



BSRM
THE ONLY STEEL FACTORY IN BANGLADESH TO RECEIVE THE
GREEN FACTORY AWARD 2025



DHAKA METRO RAIL PROJECT
Proud Construction Partner
SHAH CEMENT

JULY UPRISING CASE Ex-DGFI chief Mamun Khaled on remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lt Gen (retd) Sheikh Mamun Khaled, former chief of the Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI), was arrested yesterday and placed on a five-day remand in connection with a murder case linked to the July uprising.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Md Siddique Azad passed the order after detectives produced the 63-year-old before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, seeking a seven-day remand.

Khaled was brought to court around 3:00pm under tight security after being detained very early in the morning in Mirpur DOHS.

According to the prosecution, furniture trader Mohammad Delowar Hossain was shot in the Mirpur-10 area on July 19, 2024, during quota reform protests that later escalated into a mass uprising. He died two days later while undergoing treatment at a hospital in Shyamoli.

Delowar's wife filed the case with Mirpur Model Police Station, naming 74 accused, mostly Awami League leaders and activists.

During the hearing, Public Prosecutor Omar Faruq



SEE PAGE 8 COL 4



Firefighters douse a blaze on the Chattala Express, which burst into flames as it was crossing Sitakunda early yesterday. The Dhaka-bound train from Chattogram was carrying more than 600 passengers across 16 coaches. The fire started in the power car and later spread to an air-conditioned coach. No casualties were reported; two coaches were damaged. PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

4 of a family, driver killed as bus rams car

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cumilla

Five people, including four members of the same family, were killed yesterday when a bus rear-ended a car on the Dhaka-Chattoogram highway in Cumilla's Burichang upazila.

The victims were identified as Abdul Momin, 50; his wife Jharna Begum, 40; their daughter Labiba, 18; and son Saif, 7, all from Chatarpaiya village in Sonaimuri upazila of Noakhali. The car's driver, Jamal Hossain, 52, of Barishal, also died in the crash.

Abrar, 12, another son of Momin and Jharna, survived the crash and is now out of danger, said Md Abdul Momin, officer-in-charge of Mainamati Highway Police Station, quoting doctors.

The OC said the accident occurred around 6:00pm. "The driver died on the spot, while the four passengers were rushed to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared them dead," he added.

The family was travelling from Dhaka to their village home in Sonaimuri when the Starline Paribahan bus hit their car.

HADI MURDER SUSPECT Request has been made for extradition Says home minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed yesterday said a formal request has been sent to India through the foreign ministry to bring back an accused in the murder case of Inquilab Moncho Convenor Sharif Osman Bin Hadi.

The handover process was underway under the existing extradition treaty between the two countries, he told reporters after paying homage at the Rajarbagh Police Memorial on the occasion of Independence and National Day.

A court in Bidhannagar, West Bengal handed over Faisal Karim Masud, the prime accused in the murder of Sharif Osman Hadi, and his associate Alamgir Hossain to India's National Investigation Agency (NIA), according to Prothom Alo.

The NIA took them to Delhi on Monday night on transit remand, where they are to be produced before a special NIA court, the report said.

The agency sought the custody of Faisal and Alamgir at the Bidhannagar Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate's Court in the North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, and the court granted the plea.

Subject to the court's permission, NIA investigators would interrogate the two in the interest of the investigation, it added.

SEE PAGE 8 COL 2

Peace talks confusion fuels oil price surge, market turmoil

AFP, London

Oil prices jumped and equities slid yesterday as hopes for a peace deal between the US and Iran wavered after Tehran rejected Washington's bid to wind down the nearly four-week war.

Markets had been buoyed this week by US President Donald Trump's announcement that strikes targeting Iran's energy infrastructure would be postponed, adding that the two sides were in peace talks.

But uncertainty over the talks and the virtual closure of the Strait of Hormuz -- through which around 20 percent of oil and liquefied natural gas normally passes -- have cast a shadow over market sentiment.

"The market rollercoaster continues," said Joshua Mahony, chief market analyst at Scope Markets.

Crude prices rallied more than nearly four percent on Thursday, with Brent crude above \$101 per barrel and WTI around \$94. The dollar rose against its main rivals.

Wall Street opened lower, with Europe's main markets down in afternoon trading, while there were losses across Asia.

"When the oil price surges, the market playbook stays the same: stocks and bonds sell off," said Kathleen Brooks, research director

at XTB.

The yield on government bonds rose across the board.

Conflicting messages from the US and Iran are "raising questions about whether there is really an off-ramp to the conflict in the days ahead," said Deutsche Bank's Jim Reid.

Washington was said to have presented a 15-point plan to end the war, while Tehran's state-run TV reported officials had put forward their own five conditions for hostilities to end.

Trump on Wednesday threatened to "unleash hell" if Iran did not strike a deal, but Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said his country does not intend to negotiate with the administration in Washington.

"This is quite the shift in rhetoric from the President, and highlights how complex it will be" to reach a peace deal, said XTB's Brooks.

She added that "the prospect of troops on the ground suggest a prolonged war and not one final blow at Iran."

Pakistan's Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar confirmed yesterday that indirect negotiations between the US and Iran were being held, using Islamabad as an intermediary.

"The tone taken by Iran may simply be posturing, but... there is a high likelihood they

Crude prices rallied more than nearly four percent yesterday

Wall Street opened lower, with Europe also down and losses across Asia

SEE PAGE 8 COL 1

Govt approves emergency diesel import 300,000 tonnes to cover 25 days amid ME war concerns

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has authorised the emergency purchase of 300,000 tonnes of diesel, moving swiftly to secure domestic fuel supplies as the escalating war in the Middle East threatens global energy markets.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs took the decision yesterday at a virtual meeting chaired by Finance and Planning Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury.

Diesel is the most widely consumed petroleum product in Bangladesh, which meets almost all of its petroleum requirements through imports. The country consumed 68 lakh tonnes of petroleum in the 2024-25 fiscal year, of which 43.5 lakh tonnes was diesel.

The new purchase will cover roughly 25 days of national demand.

The meeting, considering the unstable geopolitical situation arising from the Iran-US-Israel war, approved two proposals from the Energy and Mineral

SEE PAGE 8 COL 4

Ancient dog DNA traces 16,000 years of human bond

AFP, Paris

The discovery of the oldest ever dog DNA suggests they have been our best friends for nearly 16,000 years -- 5,000 years earlier than had previously been thought, new research said Wednesday.

Despite being ubiquitous in the homes, backyards and hearts of people across the world, surprisingly little is known about where dogs come from.

"It's just an interesting mystery," Swedish geneticist Pontus Skoglund of the UK's Francis Crick Institute told reporters.

Dogs are most likely a mix of two types of grey wolves, he said. However exactly when dogs diverged from wolves has been difficult to trace, partly because their ancient bones are tricky to tell apart.

That is why scientists behind two new studies published in the journal Nature sequenced the genomes from archaeological remains, shedding light on the elusive origins of our furry friends.

The first study revealed that the world's oldest canine DNA was discovered in a piece of a skull in Pinarbasi in what is now Turkey.

The female puppy, which was perhaps "a few months old", probably looked like a small wolf when it lived roughly 15,800 years ago, according to study co-author Laurent Frantz of the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich.

Before Wednesday, the oldest-known dog DNA was from 10,900 years ago.



College student shot dead by men posing as police CID, PBI, DB launch drives to identify attackers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

A college student was chased from his home and shot dead by assailants in Bagerhat's Chitalmari upazila yesterday afternoon.

The victim was identified as Amir Hamza, 23, son of Ruhul Amin Munshi of Shibpur village, and a first-year honours student at Khulna Government Sundarban College. He also worked at Popular Diagnostic Centre in Khulna.

Bagerhat Additional Superintendent of Police Md Shamim Hossain confirmed the incident and said law enforcement agencies, including CID, PBI and DB, have launched efforts to identify and arrest those involved in the killing.

According to the victim's family members and locals, around 4:00pm, Amir was in the yard of his house talking with his father and uncle when a group

SEE PAGE 8 COL 4



THE FOREST ACROBAT

A velvet-black eastern hoolock gibbon clings to a slender bamboo in Lawachara National Park in Moulvibazar, quietly surveying its green kingdom. The eastern hoolock gibbon (*Hoolock leuconedys*) is a lesser ape, built to swing effortlessly through continuous forest canopies that serve as both road and refuge.

Native to eastern Bangladesh, Northeast India, Myanmar, and Southwest China, it inhabits evergreen and semi-evergreen forests, often sleeping curled high on hilltop trees. Fruits, especially figs, form the bulk of its diet, supplemented by leaves, insects, and eggs. Their haunting morning duets echo across kilometres, strengthening lifelong family bonds. Listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List, the species faces mounting threats from deforestation, habitat fragmentation, and hunting.

PHOTO: NOBEL CHAKMA

VIOLENCE IN 'GEN Z' PROTESTS Nepal panel for prosecution of ousted PM

REUTERS, Kathmandu

A Nepali panel set up to investigate the violence during anti-corruption protests in September last year has recommended that former prime minister K P Sharma Oli be prosecuted for "negligence" for failing to prevent dozens of deaths.

The report comes two days before rapper-turned politician Balendra Shah is sworn in as the new prime minister after winning a landslide in the parliamentary election following the protests.

The panel held Oli, 74, responsible for not taking any action to stop hours of firing that killed at least 19 Gen Z protesters on the first day of anti-corruption demonstrations that forced him to resign.

A total of 76 people were killed and 2,522 wounded during two days of unrest, the panel said in its report released late on Wednesday night. The government had earlier said 77 people had died.

"As the executive head... Oli should be held responsible for anything good or bad," the 970-page report said in Nepali.

The report also held Oli's home minister Ramesh



K P Sharma Oli

SEE PAGE 8 COL 1