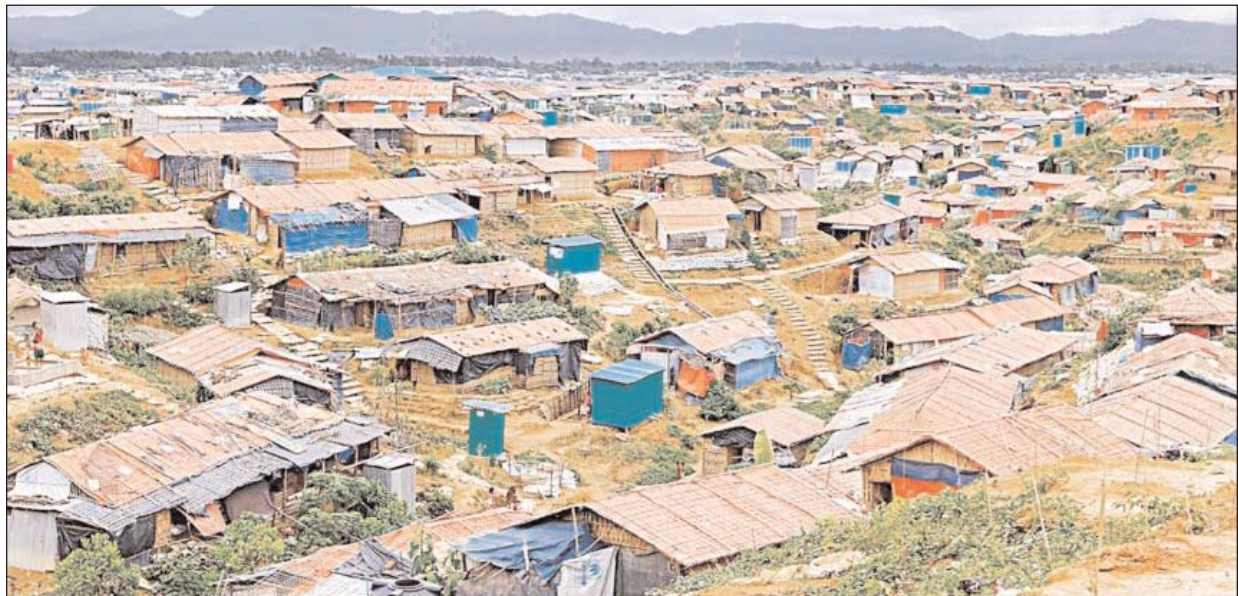




Global action urged as Rohingya await long-delayed justice

Staff Correspondent

Fortify Rights on Tuesday urged UN member states to intensify efforts to end impunity for atrocities against the Rohingyas and reverse humanitarian aid cuts as international judicial proceedings move closer towards delivering long-awaited justice.

“The Rohingyas have waited far too long for justice, recognition, and a safe return,” the international human rights organisation said in a statement marking

nine years since Myanmar's 2017 military crackdown. Seventy Myanmar national and international human rights organisations, including Fortify Rights, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and the Burmese Rohingya Organization UK, issued a joint statement calling for stronger international action.

“For Rohingya survivors, international justice is not an abstraction. It is one of the few remaining pathways to accountability after decades of persecution and

repeated failures by states to protect them,” said Fortify Rights Human Rights Specialist Lynn Htet.

“This year could mark a turning point for justice for the Rohingyas. UN member states should make sure it does,” Htet added.

The organisations called on the UN Security Council to refer the situation in Myanmar to the International Criminal Court (ICC), impose targeted financial sanctions and establish a global arms embargo

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Danish support can help address Dhaka's water crisis: Moyeen

Staff Correspondent

Local Government, Rural Development (LGRD) and Cooperatives Minister Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan on Tuesday said Denmark's cooperation will play an important role in addressing the capital's growing demand for clean water and worsening water crisis.

He said Denmark can be an important partner of Bangladesh in the fields of water supply, waste management and development assistance. The LGRD minister made the remarks when Danish Ambassador to Bangladesh Christian Brix Møller called on him at the Secretariat here. State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Mir Shahe Alam was present at the meeting. During the meeting, they discussed further

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Andaleeve calls for boycotting those practicing intellectual fascism



Staff Correspondent

Information and Broadcasting Minister Andaleeve Rahman on Tuesday called for a social boycott of those who practice intellectual fascism. “We can't do anything except socially condemn and boycott those media outlets that support, promote or practice fascism intellectually,” he said.

The minister made the remarks while responding to a question at a weekly press briefing on the progress of various government activities at the conference room of the Press Information Department (PID) in the

Bangladesh Secretariat here. At the beginning of the event, Andaleeve unveiled the cover of a book titled “I Have a Plan: Six Months of the Democratic Journey,” published by the PID, highlighting the government's special achievements over the past six months.

Coming down heavily on intellectual fascism, the minister said, “If anyone supports or promotes fascism through intellectual thinking and consciousness, we have nothing to do but socially condemn such a practice. “Those who do not believe in the spirit of a free Bangladesh and a newly independent Bangladesh deserve to be socially boycotted, which is the greatest form of justice for them.” Responding to another question regarding the press freedom, he said believing in democracy is a matter of mindset. “The mindset we witnessed over the past 17 years was one of taking a position against criticism. But neither the present government nor the Prime Minister has any intention of restricting

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Drug Menace Destroying Social Fabric, Ctg DC Anti-Drug Rally Held in Sitakunda

Md. Omar Faruk, Special Correspondent

The growing menace of drugs is engulfing every layer of society. Drugs are not only destroying individual lives but also having a devastating impact on families and the overall social structure. To protect society from the scourge of drugs, families, educational institutions, the administration and people from all walks of life must work together, said Chattogram District Commissioner and District Magistrate Mohammad Jahidul Islam Mia. He made the remarks as the chief guest at an anti-drug rally organized by the Sitakunda Upazila Administration at the field of Bhaterkhal Government Primary School in Muradpur Union of Sitakunda upazila,

Chattogram, on Tuesday (August 25). The District Commissioner said, “Students should not be prepared merely to obtain certificates; they must be nurtured into responsible human beings. At the same time, they need to be made aware of the devastating consequences of drug abuse.” He urged parents to remain more responsible and vigilant about where their children go, whom they associate with and what they are doing.

He said drug abuse destroys peace and happiness within families while pushing the younger generation toward destruction. Merely enforcing the law will not be enough to prevent the spread of drugs; a strong social resistance must also be built against it.

The District

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Humaun Kobir's appointment constitutional: Asaduzzaman

Staff Correspondent

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Md Asaduzzaman on Tuesday said the government appointed Humaun Kobir as state minister for foreign affairs in accordance with the Constitution, but did not directly answer whether Kobir renounced his British citizenship.

“The first thing is that the law is there as it is. Secondly, what this government has done has been done in accordance with the Constitution. There has been no deviation from the Constitution,” the minister told reporters after an event at the Ministry of Social Welfare in the capital.

“So, whatever we have done, we have done constitutionally.

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Holiday Notice

All sections of the Daily Bangla Sky will be closed today Wednesday on the occasion of Ed-A-Miladunnabi (S.). Therefore, the newspaper will not be published on tomorrow Thursday.

-Editor



Holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi today

Staff Correspondent

The holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi, commemorating the birth and death anniversary of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) will be observed across the country tomorrow with due religious solemnity.

On the 12th of Rabiul Awal (in 570 AD), Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was born in Makkah, bringing divine blessings and a message of peace for mankind. He passed away on the same day (in 632 AD).

The day is a national holiday. The government has taken extensive national-level programmes to mark the day.

On the occasion, President Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir and Prime Minister Tarique Rahman issued separate messages greeting Muslims across the world.

Besides, the president has inaugurated the Islamic Foundation's fortnight pro

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PM greets Muslim Ummah on Eid-e-Miladunnabi

Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman on Tuesday extended heartfelt greetings and best wishes to the Muslim Ummah across the world, including Muslims in Bangladesh, on the occasion of the holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi (PBUH). In a message issued ahead of the occasion, the Prime Minister said the auspicious arrival of Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH), the Holy Prophet and Messenger of Allah, was a unique and glorious event in the history of human civilisation.

“His advent opened a new horizon of truth and light for humanity. The Prophet (PBUH) called people towards Tawhid and taught them truth, justice, equality, brotherhood,

humanity and peace,” he said.

“His life and teachings have become an eternal guide and model for mankind,” the premier added.

Quoting the Holy Quran (Surah Al-Ahzab, verse 21), Tarique Rahman said, “Indeed, in the Messenger of Allah you have a good example to follow.” He said the life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) reflected the teachings of the Holy Quran and embodied truthfulness, trustworthiness, justice, forgiveness, tolerance, kindness and altruism.

The Prime Minister said the Prophet (PBUH) upheld the dignity and rights of all people, transcending differences of race, colour, tribe, language and social status. He also emphasised compassion

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Bangladesh will remain more vigilant against India's water aggression: Annie

Jahangir Alam, Staff Reporter

Bangladesh will remain more vigilant and alert in the future regarding water aggression from India, Water Resources Minister Md. Shahiduddin Chowdhury Annie stated on Tuesday. He emphasized that both the government and the citizens will stay cautious to ensure the people of the country do not fall victim to any form of aggression. The Minister made these remarks on Tuesday (August 25) afternoon while responding to

questions from reporters during an inspection of the Muhuri River flood control embankment in the Ghatghar area of Parshuram, Feni. Describing India as a neighboring and friendly nation, the Water Resources Minister said, “The friendly relations between the two countries should be more positive and mutually beneficial. India must also consider how positive this friendship needs to be. We hope India will remain fully mindful of this and maintain friendly ties.” He added that under the leadership

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TCB plans Tk 8,000cr procurement to stabilise essentials market

Staff Correspondent

The state-run Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) has planned to purchase commodities worth around Tk 8,000 crore during the current fiscal year to stabilise the country's essential commodity market amid a global supply chain crunch. The main procurement items will remain edible oil, lentils and sugar, alongside additional commodities such as dates and chickpeas.

Initially, TCB plans to source about 50 percent of these products domestically and 50 percent internationally. “If international sourcing proves more competitive and reliable, the corporation may increase its share of overseas procurement,” said TCB Chairman Brigadier General Mohammad Foysol Azad in a recent interview.

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DB Assigned Responsibility for Investigation into Murder of Four Members of a Family in Rangpur

Mohinul Islam Sujon, Crime Reporter

The investigation into the murder of four members of a family, including a retired teacher, in Rangpur has been transferred from Kotwali Police Station to the Detective Branch (DB). Police said the investigating agency was changed to ensure a more transparent investigation and to submit the charge sheet quickly.

The matter was confirmed by Sanatan Chakraborty, Deputy Commissioner of the Detective Branch of Rangpur Metropolitan Police. According to sources, on Monday (August 24) afternoon, Milon Chatterjee, Inspector (Investigation) of

Kotwali Police Station and the previous investigating officer in the case, went to the DB office and handed over the necessary information, evidence, and documents to Zinnat Ali, Officer-in-Charge of the Metropolitan Detective Branch and the new investigating officer.

Later that afternoon, both the former and newly appointed investigating officers visited the crime scene at Machuapara, including the residence of teacher Ganapati Chakraborty Jewel. Sanatan Chakraborty, Deputy Commissioner of the Detective Branch of Rangpur Metropolitan Police, told journalists that the two arrested suspects had

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Govt aims to build discrimination free country: Zahid

Staff Correspondent

Social Welfare Minister Dr AZM Zahid Hossain on Tuesday said the government is making strides to build a discrimination free and inclusive Bangladesh where everyone's rights will be protected.

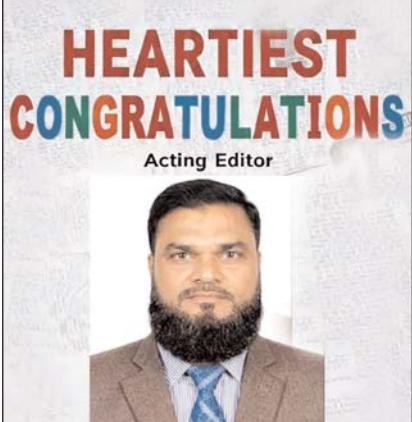
“The government remains vigilant so that none faces any form of discrimination in the country,” he told a discussion titled “Role, Rights and Future Responsibilities of Diploma

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HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS

Acting Editor



Md. Neyamul Hossain
Acting Editor

THE Daily Bangla © Sky Newspaper
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The Rohingya crisis is reaching a breaking point

Nine years after the mass exodus of Rohingya from Myanmar, Bangladesh continues to shoulder a responsibility that was never meant to be permanent. More than a million Rohingya remain dependent on humanitarian assistance, while the prospect of returning home remains frustratingly distant.

As the crisis creeps up to a decade, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the international response has fallen far short of what is required.

Bangladesh has provided shelter and humanitarian support despite the enormous economic, social, and environmental pressures imposed on host communities, but this generosity cannot be allowed to become an excuse for international inaction.

The Rohingya have a right to return to their homeland, and Bangladesh has a right to expect that Myanmar take responsibility for creating the conditions necessary for their safe, dignified, and sustainable return.

Recent developments surrounding verification offer little reason for complacency.

Myanmar has verified more than 300,000 refugees as former residents of Rakhine State, but the process remains painfully limited compared to the scale of the population in Bangladesh.

responsible for the atrocities that drove the Rohingya from their homes must face meaningful consequences, while Myanmar must be pressed to recognize the rights, citizenship, and security of the Rohingya.

At the same time, humanitarian funding must not be allowed to decline. Until repatriation becomes possible, Bangladesh cannot be expected to carry the financial and social burden alone.

Nine years is far too long for a temporary refuge to become a permanent existence.

The priority must now be immediate, voluntary, safe, and dignified repatriation -- and the international community must act with the urgency this crisis demands.

PM greets Muslim

and responsibility towards orphans, the poor, helpless and deprived, while giving special importance to the rights of family members, neighbours, women, children and marginalised people. “His teachings do not divide people, rather strengthen the bond of brotherhood, harmony and mutual responsibility,” he said. The PM observed that the world is currently facing various crises, including war, conflict, violence, discrimination, intolerance and moral degradation, which are disrupting peace, security and normal life. “At such a time, the teachings of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) on peace, justice, compassion, forgiveness and humanity are very relevant,” he added.

He said following the Prophet’s life and philosophy could help build a peaceful and welfare-oriented society based on justice, responsibility and human values at individual, family, social and state levels. Referring to the young generation as the future of the country, Tarique Rahman said the life and ideals of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) could inspire young people to stay away from drugs, terrorism, extremism and crime and remain steadfast on the path of truth and justice.

He said the Prophet’s teachings were important not only to the religious and spiritual life of Muslims but also to the development of human and moral values. “His ideals must be embodied in our personal lives, family lives and social behaviour. We can build a peaceful, just and humane Bangladesh only by strengthening mutual respect, compassion, tolerance and a sense of justice,” the Prime Minister added.

He prayed to Almighty Allah to grant all the ability to follow the life and Sunnah of the Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) and to establish peace, justice, equality, prosperity and humanity in Bangladesh and across the world.

Danish support can help

strengthening bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Denmark, expanding cooperation in water supply and waste management, and the possibility of Danish investment in development projects. At the onset of the meeting, the Danish envoy congratulated the Bangladesh minister on assuming his new responsibility. At the same time, he hoped that bilateral relations would be strengthened between Bangladesh and Denmark in the future, while the areas of cooperation would be expanded. The minister said Denmark can play an important role in key sectors such as water supply and waste management in Bangladesh. "Especially, Denmark has investment opportunities in producing energy from waste," he said. They also discussed various aspects of Denmark's financing and cooperation in the Sayedabad Water Treatment Plant Project (Phase-3). The Danish government will finance Tk 4,500 crore in the project. Of the amount, Tk 1,500 crore will be given as a grant and Tk 3,000 crore as a soft loan. Briefing reporters after the meeting, State Minister for Local Government Mir Shahe Alam said Denmark's support in the third phase of the Sayedabad Water Treatment Plant Project is a big success for the government. "Once the project is implemented, it will be possible to meet the increasing demand for clean water in Dhaka to a large extent," he said. Local Government Division Secretary Md Shahidul Hassan, Dhaka WASA Managing Director Md Aminul Islam and senior officials of the ministry were present at the meeting.

Andaleeve calls for

media freedom or controlling the media," Andaleeve added. Describing the institutional pictures under the previous regime, he further said, "Over the past 17 years, all systems in the country were corrupt. After taking responsibility following such a fragile situation, the government is going through one

Myanmar’s forgotten war

Md. Neyamul Hossain

The Myanmar civil war is one of the clearest tests of the international community’s promise to protect civilians. Two decades on from the creation of the United Nations’ “Responsibility to Protect,” that promise has been quietly abandoned.

Myanmar has spent most of its independent life in conflict. Since its inception in 1948, it has struggled to build a political order that can hold together its highly diverse ethno-politico-religious communities. At its core is an unequal relationship between a Bamar-dominated central state and the ethnic border regions.

Military rule has defined the country’s governance. Since General Ne Win’s 1962 coup, the army -- known as the Tatmadaw -- has governed directly or through proxies. The so-called 8888 uprising of 1988 and the monk-led Saffron Revolution of 2007 were both handily crushed. A democratic opening from 2010 to 2015 gave Aung San Suu Kyi’s National League for Democracy a landslide victory before the military seized power again in February 2021. The elections the junta staged in late 2025 and early 2026 were widely condemned as neither free nor fair.

The Responsibility to Protect Myanmar should matter to anyone who takes the Responsibility to Protect seriously. The edict emerged from the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty in 2001 and was endorsed by UN member states in 2005. Its premise is simple: When a state cannot or will not protect its people from ethnocide, commits war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity, that responsibility passes to the international community (although this is an ambiguous entity in geopolitical terms).

Yet Responsibility to Protect provisions have always been applied selectively. Some crises attract diplomatic energy and intervention; others are treated as distant and inconvenient. A doctrine written for human protection loses its moral authority when it’s applied selectively. Myanmar exposes this weakness. Its war draws far less western attention than Ukraine or the Middle East. Why is such an enduring and intractable conflict being treated with scant urgency?

The cost is not only battlefield deaths, but the slow attrition of refugee camps, children growing up stateless and unschooled, and people denied for years the right to return home or work.

The scale of displacement is hard to absorb. Bangladesh hosts well over a million Rohingya refugees, most in the camps of Cox’s Bazar, with roughly 150,000 more arriving since early 2024 as violence in Rakhine, a coastal state in western Myanmar, intensified in 2025-26.



this year.

But the Rohingya are only one part of a wider conflict. For decades, ethnic armed organizations have fought the state for autonomy or territory, and many are more than armed entities.

As Prof Intiaz Ahmed from Dhaka University has argued, some function as “proto states,” meaning they have their own currencies, control over territories and armed forces. Most importantly, the cost of non-resolution is enormous. The five economic and cost-analysis models in the Myanmar Crisis Dashboard show that inaction carries measurable human, regional and economic consequences.

A war economy keeps the fighting alive. Rare earth mining, drug trafficking, and online scam compounds did not cause the conflict, but they sustain it. Kachin State has become central to the global rare earth supply chain and UN investigators have traced a multi-billion-dollar scam industry to the country’s lawless border zones.

How to end the conflict

If a war economy helps sustain the conflict, ending it means building something that can out-compete it. Myanmar needs peace architecture that offers an alternative to war.

Emphasizing the importance of enhancing professional skills and excellence, he said no profession can deliver the desired benefits without proper career planning.

Therefore, everyone should adopt long-term plans for improving their organizations and professions, he suggested. He also urged those concerned to play a vigilant role in maintaining the quality of medicines in healthcare services and ensuring that patients receive the correct medicines.

Atikur Rahman Ruman called upon everyone to work together with dedication to strengthen the Prime Minister’s efforts to build an inclusive and humane Bangladesh. Representatives of diploma pharmacists raised a demand for implementation of 10th-grade pay scale for diploma pharmacists.

In response, the minister said the government would consider ensuring fair opportunities and benefits for pharmacists, as it does for other services and professions, and assured them of necessary cooperation in this regard.

The minister also made a strong call for increasing women’s participation in the health sector as well as in all other sectors.

Drug Menace Destroying

Commissioner further said that eliminating drugs cannot be achieved by the administration or law enforcement agencies alone. Families, educational institutions, elected representatives, teachers, guardians and people from all sections of society must take a united stand against drugs. He also stressed the need to strengthen social awareness and take legal action against drug dealers and users. The programme was presided over by Mohammad Fakrul Islam, Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) of Sitakunda. Among others, Faisal Rabbi, Assistant Commissioner (Land); Mohinul Islam, Officer-in-Charge of Sitakunda Model Police Station; and Golam Rahman, Upazila Primary Education Officer, were present.

Officials from various departments of the upazila administration, teachers, local representatives, guardians and prominent members of the community also attended the programme. Speakers at the rally called for immediate and united social resistance against drugs. They emphasized the need for families and educational institutions to play a more effective role in keeping young people and students away from drugs. They also urged the people to join hands with the administration to build a drug-free Sitakunda.

Humaion Kobir’s

This is called the deeming clause. When the oath was administered, it was done constitutionally,” he said.

According to multiple media reports, Humaion Kobir holds foreign citizenship. He took the oath as a state minister on August 21. Asaduzzaman was addressing a ceremony to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on inter-institutional cooperation for “legal assistance, social protection, protection and rehabilitation of women, children and vulnerable communities.” The MoU was signed among the Directorate of Bangladesh Legal Aid, the Department of Social Services and the Department of Women Affairs.

The minister also said the state will stand by victims who cannot afford to appoint lawyers to defend themselves, while the government is working to ensure legal protection for marginalised and disadvantaged communities. “Every person has the right to legal assistance and the right to be defended. It is both a human right and a fundamental right,” he said.

Asaduzzaman said the government wants to reach marginalised communities through the legal aid programme.

The objective, he said, is to ensure that if someone becomes a victim and cannot afford a lawyer, the state will bear the cost of providing legal representation. The minister reiterated that the government is working to ensure the rule of law and human rights by ending the culture of politically motivated false

One idea is a stabilization and reconstruction plan for Rakhine, among the country’s poorest regions and central to both Rohingya displacement and the wider conflict.

Justice alone has not produced safety or peace for decades. A reconstruction plan could build a peace dividend, showing that infrastructure, schools, clinics, and livelihoods can deliver more than a war economy ever will.

Such a plan would rest on three commitments. Displaced people, in the camps and the diaspora, would be trained for work so they are ready to rebuild when conditions allow. Planning should not wait for a final peace deal; negotiation and reconstruction are separate tracks that reinforce each other.

These proposals also need credible backing from donors and regional governments. The risk is that reconstruction money could be seized by the entities who profit from the war. Designing to guard against that possibility is part of the work. Global effort required

Geopolitics cannot be ignored. China holds major stakes through the Belt and Road Initiative and hedges between the military and the armed groups; India has concerns about its northeastern frontier. The crisis is regional, not just domestic. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, must play a larger part. Its Five-Point Consensus, agreed in 2021, has not resolved the crisis and is now widely judged as a failure, yet it remains the most legitimate regional platform. The organization’s Institute for Peace and Reconciliation could study reconstruction-based alternatives.

The Responsibility to Protect cannot apply only when intervention is politically convenient. The real test isn’t how loudly governments speak when a crisis is visible, but whether they act equitably when the suffering is slow, distant and inconvenient. Myanmar is one of those tests. So far, the world is failing it.

cases, enforced disappearances and crossfire.

DB Assigned

given confessional statements before the court under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure until late Sunday night. “We have learned from court sources that the accused have basically given the same account of the incident that our Commissioner briefed journalists about and informed the public. However, they have also added some details that they had not previously told us,” Sanatan Chakraborty said.

He said, “The case has been handed over to the DB. Police Inspector Zinnat Ali of the Detective Branch is now the investigating officer of the case. He has been assigned the responsibility of conducting the investigation.”

Earlier, on Saturday night, the bodies of Ganapati Chakraborty Jewel, 65, his wife Pritilata Chakraborty Bala, 50, their daughter Agami Chakraborty Prarthi, 25, a postgraduate student, and their fifth-grade son Ayush Chakraborty Priyam, 12, were recovered from their home. It was learned that all four had been strangled to death. Two people were arrested early Sunday morning in connection with the incident. The arrested suspects were Mugdha Das, 23, son of Kanudas of Machuapara area, and Siddhartha Das, 19, son of Binay Chandra Das. At a press conference that afternoon, Rangpur Metropolitan Police Commissioner (DIG) Abdul Mabud said that the teacher Ganapati Chakraborty, along with his wife and two children, were killed after they allegedly prevented the suspects from consuming yaba on the roof of the house. The bodies of the four victims were handed over to their family members on Sunday afternoon after autopsies were completed. Their last rites were performed at Dakkhiganj cremation ground in the city at around 10:30 pm that night.

TCB plans Tk 8,000cr

According to the Ministry of Commerce, the TCB has prepared a procurement plan for FY27 to ensure adequate supply of essential commodities. Under the plan, TCB intends to procure a total of 22 crore liters of edible oil, 2.20 lakh metric tons of red lentils, 1.10 lakh metric tons of sugar, 14,000 metric tons of chickpeas and 4,400 metric tons of dates through local and international sources. The TCB has also outlined operational measures to maintain adequate stocks and ensure uninterrupted distribution of essential commodities among consumers. As part of its stock management, TCB is monitoring monthly demand, allocation, stocks in stores and supplies in the pipeline for major commodities.

TCB’s operational plan also includes strengthening its storage capacity. The corporation currently has 40 godowns, of which nine are owned by TCB and 31 are rented. The total storage capacity of the godowns stands at approximately 48,370 metric tons, including 13,371 metric tons in TCB-owned facilities and 34,999 metric tons in rented facilities.

The procurement and stock-management initiatives are aimed at ensuring the availability of essential commodities and maintaining market stability, particularly for consumers dependent on government-supported supply programmes.

The chairman said TCB is also working to reduce its dependence on subsidy by procuring commodities at competitive prices and selling some products at modest margins.

Foyshol Azad said the government is working to make the state-run corporation more responsive to market demand while expanding its role in stabilising prices of essential commodities. “TCB supplies around 250,000 metric tons of edible oil annually, accounting for nearly 15 percent of the overall market. At the household level, its effective market share is much higher,” he said. Foyshol said TCB supplies a significant share of household requirements for lentils and sugar, helping prevent excessive price increases in the market.



Tk 567cr bid to bring the Turag back to life, ease Dhaka's water woes

Staff Correspondent

For years, the Turag has been paying the price for Dhaka's relentless urban expansion—its banks squeezed by encroachment, its water contaminated by industrial waste and its natural flow disrupted by land filling. Now, the government is betting Tk 567.04 crore including a major World Bank loan, on a broad effort to restore the river and Goran Chatbari Retention Pond Area (GRPA), while easing drainage pressure on some of the capi-

tal's most densely populated northern neighbourhoods. Metro Dhaka Project (Goran Chatbari Retention Pond and Turag River Protection and Conservation Project, Phase-I) has been prepared by the Ministry of Water Resources is scheduled to be implemented by December 2028 in Dhaka North City Corporation areas and Savar upazila in Dhaka district. Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) will implement the project, which is estimated to cost Tk 567.04 crore. Of the total, Tk 142.32

crore will come from the government and Tk 424.73 crore as project loan from the World Bank. A Planning Commission member said the project, if implemented properly, would help protect and preserve the Turag River and GRPA, increase their water retention capacity and prevent illegal encroachment. The project is also expected to improve drainage in Greater Mirpur, Pallabi, Rupnagar, Kalshi, Mirpur Cantonment, Mirpur DOHS, Eastern Housing, Greater Uttara, Airport and Bawnia areas.

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Ziaur Rahman envisioned children's holistic dev: Rizvi

Staff Correspondent

BNP Acting Secretary General and Prime Minister's Political Adviser Ruhul Kabir Rizvi on Tuesday said Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman took various initiatives for the mental and physical development of children, recognizing that the country could not progress without nurturing its younger generation. "Transforming from a politician into a statesman is a difficult task. A statesman is one who keeps all sections of society within his vision, understands who is moving ahead and who is lagging behind, and takes appropriate steps accordingly," he said. Rizvi made the remarks as the chief guest at a cultural programme titled 'Ami Hobo Shokal Belar Paki', featuring child and adolescent artists, organized jointly by the Ministry of Culture and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy at the academy's Natyashala auditorium this evening as part of the 'Nazrul Year' celebrations. Referring to Ziaur Rahman's role in the Liberation War, Rizvi said Ziaur Rahman inspired people in the struggle for inde-

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Chiefs of three services call on President

Staff Correspondent

Chiefs of three services on Tuesday paid a courtesy call on President Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir at Bangabhaban, said a Bangabhaban press release here. Chief of Army Staff General Waker-Uz-Zaman, Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Khondkar Misbah Ul Azim and Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Hasan Mahmood Khan met the President this noon. During the meeting, they congratulated the President on his assuming office as the President and conveyed their best wishes for his tenure. They also briefed

the President on various activities of their respective forces and sought his guidance and cooperation as the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces in discharging their responsibilities. The President expressed satisfaction with the activities of the Armed Forces and said the incumbent government is working to develop the Armed Forces into a modern four-dimensional force. The President assured the chiefs of the three armed forces that all-out cooperation would be extended for the overall development of the Armed Forces alongside enhancing their professional skills.



Govt vows no politically motivated detention

Staff Correspondent

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shama Obaid Islam on Tuesday said the government is committed to protecting human rights and ensuring that no citizen, irrespective of political affiliation, is unjustly detained or imprisoned out of political vendetta.

"The government will definitely ensure that no one is unjustly imprisoned or detained due to political vendetta," she told journalists at the foreign ministry this afternoon. Shama said the government's commitment to due process and fundamental rights applies to supporters of every political party, including opposition parties and the Awami League, whose

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The newly constructed project road, inspected on-site by Principal Md. Abdul Alim, MP of Bagerhat-4

Special correspondent, Bagerhat

In South Southkhali Union, Sarankhola Upazila, Bagerhat District, the newly constructed project road adjacent to the house of Tujembar Ardar was inaugurated and inspected on-site by Principal Md. Abdul Alim, MP of Bagerhat-4 constituency. After inspecting the road, he told the media that the contractor who was assigned the road construction work had completed it very well. For that, he expressed his thanks to the contractor. Besides, he informed the locals of his decision to make a mosque pucca brick-built and also inaugurated it.

DSCC adopts Tk 1,904-crore plan to build 'Smart and Green Dhaka'

Staff Correspondent

Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) has taken a Taka 1,904-crore development plan for the current fiscal 2026-27 to develop the southern part of the capital as a modern, traffic-congestion-free, green and livable city. Under this plan, special importance has been given to artificial intelligence (AI)-based traffic management, establishing a bus terminal in Kanchpur, development of Dhanmondi Lake and extensive tree plantation, the

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Early Marriage of Class Six Student Stopped in Dimla, Following Administrative Intervention, UNO Provides Financial Assistance

Mohinul Islam Sujon, Crime Reporter

The early marriage of a Class Six student was stopped following timely intervention by the administration in Dimla Upazila of Nilphamari. At the same time, the Upazila administration extended financial assistance to help the girl continue her education. According to local residents, preparations were underway for the marriage of a 14-year-old girl at a village in Nautara Union of the upazila at around 11:00 pm on Monday (August 24). Acting on a tip-off, Dimla Upazila Assistant Commissioner (Land) and Executive Magistrate Rowshan Kabir, Upazila Assistant

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Pharmacies Fined Tk 1 Lakh in Fatikchhari, Massive Quantity of Illegal Drugs Destroyed

Jahangir Alam, Staff Reporter

A mobile court fined four pharmacies Tk 1 lakh for selling unauthorized, expired, and illegal medicines in Fatikchhari, Chittagong. A large quantity of seized counterfeit and expired drugs was also destroyed on the spot. The joint drive was conducted on Monday afternoon (August 24) in the Bibirhat market area of Fatikchhari Municipality by the Upazila Administration

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Pump machine exploded while air was being filled into a vehicle

Jwel Nag, Mirsarai Chattogram

Bartakia Bazar, Mirsharai Upazila, a pump machine exploded while air was being filled into a vehicle. One person was seriously injured in the incident. A shop was also completely damaged and destroyed in the explosion.

Flash flood hits Akhaura due to hilly runoff from upstream Tripura

250 hectares of Aman cropland submerged

M Badal Khandaker (District Correspondent), Brahmanbaria

A sudden flood has hit the low-lying border areas of Akhaura upazila in Brahmanbaria due to hilly runoff from India's Tripura state and continuous heavy rain. As the upstream floodwaters spread rapidly through the Howrah River and various canals, cropland, homes and roads in several unions and the municipality area of the upazila have been inundated. Residents of the low-lying areas are facing hardship. According to local and administration sources, around 250 hectares

of Aman paddy fields in Akhaura South, Moghra and Moniandha unions and the municipality area have gone underwater. Water entered parts of at least 15 villages including Rahimpur, Kenduai, Bangerchar and Rajendrapur due to the sudden rise. According to initial government estimates, at least 32 families have been stranded by the floodwaters. Meanwhile, with the entry of upstream water, the water level in the Kalandi Canal adjacent to the Akhaura land port has also risen. As a result, the official operations of several

◆ see page 7

Illegal Sand Extraction, Rural Road in Birampur, Brahmanbaria Under Threat

M Badal Khandaker (District Correspondent, Brahmanbaria)

In Birampur village under Sultanpur Union of Brahmanbaria Sadar Upazila, an illegal sand extraction spree is underway, putting the local road and farmers' croplands at risk. On the west side of the Radhika-Nabinagar connecting road, located on the west side of the road from Kautali Mor to the Chattogram Highway, sand is being extracted daily from the government canal adjacent to the road in Birampur village. And this stolen sand is being used indiscriminately to fill residential homesteads. Under the very nose of the administration, such activities in violation of government regulations and destroying rural communication have drawn strong condemnation from local affected residents.

It was found during an on-site visit that this important rural road in Birampur, the village immediately after Radhika Bazar, was constructed under LGED. Due to sand extraction using dredgers and other illegal methods from the government canal that flows right beside the road, the soil beneath the road has

◆ see page 7



মেডিসিন, ডায়াবেটিস, বাত-ব্যথা
চর্ম ও শিশু রোগ অভিজ্ঞ

ডাঃ মানিক চন্দ্র নাথ

এম.বি.বি.এস (সি.ইউ)
এম ফিল (ফিজিওলজি-বি.এস.এম.এম.ইউ)
এমপিএইচ (এপিডেমিওলজি)
সি.সি.ডি (বারডেম)
সহযোগী অধ্যাপক ও বিভাগীয় প্রধান
বিজিসি ট্রান্স মেডিকেল কলেজ
BMDC Reg- A68436

সাক্ষাতের সময় :
প্রতি রবিবার ও বৃহস্পতিবার
বিকাল ৫ টা - রাত ৭ টা

সিরিয়ালের জন্য যোগাযোগ :
01675-271725
01815-092341

চেম্বার :
সীতাকুণ্ড ডক্টরস চেম্বার
সীতাকুণ্ড কামিল (এম.এ) মাদ্রাসার বিপরীত পার্শে
সীতাকুণ্ড বাজার, চট্টগ্রাম।
চেম্বারে আসার পূর্বে অবশ্যই মোবাইলে যোগাযোগ করে আসবেন।

A humanitarian doctor usually provides free treatment and medicine to poor, helpless, and destitute patients

Global action urged

on the Myanmar military junta. They also urged governments, including members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), to press the Myanmar military to end attacks against civilians and release political prisoners. At the same time, they called upon the international community to urgently increase humanitarian assistance for Rohingya refugees. “This should be a moment when governments are intensifying their support for the Rohingya, not retreating from them,” Htet said. In August 2017, Myanmar security forces launched a sweeping crackdown that forced at least 700,000 Rohingyas to flee to neighbouring Bangladesh amid killings and the destruction of hundreds of villages, according to the statement. The organisations said no Myanmar official has yet been held accountable for the 2017 atrocities, although several international accountability processes are advancing. The International Court of Justice (ICJ) held merits hearings in January this year in The Gambia v. Myanmar, a case alleging Myanmar's responsibility for genocide against the Rohingyas. A judgment is expected later this year, according to Fortify Rights. The statement also referred to the ICC prosecutor's November 2024 request for an arrest warrant against Myanmar military chief Min Aung Hlaing over alleged crimes against humanity involving the deportation and persecution of Rohingyas. A separate universal jurisdiction case in Argentina has also resulted in arrest warrants for Myanmar military officials, including Min Aung Hlaing, it said. “The world has spent nine years telling Rohingya survivors that justice takes time,” said Fortify Rights Senior Human Rights Specialist Zaw Win. “In reality, Rohingya have waited decades for justice. Governments now have an obligation to ensure that justice is not obstructed, defunded, sanctioned, or abandoned at the moment it may finally be within reach,” he added. The organisations warned that abuses against Rohingyas continue inside Myanmar despite legally binding provisional measures issued by the ICJ requiring Myanmar to prevent genocidal acts and preserve evidence. Fortify Rights said Myanmar military forces continue to attack Rohingya areas and restrict their freedom of movement and access to humanitarian assistance and healthcare. The statement also accused the Arakan Army (AA), which now controls most townships in Rakhine State, of committing serious abuses against Rohingyas, including killings, torture, arbitrary detention, forced labour, movement restrictions and forced recruitment. Since mid-2024, an estimated 150,000 additional Rohingyas have fled Myanmar for Bangladesh, bringing the refugee population in Bangladesh to more than 1.2 million, according to the statement. Meanwhile, international aid cuts have worsened conditions in the refugee camps, affecting access to food, healthcare, education and other essential services. The deteriorating situation in both Bangladesh and Myanmar has also driven increasing numbers of Rohingyas to undertake dangerous sea journeys, particularly towards Malaysia. The joint statement said more than 820 Rohingyas are believed to have died attempting sea crossings during the first months of 2026. The organisations urged the international community to work closely with Bangladesh to increase funding for the refugees until conditions are created for their “voluntary, safe, dignified, and sustainable return” to Myanmar with full citizenship and human rights protections. They also called for effective protection mechanisms in countries hosting Rohingyas and greater access to education and livelihood opportunities. Fortify Rights said decades of impunity remain at the root of both the Rohingya crisis and wider atrocities committed across Myanmar since the February 2021 military coup. It urged ASEAN countries to deny political legitimacy to Myanmar's military junta, support accountability mechanisms, protect Rohingya refugees across the region and ensure that none are forcibly returned while conditions in Myanmar remain unsafe.

Holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi

gramme titled 'Siratunnabi (PBUH) Programme' at the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque here this evening. According to the government's national programme, the national flag will be hoisted at all government, semi-government, autonomous institutions, private establishments and armed forces installations tomorrow. Special prayers will be offered at mosques across the country, including the Bangladesh Secretariat Mosque. Bangladesh missions abroad will also observe the day with due respect. Relevant ministries and departments have been instructed to take special measures to maintain peace and law and order during the observance. The Islamic Foundation has chalked out several programmes from August 25 to September 8. The events include Islamic sermons, seminars and discussions, alongside competitions in qirat, hamd-naat, recitation of self-composed poems and Arabic essay writing. The foundation will also host an Islamic cultural competition with participation of school, college, university and madrasah students, calligraphy exhibition, and month-long Islamic book fair and publish Sirat souvenirs and supplementary materials. The fair will be organized in the east and south courtyards of the National Mosque Baitul Mukarram. According to the Islamic Foundation, renowned Islamic scholars of the country will deliver sermons every day from after Maghrib to 10:00pm during the fortnight programme. These events will emphasize establishing a spirit of morality, humanity, tolerance and peace in individual, family and social life by following the ideals and Sunnah of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH). In honor of the Prophet (PBUH), the Islamic Foundation and Bangladesh Betar will jointly host a seminar while Bangladesh Betar will broadcast a poetry recitation event. Divisional, district and upazila administrations, city corporations, municipalities and the armed forces will organise discussions and doa mahfils in their respective jurisdictions. Bangladesh Television, Bangladesh Betar and other electronic media have been requested to broadcast special programmes while newspapers will publish supplements on the occasion. All the relevant organisations will organise discussions, doa mahfils, hamd-naat, poetry recitations, cultural and quiz competitions focusing on the life and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), and on Islam's message of peace, progress, fraternity, patience, human rights and women's dignity. Bangladesh Shishu Academy will arrange special programmes for children, including hamd-naat, discussions and essay competitions. Important road islands, light posts, and major city points will be decorated with national and colorful flags, along with banners inscribed with the Kalima Tayyiba to mark the day. Improved diets will be served at all military and civil hospitals, prisons, government orphanages, child development centers, and old-age homes.

Tk 567cr bid to bring the

According to the project paper, the proposed intervention comes against a backdrop of growing pressure on Dhaka's rivers and waterways.

The Turag originates from the Bangshi River in Kaliakair upazila of Gazipur and splits into two branches at Birulia

union in Savar. One branch joins the Karnatali River at Kaundia union, while the main branch flows into the Buriganga River at Aminbazar union. The river is around 65 kilometres long, with an average width of about 85 metres. It is a perennial river and serves as an important drainage route, carrying upstream water towards the Buriganga without passing through the core of Dhaka city. For decades, the Buriganga, Turag, Tongi Khal, Balu and Shitalakkhya rivers have played an important role in the ecological and economic life of the capital. But industrial activities along their channels including textile and dyeing factories and mills have contributed untreated chemical and heavy-metal waste, while encroachment and land filling have increasingly disrupted natural water flows. The proposed project seeks to address some of these problems through a combination of dredging, waste management, ecological restoration and water-quality interventions. Under the project, about 26.90 lakh cubic metres of material will be removed from the Turag through grab dredging with waste management facilities. Another 13.03 lakh cubic metres will be excavated or dredged with waste management arrangements. The project also proposes the development of a 5,035-metre walkway and a 2-kilometre ecosystem improvement area, along with the development of eco-buffer zones along the Turag River and the perimeter of GRPA. Two automated mechanical trash racks will be installed at Dwigan Khal and Rupnagar Khal to improve solid waste management. The project also includes the installation of 91 fountain-cum-aerators, one water-quality assurance plant and the rehabilitation or repair of three pump houses. A power facility will also be constructed to support the rehabilitation and repair of the pump houses. A 226-square-metre project management office is proposed as part of the implementation arrangements. The authorities said the project is designed not simply as a dredging operation, but as a broader effort to restore the ecological functions of the river and retention pond while improving the surrounding urban environment. Restoring Dhaka's surrounding rivers and developing a blue network require improvements in river ecology and water quality, urban planning that incorporates water resources, better land management, improved river-flow management and rehabilitation of canals, according to the project document. Such measures could also create opportunities for improved water-based transport, while helping the city cope with drainage and climate-related pressures. However, the project document identifies continuing pollution, urban and economic expansion, fluctuations in river flows and climate change as major challenges to restoring waterways around Dhaka. The scale and complexity of these challenges require coordinated and integrated efforts across multiple sectors at both national and regional levels, it said. The proposed project is also aligned with the government's 2026 election manifesto, as per the project document, particularly its commitments concerning water-resource planning, environmental conservation and sustainable development, protection of natural resources, waste management and pollution control. It is also consistent with SDG indicator 6.5.1, which promotes integrated water resources management. For residents of areas such as Mirpur, Pallabi, Rupnagar, Uttara and Bawnia, the significance of the project could ultimately be measured in practical terms: whether water drains faster after heavy rain, whether polluted waterways become healthier and whether public spaces around the river become safer and more usable. The proposed World Bank-backed investment therefore combines river restoration with urban resilience, reflecting the growing need to treat Dhaka's waterways not merely as channels for carrying away excess water, but as essential parts of the city's environmental and social infrastructure.

Ziaur Rahman envisioned

pendence and motivated them towards freedom through his declaration of independence. He said Ziaur Rahman, after assuming state power following November 7, realized that national progress was impossible unless children were properly nurtured and their mental development ensured. "Within a short time of assuming power, he took various initiatives for the mental and physical development of children," Rizvi said. He recalled that when Bangladesh had only one television channel, Bangladesh Television (BTV), Ziaur Rahman introduced a children's programme that gained immense popularity across the country. Through competitions in singing, music, acting and painting, the programme provided children with opportunities to develop their talents. The programme, 'Notun Kuri,' later helped produce many renowned actors and actresses, he added. Rizvi said a statesman must understand the needs and aspirations of children and ensure state support for their proper development. "The primary period for building a person is childhood and adolescence. A politician who does not focus on building children and adolescents may be a politician, even a cheap kind of politician, but cannot be a statesman," he said. Referring to National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam's contribution to children's literature, Rizvi said a poet must be child-friendly to understand the minds of children. Nazrul wrote numerous poems, rhymes and songs for children, he added. Rizvi also expressed concern over the growing impact of drugs and crime on society. Referring to a recent incident in Rangpur in which a drug addict allegedly killed a government school-teacher and four members of his family, he said such incidents reflected the devastating consequences of drug addiction and the criminal mentality it creates. He called for greater practice of Nazrul's works to build a drug- and crime-free society, urging children to read and practice the poet's poems, stories and songs written for them. "This year is Nazrul Year. Nazrul must be remembered every moment and his songs must be sung," Rizvi said, adding that Nazrul's works purify the human mind, inspire people to protest injustice and provide pure joy. He said Nazrul's poems and songs for children could inspire them to become enthusiastic, creative and proactive individuals. Rizvi said Nazrul's writings continue to inspire people to resist injustice and oppression, while his love songs, devotional songs and works aimed at enlightening children offer people joy and inspiration. Secretary of the Ministry of Culture Kaniz Mowla presided over the programme, while Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Director General Rezauddin Stalin delivered the welcome speech.

DSCC adopts Tk 1,904-crore

DSCC administrator, veteran freedom fighter Md Abdus Salam told BSS. He said the DSCC want to develop South Dhaka as a 'smart and green city' by ensuring environmental balance, modern communication system and the aesthetics of the city. An analysis of the DSCC's development allocation for the fiscal 2026-27 shows that a total of Taka 1,904.42 crore has been allocated for its development. In the fiscal 2025-26, the allocation for this sector was Taka 2,196.40 crore. In the revised budget, it has been reduced to Taka 1,707.41 crore. One of the important aspects of the development plan for the current fiscal is the construction and development of infrastructure with the corporation's own funding.

This time, Taka 806.49 crore has been allocated for this sector. In the last fiscal, the original allocation was Taka 727.16 crore and in the revised budget, it stood at Taka 728.15 crore. Taka 79.33 crore more has been allocated for infrastructure development in the current fiscal than the allocation of the previous year. A large part of this allocation is going to the roads and high-ways sub-sector. A maximum of Taka 526.6 crore has been allocated for this sector in the current fiscal. Through this, initiatives have been taken to ensure the development, renovation and maintenance of road infrastructure in the south city area as well as safe and comfortable movement of citizens. However, the DSCC is not limited to conventional infrastructure development under this development plan. Initiatives have been taken to introduce technology-based systems to control traffic congestion in the city. Taka 40 crore has been allocated for the installation of artificial intelligence-based traffic signals at 22 intersections of the DSCC area with the technical assistance from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET). Abdus Salam said the use of technology in modern city management is no longer a luxury, but a necessity. "If AI-based traffic signals can be operated by analysing the pressure and movement of vehicles, it will reduce traffic congestion and save valuable time for city dwellers," he said. The administrator said another major initiative in urban transport management is the preparation to shift the Sayedabad Inter-District Bus Terminal to Kanchpur. As per the Prime Minister's instructions, Taka 40 crore has been allocated in the current fiscal for the development of the platform, shed, ticket counter and toilet of the Kanchpur bus terminal, he said. DSCC officials said if the activities of the Inter-District Bus Terminal can be shifted to Kanchpur, the entry and movement of long-distance buses within the capital will reduce. This will not only control traffic congestion, but also reduce the pressure of vehicles on the city's streets, they said. The issue of the city's environment and citizen entertainment has also been given importance in this year's development plan. Taka 45 crore has been allocated for the infrastructure and environmental development and beautification of Dhanmondi Lake. This allocation will be spent on making the lake more aesthetic and citizen-friendly, as well as maintaining its ecological balance. The DSCC administrator said urban development should not only mean the construction of roads and buildings. "Citizens' right to walk, recreation and a clean environment must also be ensured. For this reason, the development of open spaces and green areas of the city, including Dhanmondi Lake, is being given importance," he said. Along with 'Smart Dhaka', great importance has also been given to the plan to build 'Green Dhaka' this time. Taka 7 crore has been allocated for tree plantation in the fiscal 2026-27. Under the National Tree Plantation Programme, a target of extensive tree plantation has been set in different areas of the DSCC. Already, trees and grass have been planted on the medians of various roads under the 'Zero Soil' programme. In addition, initiatives have been taken to beautify those by leasing various medians through advertisements from the DSCC's revenue department. To make the tree plantation programme more sustainable, a permanent nursery has been set up in Osmani Udyan under the supervision of the DSCC, the administrator said. He said about 1,400 small, medium and large-size saplings have already been collected there. The target is to produce 15,000 to 20,000 saplings of various species from this nursery next year. Apart from the nursery in Osmani Udyan, Abdus Salam said, the process of setting up another nursery is also underway on the south side of Nagar Bhaban. As a result, he said, in the future, DSCC's own nursery will create an opportunity to supply the necessary saplings for tree plantation in different areas of the city. Abdus Salam said to make Dhaka South City green, it is not enough to take up big projects, but trees should also be planted in a planned manner in road medians, parks, open spaces and around various institutions. For this reason, initiatives have been taken to establish DSCC's own nursery and produce the necessary saplings, he said. "We want a Dhaka where development is visible, communication is modern, the environment is green and citizens can live comfortably. To this end, along with development projects, citizen participation must also be ensured," he said. The DSCC administrator further said the benefits of urban development will be permanent only when citizen awareness and responsibility are added to it. "The city dwellers will also have to take responsibility for protecting the roads, sidewalks, parks, lakes or greenery," he said. In this year's DSCC development plan, a large amount of money is being spent on road and infrastructure development and equal importance has been given to technology, environment and citizen amenities, he said. Abdus Salam said the goal of development will be to make people's lives easier. "For that purpose, work is being done by integrating all sectors from roads to traffic, environment to entertainment," he added.

Early Marriage of Class

Programmer (BANBEIS) Shahnur Alam, and a team of Dimla Police rushed to the spot. Upon arrival, the officials found that the marriage ceremony of the Class Six student was underway in the presence of members of the bride's family, relatives, and local residents. The administration informed everyone present about the physical and mental health risks associated with early marriage and explained the relevant legal provisions. The girl's father was subsequently instructed to stop the marriage arrangements in accordance with the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2017. Realizing the legal obligations and the seriousness of the situation, the girl's father admitted his mistake and immediately stopped the marriage arrangements. He also provided a written undertaking that he would not arrange his daughter's marriage until she reaches the legal marriageable age of 18. No financial penalty was imposed during the operation. Instead, the marriage was stopped through social awareness and legal guidance. Local prominent residents praised the administration's timely and humanitarian initiative and pledged to play an active role in preventing child marriage in the area in the future. Meanwhile, the Upazila administration came forward to ensure that the girl's education does not come to a halt after being saved from child marriage. On Tuesday (August 25), Dimla Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md. Imranuzzaman handed over financial assistance to the girl at his office. The girl's family expressed satisfaction with the initiative of the Upazila administration. Local residents also expressed hope that such administrative efforts to prevent child marriage will continue in the future.

A brutal robbery at the

Inside the room, they repeatedly asked my sister-in-law to open the door, but we were saved from a major robbery because she did not open the door. Mixon Sheikh's wife Selina said that in the early hours of the morning, a group of robbers broke the grills on both sides of the building with the intention of robbing. They entered the front room and tied my brother-in-law's hands and feet and looted important things from that room. They tried to enter our bedroom several times but failed. There were at least eight of them. They planned for a long time at night and entered and robbed. We are suffering from insecurity. Pirojpur Sadar Police Station, Officer-in-Charge OC Md.

Shariful Islam said that upon receiving the information, the police quickly went to the spot and collected primary information. Legal action is being taken based on the complaint.

Govt vows no politically

activities currently face a ban. “No party, be it the opposition party, Awami League, or any party, the current government will definitely ensure that no one is unjustly imprisoned or detained due to political vendetta,” she said. The State Minister said Bangladesh had witnessed unprecedented violations of human rights over the previous 17 years, with BNP leaders and activists among those who suffered most. “The kind of human rights that have been violated in Bangladesh in the last 17 years has never been violated in the history of Bangladesh,” she said. “The biggest victim is the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, its leaders and activists,” she added. Shama said the government does not want a recurrence of what she described as the country's previous “fascist era” and remains determined to guarantee fundamental rights to every citizen. “We will never want the past fascist era to return now or in the future. We want all human rights to be ensured to every citizen,” she said. She said the government has a responsibility to protect the rights of citizens and prevent the justice system from being driven by political vengeance. “Our government's stand is that we are trying to protect human rights. We are responsible to the people,” she said. Turning to foreign policy, the State Minister said Bangladesh's approach is centred on safeguarding national interests while maintaining respectful and balanced relations with all countries. “Our foreign policy is first and foremost a ‘Bangladesh policy’... with equal rights with everyone and maintaining our own interests with respect,” she said. Shama said the elected government's political mandate has also strengthened Bangladesh's position in negotiations with international partners. “When Bangladesh is talking, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh is talking, then all the other stakeholders including China are listening to our words with more attention, more seriously,” she said. “Now that Bangladesh is an elected government, we have a stronger position in our negotiation space,” she added. Rohingya crisis needs political solution On the Rohingya issue, Shama said Bangladesh intends to use its strengthened diplomatic position to mobilise greater international engagement and pressure towards a durable political solution to the protracted crisis. “The matter is absolutely a political problem, it is a very sensitive matter and we need to solve this problem politically,” she said. She said Bangladesh remains engaged through official and unofficial communication and dialogue with different stakeholders in Myanmar as part of efforts to address the crisis. “We are trying to involve the international community more,” she said, referring to an upcoming high-level UN session on the Rohingya crisis in September where Prime Minister Tarique Rahman is expected to participate. The State Minister said Bangladesh would also explore whether the Muslim world could exert greater pressure on Myanmar to help create momentum towards a solution. She said the crisis has grown considerably more complex since the massive influx began in 2017, particularly because of Myanmar's evolving internal political and security situation. Shama referred to the emergence of the Arakan Army and other stakeholders in Rakhine State as well as security challenges along the border, including human smuggling and drug trafficking. She said the precise number of Rohingyas in Bangladesh is difficult to determine due to continuing arrivals and births in the camps. “So in that case, we don't know the exact number right now, but it will definitely be over 1.3 million,” she said, noting that around 30,000 children are born there annually on average. Shama said Chinese President Xi Jinping, during Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's recent visit to China, strongly expressed Beijing's willingness to cooperate with Bangladesh in finding a solution to the crisis. She also expressed skepticism about the effectiveness of existing arrangements on the Rohingya issue unless the United Nations and other major stakeholders become more actively engaged. The State Minister said Bangladesh could gain additional diplomatic leverage from Foreign Minister Dr Khalilur Rahman's upcoming role as President of the UN General Assembly. “From that place, we have a power to speak for Bangladesh in the international community. We think that at least in the next year, we will be able to use this capacity a little better,” she said. Shama said Bangladesh would continue pursuing a “Bangladesh policy” in its international engagement, protecting national interests while maintaining relations with other countries on the basis of equality and mutual respect.

Pharmacies Fined

and the Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA). The operation was led by Fatikchhari Assistant Commissioner (Land) and Executive Magistrate Md. Rahmatullah. ?According to upazila administration sources, the drive was carried out based on specific allegations against several pharmacies in Bibirhat market regarding the storage of expired and illegal Indian medicines, keeping drugs in unhygienic conditions, and selling prohibited physician samples. Upon verifying the complaints, the mobile court imposed fines on four establishments. ?Fined Establishments: ?Karim Drug House: Tk 50,000 ?Karim Clinic Pharmacy: Tk 20,000 ?Jonoseba Pharmacy: Tk 20,000 ?Rakib Pharmacy: Tk 10,000 ?Alongside the fines, all illegal and expired drugs recovered during the drive were publicly destroyed. ?Following the operation, Executive Magistrate Md. Rahmatullah stated that no irregularities would be tolerated in ensuring public health and market discipline. He added that such monitoring drives by the upazila administration will continue in the public interest.

Flash flood hits Akhaura

import-export companies at the port are being disrupted. According to the Water Development Board, the water in the Howrah River is currently flowing about three feet below the danger level. However, locals fear the situation could worsen if there is more heavy rain upstream. On the other hand, if rainfall decreases and water pressure from upstream does not increase, the water is also likely to recede quickly. Farmers in the low-lying areas have been hit hardest by the sudden rise in water. They fear crop losses as water has entered Aman paddy fields. In some places, normal communication has also been disrupted as floodwater has risen onto roads.

Illegal Sand Extraction,

eroded, leaving it at serious risk of collapse. Moreover, due to the deep pits created by sand extraction, hundreds of bighas of cropland and embankments of marginal farmers along the canal bank are collapsing into the canal. As a result, local poor farmers are facing huge financial losses. Affected locals and conscious citizens expressed surprise and deep anger, saying, “Without caring for any rules, how is soil and sand being cut and sold from the canal in broad daylight without even minimum permission or lease from LGED? We cannot understand. It seems this influential syndicate is carrying out these illegal activities by evading the administration or flouting the law.”



Turkey sentences five opposition mayors in corruption case

International Desk

A Turkish court on Monday convicted five mayors from municipalities controlled by the country's main opposition party on corruption charges in a case critics have described as politically motivated. The Istanbul court heard allegations involving bribery, bid-rigging and fraud related to municipal contracts. Critics of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's government say the case was aimed at weakening the opposition Republican People's Party, or CHP, and that prosecutors relied on secret witnesses and testimony from defendants who implicated others in exchange for reduced sentences. The Turkish government maintains that the country's judiciary is independent and not subject to political influence. The case centered on allegations that companies controlled by businessman Aziz Ihsan Aktas obtained municipal contracts through bribery, bid-rigging and fraud. The opposition has argued that municipalities controlled by Erdogan's party that had business dealings with Aktas were not investigated with the same intensity. Of the five mayors convicted, Riza Akpolat, mayor of Istanbul's Besiktas district, received the longest sentence — 23 years and three months — for bribery, money laundering and bid-rigging. The other four mayors, who like Akpolat were removed from office after their arrests, were sentenced to between five and eight years in prison. The seven-month trial was held at a courthouse beside Silivri Prison, west of Istanbul, and involved 200 defendants. Some were also convicted while others were acquitted, although details of the individual verdicts were not immediately available. Aktas was arrested in Istanbul in January last year, prompting authorities to launch investigations into other Istanbul districts governed by the CHP. Investigations were also opened in the southern cities of Adana and Adiyaman, which are also controlled by the opposition party.

Armed men ambush patrol in South Sudan, kill 2 UN peacekeepers

International Desk

Armed men ambushed a patrol traveling to a remote area of South Sudan on Monday, killing two U.N. peacekeepers, the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) said. Although violence is widespread in the African country, attacks targeting U.N. peacekeepers are rare. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. Seven others were wounded, including three peacekeepers, two members of the South Sudanese police and two civilian staff members, UNMISS said in a statement. The two peacekeepers killed and the three wounded were from Ethiopia, U.N. spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric said. The patrol was traveling to the Pajut area in Jonglei state when it came under attack. UNMISS said it deployed a "Quick Reaction Force" to secure the area and assist with the emergency response. "Such deadly violence targeting UNMISS personnel who are serving to support peace in South Sudan is unacceptable," Anita Kiki Gbeho, head of UNMISS, said in the statement. The deaths bring to nine the number of peacekeepers killed by militias since Jan. 1, Dujarric said, warning that attacks against U.N. peacekeepers may constitute war crimes under international law.



Ukrainian Refugee Shelter in Poland Fights to Stay Open Amid Funding Crisis

International Desk

A women's shelter in Poland that supports Ukrainian refugees fleeing violence is struggling to survive as funding declines and anti-Ukrainian sentiment grows. Nastya Podorozhnyia, 29, founded Martynka, a helpline and support group for Ukrainian women escaping gender-based violence, after Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Podorozhnyia was living in Poland when the war began but returned to Ukraine to help her sister and nieces escape. When she came back to Poland with thousands of other refugees, she saw volunteers welcoming Ukrainians. But she also worried that vulnerable women accepting help from strangers could become targets for human traffickers. Four years later, Martynka is facing a difficult future. International funding has fallen as donors turn their attention to other crises, while hostility toward Ukrainians has increased. Poland also has yet to develop a long-term strategy for integrating refugees. The organisation runs a small shelter in a two-bedroom apartment in central Krakow. It has provided a safe place for more than 100 women and children, helping them escape abusive situations and access medical care, psychological support, jobs and housing. Podorozhnyia said fundraising has

become increasingly difficult, with donation appeals often attracting abusive comments online. "It's because I'm Ukrainian," she said. Ukrainians contribute to Poland's economy About 3.5 million Ukrainians crossed into Poland during the first weeks of the war, according to the United Nations. Polish people opened their homes and welcomed refugees at railway stations, while the government gave them access to employment and social security benefits. By the end of 2022, about 1 million Ukrainian refugees remained in Poland. More than 70% of those who stayed found jobs, while a Deloitte study estimated that Ukrainians contributed 2.7% of Poland's gross domestic product in 2024. More than 1 million Ukrainians were already living in Poland before the war, mainly as economic migrants. Anti-Ukrainian rhetoric grows Ukrainian refugees have increasingly faced hostile rhetoric. Research published this year found that many Ukrainian migrants saw Poland's 2025 presidential campaign as a turning point, when anti-Ukrainian messages became common across political parties. President Karol Nawrocki, who won the election, had promised measures giving Polish citizens priority in accessing some public services. Liberal candidate Rafal Trzaskowski also proposed limiting some child welfare benefits for Ukrainians.



Trump Weighs New 7.5% Tariff on China Over Cheap Exports

International Desk

US President Donald Trump is considering imposing a new 7.5% tariff on Chinese goods, accusing Beijing of flooding global markets with cheaply priced products, according to people familiar with the matter. Two of three people who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity said the proposed tariff is being considered at a level that officials believe would not threaten the current one-year trade truce between the United States and China. The move is also expected to avoid disrupting a planned meeting between Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping in late September. The possible tariff appears to be an effort by the Trump administration to pursue tougher trade measures after the US Supreme Court earlier this year rejected Trump's broader plan for sweeping tariffs. Following the court decision, the administration announced in March that it would investigate China's industrial overcapacity and its rules on forced labour. Similar investigations were also launched into several other economies over alleged unfair trade practices. It remains unclear whether Washington is close to making decisions on those other investigations, which include the European Union, Japan, India, South Korea, Vietnam, Taiwan, Bangladesh, Mexico, Thailand and several other countries. The White House and the US Trade Representative's office did not respond to requests for comment on the possible tariff. China's embassy in Washington said trade and economic disputes should be handled through negotiations rather than unilateral tariffs. It also rejected accusations that China has a problem with industrial overcapacity. The investigation into China's excess industrial capacity was launched under Section 301 of the US Trade Act of 1974, which allows the president to impose tariffs on countries accused of unfairly harming US businesses or



trade. New tariff would add to existing duties The people familiar with the discussions stressed that Trump has not made a final decision and could still abandon or change the proposal. If imposed, the new tariff would be added to existing duties on Chinese products, including tariffs of 10% to 12.5% announced last month for 60 economies. The administration accused those countries of failing to properly enforce a ban on goods produced through forced labour. China and several other countries protested those tariffs. Beijing has also rejected US claims of industrial overcapacity as Washington prepares to release the findings of its investigation. China's large production capacity in industries such as automobiles, solar panels, cement and steel has become a growing concern among its trading partners. Chinese leaders have sought to rebalance the economy, but weak domestic demand has encouraged companies to expand into overseas markets. Rising exports helped push China's trade surplus to nearly \$1.2 trillion last year, a record level. China's Commerce Ministry has said the country has never deliberately sought to maintain a large trade surplus. Iran sanctions add to tensions The tariff discussions come as the US Treasury Department announced Monday that it is preparing new secondary sanctions against countries that continue doing business with Iran. China is Iran's biggest trading partner. The US says the new sanctions are intended to increase pressure on Iran's already weakened economy as the conflict involving the US, Israel and Iran approaches its sixth month. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent gave few details about the planned sanctions and did not identify which countries could face penalties.

Australia Bans Fully AI-Generated Songs From Official Music Charts

International Desk

Australia's recorded music industry will ban songs made entirely by artificial intelligence from its official music charts, as the rapid growth of generative AI raises concerns about the future of artists and human creativity. The move follows controversy over an AI-created version of Madonna's hit song "Like a Prayer." The track, produced by an Australian musician using AI-generated vocals and drums, has spent 16 weeks in Australia's top 20. The song reached No. 2 on the Australian Record Industry Association (ARIA) top 20 Australian singles chart in May and was still at No. 4 on Tuesday. Under the new rules, fully AI-generated songs will no longer be eligible for the ARIA charts from next Monday. However, music created with the help of AI will still qualify if it meets certain conditions. ARIA said songs must be written by humans and have human performers providing the lead vocals and main instruments, among other requirements. Fully AI-generated music will also be excluded from the prestigious ARIA Awards. ARIA Chief Executive Annabelle Herd said the changes were aimed at protecting the human side of music as AI technology develops rapidly. "The ARIA Charts will always remain a transparent measurement of the music Australia consumes," Herd said. However, she added that rewarding unlicensed AI-generated music would undermine the purpose of the recorded music industry. ARIA also said eligible music must be made using AI services that comply with copyright laws. The industry has raised concerns that some AI tools used to create music may have been trained on artists' work without permission.



Israeli Strikes in Gaza Kill 4, Including 2 Children

International Desk

Israeli airstrikes and tank fire killed at least four Palestinians, including two children, in Gaza on Monday, hospital officials said, as residents fled their homes following evacuation warnings. The attacks came about a week after a US delegation urged Israel to reduce its military strikes in the territory. In central Gaza's Bureij refugee camp, an Israeli strike hit a building after residents received an evacuation warning. A 4-year-old boy was killed after his family was unable to leave in time, according to Awda Hospital. His mother and sister were wounded. Israel's military did not immediately comment on the strike. Three other buildings were hit across Gaza after residents said they received similar warnings. People were seen rushing to safety, with some mothers carrying their children. Others moved through the rubble using wheelchairs or walking sticks. Israel's military said it carried out strikes in Gaza City's Shati refugee camp and Deir al-Balah after issuing warnings. It said the attacks targeted two Hamas weapons storage facilities located inside mosques. The military said the facilities contained dozens of Kalashnikov rifles, ammunition magazines and other military equipment, but did not provide evidence to support the claim. An earlier Israeli strike on a tent in Deir al-Balah killed a man, according to Al-Aqsa Hospital. The Israeli military said the man was a Hamas militant linked to its special forces. More casualties in southern Gaza In Khan Younis, southern Gaza, an Israeli strike killed one person and wounded five others, according to Nasser Hospital. Israeli tank fire also struck an area east of Khan Younis, killing a 10-year-old girl, the hospital said. The Israeli military did not immediately comment on the Khan Younis strike and said it was unaware of the incident involving the child. Israel has continued its military operations in Gaza despite a recent meeting between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and a US delegation seeking

to advance a ceasefire agreement. US negotiator Jared Kushner asked Netanyahu to reduce Israel's attacks in Gaza during the meeting, according to a person familiar with the talks who spoke on condition of anonymity. Israel has reported strikes on six of the seven days since the meeting. Israel says it is targeting militants Israel says its attacks target Hamas militants and military sites and are carried out in response to attacks and other alleged ceasefire violations. Although the intensity of fighting has declined since the ceasefire began in October, Gaza's Health Ministry says at least 1,288 Palestinians have been killed in Israeli attacks since then. The ministry, which is run by the Hamas-led government, does not distinguish between civilians and militants in its casualty figures. Militants have also carried out attacks on Israeli troops, and Israel says its military operations are a response to those attacks. Five Israeli soldiers have been killed since the ceasefire began. Palestinian officials have reported strikes on homes and police stations. Hamas has accused Israel of trying to destabilise Gaza and block progress on the next stages of the ceasefire, including disarmament, reconstruction and the deployment of an international stabilisation force. Israel warns over kites from Gaza Israeli officials have also raised concerns after several kites were found in a kibbutz near Gaza. No weapons or dangerous materials were attached to them. Before Hamas' October 7, 2023 attack on southern Israel, burning kites and balloons launched from Gaza caused fires and other damage in Israel. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister Israel Katz warned Sunday that Israel could intensify its attacks if Hamas does not prevent kites from being flown toward Israel. Hamas spokesperson Hazem Qassem described the kites as "essentially children's toys" and accused Israel of using them as a justification for continuing military action. The October 7 attack killed about 1,200 people in Israel and resulted in 251 people being taken hostage. All hostages or their remains were later released.



What Bhabna says about Tama Mirza's matter



Entertainment Desk

Tama Mirza is one of the popular actresses of this time in Dhallywood. After working in several successful movies and OTT contents, she entered the corporate world at the peak of her career and joined a private bank. After that, various discussions, criticisms and mixed reactions started on social media regarding the matter. However, in the face of critics' glare and this practice,

another popular actress Ashna Habib Bhabna has stood by Tama Mirza. Expressing her anger at the social system in a message on social media, Bhabna wrote, "If a male actor had been in the same position in the bank instead of Tama Mirza, our colleagues would have called him an elder brother."

In her words, "It is becoming more and more apparent day by day how clearly this patriarchal social system is becoming more evident as we age."

Protesting, Bhabna further wrote in her post, "It's all the girls' fault. Girls will definitely become superstars with the help of a man, come out of this attitude that girls can't do anything alone. I know you can't, it's a long-standing habit." Finally, she said, "A woman can do everything; it's hard for you to tell her because everyone likes to subdue girls. We will act, do business, work, paint, sing, write, be mothers, and be lovers. We will do everything. You will see."

Ajay returns as Vijay Salgaonkar in 'Drishyam The Conclusion'

Entertainment Desk

Ajay Devgn is set to reprise his role as Vijay Salgaonkar in the third and final instalment of the Hindi 'Drishyam' franchise.

The actor has officially announced the title of the upcoming film, 'Drishyam The Conclusion', which is scheduled to hit theatres on October 2.

Following two films filled with twists, hidden secrets and Vijay's carefully calculated efforts to protect his family, the franchise is now heading towards the final chapter of his story.

On August 24, Ajay unveiled the first poster of 'Drishyam The Conclusion', officially announcing the final chapter of the franchise.

The poster carries the line, "Mera Sach, Mera Sahi, Sif Meri Family Hai" (My truth, my right, only my family), reflecting Vijay Salgaonkar's unwavering determination to protect his loved ones.



Paramount responds to anti-Semitic allegations against 'Hulk'

Entertainment Desk

Paramount has accused Hulk actor Mark Ruffalo of using an 'anti-Semitic trope' in his criticism of Paramount Skydance's \$111 billion deal to acquire Warner Bros. Discovery (WBD).

The actor has denied the accusation, saying that his criticism of the Israeli government, military technology suppliers or executives involved is in no way a stance against the Jewish people.

Ruffalo, a longtime critic of Israel's genocidal war in Gaza and a supporter of Palestinian rights, released a statement on social media on Friday, highlighting the relationship between Paramount Skydance and technology company Oracle.

David Ellison is the CEO of Paramount Skydance, while his father, Larry Ellison, is the CEO of technology company Oracle.

Oracle has been supplying software to the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF), the Ministry of Defense, the Air Force, the government and the police for decades.

How is now actress Meghla Mukta in ICU after accident

Entertainment Desk

Model and actress Meghla Mukta was seriously injured in a road accident. She was in the ICU after surgery. She recently returned home after a long treatment.

However, the actress is going through a difficult time physically and mentally after the accident. She shared her current situation on social media. In a post on Sunday, Meghla Mukta wrote that after returning home from the hospital, she realised that she was spending this time alone a lot.

In her words, "No friends, no work, no meetings—nothing. Just me, my room, TV, phone, and the occasional attempt to read." Meghla also suffered serious injuries to her face in the accident. She said that there are stitches and scars on her face after the surgery, which will take time to heal completely.

For this reason, the actress has also been advised not to write about the stitches and scars on her face on social media. However, Meghla does not want to hide her reality from people's words.

In this context, she wrote, "Many have said that stitches on the face, scars, and all these things should not be written. But I have never hidden my story from people's words. What is true is true. So in the silence of tonight, I have only written this — I am fighting. I will return."

Earlier on July 27, Meghla had shared some pictures of her broken mobile phone on social media. There, she said that her phone was severely damaged in the accident. As a result, she would stay away from social media for a while.



She requested that in case of emergency, she call directly instead of Facebook or WhatsApp. Two days after that post, news of Meghla Mukta's road accident came to light. Later, she was admitted to the hospital with serious injuries.

She said that even though she has returned home after treatment, it will take more time for her to fully recover.

Meghla Mukta's showbiz journey began with modeling. In addition to working on the ramp, she has also been seen in billboards and music videos. Later, she entered the film industry with the dream of acting on the big screen.

Meghla came into the limelight with her performance in the Telugu film 'Sakala Kala Vallavudu'. Notable films she has acted in in Bangladesh include 'Payer Chaap', 'Kathgolap' and 'Aguner Pakhi'.

Even though she has returned home after a long treatment, the biggest challenge before her now is to recover quickly and return to normal life.

Baby Naznin's b'day saddened by her brother's illness

Entertainment Desk

August 23 was the birthday of popular singer Baby Naznin. Every year, she is showered with various events and love and wishes from her fans and relatives.

The whole day is spent in laughter and joy. However, this year's birthday had become a time of sadness and a day of sadness for her. Like other years, this year too, birthday greetings were coming, but her heart was not feeling good at all on that day.

Seeing her beloved younger brother fighting death in a hospital bed, it was not possible to feel better.

So, Baby Nazneen had not wished her own birthday. She had asked for prayers for the recovery of her younger brother, journalist Enam Sarkar.

Enam Sarkar has cancer. He has been fighting this deadly disease for the past few months.

He is undergoing treatment at Bangladesh Medical University Hospital. Family members are spending their days in anxiety. Baby Naznin is also mentally



broken.

Not only Enam, but Baby Naznin has kept all her brothers and sisters under the shade of utmost care and affection throughout her life.

And for Enam, the love seems to be a little more. She is unable to keep herself in order with her brother's illness.

In addition to music, Baby Naznin has been involved in politics for a long time. Due to the political situation, she

had to spend a long time outside the country.

After returning to the country in 2024, Baby has become active in political and cultural activities again.

Currently, she is serving as an advisor to the BNP chairman. She has also started working on new songs.

Enam Sarkar has been by her side as a shadow in her music and political career.

So, at this time, Baby's worries revolve around her younger brother rather than politics or music.

Shahid Kapoor's Deva co-star Rohullah Mehdi arrested

Entertainment Desk

Actor and model Rohullah Mehdi, who worked alongside Shahid Kapoor in the 2025 film Deva, has been arrested by the Kashmir Police Crime Branch in connection with an alleged drug trafficking case. According to a report by ANI, Mehdi and his associate were arrested with 28 grams of drugs.

According to ANI, Maharashtra's Kashmir police arrested the actor. Their tweet read, "Rohullah Mehdi, who worked alongside Bollywood star Shahid Kapoor in the film 'Deva,' has been arrested in a drug trafficking case. Kashmir police officials received a tip-off that Mehdi was coming to the Dahisar Check Naka for drug trafficking. Senior Police Inspector Rajendra Kamble of the Kashmir Police Station formed a team and initiated surveillance and investigation. Rohullah Mehdi and his associate were arrested with 28 grams of drugs. Police have launched an investigation: Mira-Bhayandar Police."

As per an NDTV report, police said Rohullah Mehdi is originally from Budgam district in Jammu and Kashmir and had been living in Goregaon, Mumbai. Besides working with Shahid Kapoor in Deva, he has also appeared in several web series.

Mehdi was produced before a court following his arrest and was sent to five days of police custody, according to the report. Police are now investigating the alleged drug network and are trying to determine who Mehdi may have supplied the drugs to.

Directed by Rosshan Andrews and produced by Siddharth Roy Kapur under Roy Kapur Films, Deva starred Shahid Kapoor in the lead role, alongside Pooja Hegde and Pavai Gulati in pivotal roles. The film was adapted from Andrews' 2013 Malayalam film Mumbai Police. The film followed a violent police officer who undergoes a personality change after losing his memory in an accident. As he tries to piece together his past, he reinvestigates the murder of a fellow police officer. Deva received mixed reviews from critics and had an underwhelming run at the box office.



Director, actress Mohsina Akhtar gets married

Entertainment Desk

Director and actress Mohsina Akhtar has started a new chapter in her life. She got married on August 21.

Her husband, Irfan Uddin, a cinematographer from Chittagong, has also acted in a few stage plays.

Irfan is soon going to study film production at the University of Greenwich in London.

Mohsina and Irfan are both members of the theatre group 'Spordha: Independent Theatre Collective'.

Their friendship began while working together on stage. That relationship has now blossomed into marriage.

Mohsina Akhtar said, "Irfan is a sensitive person. He sees people and society the same way I see them. As a result, we decided to walk the path together."

Mohsina gained recognition in 2017 by playing the role of Fatima in the play 'Rizwan' directed by Syed Jamil Ahmed. After that, she acted in plays like 'Jibon O Polityaaniya', '4.48 Mantras', 'Bishmoykor Sohobot'.

She directed the plays 'Sheshksha', 'Waiting for Lefties', 'Indur-Bilai' and 'Tobuo Jege Uthi'.

Apart from the stage, Mohsina acted in Piplu R Khan's film 'Jaya Aar Sharmin'. In it, she acted with Jaya Ahsan.



Presenter Samia Afreen reveals 2nd cancer diagnosis

Entertainment Desk

Presenter Samia Afreen, who has been battling cancer since 2022, has revealed that she was diagnosed with a malignant tumour for second time three months ago.

This time, Samia was diagnosed with ovarian cancer and underwent surgery immediately. Subsequent tests identified the tumour as a 'high-grade carcinoma', for which she is now receiving chemotherapy.

The presenter shared details of her latest

battle with cancer in a Facebook post on August 23, alongside a video showing her new short haircut.

"Just three months ago, a second malignant tumour was detected in my body-ovarian cancer. I had to undergo surgery immediately. Unfortunately, it was a high-grade carcinoma, so I now have to go through chemotherapy," she wrote.

While Samia has been undergoing cancer treatment for several years, this is her first experience with chemotherapy. Following her initial diagnosis, she was treated with immunotherapy.





'Special' Chelsea forwards inspire Alonso's winning start



Sports Desk
Xabi Alonso hailed Chelsea's "special" forwards after Morgan Rogers, Cole Palmer and Joao Pedro combined to inspire a 3-2 win at Fulham on Monday in his first game as Blues boss. Alonso enjoyed the perfect start to his reign thanks to his decision to give Rogers, Palmer and Pedro the freedom to tear into Fulham's defence. Pedro took just 31 seconds to open the scoring with a composed finish from Palmer's pass. Rogers showed he can justify the eye-watering £117 million (\$159 million) fee that Chelsea paid to Aston Villa to make him the most expensive British player in history. The England star bagged Chelsea's second goal, firing home with aplomb after Fulham had punished a mistake from Blues goalkeeper Robert Sanchez to equalise through Josh King. And Palmer joined the party after half-

time, scoring from an acute angle to put Chelsea 3-1 up. Chelsea's entertaining display was a stark contrast to their moribund efforts under Enzo Maresca and then Liam Rosenior last season. "We were a threat. The three strikers were combining well and creating chances," Alonso said. "Overall, the squad is balanced. The special players need to have the freedom but as well they need to have the responsibility to help the team. "We know they have the talent to create many chances. It is a good start. But it is not to rely only on them. We need to have control, quality and toughness." Alonso was sacked by Real Madrid in January after less than eight months in charge. The former Liverpool midfielder has a point to prove as he tries to rediscover the midas touch that led Bayer Leverkusen to an unexpected German title in 2024.

- 'Roll your sleeves up' - Chelsea had to survive Sanchez's second mistake, which handed a goal to Gonzalo Garcia, before Alonso could celebrate his debut victory in a pulsating west London derby. "It was a really intense game. We suffered, we competed, we did whatever it takes in certain moments," Alonso said. "The early goals helped to get confidence. We had a few chances before their equaliser. "At the end, you know you have to roll your sleeves up and fight to defend your goal." Palmer also has a chance to prove the doubters wrong after his struggles last season led to England boss Thomas Tuchel leaving him out of the World Cup squad. He appeared revitalised after the arrival of his good friend Rogers. The former Manchester City youth team graduates both celebrated their goals with the 'ice-cold' gesture that Palmer has made popular after borrowing it from Rogers. "When you grow up, you want to play or do anything with your best friends, so playing football at the best level feels surreal," Palmer said. Admitting he is keen to get back to his best this season, Palmer added: "Did you not watch the game? I'm only joking! I'm ready you know. "It was a difficult season with injuries and whatnot, but through the summer and since I've been back, I've worked extra hard. "I know the talent I've got so I can put in performances like that." Asked if he wanted to silence the critics, Palmer added: "Normally I'm not an emotional person. "The people who know me know I'm not usually bothered about things in life, but over the summer I rested, I recharged and yeah I'm ready and I'm hungry."



Women's hockey development programme begins in Sylhet

Sports Desk
The first phase of the Sylhet district-level nationwide BRAC Bank Aparajoya Alo Women's Hockey Development Programme has been formally inaugurated on tuesday (Monday) in Sylhet. The special camp has begun at Sylhet District Stadium through a colourful opening ceremony. Sylhet Additional Deputy Commissioner (Education and ICT) Masud Rana formally inaugurated the camp as the chief guest. BRAC Bank Sylhet regional manager Rezaur Rahman, Bangladesh Hockey Federation and development committee member Ashraf Alam Bablu, and federation women's wing secretary Tariquzzaman Nannu were present as the special guests.

A total of twenty five talented emerging women's hockey players, selected from four leading educational institutions in Sylhet, are participating in the training camp, organised by the Bangladesh Hockey Federation, and sponsored by BRAC Bank. The institutions are Amberkhana Girls' School and College, Sylhet Government High School (Lakkatura), Sylhet Cantonment Public School and College, and Government Agragami Girls' High School and College. The guests highly praised the initiative aimed at identifying female hockey talents at the grassroots level and developing their skills to international standards. They hoped that the special programme, being conducted simultaneously in seven districts across the country, would usher in a new era for women's sports in Bangladesh.

AB de Villiers backs Bangladesh to challenge SA in Test series

Sports Desk
Former South African great AB de Villiers believes Bangladesh are able to put up a good fight in their upcoming tour in South Africa (SA) after a landmark series draw against Australia. Coming to tour in Australia after 23 years and only for their second visit Down Under, Bangladesh demonstrated a strong performance to earn the respect they were yearning for. The Tigers won the first Test in Darwin after dominating the hosts Australia thoroughly to stand on the brink of a stunning series victory. That was not to be as they saw the other side of the coin when they were demolished for innings and 51-run margin defeat in Mackay in the second Test inside two days. Bangladesh were dismissed twice below 100 in that Test but that couldn't take the gloss off the performance they showed in the Australia tour. Despite the batters' struggle in Mackay, de Villiers is keen to bet on Bangladesh whose fast bowlers demonstrated the expertise to give the Australia batters torrid time. Bangladesh are scheduled to tour South Africa in November for two Test matches, three ODIs and three T20Is. "I think Bangladesh

will put up a good fight in South Africa. It is one of the toughest places in the world to tour, especially for batters," de Villiers said in a podcast. "The ball not only swings after pitching but also moves off the seam. Not many players are accustomed to these conditions, so handling them is really difficult." The former South Africa captain, dubbed as Mr. 360 degree for his innovative batting gave Bangladesh batters some tips, saying that they need to be proactive rather than simply trying to survive. "Speaking from my own experience, I had a few strategies to deal with it. Sometimes I would come down the crease, sometimes I would cover my stumps completely, and at other times I would leave them exposed, depending on how I read the situation," he said. "In these kinds of seaming conditions, that is what you have to do. You cannot simply cover your stumps and try to survive all day. You have to be proactive," he added. South Africa and India still remain the two teams, against whom Bangladesh are yet to win any Test. The first Test will be played in Johannesburg from November 15 to 19, with the second scheduled for Centurion from November 23 to 27.

Open Prize Money Ranking Tournament to begin Sept 10

Sports Desk
The Open Prize Money Ranking Tournament, organised by Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation, will be held in the capital from September 10-13. The competition will feature singles events only in four categories - Under-19 boys, Under-19 girls, men's and women's. The top sixteen players in the latest Under-19 boys' ranking will be eligible to compete in both the Under-19 boys' and men's categories. Meanwhile, players from the Under-19 girls' category will also be eligible to participate in the women's category. Through this ranking tournament, the ranking points from 2024 will be replaced, and the new ranking list of the Bangladesh national team will be updated accordingly.

Bangladesh A suffer innings defeat to SA-A in 1st unofficial Test

Sports Desk
A sensational batting collapse led Bangladesh to a humiliating innings and 413-run defeat to South Africa (SA) in the first unofficial Test in Pretoria yesterday. Put into bat first, Bangladesh were bowled out for just 122 in their first innings before South Africa declared with mammoth 647-6. The second string Bangladesh side, which included several national players collapsed to 112 in the second innings in just 32.2 overs on Day 3 of the game, handing the hosts a huge victory. South Africa rode on captain Marques Ackerman and Sinethemba Qeshile's double century to compile a big total. Ackerman hammered 237 ball-256, an innings laced with 24 fours and seven sixes while Qeshile was not out on exact 200. Anamul Haque was the most successful bowler for Bangladesh with 3-98. For Bangladesh, no batters could hit even a half-century in any of the innings. Opener Naim Sheikh made 30 in the second innings, which is the highest individual score for a Bangladeshi batter in this match.

Federer looks forward to brief return to Arthur Ashe stadium

Sports Desk

Roger Federer said Monday he is looking forward to this week's celebratory return to Arthur Ashe Stadium to play for the first time since his final US Open in 2019. The exhibition Tuesday night during "fan week" ahead of Sunday's start of the tournament features doubles with former rivals Andy Roddick and Andre Agassi, along with John McEnroe, another giant of the sport. The group collectively has won a dozen men's singles titles at the US Open. "It really gives me a true opportunity to say thank you," Federer said at a news conference Monday previewing the match and his upcoming induction to the International Tennis Hall of Fame later this week in Newport. New York fans of Federer were deprived of a true sendoff for the 20-time Grand Slam champion as marked by Agassi, Serena Williams and some other champions. When Federer lost in the 2019 quarterfinals to Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria, he had planned to keep playing. And while he did continue to compete, injuries prevented participation in the US Open in either 2020 or 2021 ahead of his last match at the Laver Cup in September 2022. While Federer has played some other exhibitions since retiring, he said Monday that the time had only seemed to fall into place for a New York match this year ahead of the Newport ceremony.



"The kids are getting older," he said of his four children, two sets of twins now 12 and 17. "So they can also maybe enjoy a little bit seeing, their dad play." Federer expects a "respectful" match with a not-too-intense level of competition. "We're not playing best of five," he said "I hope it's going to be a lot of fun for us and the same for the fans to just see us back out playing." But Federer quickly shot down any questions about a tennis comeback, saying "no" at least nine times to a question on whether he was interested in a wildcard. "There's just way too many obstacles, and I'm too busy," he said. "All good and just just a fan now, just enjoying watching."

Graham Arnold Extends Iraq Coaching Deal Through 2027 Asian Cup

Sports Desk

Graham Arnold has extended his contract as Iraq's head coach until the 2027 Asian Cup, a few months after leading the team to its first World Cup appearance in 40 years. The 63-year-old former Australia coach has agreed to a six-month extension, despite receiving an offer for a four-year contract from the Iraq Football Association. "I have renewed my contract for six months and this decision is in my best interest and in the best interest of the Iraq national team," Arnold told reporters in Baghdad on Monday. Arnold took charge of Iraq in May 2025 and helped the team qualify for the 2026 World Cup through an intercontinental playoff. It was Iraq's first World Cup appearance in four decades. Despite serious logistical challenges caused by conflict in the Middle East, Iraq secured the final place among the 48 teams competing at the tournament. Iraq lost all three of its group matches against Norway, France and Senegal in June. However, the campaign gave the players valuable experience against some of the world's top footballers, including France's Kylian Mbappe and Norway's Erling Haaland. At the 2027 Asian Cup, Iraq will be in a group with Australia, Singapore and Tajikistan. The tournament is scheduled to be held in Saudi Arabia in January. Iraq, which won the Asian Cup in 2007, will begin its preparations at the Gulf Cup in September. Arnold said he returned early to scout new players and prepare the squad for both tournaments. "I returned early to watch and identify new players ahead of the Gulf Cup and Asian Cup and to build the team for the future," he said. "You will see new faces in the next phase."



India in command despite Sooriyabandara half-century

Sports Desk

Sri Lanka were 130-4 at lunch on day three of the second Test against India on Tuesday after Pasindu Sooriyabandara struck an unbeaten half-century to steady the hosts. At the break Sooriyabandara was batting on 65 with Dhananjaya de Silva on four, with Sri Lanka trailing by 373 runs after India posted 503-9 declared in their first innings. Resuming on their overnight score of 8-2, Sri Lanka were in early trouble when debutant Kamil Mishara (19) edged Prasadhi Krishna behind to the wicketkeeper. Sooriyabandara and Kamindu Mendis (32) fought back with an 87-run stand for the fourth wicket before Mendis was dismissed seven minutes before lunch.

Mendis had a nervous start but soon adapted against the spinners. India then switched back to seam and Krishna made the breakthrough when Mendis hit one straight to short mid-wicket. It was Krishna's third wicket in the innings. Sooriyabandara, a prolific run-scorer in domestic cricket, demonstrated some elegant stroke play and was positive in his approach. The 26-year-old, brought in as a concussion substitute in the opening match in Galle for his Test debut, drove the quicks crisply square of the wicket while using his feet effectively against spin. Play started 15 minutes early on day three after only 56 overs were possible on Monday due to rain. India lead the two-match series 1-0, having won the Galle Test by 165 runs.

Health company admits Maradona test mix-up in trial

Sports Desk

An Argentine health insurance company admitted that medical tests presented at the trial over the death of late football icon Diego Maradona were in fact those of his father, also called Diego. In a letter seen by AFP on Monday, Swiss Medical admitted that tests it released to a medical commission investigating Maradona's death "remained mistakenly filed under the name Diego Armando Maradona" when in fact they belonged to his late father, Diego Salustiano Maradona. The older Maradona died in 2015, five years before the man considered one of football's greatest ever players. The blunder was spotted last week by a lawyer defending one of the seven healthcare professionals on trial over Maradona's death in November 2020 at age 60. Maradona died of heart failure and acute pulmonary edema -- a condition where fluid accumulates in the lungs -- at a rented home in the Buenos Aires suburb of Tigre two weeks after undergoing surgery for a brain clot. His medical team is accused of providing grossly inadequate care in the lead-up to his death. It denies the charges. His kidney health has been a core focus of the final stages of the trial, with a nephrologist testifying that his doctors should have paid more attention to the issue. It turns out he based his analysis on the wrong test results. The mix-up led to the suspension of the proceedings for a week, causing further embarrassment for the court after the collapse last year of a first trial over a conflict of interest involving one of the judges. The latest trial, which began in April, resumes on Thursday. It is expected to continue until at least September.



Fahad finishes 41st place

Sports Desk

International Master Mohammad Fahad Rahman finished in 41st place in the Masters Event of the 32nd Abu Dhabi International Chess Festival that concluded on Monday last in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Fahad secured five points from nine games and was tied on points for 32nd place. However, according to the tie-break criteria, he finished 41st overall. In the ninth and final round, IM Fahad Rahman drew his game against Pasham



Alizada. Earlier, in the previous round, he defeated Syria's FIDE Master Rami Talib. Uzbekistan's Grandmaster Jakhongir Vakhidov won the title of the event with seven points. A total of 109 players from 21 countries participated in the Masters Event, including 17 Grandmasters, five Woman Grandmasters, and 32 International Masters.



Advocacy meeting to strengthen Nexus Programming in Amtol

Amtoli, Barguna, Correspondent

The meeting was organized on Tuesday morning at the Amtoli Upazila Parishad Hallroom. Action Aid Bangladesh and non-governmental development organization NSS provided overall support to the meeting organized by Activista Barguna. NSS Project Coordinator Md. Moniruzzaman moderated the meeting and NSS Executive Director Shahabuddin Panna presided over the meeting. Amtoli Upazila Engineer Md. Idris Ali was present as the chief guest. Former lecturer of Amtoli Government College Md. Anwar Hossain, General Secretary of Amtoli Upazila Journalists Coordination Council Hayatuzzaman Miraj, former General Secretary of Amtoli Journalists Union Hossain Ali Kazi and journalist Abdur Rahman Saleh, along with representatives of various classes and professions, spoke at the meeting. Upazila Election Officer Mohammad Soheli, Upazila Agricultural Extension Officer Md. Afzal Hossain, Upazila Rural Development Officer Md. Firoz Alam, Upazila Youth Development Officer Md. Jasim Uddin, Assistant Upazila Education Officer Md. Rafiqul Islam, Forest Officer Md. Monirul Islam, Former President of the Journalists Union Jasim Sikder, Joint Secretary of Amtoli Press Club Journalist Mohsin Matubbar, Bangladesh Human Rights Commission, Amtoli Upazila Branch General Secretary

Dr. Mohammad Arifuzzaman Appointed as New Civil Surgeon of Feni

A.N.M.Nurul Amin. Chagallniya correspondent, Feni



Dr. Mohammad Arifuzzaman has officially taken charge as the new Civil Surgeon of Feni district. The announcement was made following an official order issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. ?Prior to his new appointment, Dr. Mohammad Arifuzzaman has officially taken charge as the new Civil Surgeon of Feni district. ?Prior to his new appointment, Dr. Arifuzzaman served in various key administrative and medical roles within the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS). Upon joining his post, the newly appointed Civil Surgeon pledged to enhance the overall quality of healthcare services across the district. Government hospitals and upazila health complexes. ?Speaking to journalists and health officials, Dr. Arifuzzaman emphasized his commitment to ensuring transparent, accessible, and prompt medical care for all citizens of Feni. He also highlighted plans to strictly monitor healthcare facilities, ensure proper emergency services, and maintain accountability in district health operations.

Nilphamari Chamber of Commerce Election



Mohinul Islam Sujon, Crime Reporter

The biennial election of the Nilphamari Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the 2026-2028 term was held in a free, fair, and peaceful environment. Voting took place from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday (August 22) at Rabeya Girls' Bidya Niketan polling center in Nilphamari district town. After the votes were counted, the results were announced at around 8:30 pm by Advocate Abu Mohammad Soyem, chief of the Election Board. Three candidates contested the post of president. Mahabub Ur Rahman, former president of Nilphamari Municipal BNP and president of the District Shop Owners' Association, was elected president by a margin of just four votes. He received 280 votes. His closest rival, Soheli Parvez, senior joint convener of the District BNP and former president of the Nilphamari Chamber of Commerce, received 276 votes. Sultan Mahmud, general secretary of the district committee of the Industrial and Business Welfare Foundation (IBWF), an affiliated organization of Jamaat-e-Islami, finished third with 24 votes. Two candidates contested the post of senior vice-president. Raj Kumar Poddar was elected with 361 votes, while his

closest rival, Md. Abu Saleh (Soheli Rana), received 214 votes. Three candidates contested the post of vice-president. Md. Aktar Hossain Swapan was elected with 387 votes. His closest rival, Md. Farhanul Haque, received 131 votes. In addition, 12 candidates were elected as executive members from the general group out of 18 contestants. They are Md. Golam Mostafa Ranj?, Md. Muktar Hossain, Sushanta Kumar, Md. Hasanuzzaman, Md. Tarikul Alam, Tapas Kumar Saha, Md. Moniruzzaman Chowdhury, Md. Rezwan Ahmed, Md. Sakil Ahmed, Md. Akibur Rahman, Md. Mashgul Islam, and Md. Mahbubur Rahman Moni. Five candidates were elected from the associate member group. They are Md. Abul Kalam Mithu, Mohammad Momtaz, Mobasher Alam Prince, Md. Matiar Rahman, and Md. Azizul Islam. A total of eight candidates contested the posts in this group. Meanwhile, two candidates were elected unopposed to the two executive member (trade) posts. They are Abdul Wahed Sarker, president of the Bangladesh Fertilizer Association (BFA), Nilphamari district, and Abdul Momin, president of the National Association of Small and Cottage Industries, Bangladesh (NASCI), Nilphamari district. Election Board chief Advocate Abu Mohammad Soyem said the election was completed without any obstruction and in a transparent, impartial, and non-influenced manner. He said that out of a total of 684 voters, 590 cast their votes, of which 10 ballots were declared invalid. A total of 36 candidates contested for 22 posts in the biennial election.

Seven fined Tk 4 lakh for illegal sand lifting in Tangail

Tangail Correspondent

Seven people have been fined a total of Tk 4 lakh for illegally extracting sand from the Jamuna River in Bhuapur upazila of the district. A mobile court conducted the drive at different points of the river on Monday night, led by Bhuapur Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) and Executive Magistrate Mahbub Hasan. Under the Sand Quarry and Soil Management Act, Akhtar Hossain, 46, of Matlab upazila in Chandpur district, was fined Tk 1 lakh. Six others - Russel, 46, of Shahjadpur in Sirajganj; Jamal, 63, of Banaripara; Gias, 35, of Wazirpur; Badal, 42, of Barguna Sadar; Monir Hossain, 52, of Bhandaria in Pirojpur; and Riazul, 22, of Barguna Sadar - were each fined Tk 50,000. UNO Mahbub Hasan said the operation was conducted following allegations of unauthorised sand extraction from the Jamuna River in the upazila. Police personnel, including Bhuapur Police Station Sub-Inspector Rubel and River Police Sub-Inspector Abul Kalam Azad, along with their teams, village police members and other concerned officials, were present during the operation.



Measles, Dengue Prevention & Vaccination Top Agenda at Feni Health Dept Monthly Review Meeting

Jahangir Alam, Staff Reporter

A monthly coordination meeting of the Feni District Health Department was held on Tuesday to review health service delivery, manage the prevailing dengue and measles situation, and intensify ongoing immunization programs across the district. Chaired by Feni Civil Surgeon Dr. A.S.M. Sohrab Al Hossain, the meeting took place at the conference room of the Civil Surgeon's Office. The gathering conducted a comprehensive review of operations across local healthcare facilities, including the 250-Bed General Hospital, Feni, as well as all Upazila Health Complexes and field-level medical programs. Emphasizing the need to improve healthcare service quality, the Civil Surgeon directed officials and field staff to implement effective measures against measles and dengue while accelerating the HPV and measles vaccination drives. Upazila Health and Family Planning Officers (UHFPOs), engineers from the Health Engineering Department (HED), a Surveillance Medical Officer from the World Health Organization (WHO), Medical Officers from the Civil Surgeon's Office, and Medical Officers (Disease Control) from all upazilas attended the session. Nursing supervisors, statisticians, MT-EPIS, health inspectors, and representatives from non-governmental partner organizations were also present.



Motorcyclist killed, 2 injured after being hit by unidentified vehicle on Bhangay Expressway in Faridpur

Biplab Kumar Das, Staff Reporter

A motorcyclist named Saladin Molla (22) was killed in a tragic road accident on the Dhaka-Bhanga highway expressway. Two of his friends were seriously injured in the same incident and are currently on the brink of death in the hospital. The accident took place in the rain at Maligram area of ??the expressway on Monday (24 August) evening. Deceased Salauddin is the son of Adam Molla of Kumardia village of Nagarkanda upazila of Faridpur. The other two passengers injured in the accident are Sabbir Sheikh (18) and Tamim Hossain (28) of the same area. According to police and local sources, three friends left for Dhaka on a motorcycle from Nagarkanda. When they reached the Maligram area of ??the expressway's Dhaka-bound lane, a speeding unidentified car hit them hard from behind and ran away. On receiving information, Shibchar Highway Police and local people rescued them from the accident site and took them to Bhanga Upazila Health Complex. If their physical condition worsened there, they were sent to Faridpur Medical College Hospital for better treatment. Confirming the fact of the incident, Sub-Inspector (SI) Mamun Mia of Shibchar Highway Police Station said that the police recovered the body of the deceased and the motorcycle involved in the accident from the accident site. After completing the legal process, the body is being handed over to the family. Further legal action will be taken in this regard, including the identification of the killer vehicle.

RpMP holds meeting to execute Eid-e-Miladunnabi programmes peacefully

Rangpur Correspondent

Rangpur Metropolitan Police (RpMP) organised a meeting with religious leaders to ensure that the programmes on the occasion of Eid-e-Miladunnabi (PBUH) on 12th of Rabi' al-Awwal are carried out peacefully, orderly and smoothly. RpMP Commissioner Mohammad Abdul Mabud presided over the meeting held at his conference room in the city on Tuesday. Religious leaders, Additional RpMP Commissioner, Deputy Commissioners (DCs) of Police and Additional Deputy Commissioners (ADCs) of Police, Assistant Deputy Commissioners of Police and police officials attended the meeting. In the meeting, the RpMP Commissioner appealed to religious leaders and said, "We are all the best creatures of creation. We are the Ummah of the Prophet of Allah Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH). Religious organizations are not political organizations. You are highly respected people of the society." He also said that the menace of drugs is at its highest at present. The religious community and religious leaders must play a more vocal role to protect the society from the menace of drugs. Noting that a section of the youth in particular is going astray in various ways, he said that the role of the clerical community is very important in building a beautiful society and ideal families.



The Police Commissioner called on religious leaders to spread the message of harmony, tolerance and peace among the people and to cooperate in maintaining discipline in the programs. He said, "Rangpur Metropolitan Police will provide necessary cooperation and security measures to the organizers to complete their respective programs in a peaceful, orderly and harmonious environment." Religious organisations like Gausia Committee Bangladesh, Ashrafiya Chishtia Qadria, Ahl al-Sunnah wal-Jama'ah, Nasirabad Ekramia Mahubia and Nasirabad Darbar Sharif and different mosque authorities have chalked out programmes. These organisations will take out colorful Eid-e-Miladunnabi processions on the city streets and organise discussions marking the Eid-e-Miladunnabi on 12th of Rabi' al-Awwal on Wednesday.

52 development projects receive funding in Mymensingh

Mymensingh Correspondent

Zila Parishad has handed over cheques for the implementation of 52 development projects in different areas of the district. The cheques were formally handed over at a ceremony held on Monday afternoon at the Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Auditorium of the Zila Parishad. Zila Parishad administrator Syed Emran Saleh Prince distributed the cheques among representatives of the project implementation committees. Speaking at the event, Emran said the government is implementing development programmes in line with public expectations. He said transparency, accountability, fairness and public welfare are being given the highest priority in the selection and implementation of development projects. He urged the concerned authorities to implement every project properly while maintaining quality standards and cautioned them against any misuse or wastage of allocated funds. Zila Parishad chief executive officer Shah Kamrul Huda chaired the programme. Executive officer Snigdha Das, assistant engineer Abdus Salam, administrative officer Mojibur Rahman and accounts officer Mahmudur Rahman Taslim, among others were present at the event.



9 stolen mobile phones with changed IMEI recovered in Fakirhat, 4 arrested

S A Kalam, Fokirhat, Bagerhat

In Fakirhat, Bagerhat, police have recovered 59 stolen mobile phones with changed IMEI (International Mobile Equipment Identity) numbers during a raid at a mobile phone shop. Four people have been arrested in this incident. The police claim that the stolen mobile phones were sold after changing their IMEI numbers. They were arrested on Monday (24 August) around 10 PM during a raid at 'Pushpa Telecom', a mobile phone shop owned by Rezaur Rahman Palash in the Fakirhat upazila market. This information was shared by Superintendent of Police Hasan Md. Naser Rikabdar at a press briefing at the Bagerhat Police Superintendent's office on Tuesday morning. The arrested individuals are Rezaur Rahman Palash (34), son of Sheikh Siddiqui Rahman from the Pagla Shyamnagar area of Fakirhat, Md. Ahidul Islam (26), son of Akkel Ali Sheikh from the Ataikathi area of Bagerhat, Chandan Saha (30), son of Chaitanya Saha from the Ghatbhog area of Rupsa, Khulna, and Md. Hushain Khan (22), son of Jahangir Khan from the Bhata Baliaghata area of Bagerhat. The Superintendent of Police stated that three more individuals fled the scene during the raid. They are Md. Shimul Sheikh (25), son of Sheikh Siddiqui Rahman from the Pagla Shyamnagar area of Fakirhat, Md. Shafiqul Fakir (22), son of Kader Fakir from the Ataki area, and Toufique Rahman (34), son of the late Yusuf Ali from the Narkeli Chadpur area of Rupsa, Khulna. A total of 59 mobile phones of various brands were recovered during the raid. The Superintendent of Police further stated that during police interrogation, the arrested individuals admitted that they were changing the IMEI numbers of stolen mobile phones and selling them at Pushpa Telecom. The police have reported that Rezaur Rahman Palash has a previous theft case against him. A case has been filed at the Fakirhat Model Police Station regarding this incident. The 59 recovered mobile phones have been seized as evidence in the case.

Four get seven years' jail in businessman kidnapping case

Khulna Correspondent

A Khulna court has sentenced four people to seven years' rigorous imprisonment in a case filed over the kidnapping of a businessman. Judge Manjurul Imam of the Khulna Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal pronounced the verdict on Monday afternoon. The convicted persons are Saiful Islam Molla, Hojifa Al Bari, Md Rana Beg and Raju Sheikh. The court also fined each of the convicts Tk 10,000, with three months' additional imprisonment in default of payment. Confirming the verdict, court bench assistant Md Mazharul Islam said the court awarded the convicts the same punishment under another section of the case. However, the sentences will run concurrently. According to court sources, the victim, Md Niru Molla, is a businessman and owner of Molla Filling Station in the Bijoypasha area of Gopalganj Sadar. On February 8, 2022, around 6:30am, Niru left his home for Khulna in his private vehicle with driver Raju Sheikh to purchase fuel oil. At around 7:45am, when the vehicle reached

the Mayur Residential Area under Harintana Police Station in Khulna, a group of eight to nine people on motorcycles intercepted the vehicle. The kidnappers allegedly forced the businessman out of the vehicle, assaulted him and took him to an unknown location. During his captivity, the victim was allegedly asked to pay Tk 5 crore as ransom. The kidnappers also threatened to kill him and conceal his body if the money was not paid. Fearing for his life, the businessman agreed to pay Tk 50 lakh. The victim's family later contacted RAB. On the same day, at around 4:30pm, the victim was rescued from a microbus in front of the house of one Ahid in Al-Aqsa Nagar village under No. 3 Gutudia area of Harintana Police Station. Following the incident, the businessman filed a case against six people on the same day. On August 31, 2022, Sub-Inspector Milon Kumar Maitra, the investigating officer of the case, submitted the charge sheet against the accused. The court, after completing the trial, delivered the verdict against the four convicts.