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From ashes to resilience

Exhibition opens at burnt Prothom Alo building; journalist leaders, diplomats back press freedom

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A special art exhibition titled "Alo" (Light), documenting the recent arson attacks on newspaper offices, opened yesterday at the charred Prothom Alo office in the capital's Karwan Bazar, transforming destruction into a striking meditation on survival and resilience.

At the inauguration, journalist leaders pledged stronger unity to bolster independent journalism and democracy.

In another session, diplomats stationed in Dhaka expressed solidarity with The Daily Star and Prothom Alo, underscoring freedom of the press and freedom of expression as pillars of democracy.

Curated by eminent artist Mahbubur Rahman, the exhibition uses remnants of the December 18, 2025, arson attack to create a visual record of resilience. The exhibition

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Expressing solidarity with Prothom Alo and The Daily Star, ambassadors, high commissioners, and other diplomatic mission representatives yesterday attended a special art exhibition titled 'Alo' (Light), documenting the recent vandalism and arson attacks on the newspaper offices, at the charred Prothom Alo office in the capital's Karwan Bazar. PHOTO: STAR

Govt closes schools for Ramadan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Revising the annual holiday schedule, the new government yesterday announced the closure of primary and secondary schools (classes I-X) from today during Ramadan.

Classes will remain suspended until March 26.

To this end, two ministries -- the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education -- issued separate notifications.

As March 26 falls on a Thursday, teachers

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Govt must act on July reforms

Shafiqur says otherwise opposition won't stay silent

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer and opposition leader Shafiqur Rahman warned yesterday that the party would not remain silent if the government fails to act on reform proposals made in the wake of the July uprising.

"If the government takes initiative, we, as the opposition, will extend full cooperation. But if the government does not take initiative, then we will speak out on behalf of the people," he said after launching

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Woman files case alleging rape in Hatia

6 accused named, 50-100 unnamed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

A case was filed over the alleged rape and torture of a woman in Noakhali's Hatia upazila yesterday, five days after the incident.

The victim filed the case with the district's Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal

around 4:00pm, accusing six named and some 50 to

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Coordinate to achieve goals

Tarique tells ministers, secretaries; rolls out 180-day action plan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Tarique Rahman spent a busy first day as prime minister yesterday, holding meetings with ministers and top bureaucrats where he asked them to work in a coordinated manner to achieve his government's goals while remaining above influence or nepotism.

In separate meetings with his council of ministers and secretaries, he also set out his government's immediate priorities, including maintaining law and order and curbing corruption, and directed them to stabilise commodity prices and ensure uninterrupted power supply during Ramadan.

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'Strongly opposed Ziaul's promotion'

Former army chief tells ICT-1, calls officer a 'serial killer'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former army chief General (ret'd) Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan yesterday told the International Crimes Tribunal-1 that he had strongly opposed the promotion of Ziaul Ahsan, calling him a "serial killer" unfit for advancement.

During the cross-examination in a case filed over crimes against humanity, Iqbal told the tribunal that during his tenure as army chief from 2012 to 2015, Ziaul

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PRAYER TIMING
FEBRUARY 19

	Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	5:15	12:45	4:30	5:58	7:30
JAMAAT	5:25	1:15	4:45	6:08	8:00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING

RAMADAN	FEB	SEHRI	IFTAR
1	19		5:58
2	20	5:11	5:58
3	21	5:11	5:59

BEPZIA
Congratulations
the Hon'ble Prime Minister
TARIQUE RAHMAN

Bangladesh EPZ Investors' Association (BEPZIA) conveys heartiest congratulations to Tarique Rahman, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh & the Hon'ble Chairman of BEPZA Board of Governors.

BEPZIA, the sole trade body within the EPZ, remains highly optimistic about driving substantial economic growth in Bangladesh under his dynamic leadership.

Warmest congratulations to Mr. Tarique Rahman
on his appointment as the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
May his visionary guidance lead the nation toward a future of renewed hope and prosperity.

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