



Deaths from border crime not ‘border killings’

Says Salahuddin, hints taking battery rickshaws outside cities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed yesterday said it is incorrect to label deaths resulting from border crimes or illegal trespass as “border killings”.



Speaking to reporters at the Secretariat, the minister said such incidents are addressed under local laws and are separate from zero-line killings by foreign forces.

“If a foreign force enters our border or the zero line and carries out a killing, that can be termed a border killing. But if someone is involved in a crime within our territory or theirs, or illegally trespasses into

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PHOTO: MEHEDI HASAN

Large amounts of plastic waste line the Buriganga river banks and nearby areas in Kamrangirchar, Dhaka. Waste is dumped regularly along the riverbanks, polluting the water and destroying its ecosystem. The photo was taken yesterday afternoon.

Set aside 10% beds for free treatment of dengue patients

Govt orders pvt hospitals

UNB, Dhaka

The government has directed private hospitals across the country to provide free treatment to dengue patients in at least 10 percent of their beds, Health and Family Welfare Minister Sardar Md Sakawat Husain said yesterday.

“Under the new directive, private hospitals will reserve 10 percent of their beds for dengue patients and waive doctors’ consultation fees for those receiving treatment. Patients will only have to bear the costs of medicines and meals,” the minister told reporters after a meeting on dengue prevention and preparedness.

Besides, private hospitals have been asked to offer discounts of up to 80 percent on diagnostic tests for dengue patients, he said.

Meanwhile, all private hospitals must submit detailed information to the health ministry within the next three days, including the number of beds allocated for dengue patients, the stock of saline and other essential fluids, and their future procurement plans.

Regarding dengue vaccination, the minister said that although dengue vaccines are being used in some countries, they have not yet gained universal acceptance.

“Bangladesh will not launch a

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Iran studying deal to halt war

Seeking interim agreement, avoiding nuke concessions; Trump sees deal ‘over the next week’

AGENCIES

Iran is reviewing a proposed agreement with the United States to halt the war between the two countries, Iran’s Mehr news reported yesterday, after US President Donald Trump said talks to reach a deal were continuing.

as saying.

Trump told ABC News on Monday that he thinks he will have an agreement with Iran to extend the ceasefire and reopen the Strait of Hormuz “over the next week”.

Oil prices fell more than one percent yesterday, paring the previous day’s sharp gains,

dollars in oil revenues, waivers on crude exports, a lifting of a US blockade on its ports, and continued leverage over the Strait of Hormuz.

Trump is under pressure to reopen the strait and curb US fuel prices while not making concessions to Iran.

US Secretary of State Marco

Iran agrees to discuss aspects of nuke programme: Rubio

IRGC boosts military power during ceasefire: spokesperson

24 ships transited the Strait of Hormuz in 24 hours

Israel, Hezbollah clash as Lebanon talks begin in Washington

More than three months after the US and Israel launched strikes against Iran, the conflict has hardened into a stalemate while largely indirect talks to negotiate an interim deal have proved inconclusive, leaving the Strait of Hormuz largely shut.

Iran has not yet responded to a proposed final text of the temporary deal, and was taking a “stern” approach given what it sees as a history of US non-compliance and longstanding mistrust, Mehr cited a source

though a senior International Energy Agency official warned that global oil inventories could hit historically low levels.

Iran is pushing for a limited interim agreement as it tries to ease mounting economic pressure while avoiding major concessions on its nuclear programme, according to Iranian sources.

As part of any deal, Tehran is seeking an end to hostilities across all fronts, including Lebanon, access to billions of

Rubio told lawmakers yesterday that Iran had agreed to negotiate aspects of its nuclear programme that it previously refused to discuss. But he said that was not a guarantee that talks will lead to a deal to end the US-Israeli war on Iran.

Meanwhile, Iran’s Revolutionary Guards has said that 24 vessels had transited the strait in the past 24 hours after obtaining permission from the Guards’ navy.

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ISLAMI BANK ‘Wife’s default loan is no bar to Khurshid’s appointment’

Says BB; protests continue

STAR REPORT

Bangladesh Bank yesterday said Khurshid Alam, the newly appointed chairperson of Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC, faces no barrier to serving as the bank’s chairman due to his wife’s loan default.

BB spokesperson Arief Hossain Khan made the remark amid criticism and controversy surrounding Alam’s appointment.

Arief, also an executive director of the BB, said a company obtained a Tk 125 crore loan from First Security Islami Bank under an SME financing scheme in 2016.

One of the directors of the company is Alam’s wife. The outstanding amount has now risen to more than Tk 3 crore, and the loan has become classified.

However, since Alam has no involvement with the company, there is no obstacle to his serving as chairman, according to Arief.

Documents seen by The Daily Star show that Alam’s wife, Afroza Akter,

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Relief for fans as WC broadcast deal imminent

SAMSUL AREFIN KHAN

A consortium comprising BTV, T Sports and Star News is set to acquire the broadcast rights for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, officials confirmed on Tuesday, ending fears of a potential blackout of the tournament in Bangladesh.

The agreement, which is expected to be finalised within the next two days, comes just a week before the World Cup kicks off on June 11 across the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Although officials from the broadcasters declined to disclose the cost of the deal, it has been learnt that the rights are set to be secured for between USD 3 million and USD 4 million (approx. Tk 36-49 crore).

It is also understood that state-owned BTV will first obtain the rights from FIFA before sharing them with the two private channels, allowing all three broadcasters to air the matches live across the country. In addition, a digital streaming platform will provide live online coverage of the tournament.

“We are trying to telecast the World Cup in the country without spending a single taka of public money. There are many stakeholders involved. We are trying to negotiate with everyone,” Information and Broadcasting Minister Zahir Uddin Swapon told The Daily Star on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, a broadcast official familiar with the

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UN warns of extreme El Nino heat risk

Urges preparedness as it is likely to continue until Nov



REUTERS, geneva

The United Nations weather agency yesterday forecast a moderate or possibly strong El Nino that could drive up global temperatures and increase the risk of extreme weather over the coming months.

El Nino is a periodic warming of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern Pacific Ocean, which typically lasts between nine and 12 months, according to the World Meteorological Organization.

The WMO said warm ocean waters were driving El Nino’s development and predicted above average temperatures in most parts of the world from June to August. The WMO said it is likely El Nino will continue until November.

“We need to prepare for a potentially strong El Nino event - which will exacerbate drought and heavy rainfall and increase the risk of heatwaves both on land and in the ocean,” said WMO Secretary-General Celeste Saulo.

The weather pattern is known to disrupt regional climates, potentially bringing warmer temperatures across the globe, while increasing rainfall to southern South America, the southern United States, parts of the Horn of Africa and central Asia.

Homecoming ends on the highway

4 of a family killed as car collides with truck

SUZIT KUMAR DAS, Faridpur

Arif Islam, an expatriate working in Malaysia, had been away from home for the past few years. When he finally landed at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport Monday night, his mother, sister and younger brother were waiting outside to receive him.

The family had travelled from Baliadanga village in Jashore’s Jhikargachha upazila for the reunion. As soon as Arif came out of the airport after completing all formalities, his family did not want to wait there any longer. They soon started their journey back home.

But that journey was never to be completed. Little did they know the reunion at the airport would be their last.

In the early hours of yesterday, around 4:00am, the car carrying the family crashed into the rear of a truck that was stationary in a toll queue on the Dhaka-Bhanga Expressway in Bhanga upazila of Faridpur, according to Shibchar highway police.

The car crumpled beneath the truck, trapping everyone inside. Three members of the family died on the spot.

Nurjahan Begum, 50 – Arif’s mother – was among them. So were his sister Ayesha Begum, 28, and his younger brother Rakib Islam, 18.

Their driver, Zahid Hossain, 32, also did not survive.

Arif himself initially survived the wreckage but was critically injured. He was referred from Bhanga Upazila Health Complex to Faridpur Medical College Hospital,

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A relative mourns beside the body of a Palestinian killed in an Israeli strike at Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in Deir al-Balah, central Gaza Strip, yesterday. Israeli fire killed at least three Palestinians in separate incidents across the Strip, Gaza health officials said.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Body of 75-yr-old recovered from Mirpur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the body of a 75-year-old woman from an apartment in the capital’s Mirpur on Sunday night.

The deceased, Nurjahan Begum, lived with her daughter, Fatima Nasrin Sultana, on the fourth floor of a five-storey building in Block C of Mirpur 6.

Pallabi Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Hasan Basir said they recovered the body after receiving a call on the national emergency hotline – 999.

According to the OC, the victim has three sons – one a joint secretary, one a teacher at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, and the other living in Canada.

Since the recovery of the body, allegations of severe neglect by her children

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