuna in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

## VENEZUELAN OIL US to control sales 'indefinitely'

Says its energy secy; tens of billions will be needed to get the country's production back to historical highs

AFP, Washington

US Energy Secretary Chris Wright yesterday said that Washington will control sales of Venezuelan oil "indefinitely," a day after President Donald Trump announced Venezuela's interim leaders had agreed to US-managed marketing of 30-50 million barrels of crude.

"We're going to market the crude coming out of Venezuela, first this backed-up stored oil, and then indefinitely, going forward, we will sell the production that comes out of Venezuela into the marketplace," Wright said at a Goldman Sachs energy event in Miami.

Days after the US toppling of Venezuelan leader Nicolas Maduro, which has left his deputy and other allies in charge, Wright suggested sanctions on the country's oil sector would be waived to facilitate the export of its oil.

The United States would be "the supplier" of the diluting agents needed to get Venezuela's extra-heavy crude oil ready for shipment, he said.

"As we make progress with the government, you know, we'll enable the importing of parts and equipment and services to kind of prevent the industry from collapsing, stabilize the production, and then as quickly as possible, start to see it growing again."

Wright, a former oil and gas executive, said it would require "tens of billions of dollars and significant time" to get Venezuela's production back to historical highs of over three million barrels per day.

"But why not?" he questioned.



Government supporters join a women's march toward the office of interim President Delcy Rodriguez in Caracas, Venezuela, Tuesday, days after a US strike and the capture of President Nicolas Maduro and his wife, Cilia Flores.

PHOTO: REUTERS

observers pointed out that a quick ramp-up of output would be hamstrung by several issues including its creaking infrastructure, low prices and political uncertainty.

Trump said Tuesday that 30-50 million barrels of Venezuelan crude will be shipped to US ports, with the revenue -- perhaps more than \$2 billion at current market prices -- placed under

oil, how the plan would work, or what its legal basis would be.

"Think about where Venezuela was a week ago. You know, it's a little different today, but everything else is the same way it was," Wright said.

"So it is going to require this cooperation between -- and pressure between -- the United States and Venezuela."

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## Seat-sharing knot tightens for Jamaat, IAB

FROM PAGE 1

The overlap is most pronounced in the Chattogram region, with 49 constituencies hosting rival candidates from the two parties.

Dhaka follows with 40 seats, Khulna with 34, Rajshahi and Mymensingh with 33 each, Rangpur with 30, and Barishal with 17. Sylhet records the least overlap, with eight constituencies.

Tensions escalated further after the alliance was expanded into 11 parties a day before the nomination deadline to include the National Citizen Party and others.

Islami Andolan leaders have expressed dissatisfaction with Jamaat's seat sharing proposal, demanding a larger allocation and objecting strongly to what they see as undue importance given to the newly formed NCP, including the promise of as many as 30 seats.

Another partner Bangladesh Khilafat Mailis, led by Mamunul Haque, has taken a similar position.

Islami Andolan Secretary General Maulana Yunus Ahmad acknowledged the strain.

"We were together," he said, adding that last-minute decisions had unsettled several parties.

He said the original members of the alliance were not consulted before the inclusion of new parties and assurances of sharing seats with them.

"It's not just Islami Andolan; Other parties were also displeased," he said.

Yet, the IAB secretary general insisted the raptures in the alliance were not beyond repair.

"Everyone still has the mindset to move together, and I hope this mindset won't change," he said, adding that fresh talks between Jamaat and IAB were expected soon.

From Jamaat's side, Nayeb e-Ameer Syed Abdulla Mohammad Taher struck a more optimistic note, saying progress had been made. He expressed hope that a deal would be finalised shortly.

Asked about reports of a crisis with Islami Andolan, he dismissed them outright, saying there was "no truth" to

such claims.

The fractures are most visible in constituencies where top leaders are pitted against one another.

In Cumilla-II, Jamaat's Taher faces IAB's Md Mohiuddin. Jamaat Nayeb e-Ameer ATM Azharul Islam is contesting Rangpur-2, where IAB has nominated Ashraf Ali.

Khulna-5 features Jamaat Secretary General Mia Golam Porwar, while Islami Andolan's Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had his nomination rejected; Bangladesh Khilafat Majlis candidate Md Abdul Qayyum Jamadar remains in the race there.

In Sirajganj-4, Jamaat Assistant Secretary General Maulana Rafiqul Islam Khan is up against Islami Andolan's Abdur Rahman. Cox's Bazar-2 has become a three-way contest, with Jamaat's former MP and Assistant Secretary General Hamidur Rahman Azad appealing after rejection, IAB's Ziaul Haq in the race, and Khilafat Majlis nominee Obaidul Qader Nadi also contesting.

Similar rivalries unfold elsewhere: former MP Shahjahan Chowdhury in Chattogram-15 faces IAB's Shariful Alam Chowdhury; Jamaat Dhaka South city Ameer Nurul Islam Bulbul contests Chapainawabganj-3 against IAB's Md Monirul Islam. In Khulna-4, IAB Secretary General Yunus Ahmad is running against Jamaat's Md Kabirul Islam.

Bardishal has emerged as another flashpoint. Jamaat candidates Muazzam Hossain Helal and Md Mahamudunnabi are contesting Bardishal-5 and Bardishal-6 respectively, seats where IAB Senior Nayeb e-Ameer Md Syed Muhammad Faizul Karim is also an aspirant. IAB leaders Syed Eshak Md Abdul Khayer and Syed Md Mosaddeq Billah are contesting Bardishal-4 and Dhaka-4, where Jamaat candidates Mohammad Abdul Jabbar and Syed Zainul Abedin have also filed nominations.

There are, however, rare pockets of unity. No alliance partner has fielded a candidate against Jamaat Ameer

Rights body Ain o Salish Kendra recorded at least 401 incidents of political violence that left 102 people dead and 4,744 injured in 2025.

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Masud got shot on the left side of his abdomen and is receiving treatment in the emergency ward of the DMCH, said Inspector Md. Faruq, in charge of the police camp at the hospital.

Mohammed Javed, who accompanied Masud, said Musabir and Masud were first taken to BRB Hospital before Masud was transferred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

## Swechchhasebak Dal leader shot dead

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JCD-backed candidates secured four posts with Riasal Rakib elected as library and seminar secretary, Mahid Hossain as transport secretary, Takrim Ahmed as literature and publication secretary and Sadman

## Mob beats man to death on theft suspicion in Magura

A CORRESPONDENT, Jhenaidah

A man was beaten to death by a mob on suspicion of cattle theft in Magura Sadar yesterday. The victim, Akidul Islam, 45, a resident of Kanchanpur village, was allegedly detained by locals 4:00am in Maland village and beaten, police said.

On information, police rushed to the scene, rescued Akidul, and took him to Magura Sadar Hospital, where doctors declared him dead, said Ashiqur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Magura Sadar Police Station.

Contacted, Sumaiya Alrin, a doctor at the hospital's emergency unit, said the man was already dead when he was brought in around 9:00am. "There were multiple injuries on different parts of his body. His head had been shaved, and his legs were severely injured with visible bleeding."

The victim's wife, Ajifa Khatun, said Akidul had returned from Cyprus five months ago and had been working at a vegetable wholesale market in Dhaka.

"He was returning home by bus at night. After getting off at Ichkhada Bazar in the morning, he called and told our son to go and receive him. A few moments later, another call came from his phone, and a man told us that my husband had been caught on suspicion of stealing cattle. The caller demanded money for my husband's release."

## Govt unveils

FROM PAGE 1

Pacific at the European External Action Service, he said the referendum, to be held alongside the general election scheduled for February 12, would mark a historic moment for the country.

"People in this country have not been able to vote in free and fair elections for the past 16 years under autocratic rule. This time, they will vote festively."

The referendum will ask voters to approve the July Charter, a reform framework agreed upon by major political parties as part of the transition process. The charter focuses on strengthening democratic institutions, restoring electoral credibility, limiting the concentration of executive power, and safeguarding fundamental rights.

The chief adviser's special envoy Lutfey Siddiqi; SDG Coordinator and Senior Secretary Lamiya Morshed; and European Union Ambassador to Bangladesh Michael Miller were present at the meeting.

Meanwhile, Prof Ali Riaz, special assistant to the chief adviser, as the chief guest of a virtual meeting with agriculture ministry officials yesterday said that the purpose of the referendum is to ensure that Bangladesh does not return "to a fascist system."

"This opportunity for a referendum will not come again in the next five or 10 years. Everyone must work together to seize this opportunity to determine how Bangladesh will move forward."

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