



He urged parents to recognise and nurture the individual qualities of their children instead of putting them under pressure to pursue only conventional academic activities.

"I want you to complete what I could not," he told the children, recalling his own childhood interest in playing the guitar and keyboard.

The Prime Minister said many children have talents in drawing, recitation, music, dance and other creative activities, and urged them to develop those talents fully.

He said the government wants children to have exposure to arts and culture alongside sports

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Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's wife and Vice-President of the Ziaur Rahman Foundation Dr Zubaida Rahman today called for creating opportunities for every child to realise and showcase their immense potential, ensuring a safe childhood and a secure future for them. "Every child has immense potential with them. They must be given the opportunity to express that talent. With renewed enthusiasm and new initiatives, In Sha Allah, you will succeed," she said. Dr Zubaida was addressing a discussion organised at Bangladesh Shishu Academy here marking Children's Rights Day 2026 and the 50th anniversary of the academy. She said the Bangladesh Shishu Academy, established 50 years ago by Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman, has been working tirelessly over the past five decades, despite numerous obstacles, to help children build their future based on their potential. Zubaida said the academy, on the occasion of its golden jubilee, would reach children in every corner of the coun

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million from US\$483.71 million. Japan also remained a major Asian destination for Bangladeshi products, with exports reaching US\$399.11 million during the quarter, marginally higher than US\$396.11 million a year earlier.

The figures come against the backdrop of an overall increase in Bangladesh's merchandise exports. The country's total export earnings reached US\$13.09 billion in July-September, up 6.34 percent from US\$12.31 billion in the same period a year earlier, according to the EPB data. The growth in several Asian destinations highlights the potential for Bangladesh to diversify its export markets, strengthen regional trade links and expand participation in Asian supply chains.

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Chattagram Metropolitan Police (CMP) Commissioner Hasan Mohammad Shawkat Ali has directed police officers to demonstrate the highest level of professionalism and firmness to maintain law and order, suppress crime, and ensure the rapid disposal of pending cases across the port city.

He issued these directives while presiding over the monthly crime review meeting for September 2026, held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday (October 6) at the CMP Headquarters conference room in Dampara.

Sending a clear message to all departments to restore overall safety and traffic discipline, the CMP Commissioner declared a zero-tolerance policy against offenses such as drug peddling, theft, mugging, extortion, and juvenile gang activities. He urged every territorial

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The Narsingdi Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) has arrested two members of a human trafficking ring including the mastermind on charges of trafficking a victim to Malaysia, issuing a fake visa, and embezzling approximately 2.2 million (22 lakh) Taka under the pretext of sending him to Italy. Dr. SM Farhad Hossain, Superintendent of Police (SP) for PBI Narsingdi, confirmed the matter on Tuesday (October 6). He stated that Shimul Chandra Das (37), a resident of Narsingdi Sadar Upazila, and his relative Subodh Chandra Das (31) from the Titakul area of Gazipur had entered into an agreement with the victim, Abdur Rouf (also a resident of Narsingdi Sadar), to send him to Italy for a sum of 2.15 million (21.5 lakh) Taka. Following the execution of the agreement on December 1, 2024, a total of 2.198 million (21.98 lakh) Taka was collected from the victim in several installments. Subsequently, on June 4, 2025, instead of sending the victim to Italy, the accused sent him to Malaysia using forged documents. Upon his arrival at the Malaysian airport on June 8, immigration authorities identified the visa as fake and deported the victim back to Bangladesh. After returning home, when the victim demanded a refund, the accused began stalling and later flatly denied ever receiving the money. Farhad Hossain added that the victim, Abdur Rouf, filed a case as the plaintiff at Narsingdi

(October 6) under the initiative of the Cumilla district administration and the concerned education authorities. Teachers, students, sports organisers, government officials and invited guests from different educational institutions across the district attended the programme. The ceremony began with the hoisting of the national flag

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Earlier, on September 30, the Ministry of Public Administration issued a notification appointing 611 candidates to the education cadre under the 49th BCS. Following the earlier appointments, some BCS candidates who had been recommended by the BPSC alleged that many of them had been excluded in the name of police verification. They also launched a movement protesting the issue. According to Monday's notification, the newly appointed candidates have been asked to join at the designated offices of the Secondary and Higher Education Division of the Ministry of Education by October 12. Unless the Secondary and Higher

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Three leaders of the Rajshahi University (RU) unit of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) have been expelled over an attack on journalists at the university. Additionally, show-cause notices have been issued to six other JCD leaders. JCD Central President Rakibul Islam Rakib and General Secretary Nasir Uddin Nasir approved these decisions today.

This information was conveyed in two separate statements signed by JCD Central Office Secretary (Vice-President rank) Md. Jahangir Alam on Monday (October 5).

The expelled leaders are RU JCD Vice-President Ahsan Habib, Joint General Secretary Hasib Hasan, and Vishal Chakraborty.

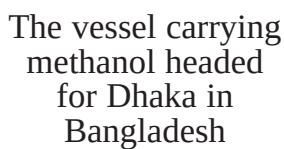
The leaders who received show-cause notices are Vice-Presidents Takkir Ahmed Imon, Shariful Islam, Bulbul Rahman, and Faruk Hossain; Co-Office Secretary Shahariz Alam; and JCD activist Sajju.

According to the statement, in accordance with the decision of the Central Executive Committee of the Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Vice-President Ahsan Habib and Joint General Secretary Hasib Hasan of the Rajshahi University unit have been expelled from their organizational posts, while student leader Vishal Chakraborty has been expelled from primary membership for breaching organizational discipline.

JCD President Rakibul Islam Rakib and General Secretary Nasir Uddin Nasir approved this decision today.

The show-cause statement

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A cargo barge carrying 540 metric tonnes of methanol departed from the Bogibeel terminal on the Brahmaputra River in Assam's Dibrugarh for Dhaka on Monday, marking the first cargo shipment from Upper Assam to a foreign port since India gained independence in 1947. The voyage comes nearly seven decades after Dibrugarh's historic river ghat ceased operations.

Indian Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal formally flagged off the vessel at a ceremony attended by several ministers, MPs and MLAs.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma joined the programme virtually. The methanol, manufactured by state-owned Assam Petro-Chemicals Ltd. (APC) at Namrup, is being trans-

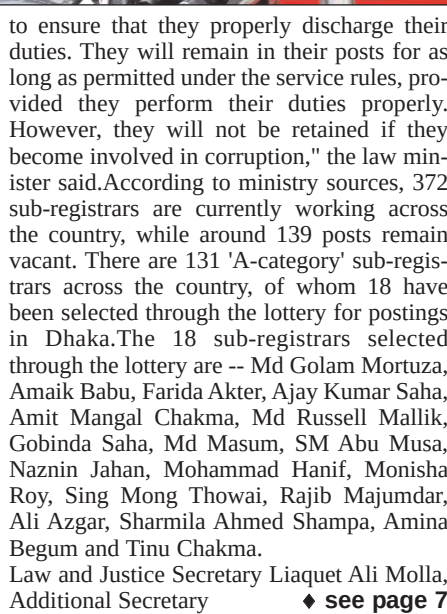
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BAGERHAT, Sep. 5, 2026, A huge crowd filled the Government PC College ground in Bagerhat. Young emerging footballer Uzar Hossain Sajib (Jersey No. 05) scored a brilliant goal by counter attack and celebrated in style with arms wide open. The entire gallery erupted in cheers for him. 17/18 Ages wearing a red-black jersey and pink boots, the 5'11" tall defender/midfielder showed his talent once again. The Central Back, who is also expert in counter-attack, is dreaming of playing for big clubs like Bashundhara, Abahani, Mohammedan. Also wants to take trained by BKPSP of Government Organisations. Local spectators said, Sajib from a remote village has the ability to play at the national level if he gets proper opportunity. The Daily Bangla Sky Wants his life Glorious, Superstar & Request to The Government ◆ see page 2

Law Minister vows transparency in sub-registry 'prize postings'

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Md Asaduzzaman today said the government would gradually bring greater transparency to postings at sub-registry offices across the country, particularly in places considered "prize postings" and where allegations of entrenched corruption exist. "There are various negative perceptions surrounding the postings of sub-registrars. To move beyond those negative perceptions, we have to start somewhere. Postings in Dhaka are considered 'prize postings' for sub-registrars," he said. Therefore, as a first step, an initiative has been taken to ensure transparency in postings in Dhaka through a lottery, he added. The minister was speaking at a programme organised at the ministry to mark the lottery for selecting sub-registrars from across the country for postings at key sub-registry offices in Dhaka. Eighteen sub-registrars were selected through a lottery from among 131 'A-category' sub-registrars across the country for postings at key sub-registry offices in Dhaka. The selected 18 sub-registrars will be posted at different sub-registry offices in Dhaka within the next seven days, taking into consideration their competence, ability to handle workload and the requirements of the respective offices. "The ministry would keep the officials posted through the lottery under 24-hour monitoring



Stop rewarding LPG market manipulation

Households are once again being forced to absorb the cost of a poorly regulated energy market. The latest increase in the price of 12-kg LPG cylinders—from Tk 1,585 to Tk 1,837—comes barely two weeks after transport fuel prices were raised by Tk 20 per litre, the second such hike in five months. For ordinary families already struggling with food, transport, and other living costs, such successive hikes are immensely burdensome.

What makes the LPG price increase particularly frustrating is that consumers were paying far above the official rate even before the new price was announced. Cylinders priced officially at Tk 1,585 were reportedly selling for Tk 2,000-2,300. Even after the latest adjustment, some retailers are charging more than Tk 2,200 per cylinder. Industry data show that imports remained broadly normal in August and September. Yet suppliers reportedly began reducing market releases from around September 20, in some cases by more than half. BERC has now sought daily import and supply data from companies to determine whether LPG was being deliberately stockpiled. If hoarding took place, those who may have helped create the shortage stand to benefit, while consumers bear the cost.

This is precisely why simply raising prices cannot become the default response whenever the market comes under pressure. International LPG prices and shipping costs may indeed rise. But regulators must first establish how much of a price increase is actually justified and whether shortages are genuine. Otherwise, price adjustments only reward market manipulators. There is also the longstanding lack of enforcement. What purpose does an official price serve if consumers routinely cannot buy LPG at that price? BERC has been setting LPG prices since 2021, yet overcharging and periodic supply crises continue. Announcing a rate without ensuring compliance merely creates the appearance of regulation.

The government must urgently identify whether companies deliberately restricted supply, penalise any of those found to be responsible, and ensure that LPG cylinders are sold at the regulated price. It must also strengthen routine monitoring rather than acting only after a crisis erupts. Consumers cannot be expected to keep paying for failures of regulation, enforcement, and market oversight.

Children’s proper growth key

and music so that they can develop themselves according to their individual interests.

Tarique Rahman said the government has already taken initiatives to identify and develop children's sporting talents, including a nationwide primary-level football competition in which around 22 lakhs boys and girls participated.

He expressed the hope that if such initiatives are continued, internationally acclaimed footballers and other sports talents would emerge from among the country's children.

He also recalled the “Natun Kuri” programme introduced by Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman to promote children's cultural talents, saying the programme has been revived alongside a sports-based “Natun Kuri” initiative.

“We want to build our children in such a way that a child will have good exposure to art and culture, become skilled in them, and similarly develop proficiency in music and sports,” he said.

The Prime Minister said many families, particularly those in remote and rural areas, cannot afford to provide children with opportunities for extracurricular activities.

“So, from the school level, we are trying to create facilities for arts, culture, sports and music so that every child can choose a subject according to his or her preference,” he said.

He said the government expects to begin the full process from 2027 or 2028, under which children at primary and secondary levels would have opportunities to learn music, play musical instruments and choose sports according to their interests.

The Prime Minister also announced plans to introduce opportunities for children to learn a third language in addition to Bangla and English, with options including Arabic, Mandarin, German and Japanese.

He said knowledge of an additional foreign language would help children in their future education and employment abroad and enable them to compete and survive more effectively in the global environment.

However, he stressed that academic, sporting, artistic or linguistic achievements alone would not be enough. “Children must also become humane,” he said, urging them to show compassion not only towards people but also towards nature, animals and birds.

Calling upon parents and guardians to instil a sense of responsibility towards the environment and other living beings in children, the Prime Minister said, “If we are kind to nature, nature will certainly be kind to us.”

The premier also urged children to care for trees and animals around their homes and schools and sought their cooperation in keeping the environment clean. He asked them to discourage adults from throwing garbage indiscriminately in public places.

“If you see an adult throwing garbage or waste somewhere and harming the environment, you can tell them to put it in the proper place,” he said.

Tarique Rahman said a clean environment would help children grow up in a healthy environment and become physically and mentally healthy people.

He called on all sections of society to work together to build the country saying the task does not necessarily require major efforts but can be achieved through small, collective actions.

“We will build this country ourselves. If we want to build the country, all of us must work together,” he said.

The Prime Minister also recalled visiting the academy as a child with his younger brother and parents- Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman and Begum Khaleda Zia- at the time of its inauguration.

He said he also found some of his and his younger brother’s writings displayed at the academy, taking him back five decades in his memories.

Prime Minister’s wife and Vice-President of the Ziaur Rahman Foundation Dr Zubaida Rahman also addressed the event, chaired by Women and Children Affairs Minister Prof Dr. A Z M Zahid Hossain.

Earlier, 150 children welcomed the Prime Minister when he arrived at Bangladesh Shishu Academy premises. Later, the programme began with the national anthem.

Following the discussion, the Prime Minister enjoyed a cultural event performed by children and visited the children's drawings and a photo exhibition gallery.

Zubaida stresses creating

try through modern technology under a new initiative and con-

Amid fiscal constraints, we must make every infrastructure project count

Md. Neyamul Hossain

limited development funds requires more discipline. When resources are spread too thinly, some projects may lack the funding to be completed efficiently, leading to delays, higher costs, and unfinished projects that continue to draw on future budgets.

The goal should not be to maximise the number of projects in the ADP. Instead, projects with significant economic and social benefits deserve proper funding, while less urgent or poorly prepared proposals should be deferred. Finishing a critical ongoing project can often provide more value than starting a new one that lacks sufficient funding.

Financing has been a key constraint in recent years, with significant exchange rate fluctuations, inflation, and shifts in international commodity and equipment prices increasing project costs even with efficient implementation. Therefore, cost escalations should not be viewed uniformly. Increases caused by exchange-rate depreciation or sudden global input price hikes differ from those due to incomplete designs, land acquisition delays, administrative decisions, or poor coordination. A reliable evaluation system must distinguish external shocks from avoidable implementation issues.

Another important aspect is handling complex projects. Large infrastructure investments now demand expertise beyond engineering, involving procurement, finance, contract management, environmental and social safeguards, legal considerations, risk assessment, and dispute resolution. Project directors must possess experience suitable to their project’s size and technical needs. Also, frequent personnel changes can erode institutional memory and delay decisions, and should be avoided. Large projects require multidisciplinary teams instead of over-reliance on a single official. The DPP handbook of the Planning Commission emphasises assessing whether an agency has the managerial and skilled workforce to implement and operate a project after completion.

Infrastructure projects often involve multiple agencies, such as land acquisition, utility relocation, and environmental clearances, calling for better coordination among the agencies so that the whole schedule is not affected. When that happens, contractors may keep equipment and workers idle, perhaps even triggering additional claims. For major projects, agencies should establish responsibilities before implementation

unregistered and unfit vehicles through regular enforcement drives.

At the conclusion of the meeting, awards were presented to officers recognized across various categories for outstanding performance, crime control, and dedication during the month of September.

Senior CMP officials attended the meeting, including Additional Police Commissioner (Administration and Finance) Wahidul Haq Chowdhury, Additional Police Commissioner (Traffic) Hossain Mohammad Kabir Bhuiyan, Additional Police Commissioner (Crime and Operations) Muhammad Faisal Ahmed, along with Deputy Commissioners recently promoted to Additional DIG Md. Ferdous Ali Chowdhury (Headquarters), Md. Habibur Rahman Prang (South), Sheikh Shariful Islam (DB-South), and Nesar Uddin Ahmed (Traffic-North).

53rd National Summer

and other formalities, followed by a colourful sports rally participated in by students from various educational institutions. The participants carried banners and placards representing their respective institutions, creating a vibrant atmosphere at the venue.

Addressing the ceremony, Education Minister Dr ANM Ehsanul Haque Milan said sports play an important role alongside education in developing students’ physical fitness, mental strength, leadership skills and discipline.

He urged students to take part in sports regularly in addition to their academic activities, stressing that education and sports are complementary to the overall development of a student. The minister said sports help young people develop a competitive spirit, tolerance, teamwork and discipline. He emphasised that students need not only academic excellence but also sound physical and mental health to become capable leaders of the future.

He further said national-level sports competitions are not merely platforms for determining winners; they also provide an important opportunity to identify talented athletes from different parts of the country. Such competitions enable promising young athletes to develop their skills and demonstrate their potential.

Speakers at the programme also highlighted the importance of creating a stronger sports culture in educational institutions. They observed that many students currently spend considerable time on mobile phones and digital platforms, which may reduce their involvement in physical activities and outdoor sports.

They stressed that regular participation in sports can help students stay away from drugs, violence, juvenile delinquency and other social problems. Strengthening sports activities in educational institutions, they said, is essential for building a healthy, disciplined and talented younger generation.

Students from various educational institutions are participating in different events of the 53rd National Summer Sports Competition. The participating students expressed enthusiasm and excitement throughout the opening programme.

The organisers said the competition would provide talented students with an opportunity to demonstrate their abilities and move forward to higher levels of competition.

The opening programme concluded with the oath-taking ceremony for the participating athletes, following which the formal competitions in different sporting events began.

The organisers expressed hope that such initiatives would continue in the future to encourage sports among students and provide greater opportunities for emerging athletes to develop their talents.

The vessel carrying methanol

ported to Pangon Port in Dhaka, reports Indian media. The vessel will initially travel around 768 kilometres along National Waterway-2 on the Brahmaputra to the India-Bangladesh border before proceeding through the Indo-Bangladesh Protocol Route (IBPR). The overall journey from Bogibeel in Dibrugarh to Narayanganj in Dhaka will cover approximately 1,300 kilometres. The voyage is being viewed as a test of the Brahmaputra’s potential as a commercially viable freight corridor connecting India’s Northeast with international markets. “Our grandparents grew up hearing the steamer whistle at Dibrugarh Ghat. For 70 years, that whistle fell silent and the ships stopped coming,” Sonowal said. “Today, a ship leaves Dibrugarh for the world once again. The

and build mechanisms to resolve bottlenecks quickly. Bangladesh has introduced procurement reforms, including the Public Procurement Rules, 2025, which strengthen electronic government procurement (e-GP), beneficial-ownership disclosure, and procurement strategies. The Bangladesh Public Procurement Authority oversees these crucial improvements. However, transparent tendering by itself is not enough to guarantee successful infrastructure development.

The post-award phase of a contract warrants effective management such as monitoring milestones, variations, payments, construction quality, and delays. Additionally, maintaining systematic records of contractors’ and consultants’ performance history is crucial for informing future procurement decisions, because the lowest bid does not always mean the lowest final cost. Poor performance can lead to higher expenses from delays, variations, supervision, or corrections. Procurement should prioritise value for money over the entire contract, ensuring transparency and competition.

Similarly, accountability must look beyond existing project approval, monitoring, and auditing mechanisms to understand why results vary from initial approvals. Major projects should disclose a limited set of comparable information, such as original and revised costs, original and revised completion dates, physical and financial progress, significant contract variations, and reasons for major changes, to help policymakers and oversight institutions recognise recurring issues instead of viewing each delay as an isolated incident.

Poor infrastructure delivery also harms businesses and households, causing delays that reduce transportation efficiency, logistics, industrial output, investments, and postpone economic gains. Besides, cost overruns compete with other public expenses, as additional funds for a delayed project cannot be used for education, healthcare, social protection, or climate adaptation. This is especially critical for Bangladesh at present, given limited fiscal resources and substantial development needs. Attention should go beyond project completion, since poorly operated infrastructure can quickly depreciate. Project appraisal must account for realistic life-cycle costs and ongoing maintenance, not just initial construction expenses. The reform agenda for project implementation in Bangladesh must ensure project readiness before approval, eliminate poorly prepared projects, safeguard financing for key investments, professionalise.

river never failed us. What it lacked for decades was the will to revive it.” Sonowal added. “Assam’s own product, made in Namrup, is now traveling to an international market on Assam’s own river. The Northeast is no longer a frontier. It is India’s gateway to the East,” he said. Sonowal described the shipment as the start of a new chapter. “This is the first voyage, not the last,” he said. Dibrugarh was historically one of eastern India’s major river ports. Government steamers had begun reaching the town from Calcutta, now Kolkata, by 1856. The Dibru-Sadiya Railway started operating from the Dibrugarh steamer ghat in 1882, while by 1913 steamers were making daily journeys up the Brahmaputra to the town, transporting tea, timber and passengers. The Partition of 1947 disrupted the river route, forcing Assam’s goods to travel through East Pakistan to reach Calcutta. A 1950 earthquake also altered the riverbed around Dibrugarh. Regular bookings from Dibrugarh Ghat ended in 1954, and the ghat was formally closed on October 15, 1956, as tea transportation increasingly shifted to railways.

Cross-border river trade was further halted following the 1965 India-Pakistan war. India and Bangladesh signed a river trade protocol in 1972. In 1988, the 891-kilometre stretch of the Brahmaputra between Sadiya and Dhubri was declared National Waterway-2. However, regular cargo operations on the waterway began only in December 2017, when cement was transported from Pandu to Dhubri. River transport along the route has expanded in recent years. Tata Steel barges reached Pandu via Bangladesh in February 2022, while the river cruise vessel MV Ganga Vilas travelled from Varanasi to Dibrugarh through Bangladesh in 2023. The Bogibeel passenger and cargo terminal, for which the foundation stone was laid in July 2023, became operational in February 2024. The ‘Jalvahak’ cargo incentive programme was introduced in December 2024. The voyage involved the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Assam Petro-Chemicals, Cochin Bunkers Pvt. Ltd. and Bangladeshi partners.

Uzair Hossain Sajib Celebrates

Of Bangladesh, with concern Ministry to take necessary action All of Sojibs in Bangladesh from remote areas for future Challenging World.

Sojib from Rajoir, Sharankhola Upazila, Bagerhat.

Trafficking to Malaysia and

Model Police Station (Case No. 09, dated 03/10/2026; Sections 6/7/8/22 of the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Act, 2026, read with Sections 323/506(2)/34 of the Penal Code). As the case fell under PBI's jurisdiction, PBI Narsingdi District took over the investigation on its own initiative on October 5, 2026, and Sub-Inspector (SI) Md. Yasin was entrusted with the responsibility of the investigation.

The Superintendent of Police stated that the ring's mastermind, Subodh Chandra Das, was arrested during a raid in the Titarkul area of Gazipur at 12:30 AM on October 6. Subsequently, acting on information provided by him, an accomplice named Shimul Chandra Das was arrested at 3:30 AM that same day from a rented house at 'Habildar's House' in Tauyadi, Narsingdi.

He added that the arrested individuals later confessed to their crimes and gave statements in court under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The PBI is continuing its operations to arrest the other accused persons involved in the case.

49th BCS: Govt

Education Division issues any further instructions, the appointees will join the ministry concerned on that date. If any appointee fails to join within the stipulated date, it will be considered that they are unwilling to join the service, and their appointment will be deemed cancelled.

3 RU Chhatra Dal leaders

directed the six individuals to present a written explanation within 48 hours in person at the central office in the presence of the Central Committee President and General Secretary, explaining why permanent disciplinary action should not be taken against them for breaching organizational discipline while holding responsible positions in the Rajshahi University unit. JCD President Rakibul Islam Rakib and General Secretary Nasir Uddin Nasir issued this direction today.



East West University delegation meets President

Staff correspondent

A delegation of East West University, led by Chairperson of its Board of Trustees Prof Dr Mohammed Farashuddin, paid a courtesy call on President Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir at Bangabhaban on Tuesday.

During the meeting, Farashuddin, also the university's founding vice chancellor,

briefed the President on the university's academic activities.

He said around 16,000 students are currently studying at the university and that it continues to provide scholarships to meritorious students from financially disadvantaged families. Mirza Fakhru urged the university authorities to continue supporting underprivileged and disadvantaged students and maintain the

quality of education. Farashuddin also formally invited the President to attend the university's upcoming convocation. The President accepted the invitation and assured the delegation that he will attend the programme. The President's military secretary, secretary and press secretary, and East West University Pro-VC, treasurer and registrar were present at the meeting.

Govt eases approval hurdles to strengthen shipbuilding, ship recycling

Staff correspondent

The government has taken initiatives to simplify approval procedures and remove institutional bottlenecks to enhance the international competitiveness of Bangladesh's shipbuilding and ship recycling industries. Commerce and Industries Minister Khandakar Abdul Muktadir stressed the need to simplify and expedite relevant procedures to create a business-friendly environment for foreign buyers, while Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Abdul Awal Mintoo directed the authorities to expedite the establishment of a Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility (TSDF) for ship recycling waste. The issues were discussed at a meeting of a committee formed to review existing laws, rules and policies governing the ship recycling industry and make recommendations, said a press release. The meeting was

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Strong partnership needed among govt, NGOs, private sector to address development challenges :Khosru

Staff correspondent

Finance and Planning Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury on Tuesday stressed the need for a strong and institutionalised partnership among NGOs, the private sector and the government to address development challenges and ensure sustainable financing. He also called for time-bound measures to create a sustainable financing framework for NGOs. The minister made the remarks while speaking as the chief guest at a seminar titled "Beyond Foreign Dependency: The Future of NGO Financing in Bangladesh" at Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS). He said the government is working to address crises emerging in the country and ensure accountability. "We do not want merely to listen; we want to provide effective responses," he said. Khosru said an integrated framework is needed for human development, preservation of local culture and greater participation of the private sector. He said NGOs and other stakeholders are

already working in various areas, including the creative economy, but such cooperation needs to be given a more institutional and policy-based shape.

Emphasising the importance of strong institutional partnerships among NGOs, the private sector and the government, the minister said NGOs play a vital role in taking government services directly to people at the grassroots. He urged the authorities to formulate and implement policies within specific timeframes to facilitate sustainable financing for NGOs.

Referring to traditional local crafts such as Shital Pati, Khosru said Bangladesh needs to promote modern designs, value addition and marketing to take such traditional products to international markets.

The minister also stressed ensuring four conditions when approving development projects: value for money, returns against investment, employment or entrepreneurship generation, and environmental considerations and protection. "No project will be approved if these four conditions are not met," he said.

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Body of Youth Murdered in Dhaka Recovered Buried Beside Killer's House in Dimla

Mahinul Islam Sujon, Crime Reporter.

A youth named Rakib Hossain (19), who was studying at a medical coaching center in Tangail, Dhaka, was allegedly murdered and his body brought to Balapara village in Chhatnai Union of Dimla upazila in Nilphamari and buried there. A young man named Mamun Rahman (23) has been accused in the incident. After returning to Dhaka, he allegedly used artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create a video showing Rakib alive and demanded ransom from his family. On Tuesday (October 6)

at noon, an investigation team from Dhaka went to Balapara village in Chhatnai Union of Dimla and recovered Rakib's body from the burial site based on information provided by Mamun. According to local residents

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Chattogram District Police and leaders of Puja Celebration Committee on the occasion of Sharadiya Durga Puja

M Oliullah Nizami, Chattogram District Reporter

To ensure the upcoming Sharadiya Durga Puja is celebrated in a peaceful, safe and festive environment, an exchange of views meeting was held today at 11 am at the Civic Center of the District Police Lines, on the initiative of Chattogram District Police, with the leaders of the Puja Celebration Parishad of 17 thanas and district level leaders. The meeting was presided over by District Superintendent of Police Mr. Md. Masud Alam BPM, and was

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All relevant agencies must remain prepared to handle any emergency situation, prioritizing passenger safety above all else Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism

Syed Bashir Ahmed, Chief Reporter

Emergency drill at Shahjalal Airport: Rescue operation simulating an aircraft fire An 'Airport Emergency Exercise—Fire-2026' was conducted at Dhaka's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport to assess the preparedness and coordination capabilities of relevant agencies in handling emergencies such as aircraft accidents and fires. During the drill held on the airport premises on Monday, a scenario involving a simulated aircraft accident was created to

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86 beds, around 300 patients: Rangpur hospital's children wards in crisis

Staff correspondent

A four-month-old baby struggling with pneumonia and breathing difficulties spent three nights on the floor of Rangpur Medical College Hospital before finally getting a bed—only to share it with three other children. The experience of Sumi Akter from Kachakata in Kurigram is far from exceptional. In the paediatric department of Rangpur Medical College (RMC) Hospital, 86 beds are routinely packed with three to four times as many patients. Children are being treated on floors and several sharing a single bed as the hospital struggles to cope with a daily average of 260-300 admitted patients. The overcrowding is placing enormous pressure on doctors and nurses while raising concerns about the spread of infectious diseases such as pneumonia and bronchiolitis. The crisis persists despite the existence of a modern 100-bed children's hospital nearby, whose construction was completed nearly seven years ago but which is yet to begin full-fledged operations due to

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RCOY APAC 2026 ends with youth priorities headed for COP31

Staff correspondent

Regional Conference of Youth Asia-Pacific (RCOY APAC) 2026 concluded Tuesday with a final day field programme at the CCDB Climate Centre in Gazipur, with a Regional Youth Statement carrying the priorities of young people across the Asia-Pacific region set to be taken to COY21 and COP31. The conference, held from Oct 3 to 5, brought together more than 500 young leaders from 28 countries, including around 100 international delegates, for discussions, workshops and COP-style simulations on climate change, climate transition, climate finance and youth-led climate action, said a press release issued on Tuesday. Hosted in Bangladesh for the first time, the conference is recognised under YOUNGO, the Official Children and

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Not a road, but a death trap! Public suffering reaches its peak due to the dilapidated condition of the road from Baniachong Mor to Dirghasair in Nabinagar



M Badal Khandaker (District Correspondent) Brahmanbaria

An important road in Shyamgram Union of Nabinagar Upazila in Brahmanbaria — from Baniachong Mor to Dirghasair. Due to lack of renovation for a long time, this road has now become impassable. In 2009, a popular song from the 3rd album Bondho Janala of the country's popular band Shironamhin was

"Rasta mane obarito nodi" (Road means an endless river). This song spread among music lovers through Tuhi's voice, and today that song seems to have become reality as the road is again turning into a river from Baniachong Mor to Dirghasair! With potholes filled with mud and water, there is no way to tell whether it is a road or a river! Even with slight rain, the entire road gets submerged in drain water. As a result, thousands of local people who use this road, especially school and college-going students, sick patients and ordinary pedestrians, suffer immensely every day. Even small vehicles face accidents regularly.

Local resident Rubel Mia said, "There is no one to see our suffering. Everyone just ends with promises."

Manik Das said, "We are in a very bad condition when it rains. Children cannot go to school. If the road is not repaired quickly, it will turn into a canal." Paran Ahmed said, "If someone new comes here, they will think the road is a canal." Auto-rickshaw driver Siddik Bepari said, "I cannot drive the vehicle. The condition is very bad." People from all walks of life and the victims are seeking the kind attention and direct intervention

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Children's Rights Day 2026 and Bangladesh Shishu Academy Anniversary Celebrated in Cumilla

Speakers call for ensuring children's rights, safety and a brighter future

M A Khayer Emon, Cumilla Correspondent.

Children's Rights Day 2026 and the anniversary of Bangladesh Shishu Academy were observed in Cumilla on Tuesday with a range of programmes highlighting the importance of protecting children's rights, ensuring their education and creating a safe environment for their overall development.

The programme was organised by the Cumilla District Administration at the conference room of the District Commissioner's Office on Tuesday, October 6.

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman, MP, attended the programme as the chief guest. In his remarks, emphasis was placed on protecting

children's rights, ensuring access to quality education and creating opportunities for children to develop their talents and potential. Cumilla District Commissioner Rossee Akter was present at the programme and called for collective efforts to ensure a safe, healthy and supportive environment for children.

Among others, Additional Superintendent of Police of Cumilla Lutfor Rahman and Additional District Commissioner (Education and ICT) Sultana Raziya attended the event, along with officials of the district administration, law enforcement agencies, Bangladesh Shishu Academy, teachers, guardians and a large number of child students. The speakers highlighted the

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Crossing the Border for Tk 30,000/40,000, Many Return from India Having Lost Everything

Naem Ahmed, Jaintapur-Gowainghat Sylhet

Illegal human trafficking is reportedly continuing through the border areas of Jaintapur and Gowainghat in Sylhet. A group of brokers is allegedly trafficking young men and women from different parts of the country into India through illegal routes, luring them with promises of lucrative jobs, high salaries and a better life. The brokers reportedly charge Tk 30,000 to 40,000 per person

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Tk 50,000 Fine Imposed for Illegal Dredger Operation in Chandina

Dredging Machinery and Pipes Destroyed as Upazila Administration Steps Up Crackdown

M A Khayer Emon, Cumilla Correspondent

The Chandina Upazila administration has imposed a fine of Tk 50,000 on an individual for illegally operating a dredger to extract soil in Suhilpur Union of Chandina Upazila in Cumilla.

As part of the enforcement drive, the administration also destroyed the dredging machinery, pipes and other equipment used in the illegal operation, officials said.

The drive was conducted on Tuesday (October 6) in an area of Suhilpur Union under Chandina Upazila. The operation was led by K. M. Injarul Haque, Assistant Commissioner (Land) of Chandina Upazila.

During the operation, officials detected the illegal extraction of soil using a dredger. Following the discovery, the authorities took legal action against the person responsible and imposed a monetary penalty of Tk 50,000.

The administration subsequently destroyed the machinery and pipes being used for the illegal dredging operation in order to prevent the activity from resuming.

Officials said unauthorised soil extraction through dredgers poses a serious threat to agricultural land, the local environment and nearby settlements. Such activities can also damage farmland, alter the natural landscape and create risks for local communities.

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Fake army officer arrested with firearm in Faridpur

Biplab Kumar Das, Staff Reporter

Special Response Battalion (SRB-10) arrested a person named Safayet Ahmed (35) along with 1 foreign revolver, cocktail, indigenous weapon, wakitki and army uniform in two separate raids in Kotyali police station area of Faridpur city. The first raid was conducted at 5:35 am on Tuesday (6th October) in an abandoned building of the Faridpur General Hospital. Drug addicts and terrorists fled after sensing the presence of SRB members in the operation based on secret information of drug buying and selling. After searching the building, 1 foreign revolver and 5 rounds of fresh cartridges were recovered abandoned. Later on the same day at 8:45 a.m. a second raid was conducted at a residential building in Niltuli area under Kotyali police station. Safayet Ahmed (35), son of deceased Bashir Ahmed of Charkamalapur area, was arrested while trying to escape from there. Based on the information given by the arrested Safayet, 2 cocktails, 1 toy revolver, 1 Chinese axe, 1 ramada, 1 knife, 1 switch gear, 1 walkie-talkie, 1 treasure gun, 25 rounds of ammunition, 10 pieces of Yaba tablets, 2 army caps, 1 cap of APBN and 1 army belt were recovered and seized. is The preliminary investigation revealed that the arrested person had been carrying out fraud and terrorist activities in different areas of Faridpur by posing as a high-ranking officer of the army for a long time. According to the police, Safayet Ahmed is a wanted accused in a drug and an anti-terrorism case of Kotyali police station. In the afternoon SRB-10 CPC-3 (Faridpur camp) company commander Lt. Commander Md. Shahriar Rifat Avi, (X), BN said that the process of handing over the recovered weapons, ammunition and other equipment to the Kotyali police station is underway for taking necessary legal action against the detained person. SRB-10's zero tolerance policy and campaign to curb crime will continue in the future.



Departmental Promotion Examination for Police Personnel Held in Pirojpur

G.M. Adol Pirojpur District Correspondent.

The departmental promotion examination for subordinate police officers and employees of the Bangladesh Police was held in Pirojpur as part of the 2026 departmental promotion process. On Monday, October 5, 2026, the Camp Training and Parade examination was conducted in Pirojpur for police personnel seeking promotion from Constable to Naik(ATSI, Naik to ASI , ASI to SI and ATSI to TSI.Muhammad Talebur Rahman, PPM-Service, Superintendent of Police, Pirojpur, attended the examination as the Chairman of the examination board.Other members of the board included Md. Masum Billah, Additional Superintendent of Police Bakerganj Circle, Md. Shah Alam, Assistant Superintendent of Police Rajapur Circle, Md. Yunus Ali, RI Police Lines and other senior officials of the district police. The examination was conducted as part of the departmental promotion process to assess the professional skills, discipline, training and parade performance of eligible police personnel.



Tree Plantation Drive by Ansar and Village Defence Force in Atrai

Nazmul Haque Nahid, Atrai (Naogaon) Correspondent

With the motto "Let us adorn the country by planting trees; Bangladesh comes first," the Ansar and Village Defence Force organized a tree plantation drive in Atrai, Naogaon, featuring fruit-bearing, timber, and medicinal tree species. On Tuesday (October 6) at 10:30 AM, a tree plantation program was held on the premises of Sudrana High School. Organized under the initiative of the Director General of the Bangladesh Ansar and Village Defence Force as part of the "Tree Plantation Drive-2026," the event saw the participation of Ansar and VDP members. Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md. Moniruzzaman attended the program as the chief guest. Also present were Upazila Ansar and VDP Officer Mst. Khushi Khatun, Sudrana High School Headmaster Sri Amendra Debnath, along with other Ansar and VDP officials and members. A total of 475 saplings were planted, comprising various fruit, timber, and medicinal species: 200 Mahogany, 50 Guava, 50 Arjun, 50 Olive (Jalpai), 50 Betel Nut, 20 Neem, 20 Amla (Indian Gooseberry), 5 Tamarind, 5 Elephant Apple (Chalta), 5 Krishnachura, 5 Bakul, 5 Jarul, 5 Shimul, and 5 Shishu (Sissoo).

Law Minister vows
SM Ershadul Alam, Additional Secretary Md Khadem UI Kayes, Inspector General of Registration (IGR) Shamima Afroze and other relevant officials were present at the programme.

Govt eases approval
held today at the conference room of the Commerce Ministry

at the Secretariat, with Abdul Awal Mintoo in the chair.State Minister for Shipping Md. Razib Ahsan also attended the meeting.The meeting discussed waste management, modernisation of ship recycling yards, compliance with environmental standards and measures to eliminate delays in obtaining approvals.Particular emphasis was placed on enabling relevant clearances and file approvals to be processed from Chattogram.Muktadir said Bangladesh must enhance its competitiveness with rival countries to secure shipbuilding orders from the international market.He emphasised simplifying domestic procedures by taking the policies and standards followed by leading shipbuilding countries as benchmarks.The minister said a special committee led by him is working to simplify rules and procedures, with the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) also involved in the initiative.He stressed the need for effective and implementable policies, saying merely enacting laws would not be enough unless their proper implementation and compliance were ensured.“Rules that cannot be implemented eventually lose their effectiveness,” he said, urging regulatory agencies to change their approach to regulation and implementation.The minister also discussed financing difficulties and the problem of outstanding loans in the shipbuilding sector.Mentioning limitations faced by banks, he said efforts should focus on overcoming the sector’s current difficulties rather than spending excessive time dealing with complications arising from old loans.

Body of Youth Murdered in
and police sources, Rakib and Mamun became acquainted about a month ago. Later, a dispute arose between them over an issue. It is initially believed that Rakib was killed as a result of this dispute. It is alleged that after the murder, Mamun brought Rakib’s body to Balapara village in Chhatnai Union of Dimla, his ancestral home, with the intention of concealing it. He buried the body in a betel nut orchard there and then returned to Dhaka. Later, it was learned that money was taken after demanding ransom from Rakib’s family in Dhaka. When Rakib’s family filed a complaint with the police, an investigation began. At one point, Mamun was arrested from the Shukrabad area of Dhaka. Based on information provided by Mamun during police interrogation, the investigation team learned that Rakib’s body had been buried in Dimla. Later, a team from Dhaka came to Dimla and recovered the body from the location shown by Mamun. Meanwhile, it is alleged that a video was created using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to give the impression that Rakib was alive. It is further alleged that a large amount of money was demanded from Rakib’s family as ransom by showing them the video. Dimla Police Station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Ashraful Islam said that the body had been recovered. Further legal procedures would be completed after the autopsy. Arrested Mamun would be handed over to the investigation team from Dhaka.

86 beds, around 300
shortages of manpower and medical equipment.Hospital authorities said the children’s department comprises wards 8, 9 and 10, with a total of 86 beds,against this capacity, 260-300 children are admitted on average every day.Besides, against an approved strength of 150 nurses, only around 50 are currently working.In September alone, 59 children died at the hospital, according to hospital data.Hospital officials said none of the children who died was infected with measles.Dr ANM Tanvir Chowdhury, assistant professor at the RMC Hospital children’s department, said the number of patients far exceeds the designated capacity.“In some cases, three or four or even more patients have to be accommodated in a single bed. This puts additional pressure on doctors and nurses. At the same time, the risk of infection increases because patients with infectious diseases such as pneumonia and bronchiolitis are being treated amid the overcrowding,” he said.umi said her baby has been admitted for four days and spent the first three nights on the floor.“My child is suffering from breathing problems. We have been here for four days. We could not get a bed. There is no place for children to stay in such a big hospital,” she said.Mamata Begum of Mominpur in Rangpur Sadar has been at the hospital with her child for seven days.“We came here hoping to get better treatment, but there is no space. I am very worried about my child,” she said.Dolly Khatun, nurse-in-charge of Ward 10, said the ward has 40 beds but around 180 children are admitted there at any given time.She said the number of patients is likely to rise further during winter, when respiratory illnesses among children typically increase, while the number of nurses remains far below requirements.Another major problem is the shortage of phototherapy machines used to treat newborns suffering from jaundice.Ismail Hossain from Gaibandha has been at the hospital with his newborn for 31 days.e said two babies are sometimes placed under the same phototherapy machine, raising concerns about infection.Seven years, but no full operation The pressure on RMC Hospital was supposed to ease with the opening of a 100-bed modern children’s hospital constructed close to the city’s Nagar Bhaban. The facility has provisions for an emergency department, outpatient services, doctors’ rooms, laboratories, an operation theatre, specialised units, wards and cabins.Yet most of its rooms remain unused.Health department sources said a proposal seeking 659 staff members for the hospital was sent to the Health Ministry in June 2023.The hospital currently provides outpatient services for children, but inpatient treatment and full-fledged operations have not yet begun. Dr Wazed Ali, deputy director of the divisional health directorate, said some furniture had recently arrived at the facility.“Three truckloads of furniture have recently arrived. I do not know when the required doctors, manpower and equipment will arrive. It depends on a decision by the concerned ministry,” he said.Dr Tanvir said the 100-bed hospital could significantly ease the pressure on RMC Hospital if it was fully equipped and made operational. “Rangpur Medical College Hospital serves a huge population across the northern region. If the 100-bed children’s hospital is made fully operational with the necessary manpower and other facilities, the pressure of child patients on RMC Hospital will decrease considerably,” he said.

Not a road, but a death trap!
of the local Member of Parliament (MP). To take measures to renovate this road from Baniachong Mor to Dirghasair on an urgent basis to alleviate public suffering and normalize the transportation system.

Crossing the Border for Tk
for crossing the border. According to local sources and conversations with victims, young men and women from different parts of the country are first brought to border areas with promises of employment. They are then illegally sent to India through brokers. Several individuals are allegedly involved in the process. However, many face serious trouble after crossing the border. Some are arrested by law enforcement agencies in India for allegedly entering the country illegally and have to serve time in jail. Even after returning home, they lose their money, time and dreams. Many return to their families having lost everything. The Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) continues regular operations and surveillance along the border to prevent human trafficking and illegal crossings. During these operations, men and women attempting to cross the border illegally, as well as alleged traffickers, are being arrested. Despite these efforts,

the activities of the trafficking network have not stopped. Major Md. Nurul Huda, Deputy Commander of Sylhet Battalion (48 BGB), said that surveillance and operations along the border are continuing to prevent human trafficking and illegal border crossings. Md. Mahbubur Rahman Molla, Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Jaintapur Model Police Station, said legal action is being taken against those involved in human trafficking. Police are working to identify the traffickers and bring them to justice. According to concerned officials, it is not possible to stop human trafficking solely through operations along the border. If the brokers operating inside the country and the masterminds behind the network can be identified and brought to justice, the activities of this trafficking syndicate could be significantly reduced.

Chattogram District Police and
attended by Mr. Md. Sefaul Hossain, District Commandant, Bangladesh Ansar and VDP Chattogram, senior officials of the district police, Officers-in-Charge of various thanas, concerned police officers and leaders of the Puja Celebration Parishad. In the meeting, directives were given regarding overall security of puja mandaps, smooth movement of devotees, special security for women and children, installation and keeping active of CC cameras, adequate lighting and alternative power supply, appointment of volunteers, fire safety and quick coordination in emergency situations. The leaders of the Puja Celebration Parishad were urged to remain vigilant about rumors, propaganda and provocative information on social media and not to spread or share any information without verification. They were asked to quickly inform the police if any rumor or misleading information comes to notice. At the same time, they were requested to provide information to the police about persons who try to destabilize the situation through rumors or provocation. Emphasis was placed on taking effective measures to quickly identify and resolve any problems of women devotees and taking necessary measures to keep special assistance arrangements for children. To maintain religious harmony and mutual amity, advice was given to form harmony committees in coordination with representatives of various religions, classes-professions and social representatives. Importance was also given to maintaining coordination with local mosques, religious leaders, public representatives, dignitaries and law enforcement agencies. In addition, the leaders of the Puja Celebration Parishad were requested to follow the prescribed sound level and time limit in using mikes and to observe special caution and sensitivity during Azan and prayer times in nearby mosques. In order that any emerging situation or minor dispute does not turn into a big incident, all concerned must take initiative quickly in a coordinated manner. It was also urged not to take the law into one’s own hands in case of any untoward incident and to immediately inform the police. In the meeting, the leaders of the Puja Celebration Parishad from various thanas of the district presented their opinions and suggestions regarding the security of puja mandaps in their respective areas, possible problems, local situation and necessary cooperation. The district police assured to consider their opinions with importance and take necessary measures. Chattogram District Police seeks sincere cooperation from the Puja Celebration Parishad, pujaris, devotees, volunteers and people of all levels to ensure that the upcoming Sharadiya Durga Puja is celebrated in an environment of peace, harmony, security and festivity.

RCOY APAC
Youth Constituency of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Participants represented 28 countries, including more than 500 young leaders, around 100 of them international delegates. Government and UN representatives, researchers, policymakers, innovators, development partners, academics and youth-led organisations also took part.Discussions focused on climate action, climate justice, resilience, youth leadership, regional cooperation, knowledge exchange and youth-led solutions. Experts and climate leaders, including Khondkar Morshed Millat, Tahmina Zaman Khan, Selina Shelley Khan, Sumaiya Binte Selim Sudha, Kamrul Hasan Shawon and Roufa Khanum, contributed to sessions on youth-led climate action, sustainability and climate finance.Alongside dialogues, workshops, networking, exhibitions and side events, participants contributed to the Regional Youth Statement, which is meant to reflect the priorities and demands of young people across Asia-Pacific. The priorities will be taken forward to COY21 and COP31.Chief guest AKM Sohel, UN Wing Chief at the Economic Relations Division (ERD), Ministry of Finance, spoke about the place of young people in decisions on climate and development.“Every dollar we take a loan, the youth have to pay back in the future. If you have the stake in the dollar, you should have the voice. Every single utterance has to be based on evidence, data and science,” he said.Miguel Mateos Muñoz, Chief, Communication and Advocacy, UNICEF in Bangladesh, urged the young delegates to look beyond those present.“As you take the Regional Youth Statement to COP31, ask yourselves: whose voice is still missing? Bangladesh’s NDC 3.0 puts children and young people at the centre of climate action. Now comes the real test: implementation. As you step onto the global stage, carry with you the realities, demands and hopes of those who cannot be in the room, and make sure no child is invisible in the decisions shaping their future,” he said. Dr Ainun Nishat, Emeritus Professor and noted scientist associated with the Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER), encouraged young people to build their own capacity, understand policy processes and ground their work in evidence.“Learn the language of policy. Youth advocacy needs to be evidence based and data driven,” he said. The final day gave those messages a practical setting. Nearly 150 national and international delegates gathered at the CCDB Climate Centre for a field-based learning and reflection programme that tied the discussions, panel sessions and key lessons of the previous three days to real-world climate action.articipants looked at how climate commitments, climate finance, climate transition and climate solutions translate into practice, and the programme also served as a simulation-based preparation for COP31, bringing together dialogue, negotiation, learning and practical experience.Held under the motto “From Mountains to Sea: United for

Climate Justice”, RCOY APAC 2026 was jointly organised by youth-led organisations from across Asia-Pacific, with Seecto Bangladesh as the host country organisation. As the Regional Youth Statement now heads to COP31, those delegates leave better prepared to take part in shaping a more just, resilient and sustainable climate future.

All relevant agencies must remain
practice firefighting, passenger rescue, first aid, and the evacuation of passengers to a safe location. The drill scenario depicted an aircraft arriving from Bangkok—carrying 98 passengers and 5 crew members—reporting a fire in its right engine and a technical malfunction in the control panel to Air Traffic Control prior to landing. Subsequently, during the emergency landing, the aircraft overshoot the designated section of the runway and veered off to the left. It came to a halt on the southern side of the runway after crossing Taxiway Sierra. A scenario was then simulated in which a fire broke out in the undercarriage and rapidly spread across the entire aircraft. Upon receiving the alert, airport fire crews rushed to the scene and initiated firefighting operations. Simultaneously, rescue teams, Air Traffic Control, law enforcement agencies, ambulances, and medical service providers worked in coordination to rescue passengers, administer first aid, and evacuate everyone to safety. The primary objective of the drill was to evaluate the speed and effectiveness of the airport’s emergency response following an accident. Simultaneously, the exercise assessed the proficiency of fire crews, the effectiveness of firefighting and rescue equipment, and the coordination capabilities among the various agencies involved. In addition to officials and staff from the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) and Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, the drill involved the Bangladesh Air Force, APBN, the Uttara Traffic Division, Ansar, Fire Service and Civil Defence, various hospitals, Biman Bangladesh Airlines, and other relevant agencies. M. Rashiduzzaman Millat, MP, Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism, observed the exercise as the chief guest. He stated that there is no alternative to safety, preparedness, and rapid decision-making in aviation operations. All relevant agencies must remain ready to handle any emergency situation, prioritizing passenger safety above all else. Fahmida Akhtar, NDC, Secretary of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, was present at the event. Group Captain S.M. Ragib Samad, Executive Director of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, delivered the welcome address, while CAAB Chairman Air Vice Marshal Md. Mostafa Mahmud Siddique presided over the proceedings. The CAAB Chairman emphasized that regular training, realistic drills, and effective coordination among relevant agencies are essential to ensuring safe aviation operations. Such comprehensive emergency drills are organized in accordance with the guidelines of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The activities at various stages were evaluated upon the conclusion of the exercise. Officials noted that the experience gained from this drill would play a vital role in further strengthening Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport’s emergency management, inter-agency coordination, and rapid response capabilities in the event of an accident.

Children’s Rights Day 2026 and
importance of ensuring children’s rights and protection, preventing child labour and child marriage, ensuring access to education, and creating opportunities for children’s physical, mental, creative and cultural development. They said children are the future of the country and that ensuring their rights and wellbeing is a collective responsibility of families, educational institutions, communities and the state. The speakers also stressed that children should be protected from all forms of abuse, violence, discrimination and exploitation. Alongside education, they said, children need a safe and nurturing environment where they can develop their creativity, confidence and sense of responsibility. A number of programmes involving child students were also held as part of the celebration. Their enthusiastic participation added a festive atmosphere to the event. The speakers expressed hope that such programmes would help raise awareness about children’s rights and contribute to building a generation of educated, responsible, humane and capable citizens. They called upon all concerned to work together to ensure a safe, inclusive and child-friendly environment so that every child can grow up with dignity and fulfil their potential.

Tk 50,000 Fine Imposed for
The Upazila administration warned that strict action would be taken against anyone involved in illegal dredging or unauthorised soil extraction in the area. K. M. Injarul Haque, Assistant Commissioner (Land), Chandina, said the administration was conducting regular drives against illegal dredger operations and unauthorised soil extraction. He said such enforcement activities would continue in the public interest and that the administration would take necessary legal action against those found violating the law. The Chandina administration has reiterated its commitment to preventing illegal soil extraction and protecting agricultural land and the local environment. Further operations are expected to continue across the upazila to curb unauthorised dredging activities.

কর্মজীবী মানুষের সুবিধার্থে

জালালাবাদ চক্ষু হাসপাতালে

এখন প্রতি **শুক্রবার** বিকালে রোগী দেখবেন

চক্ষু বিশেষজ্ঞ ও সার্জন

ডা. আহম্মাদুল বারী

এম.বি.বি.এস, এম.এস (অপথালমোলোজী)
এমপিএইচ (ক্লিনিক্যাল অপথালমোলোজী)
পিএইচডি (অপথালমোলোজী)
সিনিয়র কন্সাল্ট্যান্ট ও সার্জন,
জালালাবাদ চক্ষু হাসপাতাল গ্রুপ ফ্যাকালি সেন্টার

সন্ধ্যা ৬টা থেকে রাত ৯টা

০১৭৩২-৫৫৮৭৫৯
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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.

French students blockade high schools again amid nationwide protests for more resources



International Desk

Students blockaded high schools across France on Tuesday as planned demonstrations tested the strength of a weeks-long nationwide movement demanding more resources for the country's education system.

At Hélène Boucher High School in Paris' 20th district, protesters placed rubbish bins and bicycles on their sides to build a makeshift barricade at the entrance.

The school was among hundreds closed across the country. Authorities began

shutting schools last week in an effort to curb the demonstrations following widespread property damage and increasing injuries among school staff, students and police.

French media reported protests in several other cities and towns on Tuesday morning. Labour unions also called on workers to demonstrate later in the day in support of the student movement, which has put pressure on President Emmanuel Macron's government.

The government's response has been forceful. Police arrested more than 5,000 people last week, around 85% of

them minors. However, the widespread use of arrests, tear gas and riot-control weapons against teenage protesters has fuelled anger and defiance, including among some parents and teachers.

At Hélène Boucher High School, parents and other adults positioned themselves between the demonstrators and police officers monitoring the protest.

The school blockades began in the Paris region in mid-September before spreading to other cities and towns. Students have raised a range of grievances, particularly the shortage of resources and opportunities for advancement in disadvantaged schools.

Protesters say these conditions fall short of the promise embodied in France's national motto, "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity."

Students have highlighted deteriorating classroom conditions, including shortages of basic furniture such as desks and chairs, inadequate cooling during summer heat and rat infestations.

They have also complained about staff shortages and exhausting academic workloads. French high school students are required to spend among the highest numbers of compulsory school hours in Europe. The demonstrations and planned labour union action on Tuesday are expected to test the movement's ability to maintain momentum as pressure mounts on the government to address students' concerns.

Colombia launches joint task force to protect pipeline, fight ELN

International Desk

Colombian President Abelardo de la Espiella on Monday launched a joint task force to combat rebel groups and drug gangs in the country's northeast, signaling a shift toward military operations after the government ended peace negotiations with armed groups.

The newly formed Task Force Urano will focus on disrupting activities by the National Liberation Army, or ELN, Colombia's largest remaining rebel organization, particularly its alleged theft of gasoline and diesel from a pipeline linking the Caribbean coast to a refinery in Barrancabermeja.

De la Espiella accused the ELN of using stolen fuel to finance criminal activities, including cocaine production, illegal mining and what he described as terrorist operations.

"They use it to make cocaine, to power illegal mines and to generate income for terrorist activities," he said at a ceremony in Valledupar.

For nearly two decades, Colombia's armed forces used joint task forces involving the army, navy and air force to combat rebel groups in rural areas. Directly supervised by commanders in Bogota, the units helped the military secure major victories over the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, before the group signed a peace agreement with the government in 2016.

The strategy was abandoned two years ago under former President Gustavo Petro, whose administration sought to give regional military commanders greater authority over operations. Critics argued that the move weakened the country's military response.

India opposition parties protest, demand election chief's resignation

International Desk

Opposition parties staged protests in India's capital on Tuesday, demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over controversial changes to voter lists, as hundreds of police personnel were deployed across central New Delhi.

The demonstration was the latest in a series of almost daily protests that began last week involving student groups, opposition parties and India's "Cockroach" youth movement. Protesters accused the Election Commission of manipulating voter registrations to benefit Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party. The commission and the government have denied the allegations.

Security personnel, some carrying batons, stood behind barricades outside the Election Commission's office near Parliament. Authorities issued travel advisories for areas surrounding the planned demonstration and closed several roads.

India launched a Special Intensive Revision of voter lists in Bihar last year ahead of state elections. The exercise has since been expanded to most states and federally administered territories. Critics say the process requires documents that are confusing and difficult for many people to obtain, raising concerns that millions of eligible voters could be excluded. Election Commission data indicates voter rolls could decline by as much as 30% in some areas.

The commission says the revision is intended to remove duplicate and ineligible entries while ensuring that eligible voters remain registered. Opposition parties and activists, however, argue that the process could disenfranchise legitimate voters. The campaign against the Election Commission has been partly led by the "Cockroach" movement, which began online and calls itself the Cockroach Janata Party. Earlier street protests organized by the group contributed to the resignation of India's education minister in July.



Rahul Gandhi climbs police barricade during INDIA bloc protest against election chief

International Desk

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi climbed a police barricade and waved the national flag during a protest by opposition parties in New Delhi on Tuesday, demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over alleged irregularities in voter list revisions.

Leaders and lawmakers of the opposition INDIA bloc gathered at Makar Dwar of Parliament and marched towards Nirvachan Sadan, the Election Commission of India's (ECI) headquarters, carrying banners reading "Save Democracy" and chanting slogans against Kumar.

Gandhi, who moved through a large crowd of protesters, climbed a barricade after police stopped the march at multiple security barriers. His action drew loud cheers from opposition leaders and supporters.

Gandhi and his sister, Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, were detained and taken onto a police bus. However, the two later got off the bus and continued towards the ECI headquarters.

The protest centred on alleged irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Opposition parties have accused the commission of manipulating voter registrations to benefit Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party. The commission and the government have denied wrongdoing.

The INDIA bloc has been developing a broader campaign against Kumar since a strategy meeting last week. The protest has also received support from some young activists associated with the satirical Cockroach Janata Party.

Two alliance partners, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), did not participate in Tuesday's march.

The Congress plans to continue its campaign through the winter session of Parliament, seeking to keep the election-related allegations in the public spotlight. The party and the Samajwadi Party also hope to sustain attention ahead of assembly elections in five states scheduled for February.

At a meeting on Monday, the Congress discussed its next steps and began referring to the Election Commission as the "Cheating Commission".

Under its campaign plan, the party will organise a "Save Vote, Save Country" programme from October 10 to 20 at the block level, including bicycle and motorcycle rallies, the burning of an effigy of Kumar and leaflet distribution.

Booth-level public meetings, known as chaupals, are scheduled from October 25 to November 25, with senior Congress leaders participating.

A major rally will be held at Delhi's Ramlila Maidan on November 1. The party also plans six marches from areas around Delhi on November 25 and 26 under its "Chalo Delhi" campaign. The marches will converge in the capital on November 26, Constitution Day.

The Congress intends to raise the issue during Parliament's winter session, which begins after November 26, and pursue an impeachment motion against the chief election commissioner.

The opposition is also monitoring a Supreme Court case concerning the Election Commission. The court has issued notices to Kumar and the commission and indicated that disputed election-related decisions could potentially be stayed if they were not reached unanimously.

However, the Supreme Court has so far declined to take immediate action against Kumar, observing that newspaper reports are not necessarily entirely accurate. Hearings in the case will continue.

Nicaragua torture survivor jailed again after US deportation

International Desk

A Nicaraguan exile who was imprisoned and tortured after participating in anti-government protests has been deported from the United States to Nicaragua, where authorities immediately detained him again, his family and lawyer said Monday.

Jeffrey Jarquín, 35, was taken into custody after stepping off a U.S. deportation flight in Managua last week and returned to the same prison where he had previously been tortured, according to a family member.

The relative spoke to The Associated Press anonymously, citing fears of government persecution. Local media first reported Jarquín's deportation and detention.

Jarquín was a prominent participant in Nicaragua's 2018 anti-government protests, which triggered a yearslong crackdown by co-presidents Daniel Ortega and Rosario Murillo against dissent.

The government's campaign against critics, civil society organizations, religious groups and others has contributed to more than 800,000 people fleeing Nicaragua, according to U.N. figures. Osley Sallent, Jarquín's U.S. lawyer, confirmed that he was deported after seeking asylum in the United States.

Jarquín was arrested in 2018 along with other protesters and held at El Modelo, a maximum-security prison. According to a 2019 Organization of American States report, Jarquín and other detainees were tortured in prison areas known as "tiny hell." He was released a year later and subsequently fled to the United States.

Sallent said Jarquín had been living in Miami when he was detained. After a Louisiana court rejected his asylum case in July, he was held at Alligator Alcatraz, a Florida immigration

detention facility in the Everglades that has faced reports of harsh conditions. Sallent did not provide further details about the asylum case.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Asked why Jarquín had been imprisoned again, a spokesperson for Nicaragua's government replied, "Thank you very much! Hugs."

The Trump administration has repeatedly criticized Nicaragua's government and described it as a dictatorship, particularly after authorities canceled elections scheduled for next year. Last week, Deputy U.S. Secretary of State Christopher Landau told the Organization of American States that the situation in Nicaragua was "intolerable."

"Murillo and Ortega's dictatorship has no place in our hemisphere," he said.

Despite Washington's criticism of Managua, ICE has increased deportations to Nicaragua in recent months, according to a Human Rights Watch report. The organization said the Trump administration deported 6,300 Nicaraguans between January and July 2026. Human Rights Watch also documented the detention of at least eight Nicaraguan exiles whose citizenship had been revoked, a measure observers say was intended to punish government critics. Some of those detained had pending asylum applications.

Juan Pappier, deputy director for the Americas at Human Rights Watch, said Washington's criticism of Nicaragua while deporting people who fled government repression "makes Washington look hypocritical." "Nicaragua has the most brutal government in the Western Hemisphere, and any government critic who is sent back is at real risk of torture or persecution," Pappier said.

Nigeria declares three days of mourning after military plane crash kills 32

International Desk

Nigerian President Bola Tinubu has declared three days of national mourning after a military aircraft crashed in the southern state of Ondo, killing all 32 people on board.

The aircraft was on a routine flight from Benin City to Lagos when it crashed near a naval base in Igbokoda on Monday morning, according to authorities. A local resident told the BBC that the plane came down near a swamp, where clothes and shoes were found at the crash site. Smoke was also seen rising from the area.

Tinubu expressed his deepest condolences over the deaths of 25 passengers and seven crew members and ordered a comprehensive investigation into the accident. He also directed that national flags be flown at half-mast across the country in honour of the victims.



"This is a painful moment for our Armed Forces and for the entire nation," Tinubu said. "Our Air Force personnel put their lives on the line every day to secure Nigeria. Their sacrifice will never be forgotten," he added. Aviation Minister Festus Keyamo earlier said he had been informed about the disappearance of military aircraft NGR 931 while it was travelling from Benin City to Lagos at 9:13am on Monday.

He said attempts to contact the aircraft by radio were unsuccessful before authorities confirmed that it had crashed near the naval base in Igbokoda, Ondo State. Search and rescue operations were under way, he added. The aircraft was identified as an ATR-42, a model manufactured to carry between 30 and 50 passengers. Tinubu ordered the Nigerian Air Force to immediately investigate the cause of the crash and take steps to prevent similar incidents.

FBI arrests California woman accused of spying on Taiwan president's family for China

International Desk

The FBI has arrested a California real estate agent as she was preparing to travel to China, accusing her of secretly working for Beijing to monitor the family of Taiwan's president in the United States, federal officials said.

The case comes amid strained U.S.-China relations, with Taiwan remaining a major point of military and diplomatic tension between Washington and Beijing. China claims Taiwan as part of its territory.

Federal prosecutors and the FBI allege that Wanying Zhang monitored the home of the Taiwanese president's son and provided a Chinese government official with photos, videos and license plate information from the vehicles used by the family member.

The federal criminal complaint does not identify the alleged target. However, the FBI's rapid response account on X identified him as the president's son, Ting-Yu Lai, the elder son of Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te, lives and works as an engineer in the Seattle area.

Zhang, 34, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Irvine who also uses the name Heather, was arrested Sunday at Los Angeles International Airport. She was charged with acting as an unregistered agent for China, First Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Essayli said. Shawn Lewis, a spokesperson for the U.S. attorney's office, confirmed her citizenship.

Zhang appeared in federal court in downtown Los Angeles Monday for an initial hearing to ensure she understood her rights. She has not been formally indicted.

Judge Steve Kim said Zhang did not qualify financially for a public defender and instructed her to obtain a private lawyer as soon as possible. A hearing on whether she should be released on bail or remain in custody was scheduled for Wednesday afternoon.

Her husband, Edric Ding, attended the hearing but declined to comment.

California records show Zhang has held a real estate license since 2016. According to a Zillow listing, she sold seven homes in Orange County over the past year.

Justice Department targets alleged Chinese agents

The case is the latest in a series of Justice Department prosecutions targeting alleged covert agents accused of advancing Beijing's interests in the United States.

Many such cases have involved what the department describes as China's efforts to identify and intimidate pro-democracy activists living in the U.S. and restrict their speech. The department has also accused Beijing of trying to influence American public opinion by developing relationships with



political figures considered influential.

The Chinese Embassy in Washington did not immediately respond to a request for comment Monday, while China's Foreign Ministry in Beijing was closed for holidays.

Taiwan's Presidential Office confirmed that relatives of President Lai were targeted but did not specify whether the alleged target was his son. It described the incident as "a classic case of transnational repression."

Taiwan strongly condemned the alleged surveillance, spokesperson Karen Kuo said, describing such actions as attempts to suppress, threaten or potentially harm people who support freedom and democracy and their families.

Surveillance allegedly took place in 2025

According to an affidavit accompanying the criminal complaint, Zhang and another person traveled to Seattle on Sept. 1, 2025, at the direction of Chinese officials and conducted surveillance outside the target's home.

A nearby security camera reportedly captured the pair filming the target and family members from inside a vehicle.

Zhang allegedly later sent a Chinese official surveillance material, including photographs, videos and license plate information from the family's vehicles. The affidavit said such information and the locations of close relatives of a senior Taiwanese official could potentially help China "obtain leverage" over President Lai during a possible conflict.

The affidavit also said Zhang attended Beijing's University of International Relations, which the FBI agent who prepared the document described as having close ties to China's intelligence apparatus. Many graduates reportedly go on to work for Chinese government ministries, including intelligence agencies.

Zhang and a former classmate who later became a Chinese government official reportedly remained in contact after graduating around 2014. The classmate introduced Zhang to another Chinese government official, and she was in contact with both officials in 2025, according to the affidavit.

In a Sept. 2, 2025, post on the Chinese-language social media



‘Happily Married’ premieres ahead of October 8 Chorki release

Entertainment Desk

The realities of married life, from changing patterns of communication to small misunderstandings and everyday compromises, take centre stage in Chorki Original film ‘Happily Married’, which had its premiere in Dhaka on October 5.

The romantic comedy-drama, directed by Jahid Preetom, will be released on Chorki on October 8.

The premiere was held at the Liberation War Museum auditorium in the capital, where audiences enjoyed the film’s blend of humour and emotion while following its portrayal of different experiences within married life.

The film’s story, screenplay and dialogues were written by Jahid Preetom, who said his own experience of marriage helped him understand the different layers of a relationship and influenced the story.

“I have been married for about one and a half years, and I am gradually understanding the different layers of a relationship. The four or five hours of communication during a relationship eventually become 24 hours of being together after marriage. I am understanding the changes that come with that,” he said.

“My friends told me that after getting married, I would understand and would no longer feel like telling love stories. But that did not happen to me. Rather, it has become more serene. I am learning to deal with reality,” he added.

Preetom said the story originated from an idea of presenting a relationship-focused narrative that would make audiences laugh while also allowing them to reflect on their own relationships.

“I tried not to make anything too critical in the story. Understanding each other is actually what makes a married couple happy. Small doubts and small decisions can create distance between people. Instead of that, take care of the person you love and love them every day,” he said.

‘Happily Married’ marks the first collaboration between Preetom and actor Arifin Shuvoo, while the director had previously worked with actress Keya Payel.

Describing his experience of working with the lead actors, Preetom said Shuvoo was very supportive during the shoot.

“Shuvoo bhai does not bring his phone to the set or

watch the monitor during shooting. During breaks, he stays by himself, listens to music and reads books. On the other hand, Keya Payel is quite active on social media, and her character Anamika is also like that. So, I felt they were very good casting choices for these two characters,” he said.

For Payel, ‘Happily Married’ marks her first work for an OTT platform. She said the project attracted her because of its story and the opportunity to work with Preetom, Shuvoo, Chorki and Chabial.

“It is a very good project for me because the story is beautiful, the director is Jahid Preetom, my co-actor is Arifin Shuvoo, and Chorki and Chabial are involved with it. Anyone would want to be part of a project like this,” she said.

The film also marks Arifin Shuvoo’s return to Bangladeshi OTT after a considerable gap. His last released content on Chorki was ‘Unish20’ in 2023.

Shuvoo has said that he considers every project a new challenge and a comeback in its own way. He has also invited audiences to watch ‘Happily Married’.

Chorki CEO Redoan Rony said the film presents a story that is relevant to contemporary life.

“People are so concerned about everything around them that they often forget to enjoy their time and life. This content will, to some extent, give audiences an opportunity to spend some time in their own way,” he said. Producer Nusrat Imrose Tisha, representing co-producer Chabial, said the response at the premiere was encouraging.

“Judging by the response we received at the premiere, I feel others will also enjoy it and be able to relate it to their own experiences,” she said.

Presented by Sensation, ‘Happily Married’ is the seventh film under the ‘Ministry of Love’ (MOL) project.

Previous releases under the project include ‘Something Like an Autobiography’, ‘Last Defenders of Monogamy’, ‘Kacher Manush Dure Thuiya’, ‘Forget Me Not’, ‘36-24-36’ and ‘Dimlight’.

The film stars Arifin Shuvoo and Keya Payel in the lead roles, alongside Salahuddin Lavlu, Tushar Khan, Deepa Khandakar, Cristiano Tanmoy, Umme Jamilatun Naima, Parvez Suman and Twink Carroll.

For Jahid Preetom, ‘Happily Married’ is his second film for Chorki, following his directorial debut ‘Ghumpori’.



Monalisa a in New Year of her life, beyond past

Entertainment Desk

Once upon a time, Mozeza Ashraf Monalisa was a regular face on the small screen and in modelling. She made a separate identity for herself through both acting and modelling on TV screen.

However, with time, this actress has largely withdrawn herself from the country’s entertainment scene. Monalisa is currently living in the United States. From there, she welcomed another new year of her life.

Monday (October 5) was Monalisa’s birthday. On this special day, the actress wished herself a happy birthday by posting a picture of herself on social media.

At the same time, she expressed her gratitude to the creator for the various experiences, achievements, and adversities of life in the past year.

Expressing her birthday sentiments, Monalisa wrote, “Today I celebrate the joy of completing another year of my life.

The year was full of challenges, learning, progress, and joy. Grateful for every moment of my life. Because every experience has shaped me into the person I am today.” Monalisa also recalled the ups and downs of life. In her words, “Despite the ups and downs in life, I find count-

less reasons to be grateful.

I am eternally grateful to Allah Almighty because He has given me another year in life, good health, strength, and the mental fortitude to face adversity.”

The actress also expressed her hope for a wonderful New Year. Praying to the Creator, she said, “May Allah grant me a long and healthy life, and grant me the ability to enjoy each day with gratitude.

May another year of life be filled with blessings, beautiful moments, and new achievements.”

Monalisa’s career was once very busy. In 2012, during the height of her career, she married New York expatriate Fayyaz Sharif.

The following year, she moved to the United States with her husband. Along with starting a family there, she also served as the program head of the US-based Bengali channel Time TV.

However, Monalisa’s married life did not last long. She separated from her husband within about a year of moving to the United States. Several years have passed since then. The actress has not started a new family.

Currently, Monalisa is living her own life in the United States. Her words on her birthday also reveal her determination to move forward beyond past experiences.

Israeli documentary 'NAZA' opens in US, reigniting debate over Gaza war

Entertainment Desk

An Israeli documentary accusing the country’s military of recklessly killing civilians in Gaza is opening in U.S. theaters, potentially reviving debate over American military support for Israel ahead of congressional elections.

“NAZA,” named after the Hebrew acronym for collateral damage, features anonymous Israeli military insiders who allege that Israel used sophisticated, including artificial intelligence-powered, systems to identify suspected militants and conduct strikes despite knowing that many civilians could be killed. The documentary received a record 25-minute standing ovation at the Venice Film Festival. Its release has also triggered strong criticism in Israel, which will hold elections later this month.

The Israeli military has categorically rejected the filmmakers’ findings and threatened to identify soldiers who spoke to them. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the film antisemitic, while a Cabinet minister threatened to revoke the filmmakers’ citizenship. Co-director Yuval Abraham has said he fears returning to Israel.

At the film’s New York premiere last month, protesters displayed images from the Hamas-led Oct. 7, 2023, attack that triggered the war. Abraham condemned the attack but said it could not justify the killing of civilians in Gaza.

Abraham and co-director Rachel Szor previously made “No Other Land,” which won an Oscar but drew anger in Israel.

“NAZA” consists largely of nighttime interviews on Tel Aviv rooftops, with the interviewees’ faces and voices concealed. Some use drawings to explain the systems they describe. The filmmakers say the sources spoke anonymously because of fears of retaliation and that their claims were thoroughly checked.

The interviewees describe AI systems that analyze surveillance footage, identify people with

alleged Hamas links and create databases containing tens of thousands of names. Another system, they say, recommends buildings for attacks.

One source alleged that an operation targeting a single Hamas militant was approved despite an estimate of 500 civilian deaths. The military denied the claim.

Much of the reporting had previously appeared in +972 Magazine, Local Call and The Guardian, which collaborated on the docu-

Palestinians, including over 1,400 since a fragile ceasefire began a year ago, according to Gaza’s Health Ministry. The ministry’s figures do not distinguish between civilians and militants but say women and children account for about half the deaths.

“NAZA” is being released in the U.S. without a traditional distributor. It is playing at New York’s IFC Center and will expand to cities including Austin, Chicago, Los Angeles and Seattle on Oct. 9. It



mentary.

The Israeli military said its orders clearly distinguish between militants and civilians and that it seeks to minimize civilian casualties. It acknowledged using AI but said intelligence officers select targets and operational commanders decide whether to strike.

The film’s reporting is based on interviews with more than 100 confidential sources conducted with The Guardian’s investigation desk between 2023 and 2025.

Rights groups and experts have accused Israel of genocide over civilian deaths, destruction and restrictions on aid. Israel rejects the allegations, saying it sought to protect civilians while fighting Hamas. Hamas-led militants killed about 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducted 251 others in the Oct. 7 attack. Israel’s offensive has killed more than 74,000

will be available for free streaming on The Guardian’s website in late November.

The Committee to Protect Journalists and the International Documentary Association have condemned threats against the filmmakers. More than 2,000 people, including prominent Israeli filmmakers, have signed a petition supporting Abraham and Szor.

The filmmakers say they want audiences in both Israel and the United States to understand the situation in Gaza and America’s role in supporting Israel. A study published last year estimated that the Biden and Trump administrations provided at least \$21.7 billion in military assistance to Israel during the first two years of the war.

“Much of what is being described was done with American taxpayer money,” Abraham said.



Former ‘American Idol’ singer Caleb Flynn sentenced to life for wife’s murder

Entertainment Desk

Former Ohio music pastor and “American Idol” contestant Caleb Flynn was sentenced Monday to life in prison without parole after a jury convicted him of murdering his wife while having an affair. The judge said Flynn, 40, used his Christian faith to manipulate others and showed no remorse for actions involving “layers of deceit, manipulation and cruelty.” Flynn wept as he apologized to his family before sentencing.

Taylor Swift’s ‘Patient Zero’ debuts at No 1 on Billboard global charts

Entertainment Desk

Taylor Swift has debuted at No 1 on both of Billboard’s global song charts with “Patient Zero”, adding another milestone to her chart record.

The track tops the Billboard Global 200 and Billboard Global Excl. US charts for the week dated October 10, 2026. It marks Swift’s eighth No 1 on the Global 200, tying her with BTS for the most chart-toppers since the ranking was launched in 2020.

On the Global Excl. US chart, “Patient Zero” becomes Swift’s fifth No 1, moving her ahead of Bad Bunny and Ariana Grande among solo artists. BTS leads all acts with eight. “Patient Zero” is one of four additional tracks featured on the deluxe edition of Swift’s 2025 album, “The Life of a Showgirl”, titled “The Life of a Showgirl: The Encore”. The other three tracks — “Cleveland!”, “Babylon” and “Pink Clouding” — also entered the top 10 of both global charts. According to Luminate data cited by Billboard, “Patient Zero” drew 70.7 million streams and sold 80,000 copies worldwide during the September 25-October 1 tracking period. Its music video, directed by Swift and featuring Dakota Johnson and Colin Farrell, premiered during the 2026 MTV Video Music Awards on September 27. The other three new tracks also made strong debuts on the Global 200, with “Cleveland!” entering at No 2, “Babylon” at No 3 and “Pink Clouding” at No 5. The results bring Swift’s total number of Global 200 top-10 entries to 47, surpassing Drake’s previous record of 45. Meanwhile, an earlier track from “The Life of a Showgirl”, “The Fate of Ophelia”, climbed to No 8 on the Global.



Bestselling British novelist Jeffrey Archer, disgraced former politician, dies at 86

Entertainment Desk

British bestselling novelist Jeffrey Archer, whose political career was ruined by a conviction for perjury, has died at the age of 86.

Archer died “suddenly and peacefully” at his home on Monday, a day before the worldwide release of his final novel, Adam and Eve, publisher HarperCollins said.

Like his bestselling novel Kane and Abel, the new book follows two characters named after biblical figures who are born on the same day but grow up in different social classes.

Archer enjoyed a decades-long career as a successful author while facing repeated political and personal controversies. He continued writing through a prison sentence and later returned to the political arena.

His literary career spanned five decades and helped him recover from financial difficulties caused by unsuccessful investments. His debut novel, Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less, was published in 1976 and was reportedly inspired by his own experience of coming close to bankruptcy.

According to HarperCollins, Archer spent 14 years and five months on Britain’s Sunday Times bestseller lists and more than five years on The New York Times best-seller lists. His books sold 300 million copies worldwide. Archer rose through the ranks of Britain’s Conservative Party under Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. In 1992, he was appointed to the House of Lords by her successor, Prime Minister John Major.

However, his political career collapsed after allegations emerged that he had lied under oath during a libel case more than a decade earlier. The allegations surfaced in 1999 while he was running for mayor of London.

Archer had sued a newspaper that accused him of paying a sex worker and won £500,000 in damages. A jury later found that he had fabricated an alibi during the 1987 case against the Daily Star.

He was convicted of perjury and jailed for four years in 2001, after being expelled from the Conservative Party. He was released early in 2003 after serving slightly more than two years.

Despite his conviction, Archer retained his seat in the House of Lords as there was no legal mechanism at the time to remove him. He continued as a politically unaffiliated member until retiring in 2024.

Archer later documented his prison experiences in a three-volume memoir series titled A Prison Diary. The books, Hell, Purgatory and Heaven, offered insights into life inside British prisons, including the high-security HMP Belmarsh and the open prison North Sea Camp. Before his imprisonment, Archer had also campaigned to change royal succession laws to give daughters equal rights with sons. His efforts later helped inspire the Succession to the Crown Act 2013, which ended the centuries-old practice of giving younger sons precedence over their older sisters in the line of succession.





White Sox down Guardians to take 2-0 series lead



Sports Desk
The Chicago White Sox defeated the Cleveland Guardians 4-3 to take a commanding 2-0 series lead in Major League Baseball's playoffs on Monday. Munetaka Murakami, Braden Montgomery and Chase Meidroth drove in the winning runs at Cleveland's Progressive Field as the White Sox took a giant step towards extending their fairytale postseason. The White Sox -- carrying the hopes of lifetime fan Pope Leo XIV -- are aiming to continue one of the most remarkable turn-around seasons in baseball. After three straight seasons with 100 or more defeats the White Sox finished the regular season with an 84-78 record, snagging the sixth seed in the American League. In their first playoff series since 2021 they ousted the Houston Astros in two games in the Wild Card round. They now need only one more win to return to the AL Championship Series for the first time since their World Series-winning campaign in 2005. Chicago will host Cleveland in game three of the series on

Wednesday. Cleveland had taken the lead in the first inning, when what should have been a routine throw by White Sox pitcher Sean Newcomb flew wide of first base and allowed Steven Kwan and Jose Ramirez to scamper home. With Guardians starter Gavin Williams dominant thereafter the White Sox struggled to carve out scoring opportunities. But they finally got on the board in the fourth inning when Japanese slugger Murakami drove a single into right field that brought home Kyle Teel. Two innings later, the White Sox jumped into the lead. Williams was replaced on the mound by Erik Sabrowski after giving up a single to Miguel Vargas to open the sixth inning. Sabrowski promptly walked Randal Grichuk to leave two men on base. A wild pitch allowed the runners to advance and when Montgomery slashed a double to right field, the White Sox took a 3-2 lead. Sabrowski was replaced by Hunter Gaddis, but the White Sox stretched their advantage when Meidroth singled to score Montgomery for a 4-2 advantage. White Sox reliever Sean Burke bottled up the Cleveland offense, giving up just one hit and one run in 5 1/3 innings before being replaced by closer Grant Taylor with two outs in the eighth inning. A triple from Jo Adell made it a one-run game heading to the ninth, but Taylor mopped up the final three outs to seal victory. The winner of the Cleveland-Chicago series will face the New York Yankees or Tampa Bay Rays for a place in the World Series. The Rays, leading 1-0 in the series, were hosting the Yankees in Monday's other playoff game.

Ganguly returns to IPL's Delhi Capitals as coach

Sports Desk
Former India captain Sourav Ganguly has been named head coach of Indian Premier League team Delhi Capitals, the franchise announced Tuesday. The 54-year-old is back at the franchise he joined as an advisor in 2019 and later served as the director of cricket for both the men's and women's teams. "Delhi Capitals is a franchise very close to my heart, and one that I have shared a strong relationship with over the years," Ganguly said in a statement. "We have a talented group and have played a good brand of cricket in the recent past. I am looking forward to working with the squad, the new season, and building a strong and fearless team." He will take over from Hemang Badani, who led Delhi to a sixth-place finish in the competition this year. Delhi have not won the IPL title since the inaugural edition in 2008. "I am excited to see him take on this role and I'm sure that under his guidance and visionary leadership Delhi Capitals will be best prepared to challenge for the IPL title," Delhi chairman and co-owner Parth Jindal said. "I cannot wait for all our players and staff to learn from Dada (Ganguly) and am looking forward to seeing DC in action at the earliest." Ganguly made his coaching debut last year at Delhi's sister franchise

End of an era as Messi prepares to hang up Argentina boots

Sports Desk

Lionel Messi will pull on Argentina's sky blue-and-white jersey for the last time on Tuesday and enjoy an emotional farewell in front of his adoring fans in a stadium with a name to match his legacy: Monumental. Some 85,000 Argentina fans will be on hand to watch the 39-year-old idol perform his wizardry in a friendly against Benin that brings down the curtain on his 21-year international career. Millions more will be following the action in South America's largest stadium, Buenos Aires' Estadio Monumental, on TV. The most-capped player in Argentine history is hanging up his boots two-and-a-half months after losing the World Cup final to Spain. "I gave it my all; I have nothing left to give, and besides, there are great young players coming up who deserve their chance," Messi wrote when announcing his international retirement in August. On Monday, he took part in his last training session with the team at the complex that bears his name in the Buenos Aires suburb of Ezeiza. "You can't ask for more, that's it," Nahuel Nieva, a retail worker who took the day off work to watch his hero train, told AFP. Messi remains under contract with Inter Miami until 2028, although following the death of his father, Jorge, two months ago, he revealed he may hang up his boots for good sooner than anticipated. - Filling the void - No effort has been spared for the sendoff of a player considered one of the game's greatest ever. Several of the teammates with whom he reached football's pinnacle in Qatar, and who will lead the post-Messi team, will play in the game, including defender Cristian "Cuti" Romero, midfielders Alexis Mac Allister and Enzo Fernandez and forwards Julian Alvarez and Lautaro Martinez. After the game the captain's armband will pass to Romero. Coach Lionel Scaloni has vowed to try fill the "void" left by his talismanic captain and the signs from the next generation, some of whom weren't even alive when Messi debuted with the team in 2005, are auspicious.



In their first games since the World Cup final last week, minus Messi, Argentina thrashed Bolivia 4-0 in a friendly in Cordoba on Wednesday before running rings around Burkina Faso on Saturday at Monumental stadium. Franco Mastantuono and Gianluca Prestianni, two of Argentina's brightest new hopes, both scored their first international goals against Burkina Faso in a 7-0 romp. The results helped lift the gloom of the defeat in the World Cup final when Argentina and a visibly tired Messi were outplayed by Spain and resorted to thuggish tactics which have been punished with bans and fines for a number of players. - Coveted number 10 jersey - Messi is not only Argentina's record appearance-maker but also its leading scorer with 125 goals in 207 games, as well as a record 68 assists. "La Pulga" (The Flea) won the eternal gratitude of Argentines -- and sealed his place as rightful heir to Diego Maradona -- in 2022 when he ended their 36-year World Cup drought in Qatar. During his time with the Albiceleste, Argentina were also crowned 2005 World Youth Champions, 2008 under-23 Olympic champions and they won the Copa America in 2021 and 2024. They also won the 2022 Finalissima, a match between the champions of South America and Europe. But there were tears along the way too, notably after Argentina's defeat by Germany in the 2014 World Cup final in Brazil, their loss to Spain in this year's final and their shock humiliation by Chile in the 2016 Copa America final. One detail remains unclear, however: who will inherit Messi's coveted number 10 jersey "Until Leo's game, we won't give the number 10 to anyone," said Scaloni. "After that, we'll see."



District stadiums to be modernised into full-fledged sports facility: Aminul

Sports Desk
State Minister for Youth and Sports Md Aminul Haque said existing district stadiums would be modernised and renovated to turn those into full-fledged sports facilities. "The government is giving priority to making existing fields and stadiums usable before constructing new infrastructure," he said while briefing to the pressmen after inaugurating a cricket academy in Sreemangal, Moulvibazar today (Tuesday). Aminul said the government is working to build an integrated sports structure from the grassroots to the national level. As part of the plan, necessary facilities, including playing fields and dressing rooms, would be developed at the Sreemangal Cricket Academy. He said district stadiums would be equipped to host regular competitions in football, cricket, swimming, volleyball, table tennis, chess, archery, shooting and hockey. "A project has been taken to modernise district stadiums across the country and necessary activities, including preparation of the DPP, are underway," he said. The stadiums would be made self-contained with facilities such as galleries, dressing rooms and press boxes, he added. The state minister said initiatives have been

taken to establish playing fields up to the union level, while plans were also underway to build Futsal facilities or small fields at city ward level. Aminul said the initiatives would help keep young people away from drugs and other harmful activities and encourage them to lead healthy lives. The State Minister said an initiative has also been taken to introduce sports-related textbooks from Class Four in the next curriculum. He said the government wants Bangladeshi athletes to compete for medals at the international level rather than merely participate. "Year-round training and talent development programmes have been undertaken for this purpose," he said, adding that long-term preparations are being made to build a competitive position in the Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games over the next five years. Additional District Magistrate Md Mamunur Rashid, Sreemangal Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md Ziaur Rahman, Assistant Superintendent of Police Md Wahiduzzaman Raju, BCB director Sarfaraz Ahmed Sarfu, sports organisers, political leaders and journalists were also present there. Later, the state minister visited the proposed site for a mini stadium in Sreemangal upazila.

Djokovic wins China Open after de Minaur retires

Sports Desk

Novak Djokovic won the China Open on Tuesday after his opponent Alex de Minaur retired from the final, extending an astonishing unbeaten streak in Beijing and winning the 102nd title of his career. The 39-year-old Serbian won the first set in the tie-break 7-6 (7/3) and was down a game in the second set when the Australian ended the match early. "I always want to visualise myself with the trophy, particularly here in Beijing," Djokovic said during the trophy ceremony. "But I was also quite aware that reality is a little bit different these days," he said, adding that it had been a challenging year with "physical and health issues". "I was just trying to find the good feeling on the court," he said. The first set was a physical battle that lasted more than one hour, and both men needed medical timeouts before the second. De Minaur, the world number nine, won the first game of the second set before retiring. It was not immediately clear why de Minaur left the match, but he walked back onto the court after his medical timeout with a white wrap around his left thigh. With the win, Djokovic extended a perfect record to 34 wins in as many matches for his seventh title in the Chinese capital -- his first since 2015. "I don't feel great," de Minaur told the crowd afterwards. "I want to say sorry to the amazing fans that came to watch... I didn't want to play like this," the 27-year-old added. De Minaur advanced to the final after his opponent Hubert Hurkacz retired injured from their semi-final on Monday, while Djokovic moved through when Daniil Medvedev was disqualified for hitting a fan with a ball.



Mohammedan beat Arambagh in Fed Cup

Sports Desk

Mohammedan Sporting Club came from behind to beat Arambagh Kirira Sangha 3-1 in their opening Group B match of the Federation Cup football at Gopalganj District Stadium in Gopalganj on Tuesday. Arambagh took the lead in the 16th minute through Niger midfielder Rayies Suraj. Mohammedan, however, drew level in the 57th minute when forward Sourav Dewan found the net. Midfielder Md Sohul Rana put Mohammedan ahead in the 74th minute before Malian forward Souleymane Diabate completed the scoring in the fourth minute of stoppage time.



Tennis world No.1 Sinner's season over due to knee injury

Sports Desk

Tennis world number one Jannik Sinner has brought a premature end to his season due to a knee injury, the Italian announced on Tuesday. "Me, together with the doctors, have decided that I need a course of treatment for my knee, which means that the 2026 season is officially over," Sinner said in a video posted on social media. The 25-year-old's announcement came just over a month before he was due to defend his crown at the ATP Finals in Turin. Sinner had finished the previous two seasons on a high by winning in Turin, leading to "so many beautiful feelings and emotions", he said. "This year is going to be way different," he acknowledged. "But at the moment, I also need to think about my long-term career." He has had an impressive, if injury-hit season, winning Wimbledon in July and five Masters 1000 events. He has won all six finals he has played in this year. The Italian's 94 percent winning record in 2026 is the best of his career, even beating his figures from the previous two seasons in each of which he won two Grand Slams and the ATP Finals. A statement from Sinner's management team said that he would "follow a course of treatment for inflammation in his knee", which would help him "to recover before beginning preparations for 2027".

Kaur quits as India's women's cricket captain

Sports Desk

Senior batter Harmanpreet Kaur resigned as India's captain from all three international formats on Tuesday after recently leading the team to their second successive Asian Games gold medal. Kaur, 37, captained India to their first women's global title at last year's ODI World Cup and has been synonymous with the team's success in recent years. "This is not an easy decision," Kaur said in a social media post. "It carries years of memories, emotions, sacrifices, and moments that will stay with me for the rest of my life," she said. "I have given everything I had to this team and to Indian women's cricket -- my blood, my sweat, my time, and many times, a part of my own game and personal ambitions." However, Kaur indicated she would continue to play. "Captaincy ends. The journey continues," she said. Kaur's role as leader was first questioned after India's second successive group-stage exit from the T20 World Cup in June. Her leadership also came up for discussion at a review meeting held by the Board of Control for Cricket in India on Monday, local media reports said. Kaur led India in five Tests, 51 ODIs and 155 T20Is. Star batter Smriti Mandhana, who played a key part in the Asian Games victory, including hitting a stellar 45-ball 79 in the final against Sri Lanka, is a frontrunner to lead India.



Junior Tigresses beat Pakistan to top U19 women's tri-series

Sports Desk

Farzana Easmin Medha put on a stellar all-round performance as Bangladesh Women's Under-19 team edged Pakistan past by 13 runs in the Women's U19 Tri-nation Series at Iqbal Stadium in Faisalabad today. The victory, their second in the third match, propelled them to the top of the table for the time being. Opting to bat first after winning the toss, Bangladesh posted 139-5 in their allotted 20 overs before the bowlers acted in disciplined manner to hold Pakistan back to 126-7. Sadia Akter led the scoring-chart for Bangladesh with run-a-ball 33 while Farzana Easmin Medha struck 28 off 22 and Sadia Islam added 24 from 21. Medha then demonstrated her talent with the willow, claiming 3-25, which eventually broke the spine of Pakistan's batting



overs. Apart from Medha, Nishita Akhtar Nishi claimed 2-28, while Tithi Das Aparna returned impressive figures of one for eight. The victory gave Bangladesh their second win over Pakistan in the tournament. They had earlier defeated Pakistan by 30 runs in the opening match before losing to Sri Lanka.

line up. Komal Khan top-scored for Pakistan with 36 off 29 balls and gave the side a fluent start. Ravail Farhan and Jufishan Ayaz both contributed 32 to keep the hosts in contention. Bangladesh, however, tightened their grip in the latter stages, taking wickets at regular intervals and strangling Pakistan, thanks to Medha's incredible performance. Pakistan required 21 runs from the final over but managed only seven, finishing on 126 for seven in 20



Holy Quran is the True Guide to a Beautiful Life : CCC Mayor



Staff Reporter

Emphasizing the implementation of the teachings of the Holy Quran in every aspect of life, chattagram City Corporation (CCC) Mayor Dr. Shahadat Hossain stated, "The Quran is the supreme constitution for leading a beautiful and disciplined human life. There is no alternative to following the Quran and Hadith for achieving peace in this world and salvation in the hereafter."

He made these remarks as the chief guest at a religious gathering organized on the occasion of Jasne Eid-e-Miladunnabi (PBUH) and Fateha-e-Yazdaham at the city's Chamragudam intersection on Tuesday afternoon.

Mayor Dr. Shahadat Hossain highlighted that the very first divine revelation laid the highest emphasis on the pursuit of knowledge and

education. He added that building a welfare-oriented and harmonious society is only possible through following the principles and true teachings of Islam.

Touching upon urban cleanliness and good governance, the Mayor reaffirmed his firm commitment to building a "Clean, Green, Healthy, and Safe Chattogram." Reminding the audience of civic duties, he said, "The road has its own specific rights. It is a social and moral responsibility to remove garbage, banana peels, or anything harmful to pedestrians from the pathways." He urged residents to dispose of waste in designated dustbins, stressing that establishing a clean and safe city requires active participation from general citizens and business owners, not just the City Corporation alone.

Chaired by Ali Ahmed Sawdagar, the event featured principal speeches and religious discussions by Principal Mufti Osman Goni Rezvi, Allama Enam Reza Al Kaderi, and Mufti Shahidullah Bahadur. Earlier, the gathering was officially inaugurated by Kotwali Thana Youth Dal President Nur Hossain Nuru. A large number of local devout Muslims attended the event.



Reception for Meritorious Students and Anti-Drug Awareness Meeting Held in Gowainghat

Naeem Ahmed, Jaintapur-Gowainghat Sylhet

A reception for meritorious students who passed the SSC examination and an anti-drug awareness meeting were held at Haji Sohrab Ali High School and College in Gowainghat, Sylhet.

The program was organized at the school hall at 11:30 am on Tuesday. The event was chaired by Md. Zahid Khan, president of the school's ad hoc committee, and conducted by BSc teacher Shafiqul Islam. Gowainghat Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Ratan Kumar Adhikari attended the program as the chief guest. Gowainghat Police Station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Md. Omar Faruk Moral, school principal Md. Sarowardi, prominent businessman and social worker Ziarat Khan, former founding president of Purba Jaflong Union Chhatra Dal Azir Uddin Sarker, former guardian member Abul Hasnat, political leaders and other dignitaries also spoke at the event as special guests. The meritorious students who passed the SSC examination were honored with crests. The speakers said that passing the SSC examination marks the beginning of a new chapter in the students' lives. They urged the students to utilize their knowledge and abilities for the welfare of the country and society. They also said that drug addiction is a serious threat to families, society and the state. Teachers, guardians and members of society must work together to keep students away from drugs. The speakers also called upon the students to spread anti-drug awareness and play an active role in building a healthy and society.



Elderly Man Killed in Attack by Opponent Over Trivial Matter in Atrai

Nazmul Haque Nahid, Atrai (Naogaon) Correspondent

An elderly man has died after being repeatedly punched and struck by an opponent following a dispute over a trivial matter in Atrai, Naogaon. The incident occurred around 10:00 AM today, Monday (October 5), in Madhugurnai village of the upazila.

According to locals and eyewitnesses, an altercation arose after a goat belonging to Mim Mondal (20) ate leaves from a bean plant owned by his neighbor, Yasin Mondal (75). At one point, Mim Mondal began repeatedly punching and striking Yasin.

Samapthi Begum, Yasin's daughter-in-law, said, "Hearing my father-in-law's screams, I rushed out of the house and saw Mim punching and striking him. Eventually, my father-in-law lost consciousness and collapsed on the ground. Others and I then rushed him to the Upazila Health Complex, where the attending physician declared him dead."

Mahbub Alam, Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Atrai Police Station, stated, "Upon receiving the news, I visited the scene. Procedures regarding the autopsy and the filing of a case are currently underway."

Identified accused in multiple cases including extortion Md. Elias Hossain alias Apu arrested by SRB-07, Chattogram

M Oliullah Nizami, Chattogram District Reporter

Based on secret information, SRB-7, Chattogram came to know that Md. Elias Hossain alias Apu, the prime accused named in the FIR of Chattogram Metropolitan Kotwali Thana Case No-12, dated- 07 September 2026, Sections-143/324/325/326/307/379/506, Penal Code 1860, is staying in the hilly residential area under Bayezid Thana of Chattogram Metropolitan.

Based on the said information, on 05 October 2026 at approximately 1810 hours, an operational team of SRB-7, Chattogram conducted an operation on the road in front of Ziaur Rahman's house in the hilly residential area under Bayezid Thana of Chattogram Metropolitan and was able to arrest the prime accused of the said case Md. Elias Hossain alias Apu (25), Father- Late Yunus, Village- Hadu Majhipara, Thana- Panchlaish, District- Chattogram. Reviewing CDMS, information of 05 cases regarding murder, kidnapping, snatching and theft against the arrested accused Md. Elias Hossain alias Apu was found in Panchlaish, Kotwali and Chandgaon Thanas of Chattogram Metropolitan.



Administration Steps In to Support Helal After House Fire, Extends Immediate Assistance

Md. Sohel Rana, Rajshahi Correspondent

The Godagari Upazila administration has extended immediate assistance to the family of day laborer Helal Uddin, who lost his homestead and all belongings in a devastating fire. Following reports of the fire, the upazila administration promptly took steps to help after learning about the family's ordeal. On Tuesday (October 6), the administration provided Helal's family with two bundles of corrugated iron (CI) sheets, four blankets, 20 kg of rice, 1 kg of pulses, 1 kg of salt, and 1 liter of soybean oil.

The relief materials were handed over from the Upazila Project Implementation Officer's office in the presence of Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Israt Jahan. Earlier, the administration contacted the affected family through a journalist and requested them to come to the office without delay.

Receiving prompt assistance brought some relief to Helal Uddin and his family. They expressed gratitude and prayed for the upazila administration and everyone involved for standing by them during their difficult time. The administration also assured them of further assistance in the future.

Earlier on Tuesday, around 5:30 AM, a fire broke out at Helal Uddin's house in Soddampur, located in the Faradpur area under Premtali of Godagari Upazila. The fire quickly engulfed the entire dwelling, reducing it to ashes. A goat was killed in the fire, and a pregnant cow suffered severe burns. Additionally, the family's primary source of income—a rickshaw-van—along with household furniture, clothing, their daughter's schoolbooks, important documents, and essential everyday items were completely destroyed. According to the family, the



destroyed rickshaw-van was valued at approximately BDT 1.5 lakh, and the deceased goat was worth BDT 15,000 to 20,000.

Helal's wife was also burned during the incident and is currently undergoing treatment at Premtali Medical, family sources confirmed. Having lost their home and assets, day laborer Helal Uddin was left in extreme uncertainty regarding the future of his two children. Following news coverage of the event, Upazila Relief and Rehabilitation Officer Md. Mominul Huq and UNO Israt Jahan assured support for the affected family.

Upazila Relief and Rehabilitation Officer Md. Mominul Huq stated that further formal assistance will be arranged once the necessary assessment report is submitted through the Union Parishad Chairman.

UNO Israt Jahan mentioned that primary relief has been delivered to the family, and further rehabilitation support will also be considered. Although the immediate administrative support provided some respite, substantial financial assistance is still required to rebuild the gutted house, treat the injured cow, and repair the damaged rickshaw-van. Consequently, locals hope that affluent members of society and charitable individuals will step forward alongside government aid to help rehabilitate the family.

Drug dealer arrested with 50 pieces of Yaba in Bhanga, Faridpur

Biplab Kumar Das, Staff Reporter

The Bhanga Thana Police have arrested a drug dealer named Azad Matubbar (45) with 50 pieces of Yaba tablets in Bhanga, Faridpur.

The individual, who had been detained by the public, was arrested on Monday (October 5) around

12:40 AM on the paved road in front of Hazrahati Government Primary School

under Bhanga Municipality, during a routine nighttime Kilo-77 patrol duty.

Police stated that 50 pieces of light-pink Yaba tablets were recovered from the arrested Azad Matubbar. The total weight of the recovered Yaba is 5 grams, with an estimated market value of 15,000 BDT.

The arrested Azad Matubbar is the son of the late Munsur Matubbar, hailing from Suadi Madhya Para village in Bhanga Upazila.

Sub-Inspector (SI, Unarmed) Md. Roman Molliya, who is stationed at Bhanga Thana, conducted the operation along with his accompanying force to make the arrest. Police also mentioned that the process of taking legal action against the arrested accused is currently underway.



Three families' houses burnt to ashes in fire in Mirsarai

Damage about 15 lakh taka

M Oliullah Nizami, Chattogram District Correspondent

In a terrible fire in Geramara of Karerhat Union of Mirsarai Upazila of Chattogram, the dwelling houses of three families have been burnt to ashes.

The members of the affected families said that furniture, gold ornaments and cash worth about 15 lakh taka have been damaged in this incident. The fire incident took place on Tuesday (6 October) at around 12 noon at Shahab Uddin's house in Badamtoli area adjacent to Abu Ahmed Market in Ward No. 5 of No. 1 Karerhat Union of the upazila. In the fire, the dwelling house of day laborer Sobhan and two more families' houses nearby were burnt down. Locals said that as the fire spread quickly, the houses were burnt in the flames in a moment. Later the fire was brought under control with the efforts of the locals. Members of the affected families said that the fire caused extensive damage by burning the dwelling houses and necessary furniture, gold ornaments, cash and other belongings in the house. They claim that altogether the amount of damage is more than about 15 lakh taka. It could not be known immediately how the fire originated. After the incident, the affected families have fallen into a helpless condition.

Meeting held to discuss the peaceful celebration of Sharodiya Durga Puja in Fakirhat



S A Kalam Fakirhat, Bagerhat

A meeting was held in Fakirhat, Bagerhat, to discuss the preparations for the celebration of Sharodiya Durga Puja-2026, one of the main religious festivals of the Sanatan community, in an orderly, peaceful, and festive atmosphere.

The meeting, organized by the Upazila Administration, was chaired by the Upazila Executive Officer, Md. Rokunuj Zaman, on Tuesday (October 6) at the Upazila Parishad auditorium. Other speakers at the meeting included Upazila Agricultural Officer Sheikh Sakawat Hossain, Upazila BNP President Sheikh Kamrul Islam Gora, General Secretary Sheikh Shariful Kalam Karim, BNP Sheikh Iftikhar Ahmed Palash, Amir of the Upazila Jamaat-e-Islami Mawlana ABM Toyebur Rahman, Secretary Abul Ala Masum, Bir Muktiyoddha Morol Nur

Mohammad, Assistant Professor Md. Mofazzel Haider, Upazila Cooperative Officer Milan Kumar Das, Ansar VDP Officer Shahina Akhtar, SI Bhabatosh Roy, and President of the Fakirhat branch of the Bangladesh Hindu Bouddha Christian Welfare Front Shibnath Roy, among others, including the General Secretary of the Fakirhat Press Club Sheikh

Syed Ali. During the meeting, attendees were urged to take necessary preparations at various puja mandaps across the upazila and to maintain a peaceful environment around the festival. Various officials from government departments, as well as presidents and secretaries from different Durga Puja temples, were present at the time. Speakers at the meeting emphasized that to celebrate Sharodiya Durga Puja with religious solemnity and joy, everyone involved must work together. The mutual cooperation of the local administration, elected representatives, the Durga Puja committee, and the general public is extremely important to keep the overall environment of the Puja peaceful and beautiful. The importance of maintaining harmony, brotherhood, and mutual goodwill among all religions and communities surrounding the festival was highlighted.

Surveillance on paper, CCTV cameras in Mathbaria inoperative in reality

Mathbaria (Pirojpur) Correspondent

The violence of criminals has increased drastically in Mathbaria Municipality, one of the most important and busiest commercial centers of Pirojpur, due to the inoperability and disappearance of CCTV (closed circuit) cameras. Due to the lack of digital surveillance on the main roads and important intersections of the city, various anti-social activities including theft, robbery are constantly taking place. This is causing extreme fear and insecurity among ordinary citizens and local businessmen.

Being the upazila headquarters and commercial center, thousands of people from different surrounding areas come to Mathbaria Municipality every day for administrative, commercial and personal work. To ensure the safety of local residents and to curb crime, CCTV cameras were installed at important points in the city by a joint initiative of the police administration and the municipality before August 5, 2024. The overall law and order situation in the city was regularly monitored from the police monitoring cell, which played a very effective role in controlling crime.

However, after the political upheaval of August 5, 2024 and the subsequent period, almost all the city's CCTV cameras were damaged or stolen. Since then, important roads, intersections and commercial areas have virtually gone beyond technical surveillance. Taking advantage of the lack of CCTV cameras, criminal gangs have become active. Incidents of theft and robbery in homes, shops and public places have increased at an alarm-



ing rate. Although the perpetrators have been identified in one or two incidents using footage from some privately installed cameras, in the vast majority of cases the perpetrators remain undetected.

Local businessmen expressed their anger and said that it is very important to quickly restore the CCTV cameras to ensure the security of the commercial city. If the CCTV network can be revived, it will be easier for the law enforcement agencies to identify criminals

and take legal action against them. Mathbaria Press Club President Rafiquzzaman Abir said that thefts are happening frequently due to the lack of CCTV (closed circuit) cameras in the city. Recently, AC cables were stolen from my residence in New

Market, from KM Latif Supermarket and from the Press Club. He demanded the immediate installation of CCTV cameras in the city. Amal Krishna Saha, Municipal Executive Officer of Mathbaria Municipality, said that necessary plans are being taken to bring the municipality back under the scope of CCTV cameras. Efforts are being made to restore digital surveillance of the city by installing cameras as soon as possible. Pirojpur Additional Superintendent of Police (Mathbaria Circle) Partha Chakraborty said that the monitoring system is currently down due to theft and damage to the city's CCTV cameras after August 5, 2024. The matter was presented with importance in a meeting held recently at the Deputy Commissioner's office. A coordinated initiative is being taken to bring not only Mathbaria but the entire district back under the CCTV camera system.

Student Dies as Scarf Gets Entangled in Auto-Rickshaw Wheel in Cox's Bazar

Jahangir Alam, Staff Reporter

What was meant to be a joyous family getaway turned into a devastating tragedy when a 17-year-old student lost her life in a horrific road accident near Cox's Bazar beach on Tuesday afternoon.

The victim, identified as Seema Akhtar, was a second-year Alim (HSC equivalent) student at a local madrasa and the daughter of Mahabub Alam, residing in the Bara Alampur area under Debidwar Upazila in Cumilla.



The tragic incident occurred around 12:00 PM on Tuesday (October 6) on the road adjacent to the Sugandha Point area in Cox's Bazar town.

According to family sources, a 17-member family group had traveled from Cumilla's Debidwar to Cox's Bazar on Monday morning for a pleasure trip.

On Tuesday morning, after visiting the Sugandha beach area, they were returning on a battery-operated auto-rickshaw. En route, Seema's scarf (orna) accidentally got entangled in the rotating wheel of the moving auto-rickshaw. The sudden, violent jerk threw her onto the street, leaving her critically injured.

She was rushed to Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital in critical condition, where the attending doctor declared her dead upon arrival.

Mahbub Alam, a beach worker managed by the district administration, confirmed that Seema was immediately dispatched to the hospital after falling off the vehicle, but succumbed to her injuries.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Cox's Bazar Sadar Model Police Station, Sheikh Mohammad Ali, stated that police recovered the body and sent it to the hospital morgue for an autopsy. He added that the body would be handed over to the family following legal formalities and upon receiving an official application from her relatives.

The tragedy has left her grieving family in deep shock and brought a dark pall of gloom over the beach town.



4 drug dealers arrested with 75 kg of ganja in Mongla raid

Masum Howlader, Bagerhat

SRB-6 arrested four drug dealers with 75 kg of ganja in an operation in Mongla of Bagerhat.

Remaining steadfast in the "Zero Tolerance" policy against drugs, SRB Forces has been conducting regular operations against drugs.

In continuation of this, a smart operational team of SRB-6, Sadar Company, on Tuesday (6 October) at 1:20 am, based on secret information, conducted a check post on the paved road going from Morelganj to Mongla in the Brahmanmadh area of Chandpai Union under Mongla Thana of Bagerhat district and arrested four drug dealers with 75 (seventy-five) kg of illegal narcotic ganja.

The arrested are, Md. Ibrahim (23), Father: Milan Talukdar, Village: Fulhata, Thana: Morelganj, Parvez Ahmed (25), Father: Warisul Haque, Village: Baikunthapur, Thana, District Rangpur, Aminur Rahman (32), Father: Jahangir Alam, Village: Belubalarhat, Thana: Kotwali, District: Rangpur, Nur Amin (28), Father: Liju Mia, Village: Baikunthapur, Thana District Rangpur. SRB-6 informed, From the custody of the arrested accused, 75 (seventy-five) kg of illegal narcotic ganja and a passenger bus used for drug transportation were recovered and seized in accordance with rules in front of the witnesses present.

For taking subsequent legal action, a regular case under the Narcotics Control Act will be filed against the arrested accused in Mongla Thana of Bagerhat district and the accused along with the recovered narcotics will be handed over to the concerned thana.