

Promises must be kept regarding the gas crisis

BNP Acting Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi has assured the public that normal gas supply will be restored by the first or second week of September. After what appears to be several weeks of severe shortages, factory disruptions, and household frustration, this is a commitment that demands scrutiny -- and follow-through.

We are no strangers to repeated assurances about energy stabilization in the past, only to see the crisis persist. This time, the government must be held to its word.

While the crisis has rightfully been attributed to global instability, pointing to the US-Israel attack on Iran and the subsequent conflict and disruptions in shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, there is no denying that Bangladesh has not planned well when it comes to diversifying its energy sources. Bangladesh’s domestic energy failures are a result of more than just global events, and the public deserves clarity, not deflection when it comes to them. The crisis has already caused widespread hardship, and citizens need solutions, not geopolitical narratives. While Prime Minister Tarique Rahman allocating Tk40,000 crore to the energy and power sector to address the shortage is certainly a significant sum, it is meaningless if it does not translate into measurable improvements. Bangladesh has seen large allocations before, but without transparent implementation, spending alone does not guarantee relief. The real test here is simple: Will households and industries actually experience the normalization promised by September? Bangladesh cannot afford another cycle of promises without action. The gas and power crisis has undermined industrial output, strained household budgets, and weakened public confidence. The government must deliver tangible results, and will be judged by whether gas actually flows again, not by statements made at press briefings.

Promises on e-rickshaw regulation mean nothing without action

The government moving to bring e-rickshaws under a policy framework, with systematic licensing and registration planned through local government, is unquestionably a positive development -- on paper.

However, Bangladesh has heard this promise before. For some time now, authorities have announced plans to register, regulate, and reorganize these vehicles, only for the initiatives to stall, fade, or be quietly abandoned. This time, the country needs more than statements. It needs implementation. E-rickshaws are now an essential part of Bangladesh’s transport ecosystem and play a significant role in providing affordable mobility in addition to creating livelihoods for hundreds of thousands. None of this has ever been disputed. Yet, their rapid, unregulated growth coupled with their high-risk has also created serious problems. Untrained drivers should never have been allowed to operate these vehicles, and it is no wonder that Dhaka has seen increased traffic chaos and more frequent accidents. Without proper oversight, a mode of transport that should help communities has unfortunately ended up putting them at risk, not to mention worsen our traffic woes. The government’s renewed commitment to registration, route management, and safety standards is therefore welcome - but credibility depends entirely on follow-through. We expect the government to realize why past attempts failed and not give in to coercion from vested interests resisting change. Unless these structural issues are addressed, this latest initiative will meet the same fate. Bangladesh cannot afford another cycle of announcements without action. E-rickshaws are here to stay and the goal now is to transform them from the source of disorder they are today to becoming a safe, integrated part of the transport system.

Govt plans skills training

answered four written questions and six supplementary questions. In reply to Manirul Haque’s starred question, the Prime Minister said a permanent institution called the “Qawmi Madrasah Education Board Bangladesh” was decided to be formed through a gazette notification in 2006 to coordinate, develop, and conduct public examinations for all Qawmi madrasahs. Later, under the Al-Haiatul Ulya Lil-Jamiatil Qawmia Bangladesh, the government enacted the 2018 law recognising the Dawra-e-Hadith (Takmil) certificate of Qawmi madrasahs as equivalent to a master’s degree in Islamic Studies and Arabic and decided to establish six Qawmi madrasah education boards.

The six boards are Befaul Madarisil Arabia Bangladesh, Befaul Madarisil Qawmia Gawhardanga Bangladesh, Anjumane Ittehadul Madaris Bangladesh (Qawmi Madrasa Education Board), Azad Dini Adaraye Talim Bangladesh board, Tanzimul Madarisil Diniya Bangladesh and Jatiya Deeni Madrasa Education Board Bangladesh.

Tarique Rahman said certificates from the six Qawmi madrasah education boards were recognised on June 23 following an amendment to the “Private Educational Institutions (Madrasah) Manpower Structure and MPO Policy, 2026”. As a result, holders of Dawra-e-Hadith (Takmil) degrees along with Ilmul Qiraat or Hifzul Quran certificates from Qawmi madrasahs became eligible for appointment to the posts of assistant Moulvi (Qari) and Ebtedayee Qari, he said. Replying to another question from Lakshminipur-2 MP Abul Khair Bhuiyan about incorporating more Arabic subjects into the general education curriculum, the Prime Minister said it is a good suggestion.

He said religious education is already part of the regular curriculum and the government could review how it could be further developed. PM seeks separate notice on nationalisation of Ebtedayee madrasahs Replying to a supplementary question from Kurigram-3 MP Md Mahbulul Alam about nationalising ebtedayee madrasahs, Tarique Rahman asked him to submit a separate notice on the issue.

“If you give me a separate notice, I will look into the matter properly and present the details before Parliament,” he said.

PM Tarique intelligent,

river and the flow of an ocean. They will never stop. Now, I am sanguine. I am confident. It is the process of democracy. The process will continue,” he said.

Strengthening People-to-People Ties

The High Commissioner underlined that engagement between the two parliaments is vital to strengthening people-to-people ties between the two sovereign and democratic countries of Bangladesh and India.

The discussions included opportunities for forming Parliamentary Friendship Groups, mutual visits by parliamentary delegations under the guidance of both the Speakers, cooperation between parliamentary committees and the digitisation of parliamentary records.

The High Commissioner reiterated the invitation extended by Speaker of the Lok Sabha Om Birla to visit India at the earliest convenience.

“We’ve extended a warm welcome to the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker to visit India and to the democratic temple of democracy, the Indian Parliament,” he told reporters after separate meetings with the Speaker and Deputy Speaker at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.

The Indian envoy also conveyed greetings to Speaker Hafiz Uddin Ahmad and Deputy Speaker Kayser Kamal from Om Birla, Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Indian Parliament. “I had talks with the Speaker Om Birla and he told

A closed road, an open question

Why are we so easily triggered?

Md. Neyamul Hossain

lem and responding to it. Reaction is immediate. Response requires a pause. Reaction asks, “Why is this happening?” Response asks, “What can I do now?”



More worrying is how quickly irritation spreads. One person's impatience can become another person's aggression. A honk becomes an insult; an insult becomes an argument; an argument can become a confrontation. A minor inconvenience that could have ended in seconds can turn into a much bigger conflict. Perhaps we need to pay greater attention to something very ordinary: Civility. Small courtesies do not solve structural problems, but they make everyday life more manageable. A simple “thank you” or an apology, allowing someone to pass or responding calmly when someone makes a mistake, can prevent unnecessary conflict. Yet these basic gestures increasingly seem to be disappearing from public life. An apology can be seen as weakness. Allowing someone to go ahead can feel like losing. Even acknowledging the service of a driver, security guard, shopkeeper, or other worker can sometimes seem unnecessary.

But societies are not held together only by laws and institutions. They are also shaped by thousands of everyday interactions between strangers. The way we speak to one another matters. So does the way we behave when we are inconvenienced. That last point may be particularly important. It is easy to be polite when everything is going according to plan. The real test comes when we are late, stuck, tired, frustrated, or inconvenienced.

This does not mean that we should accept poor services, bad planning, or inefficient systems without question. We should demand better roads, better traffic management, better public services, and greater accountability. But there is a difference between addressing a systemic problem and dealing with an immediate inconvenience.

and the World Bank. LGD Md Shahidul Hassan, senior officials from the ministry and the WB were present at the meeting.

Dhaka-Ashulia expressway

targets. He said utility relocation, a major challenge, was completed through coordinated efforts.

He said the government aims to complete another major portion by next December and bring the main project close to completion within a year.

The minister stressed ensuring proper and efficient use of public funds and praised the construction firm for maintaining quality while meeting deadlines.

He also highlighted China's role in Bangladesh's infrastructure development through technology and investment.

The two new service bridges will remain toll-free permanently. One will carry traffic from Daur towards Ashulia and the other from Ashulia towards Daur.

No problem and difficulty

the Ambassador said. Earlier, he paid a courtesy call on State Minister-1 for Foreign Affairs Humaiun Kobir. During the meeting, they discussed issues of mutual interest. The State Minister expressed Bangladesh's hope for an early end to tensions in the region and for lasting peace and stability, in the interest of the people of the region and beyond, said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

U.S. forces struck Iranian rocket launchers on the Strait of Hormuz in their first military action in a month on Sunday, breaking a lull in fighting during an intermittent war that has lasted more than six months, reports AP.

Vowing to retaliate for what it called a deadly attack, Iran later said it had launched missiles at U.S. sites in Jordan.

The Iranian Ambassador also alleged that Iranian civilians have been killed in US attacks and urged people around the world to remain aware of what he described as the killing of Iranian people by the United States.

Referring to an attack on a wedding ceremony the previous night, he alleged that more than 70 people were wounded, including women and children.

“Many children and women were injured,” he said.

The Iranian envoy also said Iran had communicated to officials at Bangladesh’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs that Tehran had no objection to the continuation of energy shipments to Bangladesh. He said that from Iran’s side, people are allowed to carry out activities and that there is no restriction from Tehran’s end, while again stressing that the difficulties are being created by the United States.

Crackdown on Drugs and

juvenile crime, and cybercrime. He urged field-level police officers to be more sincere so that the general public can access legal services easily and without hassle.

Chaired by Cox’s Bazar Superintendent of Police A.N.M. Sazedur Rahman, the meeting was attended by officers of various ranks, personnel, and civil staff of the district police. During the event, guests handed over cash rewards and medals of honor to successful police officers in recognition of their outstanding performance and contributions to duty.

Customs Intelligence's

day, based on another secret information, the baggage of TIPU AL IMRAN, a passenger of TG339 flight arriving from Bangkok, was searched and 36 smartphones hidden in a special way were seized. Of these, 19 were Redmi Turbo 4 Pro and 17 were Honor 200. The estimated market value of the mobiles is 15 lakh 96 thousand taka.

Another 550 pieces of Mobile LCD of different brands and

A person stuck in traffic cannot solve Dhaka's transportation crisis from behind the steering wheel. A passenger who is already late cannot recover the lost hour by becoming angry. And aggressive driving will not make a closed road reopen.

Yet our streets are full of precisely this kind of frustration. More worrying is how quickly irritation spreads. One person's impatience can become another person's aggression. A honk becomes an insult; an insult becomes an argument; an argument can become a confrontation. A minor inconvenience that could have ended in seconds can turn into a much bigger conflict.

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But societies are not held together only by laws and institutions. They are also shaped by thousands of everyday interactions between strangers.

The way we speak to one another matters. So does the way we behave when we are inconvenienced.

That last point may be particularly important. It is easy to be polite when everything is going according to plan. The real test comes when we are late, stuck, tired, frustrated, or inconvenienced.

We cannot control every road closure or traffic jam. We cannot control every mistake made by another person. But we can decide whether to add another layer of anger to an already difficult situation.

This is not an argument for passivity. We should continue to question poor planning, demand accountability, and push for better systems. But while those larger problems are being addressed, we still have to navigate the daily realities in front of us.

Perhaps that is the lesson from a closed road. Sometimes the practical response is simply to find another route. Perhaps Bangladesh needs better roads and better traffic management. But we also need better habits of dealing with one another: Less aggression, more patience, and a little more civility in everyday life.

950 pieces of Mother Board with Display (Button Mobile) were seized from the same baggage. The estimated value of the LCDs is 22 lakh taka and the value of the motherboards is 14 lakh 25 thousand taka.

In addition, 3 liters of foreign liquor were seized from an abandoned handbag next to the baggage belt during the patrol, which was ownerless, with an estimated market value of 60 thousand taka.

GF248: 18 liters of Red Label in the Green Channel Based on a tip-off, on September 1, A-Shift detained MD AL AMIN, a passenger of Gulf Air flight GF248 arriving from Bahrain, while he was crossing the Green Channel. During the search, 18 liters of Red Label foreign liquor were seized from him. Its estimated market value is Tk 360,000.

In a separate operation at Shah Amanat International Airport in Chittagong on August 31, 12 cartons of foreign cigarettes, Rowatinex and Sabril including medicines, and 100 grams of gold ornaments were seized from a passenger arriving from Dubai on flight BG148. The estimated value of the goods was Tk 21,48,100. As a result, considering the three incidents in Dhaka and Chittagong together, the total estimated value of the goods seized in the CIID operation on August 31 and September 1 stands at Tk 97,13,100—about Tk 10 million.

CIID's campaign to prevent smuggling and illegal imports continues through close surveillance at various points of the airport, including secret information, passenger profiling, and green channels.

Tarique still bears scars

want to remember those days. If we keep those memories alive and seek revenge, it will not end even in five years,” Rumon said.

He said spending the next five years seeking revenge will prevent the government from fulfilling the aspirations of the people who elected Tarique Rahman as prime minister.

“Our leader Tarique Rahman wants to leave those painful memories behind and move forward with the development of the country,” the additional press secretary said.

He urged BNP leaders and activists to remain alert to conspiracies aimed at tarnishing Tarique Rahman's image and to work together to make his initiatives successful.

Rumon said conspiracies were launched at home and abroad to defame Tarique Rahman when BNP was in power in the past.

“We must remain alert to these conspiracies so that the good work of our leader is not undermined,” he said.

The additional press secretary also recalled the difficulties faced by BNP activists in organising Tarique Rahman’s prison release anniversary programmes during the previous regime.

“The situation today is not the same as it was during those difficult days,” he said.

He said BNP leaders and activists had faced intimidation, arrest and various forms of repression while organising the programmes at that time, but they did not remain silent.

“We informed journalists and trusted leaders of our programmes. We often organised them secretly and informed journalists only two or three hours beforehand,” Rumon said, recalling the support provided by journalists at the time.

Tarique Rahman was arrested by the joint forces of the 1/11 government on March 7, 2007. He was released on bail on September 3, 2008, following a High Court order.

The main speaker at the discussion was BNP acting Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi.

People are the source of all power Rumon said the people of Bangladesh have repeatedly demonstrated that they are the source of all political power. “The people proved it during the Liberation War in 1971. They removed the autocratic Ershad regime and the 1/11 government.



President stresses more balanced, mutually beneficial US trade deal

Staff Correspondent

President Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir on Wednesday said there is scope to make the Bangladesh-US Agreement on Reciprocal Trade more balanced and mutually beneficial, taking into account the economic realities and interests of both countries. The President said the agreement marked an important step towards expanding trade relations between the two countries. He came up with the remarks when US Ambassador to Bangladesh Brent T. Christensen paid a courtesy call on him at Bangabhaban. During the meeting, the President recalled the past US investment and cooperation in the development of Bangladesh's agriculture sector, including support for the Bangladesh Rice

Research Institute and Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute. He urged the US to further increase investment and cooperation in the country's agriculture sector. The President also highlighted the investment and significant role of US-based Chevron in Bangladesh's energy sector and called for increased US investment in the country's energy sector. He said Bangladesh has significant potential in various sectors, including information technology, infrastructure, healthcare and high-tech industries. The President also emphasised the importance of technology and skills transfer. He urged the United States to review and simplify the existing 'visa bond' system for Bangladeshi businesspeople and genuine tourists travelling to the US. He sought continued US support

for ensuring the safe, dignified and sustainable repatriation of the Rohingyas to their homeland. The US ambassador assured the President of continued cooperation and stressed the need to strengthen cooperation among ASEAN countries in this regard. During the meeting, Ambassador Christensen congratulated Mirza Fakhrul Islam on assuming the office of President and conveyed his best wishes to him. Thanking the ambassador, the President said the US is one of Bangladesh's important development and trade partners. He said the existing trade relations between the two countries have been playing an important role in Bangladesh's economic development. Bangladesh believes in maintaining friendly

PM unveils rooftop solar incentives, 10-year energy road map

Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman on Wednesday said the government has taken a range of initiatives to promote renewable energy including financial incentives for rooftop solar power as part of efforts to address the country's energy crisis. Replying to a question from MP Nilofer Chowdhury Moni, the Prime Minister said the government has conditionally exempted essential solar power equipment,

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No fertiliser crisis, nearly 13 lakh tonnes in stock: Minister

Staff Correspondent

Agriculture Minister Mohammed Aminur Rashid on Wednesday said there is no fertiliser crisis in the country as nearly 13 lakh tonnes of fertiliser are currently in stock, compared to 12 lakh tonnes during the same period last year. "Last time, during this season, the government had 12 lakh tonnes of fertiliser in stock. At this moment, we have close to 13 lakh tonnes in stock in our warehouses," he said in Parliament. The minister made the state

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Bail in one case, false arrest in another: Mohona TV MD in jail

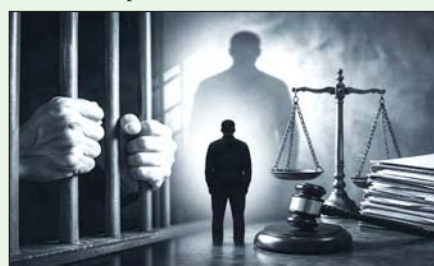
Staff Correspondent, Dhaka

Although 'false arrest' in a new case after showing an arrest in a case for the sake of investigation is part of the legal process, questions have been raised recently about its misuse. Prominent media entrepreneur

and Mohona Television Managing Director (MD) Shahed Ahmed Majumder has been in jail for a long time for showing an arrest in another case after being granted bail in one case and before being released from prison. The family alleges that he is not being given the opportunity to be released even after being shown a false arrest in one case after another.

The family claims that Shahed Ahmed has been in jail in a case for almost a year. Out of these, he has been granted bail at least four times in different cases. However, each time he has been shown arrested again from the prison gate. The last time he was shown arrested again was on August 26. According to the family, Shahed Ahmed was arrested by the police's specialized force CTTC from the capital's Gulshan area last year. Later, he was shown arrested in a case of Gulshan police

station. Although he was not an accused, the arrest process against him in multiple cases continued. And that is why the family has claimed that he has been shown arrested multiple times in old cases of Mirpur Model and Gulshan police stations.



The victim's family also claims that this is completely conspiratorial and purposeful. Shahed Ahmed's wife Bushra Sabah Emdad's arrest despite the Home Ministry's order The matter

came into discussion again after a humanitarian appeal by Shahed Ahmed's wife Bushra Sabah Emdad. On July 16, the Law-3 branch of the Home Ministry instructed the Inspector General of Police (IGP) to exempt Shahed Ahmed from the relevant case. However, the family alleges that almost a month after that instruction, the police showed Shahed Ahmed as arrested again in a new case. This raises questions about the role of the police in implementing the instructions of the Ministry of Home Affairs. They say that the government is working to ensure good governance and build a transparent and accountable state.

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Defence adviser, Saudi envoy discuss boosting defence ties

Staff Correspondent

Saudi Ambassador to Bangladesh Dr Abdullah Zafer bin Abiyah today paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister's Defence Adviser Brigadier General (ret'd) Dr AKM Shamsul Islam at his office at the Armed Forces Division (AFD) in Dhaka Cantonment. "During the meeting, they discussed the historic and fraternal relations between Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia, mutual cooperation in the defence sector and other issues of bilateral interest," said an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) Directorate press release this afternoon.

The two sides expressed firm commitment to sharing experience and technical expertise in

disaster management to jointly address natural disasters and humanitarian emergencies. They also stressed the importance of regular exchanges of high-level delegations between the armed forces of the two countries to elevate the existing strategic and military partnership. The meeting also focused on strengthening higher training programmes and course exchanges between Bangladesh's National Defence College (NDC) and Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC) and leading military academies in Saudi Arabia to enhance the professional capabilities of officers of the two countries' armed forces.

The Saudi ambassador highly praised the professionalism

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Bangladesh seeks Japan's cooperation in transforming into an aviation hub



Special Correspondent, Dhaka

The government has sought Japan's cooperation in transforming Bangladesh into a regional aviation hub. At the same time, the two countries discussed the rapid opening of the third terminal of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, expansion of Dhaka-Narita direct air connectivity and increasing Japanese investment in the tourism sector. Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Saida Shinichi paid a courtesy call on Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister M Rashiduzzaman Millat, MP, at the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism on Wednesday (September 2) at

10 am. During the meeting, the Japanese ambassador congratulated M Rashiduzzaman Millat on assuming charge as a full-time minister. In response, the minister said that Japan is a trusted development partner of Bangladesh. The government wants Japan to support Bangladesh in transforming Bangladesh into a regional aviation hub. The minister said that the recently launched direct Dhaka-Narita flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines is a reflection of Bangladesh's growing interest and strong commitment to expand communication and cooperation between the two countries. There is an opportunity to expand economic and tourism relations between the two countries by utilizing this air communication more effectively. The minister expressed the government's firm stance on the timely inauguration of the newly built Terminal-3 of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport. He said that it is important

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Andaleeve urges unity beyond political differences for country's progress

Staff Correspondent

Information and Broadcasting Minister Andaleeve Rahman today called upon people to rise above political affiliations and differences of opinion and work collectively for the country's progress. He made the call during his first visit to his Bhola constituency after taking oath and assuming office. The minister said the previous Awami League government had weakened the country's economy during its 17-year rule, while Prime Minister Tarique Rahman assumed office at a challenging juncture in the country's history. "We have to overcome this situation. So now, rising above party affiliations and differences of opinion, we will take the country forward towards progress," he said.

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Aslam Chowdhury Marks BNP's 48th Anniversary

‘BNP is the Bearer and Guardian of the Bangladeshi Nationalist Spirit’

Md. Omar Faruk | Special Correspondent

Sitakunda, Chattogram: Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) was founded by Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman with the aim of preserving the distinct identity of the motherland achieved through the Liberation War, upholding national self-identity and enabling Bangladesh to move forward with dignity and pride, said former BNP Joint Secretary General Aslam Chowdhury FCA. He said BNP has gradually emerged as a

trusted platform for the country's development, progress and prosperity, while also playing a role in safeguarding democracy, independence and sovereignty. He described BNP as the bearer and guardian of the Bangladeshi nationalist ideology. Aslam Chowdhury made the remarks while addressing a large rally and public gathering organized in Sitakunda municipal area on Tuesday (September 1) to mark the 48th founding anniversary of BNP. He said Begum

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Fallen govt's wrong policies, import dependence caused energy crisis: Titumir

Staff Correspondent

Adviser to the Prime Minister on Finance and Planning Prof Dr Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir today said that the country's ongoing electricity and energy crisis is the result of the fallen government's flawed energy policies, excessive dependence on imports and failure to build national capacity. "People must be clearly informed that the ongoing electricity and energy crisis has no connection with the present government. A major part of the crisis is the result of past wrong policies and decisions," he said. Titumir was speaking as the chief guest at a seminar titled "Economic Context and Emerging Challenges: Priorities for the Future", jointly organised by the Economic Reporters' Forum (ERF) and the Centre for

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Stop road construction on Cox's Bazar beach sand dunes: HC

Staff Correspondent

The High Court on Wednesday ordered an eight-week halt to road construction work on the sand dunes of Cox's Bazar sea beach and issued a rule in a contempt of court case filed over the alleged violation of an earlier court order protecting the beach's natural features. The court also adjourned the contempt proceedings for eight weeks. The HC bench of Justice JBM Hassan and Justice Aziz Ahmed Bhuiyan passed the orders after hearing a contempt petition filed by Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB) and a separate writ petition filed by Bangladesh Lawyers Association (BELA) seeking an immediate halt to the project Advocate Minhajul Haque Chowdhury represented BELA while Attorney General Ruhul Quddus Kajal and Deputy Attorney General Nur Mohammad

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কর্মজীবী মানুষের সুবিধার্থে

জালালাবাদ চক্ষু হাসপাতালে

এখন প্রতি **শুক্রবার** বিকালে রোগী দেখবেন

চক্ষু বিশেষজ্ঞ ও সার্জন

ড. আহম্মাদুল বারী

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ওয়াপদা গেট, অক্সিজেন, চট্টগ্রাম

Humanitarian Eye Doctor

Free treatment is provided to helpless and extremely poor eye patients. Jalalabad Eye Hospital, Chattogram.

Philippines seeks Bangladesh's cooperation in pharmaceuticals sector

Staff Correspondent

Philippines Ambassador to Bangladesh Nina P Cainglet has sought Bangladesh's cooperation in pharmaceuticals sector utilizing the capabilities of Bangladesh's pharmaceutical industry. The envoy sought the cooperation when she paid a courtesy call on Health and Family Welfare Minister Sardar Md Sakawat Husain at his office at Bangladesh Secretariat here. Cainglet said Philippines imports around 67 percent of its total medicines from Western countries so that they sought cooperation from Bangladesh in the sector. She emphasized the importance of launching direct flights between Dhaka and Manila to further strengthen trade and people-to-people relations between the two countries. Various other issues were also discussed in the meeting

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Access to clean energy to become increasingly important for Bangladesh: Michael Miller

Staff Correspondent

Ambassador and Head of Delegation of the European Union (EU) to Bangladesh Michael Miller on Wednesday said access to clean energy will become increasingly important for the competitiveness of Bangladesh's garment industry as European markets and global value chains transition towards a low-carbon future. "There is an opportunity to combine manufacturing strength with cleaner production that we encourage you to grasp with both hands, to place this country at the forefront of sustainable sourcing," he said while speaking at a roundtable in Dhaka. HSBC Bangladesh, the Apparel Impact Institute (Aii), the Embassy of Sweden in

Bangladesh and the Delegation of the European Union to Bangladesh convened a high-level roundtable bringing together international and national stakeholders from the government, global apparel brands, manufacturers, financial institutions, development partners and industry associations to discuss how Bangladesh can accelerate access to reliable, competitive and clean energy for its apparel industry. The roundtable, titled "Advancing Decarbonisation for Apparel in a Changing Energy Landscape", focused on the growing urgency to accelerate Bangladesh's clean energy transition as global apparel supply chains move towards decarbonisation and markets, including

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PM unveils rooftop solar

including solar panels, inverters and batteries, from customs duty, regulatory duty, supplementary duty, advance tax and an additional 2 percent advance income tax. He said the government would purchase electricity supplied to the national grid from rooftop solar systems installed within the next six months at Tk 10.15 per unit. “This means the government will provide an incentive in addition to the bulk rate,” Tarique said. He said the arrangement could create an opportunity for up to 45 percent profit, including 40 percent profit and a 5 percent premium, based on an average production cost of Tk 6-7 per unit. The incentive will remain applicable for three years, the Prime Minister said.

Tarique said the government has also launched a National Rooftop Solar Programme to install rooftop solar systems on government buildings, educational institutions, hospitals and other important facilities.

“A guideline has already been prepared for implementing the programme, while special allocations have been provided to various ministries, divisions and agencies,” he said.

Rooftop solar systems have already been installed at the offices of all deputy commissioners and divisional commissioners, the Prime Minister said.

He said initiatives have also been taken to generate electricity from hydropower, wind and waste.

“I hope that once these initiatives are implemented, it will be possible to tackle the energy crisis and increase the use of renewable energy,” Tarique said.

10-year power, energy plan in the works
Replying to a supplementary question from Cumilla-10 MP Mobasher Alam Bhuiyan, Tarique said the government has already prepared a 10-year plan for the power and energy sectors. “Some examinations and assessments are still underway,” he said.

The Prime Minister said the minister in-charge of the Energy Ministry would soon present the plan before Parliament and the nation. He said the plan would outline how the government intends to develop the power and energy sectors over the next decade to help achieve the target of turning Bangladesh into a trillion-dollar economy by 2034.

PM weighs open-pit coal mining in Fulbari

Replying to a supplementary question from MP Sabikun Nahar Munni about open-pit coal mining, Tarique said the government would consider extracting coal from Fulbari if it could help address the country’s energy crisis.

He said the coal in Fulbari was among the highest-quality coal in the world.

“If we can extract this coal and address our energy crisis, it will certainly be good for the country as it will save foreign currency,” the Prime Minister said.

However, Tarique said any decision on open-pit mining would take into account the impact on residents, agricultural land and the environment.

“If open-pit mining is required, naturally there are homes and agricultural land there. We will first decide how those people can be properly resettled,” he said.

The Prime Minister also said the government would ensure that affected people’s livelihoods were not disrupted and that they could benefit in some way from the project.

“Any decision will be taken after reviewing all these issues and giving due importance to environmental concerns,” he said. The question-answer session began at 3:30pm, with the first 30 minutes allocated for questions to the Prime Minister. He answered four written questions and six supplementary questions during the session.

Bail in one case, false

But the family considers these police actions to be a major obstacle to implementing the government’s agenda. He is unable to get out of jail even after getting bail from the court due to the fact that the same person is being shown arrested in one case after another. According to them, the legal system of arrest for the sake of investigation is now being used as a tool to detain him for a long time. However, Shahed Ahmed Majumdar is a completely apolitical person.

In this regard, human rights activist Advocate Lalon Hossain said that just as bail is a citizen’s right, repeated arrests undermine that right. Although it is a normal process to show arrests in cases discussed in the larger interest of the nation or in cases of dangerous accused, such behavior with an apolitical person not only deprives his rights but also raises questions about justice. In this regard, Bangladesh Supreme Court lawyer Khandaker Hasan Shahriar said, “Shown arrest is undoubtedly an abuse of police power. It is associated with economic and political reasons. In no civilized country in the world is a person imprisoned before being found guilty. However, in our country, even if he gets bail, he is being imprisoned in the name of ‘shown arrest.’”

This lawyer also said, "If there is another case against the accused on bail or there is an arrest warrant in another case, the investigation officer of the relevant case should know in advance and take legal action accordingly." It is suspicious that the investigation officer should be so aware after someone is granted bail. Whether or not there is a name against anyone in the complaint or a suspect, it should not be shown that someone is arrested in the name of "shown arrest."

After getting bail in a case, if a show arrest is to be shown in a new case, if no witness or accused in that new case is involved in the statement of Section 164 or 161 of the Criminal Procedure Code, it is an abuse of the show arrest law. He also believes that doing so creates an opportunity for some to gain unfairly.

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman said, it is extremely urgent to take effective steps to stop illegal arrest, harassment or practices like 'show arrest' and ensure justice, personal freedom and equal protection of the law for citizens.

'Why harassment even though he is not a politician? The family claims that even though Shahed Ahmed grew up in

After Losing You ! Journalist M. Badol Khandaker

I’ve understood — emptiness is also a kind of home, where no one lives, yet every night the door opens with the sound of someone returning. I sit beside that sound, I know — no one will return; still, waiting has its own stubbornness, it searches for the address of water even on the bed of a dead river. I have nothing of yours left with me... no letter, no photograph, no mark of any promise; only one evening that still doesn’t know how to become sunset inside me. So many people come and go, so many faces are erased in the crowd of time; yet it’s strange... even the attempt to forget you makes me a little more yours, every day. Maybe love doesn’t mean being close... sometimes carrying the absence of a person for an entire lifetime is what love is.



a political family, he was not involved in any kind of politics. Rather, he was more involved in cultural and creative activities. Guitar and rangtuli were his daily companions. The family claims that he has no connection with the cases in which he is shown arrested - he was not even in the area at the time. Bushra Sabah is currently in a helpless state with her two young daughters as her husband has been in prison for a long time. The family alleges that she is fighting alone at the legal and administrative levels for her husband’s release. She has demanded that the matter be investigated quickly to uncover the real facts and ensure justice for Shahed Ahmed. Police statement not available

Although attempts were made to contact Gulshan and Mirpur Model Police Stations to find out about the cases in which Shahed Ahmed was shown under arrest, the officials concerned refused to talk about it. However, Dhaka Metropolitan Police's Media Wing Deputy Commissioner Md. Akhter Hossain suggested discussing the matter with a higher-ranking police officer. Legal action on the arrest.

President stresses more

relations with all countries and expanding bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation, the President said.

He said Bangladesh attaches the highest importance to the principles of independence, sovereignty, national interest, mutual respect and equality in international relations.

The President expressed hope that bilateral relations with the US would be further expanded in the days ahead through mutual respect and protection of shared interests.

The US ambassador reaffirmed his country’s interest in further deepening and broadening its relations with Bangladesh.

The President’s secretaries and senior government officials were present at the meeting.

No fertiliser crisis, nearly

ment while responding to a notice calling attention to matters of urgent public importance raised by National Citizen Party (NCP) lawmaker Akhter Hossen (Rangpur-5) under Rule 71 of the House, drawing attention to alleged syndication, mismanagement and irregularities in fertiliser distribution.

About the stock of fertiliser, Aminur said, “What I am saying is the truth, the truth and the truth.”

Akhter Hossen, in his notice, alleged that an unscrupulous syndicate and distribution mismanagement have created an artificial fertiliser crisis across the country despite repeated claims of adequate government stocks.

He called for breaking the syndicate, cancelling the licences of dishonest dealers, taking exemplary punitive measures and introducing a digital card-based distribution system to ensure that farmers receive fertiliser at fair prices directly.

Following the notice, Deputy Speaker Barrister Kayser Kamal said fertiliser dealerships still exist in the names of deceased dealers and that people from other unions or even different districts continue to hold dealerships in some areas.

He said he has also checked the situation in his own constituency and found similar problems.

The minister said the government has already formulated the Integrated Policy on Fertiliser Dealer Appointment and Fertiliser Distribution, 2026 to make the fertiliser distribution system more farmer-friendly.

Under the new policy, three dealers will be appointed in each union or municipality, he said.

Aminur said there are currently two dealers in each union who are known as master dealers, while the new policy provides for appointing another dealer in every union.

He said there are also ward-based dealers, with some large unions having as many as 16 dealers because of their extensive farmland and large number of farmers.

The minister said changes have also been introduced in the dealer appointment process and a list of dealers accused of various irregularities and violations of the policy is being prepared. “Disciplinary action will be taken against the accused dealers in accordance with the policy,” he said.

He said future dealer appointments and fertiliser distribution will strictly follow the provisions of the 2026 integrated policy and that suitable persons will be appointed as dealers.

Aminur said applications have already been invited for appointing one additional dealer in each union and the deadline, originally set for September 3, has been extended to September 10.

“Applications will reach the central level through the upazila and district administrations within September 10,” he said.

The minister also urged all lawmakers to remain vigilant about any mismanagement in the distribution and sale of fertiliser in their respective constituencies.

“If you keep your eyes and ears open in this regard, I think these wrongdoers will be forced to stop their misdeeds very quickly,” he said.

Defence adviser, Saudi

and overall capabilities of Bangladesh's armed forces. The Defence Adviser thanked the ambassador for the positive progress in the friendly relations between Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia over the years. He expressed hope that the bilateral relations would become closer and stronger in the days ahead.

Bangladesh seeks Japan's

to start the Operational Readiness and Airport Transfer (ORAT) activities as soon as possible for the successful commissioning of the terminal.

He said that the technical and financial evaluation of the proposal submitted by the Japanese Sub-Working Group (SWG) has already been completed. Discussions on this issue will begin next week.

The minister also said that work is underway at the ministry level on the Letter of Assurance for the successful operation of the third terminal. He expressed hope that all the processes will be completed quickly.

Stating that there are more than five hundred heritage tourism spots in Bangladesh, the minister said that the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism and the Ministry of Cultural Affairs are working jointly to develop these tourist centers.

In addition, the government is interested in working with Japan on the basis of public-private partnership to develop Buddhist tourism. Various initiatives are also being taken to create a favorable environment for investment in the tourism sector of Bangladesh by attracting Japanese investors.

At this time, the minister invited proposals from Japanese investors for the development of heritage tourism.

In response, Ambassador Saida Shinichi reiterated Japan's strong commitment to work closely with the Bangladesh government to implement the election manifesto of the current government of Bangladesh.

Andaleeve urges unity

Seeking cooperation from all in developing Bhola, Andaleeve said, “We have to advance the development of Bhola together with everyone.”

The minister said he had not tolerated any irregularities or corruption during his six months as a member of parliament and would continue to maintain the same stance in the future.

“If anyone commits wrongdoing, terrorism, extortion, land grabbing or irregularities using my party or my name, they are not members of my party,” he said, adding that he had never engaged in tender manipulation.

Andaleeve also urged people to lodge written complaints with the office of the Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) regarding irregularities in the implementation of TR and Kabikha programmes, assuring that action would be taken against those responsible.

During his visit, the minister was greeted by leaders and activists of the BNP and Bangladesh Jatiya Party, along with people from different walks of life.

Later, he received a guard of honour from the district police and held a meeting with the deputy commissioner, police superintendent and senior officials of various administrative departments at his residence in Ukil Para.

BNP is the Bearer and

Khaleda Zia, wife of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman and a former three-time Prime Minister, earned the title of an “uncompromising leader” through her long struggle for democracy in Bangladesh. Under her leadership, Bangladesh established itself as a unique and exemplary state on the world map, he claimed. He further said Tarique Rahman, son of Shaheed Ziaur Rahman and Begum Khaleda Zia, led the anti-fascist movement and helped free the country from authoritarian rule. Under his “visionary and farsighted leadership,” Bangladesh is moving towards becoming a model of humane and transformative politics, he claimed.

Calling for unity among party leaders and activists, Aslam Chowdhury said BNP members must work together to advance the country’s development and progress. “There must be no division within the party,” he said.

He also expressed his commitment to developing Sitakunda and the Chattogram-4 constituency as a model of development and presenting it as an example across the country.

The programme was chaired by Dr. Kamal Kader, convener of Sitakunda Upazila BNP, and moderated by its member secretary Mohammad Morshalin.

Among others, the gathering was addressed by Upazila BNP joint conveners Johurul Alam Johur and Md. Salamat Ullah; joint member secretary Fazlul Karim Chowdhury; Sitakunda Upazila Jubo Dal President Shahabuddin Raju and General Secretary Md. Ismail Hossain; Municipal BNP Convener Zakir Hossain and Member Secretary Saleh Ahmed Solu; BNP leaders Yusuf Nizami, Aurangzeb Mostafa, Badiul Alam Badrul, Didarul Islam Mahmud, Nurul Anwar Chairman, Nuruddin and Md. Jahangir Chairman, along with senior leaders of the municipal and upazila BNP and its affiliated and associate organizations.

Following the public gathering, a large procession was held through the streets of Sitakunda municipal area, with the participation of BNP leaders and activists. The day’s programme marking the 48th founding anniversary of BNP concluded after the procession.

Fallen govt's wrong

Policy Dialogue (CPD) in the capital.

He said the uncertainty over global fuel prices and supplies caused by the current situation in the Middle East is also affecting Bangladesh.

"Bangladesh is currently spending around \$11 per unit to import LNG from Qatar. If the country had adequate domestic gas supplies and exploration capacity, energy could have been supplied at a much lower cost," he said.

The adviser said the previous government had increased dependence on imports instead of ensuring national energy security.

"Insufficient gas exploration, lack of development of domestic energy resources and inadequate initiatives to achieve renewable energy targets, including solar power, have contributed to the present situation," he added.

Titumir stressed the need to assess the economic cost of past failures in the energy sector, including the "cost of inaction" and the "cost of wrong doing". He also called for an assessment of money siphoned out of the country and liabilities and debts accumulated in the energy sector.

"These four issues-the cost of inaction, cost of wrong doing, siphoned-off money, and debts and liabilities imposed on the present and future generations-need to be considered together in a comprehensive study," he said.

He urged the Bangladesh Economic Association, universities, think tanks and relevant professional organisations to undertake such research, saying accountability in government spending would be difficult without determining the economic cost of misuse of public money and wrong policies.

The adviser said a structure of oligarchic influence had developed in the country due to past patronage, excessive import dependence and failure to build national capacity in the energy sector. He said the present government is working not only to address the problems inherited from the past but also to ensure future energy security. "Steps have been taken to increase solar power generation, with a target of generating 4,000 megawatts of solar electricity," he said.

Titumir said initiatives had also been taken to turn electricity consumers into producers through net metering. Under a recently issued notification, he said, arrangements are being made to purchase electricity from solar power producers, while various incentives, including VAT and advance income tax exemptions, are being considered for solar power and related equipment.

On healthcare, he stressed ensuring proper utilisation of budgetary allocations, saying health services were being expanded at the upazila level. He said the government plans to develop 150-bed upazila health complexes as well as kidney dialysis centres and coronary care units at the district level.

"Simply increasing allocations for health and education will not be enough. We must also ensure that the allocated funds are properly utilised," he said.

Regarding inflation, Titumir said looting, corruption and irregularities in import and supply systems had previously created pressure on prices. "Although inflation is currently slightly above 8 percent, the target is to gradually bring it down to 6 percent," he said.

He said a package worth around Tk 60,000 crore had been announced to reopen closed factories.

"Agreements have been signed with the concerned banks and financing for these closed industries will begin from September," he said. Titumir also said Chattogram Customs House had collected a record amount of revenue in the last fiscal year.

He urged the media to examine the revenue collection figures, particularly those from mid-February to June 30, to assess the actual performance.

He said the government would present to the public, based on actual results, how

achievable its revenue targets were.

"After completion of the first quarter of the government's activities, detailed information and progress will be presented around mid-October," he added.

Titumir said the government's objective in energy, electricity, revenue, education, healthcare and employment is to overcome past losses and establish an accountable, effective and sustainable state system.

ERF President Daulat Akter Mala chaired the seminar.

National Professor Dr Mahbub Ullah, FBCCI Administrator Fazlul Hoque and CPD Distinguished Fellow Dr Fahmida Khatun attended the seminar as special guests.

Philippines seeks

including the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the two countries aimed at improving the quality of nursing education and enhancing capacity in the sector.

The health minister said the government is working tirelessly to improve the quality of healthcare services in the country to the level of developed countries by equipping hospitals with modern medical equipment.

Sakhawat said the government is working to reform the health system and bring healthcare services to the doorsteps of people at all levels across the country. To this end, various hospitals across the country are being visited to assess the actual situation of healthcare services, he said.

Access to clean energy

the European Union, introduce increasingly ambitious sustainability and environmental requirements.

Additional Secretary and UN Wing Chief at the Economic Relations Division (ERD) A K M Sohel, Chargé d’Affaires of the Embassy of Sweden Olle Lundin, CEO of HSBC Bangladesh Md Mahbub ur Rahman, Deputy Governor of BGMEA Bank Md Sarwar Hossain, Vice President of BGMEA Vidya Khan, Kristina Elinder Liljas of Aii, Kim Hellström of H&M Group and Olivia Windham Stewart of ATTI, among other industry stakeholders, including representatives from the wider Team Sweden network, attended the roundtable.

The roundtable highlighted a shared recognition that Bangladesh has an important window of opportunity.

By accelerating the availability of and access to reliable, competitive and clean energy, the speakers said, Bangladesh can support compliance with evolving international market requirements, respond to global brands’ decarbonisation ambitions, enhance energy security and productivity, and reinforce its position as a preferred and competitive global apparel sourcing destination.

Discussions highlighted that expanding access to clean energy is not only an environmental imperative but also an increasingly important commercial and competitiveness opportunity. Greater availability of reliable and competitively priced renewable energy can help manufacturers reduce emissions and energy costs, respond to the expectations of international brands and markets, attract investment, and further strengthen Bangladesh’s position as one of the world’s leading apparel sourcing destinations, they said.

The discussion was informed by a keynote session combining international research, industry experience and Bangladesh-specific opportunities.

Kristina Elinder Liljas of the Apparel Impact Institute presented findings from Aii’s research on the landscape and opportunities to finance the decarbonisation of Bangladesh’s apparel manufacturing sector.

The research identifies Bangladesh as one of the countries with significant potential to reduce emissions across global apparel supply chains, while highlighting that USD 6.6 billion in investment is required to achieve 50% decarbonisation in the sector by 2030.

Randolph Brazier, Global Head of Clean Power Systems, Global Sustainability, HSBC Holdings PLC, and Justin Wu, Head of Sustainability and Climate Change, Asia and Middle East at HSBC, also presented their views on the clean energy potential for Bangladesh via Zoom.

Stop road construction

Azmi represented the government.

The petitions were filed after reports appeared in the media about construction activities being carried out on the beach dunes despite an earlier court order prohibiting such activities. According to the petitioners, Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB) had earlier filed a writ petition in the public interest seeking protection of Cox’s Bazar beach.

The High Court in 2011 directed the authorities to preserve the natural features of the beach and remove all structures built on the sand dunes.

The petitioners said various structures erected on the dunes had subsequently been removed on two occasions in compliance with court orders.

Despite this, Cox’s Bazar Municipality later undertook a project to construct a road through the beach dunes.





US strike hits wedding in Iran kills 5 wounds at least 68

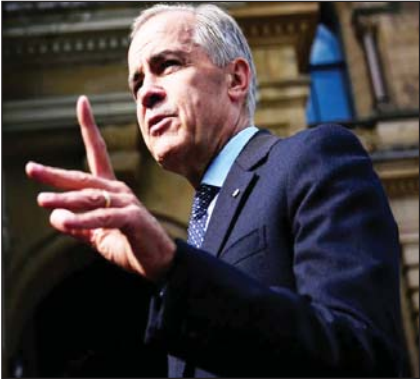
International Desk

The US military struck targets in Iran on Tuesday as Tehran responded with missiles and drones against several locations across the region, marking another escalation in an intermittent war that has continued for more than six months. One of the US strikes hit a home where a wedding ceremony was taking place, killing five people and injuring dozens, according to local officials. US Central Command said Tuesday evening that it had completed its latest round of strikes against Iranian military targets, including air defense positions, radar systems and maritime assets. The attacks followed US strikes on Sunday that ended a month-long pause in military action and raised fears that the conflict could escalate again. The war has contributed to a rise in global oil prices and created political challenges for Republicans ahead of November's midterm congressional elections. US President Donald Trump said late Tuesday that he would not pressure Iran into returning to the negotiating table. "I couldn't care less if they sign a worthless, to them, agreement. I like our position now much better, with almost total control of the Hormuz Strait, and their economy totally collapsing. They are just playing out the inevitable. When are the Iranian people going to rise up and fight?" Trump wrote on social media. Trump had earlier appeared to shift toward pressuring Iran through economic sanctions. He warned that any Iranian retaliation against the latest US strikes would result in an even stronger response. "If they retaliate, they will be hit again at a much harder and higher level," Trump said. US Central Command said the latest strikes were carried out in response to Iranian attempts to target commercial vessels and US forces in the Middle East.

'Stop trying to be tough': Carney hits back at Trump as US-Canada trade dispute escalates

International Desk

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney on Tuesday urged the Trump administration to "stop doing memes, stop throwing shade and stop trying to be tough" as he responded to a fresh round of attacks from Washington amid an escalating trade dispute. Carney said trade negotiations between the United States and Canada could resume if Washington became serious about reaching an agreement. At the same time, he accused the US of seeking terms that could result in Canadian industries being "gradually wound down in Canada and wiped out." "When the Americans stop doing memes, stop throwing shade and stop trying to be tough, and start being serious about having those discussions, we can have those discussions," Carney said. "It's not constructive, but that's their democracy." His remarks came amid renewed criticism from Washington after trade talks between the two countries broke down on Aug. 21. US President Donald Trump has proposed renaming Lake Ontario "Lake America" and mocked Canada on social media. US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent also said Canada could not engage in a "tit for tat" trade dispute with an economy 13 times larger. US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth meanwhile mocked the Canadian military in an online post Monday, sharing an image of two female cadets at a British Columbia training center with the words "this is real" and a Canadian flag. Carney described the post as "beneath their office." The Pentagon stood by the post on Tuesday, saying, "The X post speaks for itself." Bessent, speaking to Fox News, responded to Carney's criticism by saying the Canadian prime minister had received a "verbal beat-down" from him and Hegseth. Asked about Carney's call for the Trump administration to stop "throwing shade" and return to negotiations, Bessent said, "Well, he was the one who said we were at war." Carney said the US negotiating position would have effectively turned Canadian industries into subsidiaries of American com-



panies or imposed conditions under which they would be "gradually wound down in Canada and wiped out." "We're not going to — of course, we're not going to accept those terms," Carney said. The prime minister said Washington was seeking an "uncompetitive" agreement on key sectors, including the automobile industry, while also demanding changes involving French-language and cultural protections. He said any one of those issues would have been sufficient to prevent an agreement. Carney also said Washington wanted restrictions on Canada's ability to negotiate future trade agreements with other countries. "Canada is a sovereign state. We will strike free trade deals with the countries we wish to strike free trade deals," he said. However, Carney acknowledged that the negotiations had included some "mutually beneficial" elements before they collapsed. The prime minister also received a political boost Monday when the Liberal Party won all three special elections, including a decisive victory in Chicoutimi-Le Fjord in Quebec, where the Conservatives finished third. The victories increased the Liberals' strength to 173 seats in the 343-member House of Commons and strengthened Carney's position as he faces Trump over trade and Canadian sovereignty. Nelson Wiseman, professor emeritus of political science at the University of Toronto, said Trump's repeated annexation threats have particular significance in Quebec. "Quebecers have the most to lose in an apocalyptic scenario where the U.S. absorbs Canada, and the status of the French language disappears," he said. The latest trade talks collapsed after the two countries failed to reach an agreement, prompting Trump to impose 50% tariffs on about \$20 billion worth of Canadian goods. Canada's retaliatory tariffs on nearly \$20 billion of US goods are scheduled to take effect Sept. 8, with duties ranging from 15% to 50%. Trump has repeatedly suggested that Canada should become the 51st US state.

Trump gave an additional explanation in a phone interview with Fox News, saying US forces had targeted Iranian radar systems. "They tried to rebuild their radar because they can't see anything," Trump said. "We waited until it was almost built and then we hit it." Following the US attacks, Iran launched ballistic missiles toward Jordan. Iran's Revolutionary Guard claimed the missiles were aimed at a US base on Jordan's Gulf of Aqaba coast, according to Iranian state television. Jordan's military said it intercepted 10 of the missiles, while the other three landed in unpopulated areas. Explosions believed to be interceptions of incoming attacks were seen over Aqaba. Iranian state media reported that US strikes had hit civilian locations along Iran's southern coast, including a civilian airport. A US strike also hit a house in Kuhestak in southern Iran where a wedding was being held, killing five people, including a child, and injuring at least 68 others, Ahmad Nafisi, deputy governor of Hormozgan province, told Iranian state television by phone. "Make no mistake: these crimes will not go unpunished," Ebrahim Azizi, chairman of the Iranian parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, said on X. US Central Command was aware of reports of civilian casualties, Capt. Tim Hawkins, a spokesperson, said. He noted that the reports "originated from Iranian state media." "The US military never targets civilians, unlike the IRGC," Hawkins said. The Kuwaiti Army said on X that its air defenses intercepted drone attacks following what it called "the criminal Iranian aggression." Iran also said it launched a drone attack against US forces in Bahrain, but Bahraini authorities said all the attacks had been intercepted.



China to send 3rd batch of emergency relief supplies to Nepal

International Desk

China is preparing a third batch of emergency relief supplies for Nepal, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun said at a regular press briefing on Wednesday. The second batch of China's emergency relief supplies arrived in Nepal's capital Kathmandu on Tuesday afternoon, along with five DNA identification experts to assist Nepal in carrying out related work. Nepal has expressed appreciation for China's additional emergency assistance and technical support, Guo said. Based on Nepal's needs, China is preparing a third batch of emergency relief supplies, including Bailey bridges, mortuary cabinet, epidemic prevention supplies and emergency communications equipment, Guo said, adding that China will also send a second team of DNA identification experts. Noting that nearly 100 Chinese nationals are missing in disaster-hit areas of Nepal, Guo said that China attaches great importance to the safety of its nationals and institutions in Nepal and is working with the Nepali side to search for missing Chinese nationals and help evacuate those affected to safe areas.

International Desk

Russian drone and missile attacks hit residential and other civilian areas in Ukraine's Kyiv and Odesa regions overnight and Wednesday morning, wounding at least eight people, local officials said. The latest attacks came as Russia and Ukraine traded fresh threats, raising concerns that the nearly five-year war could escalate further. Ukraine's air force said the Kyiv and Odesa regions were among the main targets of the overnight Russian assault. Russia launched 174 attack drones, including around half described as jet-powered drones that are harder to intercept, along with two ballistic missiles and two air-launched missiles, the Ukrainian air force said. In the southern city of Odesa, an attack damaged a 24-story residential building, destroying apartments on several floors. Eight people, including a child, were injured, officials said. Office buildings and two educational institutions were also damaged, while power outages temporarily disrupted electric public transport. In the Kyiv region, a man and a woman were wounded by shrapnel during

EU's Kallas calls alleged Russian drone plot 'state-sponsored terrorism'

International Desk

European Union foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas on Wednesday described an alleged Russian drone attack plot targeting a German airport as "state-sponsored terrorism" as EU countries considered how to respond. The German government on Tuesday blamed Russia for the attempted attack at Leipzig/Halle Airport on Aug. 4, involving a drone carrying explosives. Berlin also announced plans to close a Russian consulate among other measures. The drone was found near a Ukrainian aircraft, and the explosive device was safely defused. German officials said the incident represented a new level of danger. "It is clear that it has all the hallmarks of state-sponsored terrorism. The question is: what do we do about this," Kallas told reporters before chairing a meeting of EU defence ministers in Ireland. Western officials have repeatedly accused Moscow of carrying out sabotage and other disruptive activities across Europe to weaken support for Ukraine and create instability. The EU is already preparing additional sanctions against individuals and organisations linked to Russia's war in Ukraine. Kallas said about 1,600 people and entities linked to Russia's military-industrial complex are already being considered for sanctions, with more potentially to be added. The alleged airport attack and its attribution to Russia could prompt the EU, and possibly NATO, to consider a stronger response. However, European countries remain cautious about



taking steps that could lead to a direct confrontation with nuclear-armed Russia. The EU has already imposed nearly two dozen rounds of sanctions on Russia since its invasion of Ukraine, targeting around 3,000 individuals and organisations. Those targeted include Russian President Vladimir Putin, wealthy businessmen who support him and numerous lawmakers. The sanctions have also targeted Russian banks and financial institutions, as well as hundreds of vessels accused of being part of a "shadow fleet" used to transport oil and support Russia's war effort. Energy companies, drone manufacturers and other businesses have also faced restrictions. Most EU measures involve freezing assets and imposing travel bans. The bloc has also sanctioned individuals and companies in countries accused of supporting Russia, including Belarus, China, Iran and North Korea.

Hong Kong activist Joshua Wong pleads guilty in second national security case

International Desk

Prominent Hong Kong pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong pleaded guilty Wednesday to a charge of conspiring to collude with foreign forces to endanger national security under a Beijing-imposed law. It is the second national security case against Wong, a former student leader and one of the best-known figures of Hong Kong's pro-democracy movement. The national security law was introduced in Hong Kong in 2020 following months of massive anti-government protests in 2019. Authorities say the law is necessary to protect national security and maintain stability, while critics say it has severely restricted political freedoms and silenced dissent. Wong, 29, appeared thinner as he arrived at court wearing a blue shirt. He is expected to be sentenced later. The offense carries a prison term of three to 10 years, while cases considered "of a grave nature" can result in life imprisonment. A guilty plea can lead to a reduced sentence. Wong is already serving four years and eight months in prison after pleading guilty in a separate national security case linked to an unofficial political primary. He had been expected to be released next January before his arrest in June 2025 over the latest charge. Prosecutors alleged that Wong and fellow activist Nathan Law had agreed years ago to seek international support for democratic self-determination in Hong Kong. They said that after the national security law came into effect, Law and other activists who had left Hong Kong continued campaigning overseas by meeting foreign politicians and organizing petitions. According to prosecutors, Wong supported those efforts from Hong Kong by using foreign media and social media, including sharing Law's posts, to encourage other countries to impose sanctions, blockades or other measures against Hong Kong and China. Prosecutors also referred to a Facebook post in which Wong shared an online petition urging digital forensic companies to stop cooperating with Hong Kong police. They said one company later announced that it would stop selling its digital intelligence products to customers in Hong Kong and



mainland China. The prosecution further alleged that Wong claimed in a work report that he had helped end the company's supply of forensic software to police and had contacted foreign companies over their cooperation with the Chinese government. Wong told the court that he agreed with the details presented by prosecutors. Before the hearing, a supporter shouted, "Hang in there," as Wong arrived at court. His friend Louis Lee said Wong had spent his time in prison reading books, studying, learning guitar and exercising. "I believe he and I, or friends outside, we will do our best in our own roles and continue to work hard in our fields," Lee said. Wong first gained public attention in 2012, when he was a high school student leading protests against the introduction of national education in Hong Kong schools. He later became a prominent figure in the 2014 Occupy Movement. In 2016, Wong co-founded the political party Demosisto with other young activists, including Law, who became Hong Kong's youngest lawmaker that year. During the large-scale protests in 2019, Wong sought international support for the democracy movement, including from the United States. Chinese authorities accused him of seeking foreign interference in Hong Kong. Demosisto was dissolved after Beijing imposed the national security law in 2020. Many other prominent activists have also been jailed under the law, including former media tycoon Jimmy Lai, while others have left Hong Kong for countries such as the United States and Britain. Hong Kong authorities have separately offered rewards of 1 million Hong Kong dollars (\$127,600) for information leading to the arrest of Law and other activists living overseas.

Russian attacks wound 8 in Ukraine as Moscow and Kyiv trade threats



morning attacks, officials said. It was the seventh consecutive day of attacks on Kyiv, although Wednesday's assault was less intense than in previous days. The attacks also caused a fire at a warehouse, while an educational facility and a medical practice were damaged. The air war has intensified as the conflict continues, while the front lines in eastern and southern Ukraine remain largely deadlocked and efforts by the United States to broker a peace deal have yet to produce a breakthrough. Late Tuesday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy warned foreign airlines that Russian airspace was becoming increasingly unsafe because of Ukraine's long-range drone attacks. He said continued military pressure was aimed at pushing Moscow toward peace negotiations. Russian President Vladimir Putin, however, accused Zelenskyy of "state terrorism" and rejected the possibility of negotiating with what he described as terrorists. Speaking on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit in Kyrgyzstan, Putin was also asked whether Russia could target British military facilities if the United Kingdom continued supplying weapons to Ukraine.



‘Untold Story’ explores memory, unspoken narratives at AFD

Entertainment Desk

A group art exhibition titled ‘Untold Story’, exploring memory, identity, heritage and the often unspoken dimensions of human experience, was inaugurated at La Galerie of Alliance Française de Dhaka (AFD) in the capital’s Dhanmondi on Tuesday.

Curated by Fareha Zeba, the exhibition brings together artist books and contemporary artworks by a group of artists working across painting, drawing, collage, stitching, textiles, found materials and experimental book forms.

‘Untold Story’ explores memory, unspoken narratives at AFD

Frédéric Inza, French embassy Deputy Head of Mission and Tanvir Ahmed, Managing Director of Sheltech Group and Envoy Legacy attended the inauguration ceremony as guests of honour.

At the heart of the exhibition is the artist’s book, presented not simply as an object to be read but as an intimate artistic space for preserving memories, revisiting personal and cultural histories, and giving form to experiences that often resist conventional language.

The exhibition extends beyond the pages of the books through related artworks, bringing private narratives into the gallery space and creating opportunities for individ-

ual memories to resonate with wider collective experiences.

‘Untold Story’ explores memory, unspoken narratives at AFD

‘Untold Story’ features works by Esha Ahmed, Fouzia Mahin Choudhury, Kazmin Samia, Shulekha Chaudhury, Sumana Akter and Surovi Akter.

Guest artists Alia Kamal, Arpita Singha, Mahmuda Siddika, Rafia Mahjabeen, Rituparna Saha and Venessa Kaiser are also participating in the exhibition.

According to the organisers, the core group of artists explored the theme over the course of a year through the format of artist books, while the guest artists engaged with the concept over a comparatively shorter period.

Their diverse approaches reflect different ways in which memory and lived experiences can be recorded, reinterpreted and expressed through artistic practice.

Rather than presenting a single narrative, ‘Untold Story’ embraces fragmentation, difference and the spaces between what is revealed and what remains concealed, inviting visitors to reflect on how deeply personal stories can often echo experiences shared by many, according to AFD.

The exhibition will remain open to visitors until September 9 at AFD’s La Galerie, daily from 3 pm to 9 pm.

Sunerah going to Venice, along with Bangladeshi film

Entertainment Desk

Dhallywood actress Sunerah Binte Kamal, who came to the limelight after winning the National Film Award in her first film, is now set to step onto a bigger international stage in her career.

Her film ‘The Difficult Bride’ has been selected for the competition section of the world’s most prestigious Venice International Film Festival. Directed by Rubaiyat Hossain, the film marks the first time a Bangladeshi film has made it to the competition section of the Venice Film Festival. Naturally, Sunerah is excited about the matter. She is also going to Venice to participate in the festival with the film’s team. The actress said about her achievement, “This is actually very happy news. Very happy news. It is a matter of joy for everyone in this film. For the country’s cinema as well. I am also going to the Venice Film Festival.”

Zayed Khan finally reaches out to 2 heroines in Canada

Entertainment Desk

At last, Dhallywood actor Zayed Khan was able to approach the two heroines. On August 27, this actor left New York for Ontario, Canada.

He even took pictures while sitting in business class. But due to the weather, the plane could not take off in the end.

Zayed Khan returned after waiting for 9 hours due to lightning. Meanwhile, actresses Adhora Khan and Shirin Shila were waiting for him in Canada. In the meantime, the mahurat of the movie was held.

Zayed Khan participated in the video call. But what is the film’s success without the presence of the hero? The photoshoot is also pending. So, Zayed Khan flew to Ontario again.

Upon reaching Toronto, he started the photoshoot of the film ‘Violence’ with Adhora Khan and Shirin Shila. The film will be shot in Canada.

Zayed Khan said, “I couldn’t come to Canada because my flight was canceled. Now I’ve come and done a photoshoot

with the two heroines. I hope the film will have action, romance, politics, thriller – everything.

The story revolves around Canada.”Adhora Khan has been in Canada for a long time.

Zayed Khan will travel from New York to Canada during the shooting to participate in the work of the movie. He said that the shooting will start soon.

Zayed has been living in New York for a long time. His current work is also focused on America and Canada.

On the other hand, Adhora made her big screen debut in 2018 with movie ‘Nayok’ opposite Bappi Chowdhury. After that, she showed her potential by acting in several movies including ‘Matal’, ‘Pagoler Moto Bhalobashi’, ‘Sultanpur’. Currently, her films ‘Dokhin Duar’ and ‘Ritukamini’ are waiting to release. Meanwhile, Adhora Khan is working on various international projects after moving to Canada in 2025. On the other hand, Shirin Shila has also been living in Toronto for some time. Film ‘Violence’ is being directed by Kamal Hossain Babor.



Misty Jannat confirms marriage

Entertainment Desk

After putting an end to months of speculation, film actress Misty Jannat has finally confirmed that she is married.

The discussion began recently after Misty added a ‘Got Married’ life event to her Facebook profile.



She later clarified the matter in an interview, confirming that she had indeed tied the knot.

However, the actress has now made it clear that the rumours were completely false and that her husband is a businessman.

She does not want to reveal her husband’s name or any further details about his identity.

When asked about the date and venue of the wedding, she said she was not ready to disclose that information either. She only confirmed that the marriage took place in Bangladesh.

Speaking about her husband’s profession, Misty said that he is a businessman and also has some involvement with the media.

The actress revealed that it was a love marriage. Apart from her acting career, Misty Jannat is a dentist by profession. She runs her own dental clinic and regularly treats patients.

The Oscar: Hollywood's most coveted award, surrounded by history and controversy

Entertainment Desk

Winning an Oscar remains one of Hollywood’s highest honours, but the famous golden statuette comes with a long history of mystery, controversy and unusual rules.

The Academy Awards have grown far beyond their modest beginnings in 1929, when the first ceremony reportedly lasted just 10 minutes.

Yesterday, the Oscars are the centre-piece of a huge awards season involving studios, campaign consultants, critics, media outlets, stylists and thousands of people working behind the scenes. The origins of the Academy itself were also far from simple.

Hollywood producer Louis B. Mayer helped establish it at a time when the film industry was trying to improve its public image and strengthen the influence of major studios. Even the origin of the name “Oscar” remains uncertain. One popular story says Academy librarian Margaret Herrick nicknamed the statuette after her uncle, though no one knows for sure who first gave the award its famous name.

Over the years, the Oscars have produced both celebrated choices and controversial decisions. Classic films such as Citizen Kane and Brokeback Mountain lost the Best Picture award, while Crash and Green Book won the top prize. Other acclaimed films, including 2001: A Space Odyssey, Do the Right Thing and Hoop Dreams, were not even nominated for Best Picture.

Acclaimed filmmaker David Lynch, meanwhile, never won a competitive Oscar.

Despite such criticism, an Oscar remains the most widely recognised award in the film industry.



The statuette itself is worth far less than its symbolic value. It costs about \$400 to produce, but studios can spend tens of millions of dollars campaigning for awards. Winning can lead to higher salaries and greater career opportunities, although an Oscar is no guarantee of long-term success.

The trophy also comes with strict ownership rules. Winners of Oscars awarded after 1951 cannot sell or

dispose of their statuettes without first offering them to the Academy for \$1.

The popularity of the Oscars has also changed over the decades. Television audiences have risen and fallen since the ceremony was first broadcast in 1953, while the Academy has repeatedly faced criticism over its membership and lack of diversity.

In 2015, the hashtag #OscarsSoWhite sparked widespread criticism and pushed the Academy to make major changes in its membership.

Critics have questioned the Oscars’ relevance almost since the awards began. Yet the ceremony continues to attract global attention every year.

For Hollywood, the Oscar remains both a symbol of artistic achievement and a reminder of the industry’s flaws — shaped by talent, ambition, money, power and, often, controversy.

Rapper Badshah’s 2nd marriage breaks up

Entertainment Desk

Secret love, a red-clad wedding, and a sudden breakup after five months! The four-year-long fairytale relationship between one of the most popular rappers in the Indian music industry, Badshah, and Punjabi actress Isha Rikhi, seemed to end in an instant.

They have officially decided to separate after just five months of marriage.

The couple recently confirmed the announcement of their separation in a joint statement on their Instagram accounts.

The first wedding picture of Isha’s mother Poonam Rikhi was leaked on social media, which went viral.

Later in July, Isha herself confirmed the news by posting their first official wedding picture on Instagram.



Tribute album on Ayub Bachchu ‘Uttoradhikar’ postponed amid controversy

Entertainment Desk

The tribute album ‘Uttoradhikar’ was an initiative to pay tribute to Bengali rock legend Ayub Bachchu by releasing 20 of his immortal songs.

However, a large section of listeners and Bachchu fans expressed dissatisfaction with the new arrangements and performances of the songs released in the album. Out of respect for the fans’ sentiments and in face of intense criticism, the entire album’s activities have finally been suspended.

This memorial initiative officially began on August 16, the birth anniversary of Ayub Bachchu.

However, the anger started as soon as the first four songs were released on digital platforms. The fans’ main objection was that the original melody and mood were

I don’t need fans who comment on my body, clothes: Priyontee Urbee

Entertainment Desk

Popular small screen actress of this generation, Priyontee Urbee released a reel on Monday about her experience living in a container. The video has received a huge response since its release.

She said that the reel has been viewed by about 7 to 8 lakh people so far.

However, the actress expressed her strong discomfort with some of the comments below the reel.

Urbee clarified her position in a long Facebook post, writing, “Yesterday I uploaded a reel about my experience living in a container.

So far, about 7 to 8 lakh people have viewed the reel. I am truly grateful for the love, interest and beautiful comments from so many people.”

However, she said that some of the comments made her uncomfortable, writing, “But I am really very uncomfortable after reading some people’s comments below that reel. I don’t know what pleasure people find in talking so much about a girl’s body, clothes and personal life.”

Criticising the comments of others about her clothes, body and social media profile, the actress said, “I want to make one thing clear – you do not have the right to decide about my body, my clothes, my Facebook profile. If you don’t like it, don’t watch it, if you don’t like it, unfollow.”

Urbee said that she has published screenshots of the ugly commenters, “I have exposed everyone one by one with screenshots of these comments.

It has occurred to me to send these screenshots to the families, wives, lovers or close people of those who are writing these things.”

Explaining the reason for this, she wrote, “Because

many times people use the same language that they would not speak to their own mothers, sisters or wives, about another girl on social media.”

Priyontee Urbee also expressed concern about such behaviour for society and future generations.

In her words, “But what is the future of the girls in this country? What are we teaching our children? If we have to hear such language about a girl from many of them who study in schools and colleges, it is really scary.”

She said about her religious identity and personal life, “I am a Muslim. I believe in Allah, I pray, I fast. I am married.”

Expressing her disappointment about the situation in the country and society, she also wrote, “Sometimes I really think what sin I committed before birth that I was born in Bangladesh? I may be saying this out of anger and pain, but after reading some of the comments, I feel very helpless about my country and society.”

The actress also prayed for the ugly commenters, “I only pray to Allah that Allah may guide them and protect

me from ever being like them.

Because I feel ashamed, disgusted, and very uncomfortable reading these comments.

What I post on my Facebook is my decision. If you like it, you will see it, if you don’t like it, you won’t see it. I expect this much respect.”

Addressing the followers who make nasty comments, she further said, “Honestly, I don’t need fans or followers who will follow me just to make nasty comments about my body, clothes or personal life.”

Urbee added, “It’s better for me to have no followers than to have such followers. Lots of love to you who love me, support me. Thank Allah, he didn’t give me birth with such a dirty mentality.”





Man City sign Fernandez, Ndiaye as Premier League clubs set new spending record

Sports Desk

Premier League clubs shattered their record of £3.1 billion (\$4.2 billion) in transfer fees in one window on deadline day as Manchester City splashed out £125 million to Chelsea for Enzo Fernandez and signed Iliman Ndiaye. City spearheaded a frantic final day of spending as they aim to arm Enzo Maresca with a squad capable of winning the Premier League for the first time in three seasons. Fernandez, who previously thrived under Maresca at Chelsea, has been linked with a move to the Etihad for months. But it took until the final hours before the 2200 GMT deadline for an agreement to be reportedly struck with the fee for the Argentine to match the British transfer record that Liverpool paid for Alexander Isak on the final day of the window last year. Fernandez will form a completely revamped City midfield alongside England international Elliot Anderson and Moroccan Ayyoub Bouaddi, who themselves cost over a combined £200 million. "He is a complete midfielder: technically gifted, hardworking, tenacious and a goalscorer," said City's director of football Hugo Viana. City also added Senegal forward Ndiaye from Everton in a deal worth £65 million to bolster their forward options. "I've worked my whole life for an opportunity like this," said Ndiaye. "To be able to write my own chapter in a story that special is the chance of a lifetime and I'm determined to grab it with both hands." Chelsea's bid to replace Fernandez with Monaco's Lamine Camara collapsed when the French side reportedly pulled out of the deal. The Blues did agree a £40 million deal to sign 18-year-old Honest Ahanor from Atalanta from 2027, with the Italy defender spending this season on loan at Crystal Palace. Champions Arsenal, by contrast, had a quiet deadline day after



their pursuit of Atletico Madrid's Julian Alvarez fizzled out. The Gunners had been rivalling Barcelona for the Argentine's signature, but the Spanish champions instead turned to Arsenal to fill their need for a forward with the signing of Gabriel Jesus. "I had a chance 10 years ago and life took me in another direction, but now I can be here and it's a dream for me," said Jesus. - Liverpool frustrated - Liverpool splashed out on France forward Bradley Barcola on Monday, spending £123 million to lure him from Paris Saint-Germain. But the Reds' attempts to further add to their squad look to have been frustrated with bids for Crystal Palace's Ismaila Sarr and Brighton's Yankuba Minteh knocked back, meaning Cody Gakpo is set to stay despite interest from City and Tottenham. Liverpool did complete the signing of Belgian goalkeeper Lucca Brughmans, but the 18-year-old will be loaned back to Genk for the rest of the season. Ibrahim Mbaye was another wide player linked with a move to Anfield, but he has instead joined Aston Villa for a reported £47 million. Mbaye played 31 times in all competitions for PSG last season as the French club won the Champions League and the Ligue 1 title. Villa also bolstered their defence by signing Southampton centre-back Taylor Harwood-Bellis in a £29 million deal. Tottenham secured a loan move for Chelsea winger Mykhailo Mudryk after missing out on Ndiaye and Gakpo, and a £7 million swoop for his Blues team-mate Tosin Adarabioyo. Jack Grealish rejoined Everton on loan after his spell with David Moyes's men last season. Everton are still hopeful of adding United States international Folarin Balogun from Monaco. Newcastle landed Belgium forward Matias Fernandez-Pardo from Lille in a £51 million swoop. The Magpies, who are rebuilding following the close-season departures of Anthony Gordon, Bruno Guimaraes and Sandro Tonali, have also sent German striker Nicolas Woltemade on loan to Juventus.

Confident Gauff reaches US Open 2nd round with straight-set win

Sports Desk

Coco Gauff opened her 2026 US Open campaign with a solid straight-set win over Turkey's Zeynep Sonmez that showcased her improved serve. The fourth-seeded Gauff, who won the New York Grand Slam in 2023, was broken only once to top the 53rd-ranked Sonmez 6-3, 6-4 in a hard-hitting battle fought mostly from the baseline. "It's incredible to be back on this court," an exuberant Gauff told the on-court interviewer. "I love playing in this atmosphere." Gauff, whose service woes last year prompted a dramatic coaching change days before the tournament and contributed to a fourth round exit, came into Flushing Meadows this time feeling much better about the stroke, having won the WTA 1000 event in Cincinnati this month. Gauff said she had worked make the toss more consistent under the tutelage of bio-



mechanics expert Gavin Macmillan, who previously helped Aryna Sabalenka retool her serve, improvements that helped the Belarussian rise to number one. "It's been a gradual change with the serve," Gauff said. "Slowly it's adapting to maybe the way it should look." The American star blazed through the opening set without facing a break point, with Sonmez often unable to return Gauff's serve or offering only a weak reply that could be batted off easily. Gauff broke early in the second set, but the Turkish player raised the level of her game with heavy ground strokes and sneaky forays to the net to finish points with deft volleys. Sonmez broke back for 2-2 and briefly took the lead. But at 2-3, Gauff fought off multiple break points in a lengthy game that the American eventually nabbed with another big serve. Gauff called the hold for 3-3 as "real important". "I like to challenge my opponent to let them keep up the level the whole match, and if they do, you know I clap my hands and I walk off court with my head held high," Gauff said. "But I was able to settle down." Gauff has drawn confidence "just knowing that it does take a lot maybe to break me," she told reporters, saying of the key service game in the second set, "I knew if I could hold that game, I felt confident breaking the next game."



Sri Lanka name two new players for England white-ball tour

Sports Desk

Sri Lanka Cricket on Wednesday named two new players in their white balls squads to tour England this month for three T20 internationals and three one-day games. Sachindu Colombage, 28, who has not played international cricket, has been included in the 16-member ODI squad. All-rounder Tharindu Ratnayake, 30, who has played two Tests, was named in the 16-man T20 squad. The first T20 is on September 16 at Southampton, with the second two days later in Cardiff. The final T20 is on September 19 at Manchester. The ODI series begins on September 22 at Chester-le-Street, followed by matches at Headingley on September 24 and The Oval on September 27. Sri Lanka one-day squad: Kusal Mendis (capt), Pathum Nissanka, Kamil Mishara, Kamindu Mendis, Charith Asalanka, Janith Liyanage, Pavan Rathnayake, Dasun Shanaka, Wanindu Hasaranga, Dunith Wellalage, Maheesh Theekshana, Sachindu Colombage, Dushmantha Chameera, Eshan Malinga, Asitha Fernando, Dilshan Madushanka Sri Lanka T20 squad: Kusal Mendis (capt), Pathum Nissanka, Kamil Mishara, Lahiru Udara, Kamindu Mendis, Charith Asalanka, Janith Liyanage, Dasun Shanaka, Dunith Wellalage, Wanindu Hasaranga, Maheesh Theekshana, Tharindu Rathnayake, Dushmantha Chameera, Eshan Malinga, Nuwan Thushara, Binura Fernando.

Khaled joins Hasan at Kent for County Championship run-in

Sports Desk

Bangladesh fast bowler Khaled Ahmed has signed for Kent for the last four matches of their County Championship season. In his first County assignment, he will bowl alongside compatriot Hasan Mahmud. Kent announced the deal on Tuesday, subject to regulatory approval, as the club chase promotion from Division Two. The 32-year-old right-arm seamer joins Hasan, who is back at Canterbury after an earlier spell this season. Hasan took 12 wickets in two matches in June, including 9-101 against Lancashire at Stanley Park, before leaving for international duty. "It's an honour for me to play county cricket and join a club with a big history such as Kent," Khaled said. "This is an important part of our season and I am determined to help the team achieve promotion." He added that Hasan and his agent had spoken well of the club, which made the decision an easy one. Khaled made his first-class debut for Sylhet in 2015 and has 190 wickets from 70 matches. He has taken 34 wickets in 18 Tests since making his debut for Bangladesh in 2018. Kent are second in Division Two, level on points with Northamptonshire and 40 points behind leaders Durham. Director of cricket Simon Cook said the club had been looking for another bowler to add depth for the closing weeks. "With three of our final four games at home, we can stick with a formula that worked well in the first half of the year, while also having the flexibility to rest and rotate our frontline bowlers," Cook said.



Real Madrid's Asencio convicted of drink-driving as legal troubles mount

Sports Desk

Real Madrid defender Raul Asencio looks dejected after losing the Spanish Super Cup final against FC Barcelona at King Abdullah Sports City Stadium in Jeddah on January 12, 2026. Photo: Reuters Real Madrid defender Raul Asencio was convicted of drink-driving in Gran Canaria in August, a court source confirmed to AFP on Wednesday. The 23-year-old centre-back was more than three times over the legal limit and fined 14,400 euros (\$16.7k), while his driving licence was suspended for eight months. Tap here to add The Daily Star as a trusted source google-preferred-source-badge Asencio was convicted in a trial held in San Bartolome de Tirajana, a village in Gran Canaria, after the incident on August 16. Asencio, who is from the Canary Islands, was not with Jose Mourinho's Real Madrid squad at the time because he was still recovering from a hamstring injury he suffered at the end of July. This week, Asencio is due to face another court case in Gran Canaria, involving the alleged non-consensual sharing of a sexual video dating back to 2023.

Balogun reportedly scraps transfer to Everton



Sports Desk

Folarin Balogun didn't end up joining Everton of the Premier League on Tuesday at the transfer deadline, and multiple media reports indicated that the United States men's national team forward was the one who withdrew from the proposed move. AS Monaco, Balogun's current team, and Everton reportedly were in discussions for several days, and the 25-year-old striker headed to Liverpool to take his physical exam with Everton. Tap here to add The Daily Star as a trusted source google-preferred-source-badge According to The Athletic, Everton spotted something in the medical exam that prompted a renegotiation with Monaco over the transfer fee. Everton requested an extension of the transfer deadline to complete the move, but then Balogun opted not to continue with the move, per multiple media reports. The amount of the transfer would have been between \$53.2 million and \$54 million, with add-ons of around \$5.8 million, The Athletic reported.

Balogun scored twice in the United States' opening victory of the World Cup against Paraguay then added a goal in the round of 32 against Bosnia and Herzegovina. In that latter match, Balogun was shown a red card in the 64th minute, a decision that wound up making international waves. Controversy ensued when Balogun's one-game suspension was lifted and he was able to play in the United States' round of 16 match against Belgium. President Donald Trump announced that he had called FIFA president Gianni Infantino to appeal on Balogun's behalf, though Infantino denied Trump had anything to do with the decision to reinstate Balogun. The U.S. lost 4-1 to the Belgians and were eliminated from the World Cup. Over the past three seasons with Monaco, Balogun scored 31 goals with nine assists in 91 matches (67 starts) across all competitions. He played in the Premier League with Arsenal during the 2021-22 season and had loan spells at Middlesbrough in the English Championship and Reims in France before his move to Monaco. A native of England to Nigerian parents, Balogun was born in New York, which qualified him to play for the United States. He has scored 12 goals across 31 matches for the USMNT since 2023. Balogun's near-move to Everton came after various reports in the offseason indicated potential moves to Tottenham, Aston Villa, Barcelona, Paris Saint-Germain, Sunderland and Crystal Palace.

Top seed Zverev avoids upset in five-set thriller

Sports Desk

Top seed Alexander Zverev survived a huge scare at the U.S. Open after overcoming Italian Lorenzo Sonego 6-4 3-6 6-7(7) 7-5 6-4 in a first-round thriller that lasted almost five hours and stretched into the early hours of Wednesday. Zverev arrived in New York as a major champion for the first time after his French Open triumph in June and is widely seen as the man to beat with world number one Jannik Sinner absent and defending champion Carlos Alcaraz recently returning from injury. Tap here to add The Daily Star as a trusted source google-preferred-source-badge Zverev converted only one of seven break-point opportunities in winning the opening set before world number 89 Sonego responded in the second, breaking early and shifting the momentum before serving out to love and sealing the set with an ace. A back-and-forth third set went to a tiebreak, where a double fault from Zverev handed Sonego the opening he needed to move ahead 2-1. After the pair traded breaks in the fourth, Zverev found himself two points away from defeat before securing a crucial hold and breaking serve to force a deciding set. Zverev completed the turnaround as Sonego ran out of steam, the German happy to avoid becoming the first top seed to lose in the first round of a Grand Slam since Lleyton Hewitt in 2003 at Wimbledon. Zverev will next face Frenchman Quentin Halys.



"I'm just happy I won, that's it," Zverev said. "I think it was an incredible battle, lots of ups and downs, nearly five hours. I think it was my longest first-round match at a Grand Slam. "He would have beaten a lot of players but I'm happy to be through. "I'm happy I won this kind of battle and it was exactly what I needed ... good things happen after you fight through these matches." Zverev will next face Frenchman Quentin Halys.

Bangladesh signs Brighton and Helsinki Declaration

Sports Desk

Bangladesh signed the Brighton and Helsinki Declaration on Wednesday, marking a significant step towards promoting equal rights, safety and participation for women in sport. Bangladesh Women's Sports Association president Barrister Sarwat Siraj Shukla signed the declaration at a Dhaka hotel. Lisa O'Keefe MBE, secretary general of the International Working Group on Women & Sport, joined the ceremony virtually from the UK. Shukla said the declaration would provide a framework for making sport safer, more inclusive and professional for women while creating greater opportunities for Bangladeshi female athletes. "This is a historic milestone in taking women's sport to international standards and ensuring equal opportunities, safety and participation," she said. O'Keefe described Bangladesh's decision as a "groundbreaking step" towards advancing and empowering women in sport and encouraged other national federations to follow suit.

From Hollywood to big time tennis teen makes US Open debut

Sports Desk

Thea Frodin is just 17 but she has already appeared in one of Hollywood's most iconic tennis movies. On Tuesday, the Los Angeles high school student got a taste of big-time pro tennis. Frodin, who appeared in the Oscar-winning film "King Richard" as a body double for the actress who played a young Serena Williams, drew a tough assignment for her US Open main draw debut: Australian Open champion Elena Rybakina. Seeded second, Rybakina eased past Frodin 6-3, 6-2 in a big-hitting match. Rybakina, who has also won Wimbledon, did not lose serve in the one hour 14 minute contest. "Obviously I had a tough first round. Rybakina is a great player," said Frodin, whose run to the US national 18 and under championship won her a wild card to the US Open. "I tried going out there to see what it would be like just to, I guess, feel no pressure ... just go out there and have a fun time," Frodin said. "I feel like that's what I accomplished, and obviously I have a lot to learn, but I'm excited with most of the things I did out there." Rybakina for one was impressed, saying Frodin "played really well yesterday." As a 12-year-old, Frodin was the stunt and body double for



Demi Singleton, the actress who played young Serena in the movie depicting Richard Williams and the rise of his daughters Serena and Venus Williams. Frodin, who has not met Serena Williams but hopes to, has not yet settled on whether she might go to college or seek a professional career. "I think I'm trying to just finish high school, see where the rest of this year takes me," Frodin said. "I'm not rushing into kind of making a decision with all that." But Frodin is looking forward to getting another crack at Rybakina. "Hopefully the next time I meet her, if I do, I can be more experienced and, yeah, see what I can do," Frodin said.

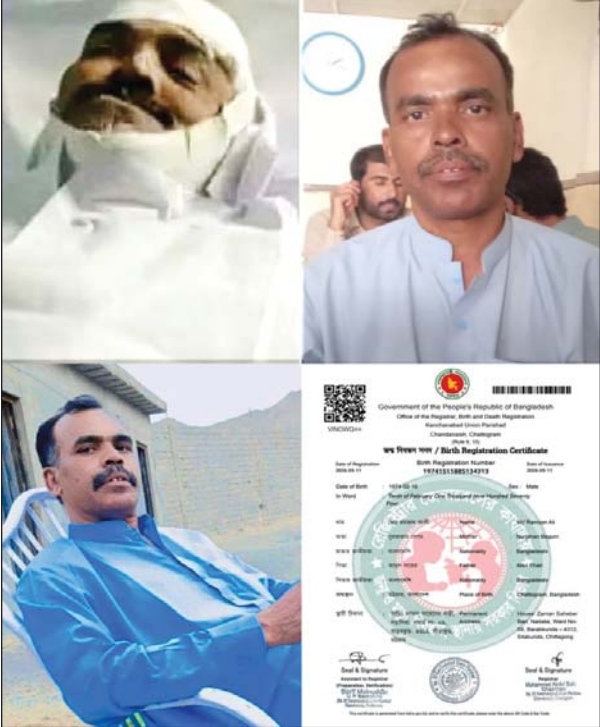


Sitakunda’s Ramzan Ali Killed in Gun Attack in Pakistan

Dreamed of Returning Home After 35 Years, Wished

Md. Omar Faruk | Special Correspondent

Ramzan Ali, aged around 55, a resident of Nodalia village under Barabakunda Union in Sitakunda upazila of Chattogram, has been killed in a shooting incident in Pakistan. According to his family, he was shot dead in a surprise attack by unidentified attackers on Sunday night. Ramzan Ali was the second son of late Abul Khayer of Nodalia village. According to family members, he went to Pakistan around 35 years ago in search of a livelihood and had been working at a textile mill there for many years. However, he had not been in regular contact with his relatives in Bangladesh. His sister, Mili Akter, said Ramzan used to speak to their parents over the phone occasionally while they were alive. After their deaths, he had very little communication with his relatives in Bangladesh for nearly the past eight years. Recently, Ramzan had become eager to return to Bangladesh. His family said he had also applied to the Bangladesh Embassy regarding his return. The matter was later forwarded to Sitakunda Police Station for verification of his address. Local sources said the District Special Branch (DSB) conducted an inquiry at his village home and submitted a report. One of his brothers and two sisters currently live at the family home. Family members said Ramzan was expected to return to Bangladesh within this week if everything went according to plan. He had also expressed his desire to get married and start a family after returning home. His sisters had already begun looking for a suitable bride



for him. Mili Akter said Ramzan had told her over the phone that after returning home following 35 years abroad, he wanted to visit and pray at his parents' graves. However, that long-awaited dream came to an end before he could return to his homeland. The family is now trying to bring Ramzan Ali's body back to Bangladesh and bury him beside his parents' graves. His sister Mili Akter has sought assistance from the Bangladesh government in bringing the body home. The family has also urged the Bangladesh Embassy and the relevant authorities to take immediate necessary steps and provide all possible assistance in repatriating Ramzan Ali's body to Bangladesh.

KDA chairman calls for concerted efforts to combat dengue outbreak
Khulna Correspondent

Khulna Development Authority (KDA) Chairman Advocate SM Shafiqul Alam Mona yesterday urged all to coordinate in combating the dengue outbreak. He said fighting the Aedes-borne disease is a collective responsibility, requesting all quarters regardless of political entities, social and voluntary organizations for the cause. The KDA chairman came up with the request for coordinated efforts while inaugurating a dengue prevention and mosquito-control campaign here. He, however, noted that the dengue situation in Khulna as 'extremely alarming' and government and private hospitals are 'overcrowded' with patients. Shafiqul, therefore, stressed extensive public awareness to destroy breeding grounds of Aedes mosquitoes. He urged city dwellers to keep their houses and surroundings clean and remove stagnant water and other potential breeding grounds for Aedes mosquitoes. Mosquito-control and cleanliness drives should not remain confined to specific areas, he said, requesting to destroy every possible hotspot in and outside offices, court premises and hospital compounds across the city. "Protecting public health is a collective responsibility. Everyone concerned should be encouraged to continue social and welfare activities from their respective positions," he said.

Woman hacked with sharp weapon and robbed in Rajapur

Md. Ahid Saiful, Rajapur, Jhalakathi Correspondent

In Rajapur, Jhalokathi, an unidentified thief broke into two apartments in a building late at night. During the incident, he hacked a woman with a sharp weapon, injuring her, and fled with 9 ana worth of gold jewelry and Tk 5,000 in cash. The door to an apartment on the 3rd floor of the same building, belonging to a madrasa teacher, was also found open. However, it has not been confirmed whether anything was stolen from that apartment. The incident occurred around 3:00 AM on Tuesday night at the building of Fokir Kawoyum Hossain in the Adorshopara area of the upazila headquarters. The injured woman, Nowreen (24), is a tenant on the 4th floor of the building. She is the daughter of Md. Moslem Molla of Ulaniya village in Galachipa Upazila, Patuakhali. Nowreen and her husband Md. Shahin Hossain (29) both work at the local Sohag General Hospital. Speaking to police and the building owner, it was learned that at the time of the incident Nowreen's husband was at work on the night shift. Her mother-in-law was also away visiting, so Nowreen was alone in the apartment. At some point during the night, the thief entered the house through the empty space where an exhaust fan was installed in the kitchen. When Nowreen noticed the thief, she screamed and tried to stop him. At that point the thief locked the door from inside. He then attacked her with a vegetable-cutting knife from the kitchen, cutting her face, hands and other parts of her body and leaving her bleeding. Later he locked her in a room and fled the



same way, taking 9 ana of gold jewelry and Tk 5,000 in cash. Meanwhile, the door to the apartment of madrasa teacher Monoz on the 3rd floor of the same building was also found open. However, no confirmed information is available on how the door was opened, whether the thief entered that apartment, or if anything was stolen from there. While injured, Nowreen called her husband on her mobile phone. Her husband then called 999, and Rajapur Police Station quickly arrived at the scene. With the help of the building owner and other tenants, the police broke down the door and rescued Nowreen. Around 3:45 AM, she was taken to Sohag General Hospital, where doctors provided primary treatment. She received 5 stitches on her right hand and 3 stitches on her right leg. She is currently receiving treatment at the hospital. Rajapur Police Station OC. Sujan Biswas said, legal action is underway regarding this incident. Police are also working to identify and arrest those involved.

RMP to ensure beat policing and people-friendly services

Rajshahi Correspondent

Rajshahi Metropolitan Police (RMP) has taken steps to strengthen beat policing to build it public friendly. RMP Commissioner Mohammad Faizul Kabir in meeting with police officers at RMP headquarters yesterday urged the officers to strengthen beat policing. In the meeting, detailed discussion and review were held on ongoing beat policing activities at thana level, anti-narcotics drives, public engagement with police, crime control, identifying and resolving existing obstacles in law enforcement, and providing prompt and desired policing services to the general public. RMP Commissioner Faizul Kabir said that speedy and harassment-free policing services must be ensured for the people. He emphasized maintaining professionalism, responsibility and people-friendly behavior in every action of police. He further said that there is no scope for police to intervene in land or property related disputes. However, the safety of people's lives and property must be ensured. He asked for speedy disposal of various complaints and General Diaries (GD) through proper verification and investigation. Besides, he asked for freeing city roads and footpaths from illegal occupation of hawkers to keep the public movement smooth.



Distribution of saplings to members of the cooperative society in Fakirhat

S A Kalam Fakirhat

Saplings have been distributed to members of the cooperative society by the Fakirhat Upazila administration in Bagerhat. On Wednesday (2 September) at 11 am, the Upazila Executive Officer, Mr. Rokunuj Zaman, distributed the saplings to the members at the Upazila Parishad auditorium courtyard. At this time, the Upazila Cooperative Officer, Milan Kumar Das, along with various members of the cooperative societies, were present. According to relevant sources, on this day, a total of 400 fruit, timber, and medicinal saplings were distributed to 200 members of 7 cooperative societies, including the Aastha Women's Cooperative Society, Green Agriculture Cooperative Society, Gabkhali Fishermen's Cooperative Society, Nabajibon Savings and Loan Cooperative Society, Fakirhat Upazila Indigenous Peoples Cooperative Society, Probaho Savings and Loan Cooperative Society, and Maskata Sub-Project Water Management Cooperative Society.

Journalist Nijamuddin Majumder Sojib Attacked by Mob in Chhagalnaiya, Feni

A.N.M.Nurul Amin. Chagallniya.

Journalist Nijamuddin Majumder Sojib came under attack by a mob in Chhagalnaiya, Feni, leaving him injured. The incident took place around 8:00 PM on Tuesday, August 25, in front of the Bijman Market area. He worked Electronic media Mohona TV. According to local sources, a group of 15 to 20 youths unlawfully gathered and created a mob atmosphere before launching an assault on journalist Sojib. Following the attack, he was immediately rescued by local residents and taken to the Chhagalnaiya Upazila Health Complex, where he received necessary medical treatment for his injuries. The sudden attack on a working journalist in broad daylight has sparked widespread outrage among local media professionals and civil society members. Local journalist associations have strongly condemned the violence and demanded the swift identification and arrest of all individuals involved in the incident.



Climate justice, gender equality can be ensured thru youth leadership: speakers

Rajshahi Correspondent

Highlighting the importance of the Divisional Youth Festival, speakers unanimously said it is urgent to bring the voices of the people most affected by climate change to the decision-making level. Because climate change is not only affecting the environment, it is also deepening existing social and gender inequalities. Therefore, to ensure climate justice and gender equality, the knowledge, innovative power and leadership of the youth must be utilized. Without the effective participation and initiative of the youth, sustainable climate justice and gender equality cannot be ensured. Administrative officials and other stakeholders made these things while speaking at the closing ceremony of the divisional 'Tarunya Utshab' on climate justice and gender equality at the auditorium of New Government Degree College, Rajshahi this afternoon. Deputy Commissioner Kazi Shahidul Islam addressed the event as the chief guest, saying government initiatives alone are not enough to deal with the impacts of climate change. The knowledge, innovation, creativity and social responsibility of the youth must be effectively integrated. The new generation must not only become aware of environmental and climate issues but also identify problems in their respective areas and lead in solving them. He further said climate adaptation and sustainable development are not possible without the participation of women. If equal participation of women and youth is ensured at all levels of family, society and the state, it will be possible to build a just and climate-resilient society. The civic organisation DASCOH Foundation and



Barendrabhumi Social Development Organisation jointly organised the festival. The closing ceremony of the festival, organised under the theme "Sustainable climate justice and gender equality will be ensured through the advancement of youth initiatives", was presided over by Professor Dr. Shikha Sarker, Principal of New Government Degree College. District Coordinator Madan Das presented the main article from Rajshahi. Deputy Director of Rajshahi Department of Women's Affairs Israt Jahan, Vice-Principal of the college Prof. Motiur Rahman, Executive Director of BSDO Abdur Rouf, Fund Management Expert Aziza Asfin and Deputy Director of Wave Foundation Kaniz Fatema spoke at the event. Earlier on Tuesday, quiz and extempore speech competitions on climate, gender equality, education, history and various contemporary issues were held with the participation of about two hundred students of the college. On the closing day, a panel discussion was held with young climate champions from Rajshahi and Naogaon districts. In it, various youth-led initiatives on climate and gender equality in Charghat, Tanore, Godagari, Mahadevpur, Manda and Sapahar upazilas were highlighted. In addition, the festival featured an 'Idea Competition', wall magazine exhibition, and Gambhira performances on climate change and women's development. Later, prizes were distributed among the winners of the quiz, extempore speech and idea competitions. Under the leadership of Wave Foundation, a consortium of several development organisations is implementing the "Gender Equality Transforms Climate Action (GETCA)" project in five districts of Rajshahi and Barisal divisions.

Rangpur Correspondent

This season, enthusiastic farmers have produced 6,64,970 bales of jute after completing the harvesting and fiber separation work last week in all five districts of the Rangpur agricultural region. Officials from the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) said that the 6,64,970 bales of jute produced this season are 4,049 bales more than the last year's production of 6,60,921 bales. Meanwhile, farmers across the region are pleased with the excellent jute harvest this year and the good profits they make from selling their produced fibers in the local market. Assistant Director of the Department of Jute for Rangpur region Tarana Afroj Shajoni yesterday told that in the local market, Tosha variety fibre is being sold for Taka 4,000 to Taka 4,200 per mound (40 kg) and Kenaf variety fibre for Taka 5,100 to Taka 5,200 per mound. Earlier, the DAE had fixed a target of farming 'Tosha', 'Deshi', 'Mechta' and Kenaf varieties of jute on 49,930 hectares of land for all five districts of Rangpur, Gaibandha, Kurigram, Lalmonirhat and Nilphamari in the region this season. However, farmers had finally cultivated jute on 50,708 hectares of land (excluding the damaged crop on 84 hectares by floods), exceeding the set farming target by 778 hectares this time. Additional Director of DAE for Rangpur region Agriculturist Md Sirajul Islam told that for the first time in recent years, farmers had exceeded the set farming target of the 'golden fibre of jute' in the region this season. With consistent good yields and attractive prices for jute in recent years, farmers have shown keen interest in cultivating the cash crop this season, resulting in exceeding the cultivation



target in the region. "Farmers had mostly cultivated high yielding varieties of jute on more land area this season and got a better production of the fibre crop," he said. The DAE also provided necessary training to farmers to separate and decompose jute fibre in case of water shortage so that they could ensure better quality to get high prices for the golden fibre. "After completing harvest of the fibre crop last week, farmers have produced 6,64,970 bales of the fibre crop at an excellent average yield rate of 13.11 bales per hectare," said Sirajul Islam. Apart from reaping good profits from selling the fibre at better rates and jute straws at Taka 800 per mound, farmers benefit from jute cultivation, because after harvesting, its leaves and deep roots decompose into organic fertilizer that improves soil health and fertility.

Independence Award 2018 Medal (food security) awardee Agriculturist Dr MA Mazid said most farmers had produced high-quality jute fibre by rotting jute plants in water bodies and adopting the ribbon retting method amidst relatively less rainfall this season. "The demand for jute has increased considerably as a result of ensuring mandatory use of jute bags in various sectors and jute cultivation becoming more profitable for farmers in recent years," he mentioned. Talking to farmer Mofizar Rahman and Majibar Rahman of village Dolapara in Taraganj upazila of Rangpur said that he got an excellent yield at better price of Tosha variety of jute this season. Similarly, jute growers Aftab Hossain, Jashim Uddin and Borhan Uddin of different villages in Rangpur said they got bumper yields of Tosha variety fibre and sold the fiber at rates between Taka 3,900 and Taka 4,200 per mound.

Fatikchhari Housewife’s Death Sparks Murder Case; Husband Missing

Jahangir Alam, Staff Reporter

A wave of sensation has spread across Fatikchhari, Chattogram, following the mysterious death of a newlywed housewife named Samiha Hakim Neha (19). The incident took place late Tuesday (September 1) night in the Kandirpar area of Sundarpur Union. The victim's husband, Maruf Parvez, has been absconding since the incident. Upon receiving the news, Fatikchhari Police recovered the body from the scene. In connection with the incident, the victim's mother, Rupa Akter, filed a murder case with the police station, naming two individuals, including the victim's husband, along with 3 to 4 unidentified suspects. The deceased, Samiha Hakim Neha, was the daughter of Lokman Hakim from Raju Sultan's house in Ward No. 4 of Fatikchhari Municipality. According to family and local sources, Neha had been subjected to physical and mental



torture by her husband, Maruf Parvez, ever since their marriage. Despite repeated objections and warnings from relatives, the abuse did not stop. The victim's mother, Rupa Akter, alleged, "My daughter was brutally tortured to death. Now, they are attempting to stage a suicide drama to cover up the crime." She demanded a neutral investigation into the murder and exemplary punishment for those involved. Rabiul Alam Khan, Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Fatikchhari Police Station, stated that police recovered the body late Tuesday night after being informed. A case has been registered based on the written complaint lodged by the victim's mother. He further added that following legal procedures, the body was sent to the Chattogram Medical College (CMC) Hospital morgue on Wednesday morning for an autopsy. The exact cause of death will be confirmed once the autopsy report is received. Police are conducting drives to arrest the accused.